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# FLUCOUS OF OF CONSISTENTS

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#### WELCOME AGAIN READER !

**INTRO** \*

Salutations once again, dear reader to an all-new, all-awe inspiring, all-surefire, all-sure-nuff, alland-all, all-intents-

and-purposes, certainly something issu of the Superfluous Book of Flimflam Highly Prestigious Journal !

However, this is a very special iss special, indeed. For this magnificent and magnanime issue!

In celebration we have remaining ¼ of each issue 4 - ¼ = 3 ¾ !

EDITED, WRITTEN & WITH SOME ILLUSTRATIONS BY



Lenwood S. Sho Owner-Operat

Q: S<sup>F</sup>

This is

flying phu

LIKE

e, really. But enius. But not genius, oh no. sed to classify h it's spelled here?



Q: SO NOT LOOKING READER

\* **SH** 

A: We each

SEUM

viding public access to ving interest in storytelling ge.

/ fearsomecritters.org

should have been listed first but r. Thrill Land's main site contains mymes, riddles, you name it!

#### SWEIRD HALLOWEEN

A celebration of Halloween fun and fright, for all ages, including a virtual fortune teller, riddles, campfire stories, games, etc. weirdhalloween.com

### Wythic TRAVELS

Let the journey of a thousand miles begin without taking a single step! In this exploration of the places of myth, fantasy and legend. travels.thrillland.com

#### OTHER

<del>paulbunyan.org</del>- (Transferred to the Museum of American Folklore)

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## MYTHOLOGY IN GAMING

Presented by Withir TRAVS

Mythology and gaming are drawn to one another even as moth succumbs to the allu the flame. That is to say meeting with the same end. At least, SO thoughts, at an early G Archon: The Light and Nintendo the System. "What!?" my grievances, look anything 🖔 lizards! They pronged whose inta creature Magic medi at

en

thc.

that we



Arcraft or otherwise based on popular e similar sentiments. Likewise, you may be bewildered frustrations that mythology of video games. In either case, I offer the mon.

a classic game, say *Pac-Man*, only instead of a ney've substituted him for a lizard, a lizard with a ut, much to your confusion, he's still called Pac-Man is okay with it. Check? Okay, so as an added bonus ost he's chased by sharks that shoot laser beams out of in-Powers-style. Their names? Rest assured, they've kept Inky, Blinky, Pinky and Clyde, just to add a bit of salt on

Articie images are largely derived from "Deathwold" written by Harry Harison and illustrated by van Dongen from Astounding Science Fiction (January, February and March 1960). From Gutenberg.org https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/28346

The point is if one has material, why even bo Surely, couldn't one think kind of word, to be hor that I wasn't talking a manticore is a creature teeth and giant scorpion

mythological accuracy unique set of challenge

one side of the coin.

I have long since four

was originally develop

fact, the original, all

actually pretty faithful

characters that I grev

designer's original inter

the pixel characters L

they were supposed really spectacular gal

furthered my enthusia

Moreover, I do not tak folklore or legend. I re:

I ever feel that Cast

similar degree. Howe



3

ely sticking to the source
name in the first place?
than, "manticore?" It's the
look up just to make sure
corn." Oh, by the way, a
v, human face, razor-sharp
right?

It is that what got when I world of Archon? Nope, I ng that vaguely resembled nodag (a hodag is a thing, However, the real heart of not that game developers mythology fans inasmuch is oth parties don't really each other. Both ment come with their own ist judgment based solely on

th its checkered gameplay, eries of home computers. In nch to the manticore was gical limitations. The Archon ased off mythology nor the e attempts to simply update o weren't entirely sure what place. Truth is Archon is a s awful at it, it unexpectedly heless.

ame I have played based on I will to *Shadow Gate* nor did *Curse* disappointed me to a due to me associating such





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<u>om</u> – BY LENWOOD S. SHARPE

ames more with Gothic literature rather than treating aptations of mythology.



rot wrong, I will say that more often than none it. Old-school PC games like *Heroes of Might* ically filled with all manner of legendary dynamic of playable characters alone differed from established mythology. What improved on the well established myths isely because they added something *ihter* it boldly declared, "This is a dwarf. istantly, I thought about how cool this imaniac dwarves are virtually unheard

W up with as a kid. Now there are, probably go at lengths discussing c: The Gathering Online or other another time. I would, however, As someone who has had the 'atively new sort of mythology, I legend, at its inception, was ose who originated myths did ÷ often than not such stories

But r they and 1 creatu, overshc is more, that laid different. Dwarves lil. game was of in traditior.

