

The Journal of
THOMAS J. WARD

Boggarts

Hairy Boggarts

Can be friendly or hostile or a mixture of both. Have coarse hairy coats and take on different animal shapes—mainly dogs but lots of cats and a few goats. Can also be shaped like horses. Lots of hairy boggarts in the County! There's a horse boggart at Hackensall. Black dog boggarts to be found at Warton and up on the Long Ridge.

Hall Knockers

Boggarts that rap on walls or doors and cause a nuisance. Often get up to tricks. May throw pots and pans around in kitchen, smash cups and saucers, and wake up household. Pull bedclothes from bed. Dangerous because unpredictable. Can change without notice into stone chuckers. These are boggarts that throw pebbles or even boulders. All types of boggart are ranked from one to ten. One is the most powerful. Can kill. Sometimes, stone chuckers make showers of stones rain down on a village or house for weeks at a time. Need to be artificially bound.

Cattle Rippers

Cattle rippers are boggarts that drink blood from cattle. Can cause farmer hardship. Sometimes change without warning into full-blown rippers, which are boggarts that drink blood from humans. These always kill but sometimes very slowly.

B

WITCHES

four Types of Witches

The malevolent, which means evil. Spook said no local witch problem now. East, near Pendle Hill, there are lots of malevolent witches.

The benign, which means good. Good witches help neighbors and wider community. Sometimes people travel far and wide to see them. Usually charge a fee. Sometimes work for nothing. Cure warts, coughs, fevers, and other ailments. Experts on herbs. Call themselves "healers" rather than witches. Church treats them no differently than the malevolent. Thinks them in league with the Devil. If caught both types of witches are burned.

The falsely accused are blamed for witchcraft in error. Sometimes tortured. Often their homes are seized and sold. If witchfinder involved, property usually confiscated. He makes a living this way. Allegations sometimes made by jealous neighbors who share proceeds with witchfinder.

The unaware means a witch who doesn't know she's a witch. Sometimes able to hurt others by harboring resentments. Evil wishing. Evil eye. Unaware can either be malevolent or benign. The latter always have a good effect on those around them. Being unaware can sometimes last a lifetime.

More on Witches

Some use bone magic. Victim nearly always dies of shock or blood loss. Finger and thumb and rib bones are the most useful.

Seventh rib most of all. Bones usually taken just before dawn.

Malevolent witches usually bone bound after death. Spirits trapped in their bones. To stop them scratching their way to the surface, thirteen iron bars should be used, set into stone. Also helps to bury them head downward. Close to roots of a tree if possible.

A very powerful malevolent witch can be undead...

Can crawl, slither, or drag her way toward her victim.

Body will be soft and pliable and able to ooze into a victim's ears or nose and possess his body. Making sure she doesn't come back is difficult. Can burn or eat the witch's heart, but both ways too barbaric. Pit is the only method the Spook approves of.

Swimming

One of the main tests for a witch. Suspected witch has feet tied to hands. Thrown into nearest pond or lake. Sinking means innocent. Floating means guilty. If old, usually die of shock anyway. Especially in winter.

Village Girls with Pointy Shoes

Warned about the village girls. Get up to all sorts of tricks. Especially need to take care with any who wear pointy shoes. They're not to be trusted.

Met Alice, a girl who actually wears pointy shoes!
She was nice to me but terrified some of the village lads.

Must be on my guard.

THE UNQUIET DEAD

y

USUALLY FALL INTO TWO CATEGORIES

Ghasts are fragments of spirits that have moved on. Leaving bad part of themselves behind makes them able to do this.

Ghasts are repetitive, doing the same thing over and over again. Usually something done at scene of crime.

Something violent like a murder. Ghasts can only harm you if you're afraid. Also ranked from one to ten. Most people hardly aware of a ten. Ghasts of the highest rank can drive people insane through fear. Sometimes they try to touch you. Squeeze your throat or press on chest to make it hard to breathe.

Ghosts are full spirits still trapped on earth and unable to pass on. Sometimes because of some crime they have committed. Others have a message for people still alive. May linger years until their task is completed. Sometimes ghosts don't know they're dead. Can sometimes be given a talking-to and asked to move on. These are also ranked from one to ten. Ones can be really dangerous and can choose whether to make themselves visible or not. Most are malevolent.

