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Welcome to the Sea of Souls! This document compiles the third 2023 batch of official add-ons released for the <u>Grimoire of Heart</u> starting from the 4.8.9 update.

This content was written and balanced to be on-par with the core Grimoire content, but can be more mechanically advanced than core content. Make sure your Narrator allows Sea of Souls content before using it.

If you somehow have this document and not the core Grimoire release, you can download it here.

As always, a big thank-you to everyone in <u>our Discord server</u> for contributing concepts and feedback for the Sea of Souls!





Gun spells deal Gun damage but are considered Physical Type spells. Gun interactions are listed separately from Physical in the bestiary, but effects that grant a resistance against Physical spells also affect Gun spells unless specified otherwise.

Spells in this section may apply or require the *Warded* Condition. This condition is applied by the spells *Vector Shield* and *Vector Split* and, as a Condition, cannot be removed by conventional means and can only be removed when combat ends, the User enters Death's Door, or the duration of the spell expires. Any application of Warded can only last up to three rounds. Effects preceded by **Warded:** can only be activated if the caster is under the effects of Warded.

Tier I

<b>Name</b>	Categories	Reach	Effect	Description	
	Buff, Ward, Physical (A)	Caster	You gain the <b>Warded</b> Condition while under the effect of this spell.  Choose:  Fortify <physical &="" elements=""> +4</physical>	Your Persona projects a shield made from interlocked translucent	
Vector Shield	Time: Default	Duration: 3 rounds	or + <b>1 AGI</b>		
Vooton Sulit	Buff, Ward, Physical (A)	One ally you can see	Can only be cast if you are under the effects of <b>Vector Shield</b> . Decrease the remaining duration of Vector Shield on yourself by 1 round, then apply the	Your shield flickers and dims, and a second shield emerges around the target.	
Vector Split	Time: Quick	Duration: Effect	effects of <i>Vector Shield</i> to the target for the same duration as yours.  This applies both <b>Warded</b> and one of the Buff effects to the target.		
	Ward, Physical (P)	Caster	Whenever you cast a Gun Category spell, you can consider your position,	Whenever you cast a spell under this effect, a mechanical construct	
Detached Emplacement	Time: Automatic	Duration: Passive	to determine the range of that spell, as the position of any Warded ally you can see.	hovers around the chosen ally, producing the spell effects your Persona would normally.	
Aimed Shot	Mono, Gun, Ward, Physical (A)	1 target within 6 meters	On hit: <b>STRd8</b> Gun damage. <b>Warded:</b> This spell gains +1 TEC to calculate hit and +1 STR to roll	What the spell looks like. This is a	
	Time: Default	Duration: Instant	damage for this spell. This is not a Buff effect.	suggestion, not a rule.	



# Tier II

<b>Name</b>	Categories	Reach	Effect	Description		
Hallelujah, Lock and	Mono, Gun, Physical (A)	1 target within 4 meters	On hit: STRd12 Gun damage. +1 Critical Margin.	Your Persona fires a projectile towards a massive bell projected over the arena. Once		
Lock and Load	Time: Default	Duration: Instant	If you spent Energy to cast this spell by reusing a spent use: +1 HDC.	struck, the bell rings and bullets rain down from it onto the target.		
Trigger Happy	Repress, Physical (P)	Caster	When you cast a Physical Type spell, you can choose to <b>Repress</b> it, and choose one target of that spell:  Decrease the target's Physical or Gun	Your Physical and Gun spells are infused with a glowing trail of		
	Time: Automatic	Duration: Passive	interaction by 1 "step" (min. Neutral). This also effects Defense effects such as Tetrakarn.	energy that can melt through armor.		
Anti- Personnel "Typhon" Drone	Gun, Area, Physical (A)	Caster	Warded: At the end of your turn, you can choose to deal STR Gun damage to any number of units adjacent to you,	A series of floating drones zips around you, firing		
	Time: Default	Duration: Up to 3 rounds	no dodge check. This effect ends when the Warded Condition on you ends.	concentrated laser blasts at nearby enemies.		

