

Viscid

A Scenario for Delta Green: The Role-Playing Game Written and Illustrated by Dennis Detwiler

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Introduction

In *Viscid*, Agents of Delta Green deal with long-delayed blowback from the disintegration of the secret program code-named MAJESTIC-. For decades after the recovery of alien remains and technology in New Mexico in 1947, MAJESTIC operated at the highest levels of the American government. It adapted and deployed alien science and intelligence to remain free of outside interference. After a lethal power struggle brought about the group's dissolution in 2001, survivors took what they could and scattered across the country, building new identities and organizations.

Many were scientists who exploited MAJESTIC's alien knowledge for personal financial gain.

One of MAJESTIC's last leaders, Gavin Ross, has been in hiding for years under a series of false identities. At 73, he looks a vibrant and lively 60 because of MAJESTIC project ARC DREAM, research bent on unlocking the secrets of human DNA as understood by alien intelligences. Since a 2012 screening revealed aggressive colon cancer, Ross has been taking ARD-15: tiny, blue pills created by ARC DREAM to arrest cellular degeneration and forestall death. For the most part, these pills have had little negative effect. But they're almost gone. And once you take ARD-15, you cannot stop.

Ross, who had a long history of licensing benign alien technology to small front companies, hired a private contractor to recreate ARD-15 from his dwindling supply.

That's when the deaths began.

Viscid is likely to require two or three game sessions: one to investigate the deaths of researcher Tibalt Grieves and his girlfriend Amber Griffin, and to learn about Grieves' research; another to investigate the dangerous organizations that sponsored Grieves, and perhaps to identify and track down Gavin Ross; and, possibly, a third to confront the unnatural monstrosities animated by Grieves' work.

Background

Through paper fronts and intermediaries, Ross strong-armed a former ARC DREAM researcher, Dr. Tibalt Grieves, to recreate ARD-15 from unprocessed samples of the "culture" from which the substance was originally extracted. Where this culture came from, Ross and Grieves have no knowledge.

Unknown to Ross or Grieves, this culture—an odd, milky blue substance referred to as “Blue Blood”—is actually the remains of a MAJESTIC operative on whom the original substance was tested: U.S. Air Force First Lt. Daniel Ulee. That substance consumed Ulee from the inside out and rendered him down to undifferentiated cellular material, later refined and made safe by ARC DREAM into ARD-15. But Ulee did not precisely die. His consciousness is trapped in every cell of the original Blue Blood sample, aware, alive, and quite mad.

Working in a secret biohazard lab in his home in Mill Creek, Washington, Grieves accidentally woke the Ulee--thing. It killed Grieves and his girlfriend, consumed portions of their biomass, and escaped. Now, the local police, CDC, and FBI are involved, and other bodies marked by the Blue Blood infection have turned up. A contact in the CDC alerted Delta Green. But reports of the deaths are all over the local news and will likely go national.

Worse yet, every sample of Blue Blood over a certain size is an Ulee--thing in the making. Each shares a single, insane desire—to return to Ulee’s wife and child in Montana and enact a horrific reunion.

Things One, Two, and Three

When the Ulee--thing, nothing more than a few ounces of undifferentiated biological material, insinuated itself into Grieves’ body in the early hours of the morning of October 1, a biological chain reaction began.

The substance quickly hijacked portions of Grieves’ anatomy, enough to form a rudimentary structure for mobility. Then part of it ripped itself back out, taking much of Grieves’ tongue, esophagus, and trachea with it, and dropped to the kitchen floor.

Grieves stumbled from the house and collapsed in the driveway at 3:55 A.M.

Grieves’ live--in girlfriend, Amanda “Amber” Griffin, woke to the commotion, and stumbled into the kitchen to find something horrific and spider-like, composed of assimilated muscle, cartilage, bone, and blue fatty tissue, waiting for her. The Ulee--thing leapt on her and fed again, growing strong enough to move greater distances under its own power. Now the size of a large dog, the Ulee--thing was a mess of biology—small, child-like limbs freshly grown, tinted blue, along with rudimentary sensory organs.

Sunlight quickly destroys Blue Blood. When the sun rose, the Blue Blood lingering in Grieves’ corpse disintegrated, taking the structure of the corpse with it.

Ulee One, as we will call it, has found refuge in a rotted, abandoned trailer near the Mill Creek home. It lies in a torpor during daylight and hunts at night, growing. By October 5, it will assimilate enough biological material to reconstitute itself in a vaguely human size, nearly 100 kg in mass. Then it will make a beeline towards 19099 Pulaski Street, Billings, Montana, the last address Lt. Daniel Ulee knew for his wife, Isabella. Ulee One will leave a chain of corpses (many eaten) in its path as it stows away in vehicles, and later steals and drives vehicles itself. It seeks some sort of deranged reunion with Ulee’s widow, who has thought of him as dead for more than 20 years. It arrives in Billings, Montana, on October 10, and begins to hunt her.

It gets worse. On October 2, the day before the Delta Green Agents arrive, the CDC orders samples of the “UNKNOWN BIOLOGICAL SUBSTANCE 1” discovered at the Grieves house flown to Atlanta for study. The samples are flown in a sealed sample box on CDC Flight 191, a small plane with a crew of two. It is in this box that Ulee Two awakens. Ulee Two, like Ulee One, believes itself to be “Ulee.” It breaks out, and overwhelms the crew. Two hours after takeoff, Flight 191 goes down in Clearwater National Forest, Idaho, under unknown circumstances.

Ulee Two easily survives the impact, and consumes the dying and dead crewmen, gaining enough mass to make it a formidable predator roughly the size of a small bear (over 200 kg). It moves towards Montana to find “its” family. It will arrive on October 12, searching for Ulee’s wife.

Rescue crews arrive at the crash a day later, on October 4, to find a burned-out, broken-up aircraft, an aluminum sample case blown out from the inside, and plenty of blood but no bodies.

Again, it gets worse. The remains of Amanda “Amber” Griffin reconstitute in the Snohomish County Medical Examiner’s office on October 5 as Ulee Three, and attempt escape. It goes on its own a murder/assimilation spree. By October 15, Ulee Three, a full ton in mass, arrives in Billings, searching for Isabella Ulee.

Each Ulee-thing believes it alone is Daniel Ulee. After 22 years trapped in disembodied semi-consciousness, the Ulee-things revel in motion, violence, and death. Ulee’s mind disintegrated long ago. What remains of him longs only for communion with his wife and child—a reunion which means consumption.

See the **TIMELINE** on page 24 for likely events.

Behind the Scenes

All of this was set in motion by Gavin Ross, once the second-in-command of MAJESTIC. Ross gained access to many old MAJESTIC files and projects through Robert Justin Ortega, the illegitimate son of the former director of the MAJESTIC project, Justin Kroft. Kroft, who oversaw the child’s welfare remotely through legal entities, supplied the young man with many secrets on his 21st birthday, long after Kroft’s death. These secrets included cherry-picked projects from secret MAJESTIC files, held at a self-contained, heavily guarded storage facility. This information, if properly used, is worth tens of billions of dollars. Ross, who had made a career of outmaneuvering Kroft, knew all about Ortega, and Kroft’s plans. When the time came, he was there, posing as Michael Bellek, a loving and supportive uncle, the colleague and best friend of Ortega’s dead father.

Bellek helped Ortega make sense of the secrets that Kroft left behind. Ortega sees Bellek as a consigliere and takes his advice. Meanwhile, Bellek has been plundering old MAJESTIC files and samples. With Ortega’s permission, he has sifted and sorted valuable but harmless patents and fed them to Ortega’s company, Ancile, Inc. Ancile is an up-and-comer in the defense industry, due in no small part to compelling patents secretly gleaned from MAJESTIC’S alien science.

Bellek recovered the Blue Blood samples from Ortega’s stash and sent them to Grieves, along with money and files, through a private investigator. With Grieves’ death, Bellek now scrambles a team lead by a covert operator to “clean house” so the buck stops nowhere near him.

First, Bellek needs to insulate himself from the private investigators who conveyed everything to Grieves: Dinot, Belton, and Wells, in Mill Creek. At 2:45 A.M. on October 3, Bellek’s mercenaries firebomb the detective agency. This fire is so serious, the whole mini-mall around it is reduced to slag. Fire officials are certain it was arson. Nothing survives the fire.

The day after the fire, on October 4, one of Bellek’s operatives tracks down Evelyn Wells of the detective agency. While eating lunch in a Qdoba restaurant, she is shot with a high-powered rifle. Miraculously, she survives and even gets a glimpse of the shooter before he flees and she passes out. After four hours of surgery, Wells is placed in a medically-induced coma. When she wakes on October 12, she gives police the shooter’s description and the make and license plate number of his car, along with the oddities of the deliveries and surveillance she handled for and over Grieves. It doesn’t take police long to realize she was delivering money and supplies to Grieves, including the biological samples.

Briefing

The Agents are hastily summoned by their Delta Green contact—their case officer in the Program or their A-cell liaison in the Outlaws—to a briefing in Seattle, Washington, the morning of October 3. They have been assigned to Operation MALTA. Their mission is to identify and contain all unnatural threats, prevent further unnatural threats from developing, and prevent public awareness of the unnatural.

The Agents are being sent as FBI or CDC consultants; or, if they are already federal law-enforcement officers, they have been peremptorily assigned to an ad-hoc, Top Secret task force organized by the FBI. Their usual employers are given to understand that it is a situation of national security. If anyone digs, they might find that it's organized by the FBI's National Security Branch, Weapons of Mass Destruction Directorate, Investigations and Operations Section, in an office that answers no questions whatsoever.

Give the players the Agents' briefing, found on page 5.

Investigating Grieves

Investigating Grieves through IRS records and other government documents reveals surprisingly little. A retired geneticist born in Ithaca, New York, he was about 60 years old at the time of his death. Grieves earned doctorates in molecular biology, genetics, and biochemistry at Northwestern University while in his mid-twenties. He was recruited out of a teaching and research position in Northwestern genetics program in 1985 by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA).

People who knew him before this recruitment remember that he underwent a complete personality change at that time. He had been socially awkward but outgoing. He became an introvert, utterly closed off, who disappeared from the lives of his friends and family.

Grieves was an employee of DARPA from 1985 until late 2001. His listed location of operation was Mt. Weather, Virginia, a well-known continuity-of-government site with extensive FEMA facilities and research laboratories. Grieves' home address and all details of his employment in that period have been—very suspiciously—erased from all government records.

In 2001, Tibalt resigned from DARPA and moved to the outskirts of Seattle. He filed a patent for a fast, cheap blood-typing process called Anti-ABD, and executed lucrative licensing agreements with several large biomedical firms. This patent generated approximately \$10 million in five years. He sold it to Merck in 2005 for a lump-sum payment of \$18.8 million. Tibalt invested his own money. At his death, he had a net worth of nearly \$21 million and no debt. Quite unusually, he meticulously did his own taxes. They are honest and up to date.

After 2001, Grieves apparently did little beyond managing his money and buying the affection of strippers, porn stars, and prostitutes. In this time, he began to see Amanda Griffin, a stripper at Rose's Gentleman's Club. By 2010, she was his exclusive girlfriend and lived in his house.

Grieves' Lost Years

Agents can pursue details of Grieves' "lost" years, from 1985 to 2001, if they seek contacts in DARPA and in the world of secret defense research projects. The details of that pursuit depend entirely on the Agents' backgrounds, the players' approach, and the Handler's interests.

