

## **DIVINE**

By Chris Hamje and Erik Lundberg

DIVINE is a scenario designed for veteran Delta Green agents, but it can easily be adapted for any use. Investigators are assuming the roles of FBI consultants, but official federal authorities are not aware of this fact. The players must use cunning and force of character to perform necessary inquiries rather than rely on federal support on the ground, all the while avoiding suspicion. Cell A will attempt to choose agents and friendlies who have no ties to the FBI, hoping to keep the incident out of the FBI's grasp until it can be thoroughly resolved.

It is recommended to run this scenario with 4-6 players.

### **INVESTIGATOR INFORMATION**

Two days ago in San Antonio, Texas, Wayne Turling was pulled over by local law enforcement due to erratic driving on Interstate 10. During an altercation with the officer on the scene, Turling was shot and killed. Following a cursory search of the vehicle, crime scene investigators discovered mutilated human remains as well as a half-used heroin brick in the back seat.

The remains, once transported to the Bexar County Medical Examiner's Office, were soon discovered to be from three different sources: two female corpses that could not be identified due to missing body parts, and a third that belonged to a woman who had been picked up by Austin police several times in the past few years for lewd solicitation. Due to the brutal and seemingly ritualized nature of the killings, the assigned detective, Sergeant Greg Holden, has made an overture to the San Antonio FBI Field Office for consultation. However, Cell A had already been monitoring the case since Holden first entered its details into the system. ADAM intercepted Holden's call, promising to assign a small team to assist him.

The Turling case correlates closely to a past Delta Green operation involving a group of serial killings outside of Lewiston, Montana (*see Handout 2*). Fearing that the entity discovered in that case could be working through others, ADAM has contacted each player and assigned them to investigate the killings in hopes of finding a method to uproot and put a stop to the whatever the true cause may be.

Travel vouchers and rather flimsy FBI identification have been sent to the players via encrypted email, as well as copies of the previous Delta Green case and a brief summary of the current case. Highlighted are descriptions of the presence of rocks and glass shoved into deep cuts in the hands of Turling's victims. Included instructions mandate that the investigators assume their roles but avoid overextending themselves, which each player should take to mean that federal law enforcement does not know who they are and therefore has no clue they will be in the area while looking into the Turling case. They are instructed to rendezvous at a Travelodge on the San Antonio Riverwalk.

### **KEEPER INFORMATION**

Robert Pyle was an invaluable asset to the start-up Internet technology company JangleWire.com, working as an overseas trainer up until the end of 2007. He worked in several cooperative facilities in Bangalore, Taiwan, and Bangkok. After a 3 month stint in Thailand, Pyle returned stateside to await his next assignment. However, he did not return alone.

While exploring some of the less-developed portions of Bangkok and its outlying suburban centers, Pyle stumbled upon a dark underbelly that he all-too-quickly embraced. His deepest fantasies could be achieved for a tiny portion of his salary, and his indulgences soon became a daily habit. He entered realms of depravity he formerly did not think possible, and after consenting to a particularly sadistic ritual, his mind was forcibly opened up to the influence of Y'Golonac.

Days of twisted and alien sexual torture robbed Robert Pyle of all but his basest desires and quickly drove him over the brink of madness. His mind had been filled with a viral influence that demanded constant, perverse entertainment and the further transmission of his mental contagion. His nights were filled with a steady chant of words and phrases from *The Revelations of Glaaki*, dictated to him by an enormous entity whom Pyle both desperately feared and adored.

Unsurprisingly, Pyle was unable to maintain a strong work ethic and was let go from his position at JangleWire.com. For two years, he frittered away his savings, moving from apartment to apartment as he was twice evicted for health and safety violations. He gained considerable weight, becoming morbidly obese, and could only move around with the assistance of a powered wheelchair. All the while, he continued to delve into his dark fantasies with the aid of an Internet connection, despite a nagging need to instruct others in his twisted faith.

As the money ran out, he was forced to apply for new employment, but Pyle was consistently turned down due to poor appearance and hygiene or inappropriate interview responses. In May of 2009, a tiny software consulting company called Transbridge Solutions took Pyle into their ranks due to a desperate need for experienced manpower. Finding himself in a new environment free of self-imposed distractions, he soon began to inject his contagious influence into the workplace. This was done subtly at first, but later reached alarming and prolific frequency.

Transbridge definitely noticed that something was wrong with their new employee, and they did attempt to address his many workplace ethic violations through corrective action -- they even attempted to terminate him on seven separate occasions. However, Pyle desired to continue his work at Transbridge, and he easily manipulated anyone who attempted to have him removed from the company's roster. He found that he could drastically influence the minds of those around him using some of the bizarre words spoken to him during his persistent nightmares.

Soon, Transbridge employees began to fulfill their own dark desires, foregoing their jobs' needs as they lost more and more of themselves to Y'Golonac's digitally transmitted influence. Some eventually committed suicide, unable to fully accept what was happening to them. Others simply

disappeared, their families unaware of their whereabouts. Due to the relatively small size of the company, the uneven rate of assimilation to Y'Golonac's will, and the wide breadth of strange activities performed by the workers, this behavior went largely unnoticed as a pattern. The company quietly dissolved without public announcement as people simply stopped going to work. The offices currently stand relatively unused, but the lease is prepaid through the year. Customers have noted the recent lack of support, but the poor historical service level of the company has obscured the fact that there is a bigger problem.

Pyle, now no more than a viral phage in human form, has remained in the now empty offices of Transbridge Solutions. With no other hosts to infect, he has spent the last two months further indulging his desires and recreating a facsimile of his master's prison cell with the help of a degenerate assistant.

