

GHOSTBUSTERS



The Shadow Over Yonkers

An adventure for 4-6 'Busters
Gary Con 2011

SCENE 1:
BREAK IN AT THE BRANCH

***** You are members of a small Ghostbusters franchise based in the Yonkers borough of New York state. You have no idea how you were able to secure a franchise right across the river from “THE Ghostbusters,” although you suspect that it might have something to do with the fact your coverage area is less than 20 square miles. Needless to say, most of the action has been minimal -- Class 1 visions and phantoms at the most. You could trap them in a shoebox using a vacuum cleaner if you were so inclined. (Although there was that spectral Great Dane that was terrorizing the dog groomers on Prospect St. THAT was kinda cool.) You're hanging around your offices on a Friday evening engaged in a spirited “Yo Mamma So Fat” contest, when the phone begins to ring. *****

This would be the person sitting closest to the GM. Stare at them until they get the hint. Once they pick up the phone and answer:

***** “Ghostbusters? This is Professor Clark Olmsted of the Yonkers branch of Miskatonic University. Ummm... I have a situation that needs to be dealt with quickly and quietly by men of your....means and abilities. Please get here as soon as you can and explain when you arrive.” *****

The original Miskatonic University was made famous by the tales of Lovecraft and his ilk years ago. The Yonkers branch of Miskatonic opened about a year ago. The community college attracts those who can't get into a real college and seems to specialize in the weird and paranormal, as they offer classes like “Dimensional Travel,” “Mold and Slime Identification,” and “Xenobiology.” They've asked a few of you to teach courses on Parapsychology – for free, of course. The branch is just a few miles up the road along the Hudson in a rundown strip mall.

You take ECTO-12 (a 1986 Dodge Caravan) to the school. When you pull up, Prof. Olmstead meets you at the doors of what appears to have been a Chuck E. Cheese at one time.

**** Good, I'm glad you came over so quickly. There's been a break-in and something very valuable – and dangerous – has been taken from our archives. ****

When Prof. Olmstead arrived to teach an evening class (“Shoggoths and You”), he found the school's small library ransacked. When you walk in, you see that the library (generously named, as there are three bookcases and one table and chair) has been violently rifled through. He points to a metal lockbox on the table that appears to have been ripped open with clawed hands.

**** In that strongbox we kept a very dangerous occult tome. It's the only one like it in existence. I assume you've all heard of the Necronomicon? Before it was translated from Latin and into English in 1586 by John Dee, Dee's brother Rick had a go at translating the damned thing. Turns out Rick wasn't very good at languages. About a third of the way through, he misread a piece of text and was blasted into another dimension. Because it was only partially complete, the tome was given an abridged title: “The Nomicon.” The problem is, this work is badly written. Mistranslations, spelling mistakes, misplaced colons...if anyone were to try to read from it or...God forbid...cast a spell, it'd be like giving a monkey a flamethrower. We need to re-recover that book!”*****

Prof. Olmstead also explains that the book was only on loan from Miskatonic so the branch could claim to have its own occult lore section.

*****It was embarrassing to be a Miskatonic branch without one forbidden tome, you know. And speaking of embarrassing, the thieves also left a calling card. Pick up any other book and look at the pictures! *****

Thumbing through any book and the Ghostbusters will see that someone drew a penis on nearly every picture. In a picture of Washington crossing the Delaware, ol' George is sportin' more wood than just his teeth, if you get what I'm saying.

The use of PKE meters reveals a valence of 806.65 – a definite Lovecraftian biological entity reading. Then the needle “ticks” down to 806.55. BRAINS roll of 10 to realize that both the PKE meters and Ecto-visors can be set to that valence and used to track the trail. Prof. Olmstead will hang back to try to straighten the damage.

Using their devices, the Ghostbusters are lead through the building (penises drawn on every picture on the walls. The class photo is particularly amusing.) The trail leads out the backdoor, through a rear parking lot, and down a gradual slope, leading to the Hudson River's edge. In the darkness, you see four vaguely humanoid shapes hunched over something.

COOL roll on 10 to realize the shadows are snickering and giggling like pre-teens who have stumbled across their dad's Playboys. You can also hear pages rustling and turning. You hear something about a “mating ritual.”