Agents in the Program could simply ask their case officer look into Grieves. After about one hour, the case officer informs them tersely that Grieves and his employment are not a matter they are to look into. Find, control, contain, eliminate. The rest is under control.

If the Agents pursue Grieves' background on their own, they might eventually make contact with a colleague in DARPA or the Department of Defense who finds something to share. A FedEx package arrives, containing 36 sheets, photocopies of photocopies. They appear to date from the mid-19-80s to early 1990s. Most are heavily marked with deep black redactions, including the classification marks. On one sheet, the classification mark escaped redaction: TOP SECRET / SPECIAL ACCESS REQUIRED / MAJIC. No one has heard of that classification.

A washed-out photo shows a much younger Grieves with the job title: GENETICIST, PROJECT CORE, DIRECTOR OF NONHUMAN PATHOLOGY. REPORTS TO KROFT, J., DIRECTOR.

Another page gives an address for Grieves in Upperville, Virginia.

Another page has enough unredacted text that an Agent with **Medicine** or a relevant **Science** skill—**Biology** or **Microbiology**, for example—can identify it as part of a virology study. An Agent with 60% or higher in the relevant skill says the text, while admittedly incomplete, is confusing. It seems to deal with viruses that affect the brain, but that behave like no viruses known to Earth.

Grieves' Secret History

These details are unlikely to emerge in this scenario unless the Agents have a long and fruitful talk with Gavin Ross, aka Michael Bellek. But they can give the Handler additional context and could be the seeds for future scenarios.

In 1985, Grieves went to work for MAJESTIC. The transformation that started his friends and family had a single cause: Grieves saw pages from the COOKBOOK, a gift from the Others, an apparently alien civilization, that outlined the secrets of human genetics.

Grieves left his life behind and moved to Virginia, working out of a portion of Mount Weather Emergency Operations Center known to its employees colloquially as the Country Club: the headquarters of MAJESTIC-. Grieves managed Project CORE, a growing web of research projects investigating human genetics. It particularly explored the exploitation of tailored viruses and altered animal biologies. Grieves' research led directly to targeted viruses and biological infections which worked on specific portions of the brain, such as the centers of memory manufacture, speech, and cognition. This work yielded drugs that became a favorite tool of MAJESTIC to silence witnesses.

During this time, Grieves grew close to Gavin Ross. Unknown to Grieves, Ross used him, multiple times, as a blunt tool to manipulate Kroft and other members of the Steering Committee.

Grieves knew about other MAJESTIC projects. Project RECOIL concerned human experimentation and testing of biological "enhancements." Twice, Grieves consulted on these projects, once involving the creation of an anti-agathic called ARD-15 from samples recovered under classified circumstances.

When MAJESTIC disintegrated in 2001, Grieves escaped with two small file boxes filled with classified documents. One document outlined a process called ANTI-ABD TYPING; a fast, cheap blood typing enzyme that MAJESTIC had been using for years, but which was unknown to the public at large. Grieves settled in the Pacific Northwest, filed the patent, licensed it to several large firms, and sat back as the money poured in.

In 2012, Grieves was contacted by Michael Bellek—Gavin Ross under a new identity. Ross, or Bellek, had kept tabs on Grieves using back doors that MAJESTIC had installed in many government agencies. Grieves, fearing for his life, complied with Bellek's demands, thinking it a small price to pay for freedom.

Grieves' Body

There exist some inconsistencies in the police records. When first found and photographed, Dr. Grieves' body was intact, though bloodily damaged. Just half an hour later, it had collapsed into a pool of toxic-smelling, unidentifiable goo. No one knows how to explain it. The police, horrified by the notion of an uncontrollable biohazard, are uncomfortable discussing it.

The medical examiner's assistant captured this transformation was captured in a series of 16 photos with time stamps. These show Grieves' body turning a deep blue, then black, then collapsing in on itself. Soon after, the indigo liquid hardened to a glass-like consistency, leaving a pile of unidentifiable solid matter in a bathrobe. Only Grieves' left hand and feet remained. The remains were bagged and moved to the Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office, where it currently resides in a body bag in the deep freeze.

Luckily for all concerned, exposure to sunlight effectively has rendered the "Ulee matter" in the corpse into an inert form that can never reconstitute.

Investigating Griffin

Amanda Griffin was an African American woman born in Olympia, Washington, in 1990. The Agents can piece together her background by interviewing her family, colleagues from her stripping days, boyfriends, and friends from high school.

Griffin was popular and well liked in high school, but she fled town suddenly in 2007. Just a year later, she was stripping in the SeaTac corridor, moving between clubs. This fact is well known in her home town.

A brief investigation can uncover the fact that Griffin's mother, Ophelia Tunney, divorced Amanda's father in 2006, and took up with Emil Artenza, a trucker with a history of sexual assault. He spent time in prison in Alabama for attempted rape in 1982. Artenza still lives with Tunney in the house where Griffin grew up. It is easy to piece together that Griffin fled home due to abuse by her mother's boyfriend, though it would be impossible to prove in court.

In the Seattle stripping scene, Griffin was well known and considered a good worker, as well as a friendly one. She had many repeat customers. But her career did not last long. In 2009, she found "the one": Dr. Tibalt Grieves, an older man who was filthy rich and who wanted to take her away from it all.

Amanda did care for Grieves, and looked after him with great affection, if not real love. She had a new car every year, endless shopping trips, and handbags worth tens of thousands of dollars. Grieves only drew one firm line: they could not buy huge houses or otherwise draw attention to themselves. They could never be publicly rich. For all their neighbors knew, the Grieves' household was up to its neck in debt.

Griffin asked nothing about Grieves' work, and found none of it suspicious. His well-known work with Merck made it clear he was "legitimate".

Griffin returned home to Olympia twice. The second time, Grieves came along. That meeting did not go well. If questioned about it, Artenza says that Grieves wore a \$100,000 watch. Artenza made a few snide comments about Grieves' relationship with Griffin, and then Grieves took him aside. He said he knew a few people who might help Artenza get a "bilateral orchiectomy or some shit." Later, a doctor explained this was the removal of both testicles. Artenza says: "Then he smiled and we went back to the table like nothing happened. I shut my fucking mouth. He was not kidding." Grieves and Griffin never returned.

Neighbors saw the couple from time to time, and told themselves stories about their relationship: "Oh, a mid-life crisis lives next door."

Griffin would come and go at odd hours, and had other boyfriends. Grieves knew and did not care. She made him happy.

Setting Up Artenza

Clever agents would not need to work hard to set up Artenza as a suspect in the deaths of Griffin and Grieves. Simply locating some personal effect of Artenza's and placing it in Grieves' house, or faking a blood or semen sample on Amanda Griffin, would be enough to get the ball rolling.

Artenza's alibi for the evening amounts to two of his trucking buddies, Eliot Rocet (white male, age 46) and Malik Ali (African American male, age 39). Both have legal problems of their own and would fold easily under legal pressure. Even better, Ophelia Tunney would turn on Artenza instantly. She has been with him for years, an unhappy relationship being less terrifying than no relationship at all. But thinking that he killed her daughter changes everything. She grimly and thoroughly testifies as to Artenza's abuse of her and her daughter.

Griffin's Body

Griffin's body was briefly used as a receptacle for Ulee One. The Blue Blood substance infected and was insinuated into much of her body. Before this substance could take hold and go into overdrive, Amanda died. However, the Blue Blood in her is *not* dead. It continues to work on the body, slowly growing, consuming, and changing dead tissue into something not -quite human. This process is microcellular, at first, but soon becomes evident on a much larger scale.

The body was bagged and moved to the Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office where it was placed in cold storage. Dr. Louis Stubbs, the Snohomish County medical examiner, intended to complete an autopsy on it, but he held off once the CDC and FBI became involved. While jurisdictional issues are worked out, the body waits for autopsy, growing and changing from the inside out.

When the Agents arrive on October 3, the federal government has not yet decided to concede jurisdiction over the examination of Griffin's remains to the Mill Creek Police Department.

The night of October 5, the thing inside Amanda Griffin reanimates her, attacks and consumes much of a janitor, and escapes into the night. It is now Ulee Three, and it begins a rampage towards Billings, Montana.

On October 8, the federal government concedes that examination of Griffin's body falls under the jurisdiction of the Mill Creek Police Department. But by then, it is too late.

Dr. Louis Stubbs

The Snohomish County medical examiner is a white male, age 55. Dr. Stubbs has been the county medical examiner for 15 years. He mostly deals with car and motorcycle crashes, found bodies, and occasional violent crime. He has never seen a case like this.

Stubbs was smart enough to recognize the signs of something deeply beyond the ordinary in the Grieves case. He was the one who advised the police to lock down the site, to place personnel in quarantine, and involve CDC and the FBI. He is wise enough to understand when he is out of his depth—at least, until he sees a spark of something beyond science.

Now that the scene has been cleared, he is becoming convinced, more and more, he will never know precisely what went on at the Grieves house.

Stubbs is honest and careful. He is eager to cut on the remains of Amanda Griffin; but, due to various court -orders and stays, he has been told not to.

Stubbs lives alone in a house in Olympia, Washington, and is a lifelong bachelor. He is, above all, a man of science. He does not truck with the supernatural—until of course, it is in his face. Then, even more terrifying, he will try to understand it.

To Stubbs, this case is a four-day wonder. As it drifts from the news and from the reports that cross his desk, his mind returns to normal business. But if he sees anything overtly supernatural, he will pursue that knowledge even in the face of mortal danger.

Recruiting Stubbs

Once Dr. Stubbs is exposed to the unnatural, bringing him in as a Delta Green friendly is an option. At first, it might even seem like a good one. However, Stubb's mind is not suited for the unnatural. He will, to the best of his ability, pursue all leads however outré, dangerous, or ill-advised. If the Agents recruit him, he might dissect Griffin's remains, bring a Blue Blood sample home to examine in off hours, or bring in colleagues as consultants, widening exposure. Once Stubbs is in, he's in for good, or until he becomes the mission.

Testing the Remains

The Agents can examine Amanda Griffin's body in the county morgue, but they have to talk the medical examiner into it or else get around him and his staff. Stubbs is holding the body until the federal, county, and city governments work out who should take possession. It would be professional negligence for him to allow anyone to look at it in the meantime.

If Agents obtain a sample of Blue Blood from Griffin or anywhere else, they can get Dr. Kane's help to find a laboratory and run tests. The results are interesting and might be useful.

Agents with **Biology** over 20% and appropriate equipment discover the cells have human characteristics, though their life-cycle seems to be based on carbon dioxide. The cells are also extremely resilient, and have a second, almost plant-like cell wall surrounding the cell membrane.

Agents with **Biology** over 40% and appropriate equipment learn that the cells seem to react to changes in light. Ultraviolet B (found in sunlight) seems to be lethal in quick order, causing the cells to vibrate, heat up, and burst. Once the internal cell material breaches the cell wall and is exposed to ultraviolet B, it hardens to a thick, blue crystalline material.

Grieves' House

Grieves lived at 24th Drive Southeast, Mill Creek, Washington. Built in 1996, the house was bought in 2002 by Grieves in cash, from fully legal sources. It is a small, four-bedroom rambler without a basement at the end of a cul-de-sac, surrounded by high evergreen trees. It has a small, fenced yard in the back. The back of the house, and the houses on the cul-de-sac are surrounded by a greenbelt and a drainage stream.