At Pyle's behest, Transbridge Vice President Wayne Turling had brought his son to the office some time ago. After a particularly hideous act was forced upon him by his father and Pyle, the boy was irreversibly tainted and his mind was opened to the full influence of Y'Golonac. Chad Turling now serves Pyle as an insane thrall, bringing him food and providing him with entertainment as he dwells in his strange maze of office debris. Chad is as contagious as Pyle, and he has already begun indulging his sadistic side at home. Both individuals need to be confronted in order to halt further memetic infection.

If left to his own devices, Pyle will continue to digitize an entire copy of *The Revelations of Glaaki Volume XII*, which is being dictated to him every night. This process is slow and cumbersome, however, and Pyle is often distracted by his urges. The investigators should have plenty of time to determine that the strange occurrences around Transbridge employees initiated with Pyle, stopping his efforts before he is able to distribute his completed work throughout the online community.

*KEEPER'S NOTE: Most situations traditionally requiring a sanity roll are left unmarked and unmeasured. The Keeper should mediate these moments as they occur, assigning losses as appropriate to the context and the sequence of play.*

Also, there are many instances when an investigator will be exposed to snippets from *The Revelations*. The potential for infection is perhaps the most dangerous aspect of this scenario, and it may be wholly unavoidable. No item they will come across contains Y'Golonac's name (so thankfully he won't be summoned to the unlucky investigators' position), but any exposure to tainted material is likely perilous.

Depending on the severity of the infectious agent encountered, assign an *mPOW* ("memetic power") score or use the suggested value given in this text. When encountered, an investigator will roll an *mPOW* vs. *POW* contest, with *mPOW* being the active characteristic. If the *mPOW* is successful, the investigator will suffer one of the effects on the random *mPOW* effect table. Whether successful or not, however, that investigator's *POW* is considered *POW-1* for any subsequent contests with other materials. This modifier is cumulative, and it is feasible that any

investigator who is continually subjected to these viral agents will fall into the realm of automatic failure.

NPCs assisting the investigators are also subject to this rule.

[TABLE]

*Roll a d20 if mPOW is successful during a mPOW vs. POW contest*

1 - Immediate loss of 5 Sanity. If subsequent IDEA is successful, the investigator has an overwhelming compulsion to expose another investigator to the same *Revelations* passages -- by force, if necessary.

2 - Immediate loss of 5 Sanity. If subsequent IDEA is successful, the investigator has an overwhelming compulsion to slice open the palms of their hands with any nearby sharp object.

3 - Immediate loss of 5 Sanity. If subsequent IDEA is successful, the investigator has an overwhelming compulsion to swallow inedible objects, e.g. glass marbles, pencil erasers, loose staples, etc.

4 - Immediate loss of 5 Sanity. If subsequent IDEA is successful, the investigator has an overwhelming compulsion to locate another passage and expose oneself to it.

5 - Immediate loss of 5 Sanity. If subsequent IDEA is successful, the investigator will suffer a marked depression, peppered by suicidal thoughts.

6 - 1/1d3 SAN. Investigators will begin to feel a need to overeat beyond one's fullness. If this loss brings one toward indefinite insanity, an eating disorder will be the result.

7 - 1/1d3 SAN. Investigators will begin to experience terrifying dreams of being buried alive in a stone mausoleum, not quite alone.

8 - 1/1d3 SAN. The investigator hears a chuckling in his right ear whenever he sees a violent image. Observers will notice it is the investigator who is chuckling.

9 - 0/1d2 SAN. The investigator feels a tugging need to collaborate with another on their findings.

10 - 0/1d2 SAN. The investigator has unconsciously drawn a hangman game in the margin of their notes -- the letters are mostly filled in, and it is obviously the name of the investigator to their right. The hanged man drawing is nearly complete.

11 - 0/1d2 SAN. The investigator will notice that they have unconsciously drawn a crude picture of a figure with weeping stigmata in the margin of their notes.

12 - 0/1d2 SAN. The investigator starts ordering their steaks extremely undercooked, and they may indulge in trying different raw meats in private.

13 - 0/1 SAN. The investigator is compelled to try illicit drugs even if they have never previously shown any interest in doing so.

14 - 0/1 SAN. The investigator is drawn toward imagery of profaned religious icons, perhaps even venturing to create some obscenity of their own.

15 - The investigator is irritable and more likely to respond with irrational anger in trivial situations for 1d10 hours, e.g. screaming at a barista for taking "too long" with his order, or ramming his vehicle into another for "cutting his car off."

16 - The investigator begins to find both sexes equally attractive -- a change that they will find disconcerting yet undeniable.

17 - Something formerly disgusting (to be decided by both the player and Keeper) to the investigator now holds a gentle allure, paving the way to a future obsession.

18 - The investigator begins to have recurring dreams of being trapped in a dark stone cell.

19 - If the investigator is not actively doing something, they will find they are smiling gleefully without knowing why.

20 - The investigator begins keeping a journal, recording all events and notes dutifully.

[END TABLE]

## EVENTS

Investigators will want to examine the details surrounding Turling, and their first stop should be meeting with the investigating officer. Otherwise, they could use subterfuge or other covert methods to access the collected evidence -- but this option could be very risky. The investigators should be careful not to draw attention to their activities, as one phone call to the FBI Field Office could land them in prison.

## SERGEANT HOLDEN

Holden will be surprised by the timeliness of the investigators' arrival: "The Lieutenant said I'd be lucky to see you by the end of the week." He is very pleased to have assistance on the case, and he will be forthcoming with his personal notes. However, he makes it very clear that this is still his assignment and that the players are there only to provide consultative services. He will become very defensive if he feels like they are getting too involved, and his driving goal is to locate other victims of Turling. He will also insist on accompanying them to review evidence or interview persons of interest. Investigators will need to PERSUADE (FAST TALK will not work) or somehow divert him if they wish to analyze evidence on their own -- all while avoiding suspicion as to their real identities. He is a potential candidate for friendly status, though this option should be played by ear -- in the majority of situations, he will feel very wary and betrayed if the players' deception is revealed.

