

ISSUE #1

Every Days

Tread carefully in Caerphilly

An adventure for four players for the role playing game Operation: Fallen Reich



Eery Days

Thread carefully in Caerphilly

An adventure Module for the role playing game Operation: Fallen Reich suitable for 4 player.
This is the first adventure in the Eery Days series.

This is a true work of fiction.

If you recognise your name in the text, it can mean one of two things:

(a) It is pure coincidence

(b) You either got a very fancy name or you are a jolly good person, feel honoured.

Author:	Totte Alm
Maps and graphics:	Totte Alm
Editing:	Totte Alm
Welsh information and ideas:	Pam Davies
Play testers:	Jesper Alm Thomas Lindqvist CB Du Rietz Robert Aresved
Tools used:	OmniGraffle Graphic Converter Pages FilterForge 3 DAZ Studio4.6
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ADVENTURE BACKGROUND

Professor Llywelyn Tudor-Pryce was once held the position of professor in Psychology and Parapsychology at the Cardiff University. He was fired as his research methods and results were not approved by the University board. He lives in the old 'ap Rhys' Manor, now known only as the Pryce Manor. The building is located on a hill south east of the village East Caerphilly.

He moved here twenty or so years ago when his research in mind reading started, but as he had ideas that a mind would transmit more brainwaves under pain, his research at the university ended, but he continued on his own.

He started to work on a system to electrically amplify brainwaves, and a few years ago he got in contact with the brilliant engineer and mathematician A.M. Turing at Princeton University and the young Mr. Turing constructed a machine that, if correctly calibrated and if the original design by professor Llywelyn was correct, would identify the signals of interest from brainwaves and amplify those, which would hopefully reduce the noise and make the reading of thoughts easier.

Before he was fired from his job at Cardiff University, he acquired some ancient document about rituals performed by the Jewish Rabbi's before the Roman occupation. Those rituals were, according to the person who had translated them, designed to extend the mind and senses of a person and making it possible to read minds. The only caveat here is that the translator did not know that some Hebrew words had a very different meaning then so the meaning of the ritual was wrongly interpreted, so was how the ritual was performed.

This has led to many sleepless nights for the professor, until he just recently stumbled upon a short manuscript describing old Jewish rituals, where now could see where his translations was wrong. He started to change the way he performed his ritual but he never really saw any changes in his mind reading capabilities.

What he didn't know or understand was that when he performed this ritual that was not at all associated with mind reading, he brought the demon Azazel to the earth to make someone with string feeling perform a deed of great inner hate.

The professor keeps to himself, certain though that he one day will read minds. He has no idea that his rituals are wreaking havoc in the village. His plans is to sell his invention to the government and make a pile of money.

He has been in contact with the military trying to convince them of his ideas will work. Greed is what drives him, greed and revenge for being pushed aside from his office at the University.

To perform the ritual, Professor Llywelyn Tudor-Pryce needs a very hot fire and a live sheep or goat that he sacrifices into the fire by slitting its throat and letting the blood boil away on the red hot coal, then burn the whole cadaver on the coal. At the same time he chants the ancient and strange words of the ritual. As he has run out of coal and sheep, he has done some late night raids to get what he needs for his ritual in the village, planning to pay for it when his invention works and he is paid by the government. He borrowed an old Bedford truck on night from a farmer in West Caerphilly that he now always left his keys in the car, and returned it two nights later.

The rituals are still wrongly performed and Azazel will just randomly possess a person in the village, someone who bears a great inner grudge.

The itching bruise*

The bruise is about one half inch in diameter. If the bruise is examined with a magnifier glass or similar, a picture of a demon is clearly visible. Remember, no one will talk about it, and it will require some long time talking or observation of the victim of the bruise to see something is odd, that the victim repetitively seems to scratch his or her lower back from time to time.

Myths or Religion 20 to identify the face on the bruise as the demon Azazel in Jewish mythology, the scapegoat. The mark is much like a tattoo and will never really go away. Anyone bearing the mark has been possessed by Azazel for a longer or shorter period of time. The longer time, the larger tattoo.

Myth, Religion or Info Searching 15 on The demon Azazel and what could bring his mark to be stuck on someone.

There are several dark rituals that are said to bring Azazel to this world. Those rituals are mostly forgotten, and were used by the rabbi to find infidels among the people. A victim possessed by Azazel will perform a deed of hate that is deep in the person's soul, depending on the power of the ritual used, the time of the possessing will vary. A full ritual will not only possess the victim temporarily, but for life. Once a victim is fully possessed, Azazel can only be exorcised by killing the host.

ADVENTURE START

The adventure starts on a Tuesday morning, in London, and it is during spring, summer or early fall.