These are just of course, end mythology in V. MMOGs but I willike to conclude opportunity to the have found that c virtual nonexistence not always agree of themselves changed



of versions of the same stories leaving behind only a few surviv that shape all opinions of any give

And so we must treat each ne added detail not as a challenge unlike books that cement myth games have grown much mor not only carries on tradition, ! Whatever the case, wherever legends, one can only help b game."



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cde is simply that ally be a faithful mythology in hconsistent. What ue" mythology is ory-within-a-story, alarized account whole picture. , if not thousands, he cracks of time ose remaining few

rthology and every obirth of it. Because set of words, videos oral storytelling that al imagination to it. may take these old the end, "It's only a



/ LENWOOD S. SHARPE

# FRANK MERRIWELL'S

or TO THE NORTHWEST OF NOWHERE

Presented by Joint Land



THE HIGH CLIFFS OF P' VIBRANTLY ON THE survivors of the <sup>c</sup> nearer and ne<sup>c</sup> shore. Despite Merriwell wa cause the meager The la<sup>c</sup> to re th

; unk what what uw his uw his uw his use home. uould seem iners were on iners or the ine steamer sank down still, land, no matter how isend in the unforgiving seas

apart from the ' they were ver

Frank we that the Inzo<sup>3</sup>

Ł

e wind hitting his face. Frank knew out his close friends, Bart Hodge and anding.

Ji peculiar one. As they neared, the mass on Jid not appear at all like any island they had Us it might more appropriately be called, rested J. Virtually at every slope stood waterfalls of Jitude, as if some peculiar reservoir from the The oceans itself and not the other way around.

(Frank Merriwell created by Burt L. Standish)



Incidentally, Fran<sup>1</sup> y whether the island sat atop an the earth itself. Still, Frank could undersea mouni discern forests in uld hardly fathom how to reach them in opposit shed down on all sides. Frank passed Jir, as he weighed the factors of the tes venture in search of some other situation. Sho + exhausted before any safe harbor land their su might be rec But as the came to an impossible realization. The greenish A isparent enough to see the absence of any land to reef. There were no rocks. There was nothing k ot the vast emptiness of the green sea. der," shouted Frank. "If we c Withou at passed through the waterfall underneath the flc sugh the watery curtain, all light faded from As s' sigh  $\kappa$ . It was not merely the absence of light, but enveloping kind of darkness that swallowed the vant of light did not overshadow the absence of an or hear the crash of waves nor the swish of oars. SC lr ed out towards the side of the craft. o wind. He felt a sort of immense emptiness that he bottom of his chest. Jackness, through the unseen void, must have been nutes of Frank's life. Had he survived a shipwreck only S a crueler fate? The thought had crossed his mind. , it had appeared, the darkness dissipated. Frank and und themselves in the center of a river that cut deeply of a green and verdant valley. On either bank, flowers of

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every hue imation honeysuckle warmness of the

"Paradise," must

Just then Frank I

"Frank! Frank!" si

While Frank did H mysterious air of feeling of solitude

"Yea, Bart I'm here

"Geez, Frank didr. times. I was getting

"You're right, sorry,

"Where are we? V. crazy? How did we-

Frank cut Bart off.

"Look Bart, I know yc together, literally. I c we not let our minds v

Suddenly, Frank was a

"And what Frank?"" ex

"Do you see that over your left!" shouted Fran

Bart and Inza looked ov

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⇒dges. There was a sweet scent, akin the tranquility of the waters and the st to Frank's previous condition.

ind him.





ind to know he was not alone the ad to produce an overwhelming

must have said your name five

bit shook up."

's going on hear Frank? This is

uestions. But we're in this boat un you do, but I think it's best alert and—"

s, over by the fallen log, to

k gestured.

x	-3	0	2	5
p(x)	.2	.3	.4	.5

- BY LENWOOD S. SHARPE

"Is that? Is that a wome

About thirty yards ahe near a fallen tree, hc waters.