Holden is a cynical, jaded individual who sees Turling's "suicide by cop" as a result of a mid-life crisis that catapulted him off the deep end. He will assert that he's seen similar downward spirals of successful men during his tenure as a detective. Holden has been unable, so far, to find any real motives for Turling's psychotic behavior other than this hypothesis. He has reached out to Turling's wife over the phone, but he hasn't been able to get a hold of her yet. He did chat with Turling's son, who confirmed that his father seemed to exhibit a gradual but major personality shift, rapidly departing from his family and livelihood. Holden may describe the boy as surly and rather uncooperative, if asked. He will indicate that it didn't seem like the boy missed his father nor even cared that he had been killed (Chad Turling no longer possesses human empathy, but he also deeply hates his father for condemning him to the hell that Pyle has created for him). Holden also wants to interview the wife and son in person as soon as the agents are ready to drive to Austin.

Turling stayed in many motels between Austin and San Antonio, as evidenced by his credit card use. He also withdrew large sums of cash from various ATM machines in the same areas. Forensic sweeps through the motel rooms Turling stayed at failed to identify a valid crime scene

for any of the killings -- in fact, one has yet to be found. There was not enough blood found in the vehicle to implicate its use in the murders.

[Side Bar - Crime Scene]

Almost impossible to find without a focused and somewhat lucky investigation, Turling took his victims out into the Texas hill country and broke into unused privately-owned property to perform his grisly acts. He began taking trophies from his kills, leaving them conspicuously in the back seat of his vehicle. Turling had no idea why he chose a place he had never been before -- he had never lived in a rural area and was born in Dallas -- but something within had beckoned him to the spot.

Unbeknownst to Turling (and others who had been drawn to the spot in times past), Y'Golonac itself sits two miles below the surface, his featureless stone cell crossing the material plane at this key position (as well as many others). For centuries, the most depraved human beings have lured or brought victims here in a sacrificial ritual that they themselves did not know they were performing. The strata of buried partial corpses can reach as far down as the Keeper likes, perhaps to times as old as when the original native peoples walked the land.

At the Keeper's discretion, investigators could link clay found on Turling's boots and the floor of his car to the Texas hill country, canvass nearby gas stations for security footage capturing Turling's vehicle, and approximate a feasible location on some of the only private wooded land in the area. Tracking, overhead surveillance, and LUCK will help find evidence of Turling's tire tracks leading to a spot near a heavily wooded copse.

A full-scale excavation could be undertaken as the number of buried corpses are many. Investigators will believe they have stumbled upon a mass grave, though the age of some of the remains indicate it has been used as a crime scene for decades, if not longer. It will take years to excavate the area and catalog all the remains.

The Mythos significance of this spot should become clear if an investigator has read (or reads in the future) the twelfth volume of *The Revelations of Glaaki*. The sanity loss for knowing they were treading above Y'Golonac's prison as he watched from below is left up to the Keeper.

The investigators are rewarded with the discovery of an important Mythos location that could be used in future adventures -- it is a nexus of dark sadistic energy that could provide certain benefits or detriments to those with the proper knowledge.

[End Sidebar]

HERE'S WHAT WE HAVE SO FAR...

Several items are spread across a long conference table in an office for the investigators to peruse. Holden will guide them through what has been collected and categorized thus far if he has not been sent away on some other task.

On the table: a large zip-lock bag that contains Turling's bloodied clothing, a pile of automobile maintenance receipts for a Mercedes CL500, a current-model iPod containing a variety of reggae music, indexed photographs of the scene (at the Keeper's option, a unique grayish clay could be noted here and possibly linked to the Texas hill country after analysis -- see sidebar), and other personal errata. A brief medical examiner's report details entry wounds, along with several photos of Turling's body.

A bloodied twelve-inch long salmon slicing knife bagged on the table, speckled with notches. An attached report indicates that it had been cleaned and re-used many times. The blood presently on it belongs to one of the unidentified women. A notched and rather dull wood-cutting axe is also catalogued nearby. It has been recently cleaned, making analysis of the dark stains on the wood impossible. Initial notes indicate that it was most likely used to dismember and decapitate the bodies. A bloodied tarp -- used to partially cover the bodies -- is nearby.

If asked about the brick of heroin mentioned in the case report, Holden will tell investigators it is in the contraband vault in the basement. He will mention needles had been stabbed into the brick like a pincushion, and no definite blood type analysis could be performed due to degradation of the samples.

There are three blurry Polaroid photographs of what appears to be a mutilated cat inside of an office refrigerator noted as being found in the glove compartment. If analyzed, they can be linked to Transbridge Solutions when certain bulletin board items in the blurred background are slightly enhanced through digital manipulation software (PHOTOGRAPHY or halved COMPUTER USE).

Turling's Blackberry PDA, currently plugged into a wall outlet, is also available for analysis. All calls from the past two months seem to perfectly correlate with credit card activity at the motels at which Turling stayed, and no additional pattern can be discerned. However, when looking farther back than two months, it is apparent that the PDA was his method of sending and receiving work-related emails. Examination will reveal a clear pattern: the emails seem varied and outline normal daily activities, but as time progresses, nearly all messaging is dominated by disturbing, seemingly random emails both to and from Turling and various employees. The content of these messages appear to be a random selection of literary quotes, though one cannot be sure of what (*mPOW 13*). They seem threatening and violent, though not toward anyone in particular. They are shocking when taken in the chronological context of the rest of the earlier correspondence -- it seems like the entire office descended into some sort of collective psychopathic fantasy. The partial descriptions of what might be esoteric rituals and phrases like "abstract, meaningless thoughts perpetuated toward a climactic burst of brutal orgone energy" should convince the investigators that other Transbridge employees warrant investigation.

