

THE DESRICK ON YANDRO

CONCEPT

A small town in the hills, Yandro, has woken an old monster in the woods. The Behinder has started stalking the town, killing those who violated the ancient desrick (archaic word for cabin), and any who try to protect them. It carries the hearts of the violators back to lay on the hearthstone of the desrick.

HOOK

Reports have reached the news of three missing persons from the small town of Yandro. The first two were teenagers; the latest is a local hunter. The hearts have been torn from the teenagers, but the hunter is just torn apart.

Victims:

- Boaz and Eli Miller, brothers, 15 and 16.
- Reuben MacPherson, hunter, 39.

COUNTDOWN

- **Day:** The Behinder wakes when a group of teenagers enter the abandoned desrick above Yandro.
- **Shadows:** The Behinder kills the first two teenagers (Boaz and Eli Miller), and the hunter (Reuben MacPherson) who got in his way.
- **Dusk:** The Behinder wakes the Flats, and begins prowling the town. Another death (Emeline Ward, 16, another of the violators).
- **Sunset:** The Flats show up in town. Three deaths (Levi Winthrop, 14, one of the violators, along with his sister Rose, 10, and his mother Deborah, late 30s).
- **Nightfall:** Posse, led by the town priest (Daniel Fisher, 63), heads up to the desrick and try to banish the Behinder. It kills them all.
- **Midnight:** The Behinder and the Flats kill the entire town, leaving it empty and abandoned.

THREATS

MONSTER

Name: The Behinder
Description: No one knows. It always strikes from behind.
Type: Monster/Executioner
Motivation: To punish the guilty.
Powers: Attack From Behind, Be Unseen
Weaknesses: The desrick hearthstone.
Attacks: Attack From Behind (5-harm hand messy)
Armour: 2
Harm Capacity: 12

MINION

Name: The Flats
Description: A wide, flat, pancake-like creature, about 8' in diameter, looks like whatever it's lying on.
Type: Minion/Scout
Motivation: To stalk, watch, and report.
Powers: Hide in Plain Sight, Squeeze
Attacks: Squeeze (2-harm hand)
Armour: 0
Harm Capacity: 5

BYSTANDER

Name: Emeline Ward - violator
Description: 16, long brown hair in ponytail, plain face, sour expression, kind of a snob
Type: Bystander/Victim
Motivation: To put herself in danger.

BYSTANDER

Name: Levi Winthrop - violator
Description: 14, sandy hair, little bit shaggy, freckles, terrified.
Type: Bystander/Witness
Motivation: To reveal information.

BYSTANDER

Name: Rose Winthrop
Description: Levi's little sister. 10 and darling.
Type: Bystander/Innocent
Motivation: To do the right thing.

BYSTANDER

Name: Deborah Winthrop
Description: Levi's mother. In her late 30s, worn but still attractive.
Type: Bystander/Gossip
Motivation: To pass on rumours.

BYSTANDER

Name: Steven Winthrop
Description: Levi's father. Early 40s, ropy, dour.
Type: Bystander/Skeptic
Motivation: To deny supernatural explanations.

BYSTANDER

Name: Reverend Daniel Fisher
Description: Old-Testament Prophet looking.
Type: Bystander/Busybody
Motivation: To interfere in other people's plans

BYSTANDER

Name: Judith Bowery - violator
Description: 15, pretty, black hair, dark eyes, terrified.
Type: Bystander/Victim
Motivation: To put herself in danger.

BYSTANDER

Name: Candace Bracket - violator
Description: 17, tom-boyish, ragged short blond hair, angry.
Type: Bystander/Helper
Motivation: To join the hunt.

BYSTANDER

Name: Anna van Valzak - schoolteacher
Description: From outside Yandro, mid-twenties and idealistic.
Type: Bystander/Detective
Motivation: To rule out explanations

BYSTANDER

Name: Caleb Hall - mayor
Description: 50s, rustic, but sharp. Portly and strong, with huge hands.
Type: Bystander/Official
Motivation: To be suspicious.

LOCATION

Name: Yandro

Description: Small village, about 40 houses, general store, schoolhouse, meeting hall. One main street, paved, with heavily forested neighbourhoods of winding dirt roads/trails.

Type: Location/Crossroads

Motivation: To bring people and things together.

LOCATION

Name: The woods around Yandro

Description: Dark woods, twisty trees, dirt trails, sloping uphill towards the desrick.

Type: Location/Maze

Motivation: To confuse and separate.

LOCATION

Name: The schoolhouse

Description: Two-room schoolhouse, neat and tidy, books are old, but well-cared-for.

Type: Location/Hub

Motivation: To reveal information.

LOCATION

Name: The general store

Description: Big store, bare beams, all sorts of goods, sitting area on porch, another inside in front of fireplace.

Type: Location/Hub

Motivation: To reveal information.

LOCATION

Name: The desrick

Description: Deep in the woods, on a high hill, rough-hewn cabin with loop windows in the heavy log walls. Covered in vines and mushrooms, smelling of mould and blood.

Type: Location/Hellgate

Motivation: To create evil.

CUSTOM MOVES

If you **try to spot the Behinder**, roll +Sharp. On a miss, you (luckily) are not quick enough. On a 7-9, you get a glimpse, which terrifies you: take -1 forward. On a 10+, you see it. God help you.

If you **see the Behinder**, roll +Weird. On 10+, pick three from the list below. On a 7-9, pick one. On a miss, well, hrm. That's bad.

- You remain conscious.
- You don't run away.
- You are not struck blind.
- Your mind can encompass one detail about the Behinder. What is it?

If you **go out into the woods**, roll +Sharp. On 10+, you get to where you're going with no problem. On a 7-9, the Keeper will give you a worse outcome, hard choice, or price to pay. On a miss, you're lost. Really, really lost.

If you try to **magically unbind the cursed hearthstone**, it works like Big Magic, with the following requirements:

- You need to have one of the violators, still alive, with you.
- You need to cast it in the desrick at the hearthstone.
- You need to take five minutes to make each roll.
- You need three successful rolls to unbind the curse and dispel the Behinder and the Flats.

NOTES

Zillah Evans died close to a hundred and fifty years ago. She was rumored – correctly – to be a witch, and everyone avoided her. Her desrick, off in the woods, was the site of pilgrimage for herbal cures and potions, and whispers down in Yandro spoke of unholy sabbats and hexes and other strange occurrences. In the generations since her death, she's mainly been forgotten, though fireside tales tempt children to try and find her desrick.

MALE NAMES

August Blake, David Holmes, Eleazar Cook, Barnabas McAlmond, Seth Lawrence, Wiley Howell, Gershom Martins, Jaspar Stephens, Derrick Burkey, Noah Ryder, Isaac Sampson, Andrew Tucker, Judah Price, Marcus Richardson, Jesse Sissun

FEMALE NAMES

Miriam Clark, Naomi Bailey, Obedience Clifford, Bathsheba Roberts, Edwina Morris, Dinah Huntoon, Louvina Perry, Madeleine Phillips, Esther Stanchfield, Abigail Allen, Samantha Cape, Kezia Chambers, Prudence Woodley, Delilah Bracket, Rachel Williams



The Desrick



Yandro town