HOW TO BIND A BOGGART

Boggarts move up and down ley lines but can be trapped in one place. This is called naturally bound. Some think the lines are ancient paths used by forefathers in ancient times. But they're really lines of power underground. Invisible roads that some boggarts use to travel quickly from place to place. Earthquakes can trap boggarts and make them naturally bound, unable to move more than a dozen paces in any direction. Most best left where they are. If in awkward spot (near house or road), need to be moved away and artificially bound as follows:

- ☉ Pit needs to be dug at least six feet deep.
For rippers, nine feet.
- ☉ Pit must be coated with mixture of salt and iron mixed into a bone glue.
- ☉ Salt burns a boggart.
Iron bleeds away its strength.
- ☉ Blood placed in pit to lure boggart into it before stone is dropped into place, sealing it underground.
- ☉ Don't forget to coat inside of stone!

Need to employ help of tradesmen. Mason. Rigger. List of County tradesmen with this experience in Spook's library.

**NEED TO MEMORIZE THEM
ALL BEFORE END OF FIRST YEAR!**

INFORMATION ON MOTHER MALKIN FROM THE SPOOK'S BOOK ON WITCHES

Mother Malkin uses blood magic. Gets her power from human blood—mainly that of children! Once lived on farm to west of the County. Gave home and support to young women (without husbands) who were expecting babies. Blood of babies used for magic. Some of women never seen again. Has a son called Tusk. Very strong and dangerous.

Later, locals dug up bodies of women. Many had been crushed. Ribs broken. Tusk did it. Wherever Mother Malkin lived there'd been trouble. Last stay was near Chipenden. Spook drove Lizzie away and put Malkin in pit.

POSSESSION: THE DAMNED, THE DIZZY, AND THE DESPERATE

Spook lent me book from his library (title above) all about possession. Said it was the "definitive work." Best book ever written on the subject. Not much help at the moment. It's in Latin, a language I'm going to start learning soon. I don't know what the title means but I'm scared. Couldn't be more desperate myself.

What Alice told me about Possession

Alice explained title of the Spook's book, The Damned, the Dizzy, and the Desperate. First word just used by priests for those they think certain to go to Hell. Second word much more useful. A body newly possessed has poor balance and keeps falling over. So that's how you can tell they're newly possessed. The possessed may be bad tempered, too. So sudden change of personality may give warning. Calm and placid person may become irritable.

"Desperate" is the state of an undead witch wanting to possess new healthy body. Once that's achieved, she's desperate to keep it. So very dangerous. Capable of anything.

Men easier to possess than women. Very dangerous if Mother Malkin possesses someone big and strong like Jack.

Original soul is still trapped in body. Can't just kill body to get rid of possessor. That's as bad as murder! So book not clear on what can be done. Seems unfinished.

What Alice told me about Botany

Plants have lots of uses.

They can kill, cure, or drive you insane!

Deadly nightshade is also called belladonna, which means "beautiful lady." Can be used as ointment to make a woman's eyes bright and attractive. Very risky and dangerous, but is sometimes eaten by witches. Eat too much and you die or are driven mad! A small amount can be used to see into the future.