A SPOT HIDDEN shows that this gibberish can be seen even further back, covertly nestled in email signatures or within otherwise relevant correspondence (*mPOW 11*). Anyone actively taking the time to try and piece together the literary word salad will notice that it appears to

make up a larger work (this is a small portion of the twelfth volume of *The Revelations of Glaaki* -- SAN 1/1d4, Cthulhu Mythos +1% *mPOW* 28).

There is one saved voicemail from an unidentified woman (the calling number is Transbridge's main office line) from over two months ago:

WOMAN: "Wayne, it's wonderful now. Just fucking wonderful. Thank you. I wish we could have been with him in Bangkok, touching on all that dark twisted shit and facing it all head-on. You were right, I was a coward--"

<unintelligible yelling in the background>

"--and when you cut it out of me I thought I was going to die. But it's better now. When are you coming back? He wants to know. And he *really* wants to meet Chad."

The yelling cannot be enhanced or understood -- but it can be isolated, if desired. The sound is definitely one of agony.

Investigators may also ask to see the dash-cam footage of the traffic stop. This grainy black-and-white video shows Officer Rachel Nolan approach Turling's Mercedes and begin chatting with its occupant. Soon, she draws her weapon, and one can see Turling whirl around to reach under the passenger's seat to grab a gleaming 12-inch blade. He is fired upon, and soon crumples out of view. Ignoring the violence depicted in the video, nothing seems out of the ordinary -- only that Turling and Nolan had a very long verbal exchange before he was killed. Reactions are impossible to gauge due to poor image quality.

#### OTHER EMPLOYEES

Investigators can easily look up Transbridge Solutions' website and see a friendly listing of all the current employees in the tiny company, complete with smiling photographs and short biographies. They can use the police database to try and find any information on these individuals, and a haunting tale of seemingly unrelated deaths will soon unfold. These events have occurred within the last few months -- they are all now "cold" leads (see *Handout 4*).

Examination of previous behavior and criminal activity will reveal nothing out-of-the-ordinary, short of a few parking violations and Marcus Miksch's brief stay in a "mental wellness center". Keepers should allow investigators to look into these persons' backgrounds as extensively as they wish, though play should be corralled a bit to avoid a disappointing cluster of red herrings. At least a high-level perspective should be attained in order to see the danger of Y'Golonac's influence and the breadth of the viral reach.

Contacting the company's main line lands them in a voicemail system with a recorded message explaining that the offices are "closed for the holiday and will be open on the next business day." The office is located on the eighteenth floor in a complex in downtown Austin, and the investigators can easily get in touch with the building's management.

Depending on their approach, they could find out from Carlos Hunt, the building supervisor, that the Transbridge offices have had very minimal keycard use for over six weeks. He agrees that this is strange, and can be persuaded (if convinced that he is speaking to law enforcement) to confirm that the only card used has belonged to one person -- Wayne Turling. Depending on their questions, he may also admit that the lease is prepaid through the year, and automated utilities payments have not ceased, so he did not really feel that the strange drop in activity was worth looking into. He does indicate that camera records will show who was accessing the offices during the last few weeks, and he'd be happy to review that information in person (cameras will show a hooded Chad accessing the offices, carrying large bags of food).

However, there is a danger here -- the more the investigators draw Mr. Hunt's attention to the strangeness on floor eighteen, the more likely he will offer to go check on its condition. It is very difficult to PERSUADE him otherwise over the phone, and it is feasible even a successful attempt may make him even more curious. He may also attempt to confront Chad during his next delivery if the investigators wait a day before coming to Austin -- an encounter during which he will be slain.

#### OFFICER RACHEL NOLAN

The officer who shot and killed Turling is currently suspended with pay until the Internal Affairs department completes their investigation into his shooting. She is currently unreachable by phone, though her address is available from either Holden or through another officer.

Nolan is at her apartment, ignoring phone calls. She will not open the door for anyone, and she has cloistered herself in her bedroom. She will continue to suffer acute agoraphobia for the next two days as she listens to her father's voice in the walls telling her it's not safe to leave her home. She has thrown out any personal possessions that remind her of family, including photographs and gifted items like appliances, small pieces of furniture, picture frames, etc. These items are haphazardly piled up near her front door, and an attentive investigator will notice that any framed pictures showing a particular man (Nolan's father) have his eyes violently scratched out with a ballpoint pen. Such signs should warn the players that something is very wrong with Nolan.

Repeated knocking on the second-floor apartment's door will yield no response, and Nolan cannot be engaged unless one breaks into her home. Nolan will hear the break-in if it involves smashing down the door -- in which case she will lock her bedroom door and attempt to take cover behind her twin bed. She will yell at the investigators to leave through the door, treating them like criminal intruders. Social skills should be halved to convince her they are legitimate. Getting her to open her bedroom door is next to impossible, and if the investigators choose to use force here as well, Nolan's temporary insanity will fill up her senses as her worst fears are realized -- Turling has come back for her. She will enter a catatonic state from which she will not recover for several days.

More subtle methods of approaching her will allow investigators to find Nolan sobbing in her room. It is possible to see through the apartment's back windows and door (both locked) if the second-story balcony is scaled successfully.

Even a stealthy approach by intruders will shock and upset her. It will take a lot of verbal maneuvering to calm her down enough for questioning and to avoid a complete mental shut-down.

When interviewed, it will be obvious that Nolan is shaken and upset. Her eyes dart toward the walls, and sometimes her speech is broken as if she is listening to a voice that no one else can hear. It will be difficult getting information out of her due to this erratic behavior. The story she tells will not parallel the by-the-books-until-the-civ-drew-a-weapon story in the Internal Affairs reports the investigators may have read at the station.

