



Seeds Compilation: Modern I-V

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Introduction

Welcome to the first Seeds Compilation! Since we started the Seeds line several months ago, we've had many contributors (over 30) and many Seeds products (over 20). Seeds is a simple concept; story ideas, plot ideas, creature ideas, adventure hooks, anything that can grow into an enjoyable gaming experience. Each seed is small (only a paragraph or two at most) and each Seed product will be small as well (only four to five pages), but just like their namesakes, they have great potential when provided with the right environment.

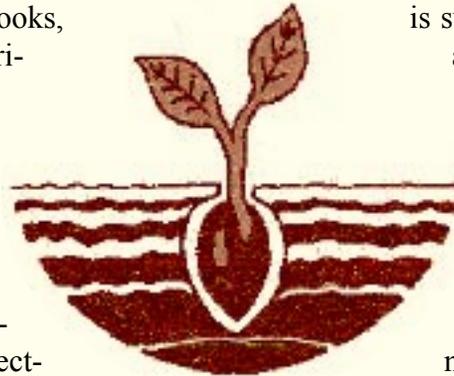
Seeds Compilation: Modern I-V is roughly 23 pages (over 120 individual seeds) packed with adventure ideas suitable for modern gaming. We're also collecting seeds for five different genres (horror, supers, sci-fi, post-apocalyptic, and the newly added pulp) and there will be future Seeds in these categories. We've gathered this compilation through a paid open submissions call at Enworld and RPGnet, but we hope that you'll be inclined to send us your seed ideas for perusal and possible inclusion in future Seeds products. We'd love a continual series of Seeds created by the very people who enjoy reading them the most.

So drop by the Expeditionary Retreat website, checkout our submission guidelines to find out more about the process, and then send us your seeds. Hopefully you'll soon be reading the latest Seed containing your successful seeds. Whew! Enough with the alliteration already, on to the fun!

Joseph Browning & Suzi Yee

Requires the use of the Dungeons & Dragons, Third Edition Core Books, published by Wizards of the Coast, Inc.

A long running nemesis of the PCs dies unexpectedly, perhaps in a random accident or as a result of sudden, but perfectly natural causes like an aneurysm or stroke. Ideally, the death occurs just before a major, expected confrontation with the PC. Though the timing is suspicious, and rumors of an Elvis-level cover up surely abound, the death is genuine and completely devoid of any foul play. But try convincing the PCs of that.



During a battle with (or interrogation by) the PCs, a female adversary breaks off combat or escapes, and runs for safety in the most public place available, all the while screaming that the PCs are going to rape and murder her. She maintains the story just long enough to escape in the confusion, and if it gets the PCs in trouble with the cops or the public, so much the better.

A series of brutal murders based on early Christian martyrs plagues a highly controversial, big-budget Hollywood Bible-epic. Who's behind it? Extremists? A madman? Or something older than the faith who has waited a long time for revenge?

*T*errorists have stolen a deep submergence vessel owned and operated by the National Oceanographic Survey. The bodies of the DSV's crew were found dockside; their throats had been slit to the last man. While this devastating blow to the world scientific community is bad enough,

the pirates' ultimate aim is worse. More than a dozen, fully armed ballistic missiles went down with a lost Russian Delta III class sub during the height of the Cold War. Now, in a more common situation than either government wants to admit, the nukes lie rusting and forgotten. Now, terrorists are in command of one of the few vehicles on the planet capable of salvaging these long lost missiles.

A botanical society has hired the PCs to begin an Amazon expedition into the heart of the rainforest to recover samples of a threatened flower. A darker game will have the PCs racing against encroaching deforestation, confronting or allying with eco-terrorist cells. A lighter game's adversaries might consist of glory seeking botanists, or commercial florists who want to get the exotic flower as an exclusive for their shop.

The Bogeyman virus gets its name from the way it attacks its chosen victims; infants and preteen children slip into a coma from which they never recover, as a wasting fever attacks their bodies. Developed nations like the US and UK suffer 60% infant mortality; in poorer nations, the infant mortality rate is well over 80%. The world economy and medical infrastructure collapse when confronted with the crisis, as almost every parent on the globe is faced with the grim task of burying their child.

To distract them during a critical phase of his plans, a criminal mastermind anonymously sends a package to the PCs containing strong evidence that a Death Row convict scheduled to be executed within the week is wrongly convicted. PCs have to make a choice between saving the life of a possibly innocent man and confronting a long-standing nemesis.

A quasi-legal intelligence agency is murdering anyone who has rented a specific model of car from a particular rental agency in the last week. The murders are a badly planned attempt to recover a data chip lost in one of the rental agency's fleet.

