

# Nameless Horror

## BASIC QUESTIONS

Use these six questions in every game.

Also pick one scenario, which provides you with a starting situation, a reason your PCs are working together and some additional questions.

- ✦ *Why can't I stand your character? Why do I still work with you?*
- ✦ *Why do I need your character's help?*
- ✦ *Why would I risk my life to protect your character?*
- ✦ *What do I desire? Why can't I have it?*
- ✦ *What are my secret regrets?*
- ✦ *How are my mind and soul vulnerable?*



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# UNEXCUSED ABSENCE

Late last night, your buddy Gabe Hettenhausen found a hidden room in his basement that even his parents didn't know about. He sent you a text with a photo of a weird stone idol that he found inside.

Gabe didn't show up for school today. And he wasn't answering texts or emails or tweets or anything. You went to his house to check on him, but no one answered the door. You decided to come in anyway, and that's when things started to get weird.

As you got to the top of the stairs, you saw Gabe's bedroom door now led to someplace alien and strange. A disturbing place that you remember seeing in your nightmares. Definitely not a bedroom. When you tried to flee, you realized that the stairs down ended in swirling purple void, full of glowing black stars.

What the...? What did Gabe find in his basement? Where is he? Where are you? How can you escape this warped house?

- ✦ *Why can I never tell you about the mad crush that I have on you?*
- ✦ *Why am I afraid of your character?*
- ✦ *What strange creature have I always seen in my nightmares?*
- ✦ *Why do I feel like I have seen this stone idol before?*
- ✦ *What embarrassing nickname do I have and how did I earn it?*
- ✦ *I am famous at school for what legendary feat that I never actually performed?*

# RED RIGHT HAND

**O**ut at the edge of town where the viaduct looms overhead, you made a deal with him. Her. It. The dealer didn't look the same for any two of you. To some he was young, to others old. The only constant was that right hand, dripping red on the ground as you spoke.

**Y**ou heard stories that he could give you what you wanted. Erica had seen him and, two weeks later, she got her dream job as promised. Afraid of going alone, you all went together. Safety in numbers, you thought. The promised you what you wanted, and soon thereafter it came to you. Whatever you wanted, delivered to you on a silver platter.

**T**he price, you were told, would come in its own time. The red handed man gave a date. Two years, nine months. At that time, your wish seemed important enough that you'd leave the price until later.

**N**ow it has been two years and eight months. The police just found Erica dead in her apartment. They say that it must have been a wild animal. Maybe a bear or a bigass rabid dog. But you saw spots of that bright red liquid. The same liquid that constantly dripped from that red right hand. And you know that your debt is soon to come due as well. By the looks of things, you won't like the price that you owe for your success.

- ✦ *Why haven't I told anyone that I was the last to see Erica alive?*
- ✦ *Why did I try to stop you from making a bargain with the red handed man? Why did you do so anyway?*
- ✦ *Why did I expect something terrible like this to happen? Why didn't I warn anyone about it?*
- ✦ *What would I describe as the worst possible way to die?*
- ✦ *What do I think the red handed being really is? What evidence do I have for this theory?*
- ✦ *What did I ask for from the man with the red hand? How did it come to me once I asked?*

# LOST AND FOUND

You were out geocaching in Derleth Park, and you found something unexpected. You're pretty sure that the locked box you found wasn't the hidden prize you were looking for. There was no log book, although there were a pair of journals from the 19th century. It also contained some bloodstained daggers, a truly hideous statue and a vial full of weird viscous fluid. You took the stuff, hoping that maybe they'd be worth something as antiques. Maybe a local historian could tell you where the heck they came from.

Then, the terrible dreams began. In these dreams, the monster shown in the statue is real, and it's hunting you. And strange voices whisper secrets in your ears. You dismissed these as meaningless fantasies, until you found weird tracks in the mud near your house, just the kind you'd expect the statue monster to make. Then you started hearing strange whispers from the shadows late at night. The local news is reporting on "strange animal sightings" but the authorities say that there is nothing to worry about. You've come to believe differently. Something is out to get you, for some reason.

- ✦ *What haunted structure stood abandoned for decades before being torn down and made into Derleth Park?*
- ✦ *What does the hideous monster on the statue look like?*
- ✦ *What other evidence do you have that the monster is hunting you?*
- ✦ *What warning did you read in the journal... but only after it was too late to protect me?*
- ✦ *Looking in the journal, it turns out that the author was a relative of both you and I. Who was the author and how are we related (to him and each other)?*
- ✦ *The whispering in your dreams told you my darkest secret, which I would never willingly reveal. What is it?*

# THE FIRE BENEATH

In Centralia Pennsylvania, there is inexplicably a Mexican style shaft tomb, four thousand kilometers from where it should be. A 30 meter hole leads straight down into a series of chambers, filled with strange statues of dogs wearing human masks. Oh, and a horrific monstrosity that you can hear moving around and moaning behind a stone wall.