"When I approached the vehicle, Turling was smiling -- this sick, know-it-all smile. I knew he was going to be a problem right off the bat. I asked him for ID, and he just smiled. I asked for his registration. He just sat there, staring and smiling at me. I saw those stained sheets in the back seat and he must have followed my gaze, 'cause he said, 'Slippery under there, lots of muck, but you can't blame them.' I can't fucking forget that, now that I know who--what he had under there. I--I drew my weapon, told him to get his hands on the steering wheel -- he just responded in this like, low droning voice staring at me: 'There's a dark place in you,' he said, 'when you think about your father. A place you can't share with anyone, not even your friends in those chat rooms. You don't have to be so lonely, you can share with me.'

Shit, I--I don't know why that shook me up so much. He said something awful, some gibberish curse that felt like a fucking enormous punch in the gut, and I just screamed at him. He whirled around, picked up that knife -- I just fired. I wanted to. Shit, this sounds so bad."

If pressed about the "curse," Nolan will be unable to recall what was said. Getting her to agree to a session of regression therapy is a near-impossible task. She'll mention it was just a weird outburst -- something about "evil gold necks."

Nolan is infected, but should recover to a modicum of normality as long as she is never exposed to additional materials and never reviews Holden's case. The agents may not want to take this chance.

## THE FAMILY

Sergeant Holden let the investigators know that he wants to speak with Turling's estranged family to provide additional leads. According to Holden's information, Connie Turling works as a homemaker, even after Wayne's departure. Chad attends West Lake High School, and calling the school reveals that he has racked up at least one or two absences a week for the last month and is on the verge of not qualifying for graduation to the next grade level. If asked, the school will confirm that Chad is absent today, as well.

The investigators' best bet is to drive to Turling's home, a beautiful, columned, two-story house in a very well-to-do neighborhood.

The house is idyllic from the outside, although the gardens are becoming a bit overgrown. Chad will answer the door if the investigators choose to approach the home officially, wearing a thick hooded jacket despite the hot weather. Chad will refuse to talk about his father or the whereabouts of his mother, snarling and sneering. He will angrily prevent the investigators from coming inside, demanding that "he knows his rights" and that "they have to show him a warrant." He will not hesitate to slam the door in their faces if they continue to petition him for information.

If accompanying the investigators, Holden will suggest that they head to Turling's office instead. He will happily call in a search warrant to turn over Turling's house, and recommends working with the Austin Police Department (this will, of course, open others up to infectious materials -- something the agents may recognize and wish to avoid).

Regardless of their strategy, a confrontation with Chad is inevitable. Chad has been hammering nails in his left forearm for the last few weeks, sometimes deep within his bone. His arm is now a gnarled, scabbed, necrotic thing, covered in nail heads. He will lie in wait, hidden in a bedroom closet, and use this misshapen appendage of iron and meat to club anyone he can -- to death, if allowed. He is absolutely insane as he has been greatly abused by Pyle, and his attacks will be suicidal. If searched, his body will yield a security keycard with a photograph of Wayne Turling on it.

Searching the home reveals that Connie was in the process of placing Wayne's clothing and other irrelevant personal possessions in several moving boxes in the living room. However, one is clearly marked 'WORK'. Inside, investigators can find personnel files for all employees of Transbridge Solutions. Appended to Robert Pyle's file, however, is a large stack of disciplinary warnings. These are always vague, citing things like "poor hygiene," "inappropriate comments," or "disruptive noises." The sheer amount of reprimands is inordinately higher than any other employee's record. There are several mini-cassettes in his file, each labeled "Disc. Hearing 1 - Pyle". A sampling of the eerie conversations can be found in *Handout 3*, if the investigators have a way to play the tapes. One voice is heavy, breathy, and sickly sweet with a faint southern accent. The others are grim and professional.

The other rooms of the greatest interest to the investigators are the kitchen and Chad's bedroom.

The kitchen is covered with a staggering amount of rotting food. Meat and fruit have been left spoiling on the counters while dead maggots and roaches abound. Hundreds of black flies lie dead at the windows. Connie is here, seated at the dinner table, overseeing a feast of blackened meat. Her throat is slit and her corpse is bloated and green. Black blood is caked to her clothing and chest. She has been positioned with duct tape so as to appear to be mid-bite, holding a fork high in her left hand. The word "DIVINE" has been crudely stenciled with a knife

into her forehead. The stench is eye-watering, and the scene is disturbing even for a seasoned agent.

Chad's bedroom has been transformed into a sprawling shrine. Dozens of photographs have been meticulously posted on every flat surface, each depicting a wheelchair-bound man of corpulent stature at various work-related functions, like bowling alleys, office parties, and team-building activities. Sometimes the man is seen with other workers, all recognizable as Transbridge employees, but the sole recurring figure is Robert Pyle. Many of these photographs have been altered with a ballpoint pen -- the man's head is scratched out completely, leaving a black, shapeless void in its place. Also, where visible, his hands have been given large stigmata-like wounds. The overall effect is one of worship -- however disturbing the iconography -- and the investigators will find an ashtray left at the center of the room. It is spattered with copious amounts of blood and semen (*mPOW 15*).

The carpet on the floor has been pulled away and shoved into a corner of the room. There is no furniture here. The exposed floor has been gouged, depicting poorly-carved scenes of violence and long passages of strange text. These sentences are very similar to those found on Turling's PDA (*mPOW 8*).

The investigators would be wise to eliminate any infectious materials before moving on.

