

## The Horrors to Come (Hard)

September 9th, 1924

*Victor and I attempted a summoning last night. The results were ... mixed.*

*Paul had deciphered a ritual for summoning a spirit of information - the Rite of Stars and Roses. We all assumed this would be useful in some way, so Victor and I ran through the steps close to midnight. We placed candles scented with sandalwood, rose, and pansy, sacrificed a squirrel, and - The details of the ritual are in the Grey Book and I don't need to duplicate them here.*

*When the final words were said, we heard ... something. Victor said he heard a series of sounds rather like an out-of-tune harpsichord, which later formed into a strange, jangly voice. For me, I heard a woman's voice with no embellishments.*

*The spirit explained that it was known as the Watcher-at-Fools'-Lantern, and that it would be happy to answer a question for us but we would only be able to hear it, not see it.*

*I asked it to tell us of the horrors to come, and what we might do to help ourselves with them. The spirit (or perhaps it was a daemon; these things are never clear) proceeded to produce a series of sounds, which it assured us would be understood by the sufficiently clever. Then it vanished.*

*After several hours of crankily comparing notes, Victor and I were forced to conclude that we had no idea what the spirit was trying to tell us. Beware of French horns?*

*We went back to our notes on the ritual, only to discover that apparently the colors of flowers are relevant in spiritual matters. We'd used a candle with purple pansies rather than red pansies. So we have no way of knowing what sort of corruption may have been introduced into the ritual. I hope that it was small, as it was only one out of thirty or so steps.*

*I would duplicate my notes here, but in one of my all-too-standard fits of rage, I told Victor to burn them and he listened to me. I will have to be more clear in the future that the correct response is to assure me that it shall be done, and then hide the notes until I have calmed down.*

BAPHL will perform the Rite of Stars and Roses upon request; please call Headquarters to schedule an appointment.