

Blizzard Insider #44 - Diablo III: Midnight Launch Events – Monday May 14

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BLIZZARD INSIDER

MAY 2012 ISSUE 44



DIABLO® III : MIDNIGHT LAUNCH EVENTS - 14TH MAY

IN THIS ISSUE

- [Diablo III® – Midnight Launch: 05.15.12](#)
- [Diablo III® – Darkness Falls, Heroes Rise](#)
- [Mists of Pandaria™: Beta Updates](#)
- [Leaders of Azeroth : Velen Short Story](#)
- [Heart of the Swarm™: Multiplayer Development Update](#)
- [Merchandise Spotlight](#)

RECENT NEWS

- [Diablo Midnight Launch Events](#)
- [Darkness Falls, Heroes Rise](#)

At midnight on May 15, Diablo® III hits shelves at retail locations throughout the world, ushering in the End of Days, once again pitting mortal heroes against the legions of the Burning Hells.

To kick off the defense of the mortal realms, Blizzard Entertainment developers will be on hand at official launch events around the planet to celebrate the arrival of Diablo III and sign newly released copies of the game. The North American launch event will take place at the GameStop located at the Irvine Spectrum in Irvine, California. A full list of cities hosting the official launch events around the world has been posted at [Blizzard's website](#).

Lines begin forming on the evening of May 14 at each location, and doors open at midnight on May 15. Quantities are limited and will be available on a first come, first-served basis, so be sure to arrive early.

If you're unable to make it to one of these marquee midnight launch events, don't worry -- other select retailer locations around the U.S. and Canada will also be hosting midnight launch events on May 15. For a list of participating stores, check out the websites below:

North America :



- [Diablo III: The Order Novel Preview and Preorder](#)
- [Christina Sims, the Female Monk](#)
- [Countdown to the Launch of Diablo III with the Daily Diablo](#)
- [Leaders of Azeroth: Velen Short Story Now Available](#)
- [Are you ready to fight? Prepare yourself!](#)
- [Recruit-a-Friend – X-53 Touring Rocket Retiring Soon](#)
- [World Championship Series Overview](#)
- [Talking Balance with David Kim](#)
- [Additional Matchmaking Changes](#)
- [Highlight Reel - Wings of Dream \(last fly\) By Coyote](#)

FROM THE PLAYERS



NEW SCREENSHOTS

- ▣ [Gamestop](#)
- ▣ [Best Buy](#)

Canada :

- ▣ [EB Games](#)

This isn't an exhaustive list of stores hosting a midnight launch event, so be sure to check with your local retailer. See the press release for further details, or visit the websites below:

- ▣ [Diablo III Midnight Launch 05.15.12](#)
- ▣ [Learn More About Diablo III](#)
- ▣ [Pre-Purchase Your Copy Today](#)

DIABLO III®: DARKNESS FALLS, HEROES RISE

With the impending launch of Diablo III, the game's official launch site has been churning out in-depth interviews and epic videos to prepare you for your stand against the demonic hordes. If you haven't seen it yet, head over there now and find the newest information, class videos, unlockable in-game content, contests, and much more. Hurry, the End of Days draws near.



- ▣ [Diablo III "Darkness Falls, Heroes Rise" – Launch Site](#)

MISTS OF PANDARIA™: BETA UPDATES

Several weeks ago, the World of Warcraft® team hosted a massive press event at Blizzard's development studio to discuss the upcoming [Mists of Pandaria™ expansion](#) and set the stage for the expansion's beta test, which kicked off in late March.



As new features have continued to come online on the beta servers, the World of Warcraft development team has posted several updates on the information discussed during the press event. Read on to get an inside look into the latest changes currently underway. And remember, the design continues to evolve, and a lot may change before Mists of Pandaria launches, so now's a great time to share your thoughts with the



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developers via the World of Warcraft community site.

[▶ Bringing Achievements to the Account Level](#)

LEADERS OF AZEROTH: VELEN SHORT STORY

The final short story in the ongoing Leaders of Azeroth series examines Velen, the prophetic leader of the draenei.

With the Burning Legion's forces in Outland vanquished and the threat of the Lich King contained, the prophet Velen finds himself with a new threat to contend with—his own, suddenly out of control, visions. Written by Marc Hutcheson, 'Prophet's Lesson' charts Velen's struggle to reassert mastery of his powers—and the lesson that conflict ultimately teaches him.



[▶ Read the Short Story Now](#)

HEART OF THE SWARM™: MULTIPLAYER DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

StarCraft® II game director, Dustin Browder, recently visited the StarCraft II community site to discuss the team's current progress on Heart of the Swarm™'s new multiplayer units. Many new units, including the terran shredder, the protoss tempest, and the zerg viper, have been modified conceptually, or changed completely since they were first unveiled at BlizzCon 2011. Click on the link below to check out the latest details on Heart of the Swarm's rapidly evolving multiplayer action, and begin planning out your cunning strategies incorporating the new units.



[▶ SC2 Developer Update – Heart of the Swarm Multiplayer](#)

MERCHANDISE SPOTLIGHT

Soul of the Aspects -- Pet Store Exclusive

Meet the diminutive Soul of the Aspects -- a pint-sized version of the Heart of the Aspects flying mount. As your newest faithful companion pet, this radiant whelping flies by your side through the skies of Azeroth, celebrating your adventures together with aerial summersaults and twisting corkscrews.



Visit the [Pet Store](#) and fly home with your own Soul of the Aspects today.

Diablo III: The Order

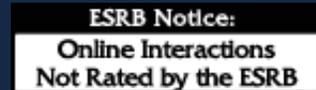
Diablo III: The Order by Nate Kenyon is the next novel in the Diablo universe, following Deckard Cain's quest to find the Horadrim, years before the events of the highly anticipated game. This hardcover novel hits bookshelves May 15, and will also be available as an eBook and an audiobook. Be sure to preorder through [Amazon](#) or [Barnes and Noble](#).



Diablo III Strategy Guide

Blizzard Entertainment and BradyGames have worked together to create this comprehensive and artfully crafted strategy guide that will serve as a valuable resource for Diablo III players as they battle to save Sanctuary from the forces of the Burning Hells. Order your copy early from [Amazon](#) and [Barnes and Noble](#)!





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