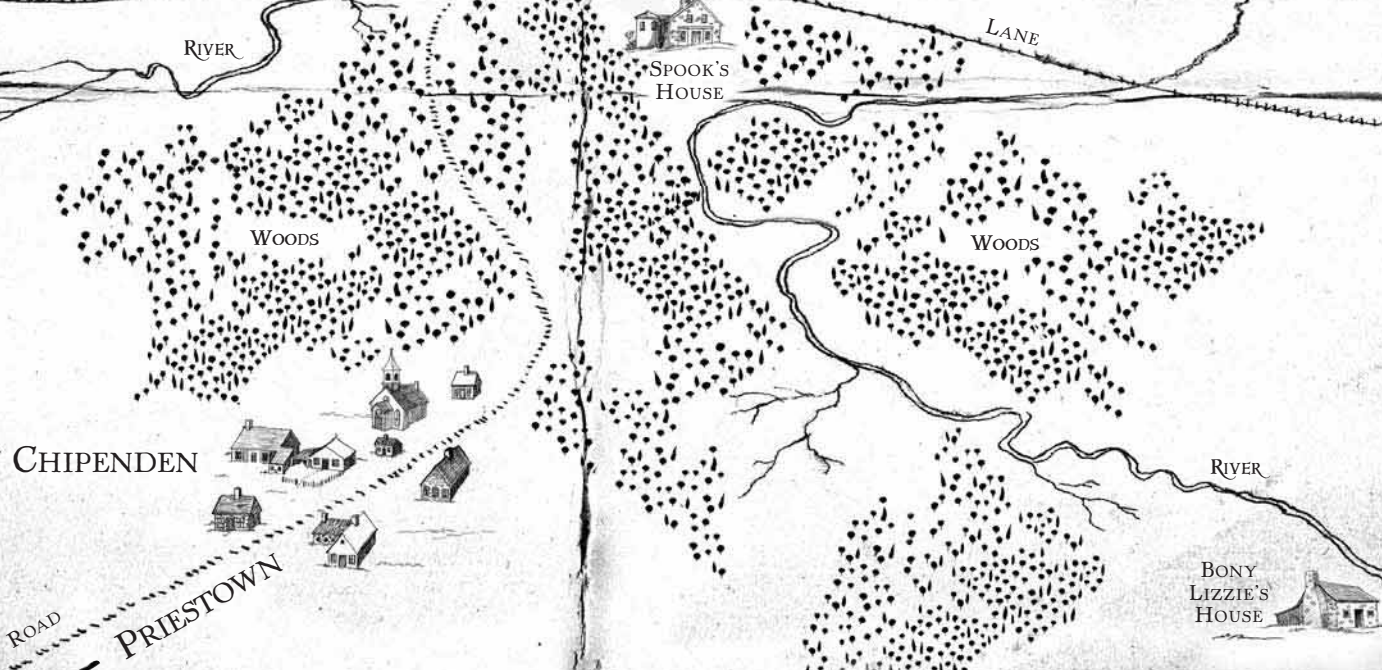
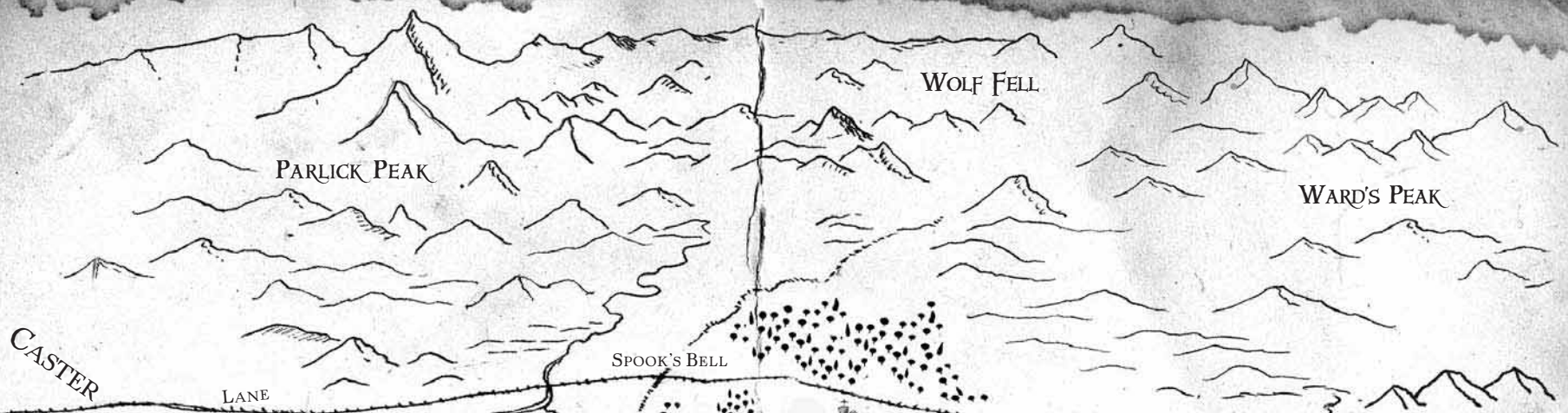


Pendle witches use it to fly! Alice said they make an ointment from it and smear it on their bodies. But she'd never seen a witch actually fly.

Mandrake. Also called mandragora. Can be recognized by pale blue flowers and large leaves. Some witches call its berries "Devil's Apples." Eating the plant can make you fall unconscious. Too much and you never wake up. Or wake up insane. Can be used as purge to cleanse poisons from body.

Helps relieve toothache and pains in the joints. Also used as ingredient in love potions. Roots are shaped like a human body. Supposed to shriek when pulled from the ground. Alice hasn't heard that but Bony Lizzie said it's true. Mandrakes are best looked for at crossroads but are rare in the County.





Symbols

BOGGARTS

Beta for Boggart

B ^P ← ripper
_X ← rank

Gregory ← name

I — dangerous

X — hardly detectable

B

Naturally bound bogart

B

Artificially bound bogart

GHOSTS/GHASTS

γ
_X ←
Gregory

I — dangerous
X — hardly detectable

WITCHES

O

M ← **M** malevolent

B benign

Gregory

U unaware