In the small village of East Caerphilly in South Wales Valleys, the building tension between a group of fascist miners supporting BUF (British Union of Fascists) working in the coal mine and a Communistic Bolshevik Leninist collective living on an until recently abandoned farm, the peoples farm, has escalated. What at first was just hard words and occasionally thrown stones, coals or an occasional turnips has turned into a war. This is not rare in the South Wales Valleys, but the police has found some of these particular incidents strange, too strange to handle on their own.

The characters are sent to the village to investigate the accelerating spiral of violence in the village. This happens in the midst of the upcoming Valley Gold Derby, the Rugby match between East Caerphilly, and the village on the other side of the hills, West Caerphilly. The whole village has Rugby-fever, even worse than usual.

The characters will be offered covers as reporters or talent scouts to avoid suspicion. The characters shall meet Constable Bryn Davies at the local police office on Wednesday morning for further information.

The characters can travel to East Caerphilly either by road or by train, their choice and they will arrive on Tuesday afternoon or evening.

East Caerphilly - The Map

Below are the descriptions of some of the more important locations in the area. Remember that West Caerphilly is located to the West, on the other side of the hills, excuse me, the mountains.

Some of the locations has more detailed covered further on, other, less important locations are just briefly covered here.

(1) The village East Caerphilly

The village has the classical institutions, a couple of stores, two pubs (Plough & Harrow and Otley Arms), a police station, a church, a small hospital, a school, a post office, a couple of stores and of course a market square and town hall building.

(2) The mine

If the characters decides to visit the mine and speak to someone in charge, they will meet Mr. John MacGonnall, foreman.

If asked about how Aled Morgan could get his hands on dynamite, he will just say that we know that explosives sometimes are brought home, but these guys sometimes has a rock or a stump the need to move. I'm not a cop, I cannot search them when the shift is over. There might be a couple of loose changers laying around on the houses. He will gladly take the characters on a guided tour.

(3) Miner's dwellings

Row houses for miners, rough but cheap living. The Miner's Drought is here too, and it does not care about 11 pm pub closing time regulations as miner's work in shifts and all should be able to take a beer after work.

(4) Pryce Manor

See Pryce Manor below.

(5) The Bolshevik comrades farm

Old Anna's farm was abandoned when she passed away. Then a group of politically aware individuals formed the People's farm collective and found this abandoned farm and took over it by declaring that this property now belong to the people. The only farm having sheep.

(6) Davies Farm

A farm, crops and a few cows.

(7) Price farm

A farm, mostly crop.

(8) Perkins Farm

A farm with cows.

(9) Rugby field

There is a lot of activity here as new stands are being build for the spectators from West Caerphilly, and the old ones are being fixed.

(10) Trout woods

There are several paths leading into the woods but all ends up at trout lake.

(11) Trout lake

The lake is known for good trout fishing and people from both the village or the miner's dwellings often comes here to relax.

The villagers of East Caerphilly

Not keen on strangers and sees anyone not from the village as potential spies for West Caerphilly. Brits always tends to play the role as masters, stepping on the pride and toes of the Welsh people, which makes them hate Brits even more than West Caerphilly.

Asking about fascists or miners

- *They are not causing us much trouble, but they have been fighting with the Bolsheviks down at old Anna's farm. Don't like their ways though.*

Asking about the Bolsheviks farm

- *They took over old Anna's farm, it was abandoned for a few years after Anna passed away. They make good milk and cheese, but they keep fighting with the miners all the time, and they keep ranting about the Tonypandy Riots.*

Asking about Tonypandy Riots

- *In 1910 there were several strikes here in the coal mines, and one thing led to another, and Home Secretary Winston Churchill called out the 18th Hussars together with 400 policemen to bring order, and since that day Winston Churchill is not a welcomed man in these parts of the land.*

Asking about Pryce Manor or the professor

- *He is just a nutcase the old fart. He claims to have inventing mind reading and he has some very strange things built to catch lightnings. Sometimes it smells odd from the manor, but I guess he is just another bad cook. I know the gardener, Mr. Scott, makes good money from keeping his garden in good shape.*

The gardener, Mr. Scott about the Professor

- *The professor is rather nutty, sometimes he spend days inside with his experiments, but he pays his bills as long as I keep his garden in good shape so I won't complain. And I don't enter manor, I keep myself outside or in the tools shed in the garden.*

GM Note - Garbage burning

About this time, organised garage collection was not invented, so most people just burnt their waste in fire pits in the ground. The smell could sometimes be rather nasty for someone from the outside.

TIMELINE

Tuesday

The characters arrive in the evening. Checks in at the Oiled Goose Bread and Breakfast.

