

Cloud Temple by Tom Cartos

Background

This small temple is located on the ridge of one of the tallest mountains along the Epicouatl range. The narrow path leading to it is arduous and deadly, and few have reason to make the trip. For many years, it has been home to a small group of monks. All of whom took a vow of silence and retired here to live a simple life above the world, seeking enlightenment. They had no connection with the outside world, so no one expected to hear from them.

However, a few weeks ago a small township at the base of the mountain received a message via carrier bird that simply read 'HELP'. The town elders determined the bird had originated from the temple as this particular species is known to nest along the mountain ridge, and aside from the monks the mountain is devoid of civilisation.

No one in the town is capable of making the journey up, and even if they were they do not know what they might find. Instead, the elder council are seeking a group of adventurers to investigate.

Grid Information

GRID SIZE – 34x22 (300DPI)

VTT SIZE – 4760x3080 (140DPI)

RECOMMENDED PRINT SIZE – A1/ANSI D

Design Notes

Shrine

- **01 – Fallen Shrine** – This shrine to an unnamed God has been desecrated. There is no way the monks would have allowed it to fall into disrepair.
- **02 – Storage Room** – Study materials, relics and general supplies are all kept here. They seem to be undisturbed for the most part.
- **03 – Cavern Entrance** – For those with the ability of flight, the opening on the northern side of this cave would allow for hidden access. This space seems to have been filled with items that don't belong to the monks.

Temple Complex

- **04 – Prayer Room** – Formerly an empty space used to for silent prayer and reflection, this room seems to have been converted into a mess hall of sorts. The new occupants clearly have no respect for the temple.
- **05 – Camp** - A small campfire that has been recently lit.

- **06 – Dormitories** – The beds seem recently used, but the items in the chests and scattered about do not seem like the possessions of the monks.
- **07 – Study Hall** – The monks may not have spoken, but they wrote endlessly. Countless books and scrolls based on their studies and philosophical ideals line the walls.

Hilltop

- **08 – Abbots Quarters** – The abbot's diaries and journals have been spread out over the table, as though someone is trying to find a specific page or chapter. The corner of the building has been destroyed and some kind of ritual animal sacrifice has taken place.
- **09 – Unknown God** - This statue existed on the mountain top before the temple was constructed. Its origins are unknown.