

Reference – History and Timeline

Revised November 1, 2009

The world of Shadowrun is a violent and grim place, but it did not get there in a vacuum. Starting in 1999, the Shadowrun world history sharply diverts from the real world timeline. This summary attempts to illustrate how the world devolved into the bleak future of the game.

Timeline

- ❖ **1999** – Seretech wins Supreme Court decision allowing corporations to maintain private armed forces to protect personnel and property in response to the New York Food Riots.
- ❖ **2000** – TerraFirst! attacks a Shiawase, Inc. nuclear power plant. The Supreme Court grants multi-national corporations the same rights and privileges as foreign governments in the “Shiawase Decision.”
- ❖ **2005** – South Korea declares war on North Korea.
- ❖ **2006** – North Korea launches missiles at Japan, which fail to detonate. Japan conquers North Korea and declares itself the Japanese Imperial State (JIS).
- ❖ **2009** – Radical members of the Sovereign American Indian Movement (SAIM) overtake the Shiloh Launch Facility in northwest Montana. Delta Team recaptures the silo, but not before a Lone Eagle ICBM is launched at the Russian Republic. The “Lone Eagle Incident” leads to massive negative public response to Native Americans and forcible movement to “re-education camps” throughout 2010.
- ❖ **2009** – Armed workers overtake United Oil Industries headquarters, prompting Texas state legislature to give corporate security forces carte blanche in dealing with armed intruders. Long term, this results in the formation of Lone Star security.
- ❖ **2010** – The Virally Induced Toxic Allergy Syndrome (VITAS) plague breaks out in New Delhi, India. In a few months, 25% of the world population dies from the disease, especially in India, China, Africa, and Mexico.
- ❖ **2011** – With millions of dead piled in the streets, the Mexican government dissolves and mob rule ensues. Thousands of refugees flood into the United States.
- ❖ **2011** – All over the world, millions of babies are born “deformed” with physical characteristics similar to “dwarves” and “elves” from fantasy literature. This phenomenon is called Unexplained Genetic Expression (UGE).
- ❖ **2011** – On December 24, the Awakening occurs, ushering in the Mayan Sixth World: the great dragon Ryumyo appears over Mount Fuji, Native American prophet Daniel Howling Coyote leads those imprisoned with him through the gate walls in a strange glow, and they all disappear. Mana storms scour Australia, killing millions. Ireland forests grow at supernatural rates, and standing stone circles erupt from the ground across the British Isles. Floods, hurricanes, and earthquakes rack the world, killing millions more.
- ❖ **2012** – On January 27, the great dragon Dunkelzahn appears at Cherry Creek Lake in Denver and gives a twelve hour and sixteen minute interview to reporter Holly Brighton. In the interview, he explained the Awakening, that magic is a cyclical natural energy, and that it had been dormant for centuries. Once again, magic rippled across the world.
- ❖ **2014** – The United States and Canada go to war with the Native Americans and their leader, Daniel Howling Coyote.
- ❖ **2015** – Aztechnology sets up a puppet regime in Mexico City, founding the new nation of Aztlan and embraces the bloody culture of the Aztecs.
- ❖ **2018** – After suffering terrible losses due to the Great Ghost Dance, which resulted in volcanoes all across the Americas erupting at once, the United States and Canada concede victory to the Native Americans and sign the Treaty of Denver, establishing the Salish-Sidhe Council, the Sioux Nation, the Pueblo Corporate Council, the Ute Nation, the Algonkian-Manitou Council, the Athabaskan Council, the Trans-Polar Aleut Nation, and the Tsimshian Nation.
- ❖ **2019** – The first successful cybernetic limb is fully integrated into a human nervous system.
- ❖ **2021** – Goblinization. One in 10 humans suddenly mutates into new humanoid species, orks and trolls. Panic ensues and human rights violations are extreme.

- ❖ **2022** – A new strain of the VITAS plague breaks out and kills another 10% of the world population.
- ❖ **2023** – The U.S. Supreme Court grants all metahumans (dwarves, elves, orks, and trolls) equal protection under the law.
- ❖ **2025** – The entire Seattle police force goes on strike, prompting the mayor to fire them all and contract law enforcement to Lone Star.
- ❖ **2029** – The Crash of '29 is a severe computer virus outbreak, destroying computer systems worldwide, resulting in the collapse of many governments and corporations.
- ❖ **2030** – The remnants of the United States and Canada merge to form the United Canadian and American States (UCAS).
- ❖ **2030** – Russia becomes embroiled in a war against Belarus and the Ukraine lasting 20 years.
- ❖ **2033** – Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia succeed from the UCAS and form the Confederated American States (CAS).
- ❖ **2034** – Ireland is proclaimed the new nation of Tir na n'Og.
- ❖ **2035** – The elven nation of Tir Tairngire is founded.
- ❖ **2036** – The UCAS tires of California's numerous referenda on membership in the UCAS and is forcibly removed from the union. Tir Tairngire invades and conquers the northern portion of California. Aztlan invades from the south and conquers much of southern California. The struggling state turns to the Japanese Imperial State for assistance, leading to permanent occupation.
- ❖ **2039** – In the Night of Rage, worldwide riots result in persecution and murder of hundreds of thousands of metahumans.
- ❖ **2050** – Campaign start date, *Shadowrun* 1st Edition.
- ❖ **2053** – Campaign start date, *Shadowrun* 2nd Edition.
- ❖ **2056** – Dunkelzahn the great dragon is elected president of the UCAS. He is assassinated shortly after the election.
- ❖ **2059** – Campaign start date, *Shadowrun* 3rd Edition.
- ❖ **2059** – Artificial Intelligence (AI) Deus takes over Renraku Arcology in Seattle and begins experimenting on the people trapped within.
- ❖ **2061** – A new great dragon, Ghostwalker, emerges from the Dunkelzahn Astral Rift and liberates Denver from Aztlan, with the CAS taking over.
- ❖ **2063** – Deus tries to use Resonance to elevate himself to godlike status but is destroyed in what becomes known as the Matrix Crash 2.0.
- ❖ **2064** – NeoNet is founded and begins the new Wireless Matrix Initiative, creating the VR and AR world of today.
- ❖ **2068** – General Angela Colloton is elected president of the UCAS.
- ❖ **2069** – Earthquakes along the San Andreas Fault line cause the flooding of Central Valley and Los Angeles.
- ❖ **2070** – Campaign start date, *Shadowrun* 4th Edition.
- ❖ **2072** – Campaign start date, *Shadowrun* 20th Anniversary Edition.
- ❖ **2072** – Current day and age. Hand basket to hell still in motion.