

Seizure

A Call Of Cthulhu Adventure

A Call of Cthulhu Adventure, recommended for three to five experienced players and a Keeper or two, set in 1962.

Introduction: This adventure is a quite challenging one. Players must really think their way through situations, and Keepers can have a lot of fun toying and misleading the players without putting them in any danger. This adventure is probably best suited for experienced COC players. They are more likely to yield on caution's side, whereas players of hack-and-slay games may rush in. Should this occur, the Keeper should throw some heat at them, be it law enforcement or a mild seizure.

Setting: The adventure dateline is set in 1962 Arkham, Massachusetts. Technological specifications dictate that you keep this adventure between the mid-Fifties to (very) early Seventies. UHF/VHF TV waves will play a big part herein, and today, almost no one uses such wavebands.

Background: A recent rash of baby killings have gone on in the Miskatonic Valley, especially in Arkham. Investigators are called in after a son of a close friend vanishes and is feared dead. Give the players the below handouts about a week prior to the game, as almost everyone in the area is aware of what has been going on. Everyone has an opinion, no one has an answer. Giving the handouts prior to the game allows investigators to formulate their own theories. Don't give them anything extra however.

Note: I tried to stay true to the reporting, writing style and word choices from this time period.

Trick or Treater Missing

Arkham Boy Vanishes From Father's Grasp.

Town On Lookout.

By Cindy Lefiss

Arkham - There has been a five hundred dollar reward offered for information about a missing Arkham boy.

Nine year-old Pill O'Hallahan of 506 N. French Hill St., was last seen trick-or-treating with his father and several friends in the Rivertown section of Arkham. The boy was last scene by his father receiving treats from a house near the Defense Plant.

He was dressed as the Creature From the Black Lagoon.

Pill stands four feet, two inches, weighing 55 pounds. He has blond hair and dark brown eyes. He has a birthmark on the lower left side of his back, and a small scar on the heel of his right foot.

The boy was last seen at 7:24 p.m..

Police Chief Morris Washington said there is an urgent need to find the boy.

"With temperatures dropping to freezing over the past week, we fear for the boy's safety even more than if the temperatures were warmer," he said. "We don't have as much light and darkness really slows down the search process."

When asked if he thought this was a kidnapping situation or a run away child, the Chief had no answer.

"Right now this is a missing person's case," he said. "We are looking for a young boy who has been gone for over twelve hours now, with no cause whatsoever. There are no signs, no one saw him leave, he just faded into the night somewhere."

When asked how the boy went missing, the Chief again had little to say.

"I don't know. To be honest with you, we are still looking."

Pill was going door to door for treats with his father, two more adults, and twelve other children. With the large group, the boy seems to have slipped off without much notice. His father is offering the \$500 reward.

Mr. O'Hallahan asked that none of his comments be printed in the paper, but did say his son has never wandered off before, which makes him quite nervous.

**Town Boy Found Dead
Pill O'Hallahan found dead in River.
Two more children abducted in neighboring towns.**

Arkham - A search for missing town boy Pill O'Hallahan has ended in tragedy.

The boy's body, with half of his Halloween costume still on, was found on the banks of the Miskatonic River around 2:30 this morning by a local fisherman. Police have determined the boy was murdered before he was put into the river, though they will not say how they know this.

This shocking news is intensified as two more missing children have been reported in Kingsport and Newburyport. The other children are five year-old Heidi Wray, from Newburyport, and two year old Anne Tyler of Kingsport.

Heidi Wray went missing while trick-or-treating with two adults and ten other children in Newburyport.

Anne Tyler was snatched from the backseat of her mother's car. Mrs. Rina Tyler told police she ran into Kingsport Cleaners, 13 Main Street, for no more than two minutes, leaving her baby unattended. When she returned the car door was open and the baby gone.

Neither Mrs. Tyler or her husband, Roger Tyler, had any comment.

Is there a connection?

Arkham Police Chief Morris Washington said he is neither ruling in or out the possibility of there being a connection with the crimes. When asked if he believed the other two babies could be in danger, he had little to say.

"I can't speculate on that. There's nothing I can tell you." Kingsport Police Chief Jon Sargent said he cannot determine if there is any connection between the cases.

The police chiefs from all three communities issued a joint statement to the public.