Wednesday

In afternoon, The experiment by the Professor will possess a farmer, Jack Perkins takes it out his neighbour, James Price, accusing him for having an affair with his wife and of being a fascist supporter as two of his sons works in the mine. Neighbours stops them before someone is seriously wounded, and the police arrests Jack Perkins.

Jack Perkins, Mid 30s

About the attack on Mr. Price

- *I have no idea what happened, I'm so sorry. I'm a timid man, my wife can vouch for that, I promise. I was shoeing with horse, then it's all blank, I remember nothing. I woke up like a dream here in the cell at the police station.*

Other info

Has an itching bruise* on his lower back, just below the waist.

Thursday

The experiment by the Professor will this time possess one on the characters to do something he/she has wanted to do, like smack someone or something, steal a car, whatever stupid and attention bringing thing there is. Randomly pick a character and attack *Aura+1d20* with *15+1d20*, success means that the character is now possessed and will fight out his or her most inner revenges. Failure means that the next character is the target.

Continue until one of the characters has been possessed. If all attempts fail, do this on Friday too.

At the same time, one of the communists at the peoples farm, Catherine Williams, goes berserk in the town centre with a shovel, attacking everything that is commercial or capitalistic, like shop windows, cars and advertisements, until stopped by the police and arrested,

Catherine Williams early 20s

About going berserk in town

- I donut know what came over me, I just have this capitalistic society, but I don't know, I really donut know, it's all black and blurry.

Friday

The experiment by the Professor will today possess one of the old village ladies, Mathilda Rhyddersh, who will step right into the office of Mayor Gwilym Pritchard, attacking him with her rather large handbag, accusing him of having tried to kiss her when she was 15, about 40 years ago.

Mathilda Rhyddersh, Mid 60s

About the attack on Mr. Pritchard

- I'm so sorry, I'm so terrible sorry. How can you forgive me. I don't really know what happened, my mind seems to be getting older dull.

Other info

Has an itching bruise* on his lower back, just below the waist.

Saturday

The Valley Gold Derby will start at 2 p.m., right after tea. The day the professor will go all in for his experiment, that will not only possess someone for a short time, but the whole East Caerphilly for life, how short that might be. This will be a disaster as the players will go really berserk, attacking first the other team, then the spectators.

MEETING WITH THE POLICE

Constable Bryn Davies asks politely if the characters want milk in the tea, and if they care for some cinnamon biscuits that his wife baked yesterday. He then runs through the last weeks strange events.

Last weeks incidents

- One week ago, three miners and known BUF-supporters, Alun Jones, Mike O'Connor and Patrick Sykes, attacked and beat Liam Davies. The police arrested the three miners and Liam Davies was taken to the local hospital. The miners were let after being charged with assault. The fascists all the time claimed self defense as they say that they were attacked by Mr Davies.

- Five days ago four communists, Mike O'Clarke, Daffyd Griffiths, Huw Carpenter and a woman, Catherine Williams from the peoples farm were arrested after they had beaten miner Alun Jones badly. Mr. Jones claims the attack was unprovoked but the communists all say that Mr. Jones tried to set fire on of the barns on the farm.

- Three days ago, Aled Morgan, a well known BUF supporter was caught in the middle of the day, on the market square in the village when he was rigging an explosive charge to a tractor owned by the communists of the peoples farm. He was arrested by the local police and put into custody. He claim to have no memory of the accusations from the Police.

- Two days ago, the police did yet another arrest when Claire Smith was found trying to cut the elevator cable to the mine elevator with a file. Thanks to the quick arrest by the Police, the wire was not damaged enough to be dangerous. Miss Smith do not have any memory of the episode and claims to be innocent.

Other incidents

Other incidents in the area, not related to the current problems according to the police. This information is only revealed if the characters asks for it.

- The police is called out to the peoples farm and write a report regarding theft. Lambs has been stolen, several of them during the last couple of weeks. Even two sheep are missing. There have been no traces of cadavers or blood so a wild animal attack of some sort is out of the question.

- A report was written with the mining company, Cambrian Combine, about a vehicle driving off from the mine compound one late night a few weeks ago. It was seen by one of the foremen, Miles Stevens. It was a lorry of some sort, and in the morning we saw that someone had cut the fences open and lifted at least a dozen sacks of coal, maybe more.

Facts that Bryn Davies will say if asked

- They have looked for a Bedford truck in the village but it must come from another village, we have none here.

- We have not found any missing sheep, so we think someone has stolen them and taken them from East Caerphilly.

The suspects and the victims

Alun Jones (in hospital) late 20s, lives in the miners village.

