

The Horrors to Come (Normal)

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.

Additionally, the notes were not entirely incinerated; the following characters are all that remain:

- 2DL
- AOTMT
- COTH
- DOTD
- TBWP
- TF
- TWTRTC
- VS