"Before anything, let us all remember to stay calm. There is no need for fear, panic or rumor mongering.

"Local and Commonwealth law enforcement officials are hard at work investigating all three cases. At this present time we have three different investigations going. One a murder investigation and two

missing children investigations. As of right now, there is no connection between any of the cases.

"As strictly a precautionary measure, we ask that children always be within eye sight of their parent or another trusted adult. Children should not go out after dark unless absolutely necessary and never alone.

"Everyone in the area should be on the lookout for strange or suspicious activities. Look out for people you don't know roaming your neighborhood. Keep an extra eye on where your children are at all times.

"Any suspicious activity should be reported immediately to local police. We have extra men on duty and around the clock people on the phones. We are working as hard as we can to solve and close these three investigations."

Occult Connections Possible says Miskatonic Professor.

The Teaching Assistant of Professor of Occult Studies at Miskatonic University, Steward Goddard III, who is presently in Tibet, was asked if he believes there is any occult significance with these killings.

"There is always a possibility. Dr. Goddard strongly believes that." Dr. Goddard's assistant said. "Baby sacrifice has significance in (many) occult practices.... It is looked at as the ultimate blasphemy."

Not Again!!!!

Mutilated body of missing Newburyport girl found in sewer. Second body in three days - another baby feared killed.

Kingsport- The lifeless, mutilated body of five year-old Heidi Wray was found by a town sewer worker around 2:30 this morning after being reported missing yesterday.

John Ramsey, a twenty year veteran of the DPW, has to cut through a row of pipes during his late night shift in the sewers. However, today the pipes were blocked and he had to cut around alongside an open, flowing throughway of waste water. It was there that he saw the body of Ms. Wray.

"Rats and shrews usually get stuck in one of the grates in the trough," Mr. Ramsey said. "I figured since I was right near it, I would check it out. At first I thought, a cat or small dog must be caught in it, because the object was quite big for being an underground animal. But you'd be surprised how big a rat can get."

The body was so disfigured, he had trouble recognizing it was a human. "We have these big long tongs there," Mr. Ramsey says. "So I grabbed the object with them, and brought it to the side. When I rolled it over and saw her face, I had to step back."

Police were immediately called to the scene. Massachusetts State Officer Tim Kenny was the first to arrive.

"He could hardly believe it either," said Mr. Ramsey about the troopers reaction. "We both just stared there looking at it. I finally said, 'That is probably the missing girl.' he said, 'I'm afraid you might be right.' And then we just stood there looking at her."

Town and State Police are still conducting a search under ground to find any possible clues to this crime.

Officer Kenny also had the sad duty of breaking the terrible news to Ms. Wray's parents, Donald and Emily Wray. Neither parent has wished to speak to the press.

Baby Killer Spotted But Claims Another Young Victim Police Ask for Citizens' Help.

Arkham - Another child has been murdered in Arkham and the killer has been identified, but as of yet, still at large.

At 7:30 p.m. Harris McGee, 39 year-old invalid was spotted by several neighbors as he shot and killed his seven year old neighbor, Tommy Ryan.

The neighbors ran into the street, where the wounded boy lay dying. When the people looked again into McGee's yard, from where he had fired the fatal shot, the perpetrator's wheelchair was present, but no one was in it.

Police and ambulances were summoned but Tommy Ryan died within a minute of being shot. Police deputized all the men from the neighborhood and a search began.

Harris's house was raided and the surrounding neighborhoods were thoroughly searched, but no sign of the killer was found.

Police are very puzzled by the disappearance since McGee has been paralyzed from the waist down since being shot in the Korean conflict. McGee can neither walk nor drive an automobile.

Neighbors would drive Mr. McGee around, and he was considered a kind, friendly person.

"This is so unreal," said Mrs. Harold Renn, a next door neighbor who frequently had coffee with McGee. "He was an exceptionally nice man. He was so young to be in a wheelchair, but he felt he was wounded for a just cause. He was peaceful. He said the war had made him sick to violence."

Mr. Harold Renn would help McGee with several household chores, such as taking out his trash, and was stunned to witness this once peaceful man, shoot down a boy in cold blood.