About the attack on Liam Davies

- *We were just minding our own business on the way back from the Drought when this commie came at us with a plank in his hands. We only defended ourselves, I have no idea why he attacked us like that, not very clever, but he's a Bolshevik craphead.*

About the attack by the Bolsheviks

- *I had dinner with my wife and kids, then I went out to go to the pub, then I woke up here. I swear I don't know what happened. They say I was down at the farm. Why would I? I would never go close to that place, never alone.*

Other info

Has an itching bruise* on his lower back, just below the waist.

Mike O'Connor Early twenties

About the attack on Liam Davies

- *We didn't attack that commie, he attacked us, that's all I'm gonna say.*

Patrick Sykes Mid 20s

About the attack on Liam Davies

- *I don't see what's wrong with defending yourself? It's not my fault he attacked us.*

Liam Davies (in hospital) mid 20s, lives on the peoples farm.

About the attack by the fascists

- *I remember having supper with my comrades, then I went out to check the sheep as we have been missing some lambs lately, then I wake up here. Why should I go to the Drought and ask for trouble? Three of the fascists, do you think I'm crazy?*

Other info

Has an itching bruise* on his lower back, just below the waist.

Mike O'Clarke med 20s

About the attack on Alun Jones

- *The fascist asshole was trying to torch the barn where we keep the hay for the winter. I bet he's the one stealing lambs too.*

Daffyd Griffiths late 20s

About the attack on Alun Jones

- *We can take an occasional stone or piece of coal flying our way, but when they start to burn down the property of the people, it is an action of war against me and my comrades.*

Huw Carpenter early 20s

About the attack on Alun Jones

- *Someone yelled that a fascist was trying to torch our barn, I just ran there to stop him.*

Catherine Williams early 20s

About the attack on Alun Jones

- *Those fascist pigs, they think they can do whatever they like, they are wrong. They hate us and our farm, the peoples farm, the first small step to the peoples republic of Wales, a true workers paradise. When we have won we will hang them, hang them all.*

Aled Morgan (in a police custody cell) late 20s

About the rigging of a bomb on the Tractor

- *You have to believe me, and don't remember anything of it, anything. All I know is that it was my day off so I took a pint or two at the Drought, then went down to town for some errands at the post office. Then I woke up here, in this cell, being accused of planting a bomb. What nonsense, please, help me out of this, you have to believe me.*

Other info

Has an itching bruise* on his lower back, just below the waist.

Claire Smith (in a police custody cell) early 30s

About the attempted sabotage

- Listen, this is outright nonsense. I miked the cows, then had breakfast, Then I went to the village to get post a letter, and all of a sudden I wake up in a cell, accused of having sabotaged the mine. Do you believe me? I'm innocent, it must be fabricated my the fascists, I know they always tell lies, they always do. Is this their way of remembering the Tonypandy Riots? We're supposed to fight the oppression of the workers, miners and farmers, side by side.

Other info

Has an itching bruise* on his lower back, just below the waist.

WEST CAERPHILLY

The village is also all about the Valley Gold Derby, and the people here dislike strangers the same way the East Caerphilly people do.

If the characters decides to go here, they will (*Observation 10*) spot an old Bedford truck at the market square, Jack Davies owns it. He will say:

- She's a nice car, but she was gone for two days some weeks ago, but she came back so I didn't bother the police about it.

Pryce Manor

An old stone building. The main building and the left wing are both in good shape. The right wing roof has fallen down in several places. It was hit by lightning several years ago and a fire destroyed most of the roof and inside. This part of the building is used for the professors ritual activities.

Being close to the Pryce Manor when the rituals are performed, an *Observation 15* to smell something burnt and see the smoke rising from the ruined right wing. If the professor is asked about it, he will just say that he uses the old fireplace there to burn garbage as it smells so bad and he does not want that smell where he lives.

Investigating the ruined part is dangerous, *Agility 10* not to trip, fall and damage something. Inside the ruined left right wing are a dozen sacks of coal, two lamb and a sheep.

GM Note

To avoid that the characters just sneak into the manor, finds the ritual pit and kills the Professor, any attempts to sneak in will wake the professor who will let them in, showing them his machines and library.

Ground Floor

All windows on the lower levels are removed and the gaps filled with bricks. The right wings is damaged but seems to be repaired just enough not to collapse.

(1) The Door

Large manor double door, a door knocker in the shape of a wolfs head with a ring in the mouth. The door is locked.

(2) The hall

A large staircase leading up to a balcony on the second floor. The doors to the left and right (to the wings), are both removed and the gaps filled with concrete. The professor explains that the left wing is his lab and the filled that when he did the work on the right wing, the windows too, to avoid spies as he is working with a top secret project, that he will sell to the military.