# Tier III

Name	Categories Reach		Effect	Description	
Triple Down	Multi, Gun, Physical (A)	Up to 3 targets within 7 meters	On hit: <b>STRd10</b> Gun damage. You can choose the same target up to two	Your Persona delivers a flurry of bullets from all angles.	
•	Time: Default	Duration: Instant	times. If you do, the second instance of this attack deals half damage.		
BFS-9000	Line, Gun, Ward, Move, Physical (A)	Any number of targets between you and a point within 4 meters.	On hit: <b>STRd10</b> Gun damage. <b>Warded</b> : If this spell slays a target, you can use a <b>Free</b> action to move to the position of the target, and increase	A giant sphere of crackling green energy slowly flies forward and explodes with massive energy, turning everything in its path to dust.	
	Time: Default	Duration: Instant	the duration of Warded on yourself by 1 round (max. 3).		
Deterrence	Mono, Gun, Ward, Repress, Physical (A)	One target within 6 meters	On hit: <b>STRd12</b> Gun damage. <b>Warded</b> : For the duration of the Warded condition on you, whenever a unit within 6 meters of you declares an attack, you can spend your <b>Interrupt</b>	After an initial burst of bullets, you are orbited by a spectral weapon	
Bullet	Time: Default	Duration: Instant	action to apply a -1 HDC to that attack, then you can <b>Repress</b> the use of any Physical spell in your deck: You can apply this effect once again this round against a different target.	that fires grazing shots at targets for the spell's secondary effect.	



# Tier V

Name	Categories	Reach	Effect	Description
Justice Shot	Mono, Gun, Ward, Physical (A)	One target within 5 meters	On hit: <b>STRd12</b> Gun damage. <b>Warded:</b> If damage dealt by this spell reduces the target's HP to 50% or less, you can <b>Repress</b> and remove the	Your Persona materializes a guillotine blade over the target and brings it down by shooting the
dustace shot	Time: Default	Duration: Instant	Warded condition on yourself: This spell reduces the target's HP to 25%. This effect cannot be activated against targets with Hetelic Resistances.	rope holding it up. The blade crashes down, slicing through the target.
Sinful Shell	Mono, Gun, Heal, Physical (A)	One target within 6 meters	On hit: <b>STRd12</b> + <b>X*STR</b> , where X is the number of <b>Status</b> , <b>Buff</b> and <b>Debuff</b> effects active on you.  After casting this spell, you can choose	You leap towards the target, with your Persona shadowing your movements. You deliver a single shot to
	Time: Default	Duration: Instant	to remove any number of Status or Debuff effects active on you as a <b>Free</b> action.	the target, powerful enough to send yourself flying back to your starting position.
Plasma Smasher	Mono, Gun, Curse, Physical (A)	One target within 5 meters	On hit: <b>STRd12+STR</b> Gun damage. <b>Warded:</b> Apply the following <b>Curse</b> : Every time this unit takes Gun type damage, add one Wildfire Counter to this target: When Warded is removed from the caster, this target	You fire an explosive device that attaches itself to the target. With each bullet the target is hit with, the
	Time: Default	Duration: Instant	takes X/2 (Caster's) STR Gun damage, where X is the number of Wildfire Counters on this target, then remove all Wildfire Counters on this target.  (This overrides the default Curse duration and triggering condition)	device glows brighter and clicks louder, until it explodes into a magnificent display of violence.

# **Feats**

Name	Effect	Req.	Additional
Battlements of the Palace	The effects applied by <i>Vector Shield</i> and <i>Vector Split</i> you cast now stack with other Buff effects. Increase the range of all Gun Category spells you cast by 1 meter.	Can only be activated if your active Persona possesses the Physical Type	Can only be chosen once.
Inviolable Beauty	Basic attacks you declare as Interrupt actions, such as by the effect of <i>Polearm Mastery</i> or Counter Category spells, can roll for Critical hits without spending Luck charges.		Can only be chosen once.



# Weapons

Name	Class	Damage	Reach	Extra	Description	Cost
Soft Case	Firearm	MAGd4 + 4	1-4	+3 Expression pts.	A guitar case, modified to carry a semi-automatic pistol and a self-loading system.	2.5 RP
Pipe Fox	Firearm	MAGd6 + 6	1-5	+1 MAG	A long and slender bolt- action rifle with an engraved copper grip.	4.5 RP
Superstar Case	Firearm	MAGd8 + 5	1-6	Deals +X damage, where X is your Expression Tier	A flashy guitar case covered in glittering stickers, hiding a sophisticated, full-auto firing suite.	6 RP
Future War	Firearm	MAGd8 + 3	1-5	Grants <i>Reversal</i> (Tier II Misc.)	An oversized pistol with a frankly overwhelming number of lights and wires. Despite looking like a toy, in the Metaverse it gains the ability to fire bolts of light.	6 RP
Laser Bow	Bow	SKLd6 + AGI	1-5	+1 HDC	A prototype weapon with a glowing string that, when pulled, generates a crackling energy arrow.	4 RP
Gunfist	Bow	SKLd8 + 4	1-4	Piercing 2	A gauntlet that shoots darts at intense speeds from a gripactivated device.	6 RP
Jnara Mudra	Dagger	STRd6 + TEC	1-2	+1 TEC, Critical Margin +1	A pair of daggers with a gentle silhouette, decorated with a ring that whistles when the daggers are thrown.	4 RP
Hell Rose	Dagger	STRd10 + TEC	1-4	Deals <b>Dark</b> Type damage	A hefty, blood-red rose that only grows in unusually high temperatures.	6.5 RP
Gambler	Dagger	SKLd12 + LCK	1-3	This weapon's Critical Margin is always 5. If this weapon does not deal a Critical Hit, halve the total damage of this weapon.	A shiny coin from a distant land that's been out of circulation for decades.  Somehow, it always seems to find its way back to its owner	Special