"I was on my way to his house to see if he needed anything at the market," Mr. Renn said. "I was looking at my watch and then I heard a pop. I looked up to see Tommy drop down. I ran to him and I saw Harris just sitting there with this blank expression and a smoking hunting rifle on his lap. It was the most terrible thing I have ever seen."

Florence Dishman, whose house is directly across from the yard McGee fired from, was outside and saw the murder take place.

"I was taking out the trash when I turned around because Tommy said something to me," She said, holding back tears. "I turned around and I saw Harris just sitting in his wheelchair with this dull expression in his face. His eyes were dead. He was holding the gun right out and aiming it like it was a toy. I couldn't make a sound or move. It was over so quick. Just a pop, and Tommy fell to the ground like a sack of flour. It was dark, but the streetlights were on and his yard lights were on and everything was so clear as day. There was this huge explosion from his gun. There was no noise then. I think the pop came first."

Florence Dishman ran to the boy and cradled his head. "I told him things were going to be all right," she said choking on her words. "I told him things were okay and everything was going to be all right and that God loved him and wouldn't let anything bad ever happen to him. I looked up then and Harris was just gone. Vanished. I was screaming and someone, I don't know who, a man, came over to me and started yelling for someone to call the police and an ambulance. Then Tommy died in my arms."

Police are asking citizen's to keep an eye out for Harris McGee. He is 39, and can not move his legs or hips. He has brown crewcut hair and a trimmed beard and mustache. He also has a US Marine Bulldog

tattoo with the words Semper-Fi below it on his left forearm. He has broad shoulders and a slight paunch. His arm strength is considerable. He also has had U.S. Marine training and should be considered dangerous.

Neighbor Rhonda Dishman wondered if McGee belonged to any groups which might condone this behavior.

"I don't think he did," Miss Dishman said. "People from the VFW or Amvets would visit and they would play cards I think. In the summer they would take him outside and play chess and checkers. I never saw anything unusual about them. I didn't take a lot of notice. He had a lot of friends though, he was very well liked."

EDITORIAL: Why Not the Occult?

By Editor-in-Chief, A. D. Fish.

For some reason we try to look away from the obvious. We are scared of the truth.

The devastating kidnappings and murders have us afraid and disoriented. People have already gone so far as to say this is a Communist plot. Is this another red scare? Yes, but a different kind of red.

Blood red.

We are looking beyond the obvious. Arkham and its bordering communities have been a hotbed of occultism since this country was first landed upon by the Pilgrims. If occult activity is going on anywhere in the country, it is more than likely going on here.

Since 1920 there have been over 700 arrests in our city alone for violent and disturbing acts all due to the perpetrator's occult involvement. It is a phenomena known only to this specific area of the country.

I am not claiming that there are really witches and ghosts out there. There are, as we all know, sick minded people who truly believe kidnap and murder will bring them powers beyond our imaginations. These people are more dangerous to our town than the Commies ever could be. Police should take careful note of this.

When it comes to our children, as I am a father myself, we need to take the utmost precautions. Law enforcement officials must take action and investigate some of the local covens, and surely a link will turn up. We need to do this before more innocent lives are lost to that of these sick and deranged animals, who we call our neighbors.

When Will It End?

Local Girl Goes Missing.

Last seen sleeping safely in bed.

Arkham - Five year old Cindy Hart is feared to have become another victim in a recent rash of area kidnappings and murder.

Her mother Amy Hart sang a lullaby to the child and kissed her goodnight at 6:30 p.m. last night in their home at 904 East High Street. Her daughter was sleeping safely in her bedroom on the second floor.

It is the last time she anyone has seen her daughter.

When Mrs. hart went to check on her child, she noticed Amy was not in her bed. A quick check upstairs

did not find the girl, so Mrs. Hart then summoned for her husband who was watching TV in the den. They then searched the house, but still could not find the child.

The Arkham Police were summoned after Mrs. Hart found the front door slightly opened.

Arkham Police were quick in response with four officers arriving within five minutes of the emergency call. The officers, aided with the now aroused neighbors, began a search to find the girl. Chief Morris Washington arrived on the scene within fifteen minutes, and deputized all the neighborhood men.

"I needed to make sure they would not resist using lethal force to stop the person or persons who are committing these atrocities," Chief Washington said.

The search branched out over the entire Lower South Side of town. Volunteers who heard of the news on police radios were quick to the area as well to look.