The doors can booth be opened by a clever mechanism, very well hidden.

(3) Dining room

A table and one chair.

(4) Kitchen

Clean and very empty except for some food and a stove and some tools. The Kitchen was really made to handle food for thirty, not one person.

(5) The ritual place

The door to this place can be opened using secret mechanism Search 25 to find.

In the centre of the room is a large round pit, baring clear marks of fire. A dozen sacks of coal are stacked here, and in the far corner is a pile of hay and two scared land and a scared sheep.

If a ritual is ongoing, coal is glowing white red in the pit and it is and is very hot.

(6) The electric tube machine lab

The room still has it's old and beautiful wooden panels but has been turned it something that looks like nothing the characters have ever seen before. Many large cabinets with flashing lights and a lot of power cables on the wall. This is the secret lab for mind reading. The machines are supposed to interpret brainwaves amplified by the helmet he wear and return the waves into his own brain.

Second Floor

(1) Upper balcony

The balcony over the hall.

(2) Master bedroom

When the professor sleeps, nothing of interest here.

(3) Empty bedroom

Just that.

(4) Bedroom converted to study

Very tidy and the professor keeps very fine documentation about his experiments, leaving out the ritual parts.

(5) Upper level of the ruined wing

Only safe route is to go directly to the stairs leading down to the ritual chamber. Agility 10 otherwise not to trip and fall or get something from the roof in your head.

(6) Large library

A large library with many books about almost every aspect of psychology and parapsychology plus numerous other books.

An *Info Searching 15* will reveal information about anything regarding psychology and parapsychology, also about rituals, including Azazel, but nothing that is new.

PROFESSOR TUDOR-PRYCE

The professor is a very common person physically, and old, and will has Pain Limit 10, Max Damage 50, and defence -5.

GM Notes

Any possessed person has all his or her normal stats.

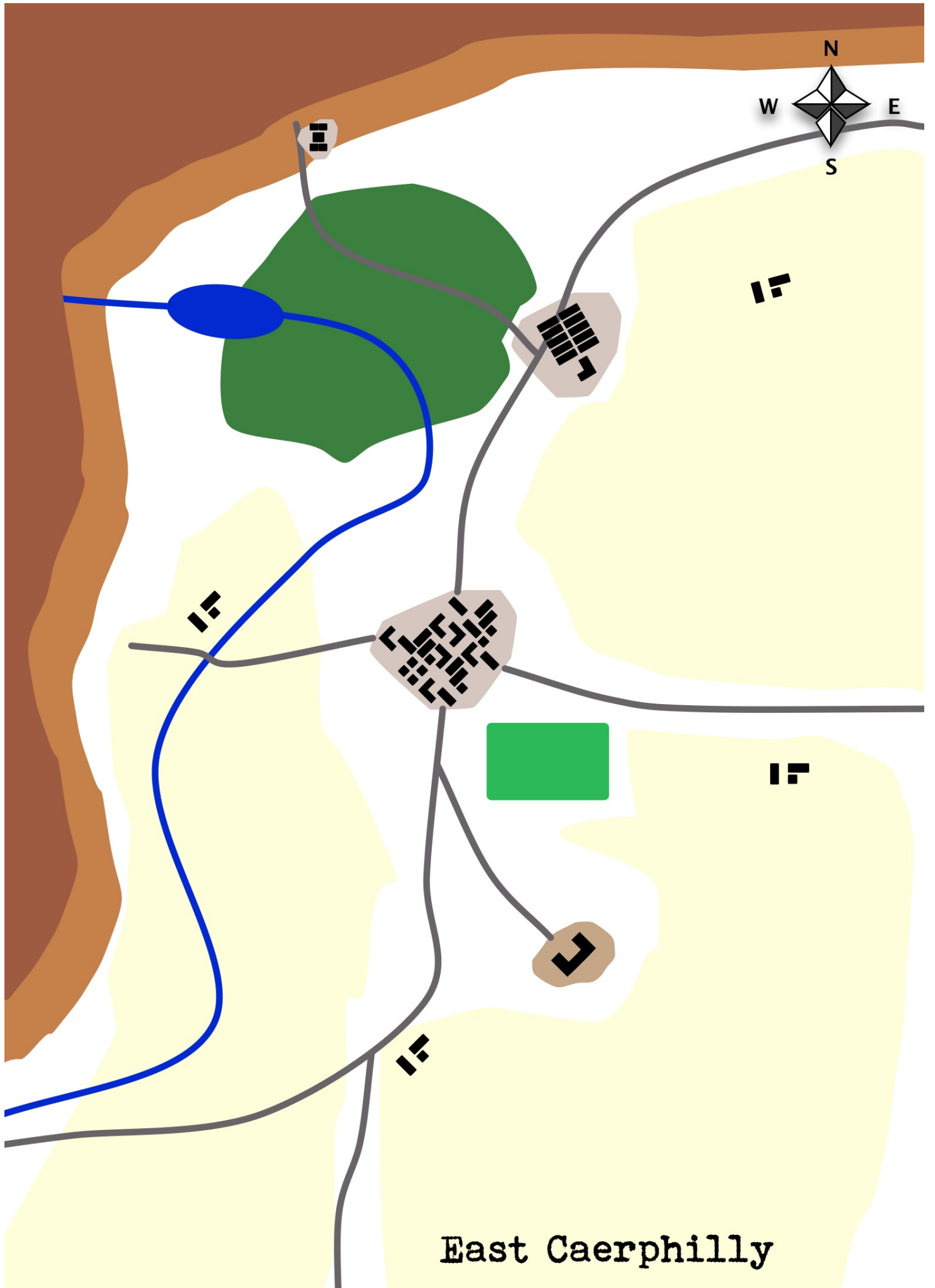
If the character fails and the Rugby teams are possessed and the number eight, or the eightman in the West Caerphilly team will be fully possessed by Azazel, stats shown below.