The client list of a notorious Hollywood madam is stolen by an even more notorious tabloid. The PCs may have been hired to recover or destroy all evidence of the list, but will they succumb to the lure of easy money and resell the client list at a profit? Which is worth more to their PCs- their honor and reputation as problem solvers, or the endless easy money of star blackmail?



The PCs must protect a forensics team sent to the jungles of Vietnam to find traces of MIA soldiers and identify what few remains have been found. The forensics squad stumbles onto evidence of systematic experimentation on US prisoners of war, and are now in danger. Hard-line, highly placed former Viet Cong will stop at nothing to ensure evidence of their death camps stays buried.

An eco-terror group has decided to go "hunting" parked SUVs with shoulder fired missile launchers stolen from a local National Guard armory.

Newly developed neural cybernetics allow the temporary exchange of human minds. Hobbists and spies discover the true potential of the tech simultaneously. Body swapping clubs spring up among the super wealthy; while some enjoy the more X-rated aspects of body hopping, a surprising number focus on how different the sensations of even the most mundane activities seem in a new body. And meanwhile, in the intelligence community, countermeasures against body hopping spies have to be imagined...

A serial sniper that the newspapers are calling “The Callisthenic,” is targeting the elderly, obese and handicapped in the PC’s hometown.

An illegal street race in the bad part of town provides the PCs the cover they need to take down a corrupt cop. It turns out the cop likes to gamble on the races, and force himself on some of the girls there in exchange for ‘protection’.

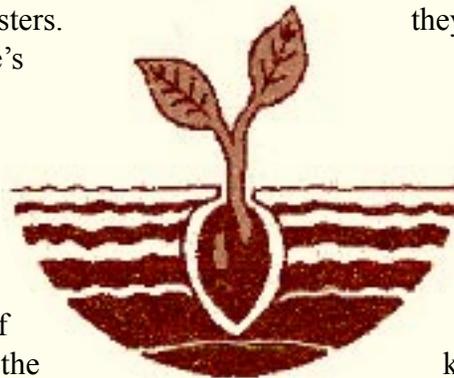
A bio terror attack at a major political convention does something no one expects: it quickly mutates the victims into flesh craving zombies. The contagion spreads, and only a few surviving convention attendees, cops and staff are left to fend off the monsters. Want to take a chainsaw to undead politicians? Here’s your chance.

A pharmaceutical company finally discovers a cure for an epidemic like AIDS or cancer, but they face years of FDA testing before the cure will be ready, and even when it is, will probably be priced out of reach of many. An activist group hires the PCs to steal the research and publish it on the Net for all to see and hopefully benefit from immediately.

Early experiments in nanotechnology lead to the creation of a cyber-virus, that though universally fatal, is too weak to survive in the modern world. Ambient EMP radiation from computers, TVs, cell phones, etc kills the virus within seconds. Somehow, the nanovirus spreads (possibly of it’s own design) to a nearby Amish community, where causalities mount as the virus evolves. The PCs must find a cure before the virus outgrows it’s early weaknesses and wreaks untold havoc.

A squad of highly trained, well-equipped thieves tries for the ultimate prize: Vatican City. Think about it- 1.5 square miles packed with billions of dollars worth of artistic and cultural treasures, guarded only by a few hundred Swiss guardsmen armed with semi automatic weapons. When the daring robbery goes wrong, the PCs are faced with defusing the worst hostage situation in human history! Or if the PCs are the highly trained team of thieves, getting out alive with the gold.

Lolita Inc. commonly organizes sex tours to Thailand for wealthy Americans to have sex with underage prostitutes. A fully booked Lolita Inc. charter plane is shot down over the Pacific Ocean. Do any of the PCs care? Do they pursue whoever shot down the plane, or do they help them cover up the crime?



A media icon on the level of Micheal Jordan or Tiger Woods has made his fortune through a calculated campaign on non-offensiveness. He may look good and play better than Tiger, but he has no opinion on anything of substance, so as not to risk alienating potential markets. That’s the story his handlers want known, anyhow. In reality, this celebrity is a member of some pretty extreme, unpopular causes. His former comrades are angry that he’s turned his back on the cause and are willing to resort to blackmail to get their way. And the Celeb’s handlers are willing to resort to murder to shut the extremists up. Enter the PCs...

A man, who has lost family to unexploded landmines, decides to awaken America to horrors common in his or her country. He begins concealing deadly anti-personnel mines at highly trafficked areas around the PCs hometown. Worse, the majority of landmines are placed at schools and teen hangouts to strike children, since their deaths generate even bigger headlines.