"She looks hurt Frank,"

At that moment, Fran. hastily. Bart and Inza fi readily discern the fig her clothes were tatte they had been made didn't look at all old.

Frank and Bart each Suddenly, Frank felt h<sup>4</sup>

"Bart, what's the idea

"Fins!"

"What?" replied Fran

"She has fins!"

Frank looked down She was noticeably face rested on a lor, of scales grew thick into the unmistakabl.

Frank was startled b slight smile reassured she placed her han feel what he was the laid the sea maid co

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ned over on some branches ;rass, half submerged in the



ent predicament and rowed ns not long before they could ad bruises all along her back, ares shown prominently, as if hair was a dark gray, but she

n and carefully began to lift. pparently loosened his hold.



an to open and look into his. gray hair was in tangles, her r along her torso a succession er waist, her body fully shifted

s shown with a kindness and a ason for alarm. It was strange, ranks shoulder, as if she could ange in Frank, both he and Bart boat.



The sea maid peered at Frank, Bart and Ir open.

"Can you speak? What did this?" asked Frar

"I did it. I made the trip. But the `iron monst<sup>,</sup>

"The what?"

"A giant with spinning teeth but I stopped hurting anyone else," said the sea maid, c

Bart turned white and looked towards Fra

"The steamer, the Mordacai," said Bart.

A grave silence fell over the boat.





۲S. SHARPE



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: reply.

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## Presented by E

Get ready viewers for like anything that has ever been seer Shouldn't Exist); \*A Dracula your average cinematic hustle. non-patented "cinematastic-vision Shouldn't Exist); \*A Dracula Film enthralling exploits of the bravest of Lamp! Join Alloyisus, sentient desk lamp Alpha Clitoris, teaming up with Bram Stoker's battle the monotony of the film industry in a sh ending you're not gonna wanna miss!

MOVIE

Run Time: 77 Minutes Color, Silent Aspect Ratio: 16:9 Budget: \$0

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## HALLOWEEN SIGNS & SYMBO Presented by SWEIRD HALLOWEEN

all the is a special anner it is 5 elements . Halloween nique, oneoften )mistakably ed to this For what adorn their skeletons. 2? But as ry is, what mean?

> ons can be distinct night.

ne autumn start with nost basic skeletons. cats. owls.

out leaves.

on.

witches, skulls, the moon, spiders, ghost goblins, and bats.

Now, there are certainly other Hallowe boogeyman, ghouls, vampires, etc. But r of monsters. different examples aforementioned, will be used as a ger creatures. Although, ghosts have listed in incorporeal and not representative of phys

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devils, the ire all just "goblin." n of such as they are

Casure

nts under , etc. While i noted that to encourage say that such ects reflect the

in those stories that is stories featuring a triumph of good over ing the influences of a ody of folklore evil only prone to wickedness or

Whalloween season for the night. Swl, bat, moon, etc. Much like the



We what it is without life and death. Human beings very the ending of life. However, regardless of one's personal e or a final expiration of contract, death serves a valuable

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So, to continue, the first of the category this classification include witches, black superstition largely carries negative within the context of Halloween such any serious belief. Rather it would symbols are representative of folk more fantastical elements of trad

It should be noted that such a These elements are all drawn, the context for them may monsters or fantastical be evil. Such tales may featur witch or besting the devil see evil triumph over overtakes protagonis otherwise fail to corra

Moving on, next is Symbols reflective propagation of often leads conclude that However, the night. For h two sides be stress and cor example the b, peop hor

43002

bide the

ions of death dead, human

"ixz-yex-zyn"

ne admits it or not. Humans are finite beings who live on a te resources. If no one ever left this world than there to make for those coming into it. Likewise, if everyone t, earth forever how would anyone possibly hope of fairly among so many? Nonetheless, the overall tymbol during the Halloween season allows countless in a context that perhaps makes it a little less and run.

> Sented in the appearance of cobwebs, spiders, many may be of death, there are likely just as while age brings on many good things, such often also signal the onset of a decline in conally, humans find age off putting when to t it serves as a reminder of one's own how to terms with the passage of

> > if not for the festive colors and t leaves of every hue, bobbing fo peratures and of harvest time. Bu to as there is presence is simply feld.