With Grieves' death, it is unclear who now owns the property. He had no will and no known next of kin.

The Footprints

Tiny, malformed footprints cut an arc from the lab through the furnace closet, down the hallway, and out the front door. There are extensive photographs of them, marked with size comparison rulers. They are still there, covered with plastic cups.

Initially, it was believed they were the footprints of a child, though Griffin and Grieves had no children. Soon, theories began to arise that the marks were made by Griffin in her death agonies and only coincidentally looked like small footprints.

These marks were caused by the Ulee One after its rapid ejection from Grieves. Its mismatched anatomy, which included toes and fingers, drew skittering stains across the ground. There's not much more blood because the thing stopped and fed on it.

The Lab

The lab is about eight meters by four meters and contains hundreds of thousands of dollars of the most modern biological equipment. Any Agent with experience in biohazards or an appropriate **Science** skill can tell it is as close to a Biosafety Level 4 lab as Grieves could manage. A recessed, highly specialized and expensive air conditioning and scrubbing unit processes all air and releases purified air through two mundane-looking vents in the roof. The room has negative air pressure, meaning air is pulled in faster than it can escape. This unit was also plugged into a redundant, automatic, gas powered backup electrical source.

Most work was done in what is known as a "cabinet laboratory," with gloves to work on samples within a secure workspace. The cabinet is a highly expensive piece of specialty equipment.

Odd, blue-white samples were recovered from the cabinet, as well as various notes. These were seized by the CDC and were dispatched to Atlanta on the doomed Ft. 191 Secure. It was also noted there was a hole in the right glove that goes through into the cabinet, as if it had been breached. A thin sheen of blood (matching Dr. Grieves' was located on the window of the cabinet as well.

Construction

In April 2010, Grieves hired two local firms to build the lab in the garage. A company called Thompson Specialty Construction handled the first round, at a cost of approximately \$80,000. The second round of construction, by Monmouth Weather and Fitting, cost about \$100,000. Grieves hired a third firm, Pacific Northwest HVAC, to install a complex air filtration and conditioning unit shipped in from the east coast.

Several other large, industrial-sized shipments were brought in. The laboratory cabinet's serial numbers indicate it was bought from a biotech firm in Pennsylvania for \$125,000.

Grieves paid for all but one of these projects with cashier's checks and wire deposits from a bank in the Grand Caymans, in an account held by a company called Potentia Holdings, LLC. One check was sent from attorney Aaron Silverman, personally, to resolve a work stoppage due to mixed-up invoices.

Potentia Holdings

Potentia Holdings, which issued checks to the firms which installed the secret bio-lab equipment at Grieves' home, is a limited-liability company run from a post-office box in Washington, D.C., since 2007. It has a single employee, Aaron Silverman, listed as president. Silverman, 73, lives in Washington, D.C. He collects an annual salary of \$1 from Potentia, but files paperwork like clockwork.

An Agent with Accounting 20% or higher can glean that the operating capital of Potentia is about \$300 million per year. Much of the money is spent on real estate and retainers for personal services, with line items such as SECURITY, TRANSPORTATION, and RENTALS. Potentia owns buildings, vehicles, equipment, and storage facilities throughout the United States, and several offshore facilities in the Bahamas, Grand Caymans, and India.

An Agent with **Accounting** 40% or higher can read between the lines that the company is highly unusual, and that the name Aaron Silverman corresponds to a line- item paid out yearly to the Washington,

D.C., law firm Marcus, Silverman, and Greene. The single largest payout for PERSONNEL goes to someone named Robert Justin Ortega.

Neighbors

Grievess' neighbors have nothing bad to say about him, though some have choice words on his selection of company. For years he was known as a "rich guy who liked floozies," bringing home strippers and escorts. Since he settled down with Griffin, however, things have calmed down.

The woman next door, Elizabeth McReady, a widow who lives alone, admits she didn't care much for the doctor, but that he seemed "lost" and "frightened." McReady then attempts to recruit the agents into the Church of Latter-Day Saints.

Agents whose players say they are paying close attention, or who have **Alertness** at 60% or higher, notice a bundle of printed flyers that McReady just had printed. They are posters for her missing King Charles Spaniel, Estes. The dog has been missing since the night of October 2.

Another neighbor, Marty Posthewaite, noticed a brown Lexus sedan parked on the street several times, with a driver seemingly watching Grievess' house. Once, Posthewaite even went out and asked the woman in the car what she was doing. She showed him a private investigator's license. He does not recall the license plate of the car or the name on the license. But this was back before last Christmas.

In the days before the murder, nothing unusual was seen or heard from the residence.

Missing Animals

If the Agents ask questions in the neighborhood in the days following the incident, they quickly piece together that small animals are going missing. If they plot these out on a map of the area, they see that the disappearances occurred near the green belt around Grievess' house.

The following animals disappear in the following order.

October 2:

Estes, a small King Charles Spaniel belonging to Elizabeth McReady.

Muffin, a grey cat belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Hough, around the corner. (But they don't notice until October 4.)

October 3:

Elliot, a collie from 26th Drive Southeast, belonging to Maximilian Graff.

Five chickens from a coop on 28th Drive Southeast, belonging to Dolores Jacobs.

McFly, a German shepherd from 121st Street, belonging to Mill Creek Police Officer Donald Kulnik.

Darby and Snatch, two cats from a house at 122nd Street, belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Pini.

October 4:

Elwood, a Great Dane from 124th Street, belonging to Paul Olisco.

The Crows

Before the police cruiser arrived at the scene on October 1, half a dozen crows had landed in the early morning to feed on the remains of Dr. Grievess. Two of these crows ingested small amounts of the Blue Blood substance and were affected. The crows live in the trees in the green belt behind the houses. As the substance attempts to take hold of their biology, they struggle to survive. For some reason, the Blue Blood

cannot successfully seize control of these birds. By October 10, both crows will be dead due to complications of infection from the Blue Blood substance.

Agents can easily find crows in the area, especially at dawn and dusk. Any Agent watching the local crows carefully observes two acting strangely. One has a blue-white streak in its feathers, and its head is tilted to one side at all times. The second flies in a clumsy manner, often alighting to trees to rest.

If the Agents kill or capture these specimens, they find that the blue-white-feathered crow has an odd, scaly growth on its neck, next to the strangely colored feathers. This growth emerges from its neck like a sore, which has caused the feathers surrounding it to fall out. In their place are a wave of scaly extrusions. Close study reveals these chitinous scales are human fingernails. (SAN loss: 0/1.)

The crow that flies clumsily has the first three digits of a human hand growing from its abdomen like a sore. (SAN loss: 1/1D4). Samples from this portion of the crow contain human DNA, along with unidentifiable biological matter. Running fingerprints from these fingers through an FBI or Department of Defense database identifies Lt. Daniel Ulee, U.S. Air Force. Ulee died in 1992 in a training exercise.

Capturing crows is difficult, as they are among the smartest animals on the planet. Agents who set out to do so must have a compelling plan. Crow traps are available for purchase, and with the right bait they have a high probability of working. Unfortunately, the odds are very low that any given captured crow will be one affected by Blue Blood.

Of course, there is always the option of a .22 rifle with a scope.

Ernesto Torres

Seattle Times delivery driver Ernesto Torres is an Hispanic male, age 26. Torres was first on the scene at the Grieves house, and called the Mill Creek Police Department at 5:45 A.M. He has no knowledge of the crime or its secrets. He is not infected with Blue Blood.

He was held by the two police officers, and later held at a local hospital when there was worry about infectious diseases. Torres cooperated, asked for no lawyer, and was released. His record is clean.

He lives alone in a trailer at the Creekside Mobile Home Park in Mukilteo, Washington. He drives daily on a long route, delivering the Seattle Times from a 2002 Nissan Sentra from 4:45 A.M. until about 8:45 A.M.

If questioned independently, Torres goes into great detail about the initial discovery of Grieves' body. He went over and swung at the "crows eating at the poor guy," but he did not touch the body. Torres is cooperative and outspoken, and is somewhat excited by his newfound stardom. He has given multiple television interviews. However, he is trustworthy. If asked not to say anything, particularly by those in authority, he remains silent.

The Private Detectives

Dinot, Belton, and Wells Detective Agency was founded in 1992 by Aaron Dinot, a retired Seattle police officer. This Kirkland, Washington, business was first run from Dinot's home, and later from a small, walk-up office in a shopping center. For the last 14 years it was housed in larger offices in a strip -mall.

Dinot mainly monitored extramarital affairs—especially those involving Microsoft's millionaires—and the business boomed. In 1999, Dinot retired to Delray Beach, Florida, leaving the office in the care of his partner, Ted Belton. Dinot receives a check every month, but his involvement in the business is next to nil.

In 2005, Belton hired Evelyn Wells, a former -detective from Tacoma, Washington. She quickly proved her worth, and by 2009 was a partner. Belton took on the role of manager and executive while Wells did field work. She maintained a chain of stringer detectives paid per job for the agency.

In 2010, the agency was hired by Potentia Holdings to courier paperwork and equipment (referred to as “vital business patents”). The money was fantastic. Wells took that job herself. This continued for months. Most deliveries came from a reshipper at the Port of Seattle and were taken to Tibalt Grieves’ home on 24th Drive Southeast, Mill Creek, Washington.

About a year ago, Wells’ contact at Potentia, known only as “Michael,” asked her to monitor Grieves and his activities. Wells extensively surveilled the doctor throughout the last Christmas season, taking photos and identifying people coming and going from his home.

The agency continued to prosper up until it was firebombed at 2:45 A.M. on October 3, the day the Agents arrived. The attack burned the whole strip mall to the ground and took the agency’s records with it.

On October 4, Evelyn Wells was shot with a high--powered rifle and placed in a medically induced coma at Swedish Medical Center in Seattle.

The Strip Mall

Nothing remains of the strip mall that once housed the agency and four other businesses. Neighbors reported a huge explosion in the early hours of October 3. By the time emergency crews arrived, the structure was completely engulfed in blue-white flames that rose five stories in the air. The structure collapsed under the heat, and the fire department struggled simply to keep the fire from spreading. By 4:00 A.M., the fire had consumed itself, leaving behind a sea of blackened slag.

By October 4, the fire department suspect arson. In fact, it appears to be arson of a very specialized nature. Evidence of military compounds found in the rubble prompts authorities to notify the FBI.

The Agents learn of the fire from FBI chatter on October 4. If they question emergency crews, two firefighters—veterans of Afghanistan—say without goading that it was clearly an M112 demolition block, or C4 in large amounts, along with some sort of incendiary device, probably thermite.

Evelyn Wells

Also on October 4, Evelyn Wells suffers a serious wound to the upper left arm from a high-powered rifle. The bullet destroys much of her upper humerus bone and seriously disrupts tissue. Even this serious damage represents a glancing blow by the rifle round. If it had been centered on her, she would surely be dead. Wells’ arm was saved, though it will never be the same. She is placed in a medically induced coma to prevent an undue strain on her system. She will wake on October 12.

Agents looking at the crime scene and witness reports realize Wells dropped her phone and bent to pick it up at the moment she was shot. If this had not happened, it is likely her head would have been in the crosshairs. If the Agents interview Kirkland detectives, one of them could make that observation.

