
Scrollworks

a small rag for GURPS

Number 6 – December 2000



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Psycho Babble

Several months ago I contacted the subscribers of this rag and indicated I was folding it up. I felt my logic was sound, but there were more, even better arguments for keeping Scrollworks afloat. Among them were S. John Ross' comments, "Keep in mind, however, that I give away a LOT of work regularly on the Blue Room (with more on the way), and it helps me with the selling stuff, later on. Never underestimate the value of self-promotion." Well put.

Thanks also to Jim V, Ralph Plowman, Serge Rancour, and Rufus for their input. Issues may not come out each month, but Scrollworks should continue periodically as a way to hone my writing skills with a friendly audience. By the by...check out Knights of the Dinner Table #46, page 43. In it you will find one of my random tables.

As always, if you'd like to be dropped from the mailing list, or if you have a comment, drop me e-mail at christian.denise@gte.net Be sure to tell a friend! Good Gaming!

This, That, and the Other Thing : Found in a Belt Pouch

Dead folks have a habit of turning up in fantasy role-playing games. The sight of the fallen elicit interesting reactions in player characters, be it grief, elation, or GREED. Player characters are often heard to say, "There's not much to do for the poor soul now...except check for loose change." Or, if a pickpocket ranks among your players you might throw this chart at them. Imagine their surprise at reaching into a pouch and pulling out result 11. Use this random table to generate non-treasure type pouch contents.

A d20 Worth of Pouch Contents

- 1) Messkit, including small tin cup, fork, and spoon.
- 2) Dice - crudely carved dice for games of chance
- 3) Key - nondescript iron key
- 4) Fruit - an apple or orange for a snack
- 5) Luck Charm - rabbit's foot, holy symbol, etc
- 6) Wanted Poster depicting an image of the fallen
- 7) Claim ticket for a mount at a stable
- 8) Small folding knife - relatively useless in battle
- 9) Crude etching of a woman
- 11) Pet frog, possibly loud and croaking, or just dead
- 12) To do list - pay off grocer, wash dog, kill Bob, etc

Roadkill : NPC's For Your Game

Fletcher

"The master craftsman's favorite form of punishment was push-ups. He always said that either I'd be a good bower, or very strong. Either way he'd be happy. Fortunately for me, I turned out to be a little bit of both."

Young Fletcher was recently ousted from his apprenticeship as a fletcher/bower over a nasty fight with the master's spoiled son. While the master was loath to let Fletcher go, especially in his final year of apprenticeship, he realized that keeping him on would only cause more problems. Bitter and angry, Fletcher has set off to make his way the best he can. He hopes to sell his services as an archer, but if times were lean he would consider becoming a fletcher or bower's assistant.

Fletcher is a stocky toe-head with striking blue eyes and a quick wit. His recent misfortunes have given him a bit of a temper, but he tries his best to keep that under control.

ST 12, DX 12, IQ 10, HT 12; Basic Speed 6.0; Move ; PD1/DR1 (soft leather armor); Dodge 7, Parry 0, Block 0; Ads, Disads, Quirks: Handsome, Semi-Literate, Bad Temper, Dislikes spoiled children; Skills: Bow 13, Armory (bower/fletcher) 13, Brawling 12, Merchant 9. Fletcher is worth about 75 points.

Interplanar Swapmeet and Astral Bargain Bin : Summon Snail

Everyone needs a worthless spell, some frivolous cantrip to wow the inbreds or make young children squeal with glee. Summon snail fits the bill. Developed by a rather bored mage with far too much time on his hands, Orin's Summon Snail Cantrip from the Animal list, is sure to amuse.

Summon Snail – Regular. Duration 1 minute, Cost 1, half to maintain. Summon snail conjures forth a simple garden snail. The snail is normal in all respects and will slither about until dismissed. The real fun occurs if a fumble results when casting. On a fumble the caster turns into a massive snail for 5 minutes and mindlessly slimes about, consuming vegetable matter and hopefully avoiding salt! On a critical success the summoned spell will actually serve as a 1 point power stone.



I.O.U. Bulletin Board

Feel Free to Contribute!



Lost Book! I misplaced my library book. Bound in leathery material (its not human skin, really), with strange writing on the cover. **Anyone who finds it is highly encouraged not to open it. Please return to Dept of Thaumaturgy attn. Eve Draper. Thankx!**

Dept. of Military Science and Cost Overruns
faculty/student mixer. Free grab-bag for all in
attendance. This Sat. night at Campus Live Fire
Range and Petting Zoo.

HELP! I misplaced my final project between 18:00 May 22 when the party started in my dorm room, and 23:28 May 25 when I woke up in the Lazarus Heath center. The project is in a 6' tall 2.5' diameter metal cylinder clearly marked with my name and 'Radiation Hazard' trefoil. If found, **DO NOT OPEN!**

Attention Dept of Chemistry Majors: Experiments in new and improved anti-social materials may not be tested in the semester Freshthings!



!Warning:

There have been reports of vending machines extorting money from students. Be cautious around any vending machines lurking in dark corners. You will know you have found one if you put in 60 cents for a soda and the machine asks for a \$20. You have been warned.

Pouch Contents cont.