Azazel	
Mad	
Reaction: 10	Stability: 150
Pain limit: 40	All Perceptive skills: 20
All physical skills: 20	Sixth Sense: 20
All melee skills: 20	Courage: -

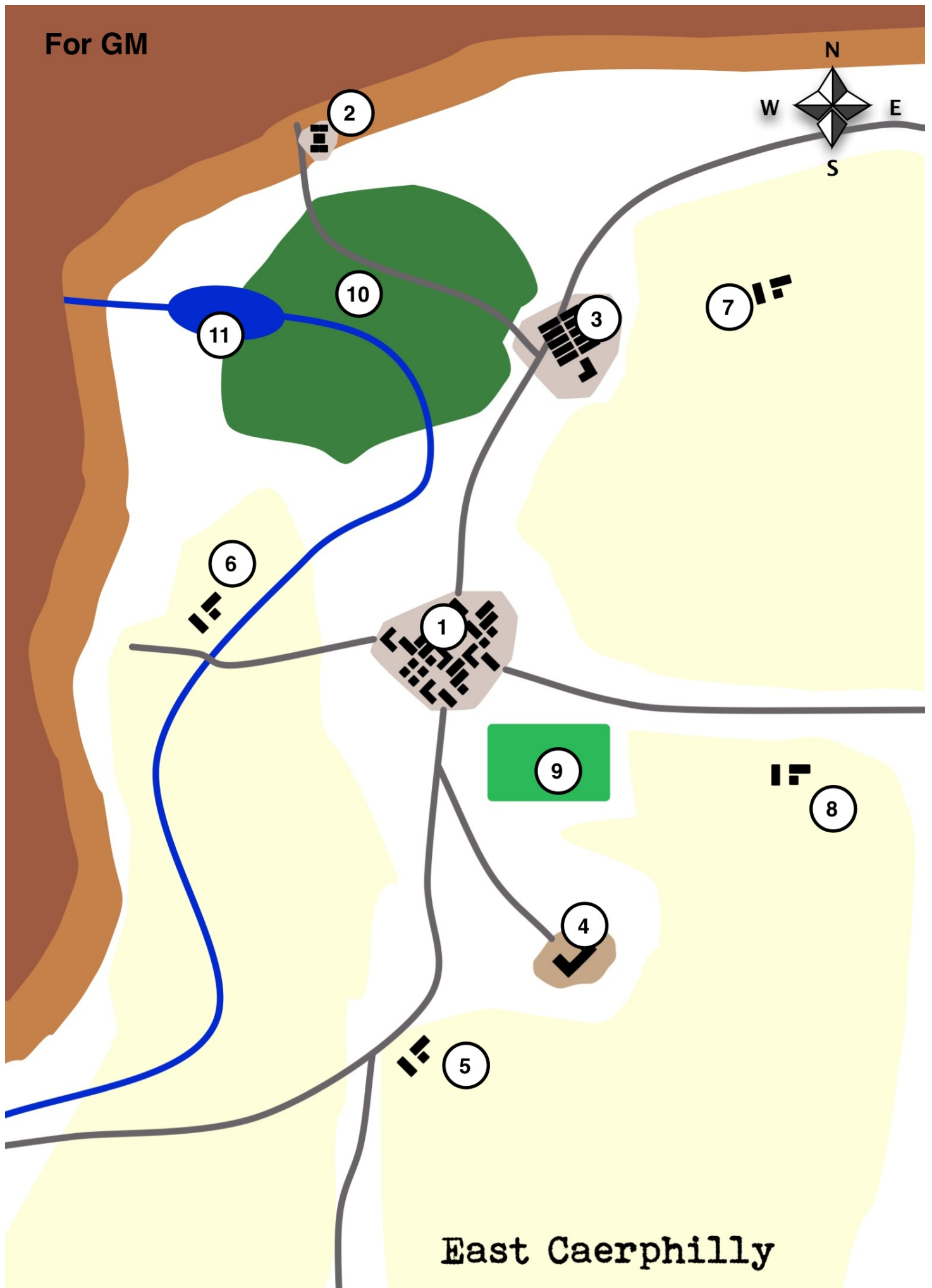
Aftermath

If the last ritual is stopped in time, nothing major will happen, else there will be a team of violent mad rugby players roaming the British countryside looking for trouble, the first stop is most likely West Caerphilly. If the professor is killed, much of his research will be lost as he was not taking many notes, he kept it all in his head. If his electron tube machines are investigated, they will prove valuable, as he has been getting help building them from a student at the Princeton University, Mr. A.M. Turing. The machines should not fall in German hands.