The figures are three Shallow Ones – Deep Ones that have not fully matured. They broke in and stole the book because “They wanna git gurls...heh heh heh.” (Think of these guys as a cross between Beavis and Butthead and every horny 13-year-old guy.cast member from Porky's. What they don't realize is the book has been mistranslated to contain a **dating** ritual. This will be triggered during the prom at Freshwater High later tonight.

Unless the Ghostbusters do something, one of them will find the right passage and begin reading aloud. My guess is that they're gonna begin shooting. Since the Shallow Ones are not ghosts, the beams won't trap them, but it will sure as hell burn.

SHALLOW ONE (3 of 'em)
Immature Fish Guys
Special Ability: None
Power: 2 Ectopresence: None
Shallow One 1 – () ()
Shallow One 2 – () ()
Shallow One 3 – () ()

When the beams start firing, they start screaming, hollaring, and scattering. They talk (unusual) and they sound like high school jock types (also unusual). They use the word dillweed, dillhole, and buttmunch a lot. Make it chaotic. One of them will race into the water with the book, with the two others behind making woob-woob-woob noises.

*****They pop out of the water doing fist pumps. “Yeah! Tonight, we're gonna SCORE!” they flip off the Ghostbusters and generally act like asses as they disappear from sight.*****

Just as they disappear under the water and the GB wonder what they're gonna do, one of them is tapped on the shoulder. Turning around is a shorter, tubbier Shallow One. (He acts like an 8-year old and talks like “Nacho” from Idiocracy.)

***** Dagum, uh, you guys seen my brothers? I think they ditched me. Again. *****

Looks like the team just bagged a Shallow One. And a stupid one at that.

SCENE 2: LOOKING UP STUFF AND DOING RESEARCH

The Ghostbusters will probably want to interrogate the prisoner. This can be played up for laughs and giggles. The creature calls himself “Jimmy.” The three others were his brothers, Steve, Kyle, and Barbara. He acts like a hurt little brother who is constantly being abused and picked on by his older brothers. Jimmy is actually kind of sweet, in a stupid fush-guy kind of way. He repeats that they just wanted the book “to pick up gurls...” He may spill that they were looking for a mating ritual.

*****“Dagum, they're always talking that they all, you know, what girlfreinds and junk to kiss and hold and stuff...”****

And why the penises?

“Well, Dagum, they think weiners are funny. Heh, I said weiner...”

NOTE: Jimmy uses the term “Dagum” a lot. Play that up. He also keeps asking for a drink of water. Do that a lot.

The following Key Terms will reveal the following info (if a proper BRAINS/Research roll is made – level 15):

THE NECRONOMICON – The Yellow Pages of occult lore. If it's evil and magical and Lovecraftian, it's in here.

THE NOMICON – Poorly translated version with many errors, half-done translations, and other issues. It's so unstable, just the act of reading it could cause madness, blindness, and hair to grow on your palms.

SHALLOW ONES – Unlike their more dangerous and animalistic Deep One cousins, Shallow Ones are younger, more immature specimens. They are found in lakes, rivers, and ponds rather than the ocean's depths. They seem to have retained their human-like intelligence

from before they turned into the fish-like creature. However, strange personalities often manifest themselves in these beings.

MATING RITUAL – A vile, loathsome spell cast to charm and seduce young ladies to, well, you know. The Necronomicon has whole chapters on this kind of thing, as the original author was a real perv. The Nomicon, however, has no such information.

The mistranslated Nomicon contains a “dating ritual” instead. It is unknown how this spell, once cast, will affect young, nubile women. Or any women. Or men. Or willing plantlife.

Jimmy will constantly chatter on, offering help and advice (think the Keymaster in the first movie). Jimmy was tagging along when his brothers pulled this caper. Since he was ditched, he wants his brothers to get in trouble, so he's squealling like a pig. He just wants to help the GB (who seem to be treating him fairly) to get the book back.

*****Dagum, the book is a bad book? Aw, then you don't want those guys to have it. They'll probably draw weiners in it.*****

Sadly, the brothers have uncovered a scrying spell in the book that seems to work. BRAINS roll to notice the slight window open in reality with the three of them leering in.

