

Call Of Cthulu, The Post-Script

Since it's something I had never before tried, I've been dabbling in role playing games for a few months. We've met with a small group twice to play "Call of Cthulu", and it was a fun experience. [Here is a link to my blog post](#) about the game – it reads like a novel, but keep in mind that all the action took place during two afternoons. You begin a game by deciding characteristics you will attribute to your character, and rolling the dice to determine others. There was a host, and he guided us through the game; telling us when to roll what dice and what events were occurring as a result of our decisions. We are going to meet another time this Saturday for another scenario in this same game – hopefully we'll get to keep our same characters since I got a lot of lucky rolls – so my character had lots of strong areas. Here is the post-game wrap-up for the two sessions we already played. My character is named Grace O'Conner, and she is a zookeeper at The Franklin Park Zoo in Boston. The year is 1925.

(Wrap up from the original Call of C'thulhu scenario "Haunter in the Hills.")

Within days of returning to Boston, Jason Carthage and Grace O'Conner had contacted each other and Ms. Dorothy Morgan and borrowed the diary they'd found in the Adams place. Each of the two had read it and both later wished they hadn't.

The very meticulous diary had very little written in it towards the beginning and the earliest dates were from 1910. Most were about mundane things such as Dr. Adams' move to the home in the Vermont Mountains and dealing with the folk in the area, including Dr. Haylett. There were some entries about Dr. Adams' research but little until 1919, when he noted that he had suddenly found more and more proof that there are things

in the hills that simply SHOULD NOT BE.

He made some notes about the research he was doing, including mentioning a certain book in the Moretown Memorial Library called "Legends of New England" by Eli Davenport and noting "some of the answers are there." The journal alleged that he kept the main bulk of his research elsewhere.

Entries continued to get more disturbing and weird until May of 1922 when they took a change for the macabre. Without going into detail, Adams noted that he purchased several large dogs and hastily had a kennel constructed for them. He wrote "The dogs seem to hate the things. I hope they can warn me of their approach. I fear that they will not be able to protect me."

He wrote more and more that the "things" were watching all the time and he feared he may have unintentionally gotten their notice with his investigations. He noted that they could easily conquer the earth but had not tried so far because he felt they had not needed to. They didn't want to bother and could get what they wanted without it.

He also wrote that the town of Moretown was within the things' grip and noted that he learned that some of the people in the town, and even elsewhere in Washington County, worked with these things, these "fungi," either willfully or against their will.

By June, he noted that the house was now constantly watched and that things were growing more bold, though they seemed to prefer the darkest of nights: those that were overcast or without a large moon. By the end of that month, he wrote that he saw the things' prints around the house nightly and that he must often replace the dogs that were killed fighting them.

In July, he wrote that an attempt to stop him on his way to Moretown almost worked. A sign on Moretown Mountain Road detoured him to a dead end and the barking of the large dogs he had with him alerted him to the presence of the things. He

noted on the 10th of July that the dogs again alerted him to something near the road as he drove.

In August, others seemed to have joined the mix. Adams noted continually getting new dogs and wrote that on Aug. 3, a bullet crashed through a window of his house, narrowly missing him.

The following week, there were more shots outside of the house on darkened nights and he found several of the dogs dead the following morning. He noted that he found more of the claw prints in the road as well as the footprints of men. He wrote that the phone lines had been cut and were dead.

The following day, he reported going to Montpelier and purchasing several more large dogs and a large-caliber rifle as well as supplies.

The next several entries noted the numerous cloudy nights and the exchange of gunfire that happened nightly. He wrote that there were at least three men in the group against him along with the numerous claw prints. He feared that he was trapped in the house and wrote that he is loathe to leave his home to the things.

On Aug. 20, he noted that the things called to him the night before in horrible buzzing voices, telling him things he dared not put down and making promises he feared they would keep. He mentions that the things want to take him to Yuggoth and beyond, something he dreaded. He wrote that he recognized one of the men that who was with the things: Erik Bartlett was among them.

The entries continued with the horrors of the night, of buzzing noises that made him feel lethargic, and sparks of light that burst against the house when he looked out the windows and left blackened burned marks.

The last entry, dated Sept. 6, noted:

"I will try to leave this place tomorrow. With the full moon, perhaps I can get as far as Northfield or even Montpelier, where I might take a train east to Boston or even Dover though I wish to leave these haunted hills. I only hope they let me go. I will leave this journal hidden here in the event of my demise. I fear that if the fungi do not get me, their human servants will.

"The things' lair must be on the west face of Chase Mountain. There is a large cave there, covered with a great boulder too heavy for anyone to move. However, erosion has left a place where a man might wiggle though. That must be where they are."

Both of them remembered the Montpelier newspaper article from the next day. Dr. Adams had attacked a man in Montpelier but had been stopped by police and returned home.

About This Blog...