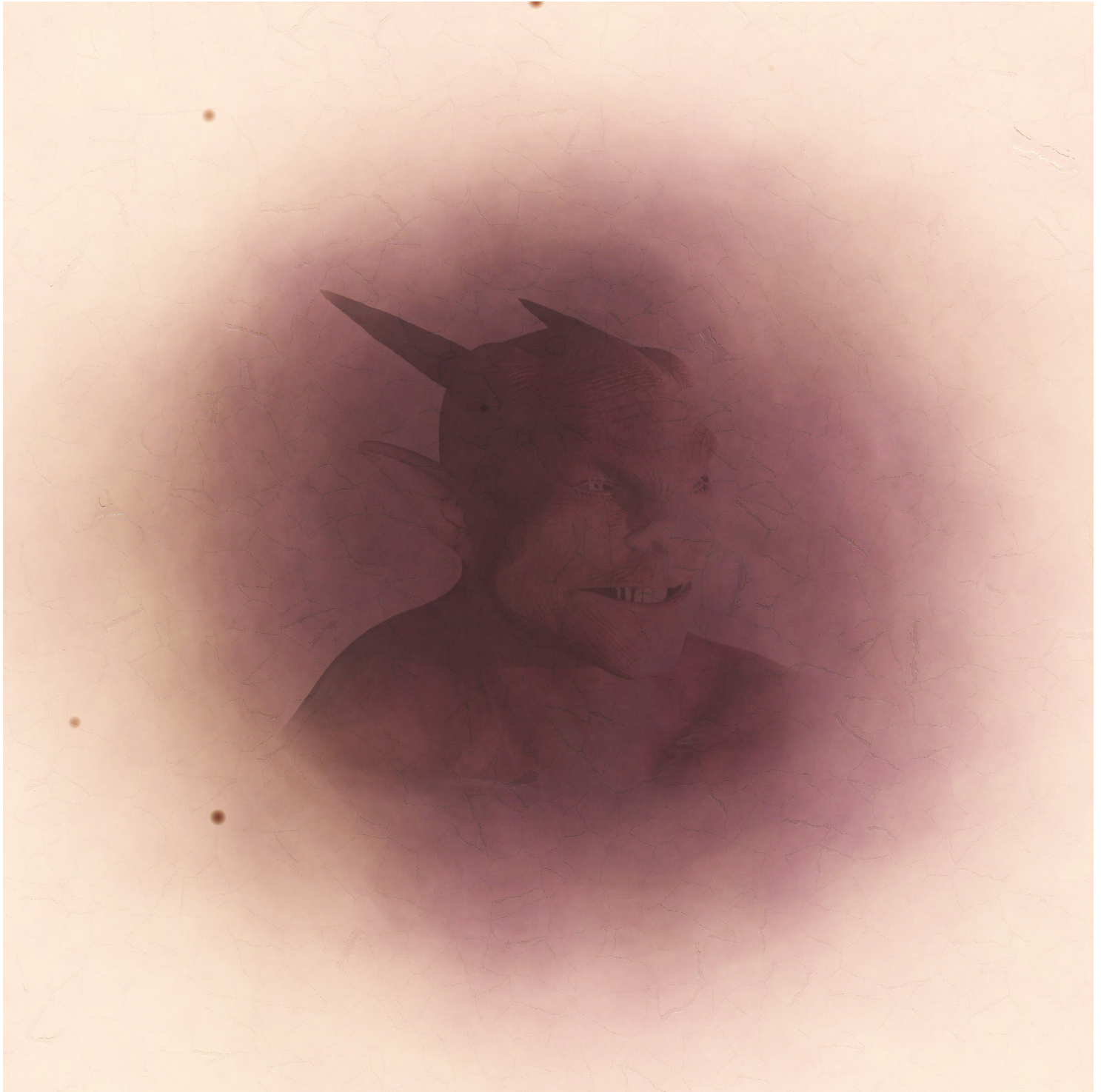
THE END



For GM



Closeup of the itching bruise



Professor Tudor-Pryce