****Jimmy, you buttmunch! You narked on us! Sic 'em Fluffy!*****

Jimmy doesn't know who Fluffy is.

**SCENE THREE:
FLUFFY...SIC 'EM!**

The three brothers, somewhere under in the Hudson River, are still farting around with The Nomicon. The dating ritual is underway when they decided to check in on little brother Jimmy. Seeing him in cahoots, they decided to use the Nomicon to summon a Hound of Tindalos, but the Nomicon's lousy translation resulted in a three Chihuahuas of Tindalos, which are now phasing in at GBHQ.

They come out of the corners of the Ghostbusters room. Smoke pours from the corners, and a shadowy form oozes from the angles. When the smoke hits the ground, it manifests into, well, 3 small black (but damn viscious) yippee-yappy chihuahuas. And these CAN be trapped. (They are Class 4 Terror Dogs – Derleth variation.) They are tough to hit (MOVES 20) due to their extra-dimensional-ness.

CHIHUAUHAUS OF TINDALOS (3 of 'em)
Vicious dimensional hopping yappers
Special Ability: Yappy Shriek
Power: 2 Ectopresence: 3
Chihauhau 1 – () () ()
Chihauhau 2 – () () ()
Chihauhau 3 – () () ()

If Professor Olmstead is there, he may be able to fill in blanks for the GB who haven't yet put the whole mating/dating ritual to bed yet. Once the chihuahuas are dealt with, a call comes in.

***** Ghostbusters! This is Principle McVicker at Freshwater High. We're having our prom tonight and something's going wrong! The lights are flickering and some kind of ooze is seeping up the walls. These 3 kids just walked in wearing frog suits and I think there must...*****

Phone goes dead. The dating ritual is in effect during the Freshwater High Junior Prom.

Jimmy begs to go with the Busters. If they say no, he runs along after them to convenient surprise them from behind again.

SCENE 4: PROM NIGHT

When the GBs arrive at Freshwater High, they see the gymnasium is coated in a thick viscous slime. It's also surrounded by limos, police barricades, and dozens upon dozens of panicky parents.

****Our kids are in there! What are you gonna do? Get them out of there!****

Shooting at the door will cause the slime to fold away from it. The door will open and a HUGE Shallow One in a lemon yellow tux will step out. He puts on a pair of glasses and looks at his clipboard.

****Name? he asks.**

The Busters need to get inside. To do so, they need to convince this Shallow One to let them in. If shot, he stands there with a bored look on his face as the beams ripple over his body ineffectively. (He licks his fingers and puts out a small fire. Before walking back in and shutting the door. If the Busters try to enlist Jimmy...

****How old are you? The doorman asks. Jimmy counts on his fingers. "I'll be 56 next month." "Pffft. Your're just a kid." and he'll shut the door. *****

This is a roleplaying exercise for the PCs. They need to get their names on the list (or pretend they're someone on the list. They need tuxes (lots of folks in the parking lot – chauffeurs and kids who were drinking in the parking lot when it went down). And they need tickets (any slip of paper will do. The illusion is just as gullible as the Shallow Ones. (COOL 15 to get in – bonuses if it's funny – extra dice added to pool.) If they get in, the slime fills in as they enter, the door shuts, and the doorman stands guard. No getting' out.

Once in, the prom's in full force. Due to the nature of the spell, the kids are entranced to not

see the nature of the Shallow Ones. Steve, Kyle and Barbara are also wearing tuxes and are enjoying prom. One is dancing, one is getting punch for his lady friend, and the other is up on stage, flirting with the prom Queen. None of the women seem to notice what's going on.

The Nomicon is here too. They laid it next to a bunch of other books – the annual yearbooks are being distributed and it fell into one of the boxes. Been in there for a while, so the other books (same size and shape, of course) have absorbed residual PKE. Gotta find it.

Shooting up the place might not go over so good for the event because 1. the kids don't see anything wrong and 2. the doorman may intervene. But once one of the Shallow Ones sees the Busters in the prom, they'll react, scrambling for the book. Chaos as folks start shooting and diving for cover and general mayhem.