#### TRANSBRIDGE SOLUTIONS

The lobby of the 20 story complex where Transbridge lists its address is gigantic. Its interior is similar to that of a cathedral, with high, marbled ceilings and huge, glass window panes. Modern art decorates the walls, and there is a gourmet sandwich shop tucked into one of the lobby's offshoots. Two security guards are always present here, watching vigilantly from behind a marble desk. Tiny, hard-to-see cameras are everywhere -- in each floor's entry hallway, the elevators, and the lobby itself -- feeding real-time imagery into a monitor bank behind the desk. Each floor has an automated and very powerful state-of-the-art fire suppression system. Most floors, including the 18th, are only accessible by keycard-activated elevators.

If the investigators have not yet spoken to Carlos Hunt (the building supervisor) he will be on hand to relay any information about the building. He will insist on going up to the 18th with them to access the Transbridge offices if not convinced otherwise. The investigators will either need a keycard from Hunt, or they can use the card found on Chad's body.

As the elevator doors slide open and the 18th floor is revealed, the first thing investigators will notice is that several large filing cabinets have been dragged from deeper inside the offices and stacked in front of the foyer's exit. They can be pushed aside with some effort, and smart investigators will take the time to clear them out entirely so that there is an easy passage back to the elevators. They will already be slightly ajar already if Carlos Hunt has beaten the investigators here.

Furniture is broken, light fixtures dangle from the ceiling, and blood and dirt are smeared on the walls and carpets. Trash and damaged computer parts crunch underfoot. There are cracked windows and huge gashes in the drywall. The entire office is very cold and stinks of sweet rot. Snippets and longer passages of *The Revelations of Glaaki* are visible on the walls, projector screens, windows, and cubicle partitions scattered about the area (*multiple instances of mPOW 10 if no attempts are made to steer away from these viral messages*).

[Floor Plan]

The Keeper is free to include as many of these discoverable items of interest as desired and should have additional discoveries on hand as needed.

[Table of Encounters]

- The words "The Divine World" are scribbled in permanent marker above the entryway doors
- Refrigerator with dead cat (from the photograph taken from Turling's glove compartment)
- Large puddle of congealed blood on conference table, a pile of rotted fingers and a bloodied pair of wire cutters
- Over two dozen spent syringes of varying sizes and cleanliness on an intact cubicle desk. Chemical analysis will show they injected speed and heroin into many different users (those employees in the personnel file who have blood records available can be identified)
- A large mound of dirty cocaine (may require PHARMACY to identify) on the floor, surrounded by scorch marks on the carpet
- On the lobby's front desk, a crucifix and a Buddha figurine taped suggestively together, spattered with dried fluids. An IDEA roll may reveal it as saliva and semen
- Wall covered with *Glaaki* snippets: reads as gibberish but are exact copies of the phrases in Turling's PDA (*mPOW 10*)
- Marker, pencil, and printer toner used to depict lewd, sexual behavior. There is a recurrent theme of palm stigmata
- There is a bit of blood on a desk, and a piece of rotted flesh. A MEDICINE roll identifies it as a human eye. FORENSICS shows that the organ was forcibly removed by someone's fingers. If the disciplinary meeting tapes have already been found and analyzed, this room may have a disturbing significance
- If the investigators have arrived a day late after speaking to Carlos Hunt, his bludgeoned body is shoved in a ceiling panel. Otherwise, if not accompanying the investigators, he is sitting on the ground in a catatonic state.

[End Table]

## ON THE TRAIL

The mass of overturned furniture, cubicle partitions, and various junk and debris in the largest space of the office is staggering in its construction. It seems at first to be stacked haphazardly and without pattern, but soon reveals itself to be a mindful edifice that reaches to the ceiling and blocks off several doors into the area. There are a handful of crawlspaces that seem to create a

path to the center of this boggling mass -- they tunnel through a collection of broken office equipment and trash. In a cramped space in the very eye of this tumult is the enormous, seated

form of Robert Pyle, his powered laptop nearby containing his unfinished digitization of *The Revelations of Glaaki Volume XII*. His electric wheelchair, however, has long remained drained and incapable of motility. Food containers litter the area, piled up in towering masses around him.

Before navigating this maze of nearly-toppling debris, investigators may hear a slow rhythmic wheeze from inside the vast barricade (LISTEN). Yelling or calling out will elicit no response, but it will definitely alert Robert to the investigators' presence (as will any loud noises). Realizing he has been discovered, he will judge how easily he may be able to manipulate the investigators. If he feels he is in immediate physical danger, he will desperately attempt to invite The Defiler to inhabit his own body (*25% chance on the first attempt; Pyle loses a point of POW for each attempt, and the subsequent contests will be his new POWx5. Note that this means the second attempt has a higher percentage chance of success*). If successful, he will begin a rapid and deadly transformation (see stats below), springing out of his harmless indolence with a preternatural quickness.

Otherwise, he will attempt to cajole or trick the investigators into helping him out of the "prison in which he has been stranded, left to die by his crazed coworkers." He will exude helplessness and plead with them if necessary. If his overtures do not seem to be making headway, he will attempt to cast *Mental Suggestion* or *Dominate* to either turn the players against each other or to entertain him (both could be crippling to their sanity). His motivations are strange and erratic, but he will give in and indulge his deep-rooted otherworldly sadism if possible, suddenly excluding all thoughts of self-preservation. Secondary to his whims would be the spread of his dark gospel, an activity in which he may also indulge. An infected investigator may be doomed upon hearing the twisted words of *The Revelations* directly from the mouth of this avatar (*mPOW 28*).

If the Great Old One is manifested, chances are the investigators will stumble into a fight from which they have little hope of returning alive. Surrender and flight might be the most viable option, perhaps to return at a later date with heavier ordinance or a more drastic plan of action. Y'Golonac will roam the offices, looking for victims upon which he will bestow his mark. Such an event will greatly hasten the spread of his influence, and it is entirely feasible that local law enforcement could become involved. Keepers are encouraged to play this out in a way that assures the spread of the meme beyond the investigators' reach, concluding with Y'Golonac departing Pyle's distorted and empty shell once his otherworldly whims have been satisfied.