No respectable archaeologist can say why an ancient Mexican burial chamber is here, so far from where you expect to find one. For one thing, archaeologists know very little about the shaft tombs in Mexico proper. But mostly because no respectable archaeologist knows of this one's existence. The tomb was discovered in the 19th century by the Centralia's occult founders, Johnathan Faust and Alexander Rea. They kept it hidden and tried to exploit the occult power of the thing trapped underneath. The Secret Order of Hibernian Kings murdered one of them and drove the other off before their apocalyptic rituals could be completed. We've guarded the unholy site ever since.

That is why you can never leave Centralia, despite all the eviction notices and poisonous gases. The tomb keeps something unholy trapped beneath the earth. If not for your maintained diligence, the eldritch abomination below could escape and destroy the entire planet. At least, that's what the Secret Order claimed when they initiated you. You've never been down there, nor have any surviving, sane members. Everything the Order knows about the thing down there comes from some extremely sketchy cave carving left by the Native American tribes that guarded the tomb before you did, and the insane ramblings of some 19th century cultists.

Fifty years ago, some of the Secret Order decided to put an end to it, once and for all. They had uncovered a ritual that they thought could kill the trapped god once and for all. Whatever happened down in the tomb, things went wrong. The god still lives, and the ritual lit a fire that still burns beneath the entire town. Only Willy Byrne escaped the tunnel alive, and he was quite insane by the time he climbed his way out of the pit. Over the last few

decades, the fires have led to the evacuation of the entire town. But you must stay, to guard the tomb from meddlers.

Meddlers like the kids from nearby Shenandoah, PA that came running up to your porch this afternoon. In a panic, they told how one of their friends had fallen into a sinkhole. And of course they pointed over toward the field where the tomb is hidden. And that's when the rumbling beneath the earth begins.

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- ✦ *What insane warning did Willie Byrne tell the remaining members of the Order?*
  - ✦ *What terrible visions does the sleeping god put into my dreams when it grows restless?*
  - ✦ *What did you put over the tomb's entrance to keep kids away (which obviously didn't work)?*
  - ✦ *What dangerous acts and bizarre ingredients did Willy Byrne's ritual to kill the god require?*
  - ✦ *How do you and I both know that kid that fell into the earth?*
  - ✦ *What special ritualistic duties do you and I perform once a month to keep the trapped god from growing too restless? Why are we the only two that can do the ritual?*

# AFTER THE RITUAL

**S**omehow, it all went wrong. Templeton Mears, your circle's leader, had promised you that after this ceremony, your wildest dreams would come true. Sure, some of what Templeton said sounded farfetched. It's hard to believe in magic in the modern day of 1928. But you had seen the luxurious way he lived and you wanted a piece of that luxury for yourself. You heard stories of Templeton's supernatural powers. So you joined his little occult circle. You gathered the bizarre and illegal ingredients that he asked for. You each said the prayers and gathered in an abandoned churchyard. And you each bled into his silver chalice, the one with the disturbing sculptures on the side.

**A**nd to everyone's surprise but Templeton's, something actually happened. Some sort of energy dispersed over the room and a bizarre creature appeared before you. The thing was too hideous to describe but clearly aware and powerful. It turned one of its many eyes upon you, trying to discern why it had been called here.

**A**nd that's when the men with guns burst into the room. Tommy guns blazing, electric torches and strange amulets in hand, they rushed across the room. Symes and Albert were shot dead before you could react. Templeton demanded that his summoned creature defeat the "interlopers", but it instead swallowed Templeton within a toothy maw. As you fled, one of the intruders began chanting in some dead language. As you fled the churchyard, another strange wave of energy exploded forth, and the screaming and gunshots ceased.

- ✦ *Why do I think that those strange men will still be after us?*
- ✦ *When the unearthly being gazed into my soul, what did the voice in my head say to me?*
- ✦ *What earthly riches and delights did Templeton promise that the alien god could provide us?*
- ✦ *After the ritual failed, where did you and I hide together?*
- ✦ *I managed to get Templeton's ritual book out with me. Besides the blood of a half dozen initiates, what do I require to try the ritual a second time?*
- ✦ *How did you convince me to go along with this occult ritual? Why did I listen to you?*