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ANDERSON

THE BURNING HAG

AS TOLD TO: G. Johns

BIRTH NAME: Unknown **AGE:** Unknown
HEIGHT: 5' 6" **WEIGHT:** Unknown
EYES: Ember **HAIR:** White
YEAR RESIDENCY BEGAN: 1791
FIRST APPEARANCE: HYDE STREET #13
(2026)

The woman known as The Burning Hag was the first successful Resident of Hyde Street.

Very little is known about her life before 1791, though surviving rumors tie her to witch trial hysteria, false accusations, public burnings, and a community that mistook cruelty for righteousness. Some accounts claim she was a victim. Others

insist she helped light the first match. When she arrived on Hyde Street, she brought with her the fear of fire, judgment, and damnation. Those who encountered her described an old woman forever smoldering but never consumed, her skin cracked black like charred wood, white hair drifting upward in impossible heat, and smoke curling from her mouth when she whispered.

The Burning Hag delivered 10,000 souls to The Scorekeeper and was said to have vanished from Hyde Street forever.

Among the older Residents, her name is rarely spoken. Not out of respect.

Out of fear that she might still hear it. ●

FRIGHTENING FACT: *It was rumored The Burning Hag spent her first years on Hyde Street trying to burn herself out of existence--until she discovered other souls screamed louder than she did.*



THE DEMON WITHIN

AS TOLD TO: G. Johns

BIRTH NAME: General Arthur Whitlock
AGE: 57
HEIGHT: 6' 7" (as The Demon Within)
WEIGHT: 277 lbs. (as The Demon Within)
EYES: Red **HAIR:** White
YEAR RESIDENCY BEGAN: 1888
FIRST APPEARANCE: HYDE STREET #6 (2025)

The man now called The Demon Within was once General Arthur Whitlock, a decorated officer in the British Army during the empire's bloody colonial campaigns of the late 19th century. Reports differ on where he fought but nearly every account describes the same qualities: discipline, intelligence, and an almost unnatural calm under fire. Men followed him because they believed he would survive anything. Most did not.

After leaving military service, Whitlock turned to writing. His novels--grim, literary accounts of war, guilt, and the fragile nature of civilization--earned him acclaim among Europe's educated elite. Some said his stories felt less written than confessed.

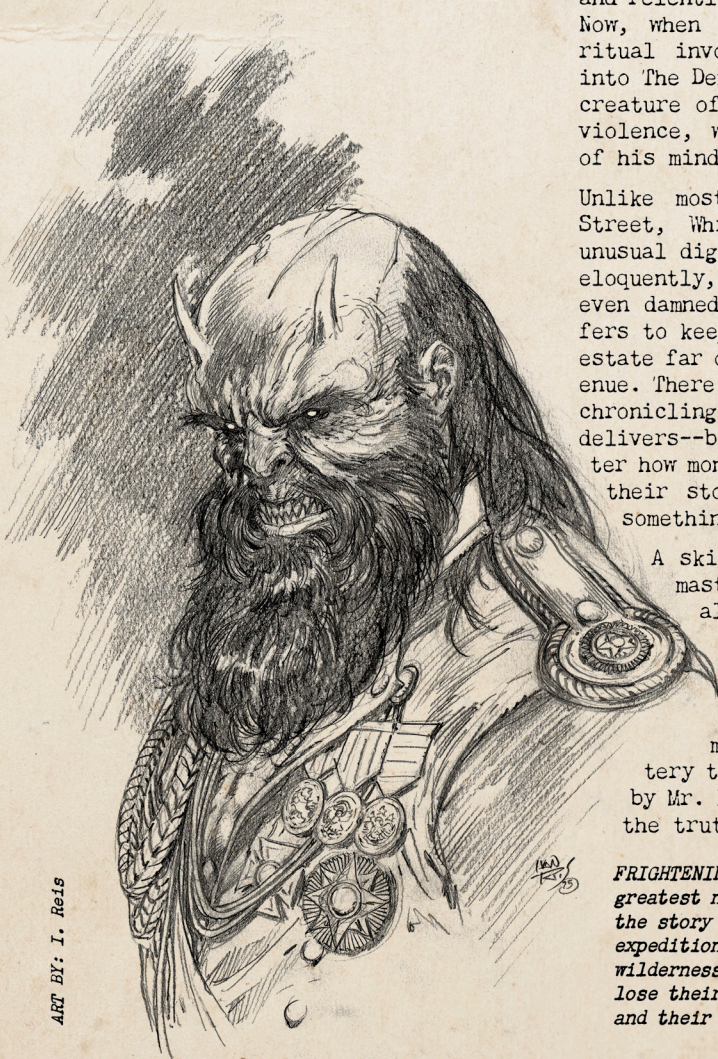
In 1888, Whitlock arrived on Hyde Street. There, something ancient found him. A demon attempted to consume Whitlock entirely--body, soul, and will alike. Instead, it encountered a man whose discipline had already survived war, death, and human cruelty. The possession became a battle, and Whitlock won.