State Police arrived by midnight and began concentrating on the piers and water-side areas of town. State Police would not give any comments.

Around one a.m. this reporter did spot at least two divers jump into the water off a small Coast Guard boat in the town harbor. Coast Guard officials at the Newburyport Barracks said they were not aware another child was missing and could not comment on why they were diving in the harbor early this cold morning. Police Chief Washington did say he has sent an urgent telegram to FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, requesting Federal assistance in this matter.

Second Baby Killer Captured!!!! Suspect Claims not to Know Other Killer But Negro Heroes Too Late To Save Infant

Kingsport - The search for Two year-old Anne Tyler has ended in tragedy, but the killer is behind bars thanks to three quick thinking Negro women employees.

The three women Teresa Washington, Alene Robinson and Andrea Smith, employees of the Kingsport Arms Hotel entered the public restroom in the restaurant section of the hotel to do their job, but instead discovered a horrible sight.

"When we walked in there, ready to clean the restroom, we heard terrible noises coming from one of the stalls," Mrs. Robinson said. "I pushed on the stall door and it opened and we saw the woman stuffing the baby into the toilet."

The three women at first thought the killer, Sarah Grady, 26, a night-shift nurse at the Kingsport Hospital who is a native and resident of the town, was clogging the toilet with a rag doll.

"I told her to stop that," Mrs. Washington, the head maid at the hotel said. "I grabbed her arm and that's when I saw that it was a real child."

The three women were frightened, but acted quickly, wrestling the murderess to the ground, then sending Mrs. Smith for help.

Off-duty State Police Officer Tim Kenny was dining at the restaurant and came running into the lavatory. He immediately tried to revive the child, but the baby's skull proved to be crushed. He then helped restrain the killer, who did not resist at all according to the witnesses.

Local police were summoned, and Officer Kenny placed Miss Grady under arrest. She was brought to the Kingsport Police station where she will be jailed until she appears in court later today.

The women were given the rest of the day off with pay.

Little is known about the killer, and no one can say whether she knows alleged child murderer Harris McGee, who is still at large. The Kingsport Hospital has confirmed she is a nurse on their late night shift.

"She was very reliable, very kind to the patients," said an employee there who did not wish to be identified. "She lived alone and taught Sunday School. I cannot believe she would do anything violent or anything that was a sin. That was just the way she was."

When asked if Miss Grady's behavior had changed over the past few days, the source said no.

"She did ask me for aspirin a few times, because she had been having some headaches. Nothing ever seemed out of the ordinary."

An FBI official, who had come to Arkham from Boston to investigate the recent rash of child slayings and abductions, was sent back to his Bean-Town office again. FBI Chief J. Edgar Hoover said he is confident the killings are over.

"She Was Such A Nice Girl."

Local Sunday School Teacher Became Child Killer is Still Not Known.

Kingsport - What makes a 27 year old Sunday School teacher and caring nurse into a baby killer?

No one is sure.

Sarah Grady, a night shift nurse at the Kingsport Hospital was arrested early this morning for the drowning of a baby in a restroom toilet.

Miss Grady worked Tuesday through Saturday from 11 pm - 8 am, and often picked up other shifts during the nights she was not scheduled.

"She did work a lot," said Kingsport Hospital Spokesman Thomas Long. "She claimed to have insomnia and picked up extra shifts to fill in the time. Other nurses have stated she was a caring, concerned nurse who was never violent or rude. One nurse said Miss Grady wanted very much to be married and have children. She always thought that would make her very happy."

Miss Grady was not born in the area, and very little else is known about her.

The Gazette will have details as soon as it is uncovered.

What's really going on: Unknown to anyone at the time a third killer is at large. He is 9 year old Curtis Blessingway, a resident of Arkham.

Curtis is the killer of Pill O'Hallahan, whom he lured away from the group Halloween night with the promise of raiding a stashed candy cache. He also murdered Cindy Hart by sneaking into the house and suffocating the baby. He then waited in a downstairs closet with the body while the baby's mother, who had taken a few too many valium and was unaware of anything, eventually went upstairs to check the baby. She panicked, searched the house in a frenzy, then collapsed and could not call the police for two more hours. By that time, Curtis had stuffed the body down a sewer opening about three blocks away.