## **Optional Ruling: Rumors**

An unexplained phenomenon that seems to emerge and disappear with time, mainly studied by the Kuzunoha Detective Agency, Rumors are strange tales that, once spread to enough people, start to affect the real world. Rumors can be used to disastrous effects, as documented by the Kuzunoha Detectives, or to benefit Users in tight spots.

Mechanically, spreading a Rumor is considered an Activity that must be performed during any Time block on Sundays. The party must pick one Rumor from the list below, or any other Rumors offered by the Narrator, and each User must spend one Time block helping spread it. More than one User can spend the same Time block spreading the Rumor, and the Rumor will not take effect if one or more User did not spread the Rumor. All Rumor effects start during the Night block on Monday and last until the end of the next Saturday's Evening block, at midnight sharp. Once a Rumor's effect ends, it cannot be used again the following week.

Rumor	Effect
"The ramen store sells weird medicine."	Users have access to a store that carries one copy of every non-Special Consumable, but the price of all Consumables in this store is increased by 0.5 RP.
"The local airsoft shop needs new parts."	Whenever Users sell items they own, they get the full listed RP value of the item, instead of the usual half.
"Everyone seems really full of energy lately, huh?"	All Users gain 1 Aspect Point immediately.  Each User gains +1 Aspect Point at the start of each session.
"A rich guy threw his entire fortune into the Shibuya River"	All Users gain +1 RP immediately.  If Shadow negotiation rewards RP, it rewards 0.25 extra RP.
"A weird girl and a long-nosed guy have been spotted together all over the city."	Once per day, you can visit the Velvet Room without spending Time blocks or sub-blocks.
"Is it just the pollen, or is everyone just sleepier recently?"	Once per day, each User can activate the following effect: The next short rest you take restores 1d8 Energy, VITd8 HP and recovers the use of one spell in your deck, including Repressed spells.
"A statue at the park is in an unusually good mood."	After spending time with a Confidant, you'll get +1d4 Ranks with them, added to the standard gains.



"Crazy weather we've been having, huh? Like someone's controlling it"	Once per day, the party can choose one of the following Scene Aspects and apply it to the current Scene: "Dark and stormy", "You could hear a needle drop", "What's with all the noise?" or "A critical lack of workplace safety". The narrator can choose to allow these Aspects to also apply to the Metaverse.
"I saw Reiko Kashima the other day, I swear!"	The next combat that does not include Tyrants or Ultimate Shadows will feature at least one Rumor Shadow, chosen by the Narrator.
"Alien radio waves are affecting people's brains."	Whenever a User spends a Time block for an Activity that raises any Social Skill, they gain +1 Knowledge point on top of the default reward.
"A legendary martial artist has recently arrived in town."	Whenever a User spends a Time block for an Activity that raises any Social Skill, they gain +1 Discipline point on top of the default reward.
"The flowers can talk, if you're willing to listen."	Whenever a User spends a Time block for an Activity that raises any Social Skill, they gain +1 Empathy point on top of the default reward.
"There's been a pheromone leakage near Queen Bee Café."	Whenever a User spends a Time block for an Activity that raises any Social Skill, they gain +1 Charm point on top of the default reward.
"A movie festival will be hosted here in a few days."	Whenever a User spends a Time block for an Activity that raises any Social Skill, they gain +1 Expression point on top of the default reward.
"Ghosts will sometimes follow you around, looking for people they knew in life."	Whenever a User spends a Time block for an Activity that raises any Social Skill, they gain +1 Courage point on top of the default reward.



## **Assignment: The Mysterious Train Station**

**Recommended Level: 1** 

Time Limit: 3 days

The Users find out about a series of posts made by someone called *Hasumi* on a popular image board. Hasumi seems troubled, as she recently noticed her train rides back from work have been longer and more people seem to be asleep or unconscious during her trips. Although initially dismissed as another generic creepy story, Hasumi's posts took a strange turn earlier in the day:

#### 画像ファイル名: <u>1685101935429.png</u>-(176335 B)



**無題** Name **Hasumi** 23/05(金)17:52:15 No.226278 そうだねx5 6月30日頃消えます

Where the hell am I?? The train just kept going and not stopping at any stations, everyone seems asleep and I can't get the conductor to talk to me. We stopped at this weird small town train station called Kisaragi-eki, but I've never heard of a place called Kisaragi in my life

Everything is so quiet, I don't think even the employees of the train station are around... Should I leave the train? It's been stopped at the station for a while now.