Witnesses report that despite her injury, Wells took cover, shouted for others to take cover, and fired through the window of the restaurant at a car parked across the street, from which, some witnesses report, muzzle flashes could be seen. Witnesses saw no shooter, and cannot describe the car beyond it being a gray sedan.

Dinot

These men are innocent, though at first blush they might seem like suspects. Dinot is far removed from the incident, and won’t even hear about it until October 5, when he returns from a sport fishing trip. He is utterly baffled as to who would want to do such a thing. He implicitly trusts Belton and backs him up.

Belton

Belton has private suspicions about the attack. He knows that Wells was working for some time on a high-paying client—Potentia Holdings—and that this company was a little too generous. He does not recall, offhand, the address of the surveillance, but knows it has to do with a retired geneticist.

Belton suspects his cozy little detective agency has stumbled into some sort of intelligence operation well beyond his capabilities. If approached by federal agents who seem reasonably up-front, and who agree to help apprehend the culprits, he cooperates fully, surrendering a briefcase full of odds and ends that he rapidly assembled on Potentia from his own home office. In the long wait for Wells, he has done what he does best: investigated.

The paperwork identifies Potentia Holdings, Inc., whose only address is a post-office box in Washington, D.C. Potentia reported \$300 million in income last year. It has a single employee, Robert Justin Ortega, Ph.D. Belton's notes on Ortega are brief but interesting. Ortega owns Ancile, Inc., a Department of Defense contractor which produces next-generation "Titanite-Weave" body armor supposedly two times stronger than Kevlar and half the weight. (Agents with **Occult**, **Archaeology**, or **History** skills recognize "Ancile" as the name of the shield of the war god Mars.)

Potentia's post-office box is paid by the law firm Marcus, Silverman, and Greene, 1099 A Street, Washington, D.C. Potentia's phone calls to Dinot, Belton, and Wells came from the private line of Aaron Silverman, a lawyer at Marcus, Silverman, and Greene. Belton has assembled the Social Security numbers of all involved, and has print-outs of driver licenses. He refuses to say where he got them.

Belton has hired four men, under his own employ, to guard Wells at all times. The cost for this is exorbitant, and is not something he will openly share. But he fears for Wells' life, and rightly so.

Digital Records

Much of the detective agency's records were backed up online. Agents gaining access to these files (either by strong-arming Dinot or Belton, or by becoming confidantes of Wells once she wakes) find a mess of ruined data.

At first glance, all photos suffer from a header corruption error. They appear with a "broken" icon and show no image. On deeper inspection, it becomes clear the damage is much deeper. The files are ravaged. Hours of work might bring back a small portion of a photo, but no general reconstruction is possible. The data, spreadsheets, photos, and other files are ruined.

Bellek's Mercenaries

Michael Bellek—a pseudonym for former MAJESTIC leader Gavin Ross—had access to decades of sensitive information on the U.S. armed forces, gleaned from the U.S. government leading up to the destruction of MAJESTIC in 2001. Kroft gathered hundreds of useful personnel records, laying in a reserve of operatives for a rainy day.

He maintains long-prepared but never activated cells waiting to be used for clandestine operations. Bellek hand-picked individuals who had been indoctrinated to do whatever was asked with them, without question.

Bellek's current operative is retired Sergeant Major Earle R. Daniels. Daniels had been indoctrinated into a CIA operation called GRIFFIN in 1994, and was given a list of suspected foreign agents operating the U.S. If he received the call, he was to remove the threat. Over years later, he received the call. The code-

word was correct, the access word was correct, but the target was new: a private investigator in Washington state named Evelyn Wells.

Earle, now the owner of Earle's Pizza in Sandy Creek, New York, closed shop and set about enacting his mission.

Earle R. Daniels

Daniels is detailed on page 27.

Daniels began his mission with twenty \$5,000-dollar pre-paid Visa debit cards. He used those to stay afloat while he stalked Wells and burned the detective agency to the ground, following orders.

He purchased a used, 1995 Thunderbird off Craigslist, brought his own weapons, and outfitted himself and his crew. His contact with Bellek is by dead drop. Daniels is meticulous in preparing for these pickups, giving him a bonus of +20% to his **Alertness** if Agents attempt to use **Stealth** to follow him. If Daniels detects followers, he tries to use Stealth in turn to set an ambush for them.

Daniels is a ruthless asset who is as eager as he is effective. His mission is to kill Wells. Having failed the first attempt, he is brazen. He will do his best to kill her while she lies in a coma at the hospital. As far as Daniels is concerned, Wells and her associates represent a grave and secret threat to national security.

Daniels keeps his operational kit in the Thunderbird's trunk, though he always carries his pistol and hand grenades in his bulky North Face jacket. If Agents corner Daniels, an M67 hand grenade will come into play, first as a threat, and later as a tool to remove himself as a threat to operational security.

Daniels' two flunkies are there more out of loyalty to him than from patriotic fervor. They have no clue as to the machinations Daniels is involved in.

Charles A. Soriono

Soriono is detailed on page 27.

Soriono is skilled with explosives. He has a long history in dealing with improvised weapons in Afghanistan, and has received special training. Soriono is the one who destroyed the Dinot, Belton, and Wells Detective Agency (and the connected strip mall) with thermite and an M112 demolition block.

He has also constructed pipe bombs. These pipe bombs, each about the size of a forearm, are rigged to burner phones, and wired to be detonated by text message. If cornered, or called to set an ambush, Soriono lays a kill zone that is covered in multiple bombs. He will kill or die for Daniels without hesitation.

Lila Masten

Masten is detailed on page 28.

Masten is extremely clever. If confronted by Agents, she puts on a completely believable act as a victim, claiming she was carjacked or kidnapped. Once the Agent's attention is elsewhere, she attacks as ruthlessly as necessary to get away.

Their Next Steps

Daniels is concerned with eliminating Wells before she wakes. He and his mercenaries plot an attack on Swedish Medical Center using every nasty trick in the book.

Their most likely plan of attack is for Masten to pose as a flower delivery driver and attempt to locate Wells' room. Daniels means to attempt another sniper shot to take out Wells. But no such shot is possible due to the room's placement. Agents who watch Wells very closely and question visitors suspiciously could detect Masten's duplicity and disrupt the mercenaries' plan.

On October 9, Daniels, Soriono, and Masten coordinate an assault on Wells' room. This likely takes the form of a distraction to cause confusion, such as a car-bomb or fire, followed by all three rushing the room, killing anyone in their path. From there, the group splits up and returns home.

Potentia and Ortega

Agents could follow clues from Grieves' house, and the attack on Wells, to the law firm at the center of everything and to the heir to MAJESTIC's secrets, Robert Justin Ortega.

The Law Firm

The law firm Marcus, Silverman, and Greene is at 1099 A Street, Washington, D.C., a renovated three-story row house built in 1861. The law firm has held the property since 1979. The partners come and go, but usually only once or twice a week. Occasionally all three gather and spend the day and early evening at a partners meeting, but the whole business feels like it is running on autopilot. Secretaries for all three men operate normal business hours, clocking in and out at exact times, and coordinating mostly social schedules for the partners. No clients ever come to the location. Albert Marcus and Dominic Greene, when they do show up, are there at the behest of Aaron Silverman, the obvious leader of the firm.

Research into the firm (requiring Accounting, Bureaucracy, or Law) reveals it has represented several clients, but is almost exclusively dedicated to Robert Justin Ortega, Ph.D., CEO of Ancile, Inc. The firm has also filed various papers for Dr. Tibalt Grieves over the years, most involving business deals for his patents, and patent protection.

Agents can easily gain access to secure data in the firm, as the personnel keep strict hours and there is no detectable alarm system, just normal locks. However, such Agents are overcome by the sheer amount of data at the firm, most in paper form. Unless they focus on Aaron Silverman's office, it could take them days to find anything of value. The other partners have no information of any use.

Silverman's office is adorned with a single, large photograph. It shows a younger Silverman standing next to a tall, thin, vibrant, well-dressed man in his 60s, in front of a large, corporate headquarters sign that reads MARCH TECHNOLOGIES. Silverman's office holds some papers on March Technologies: stock grants, forfeits, and various director-level changes without any deeper detail as to what, precisely March Technologies is.

Online research into March Technologies finds a shallow, corporate website that identifies it as a technology contractor for the U.S. government. It seems mainly to deal in computers and flight navigation. Its directors are retired generals and admirals, and executives from aerospace and tech firms, none with a public profile.

Paperwork in Silverman's office and on the dated computer is mundane, but does trace various names and Social Security numbers. An Agent with at least 50% in **Accounting, Bureaucracy, or Law**, and who takes a day or two to study the papers and data offsite, places Dr. Grieves, a man named Justin Kroft (the other man in Silverman's picture), and Robert Ortega in the small town of Upperville, Virginia, in the 1980s. (Ortega was born there, and Kroft and Grieves were employed by the military there.) All three were represented by Silverman, beginning with Kroft in 1978.

Kroft and Silverman attended Columbia University at the same time: Kroft for his doctorate in political science and Silverman in pre-law.

Michael Bellek employs private investigators to keep an eye on the law offices from time to time. If the Agents take too long, or if they are obvious or clumsy, a private investigator pulls up and is surprised to see

trouble at the firm for the first time. The investigator calls Bellek, who asks the investigator to call the police and to try to get identifiable photos of the intruders and their vehicles. After that, the police arrive in 2D6 minutes.

Justin Kroft

Kroft's Social Security number is enough to unlock a great deal of information about him. His family was Washington, D.C. elite. His father, Michael Kroft, was ambassador to Indonesia from 1963 to 1967. Justin began following in his father's footsteps by going to Columbia to study political science. For an unremarkable student he had an incredible presence. Research at Columbia places him in a fraternity as chapter president, a leader in various charities and functions, and as a favorite to his classmates.

His past becomes murky in the late 1970s and in the early 1980s, when he was director of a few high-earning but small defense contract companies in Maryland. Two vague documents indicate he was worked for the Department of Defense in the 1980s.

The Agents can identify two large purchases that were made in Kroft's name by Marcus, Silverman, and Greene, and which are still administered by the law firm today. In 1989, he bought 27 lots of land: parking lots, a mall, and various real-estate holdings which he placed in a trust. The records are incomplete, and only one of these lots is described with its precise location: a storage facility in Jordan Springs, Virginia. (See **JORDAN SPRINGS STORAGE** on page 18 for details.)

The trust was left to Angela Whittier, a resident of Upperville, Virginia, in 1990.

Agents pulling strings with military connections and a Bureaucracy roll learn that Kroft may have worked for the highly secretive National Reconnaissance Office in the late 1970s. A critical success gets hints that he was in charge of some unnamed, blacker-than-black, secret intelligence group. With a fumble, the Agent's questions get back to Michael Bellek by name. That may mean a visit from his mercenaries (see **BELLEK'S MERCENARIES** on page 13) to "clear things up." Whatever the roll, the inquiry catches the Program's attention. See **RED FLAGS** for details.

Kroft died in a helicopter accident in 2001 at age 69. Few records of the incident remain. Agents searching for them are told they were classified by the Department of Defense in 2002. What can be gleaned of the "accident" is that it occurred on January 29, 2001, at the Mount Weather facility. No such helicopter accident was reported in the news or to the FAA. Beyond that, it is a mystery.