For some reason, I was inclined to go to my "About this blog" page today. I knew it would be outdated, but I was still surprised about how wrong it really was, check it out:

This is a blog about my life as a mom of 3, (soon to be 4!), girls. I am the matriarch of a family that includes 2 dogs, a parrot, and kids ages 8, 3 1/2, and 1 1/2, and coming soon, a newborn... Wish me luck!

That was the old original version I slapped up in a hurry way back when I started this blog. In case you're not a regular reader, I should tell you that girl #4 was actually a boy (surprisingly, my doctor has a reputation in town for reading the ultrasound wrong when it comes to gender – I always thought the circumstances were exaggerated until it happened

to us), and so I now have three girls, ages almost 9 years, 4 years, and 2 years old. We also have a little boy who is almost 4 months old. I was right about the needing luck part – 4 kids at one time, especially ones this little (and spoiled!), can be very needy all together and quite a handful. We still have the parrot and the dogs, and they just add to the chaos. It's stressful, but that's my problem, I have to learn to lighten up about some things. Most of the time, I have great fun watching them all interact as the daily chaos unfolds. The little guy loves his sisters!

Funny thing about blogging

The reason I blog is given at the top of my blog page. I use this spot to generally clear my head when I start thinking too much. Sometimes I actually write about the thoughts in my head (now for instance), other times I just write about things I think are interesting. I'm here because I want to be here. If I had no readers at all that would be enough for me (I've done journals the same way for the past few years, just to get things out). This is replacing any journals I've had. I don't ever really write anything that I would consider inner secrets. Secrets are only kept if no one knows about them. People have been able to read my handwriting before, so a written journal is no place to keep secrets.

Now for the other reasons I write this blog, and why it replaced my journal. I know that I have friends and family that read things here, and it gives me a small way to keep in touch. Some of the friends and occasionally family will reply and let me know what they think of my blogging. Others will email me on their thoughts. Both let me know that there is some interest in what I have to write.

What I find interesting, is that I look at the stats to my blog (check the right hand column, minor stats are there) and I see a larger number of people will read my blog on occasion. Most of them never respond. So I really have no way of knowing if this blog is of any interest too them. I can tell that there are a few repeat viewers, but I don't know who they are yet. As far as I can tell, some people are really getting to know me, while I sit in the dark about them. Oh well, some people are born to lurk...

Just was thinking about that as my visitor count went from the normal 12-15 visitors/day to a count of just over 20 in less than 5 minutes... So to you 8+ new visitors, I bid you welcome. Hope you found something useful.

-- Just saying Hi to all the lurkers again--

Wireless world...almost

It seems that while I am somewhat of a computer geek, I am somewhat outdated somewhat of an computer geek. You see, my home network has been a wired network for a long time now. With this new computer and its wireless capabilities though, it is time to move on. Plus, my nephew has been complaining about my not having a wireless network- not that it will matter to him soon as he will be off to SIU in a couple of weeks.

So, kind and generous as he is, our admin here donated to me an old router he had laying around, a Linksys type G router. I let it sit for all of one day ☐ before finally hooking the thing up. I went through the settings, following the manual as I did so, and thongs seemed to be working, except no internet. Hmm. Oh yes, I seem to remember having to turn the

cable modem off and back on after several seconds. Did it, and yes! Internet. I was now in the wireless world- for a short while. After a bit I could no longer access the internet and my computer showed the network as “limited connectivity” or something like that. Well, the power supply he gave me for it was not the right one, rated at 500mA while the router says it wants 1A. I read that too low of a current rating may cause flakiness, and the power supply seemed abit warm, so I unplugged it and was going to go to Radio Shack for a universal supply. However, I dug around first and turned up a few power bricks. 7.5V- no. 14V- not (both AC too, while I needed DC). 12V- yes. 1000mA. Well, that is one amp, so- double yes! DC and right size plug- yes, yes, yes! Plugged it in, connected everything back up to it, and I was good to go again once I power-cycled the modem.

So, I finish a blog entry and click **publish**. Can't connect- aargh! Tray icon shows limited connection again, and this time I wasn't even using the wireless, opting for the wired connection instead! Sigh. Looks like I may have damaged the router. I hope not. I'll have to do some research, but once I'm working again I may just have to try another one. I am now hooked back up to my old router and everything is working again, so here's my second blog entry for the day. Two days in a row with two entries? Definitely not my normal routine. Don't worry JustJ, you will bump me to fourth in just a couple days now I'm sure, not that this is a competition.

100!

This is my **100th** blog post! What a long way I've come from my first blog post, aptly and boringly titled, “First Post” – it was a description of me learning to blog! And what a variety

of subjects I've covered, from retractable sharpie pens, to kids' blankies... from movies and tv shows to animals, trips, and family life... It seems like forever ago that I was taking you all through the 11, 572 snow days we had, and it's been fun to share all these aspects of my life on the internet while learning things about my friends and family who read and/or comment on my posts. So thanks to all my readers, even if you just read because I make you, thanks anyway... I truly appreciate each and every comment I receive – written and spoken, keep it up! And might I add that I'm the first tangents.org blogger to achieve this milestone... hope to have others join me soon!