- 13) Small brass whistle
- 14) As above, but summons large, snarling mastiff
- 15) Three feet of thin rope
- 16) Small, 3 in. square hand mirror of polished metal
- 17) 2d4 arrowheads, very sharp
- 18) Brass finger ring - broken and engraved "JSL"
- 19) Sewing kit with needles, thread, & metal thimble
- 20) Small candle, 2 in. in height

Illuminate Me – Letters to the Easter Bunny

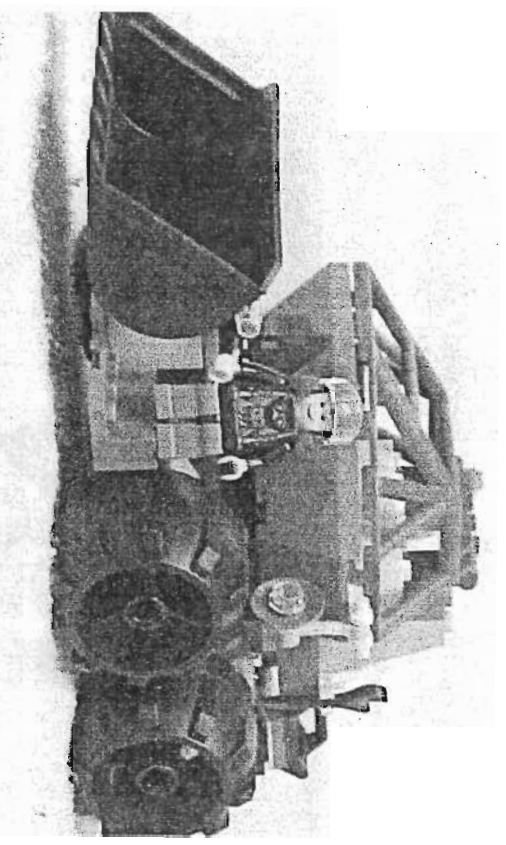


Amy Lee is a 1st grader at Maple Hills Elementary. She excels at school and enjoys writing especially. She is often seen writing letters to Santa, the Easter Bunny, and the Tooth Fairy, just to name a few. Of course, only being 6 her letters are not the most articulate, but she does get the point across. Her parents help her to label the envelopes and smile as their little girl places them in the mailbox. What her parents don't know is that the Easter Bunny, the Tooth Fairy, and Santa follow up on little Amy's requests.

Last month Brandon O'Neill made Amy cry when he chanted, "Amy Lee smells like pee!" again and again at recess. Later that afternoon Amy wrote to the Tooth Fairy and argued that Brandon shouldn't get any money from her because he is mean bully. The "Tooth Fairy" complied. A week later Brandon lost a tooth and he dutifully put it under his pillow before bedtime. When Brandon woke up the next morning he looked under it hoping to find a dollar. Instead he found his pet hamster Rex, sans head.

Somewhere in the gloomy world of the Conspiracy, Amy has an ally. Maybe an MiB saw her one day while on an errand and was struck by how much she reminded him of the little girl he had lost in a tragic accident. Maybe Amy's father sold his soul (figuratively or literally...who knows?) so that his daughter would forever be kept from harm. Whatever the reason, this little girl has a powerful benefactor who will no doubt play a major role in her life.

Lego GURPS – TL 8/9 Dozer Loader



This bulldozer/loader may be seen at Tls higher than 8 or 9 due to the sturdy construction which contributes to its longevity. Moreover, heavy equipment such as this is costly to purchase and many aging dozers will be kept in operation despite their age, rather than be replaced.

Use : Subterranean mining, surface construction, and excavation in a variety of atmospheric or gravitational combinations.

Features : 1) Efficient power cell to drive engine and hydraulic systems. The electric power cell means no noxious emissions in confined spaces. The cell's considerable weight also provides ballast on light G worlds. Power outlets on the cell offer convenient hookups for tools.

2) Oversize, solid tires eliminate loss of tire pressure due to atmospheric fluctuations.

3) Durable alloy shell to protect operator in the event of cave-ins.
4) Proximity alarms to alert driver of unseen workers and equipment.

Operator : Yancey Hayes, Male 26.

ST12 IQ10 DX11 HT12; Basic Speed 5.75; Move 5; PD0/DR0; Dodge 5; Ads, Disads, Quirks: Overconfidence, Charisma, Strong Will M1; Skills: Heavy Equipment Operator – 13, Mechanic – 12, First Aid – 10, Area Knowledge (mining complex) – 13, Computer Operation – 10, Survival (subterranean environments) - 11.

Gear : Yancey's helmet features a low light visor to enhance illumination sources as well as a ventilator attachment. In addition, the helmet is equipped with a multi-channel communications link. Underneath Yancey's left armpit is a location device standard among miners, such a device will aid in rescue efforts should a cave-in occur.

Bio : Yancey Hayes is a 3rd generation rockhound. While his older brothers pursued college degrees and are now in management or research positions, Yancey felt most at home, "bein' down in it." He is well respected by his peers and will no doubt become a labor rep or foreman. If Yancey has a fault, it is his overconfidence that causes him to push his dozer faster, deeper, and harder than his peers.

Yancey works for Geo Solutions (GS Corp), well known specialists in deep mining and excavation. GS Corp has considerable experience conducting mining operations on planets with less than ideal atmospheres. To this end they have innovated many technologies, which they jealously guard. While many of their competitors perform similar services for less money, few achieve the safety record and efficiency GS Corp is capable of. GS Corp trades on the Frontier Exchange (ticker symbol GOS). Last trade was at 42.5 credits.

Buy This Model! The dozer/loader is part of the Lego Rockraiders set. Its stock number is 4950. It retails for \$23.00 although I was able to buy mine for half-off at a Kay Bee Toys blowout sale.