Red Flags

Agents of the Program who attempt deeper research into March Technologies or Justin Kroft flag alerts in the Program's own servers. That gets them a tense call from their case officers with instructions to stop pursuing that line of inquiry at once, under orders from the top of the Program itself. Agents of the Outlaws flag the same alerts, but don't get the benefit of a call. Instead, they may find themselves under investigation by the Program or by March Technologies' own security agents. But that will take weeks, so we leave it to the Handler to explore the possibilities. March Technologies is described in *Delta Green: Eyes Only* and in the *Handler's Guide*.

Angela Whittier

Angela Whittier was a favorite server and hostess at the Blackthorne Inn and Restaurant in Upperville, Virginia—a stone's throw from the Mount Weather facility—throughout the late 1970s and early 1980s. She had one child, a boy, born Robert Whittier on 1 JUN 1990. Marcus, Silverman, and Greene conveyed to her the Kroft trust within a month of his birth. She left the Blackthorne to settle down and take care of the boy.

In 1992, she married Julio Ortega, a metallurgist at Grumman Aerospace. They lived quietly in Upperville. In 2004, Angela became ill, and within a year she died of leukemia. She left her son in the legal care of Ortega. Julio Ortega died in 2010.

Robert Justin Ortega and Ancile, Inc.

Robert Justin Ortega is a super--successful young inventor and executive, living the high life. He attended Manhattan College and received a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering in 2012. Since then, his rise in the defense industry has been nothing short of stratospheric. He created several key patents in chemistry dealing with a substance he termed "TitaniteWeave," considered by many to be the next-generation Kevlar. His company Ancile, Inc., founded in 2012, employs 241 people. It is a well-known success story in the Washington corridor, with many classified government contracts. Ancile's public-relations team paints him as a prodigy who augmented his natural talents with a knack for recruiting the finest people: "an engineering genius whose true genius is people."

Agents searching government databases easily identify Robert Justin Ortega's mother as Angela Whittier, and find that she worked as a server and hostess outside Mount Weather before Robert's birth in 1990. A month after his birth, she quit her job and was apparently supported, generously, by a blind trust set up by Marcus, Silverman, and Greene for her and her son's benefit. (See **ANGELA WHITTIER** on page 16.) Robert Justin Ortega's birth certificate lists his father as "Unknown." Control of the trust passed to Ortega on his 21st birthday in 2011.

Agents can find unusual details about Ortega only by digging deeply into his past. Former schoolmates and teachers describe Ortega as "distracted." His good looks and apparent wealth meant he spent most of his time partying. Jealous classmates imply that Ortega cheated on tests and assignments, but no teacher says such a thing.

Ortega drives a Tesla, lives in a luxury penthouse in Washington, D.C., and owns another in Manhattan, and spends most of his time playing. He does very little work. Occasionally he visits the offices of Ancile or meets Aaron Silverman at a restaurant. If the Agents are lucky, and follow him consistently enough, they may eventually find him meeting up with "Uncle Michael."

If approached in person, Ortega is cautious. He says he never knew his father and claims to know nothing about him. If Agents expert in the sciences talk shop, they quickly find him anything but the wunderkind of public perception. He is smart and well informed but no genius.

If the Agents make Ortega remotely nervous, he thumbs a button on a fob on his car keys: an alert that summons well-dressed, plain-clothes security officers from Solon Security, a few of whom are never far away. (See **SOLON SECURITY** on page 18.) The guards wear concealed pistols and carry legal permits for them, and are quick to respond with lethal force to the least appearance of a threat to Ortega. If trouble is worse than that, Ortega is protected zealously by Marcus, Silverman, and Greene, and by their many friends on Capitol Hill and throughout the federal government. Agents responsible for such trouble rapidly find themselves reassigned or fired. If that's not enough, Michael Bellek has his mercenaries.

Connecting the Dots

Justin Kroft was a regular at the Blackthorne Inn during his tenure at the Mt. Weather facility, where he served and came to lead the MAJESTIC program. He met Angela Whittier at the Blackthorne Inn in 1989. The two had a brief affair, which led to the birth of Robert Whittier in 1990. Kroft agreed to provide for Whittier, as long as he was apprised of the boy's progress. In 1992, Robert Whittier became Robert Ortega. By then his mother was wealthy, thanks to the Kroft trust.

When Gavin Ross escaped from the Program's custody in 2010, one of his first tasks was making contact with Robert Justin Ortega. Ross knew everything about Ortega, and he knew that Kroft's treasure trove would go to Ortega soon. Posing as Michael Bellek, confidant of Ortega's father, he offered advice and help.

In 2011, the Kroft trust became the property of Ortega, who, through Aaron Silverman, was informed of his true father's identity, and given access to certain files and records as Kroft had wanted. Michael Bellek—Ortega's "Uncle Michael"—was ready. He helped the young man plan for the best use of the secrets that Kroft had left behind. That started with "TitaniteWeave" and the formation of Ancile, and will continue for decades to come.

Jordan Springs Storage

This immaculate storage facility covers five acres off the beaten path in semi-rural Jordan Springs, Virginia. It is row after row of white, pristine, climate-controlled storage lockers surrounded by a six-meter razorwire fence, cameras, and ground sensors. There is no sign. It is not listed online. Locals believe it to be a government facility. They are not far off.

In 1989, the facility was closed to the public and became a dumping ground for Justin Kroft's "golden parachute." He began salting away documents, photos and even artifacts from his time with MAJESTIC. While most buildings are empty, some contain startling files, scientific records, and machines that are decades or centuries ahead of the modern world.

Only Robert Ortega has "clearance" to the site, and may come and go as he pleases; along with any he vouches for. So far, he has always come alone. The security on site is stellar, even by military standards.

Solon Security

Jordan Springs Storage is guarded by a small, specialty firm called Solon Security, Inc., headquartered in Washington, D.C. Enmeshed in a web of legal documents and contracts that makes it nearly impossible to locate an actual owner, Solon provides security for several small companies. A Bureaucracy roll uncovers that it was founded in 1999 by an Air Force colonel named Robert Coffey, who died in an aircraft accident in 2001. Its ownership since then has been scattered to various front companies and offshore firms. Reports on Coffey's death, like those of Kroft, are spotty at best.

Solon was initially staffed by veterans of MAJESTIC's Project BLUE FLY, special operators who were once tasked with containing alien threats. Only a single BLUE FLY veteran remains in the company now, an ex-Marine named Joshua J. Dodd, who rides a desk in Washington, D.C., and oversees recruitment.

The company's security officers are former special operators who enjoy the snooze-fest at Jordan Springs, not to mention the fat checks and bonuses offered by the tiny firm. They have orders to protect that facility with their lives. As easy as the duty has always been, each takes that order *very* seriously. Most are convinced they are guarding an intelligence black site.

The site is always staffed by at least four guards. If the Agents are not paying attention, they might be mistaken for simple security guards. But each is a hardened veteran from special operations, all having seen combat in the most violent war zones in the world. This is one of the reasons Gavin Ross will never show his face at this facility, though he is well aware of its existence and contents. He knows that Coffey founded Solon, and there was no love lost between them. He expects that he is persona non grata there, whatever Ortega might have to say.

Entering the facility is difficult. Climbing the fence and avoiding the razorwire requires an **Athletics** test; the Agent takes 1D6 damage if that fails. Making it unseen from the fence to the buildings requires a **Stealth** roll. On a failure, a Solon guard makes an **Alertness** roll. If that succeeds, the disturbance is called in. At that point, the Agent must make a **Luck** roll. If it fails, a search is instigated by all four guards on the site.

The guard shoot to kill. Once things are calm, they call Marcus, Silverman, and Greene. The law firm instructs them to make sure everything is locked down, and to not allow anyone to enter any part of the facility; the guards have firm instructions to never open any of the lockers themselves. Only then do they call the authorities.

The Sheds

Only five of the dozens of climate-controlled lockers contain anything at all. Those five are filled are each packed front to back with file boxes, computer equipment, sealed sample cases, biohazard boxes and more. So far, Ortega has only opened one of the five sheds. (He was clearly instructed to never open any others, though he does not know why.) Even that first shed contains enough information to catapult the biological sciences into the future. The information inside is more valuable than anything on Earth.

The sheds are all immaculate, clearly numbered, and built from composite materials that are immune to scanning technologies. Each shed is entered by a single, rolling, automatic door. Next to each door is a small, black glass screen: a thumbprint lock. There is no other human sized access point.

Agents who specifically look for tread marks in the day—by high-resolution photos taken from a drone, perhaps—observe faint tire tracks leading to one shed and none anywhere else.

Agents with skills in security do not recognize the scanning lock. It appears to be custom-made. A roll with an appropriate skill reveals that it is military grade, and, if it was installed in 1989, was about two decades ahead of its time. Hacking one of the thumbprint locks requires sophisticated tools and a successful roll with a Craft skill in Electronics or Microelectronics, taking 35 minutes. During that time, the Agent will be exposed if a security officer comes by.

After a hacking attempt fails, large, red letters appear on the black screen: "WARNING. SCAN FAILED. WARNING."

A second consecutive failure activates the "insurance policy" described below.

The Insurance Policy

Agents may get it in their heads to pull strings and raid the Jordan Springs facility with federal authorities, or even the military. Upon doing so, they unleash hell.

Confronted by a law enforcement response with the proper warrants, the Solon guards surrender without a shot being fired. However, there is an insurance policy at play here. There's a good reason that the guards have ironclad orders to never open any of the sheds.

Forcibly breaching any shed detonates the stockpile of explosives built neatly into a small, encased cement pit in each building. These go up, one by one, inflicting Lethality 60% to anyone on the premises, and Lethality 10% to anyone outside within 10 meters of the fenceline.

After the explosion, nothing remains of the facility.

This huge explosion makes national news and brings Marcus, Silverman, and Greene into the spotlight. After a quick investigation, the FBI reports that a terrorist stockpile of explosives, meant for Washington D.C., was detonated during a raid. This story, spun by authorities far beyond the pay-grade of the Agents and with the cooperation of the Program, consumes the news for months. Surviving Agents are expected to play ball. Those that do not find themselves in greater trouble than a grand jury.

The Motherlode

Agents who somehow gain access to a shed likely have little time to stay. It is more likely that they hastily grab files, computer drives, and small samples, and then run for it. Escaping unseen requires a **Stealth** roll; climbing the fence safely requires an **Athletics** roll, as with entering.

The items grabbed by the Agent hint at, but never clearly establish just where the files came from. They concern the activities of various top-secret, special-access programs with code-names like SIGMA, ARES, and BOUNCE. One has Kroft's signature above his typed name, listed as DIRECTOR MJ, with a date of 9 OCT 85. One document, marked TS/SAP—MAJESTIC/NOFORN, contains technical details. This information (be it the chemistry behind a petawatt laser, dated 2 SEP 1988, decades before its time, or a chemical compound called AM 2, which causes "the brain to fail to form new memories for 12 hours, with no ill effects"), it is incredibly valuable.

Treat these files as an unnatural document, one that can damage the mind of someone who spends a large amount of time studying it.

Justin Kroft's MAJESTIC Documents

In English. Study time: days. Unnatural +4%, SAN loss 1D4+1.

Papers or digital files that indicate man is not alone in the universe, and that contain secrets of science decades or centuries beyond the modern era. With a **Science** skill such as **Biology** or **Physics** of 50% or higher and a successful skill roll, the Agent learns one significant, enactable bit of alien science. (This remains up to the Handler to devise.)