The three killers are not aware of each other, or even what they are really doing. All three were watching the Late Show with Jack Parr show on October 26: Pill had snuck downstairs, Sarah Grady in the nurse's lounge during some down time, Mr. Harris was up due to some nightmares and flashbacks of Korea. (There will be more information provided on each of them later on). The show was broadcast on Channel

Six from Arkham. Corrupting the television waves were planted voices of an alien being, the Star Mother, recently freed from her watery prison.

The voice commanded the death of children as suffering gives her strength. A tectonic plate shift off the coast of Massachusetts pushed the trapped beast, and its tomb, a two-mast galley ship, to the surface. She broadcast waves out into the air trying to capture someone into slavery. Greg Grow, an employee of Channel Six, was that someone.

Grow was the late-night engineer at the station. His duties were to monitor the last broadcasts of the night, bring the station of the air for the night, then do technical work. Due to Grow's efficiency, very little work needed to be done on a daily basis. This afforded him time for his favorite hobby, using the station's equipment to monitor the late night airwaves. Over the seven years he has faithfully worked there, Grow has overheard American and Russian broadcasts, pirate radio from all over the place, airplane transmissions, CBs, ham radios, walkie-talkies and police radios. One night he picked up something he had never heard before, it sounded like a woman talking. Soon she was talking to him every night without him even knowing it.

The voice told Grow to spread her message. Not even knowing he was doing it, he obeyed. Grow began to send signals within the Late Show transmissions. These signals affected three people: Harris, Grady and Blessingway. Each one susceptible due to neurological conditions. They were the ones to do the Star Mother's bidding, making the sacrifices.

Now afloat and ready for a reign of terror unseen in the high seas since the pirate days, StarMother began looking for power and bodies to create zombies. Near by was a 24 man Texxon Oil rig. Attacking with its tentacles several terrifyingly decayed zombies, everyone but a radio man was slain and dragged into the hull. More powerful and alive than she had been in decades, the beast and its escort took to the seas once more.

All of these events are about to change the lives of the investigators drastically.

Investigators' involvement: In playtesting one investigator was a fellow Marine and friend of Curtis Blessingway's father Hank Blessingway. The players we called when Curtis goes missing one night, and his father fears the worst. He asks for the investigators' help to search the town for the boy.

Timeline: I have set this timeline in 1962, and the days correspond properly. Make sure you do proper alterations should you change the period. You will discover that there are many different factors at work in this adventure. I have put the timeline before most of the information so that a keeper can get a handle on the skeleton of the game before dining on the meat and flesh.

TIME-LINE Name, Oct 24 Weds, Oct 25 Thurs, Oct 26 Fri, Oct 27 Sat, Oct 28 Sun Blessingway, Tutor, Tutor, Hears message, Seizure, Seizure

Grady, Works late shift, Late Shift, Hears message, works with migraine, In bed with migraine

Harris, On Ham Radio, Played chess, Hears message, narcolepsy, narcolepsy

StarMother, Major earthquake frees the beast and Begins messages, sends messages, messages, messages, messages

Grow, Works late shift, Picks up SM messages and enslaved, Sends first signals, In bed with back

spasms, back spasms

Texxon Rig, All clear, All clear, All clear, All clear, All clear

Rescue Ship, NA, NA, NA, NA, NA

Name, Oct 28 Mon, Oct 29 Tues, Oct 30 Wed, Oct 31 Thur, Nov 1 Fri Blessingway, Tutor, Tutor, seizure, Kills Pill and dumps body, violent seizure

Grady, extra shift, works, out w/ migraine, works, Abducts Anne Tyler in the afternoon then Abducts and kills Heidi Wray

Harris, sleeping, sleeping, seizure, awake, watches TV and more signals, more television more signals

StarMother, signals, signals, Kills boat of Canadian hash smugglers, submerges after spotted by oil ship, moving along ocean bottom

Grow, signals, signals, seizure at work, works no signals, works no signals

Texxon Rig, all clear, all clear, all clear, all clear, all clear

Rescue Ship, NA, NA, NA, NA, NA

Victims, NA, NA, NA, NA, Pill found 2:30 am

Name, Nov 2 Sat, Nov 3 Sun, Nov 4 Mon, Nov 5 Tues, Nov 6 Wed Blessingway, In bed, Abducts and kills Cindy Hart, Seizure, Disappears, Missing