Jimmy is getting pretty upset. He's being ignored (again). If he gets hurt or otherwise loses it, he shouts when there's a lull in the action:

DAGUM, I'm tired of you guys always picking on me and ignoring me and giving me full-body swirlies! And now you took that bad book from my friends. (you are my friends, right?) I'm telling DAD!

Jimmy starts to chant Dagum, Dagum, Dagum. That's the name of his (and all Shallow Ones') father. Dagum – brother to Dagon. There is screams from outside, the floor shudders, there is an unearthly stillness. Then the ROOF is wrenched from its moorings as it's torn off by Dagum, come to see what his kids are up to.

Dagum looks like a 40 foot tall Creature from the Black Lagoon. He has a trucker's cap (SKOAL on the front) and a red flannel shirt dripping with seaweed, ichor, and god knows what. He may even have a wad of chaw in his lip.

You know what your dad is like when you've been fighting with your brother or sister and he FINALLY has had enough? That's the situation. He's furious at his kids. He could care less about the human insects. (He is a Semi-Great Old One, after all)

**WHAT IN THE SAN HILL IS GOING ON?
CTHULHU DAMN IT, SOMEONE
BETTER ANSWER ME!**

Jimmy and the brothers start pointing fingers at each other, trying to deflect the ire to each other.

We were following Jimmy because he was lost on the surface world again...nu-uh, you guys were all "let's go meet girls and you stole a book...i dont' know what you're talking about, but jimmy told on us to those humans...but you guys let humans see you and you were kissing some of them on the lips....yeah, well you're friends with humans!...well, you were drawing weiners again!!!

Dagum's at the end of his rope.

I DON'T CARE WHO STARTED IT. I'M GONNA FINISH IT.

Dagum clenches a fist and brings it down. He's trying to hit his kids, but there's a LOT of people in the way who may get hurt – including the Busters. The doors are now unsealed (the slime disappated with Dagum's arrival, as did the trance. Whoops! Panicked kids stampede! Anyway, protect the innocent, get the book, deal with the brothers, and stave off Dagum's attack!!

DAGUM

Dagon's Redneck Brother (Shallow One)

Brains: 3 See through Fib: 6

Muscle: 4 Smash: 7

Moves: 1 Spit Huge Chaw Spit: 4

Cool: 1 Threaten: 4

OOOOOO

Goal: To beat some sense into those damn kids of his, and do some collateral damage.

Dagum doesn't even see the humans as in the way. The brothers are now trying to stay out of dad's way. They may even use the Busters as sheilds.

**I SEE YOU HIDING. GET OVER HERE.
(crunch) TIME FOR A SPANKIN' YOU
GOOD FOR NOTHIN....**

The Busters can try zapping their way through, or if they put the hurt on the brother themselves, Dagum will ease off, seeing they're getting what they deserve. Zapping Dagum may work too, but Jimmy's not keen on that idea and will try pulling the proton wand out of hands. **(Stop shootin' my daddy!))**

When Dagum is defeated (unlikely), the brothers are downed (probable), or Great Cthulhu steps in for a guest shot (WTF?!?), Dagum will pick up the brothers.

**THE THREE OF YOU ARE IN FOR THE
MOTHER OF ALL ASS-WHUPPINGS.
WHAT DO YOU SAY TO THE
HUMANOID INSECTS?**

...sorry....

SORRY WHAT?

...sorry that we took your book and drew weiners on everything....

GOOD. LET'S GO HOME. JIMBO, YOU COMIN'?

Jimmy follows along, stops and looks longingly back at you guys.

**SCENE 5:
EPILOGUE**

***** It's been three weeks since The Prom Of The Damned. Fortunately Dagum tread lightly when he came ashore, so the damage was minimal. OK, so the Freshwater High Gymnasium is pretty much destroyed, but – for once – you were blameless for the destruction. The Mayor of Yonkers declared Ghostbusters Appreciation Day which consisted of a parade and free balloons for the kids. You even got a Certificate of Merit**

faxed to you from the original Ghostbusters with the signatures stamped on it and everything! Yup, it's good to finally come out from under the shadow of the New York franchise and come into your own.

And about that new janitor you hired? Seems to be a hard enough worker, always on time, and happy to help. You just wish he'd stop saying Dagum and asking for glasses of water all the time.***

END