The moment this information surfaces anywhere it should not be, the Program's security officers begin pursuing those who provided it. Unless it is surrendered, and those in pursuit are mollified, the Agent eventually turns up the victim of a lone suicide. (Again, the details remain up to the Handler.)

Michael Bellek

Michael Bellek, retired machinist from Detroit, is in fact Gavin Ross, a former leader of MAJESTIC. Ross is detailed in the *Handler's Guide for Delta Green: The Role-Playing Game*.

Ross has all the paperwork to back up his identity as Michael Bellek. Bellek exists everywhere the Agents might search for him, except the real world. No photo or other solid evidence of Bellek can be found, though his birth certificate, Social Security records, and tax returns all check out. Running his fingerprints brings up only Bellek's information. He has no record of arrests or troubles with the law.

The only real possibility of locating Bellek is through Robert Ortega. They meet once a month, at a new location each time, usually a restaurant. Ortega calls him "Uncle Mike" but says nothing about him to the Agents. Ortega suspects that Bellek had another identity in the old days, when it seems he worked with Ortega's father in the most secret corners of the government. But he has no reason to push.

If the Agents track him down, Bellek seems open and affable, and a little baffled by the attention—but if he has any warning at all, he has a team of mercenaries watching through sniper scopes as bodyguards.

Bellek says he knew Ortega's stepfather Julio, long ago, but he refuses to give details. He says they both did top-secret work for government contractors and he can't give away more than that. An Agent who makes a **HUMINT** or **Psychotherapy** roll that beats Bellek's **Persuade** roll gets the feeling he is extremely clever and is holding something back.

Confronting Bellek

If the Agents are convinced that there's more to Bellek than he says, he reacts with a cool head. If there's no persuading them, then he looks for ways to use them. As Gavin Ross, he had the smartest, most determined operators in the government dancing like puppets. He is always operating a dozen steps ahead of even the brightest Agent.

He actively memorizes every possible detail about the Agents: their names, license plates, agency IDs, eye colors, distinguishing marks, accents, body language and speech habits that indicate military or law-enforcement background, and so on.

Bellek is not above offering assistance to the Agents in dealing with their "Ulee" problem. Really, he understands little of what happened, but he wants the Agents to think that that he offers enormous help at very little cost.

To win their trust, if the Agents let anything slip about their involvement in investigating the unnatural, Bellek spills that he knows about Delta Green. He may say that he used to be a Delta Green agent, himself, and he knows how ruthless they are about their mission. He got out, and he has spent years keeping a low profile to protect himself and the family that he will never see again. He expects that the Agents know what he means. His top priority, if he helps them, is keeping his secrets. They have to swear not to report him to Delta Green.

If the Agents go along with that, Bellek aims to become their secret patron. He gradually reveals that he was exposed to other secret programs, back in the 1980s and 1990s. One tidbit at a time, he reveals secrets that Delta Green would never reveal. But he gives only enough to keep the Agents alive, to keep them wanting more, and to tighten his hold.

If the Agents are not that amenable, he sets his sights lower. He either bribes or kills his way out of the situation, and disappears. If the Agents are foolish enough to use their real names, payback will be had, and soon.

He does everything possible to avoid letting the Agents take his photo or take him into custody.

Bellek always carries a pistol beneath his coat. His wallet holds identification, his Social Security card, and an American Express black card. (The account is in Bellek's name; it is always paid in full at the end of the month by one of the countless dummy corporations managed on Robert Ortega's behalf by Marcus, Silverman, and Greene.) In a repurposed money -belt, he keeps his remaining nine months of ARD-15 in small, hermetically sealed containers. He claims the pills are vitamins. If they are confiscated, he immediately shifts to fight-and-flight mode, doing anything (and killing anyone) to recapture them.

ARD-15 Addiction

Without access to his daily regimen of ARD-15, Bellek suffers 1D4--2 damage per day (with a minimum of 0) as his body begins to digest itself. He wastes away from a vibrant older man to something like a death-camp victim, barely moving under his own power. When he hits 0 HP, he perishes and is discovered as a desiccated skeleton in a bag of skin. Cause of death is total organ failure.

CDC Flight 191 Secure

CDC Flight 191 Secure, a Beechcraft C-12 Huron in rotation with both the National Guard and used for various operations with the DEA and other agencies, was based at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island. The pilots, Captain Ivan Szabo and Captain Michelle Grant, were experienced pilots, and the flight was expected to be uneventful.

It was called into service for the CDC on October 2 to move material recovered at Grieves' home to the CDC laboratories in Atlanta. That was to be an 11-hour flight with a refueling stop in St. Louis.

The Grieves material was in a small sample case, marked UNKNOWN BIOLOGICAL SUBSTANCE 1. At 9:49 AM, October 2, the flight disappeared. Butte, Montana, air control placed its last known location over the Clearwater National Forest in Idaho.

Federal agents, the National Parks Service, and other agencies were alerted to the flight's disappearance. Smoke was reported in the Clearwater National Forest by 11:22 A.M. and search flights confirmed the crash site. The CDC ordered search-and-rescue crews to stay away until the Agents arrive.

The plane spiraled in, hit the canopy of trees, and exploded on impact with the ground. Large pieces of the aircraft were flung far from a burned crater, where nothing much larger than a foot survived. Searchers found the ruined, punched open-remains of the UNKNOWN BIOLOGICAL SUBSTANCE 1 case nearby.

Though human remains were expected, no bodies were found.

The Ulee-Things

Ulee One began as a tiny, pinhead-sized sample of Blue Blood, which broke the containment of the cabinet in Grieves' lab and insinuated itself into Grieves' mouth. In its "inert" form, it appears like nothing as much as blue modeling clay.

Once insinuated into living tissue, it hijacks the tissue, consumes it, and rewrites it. If given time to "concentrate," these changes can be molded into new shapes to suit the creature's needs from moment to moment. If done hurriedly, limbs and other extrusions created by the beast appear malformed, random, or even inside--out.

Communicating With an Ulee

They may not look like it, but each Ulee thing is an intelligent creature. Once human, it contains 22 years of torment and insanity. It is driven by a singular urge: to reunite with "its" family.

Agents who think the Ulee is mindless are in for a very unpleasant surprise. Ulee still recalls human customs and behaviors. Grown large enough, it can drive and use the telephone. It cannily distracts threats that it cannot directly confront.

Agents with knowledge of Ulee's past can use it against "him." Even something as simple as calling Ulee by name can distract it, buying an Agent 1D6 turns of respite as the creature is torn by internal conflict. But this only works once.

Mentioning Ulee's wife has the opposite effect. It causes the creature to enter a killing frenzy, ignoring all threats as it focuses on the target who uttered Isabella's name.

Ulee vs. Ulee

Each Ulee is certain of its own identity as the only one. Discovering another Ulee immediately causes the creature to focus its attention on the other Ulee, ignoring all else, even members of "its" family. It relentlessly hunts other Ulees until they are dead. Since all Ulees eventually arrive in Billings, Montana, the area may become a war-zone. That makes the unnatural nature of these attacks difficult to cover up.

Plotting to cause Ulees to cross paths is a viable option to remove at least one of them. A larger Ulee devours a smaller one in 1D10 minutes. The combat is loud and messy, and likely reduces whatever structure they are in to rubble. Witnessing the rending and consumption of one Ulee by another costs an Agent 1/1D4 **SAN**.

During this distraction, Agents could douse the Ulees in kerosene or gasoline—or even better, douse a structure in such an accelerant, draw them inside, and ignite it. Clever Agents could capture a small Ulee, cage it, and use it draw a larger Ulee to a killing ground that has been rigged with explosives.

10441 Great Sky Way

Isabella Ulee lives in a modest, four--bedroom, two--bath house in Billings, Montana. It is an old-fashioned house, built sometime in the 1930s. It has been the home of Isabella Ulee and her son, Malcolm, since 1993, after the death of Lt. Daniel Ulee. Isabella bought it outright with the mysterious settlement she was paid by the military within months of the accident.

This location is not known to the Ulee things, who still think of Isabella's address as the house they lived in before his death: 19099 Pulaski Street, Billings. But the phone number remains the same, and this address is listed in the phone book.

The house is on a single level, on a large lot of land surround by low trees and a cattle fence, with a single, unlit dirt road leading to the drive.

Isabella Ulee

Isabella Ulee (white female, born in 1948) is a dental hygienist at Delta Dental in Billings.

Isabella is a level-headed widow who never remarried. Instead, she focused her attention on her son Malcolm, born seven months after the death of Lt. Ulee. She has been modest with the government "accident pay," and after buying the house outright she invested the remainder. She has been a dental hygienist since 1995.

When confronted by any of the Ulee -things, on a failed **SAN** roll she automatically suffers maximum **SAN** loss, as she is overwhelmed with recognition of her deceased husband.

Malcolm Ulee

Malcolm Ulee (white male, born in 1992) is Lt. Ulee's son, born months after the accident which claimed his father's life. He married at 18, and recently went through a contentious divorce which forced him to move home with his mother. He sells used cars for a living.

Malcolm will do anything for his mother, and will fight with surprising fervor to protect her, risking his life without thought to do so. He was a high-school sports star, and knows his way around a baseball bat. His stats and skills are average but for Str 14, Cha 13, Athletics 60%, Driving 50%, Melee Weapons (baseball bats only) 60%, and Persuade 65%.

Malcolm Ulee has no memory of his father, and does not "recognize" an Ulee- thing.

Resolution

Destroying all the Ulee things, and removing all Blue Blood samples from the public, is the ultimate goal of this operation. A kind Handler may reward Agents who delve deeper into the mystery by tracking down Robert Ortega, or who piece together the secret history of MAJESTIC and Justin Kroft. Michael Bellek can prove a dangerous villain to to hound the Agents, or an even more dangerous ally and patron. The secrets of March Technologies, of course, lead deep into the black.

Sanity Rewards

The Agents can gain **SAN** by stopping the unnatural threats.

If the Agents destroy all Blue Blood samples, each gains 1D4 **SAN**.

For each Ulee thing they destroy, each Agent gains 1 **SAN**.

If they destroy Robert Ortega's stockpile of MAJESTIC technology, each gains 1D4 **SAN**.

If they piece together the connections between Ortega, Kroft, MAJESTIC, and March Technologies, each gains 1D4-1 **SAN**.

If they realize the Program is an active part of all that, each loses 0/1D4 **SAN**.

Timeline

All important events of *Viscid* are outlined below. Events of the first three days are reprinted from the Agents' briefing for the Handler's convenience. Events marked "Secret" are unknown to the Agents at first but may be revealed by their actions. All times are Pacific Standard Time.

October 1

3:53 A.M. (Secret): Dr. Tibalt Grieves accidentally wakes Ulee One, which insinuates itself into him. It leaps from his neck, along with a great deal of his flesh. In his death throes, Grieves stumbles outside and dies in the driveway.

3:55 A.M. (Secret): Amanda Griffin wakes and sees Ulee One. It kills her, eats, and grows.

4:01 A.M. (Secret): Ulee One (now weighing approximately 25 kg) escapes to a nearby, rotted-out trailer in a property behind Grieves' Mill Creek home. Finding shade, it sleeps.

5:45 A.M.: *Seattle Times* delivery driver Ernesto Torres finds the body of retired geneticist Tibalt Grieves in the driveway of Grieves' home. Torres calls the police.