Rather than becoming a servant to the demonic force inside him, Whitlock bent it to his will through sheer intellect and relentless psychological domination. Now, when enraged or summoned through ritual invocation, Whitlock transforms into The Demon Within--a towering horned creature of immense strength, fire, and violence, while retaining full control of his mind and actions.

Unlike most of the Residents of Hyde Street, Whitlock carries himself with unusual dignity and restraint. He speaks eloquently, dresses formally, and treats even damned souls with respect. He prefers to keep to himself, residing in his estate far outside Hyde Street's main avenue. There, Whitlock continues to write, chronicling the lives of the souls he delivers--believing no person, no matter how monstrous, should vanish without their story being remembered as both something to learn from and fear.

A skilled military strategist and master swordsman, Whitlock has also spent decades studying occult rituals, demonology and ancient languages. What that demon within him was and where it came from remains a mystery...but a mystery that will eventually be solved by Mr. X-Ray in his quest to uncover the truth behind Hyde Street. ●

FRIGHTENING FACT: General Arthur Whitlock's greatest novel, *The Long Retreat*, tells the story of a defeated British military expedition forced to march across hostile wilderness as its exhausted soldiers slowly lose their faith in empire, civilization, and their own humanity.



THE MATINEE MONSTER

AS TOLD TO: G. Johns

BIRTH NAME: Oscar Oddman

AGE: 29

HEIGHT: 6' 7"

WEIGHT: Undeterminable

EYES: None

HAIR: Black

YEAR RESIDENCY BEGAN: 1949

FIRST APPEARANCE:

GHOST MACHINE #1 (2024)

Born in the small town of Polk City, Iowa, Oscar Oddman dreamed of stardom. At 22, he arrived in Hollywood, envisioning his name glowing alongside legends like Jimmy Stewart and Cary Grant. However, his towering frame and imposing build confined him to minor roles--doormen, nameless gangsters, and background characters.

Oscar's fortunes seemed to shift when he landed the role of the monster in *Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein's Brother*. Though he initially dismissed the part as shallow, director Charles Barton encouraged him to channel the monster's fear and loneliness, using his expressive eyes as a window to the soul. For the first time, Oscar felt truly seen.

But his newfound confidence was short-lived. Soon, another actor--Gregory Mitchell, a Broadway veteran with classic good looks--arrived on set. Oscar, fearing replacement, confronted Mitchell. Misinterpreting Mitchell's role as his stand-in, Oscar lashed out, shoving him into a set piece. The impact dislodged a heavy spotlight, which fell and fatally crushed Mitchell.

Panicked, Oscar concealed his guilt. He convinced the world of his innocence, but there was one audience he could not deceive: Hyde Street.

On Hyde Street, The Scorekeeper struck a deal: deliver 10,000 souls and earn freedom, along with the fame and fortune Oscar had long desired. Desperate, Oscar agreed.

However, his first target--a young girl--saw past his monstrous exterior and gazed into his heart, again through his eyes. Touched by her innocence, Oscar refused to deliver her. Enraged, The Scorekeeper punished Oscar mercilessly: hammering



ART BY: I. Reis

FRIGHTENING FACT: Oscar's Oddman's stand-in, Gregory Mitchell, rose to fame as a celebrated actor throughout the '50s...until the day he, too, found himself on Hyde Street.

nails into his eyes and rendering him blind, then tearing out his tongue to silence him forever.

Despite his torment, Oscar continues defying The Scorekeeper. Unlike other Residents, he refuses to harvest souls, choosing instead to rescue the damned whenever he can. From his castle in the woods, he has become both protector and pariah, drawing the ire of his fellow Residents. His greatest adversary remains the mysterious Resident he keeps imprisoned known only as The Butcher of Hyde Street.

To this day, Oscar's tally remains at zero--a solitary stand against The Scorekeeper's dark design. ●

NURSES DEE & DOE

AS TOLD TO: G. Johns

BIRTH NAME: Dee [First Name Unrevealed]

AGE: She'd never tell

HEIGHT: 5' 6" **WEIGHT:** 115 lbs.

EYES: Brown **HAIR:** Blonde (dyed)

YEAR RESIDENCY BEGAN: 1998

BIRTH NAME: Doe [First Name Unrevealed]

AGE: Don't ask

HEIGHT: 5' 7" **WEIGHT:** 135 lbs.