The Office – Night Out

Just reading the synopsis of last night's episode even before I saw it made me laugh out loud:

Michael and Dwight decide a trip to the Big Apple is in order. There, they hope to mingle with bigwig Ryan and his colleagues at the nightclubs. Back in Scranton, the staffers must work on Ryan's pet website project – on a Saturday, no less.

The episode was hilarious, as usual. I won't give too much away, except that I almost fell off my couch laughing when Earl or Hank (or whatever the security guard's name ended up being) made a cameo – priceless!

For my friends who have just started watching the show, I don't know about you, but I really like to read tvguide's blog about the show the day after I watch it. Go to tvguide.com, find the tab at the top that says "What's on TV", and then go to Tv Show Blogs under that and find The Office. Here is

a quick link to the tvguide write-up of this week's episode.

I agree with the tvguide writer – I caught on to Ryan's drug use pretty early in the episode, just before he ran for the bathroom sniffing, which only confirmed my suspicion. But I think the writer of the episode ([BJ Novak](#), aka "Ryan" himself) meant for it to be obvious that Ryan was experimenting with the nose candy. And to answer the tvguide blogger's question, yes, I think it will spell problems for him with corporate in the future. He's really been on my nerves lately, but in a good way, he is fun to watch and be annoyed with. Now with his drug problem and the fact that his 'perfect life' facade is starting to crack, I feel badly for him. It's been fun to watch his transformation from temp to corporate bigwig, and along the way, he's always been kind of a jerk, not a very likable person at all. But that's what is so great about the Office – as the tvguide blogger says, "The Office is a terrific show because most of its comedy is rooted in real human behavior (no matter how exaggerated)..." – I couldn't agree more!

Been a while

Well, it has been awhile since my last post, so I will have to pick up the pace. I had some insane idea that I would be able to post from my friend's house when I was in Ohio for the last few days. Of course the opportunity to ask really never presented itself. If I was making more money I could have had a laptop with me, but as a poor substitute (no pun intended...) I am still trying to afford a new **desktop** to replace my old 1.1GHz one that stopped working last year. Yes, I use another's computer to do my blogging and other stuff.

Well, Ohio was entertaining, at least when we could decide on something to do. On Thursday I was able to get some use out of my new phone with the camera feature. I have yet to see if any of the pictures actually look any good full scale. Once I transfer them to the computer I will show a couple of them. Anyway, we were at the Toledo Zoo even though it was an overcast, somewhat rainy day (especially in the late afternoon- we got soaked!). We were one of maybe a dozen families there enjoying the day. Many attractions were closed but for some reason it still cost me the same \$10 it would cost to enter on a bustling summer day. Not all were closed, so we still saw a large number of animals. Again, pictures will follow. At night we watched some Office episodes and split up to go to bed.

The following day was the day of indecision. We went to Defiance (yes, as in The Prizewinner from...) for the day and besides eating and playing some [Highway 66 mini-bowling](#) we did some *shopping* of all things. The bowling was definitely different than the full-scale version, but I was just as bad at it. If nothing else, the shopping was good social time. Speaking of social time, once we got back their friends started arriving shortly after (they were invited- they weren't *those* sort of friends...) and we played a couple of games while the kids watched TV. Finally, after bearing our souls in one of the social games I left for home (about an hour and a half after I wanted to, yes the game was fun) and didn't get home until after 1AM.

At least the traffic was good, even through the city, until I encountered a bottleneck where the expressway was bottled to just one lane. I have no idea what was going on- there were many trucks lined up on the other side of the highway but the side I was on was recently finished road work and so looked excellent. Were they doing a late night inspection to see if the job was done right? Anyway, that only lasted for a couple of miles so after that there were no problems. I quickly got

some things unpacked then I got ready for bed, so again, no post.

Today I was busy for much of the day so I am only now finally getting to the blog. Well, time to end this post so hopefully you will get in some happy reading!

Not just a sub...

Well, I suppose since this is my blog I can write about more than just subbing. There is the retro-gamer in me, and I might say a few things here and there about it, but I think I should really just start another blog about it once this gets going. There is also the church-goer in me. I sing, do drama, and teach 4th/5th grades there, so it is sort of on-topic anyway, not that on-topic is a requirement for me... ☐

Tonight is the first night for Easter choir rehearsal. Now, my church is a very large church meaning I will be one of 100+ in the choir, or one of about 30 men. I will find out tonight whether or not I can actually do it- it all depends on whether or not we would have to sing at the end of the service- they do that from time to time. If we do, then it would conflict with the kid's ministry. I can always be a little late to the class (I am one of several leaders actually as there are around 40 kids in the class each service) especially since they start with a game time, but it would be irresponsible of me to not show up for the teaching and small group times. This is especially true on Easter, one of the two days of the year when typically more people show up than the norm. To you who do: Jesus wants to see you in his house more! ☐

Beyond choir, I also do drama for the younger kids, but we have next month off from that so there is no interference with

it. Well, gotta go. It's nearing rehearsal time.