6:01 A.M.: Police officers Michael Grant and Jeffrey Daly arrive. They detain Torres but do not arrest him. Their reports say that Grieves had suffered grievous wounds to his mouth, neck, and face, and that crows had gathered to pick at the body.

6:05 A.M.: Finding Tibalt's front door open, officers Grant and Daly enter the house. They find another body, later identified as Grieves' live-in girlfriend, Amanda Griffin. The officers report that Griffin's mouth is covered in blood, which had congealed to a blue-black pile, and her skin has a distinct blue tinge.

6:09 A.M.: The officers cordon off the house and call for detectives and the medical examiner.

6:32 A.M.: Snohomish County Medical Examiner Louis Stubbs arrives with medical investigators. Detective Emily Dunser arrives a few minutes later.

6:45 A.M.: Dunser and Stubbs enter the house. An evidence technician takes photos.

7:09 A.M.: Sunrise. Officers outside call Stubbs to look at something strange happening to Grieves' body. Over eight minutes, it collapses into a blue-black "goo" that solidifies to the consistency of hard candy and smells of chlorine and honey. The process leaves only Grieves' right hand and feet intact. Time-stamped photographs cover most of this disintegration. Stubbs and his assistant bag and seal the remains.

7:21 A.M.: Detective Dunser and the evidence technician photograph what look like small, bloody footprints in the kitchen, near Griffin's body. These prints, smaller than a toddler's, seem deformed and misplaced. A clear toe mark indicates at least one of the tracks is human.

7:25 A.M.: Dunser follows the strange tracks to the closet that holds the furnace. Behind the furnace, Dunser finds a wall standing on a hinge, swinging freely. Behind is a room built in what had been the garage.

7:29 A.M.: In the hidden room, Stubbs recognizes an expensive biohazard lab complete with air scrubbers and an air conditioner that maintains negative air pressure. Stubbs orders everyone out and alerts the CDC and the FBI. Mill Creek Police Chief Bob Crannel orders that no one be allowed to leave the scene. Police set up a cordon around the block.

8:40 A.M.: A CDC team led by Roberta Kane arrives from Seattle. FBI agents and the first of many reporters soon follow. A biohazard tent is built around the house. Everyone who has been exposed to the house and to Grieves' body is removed to Providence Regional Medical Center in Everett, Washington. The CDC tests them for infectious diseases.

9:21 A.M.: Elizabeth McReady and Marty Posthewaite, Grieves' next-door neighbors, are evacuated from their homes. They return home in the evening.

10:21 A.M.: Kane examines Grieves' lab. She collects unusual samples from a small, silver sample case with biohazard markings and a stamp which reads, "BOUNCE." Inside are twelve vacuum-sealed packages containing a substance that Kane designates "Unknown Biological Sample 1." One package is open. Kane describes its contents as "undifferentiated cellular material with human characteristics."

11:50 A.M.: Kane, a Delta Green contact, alerts a case officer to the strange things found in Grieves' house. Operation MALTA is set in motion.

2:40 P.M.: The CDC orders the samples collected from the Grieves lab flown to Atlanta for study.

11:30 P.M.: All who had been exposed to the house or the bodies are cleared of pathogens and released.

Sometime That Night (Secret): Ulee One begins to feed on nearby pets in the neighborhood.

Sometime That Night (Secret): Gavin Ross (aka Michael Bellek) learns of Grieve's death and activates a team of covert operators to remove any threads that might connect him to Grieves.

October 2

8:01 A.M.: The CDC loads Unknown Biological Sample 1 onto CDC Flight 191 Secure, a small plane with a crew of two. It departs for Atlanta.

9:46 A.M.: Butte, Montana, air control loses contact with Flight 191 after a moment of garbled radio. There was no report of malfunction. The transponder places Flight 191 in Clearwater National Forest, Idaho.

11:22 A.M.: Search-and-rescue flights spot smoke and locate the wreckage of Flight 191. The CDC instructs rescuers to stay away from the wreckage.

Sometime That Day (Secret): Ulee Two assimilates the remains of the pilots and grows to approximately 250 kg. It begins its trek to Montana to find "its" wife.

Sometime That Night (Secret): Earle Daniels, Charles Soriono, and Lila Masten, Ross' operators, arrive in Mill Creek. They set about their plan to destroy all records and personnel who might connect Ross to Grieves.

October 3

2:45 A.M. (Secret): Charles Soriono destroys the Dinot, Belton, and Wells Detective agency with an M112 demolition block and thermite, leveling its whole strip mall.

8:00 A.M.: Operation MALTA begins.

October 4

Sometime That Day (Secret): Earl Daniels stalks Evelyn Wells. At lunch, he almost kills her with a single, high--powered rifle shot.

12:30 P.M.: Evelyn Wells is shot with a high powered rifle while eating lunch at Qdoba. She is not killed outright, but is gravely wounded and moved to Swedish Medical Center for hours of surgery. She is placed in a medically induced coma.

October 5

9:59 P.M. (Secret): Ulee Three reconstitutes itself in the Snohomish County morgue and escapes into the night.

Sometime That Night (Secret): Random phone calls begin plaguing the Ulee household in Billings. These only occur at night, and there is no one on the other end, just an open line.

Sometime That Night (Secret): Ulee One assimilates enough biological matter (approximately 100 kg) to begin its journey to Billings Montana.

October 9

Sometime That Night (Secret): Earle, Soriono and Masten attempt to assault Evelyn Well's room at the Swedish Medical center.

October 10

Sometime That Day (Secret): All crows infected by Blue Blood in Mill Creek, Washington, die due to complications from the infection.

Sometime That Night (Secret): Ulee One (approximately 100 kg) arrives in Billings, Montana, after a journey across Washington state. It begins stalking its "wife" at her old address, 19099 Pulaski Street, Billings, Montana.

October 12

Sometime That Night (Secret): Ulee Two (weighing 250 kg) arrives in Billings, Montana, after a journey across Idaho from the Flight 191 crash site. It begins stalking its "wife," beginning at her old address, 19099 Pulaski Street.

October 15

Sometime That Night (Secret): Ulee Three (weighing 1,000 kg) arrives in Billings, Montana, after a journey across Washington state. It begins stalking its "wife," beginning at her old address, 19099 Pulaski Street.

Characters

These are the most likely characters to help or hinder the Agents. They are presented in the order in which they are most likely to appear.

Louis Stubbs, M.D.

Snohomish County medical examiner, age 55.

Medical Examiner Stubbs

STR 9 CON 11 DEX 14 INT 14 POW 13 CHA 11

HP 10 WP 13 SAN 65 Breaking Point 52

SKILLS: Bureaucracy 50%, First Aid 60%, Medicine 60%, Persuade 40%, Pharmacy 50%, Science (Biology) 50%, Search 40%, Forensics 50%, Surgery 50%.

ATTACKS: Unarmed 40%, Damage 1D4-1.

Sgt. Maj. Earle R. Daniels (ret.)

White male, age 49. Daniels served the Army in the 1992 Gulf War, the 2001 invasion of Afghanistan, and the 2003 invasion of Iraq. He returned to the U.S. ten years ago and has lived a relatively normal life.

During Gulf War I, the CIA recruited Daniels and trained him for secret operations. His skill with a rifle, his language skills, and his access to New York City made him an attractive asset for the agency. When the CIA finally called on him, it was Michael Bellek speaking.

Earle R. Daniels

STR 16 CON 14 DEX 13 INT 12 POW 12 CHA 12

HP 15 WP 12 SAN 50 Breaking Point 48

DISORDERS AND ADAPTATIONS: Adapted to Violence

SKILLS: Alertness 60%, Athletics 60%, Dodge 40%, Driving 51%, Firearms 75%, First Aid 50%, Foreign Language (Pashto) 45%, Foreign Language (Hebrew) 61%, Foreign Language (Arabic) 55%, Heavy Weapons 45%, Melee Weapons 50%, Military Science (Land) 50%, Navigate 45%, Persuade 35%, Stealth 55%, Search 60%, Unarmed Combat 55%.

SPECIAL TRAINING: Hand Grenades (Athletics).

ATTACKS: SR-25 7.62 mm sniper rifle with advanced combat optical gunsight 75%, damage 1D12+2, Armor Piercing 3.

M9 pistol with targeting laser 75%, damage 1D10.

Two M67 hand grenades 60%, Lethality 15%.

M9 bayonet 50%, damage 1D6+1, Armor Piercing 3.

Unarmed 55%, damage 1D4.

Charles A. Soriono

White male, age 41. A veteran of the 2001 invasion of Afghanistan, former U.S. Army Sgt. Soriono was saved more than once by Daniels, and believes he owes him his life. Since returning to the U.S., Soriono has cut a swath of bad jobs, bad relationships, and bad choices across the country. Only luck has kept him from landing in police custody. Soriono has some skill as a welder, and made a meager living moving from site to

site. When he got the call from Daniels, he dropped everything and made his way to Washington without hesitation. He worships Daniels.

Charles A. Soriono

STR 10 CON 14 DEX 10 INT 13 POW 10 CHA 11

HP 12 WP 10 SAN 50 Breaking Point 39

DISORDERS AND ADAPTATIONS: Adapted to Violence.

SKILLS: Alertness 50%, Athletics 50%, Craft (Welding) 45%, Demolitions 60%, Dodge 30%, Driving 50%, Firearms 50%, Foreign Language (Pashto) 25%, Heavy Weapons 55%, Melee Weapons 50%, Military Science (Land) 40%, Navigate 55%, Stealth 50%, Search 40%, Unarmed Combat 50%.

SPECIAL TRAINING: Hand Grenades (Athletics).

ATTACKS: M4 carbine with holographic sight 50%, damage 1D12, Armor Piercing 3.

M9 pistol with targeting laser 50%, damage 1D10.

Five pipe bombs, Lethality 15%.

Two M67 hand grenades 50%, Lethality 15%.

M9 bayonet 50%, damage 1D6, Armor Piercing 3.

Unarmed 50%, damage 1D4–1.

Lila Masten

White female, age 39. Former U.S. Army Sgt. Masten served with Daniels in Iraq. She learned of his connection with some intelligence agency when the two were (briefly) lovers. Masten knows Daniels would not enact such a strange plan as the attack on the private investigators unless it was in the national interest. She will follow him to the end.

When she received the call, she immediately boarded a plane for Seattle. She is now a constant companion to Daniels, and looks out for him. When Daniels needs someone to check out a location or scout a target, Masten does it. She is utterly forgettable and seemingly harmless. This “cover” hides someone who is quite adept at killing, if not yet as comfortable with it as her companions.

Lila Masten

STR 9 CON 12 DEX 11 INT 17 POW 13 CHA 11

HP 11 WP 12 SAN 60 Breaking Point 49

SKILLS: Alertness 30%, Athletics 40%, Dodge 45%, Driving 50%, Firearms 50%, Foreign Language (Spanish) 65%, Heavy Weapons 45%, Melee Weapons 50%, Military Science (Land) 40%, Navigate 40%, Persuade 65%, Stealth 60%, Search 60%, Unarmed Combat 50%.

SPECIAL TRAINING: Hand Grenades (Athletics).

ATTACKS: M4 carbine with holographic sight 50%, damage 1D12, Armor Piercing 3.

M9 pistol with targeting laser 50%, damage 1D10.