The Library



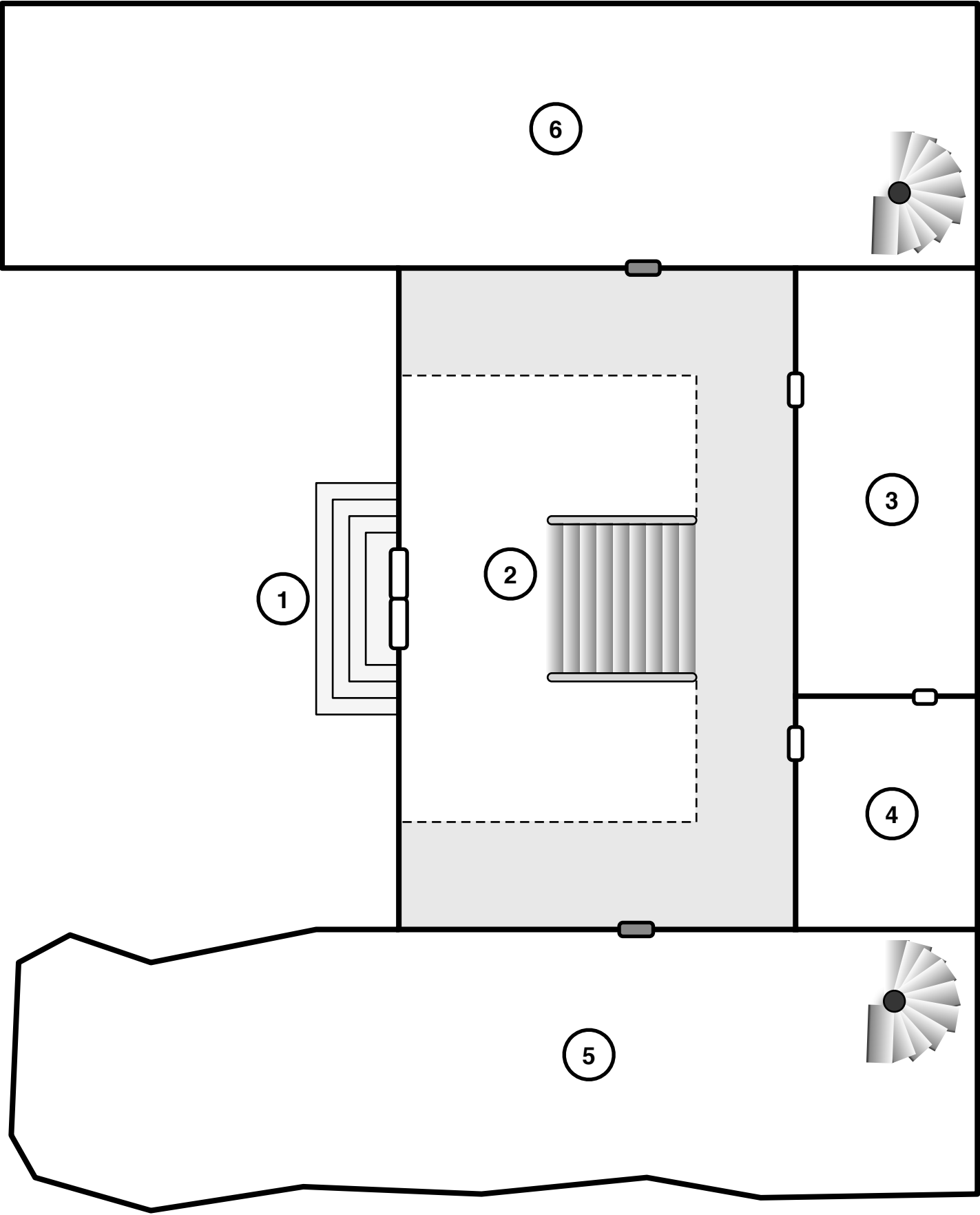
The lab



The ritual lab



Ground floor



Second floor