> > > path of varying symbolism

That and many as wis physica physica confron confron wherein we wherein we time whateve

Lastly, Hallowee elements of the apples, etc. all rem such aspects really a result of the time p

And so, it is beyond Halloween simply would r



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Although a distinction must be drawn between campfire s traditional tales of Native American tribes. While aboriginal nat Americas, indeed, have similar entities, these tales were mean very specific ideas, instill values or reinforce identity rather entertain, as is the purpose of the modern campfire story.

Consequently, re-purposing these stories for a fantasy disrespectful to the original storytellers. Accordingly, a dismade between "traditional stories," created to teach, and t simply to entertain. While I'm sure the latter must likewise ex peoples of the Americas there incorporation will not be cons-

Since lumberjack tales were meant to entertainment an purposes of this fantasy tabletop RPG is to similar ends, I to borrow from campfire or tall tales and not traditional stor

So to the matter of fairyfolk, if not entities from Native what is left to fill this void? Well, allow me to briefly electronices representing the better known examples and the classic literature of North America.

usununoddy

#### PETRIFIED MEN

During the nineteenth century reports detailing the corpses rendered to stone (through centuries exposure were fairly common. However, all of these were elaboratichemically treating stone statues, subsequently buryin them back up. Despite many scientists condemning to popularity soared and promoters charged admission fossilized people. One such case of a petrified man, frieven ended in a legal battle over the possession of

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stone man disappeared. Upon inquiry, the promoter stated pn simply came to life and walked away.

his aptly-titled entity from a well circulated Stephen name. Yet Tommy Knockers originated in the tales of • my knockers were said to knock on the walls of mine ins. These were described as rather old-looking hortionate heads.

The ΓΩ from the folklore of French migrants to the vaid to inhabit the Detroit area and possess a Unite s report that the creature is a vile tempered maniaca 'n some lonely road at night. and occ 🖢

#### LEPROCH

Not to be III. established Irish brethren, th orded in William T. Cox's *Fe* Lumberwoods (1910). Cox rel he creatures over from Irela. e introduced to North Amer de change considerably. As (



"Sneaking through after whatever appe feared and avoided. been attacked by the its teeth at the driver ar

•or leaping across the muskegs ocaun became a creature to be rs across swamp roads have clear over the load. snapping villainous claws."

#### MERMAIDS

NA

While one may not regard they were actually report throughout the better half 🔙 <u>"Mermaid Report Room"</u> for r much resembling their Europea. described as having webbed han 🛤 I have always preferred the desci 🛓 Lily Dougall, in her 1895 novel The creature corresponds to traditic significant regard:

to do with the Americas. America's coast (SEE Lumberwood's escribe them as very ther times, they are ea weed. Personally Canadian author 1though Dougall's s in one very

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TRANSFORMER WIRES

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**IELIXES** 



AERIAL SWITCHES



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OR



CRYSTAL ELECTROLYTIC DETECTORS



TRANSFORMER





CONDENSERS

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, as he had so often curiously longed to see her, moving over re was going back to her sea. But it was a strange, monstrous from her gleaming neck down to the ground was dank, So a walrus or huge seal might appear, could it totter about fin-like feet. There was no grace of shape, no tapering tail, only an appearance of horrid quivering on the skin, that here d glossy in the moonlight."

pably wondering who or what is a moogie? Well, that's the e nobody really seems to know. Vance Randolph in his book to Strangers reported that a moogie is something often successful hunters. Rather than admit defeat, Ozark hunters here all they got was, "three moogies and a geek-squaw." on to relates that he was unable to get any further he creature than that.

'OS, a moogie may be a creature of similar ambiguity. Perhaps, .OS is vaguely human in shape, but obscured by the swampy over it or tattered garments stolen from the apparel of its

The out of necessity to venture beyond the realm or tall tales, or hoaxes, the awgwas would undoubtedly be at home with amp augers and agropelters. Awgwas were the fictional Frank Baum best none for his Oz series of books. They in's The Life and Adventures of Santa Claus, an interesting e somewhere between The Night Before Christmas and Lord eriously). The worlds and characters created by Baum are and comprise a sort of halfway point between tall tales and wirks.

