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3 Secret Societies in the Secret World Guide by [William Lary](#)

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Seeking answers on your own in The Secret World is not difficult; it's impossible. No matter how knowledgeable about myths and legends you are, or how good a shot you can be, it's just too dangerous and shrouded in mystery for one mere mortal. You need friends who can provide you with training, equipment and intelligence. Those can only be obtained by working with one of three secret societies, which can be chosen from at the beginning of game.

Everybody knows about the Templars. They are a secret society in name only, with their Temple Hall visible to all from the streets of London where they are headquartered. More than that, they have a long history of fighting the forces of darkness as far back as Babylon, and throughout that time, they've amassed an impressive military that can shake the foundations of the earth. The Templars don't need to hide; no one else knows more about fighting evil than they, and they will stop at nothing to accomplish that. If they must burn a village to slay one demon, they will, and if they must rule the world with an iron fist to protect it, so be it.

The Illuminati may not have nearly as long a history as the Templars, but since its exile to the new world about 200 years ago, it has quickly grown into one of the wealthiest and most well-connected organizations ever. The Illuminati couldn't have done it without hard work, and its agents are always working to better themselves as explained in this secret world guide to societies. To them, fighting the darkness is not the goal in and of itself; it's just a means to an end. Knowledge is power, and only with power can the Illuminati wrest control from its European nemesis and dominate the globe from its base deep below New York City.

Even in the dark recesses of the Secret World guide, the Dragon remains an enigma. Nobody knows how long it has been operating, or if it even exists. Even rumors that it's stationed in Seoul, Korea are based off of nothing but hearsay, but that's where newcomers often find themselves. That's the way the Dragon likes it. It never takes a direct hand, preferring to act from a distance, pulling the strings of others to do what must be done. The Templars and Illuminati are no exception. The Dragon, in the Secret World Guide, enjoys manipulating both for its own purposes, and goes so far as to set them against each other. Through this conflict, the world will be purified, with the Dragon left as the only society standing.

Once darkness falls and the shadow war breaks out, it'll be up to you to choose your allegiance, philosophy and methodology.

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