



Thursday Drop-In: The Hunger Below

Level Range: 1–3

Setting: Isolated village & underground well

Tags: Horror, Corruption, Investigation, Underground

Adventure Hook

While the party is traveling, a child from the village, wide-eyed and half-starved, stumbles into view. She says her brother (Joran) was “taken by the well” and begs the party to help her “stop the voices before they choose her next.”

What's Going On?

Years ago, [**Insert Village Name Here**] sealed away an ancient hunger in the earth: the **Buried Hunger**, a blind, enormous creature that feeds on fear and flesh. But now it's whispering again—through dreams, through water, through rot. The villagers have returned to the old rites. Every week, something... or someone is dropped into the well.

Rurik and his wife, Enna, were the first to hear the whispers. Once protectors of the village, they are now hollow-eyed Whisperslaves, their minds bent to the will of the thing beneath. They gave up their son, Joran, to the well without hesitation.

But when the Hunger reached for their daughter, Mira, something deep within Enna resisted—just long enough to send the girl fleeing into the woods. Now Mira wanders alone, clutching a ragged doll and begging strangers to stop the dreams... before the well calls her name again.

Key Locations

1. The Cracked Shrine

An old temple defaced with claw marks and soot. Inside: burnt offerings and crude Buried Hunger symbols drawn in blood.

2. Mayor's House

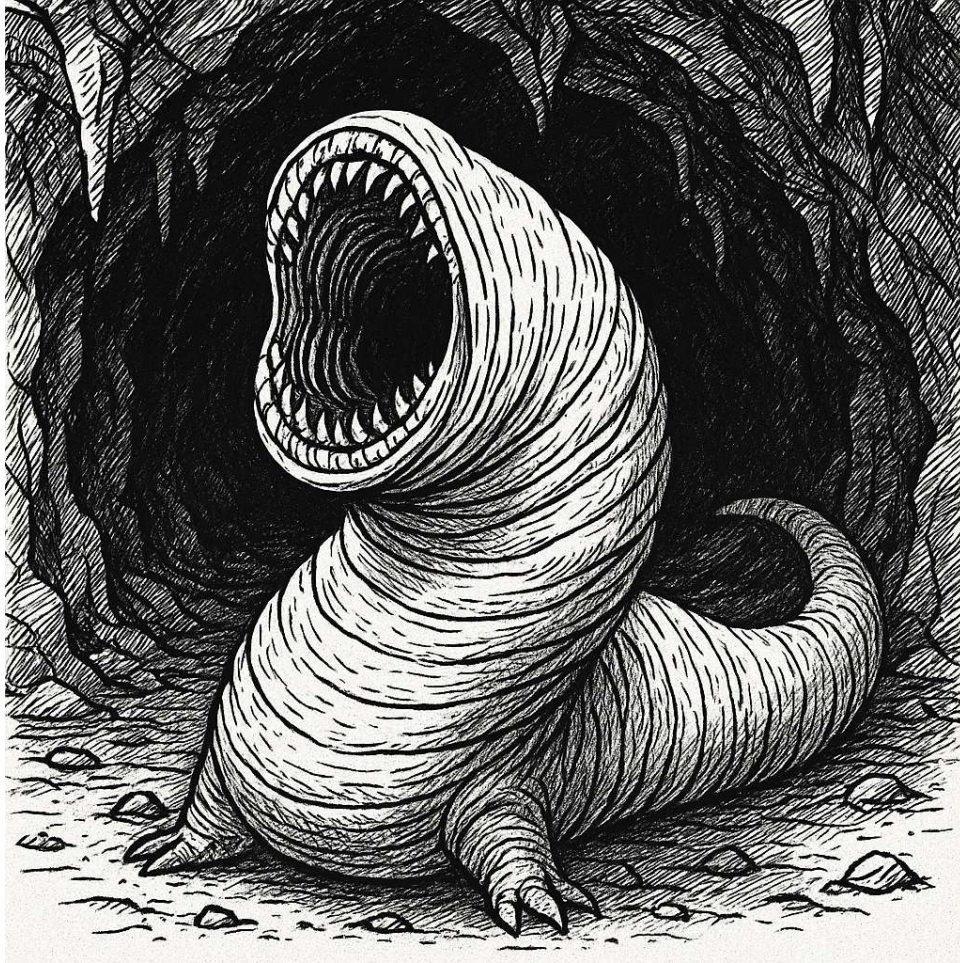
Abandoned, but the floorboards creak with movement underneath. His journal speaks of “the whispering below” and “the pact renewed.”

3. The Well of Hunger

Covered with thick wooden beams, but foul air seeps through. A sacrifice is tied nearby. There's a passage to the caves beneath if the beams are pried open (STR DC 13 or 10 minutes effort).

4. Cavern Lair (See Map)

Wet, pulsing tunnels lined with shed skin and bones. The Buried Hunger and its spawn slithers just beyond sight.



Notable NPCs or Monsters

Name	Description	Stats
Whisperslave Villager	Eyes glassy, serves the worm	HP 6, AC 10, Attack: Rusted Blade (1d6)
Spawn of the Maw	Leech-like, fast, teeth in rings	HP 8, AC 13, Bite (1d6+1), Cling: Grapples on hit
Buried Hunger (Mini Boss)	Blind, enormous, psychic presence	HP 22, AC 14, Maw Bite (2d6), Psychic Screech (DC 12 WIS save or stunned 1 round)
Little Girl (Mira Thorne)	Pale and hollow-eyed, Mira speaks in a whisper and clutches a worn cloth doll missing one button eye.	HP: 2, AC: 10

Notable Loot / Oddities

- Bone Charm of Stillness (In the caverns)- Cracked knuckle bones strung on twine. While worn, grants +1 to stealth checks in total darkness. Once per day, the wearer can silence their footsteps for 1 minute. Feels cold to the touch and occasionally twitches.
- The Mayor's Journal (Mayor's residence) – Page torn and bloodied; hints at a ritual that could banish or empower the Buried Hunger.

Timers, Twists, & Terrors

Countdown Timer:

When the sun goes down, the village needs to sacrifice another person (already tied by the well). It has been a week since Joran was thrown into the well.

Twist:

The “worm” is growing fast. The villagers are feeding it in hopes of controlling it as a god-thing... but it plans to devour them all.

Escalation:

Every 3 Rounds, roll 1d6. On a 1, another Spawn appear.

Closing Note

Drop The Hunger Below into any cursed village or backwater setting. Let me know how it played at your table—or tag me with your Buried Hunger art! Want to see a specific theme next? Drop a comment!



Generated by the 'Random Cave Map Creator' at <http://www.gozzys.com/>