EYES: Brown **HAIR:** Black

YEAR RESIDENCY BEGAN: 1999

FIRST APPEARANCE:

HYDE STREET #8 (2025)

Obsessed with beauty and terrified of losing it, Dee and Doe paid enormous sums for the grotesque transformations that ultimately ruined their lives.

Before Hyde Street, Dee was a former Manhattan Beach beauty queen who built a successful real-estate empire on charm and what she proudly called her "million-dollar smile." But age slowly stole the one thing Dee believed gave her value, driving her toward increasingly extreme cosmetic procedures.

Doe was the widow of a fried chicken magnate who inherited both his fortune and the habits that left her morbidly obese. Briefly famous as a volatile reality television personality in the late 1990s, Doe became consumed with reshaping herself physically instead of emotionally.

Both women found their way to the office of notorious Los Angeles cosmetic surgeon Doctor Ego. Dee underwent 37 procedures in less than two years until the corners of her stretched smile nearly wrapped around her skull. Doe pursued 44 surgeries to remove over 200 pounds from her body, leaving behind loose skin and a distorted figure neighborhood children cruelly nicknamed "The Bag Lady."

Neither woman found happiness waiting on the other side of perfection.

Dee became a recluse inside her perfume-soaked Beverly Hills condo and eventually poisoned a neighbor's barking shih tzu after insisting the



ART BY: I. Reiss

FRIGHTENING FACT: Nurse Dee and Nurse Doe recruited Doctor Ego's enforcer--Orderly Oodles--and protect him fiercely. What their personal connection to Oodles is--if any--is unknown.

animal mocked her appearance. Doe continued demanding surgeries long after there was anything left to remove, directing her misery toward a young Guatemalan caretaker--Doe's relentless abuse ultimately drove the woman to leap from Doe's mansion rooftop.

Like so many consumed by vanity, Dee and Doe were drawn to Hyde Street, where they reunited with Doctor Ego, and were swiftly absorbed into his employ. Details remain unknown, but Ego was able to somehow spare them from The Scorekeeper, earning their eternal loyalty.

Now nurses, the pair oversee Ego's office together, quietly feeding on the insecurities of everyone around them. And whenever screams echo from behind Ego's operating-room door, Dee and Doe can usually be heard laughing softly just outside. No one on Hyde Street knows more gossip about the Residents than they. ●

PRANKY

AS TOLD TO: G. Johns

BIRTH NAME: Philip "Pip" Peabody

AGE: 11

HEIGHT: 4' 7" **WEIGHT:** 70 lbs.

EYES: Black **HAIR:** Brown

YEAR RESIDENCY BEGAN: 1955

FIRST APPEARANCE:

GHOST MACHINE #1 (2024)

Philip "Pip" Peabody, better known as "Pranky," was born into hardship. His father, a World War II veteran, lost an arm after enduring brutal torture as a POW on Okinawa. Meanwhile, back in the

U.S., his mother, an Asian American, was interned in a camp after giving birth to Pip. As a newborn, Pip was placed in foster care, where he remained until his father returned in 1945, a broken man. Pip's mother vanished without a trace, leaving Pip with no memory of her, though his father's cruelty would never be forgotten.

Pip struggled to fit in both at school and with his peers. Enthralled by tales of explorers like Sir Edmund Hillary and Robert Ripley, Pip joined Local Scout Troop 422, hoping to find camaraderie and adventure. Instead, he found ridicule. His fellow scouts mocked his father's disability, and when Pip sought comfort, his father lashed out at him instead, unleashing his own frustrations. Pip attempted to find his mother during this time but failed. Isolated and bitter, Pip's pranks escalated into acts of revenge. He set fire to Troop 422's camp, stuffed fresh hot links into the leader's backpack to attract bears, and sabotaged the scouts' canoe, among other schemes. His youthful rage knew no bounds, although he never confronted his father.

In 1955, Pip mysteriously found his way onto Hyde Street. The details of his arrival and damnation remain unknown, but he quickly became one of the street's infamous Residents--humans bound to lure others to their doom under the watchful eye of The Scorekeeper, its mysterious overseer. It was here, for his devious behavior, Pip earned the nickname "Pranky."

When it comes to delivering souls, no one does it better than Pranky. Despite surpassing the 10,000 souls needed to escape Hyde Street, he refuses to leave, much to the frustration of the other Residents. Pranky delights in outwitting them, claiming souls before they can. His favorite targets? Those who harm children.

Pranky's personal retreat is a chilling treehouse of terrors and torture, a place no one has ever entered and left alive. He is an avid comic book reader. ●

FRIGHTENING FACT: Pranky damned his teacher, Mr. Dewey, by tricking him into dissecting his own body!