## CONCLUSION

The investigators should be well-motivated to destroy, hide or otherwise obscure anything that could relay the dangerous meme of Y'Golonac's influence. It is up to them how they would like to proceed -- however, it would be most prudent if they did so under the radar and out of the reach of law enforcement. This is exactly the type of preternatural threat to American citizenry that Delta Green has been assembled to put down.

Investigators still motivated to find out if Turling had any other victims are welcome to make the attempt, though this is beyond containing the memetic infection they have been sent to uproot. Delta Green will not assist them in this "irrelevant" task.

Infected investigators have a choice as to how to handle their own exposure. Their uninfected colleagues may make the choice for them -- with fatal consequences. Those who did not earn an indefinite insanity during course of play may be fine, depending on future exposure and the severity of their initial symptoms. Others, however, may find themselves frequently dreaming of a large entity dictating strange knowledge from a dark cell. Depending on the unknowable whims of Y'Golonac, doom may come sooner rather than later.

And depending on their level of abnormal observable behavior, Delta Green may send a specialized consultant to discuss their retirement. So it goes...

+1d10 SAN for neutralizing the known remaining viral seeds (Robert Pyle and Chad Turling)  
+1d4 SAN for destroying meme-related material in the Transbridge offices, police custody, and the Turling home

The above *negations* occur if these conditions are NOT met by the end of the scenario.

## Keeper's Timeline of Events

Adjust dates as necessary to fit within a larger campaign.

**January 3, 2007** - Robert Pyle returns to Austin from a trip to Thailand where he spent a year training outsourced support workers for JangleWire.com. His work ethic had completely eroded, and his health, hygiene, and attitude had drastically slipped. He was soon fired from his support job at JangleWire, where he had worked there for eight years. [The company is now obsolete due to the rise of VOIP technology. The company has since begun a steady decline, moving only to support its remaining legacy customers. All infrastructure in North America has been eliminated, except for a small office in downtown Austin that houses all historical accounting and personnel records. It is rarely attended, and calling the owner of the company (John Carpenter) may be the only way to get access, though it is unlikely this information will be of use]

**January 2007-2009** - Robert Pyle moves from apartment to apartment, with a steady trend downward in lodging quality. He is evicted twice in this period for violating both noise policies and proper upkeep agreements, but he always pays on time. He is living on his considerable savings, as bank account records will show. During this period, he applies to many software-oriented jobs in Austin and is consistently turned down after in-person interviews.

**May 28, 2009** - Robert Pyle is finally hired by the desperate recruiters of a software integration consulting firm, Transbridge Solutions.

**July 15, 2009** - First negative performance report for Robert Pyle is logged.

**March 22, 2010** - The building management for the Transbridge offices arranges for a security card to be provided for a third-party office cleaning company, though it was never picked up. Transbridge discontinues its maintenance contract with the building's preferred provider.

**July 2, 2010** - Wayne Turling leaves his family home and begins living at various hotels in the region.

**July 7, 2010** - Transbridge Solutions unofficially closes when the last of its employees, Wayne Turling, stops coming to work. The company is pre-paid on its lease agreement, and building management has not trespassed into the offices (there has been no reason to do so -- yet). Wayne's wife files for divorce two days later.

**August 27, 2010** - Wayne Turling is shot and killed by Officer Nolan as he reaches for his knife after being pulled over for erratic driving. His autopsy report indicates ritualistic cutting on the palms of his hands that correlate strongly to a Delta Green case in Montana. Cell A gathers available agents and friendlies to evaluate the situation.

**August 29, 2010** - The agents arrive in San Antonio.

Report #7433

DATE: 02 September, 1998

AGENTS: PERRIN, PARKS, NANCY

SUMMARY: Tracking and apprehension of Hector Nariz/hostile entity

CASE STATUS: Closed

Hector Nariz: Guatemalan expat, no known family. Contracted as a cargo driver for several years up and down the west coast, never applied for a work visa or a green card. Attributed as the cause of specific serial slayings of several persons in and around Portland, Oregon. Victims were random, but all had similar mutilations on the hands and head. The palms of the hands had been split open, and the heads removed. Rocks, shards of glass, and metal had been shoved in the opened wounds on the hands.

The agents were assigned to assist an ongoing local law enforcement effort, both to bring Hector Nariz into custody and attempt to obfuscate any abnormal phenomena [Report #1191]. Working with Oregon and Montana state troopers, PERRIN and PARKS uncovered several more victims as they tracked Nariz to a motel in Lewiston, Montana. All had similar ritualized markings on their bodies. Materials surrounding the body seemed to correlate to similar virulent memes identified previously (#1191) as potential phrases from THE REVELATIONS OF GLAAKI V12.

PERRIN believed that Nariz had been driven to his acts after being affected by these materials (BOX 45 PFI). The agents tracked Nariz to a motel in Lewiston, Montana, and confronted him. PARKS KIA.

PERRIN was brought to Central Montana Medical Center and pronounced dead two days later on 30OCT98 after succumbing to fatal wounds. The motel was destroyed in an explosion, and Nariz presumed dead.

NANCY interviewed PERRIN during his hospital stay on 29OCT98 and discovered that PERRIN had used high explosives to combat an entity that had been using Nariz as a vehicle.

Conversation with the entity before its disappearance/destruction seemed to confirm PERRIN's suspicions about the virulent nature of THE REVELATIONS OF GLAAKI V12. No current leads as to where Nariz encountered these materials.

It is possible that exposure to the same materials could allow the entity control over a new host, though further investigation cannot be completed at this time. All similar materials should be secured or otherwise destroyed if found. Entity is highly dangerous and can exhibit impressive changes over the physiology of its host, though a full description is pending more data. See [#gf009] for a complete record of this phenomena.