Grady, working, seizure, working, Caught killing Anne Taylor, Court Bridgewater

Harris, Shoots Tommy Ryan then vanishes, missing, missing, missing, spotted in Newburyport and killed

StarMother, Attacks Texxon rig, submerges, submerged, submerged, submerged

Grow, hangs self from tower, body in morgue, autopsy, body claimed by father, embalmed

Texxon Rig, Attacked and All dead, no contact, no contact, radio man calls for help, no contact

Rescue Ship, NA, NA, NA, NA, NA

Victims, Heidi Wray's body found and Tommy Ryan shot dead, NA, NA, NA, NA

Name, Nov 7 Thur, Nov 8 Fri, Nov 9 Sat, Nov 10 Sun, Nov 11 Mon Blessingway, missing, stows away, missing, missing, missing

Grady, Bridgewater, found dead, autopsy, claimed, buried

Harris, autopsy, morgue, buried

StarMother, submerged, submerged, emerges, emerges, attacks

Texxon Rig, radio man alive, radio man alive, radio man alive, radio man alive, survivors reach rig

Rescue Ship, weather halts launch, launches, traveling, traveling, attacked

Victims, Ryan buried, NA, NA, NA, NA

Name, Nov 12 Tues, Nov 13 Wed, Nov. 14 Thur, Nov 15 Fri, Nov 16 Sat Blessingway, on rig, hiding, hiding, hiding, alive

StarMother, searching for victims, searching, searching, contacts Blessingway, attacks

Texxon Rig, victims hiding, hiding, hiding, hiding, attacked

Private Boat, NA, Leaves, sailing, sailing, at rig and attacked

The call for help: On Wednesday morning, November 6, the investigators receive the call from Hank Blessingway that Curtis has gone missing. Hank is in a near panic state. He is wheelchair bound thanks to a Korean landmine. His wife is a homebound alcoholic, who has blackouts, fainting spells, and has two suicide attempts and three counts of alcohol poisonings under her belt. Curtis is Hank's helper, son, and anchor of sanity.

Curtis Blessingway: Friendly and wise beyond his age, Curtis Blessingway is a wonderfully mannered and charming 9 year-old. He has recently gone off his medication for his epileptic fits. This has forced Curtis to leave school as he can have up to 6 seizures a day. However, he is still insistent he is happier off the sedating, mind-numbing meds, than on them. He helps his father with many daily routines and can even drive a car with some skill.

Due to his parents physical and mental conditions, Curtis has had to endure far too many seizures on his own. Every weekday a tutor and nurse visit him. The tutor, Vikki James, arrives at 8:30 and stays until 3 pm. She has sat through many seizures and knows what to do should they occur. The nurse, Fanny Ryan, who aids both Curtis and Hank, comes from 3 pm until 6 pm. A cleaning service comes on Tuesday and Friday for 2 hours. They have even helped Curtis during a few seizures.

On average, Curtis has two seizures a day. When on his medication, the then experimental Phenobarbital, he will usually not have seizures. The medication makes him lethargic and depressed. He is not able to help his father on the medication. When not on the meds, as present, Curtis is constantly trying to help and please people. Adults in his world are useless and need to be assisted by "Kids, because they're not so tired."

His Parents: Hank and Margerie married in 1950, before the Korean War costs Hank both his legs. They were amputated above the knee, and he wears no prosthetic. Being injured in the line of duty, and having been a high ranking Marine, he receives a government check for \$104 a month. Margerie stayed with her man and, to everyone's surprise, conceived a child in 1953. Hank wonders to himself if the child is really his. Curtis started having seizures at 11 months, and the pressure of helping her son and husband as well as mounting financial burdens, pushed her to alcohol.

The mother, like most full-time drunks, is completely useless. Scared that her son, who she does love, is dead, she drinks until she passes out, then stays sedated for the rest of the day. Hank will want to go along with the investigators all he can. He is very strong in the upper body, still a very good shot, and driven to find the son he loves so dearly. He has felt deep guilt allowing the boy to go off the medication. He will travel to save his son, once the boy's whereabouts have been discovered.