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Games With Significant Occult/Supernatural/Religious Motifs?

(self.AskGames)

submitted 6 months ago * by Xenon32

After discovering Primal a while back, and recently playing Painkiller, I'm interested in finding more games that feature occult/supernatural and/or religious motifs like those do.

Criteria I'm going by:

Themes: Death and resurrection, heaven and hell, purgatory, order and chaos, alternate dimensions, etc.
Enemies: Demons, angels; various types of undead, etc.
Protagonist: Supernatural origin; somehow unique to their environment, etc. (For example: in Painkiller, Daniel is stuck in purgatory no matter how many times he dies fighting the legions of hell, and in Primal Jen actually has a demonic/supernatural origin.)
Setting: Modern/contemporary; kind of urban fantasy, in a way.

Optional Criteria:

Characters: Bastardization (for lack of a better term) of mythological and/or religious figures (Greek/Roman, Hindu, Shinto, Aztec, Inca, Mayan deities; Christian/Jewish/Islamic biblical figures such as Adam and Eve, Moses, Cain and Abel, etc.)

Anyone have any suggestions based on those criteria? Legacy of Kain sort of fits

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Sort of like /r/AskReddit, but for games and gamers. For example:

- When does Game X come out?
- Does console X have this feature?
- How do I get the "Kill everything" achievement?
- How can I back-up my saves?
- Why does my game crash on load?

However all kinds of gaming-related questions are welcome.

Featured Subreddit:
/r/WatchPixelsDie

Base rules:

- Be descriptive with your title.
- When asking questions for technical help please try to give as much information as possible.
- Once your query is answered, use the Link Flair "✓ Answered" to mark it as such.
- Do not downvote any questions you think are dumb or simple.
- Imgtfy.com is not an answer.
- If you don't know the answer yourself

in- as does Bloodrayne, loosely. Any others anyone can think of?

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[–] D-Voice 3 points 6 months ago*

The Shin Megami Tensei games are great and might be what you're looking for.

EDIT: Also, if you're into horror games, check out Corpse Party. Mind you, it's not for the squeamish.

permalink

[–] Amauriel 1 point 6 months ago

Absolutely agree. I know that they tone down the religious stuff a bit in the Persona series (a spin-off of Shin Megami Tensei for those not in the know) but I still remember commenting on my team in Persona 3 because it contained Thor, Lucifer, Quetzalcoatl, Ganesha, Anubis, and Susano-o at the same time.

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[–] NXMT 3 points 6 months ago

Silent Hill 1, 2 and 3 deal heavily with the occult. Silent Hill 2 in particular is heavy with symbolism, the idea of a "personal hell", sin and punishment etc... You'll have a blast with it.

permalink

[–] traceitalian 3 points 6 months ago

Plus Silent Hill 2 is one of the best games ever made.

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[–] midwestcreative 2 points 6 months ago

I assume you already know of Devil May Cry? The newest one is amazing and the story and characters are great - lots of angels and demons lore.

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[–] fxsimoesr 2 points 6 months ago

I hope you happen to choose The Witcher 3. You play as a Witcher, who is a supernatural human and have to kill monsters, ghosts, undead, dragons.. There are religious conflits spread across the story. It's a great game

but know of a subreddit that might, mention it.
- Try and search if your questions has been asked already before posting.

AskGames Wiki is a good starting place to check first.

Other sub-reddits of interest:

- /r/Gaming and /r/Games for anything gaming related.
- /r/TrueGaming for the more philosophical type questions.
- /r/GamingSuggestions for when you want to pick up a new title.
- /r/shouldibuythisgame for those times you want to spend your money wisely.
- /r/tipofmytongue for when you can't quite remember that game from your youth.
- /r/tipofmyjoystick - Like tipofmytongue, just for games.
- /r/GameSociety - A gaming book club.
- /r/GamingStories - About sharing our gaming experiences.
- And many more.

Also of interest is the PC Gaming Wiki for tweaks and fixes of many PC games.

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< > discussions in /r/AskGames X
Looking for a specific type of game

overall, I've played it for 120 hours and it still amazes me (haven't finished the main storyline). Give it a check, it's a must-have!

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[–] **Xenon32** [S] 1 point 6 months ago

I've made it a point to finally sit down and play the Witcher trilogy, actually.

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[–] **esmifra** 1 point 6 months ago

MMO wise there's Secret World, although people say gameplay is a little boring.

permalink

[–] **remeard** 1 point 6 months ago

Bloodborne. A city who uses blood healing techniques and discovers ancient ruins below the city where these super human creatures live. While there are no angels or demons, there is a strong cult following.

The story is very loose and mostly told through items and context.

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[–] **Xenon32** [S] 1 point 6 months ago

I've played Dark Souls, and I'm eventually going to move on to Dark Souls 2 (and now, Dark Souls 3). Thinking about it, all of the Souls games, and Bloodborne, do certainly meet the theme and protagonist criteria I'm using. I guess I just don't think of them quite the same way as Painkiller and Primal, since they're dark fantasy rather than urban fantasy, or whatever.

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[–] **remeard** 1 point 6 months ago

Oh absolutely, if you haven't watched the various lore videos associated with Dark Souls I would definitely recommend it. I like Epicnamebro, but Vaati is the fan favorite.

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[–] **Ghost_of_Cyrus** 1 point 6 months ago

Check out any of the Xeno- games (Xenogears, Xenosaga, Xenoblade Chronicles on the Wii.) Not only are they all great games (well, Xenosaga I and III are, Episode II is a letdown,) but they all have some interesting religious/philosophical concepts.

Personally, the Xenosaga series are some of my favorite games, pulling from Judaism (the main artifact in the game is called the Zohar, which is also a book of Jewish mysticism focusing on the Kabbalah), Gnosticism (the main antagonists are creatures known as the 'Gnosis,') and several other philosophies (especially Nietzsche; the games are titled after his books - Episode I is Der Wille zur Macht, The Will to Power.)

Highly recommended, if you have a PS2 or 3.

Xenogears is on the PS1 and is equally good with similar concepts, and Xenoblade Chronicles is one of the best games on the Wii but isn't quite as heavy-handed with its references.

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[–] **lupianwolf** 1 point 6 months ago

Bayonetta (360/PS3)

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[–] **01314150** 1 point 6 months ago

Catherine

Okami

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[–] **HoodedGreen** 1 point 6 months ago

If you're into MMO's, The Secret World is right up your ally.

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[–] **jaygarxp** 1 point 5 months ago

The Darkness games based on the comics. Demon from hell lives like a parasite in you. There is a world war 1 level that is supposed to be "hell" - extremely fun. The first game has the entirety of 'To Kill a Mockingbird' playing on the TV when you visit your girlfriends apartment. Highly recommend both games. Darkness is on 360 PS3 and Darkness II (slightly worse themes and fluff but better gameplay) is on PC and last gen.

Also: Dante's Inferno is really good even though it's old.

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