M9 bayonet 50%, damage 1D6, Armor Piercing 3.

Unarmed 50%, damage 1D4–1.

Robert Justin Ortega

Tall, handsome, not yet 30, and a billionaire, Ortega spends most of his time having fun. His name leads some to expect him to be Hispanic, and the tan he sports from constant swimming, boating, and skiing may

back that assumption up, but his parents were white. An Agent with at least 60% in HUMINT could see a clear resemblance between photos of Ortega and Justin Kroft.

Robert Justin Ortega

STR 12 CON 13 DEX 11 INT 15 POW 13 CHA 16

HP 13 WP 13 SAN 65 Breaking Point 52

SKILLS: Accounting 50%, Athletics 50%, Bureaucracy 50%, Dodge 40%, Driving 40%, HUMINT 30%, Law 30%, Persuade 60%, Pilot (airplane) 40%, Pilot (boat) 40%, Science (Chemical Engineering) 50%, Swimming 40%.

ATTACKS: Unarmed 40%, damage 1D4-1.

Solon Security Officers

These former special operators are almost all combat veterans. A few in plain clothes remain near Robert Justin Ortega at all times, carrying concealed pistols and collapsible batons. Those at Jordan Springs Storage wear paramilitary uniforms.

Solon Security Officer

STR 14 CON 13 DEX 12 INT 11 POW 12 CHA 7

HP 14 WP 10 SAN 45 Breaking Point 36

DISORDERS AND ADAPTATIONS: Hardened to violence.

SKILLS: Alertness 60%, Athletics 50%, Dodge 40%, Driving 40%, Firearms 60%, HUMINT 40%, Law 30%, Melee Weapons 50%, Persuade 40%, Search 50%, Unarmed Combat 60%.

ATTACKS: Glock 22 pistol 60%, damage 1D10.

M4 carbine 60%, damage 1D12, Armor Piercing 3.

Night stick 50%, damage 1D6+1.

Unarmed 60%, damage 1D4.

ARMOR AND EQUIPMENT: TitaniteWeave vest (Armor 4), three extra pistol magazines, flashlight, night-vision goggles, a dozen cable ties (for use as plastic handcuffs). The carbines are stored in the guard sheds, not usually carried.

Ulee Sample

This is Ulee Three when only about 5 kg, still growing in the remains of Amanda Griffin. This form is barely distinguishable as a shape, mostly blue-white cartilage and musculature grown from interior organs with rudimentary eyelike structures, randomly spaced. If disturbed by an examination of Griffin's body, it causes the body to twitch as if trying to stir. If the stirring shape in Griffin's torso is exposed surgically, the sample seizes the examiner's hand and chews through gloves, seeking nutrients from blood and tissue. If harmed, it attempts to scuttle out of sight seeking less threatening biomass.

Ulee Sample

STR 2 CON 3 DEX 4 INT 3 POW 3

HP 3 WP 3

SKILLS: Athletics 40%, Unarmed Combat 40%.

CLEANSING FIRE: Fire inflicts more cellular damage than an Ulee thing can regenerate. While fire is burning a Ulee, no regeneration can occur. Without some sort of accelerant, though, the fire goes out in one turn.

INSINUATION AND ASSIMILATION: When the Ulee sample lands an Unarmed Combat attack on a victim's exposed skin, the victim takes 1 damage and must make a CON test. If the CON test fails, the victim suffers an additional 1D6 damage as the sample insinuates the Blue Blood infection inside them. If armor protects the victim, Ulee's damage roll reduces the armor value before affecting the victim, eating away Kevlar or other protection.

PLASTIC ANATOMY: The Ulee sample can reform limbs as needed on the fly, growing vaguely fetal, eyes, and mouths in seconds, all with blue tinted skin.

RESILIENT AND REGENERATIVE: When not exposed to Ultraviolet B rays or open flame, and not reduced to 0 HP, the Ulee sample regenerates 1 HP at the beginning of every turn. At 0 HP, it has been too badly disrupted to reform quickly. But if left alone, it gradually regains viability. After a few months, a sample-sized portion of it becomes animate and begins seeking prey.

VULNERABLE TO ULTRAVIOLET B: Exposure to Ultraviolet B rays, such as from sunlight or a medical UV-B lamp, causes rapid deterioration and inflicts 1 damage per turn.

SAN LOSS: 1/1D6.

Ulee, Small

Weighing about 20 kg, this form resembles nothing as much as a sea-spider, composed of blue-white and off yellow human limbs, with a cluster of eyes in the center. It is fast and utterly horrific. It attacks by leaping, grabbing with its multiple hands, and growing and insinuating limbs into a target, all the while absorbing blood and tissue to grow.

Small Ulee

STR 10 CON 11 DEX 18 INT 12 POW 11

HP 11 WP 11 SAN 0

SKILLS: Athletics 75%, Driving 51%, Firearms 45%, Pilot (Fighter Jet) 71%, Unarmed Combat 55%.

CLEANSING FIRE: Fire inflicts more cellular damage than an Ulee thing can regenerate. While fire is burning a Ulee, no regeneration can occur. Without some sort of accelerant, though, the fire goes out in one turn.

INSINUATION AND ASSIMILATION: When Ulee lands an Unarmed Combat attack on a victim's exposed skin, the victim takes 1D4 damage and must make a CON test. If the CON test fails, the victim suffers an additional 1D10 damage as Ulee insinuates the Blue Blood infection inside them. If armor protects the victim, Ulee's damage roll reduces the armor value, eating away Kevlar or other protection.

PLASTIC ANATOMY: Ulee can reform limbs as needed on the fly, growing hands, eyes, mouths and more in seconds. All these elements appear human, though with blue-tinted skin.

RESILIENT AND REGENERATIVE: When not exposed to Ultraviolet B rays or open flame, Ulee regenerates 5 HP at the end of every turn. At 0 HP, it has been too badly disrupted to reform quickly. But if left alone, it gradually regains viability. After a few months, a sample-sized portion of it becomes animate and begins seeking prey.

VULNERABLE TO ULTRAVIOLET B: Exposure to Ultraviolet B rays, such as from sunlight or a medical UV-B lamp, rapidly damages the outer layer of the Ulee thing. This chemical destruction soon cascades to areas within the creature. This causes 1D6 damage in the first minute, with no regeneration, and 1D20 per minute after that.

SAN LOSS: 1/1D6.

Ulee, Medium

At about 200 kg, this form is approximately the size of a small brown bear. It is composed of two "midsections," a dozen human-like limbs (seven arms and five legs), two heads, and extra eyes and ears here and there.

Medium Ulee

STR 31 CON 27 DEX 13 INT 12 POW 11

HP 45 WP 11

SKILLS: Same as the small Ulee.

ABILITIES: Same as the small Ulee, but its Unarmed Combat attack roll affects up to three targets within reach each turn.

SAN LOSS: 1/1D8.

Ulee, Large

At about 1,000 kg, this is as large as Ulee gets. Imagine a sphere composed of interconnected and repurposed limbs, tied together in bizarre ways, most tipped with eyes or ending in weird, double-hinged human mouths. It is fast, resilient, and utterly terrifying.

Large Ulee

STR 45 CON 35 DEX 10 INT 12 POW 11

HP 45 WP 11

SKILLS: Same as the small Ulee.

ABILITIES: Same as the small Ulee, but its Unarmed Combat attack roll affects up to six targets within reach each turn.

SAN LOSS: 1/1D10.

Operation MALTA Briefing Summary

Compiled from reports and photographs by police, the medical examiner, FBI agents, and CDC specialists.

October 1

- 5:45 A.M.:** *Seattle Times* delivery driver Ernesto Torres finds the body of retired geneticist Tibalt Grieves in the driveway of Grieves' home. Torres calls the police.
- 6:01 A.M.:** Police officers Michael Grant and Jeffrey Daly arrive. They detain Torres but do not arrest him. Their reports say that Grieves had suffered grievous wounds to his mouth, neck, and face, and that crows had gathered to pick at the body.
- 6:05 A.M.:** Finding Tibalt's front door open, officers Grant and Daly enter the house. They find another body, later identified as Grieves' live-in girlfriend, Amanda Griffin. The officers report that Griffin's mouth is covered in blood, which had congealed to a blue-black pile, and her skin has a distinct blue tinge.
- 6:09 A.M.:** The officers cordon off the house and call for detectives and the medical examiner.
- 6:32 A.M.:** Snohomish County Medical Examiner Louis Stubbs arrives with medical investigators. Detective Emily Dunser arrives a few minutes later.
- 6:45 A.M.:** Dunser and Stubbs enter the house. An evidence technician takes photos.
- 7:09 A.M.:** Sunrise. Officers outside call Stubbs to look at something strange happening to Grieves' body. Over eight minutes, it collapses into a blue-black "goo" that solidifies to the consistency of hard candy and smells of chlorine and honey. The process leaves only Grieves' right hand and feet intact. Time-stamped photographs cover most of this disintegration. Stubbs and his assistant bag and seal the remains.
- 7:21 A.M.:** Detective Dunser and the evidence technician photograph what look like small, bloody footprints in the kitchen, near Griffin's body. These prints, smaller than a toddler's, seem deformed and misplaced. A clear toe mark indicates at least one of the tracks is human.
- 7:25 A.M.:** Dunser follows the strange tracks to the closet that holds the furnace. Behind the furnace, Dunser finds a wall standing on a hinge, swinging freely. Behind is a room built in what had been the garage.
- 7:29 A.M.:** In the hidden room, Stubbs recognizes an expensive biohazard lab complete with air scrubbers and an air conditioner that maintains negative air pressure. Stubbs orders everyone out and alerts the CDC and the FBI. Mill Creek Police Chief Bob Crannel orders that no one be allowed to leave the scene. Police set up a cordon around the block.
- 8:40 A.M.:** A CDC team led by Roberta Kane arrives from Seattle. FBI agents and the first of many reporters soon follow. A biohazard tent is built around the house. Everyone who has been exposed to the house and to Grieves' body is removed to Providence Regional Medical Center in Everett, Washington. The CDC tests them for infectious diseases. All are cleared.
- 9:21 A.M.:** Elizabeth McReady and Marty Posthewaite, Grieves' next-door neighbors, are evacuated from their homes. They return home in the evening.
- 10:21 A.M.:** Kane examines Grieves' lab. She collects unusual samples from a small, silver sample case with biohazard markings and a stamp which reads, "BOUNCE." Inside are twelve vacuum-sealed packages containing a substance that Kane designates "Unknown Biological Sample 1." One package is open. Kane describes its contents as "undifferentiated cellular material with human characteristics."

11:50 A.M.: Kane, a Delta Green contact, alerts a case officer to the strange things found in Grieves' house. Operation MALTA is set in motion.

2:40 P.M.: The CDC orders the samples collected from the Grieves lab flown to Atlanta for study.

October 2

8:01 A.M.: The CDC loads Unknown Biological Sample 1 onto CDC Flight 191 Secure, a small plane with a crew of two. It departs for Atlanta.

9:46 A.M.: Butte, Montana, air control loses contact with Flight 191 after a moment of garbled radio. There was no report of malfunction. The transponder places Flight 191 in Clearwater National Forest, Idaho.

11:22 A.M.: Search-and-rescue flights spot smoke and locate the wreckage of Flight 191. The CDC instructs rescuers to stay away from the wreckage.

October 3

8:00 A.M.: Operation MALTA begins.