Recording 1:

Wendy: "It is 2:00pm on September 20th, 2009. Present is Courtney Bergman, Regional Manager and Robert Pyle, Support Specialist. Robert, do you understand that this disciplinary meeting is being recorded for your protection?"

Robert: "Why is it being recorded, exactly?"

Wendy: "It's company policy. Now, Courtney has given me your progress metrics for the previous quarter, as well as the two written warnings. Do you acknowledge that this is your signature on each warning?"

Robert: "I do believe so. Yes."

Wendy: "Good. *<speaking directly into the recorder>* These warnings were given due to disruptive comments and behavior during office hours."

Robert: *<clears his throat loudly and violently>*

Wendy: Robert, as per the Employee Handbook guidelines, page 72-A, you agreed to follow proper etiquette and demeanor when taking on your duties as a Support Specialist, and for failure to--"

Robert: "I'd like to return to my work now."

*<long silence>*

Wendy: "You--you should return to your desk."

Robert: "Yes, there's much work to be done. Don't want to waste any time..."

*<the sound of the brakes disengaging as an electric wheelchair leaves the room>*

Courtney: "Why-- why did you call me in here, Wendy?"

Wendy: "Hmmm? I -- I'm not sure. I need to turn this off."

*<click>*

Recording 2:

Wendy: "It is 2:00pm on October 7th, 2009. Present is Courtney Bergman, Regional Manager and Robert Pyle, Support Specialist."

Robert: "Hello-o-o-o."

Wendy: "Robert, do you understand that this disciplinary meeting is being recorded for your protection?"

Robert: "Oh yes."

Wendy: "Good. We are going to discuss the incident that occurred this morning in the break-room."

Robert: "Mmm-hmm."

Wendy: "What you said really upset Candy --"

Robert: "Candy."

Wendy: "--please don't interrupt. What you said falls under the company's definition of inappropriate workplace etiquette, and it was in direct violation of the guidelines explained in your employee handbook. Do you understand?"

Robert: "I don't see how what I said violated anything in the old *handbook*."

Wendy: "Well, it's not--"

Robert: "I really did give a whore a few squirts from the old fun-wagon pump last night. I didn't lie."

Wendy: "Robert, lying to a coworker -- that's not why we called you here --"

Robert: "The whore really did remind me of Candy. Except for her eyes. That's why I took them out."

*<a stifled gasp from a woman in the room, a brief silence>*

Wendy: "Robert, I'm calling security right now to escort you out of the office."

Robert: "Why don't you take off your glasses, so I can get a better look at *your* pretty old eyes, pumpkin."

*<a long pause, punctuated by the sound of a woman suddenly gasping and breathing heavily>*

Robert: "Oh yes. Oh yes. Let's turn this old thing off."

*<click>*

## Transbridge Solutions Personnel Files

**Aaron Olsen (Customer Support Specialist)** - Last known whereabouts: picked up by a patrolling officer for public intoxication in downtown Austin while panhandling for money. Olsen disappeared after release and did not appear for court hearing the next month. Present location: Unknown.

**Aaron Walker (Senior Developer)** - Records indicate that Walker drove his car into oncoming traffic on Interstate 35 north of Waco, TX, and was killed when he slammed headfirst into a tractor-trailer. Many empty beer bottles and baggies of cocaine were found amongst the wreckage of his vehicle. The coroner's report from the subsequent autopsy shows lethally high toxicity levels of both alcohol and cocaine. It appears Walker's heart went into arrest, and he died seconds prior to impact.

**Courtney Bergman (Regional Manager)** - Her husband filed a missing persons report two months ago. Police do not have any leads and the old reports note that she left without packing a suitcase. The husband was under suspicion briefly, but was soon cleared once his alibi (at a friend's home during a dinner party) panned out. The report does mention that Bergman was "not acting like herself" for a few days before her disappearance, but it does not elaborate further.

**Annie Mack (Office Coordinator)** - Last known whereabouts: arrested for prostitution and drug charges. Records indicate that her mother paid her bail. Mack disappeared from her parent's residence shortly afterward, and she is currently listed as a missing person.

**Barret Wilkins (Client Success Manager)** - Wilkins was found dead in his apartment, with no apparent cause. Autopsy reports are ambiguous and inconclusive.

**Ben Bartles (Transition Manager)** - Bartles was committed to State care by his family after he was found walking in the middle of Congress Avenue in Austin. He was in a catatonic state and did not respond to drugs after induction. He is now in a coma and on life support at St. David's Hospital and attending staff does not have high hopes for his recovery.

**Robert Pyle (Customer Support Specialist)** - No police data is available for Pyle. He was leasing an apartment on the east side of Austin, but the leasing company filed for eviction due to non-payment. It was later found out that the tenant had abandoned the property and left it derelict two and a half months ago. A family lives there now.

**Candy Ortega (Accounts Payable/Receivable)** - Found dead of a heroin overdose in her apartment. The coroner found three pounds of glass marbles in various bodily orifices.

**Marcus Miksch (IT Director)** - Miksch was found dead on his blood-stained futon by the police after his neighbor called in a noise complaint. His wrists were slit from palms to elbows with a nearby sushi knife. He was found in a position that made it apparent he was attempting to masturbate while watching Rambo III with the volume at max.

**Wendy Valdez (Human Resources Director)** - Whereabouts unknown. Her last two month's rent were unpaid, and her two cats were found dead of starvation in her obviously derelict house.

**Ziran Ling (President)** - Ling was arrested for several counts of sexual misconduct with a minor. He was imprisoned in Beeville Prison in Beeville, TX, and he was stabbed to death by another inmate three days later.

[End Table]