THERE ARE 13 DIAMONDS HOWEVER & OF THOSE DIAMONDS ARE FACE CARDS. THERE THERE IS OVER LAP AND ONE CANNOT SIMPLY ADD THE TWO TOOSTHER

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#### MOON MEN

Vespertillio-homo of the possibility for future use in men feature into any storie. aren't acquainted with "The are the basics. The great mo writer who published a series on the moon visible through dubbed, "Vespertillio-homo" o wings. The article threw ren. lend credibility to the hoax wo





resents an interesting uffled as to where moon where then you probably 5." If this is the case here child of a *New York Sun* the appearance of beings scope. The entities were sque beings with bat-ling in Herschel's name out to .!e circulation.



## THE SNIGHT ALBUOUERQUE PUBLIC LIBRARY C SLEESLUR SLISTMAS A SCHNIZICK FROM SCHANK SCHNICKLE-SCHNACK

#### (Apologies to Clement Clarke Moore)

'Snwuz the snight sleeslur Slistmas, steering shy of my spouse Not a speaker was slurring, not sneben a souse; The smockings were slung by the schimbley with snares, In schnopes that Schank Schnickle-Schnack soon not swear; The stepchildren were schnestled slightly stuck to their sleds; While swaths of snooker-scrums scampered in their sheds; With shawarma on the ceiling, and me soon to be slapped, Sadly slurping sour spleens or such struggle-store scraps, When the scores of suburban spawn slowly started to scatter, I sprang from my shed to see what had been shattered. I scampered to the schwindow, like a salmon with a splash, I silenced the snitches and secretly stowed my stash. The slime on the street had started to show. Sloppily served as supper if swallowed too slow. When what to my screaming sphincter did I spy, But some shoddy sleigh six scrubs short of a sty, With some seedy, sleazy screever so sly and so sick, I sensed in a second he must be Schank Schnick. With the sociability of Smeegol, stained in sweat and spew. He slurred, and he scrambled, and shouted those he'd slew: "C'est la vie, Slasher! See ya, Smasher! Spengler and Sleven! Sic semper Sonnet! Sayonara, Stupid! Shiner and Schlixzen!" At the slope of the sidewalk, he had a severe sort of smell. Shouting, "Slash and slay! Slash and slay! Slashing is swell!" Similar to a short circuit should the silicon get scratched. His sanity was in straits, and he ceremoniously smashed; The slumberous and slothful he swore should be slain The sleigh smelled of stool, and Schnickle-Schnack the same-And then, in a sprinkling, or so goes this spoof The scumbag stumped sinisterly on the slope of my stoop. As I snatched my six-shooter and saw that I was screwed.

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DO SOMETHING

SOMETHING

SOMETHING

rro con orazia

C.02

Scaling my scaffolding, slumped this syphilitic Scrooge. He was spiffed up in skins from several of his slaughters. From his scarf to his sandals he stood like a squatter; A string of skulls he snapped with a smack. And he screamed like a salesman selling smallpox in a sack. His stomach—how it sunk! his shins, how scary! His snickering was sickening, his scow how starey! He had a sizable, slobbery smile to swallow your soul, And the spikes from his shoulders stylishly showed! The stump of a slug he suckled smugly in his smiler. A salamander he stroked from some sorrowful shire; He had a shriveled scalp and seemed severely smelly He sneered and snarled, like something by Mary Shelley. Skinny and slump was his spiteful, sorry self. And I shuttered, as I saw him stumble straight into a shelf; Sloshed, sozzled, sauced and also somewhat squiffy. He shot a smurky stare that was not one shred spiffy. He sprung with a screech and a shriek of sorts, Sending me to shake in my shoes while soiling my shorts; He spoke solely swearwords, which seriously sucked, And shredded all the smockings like some stupid schmuck! And sliding his scratchers slowly to my skull. I shot that sick psycho in his stomach and scrotum small. Startled, he screamed, sidelong he staggered, He squirmed, as he slipped, stripped of all swagger. But I sensed him say, as he sped from the scene-"Schlappy Slistmas to all! And to all a sure scream!"