There is, in fact, no town or station called Kisaragi anywhere in the country. This piques the party's interest, as Hasumi's experience with seemingly impossible spaces lines up with how some people enter the Metaverse for the first time. By requesting more information from Hasumi, she'll mention which train she took and which car she was in, along with more information as requested:

- ❖ Hasumi refuses to divulge any personal information outside of the fact she is a woman of legal age, that works at a store in downtown Tokyo. She lives with her parents.
- ❖ Hasumi is only carrying her mobile phone, wallet, and a few papers.
- ❖ Hasumi has not contacted anyone yet, as she believes this is just an unusual end-of-the-line station and is considering taking a cab back home.

Other details are left to the Narrator's discretion. Once the Users find out what train Hasumi took, they can take the same train, at the same station, entering the same car she did. This incurs a fee of 0.25 RP per User. The timer for this assignment starts as soon as the Users discover this information: If Hasumi is not found by the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> day after the Users first board the train, she will never be found, and this Assignment will fail.

Once in the train, everything seems normal at first, as the train makes the requisite stops and seems as busy as you'd expect a metropolitan subway to be. After a few stations, however, the crowd will begin to quickly thin out, leaving only the Users and a few asleep salarymen on board. At this point, the train will no longer stop at the stations, blasting past them at uncomfortably high speeds.

Assignments are designed as short, self-contained stories meant for players to tackle either as a small campaign or as part of a longer-running game. The description of these assignments will contain heavy spoilers, so Narrators are encouraged to read through the Assignment first and only reveal what's necessary for the Users to progress as needed.



#### Scene I: The Train

#### Scene Aspects: A Train with No Brakes, Locked Conductor's Door, Asleep Passengers

As previously stated, the train is careening down the tracks with no regards for stops. Strangely enough, you don't see any other trains when looking out the window, although the rest of the scenery seems familiar enough. Non-User passengers won't wake up, no matter what the party attempts. During this Scene, Users can find a new post by Hasumi:

6 無題 Name **Hasumi** 23/05 (金) 18:51:47 No.226380

I had to leave the train, it was freaking me out. I found a phone booth at the station and tried to call the cops but they thought it was a prank call... My parents have no idea where Kisaragi is either, so they can't even come get me. It's so dark all of a sudden, and I still haven't found my way out of this stupid station. I might need to walk along the rail tracks.

Hasumi will not respond to further posts during this Scene. Users are free to travel through the train, except for the conductor's cabin, that's firmly locked. The notable items in this Scene include:

- \* Power Bank: A portable battery carried by one of the asleep passengers. This is considered a Miscellaneous item that will come into play starting with Scene II. This does not require a check to be found, and only requires that the players look through the belongings of any passenger.
- ❖ Crowbar: An emergency tool hidden under one of the seats. It's considered a melee weapon with the same stats as the Baseball Bat (Core, Page 78). The compartment that houses the Crowbar is hidden and requires a *Knowledge* (2) check to be located. It's unlocked. Other emergency toolboxes are empty.

The Users can perform a *Strength* (6) / *Technique* (7) check to force the conductor's door open. The difficulty of these checks is decreased by 3 if the party found the Crowbar. Upon opening the door, the party will find no conductors at all, but two Shadows playing around with the train's controls. Once the door opens, the Shadows will be startled and combat will start, with two more Shadows approaching the party from behind.

#### Combat I

- ❖ 2x Cu Sith (Core, Page 166); 2x Moh Shuvuu (Core, Page 169)
- Spaces marked with S are where the Users are positioned when combat starts, while spaces colored in black represent obstacles that cannot be moved through.

		S	S	S	
		S	S	S	

Once combat ends, or after some time passes if Users do not open the door, the Scene ends.



### Scene II: Kisaragi-eki (Kisaragi Train Station)

#### Scene Aspects: Pitch-Black, Winding Corridors, Echoing Voices

Regardless of when Users entered the train, it'll be night out once the train nears the station. If Users were victorious during combat, the emergency brakes will trigger and the Users will be unharmed, if not a bit shaken. If the party did not enter combat in the previous Scene, however, the train will crash violently against the train in front of it, dealing 4d8 (18) Physical damage to each User, no dodge check. This damage cannot lower a User's HP to less than 1. The doors will open, and the party is free to explore the Kisaragi Station, which seems to be part of the Metaverse but still obeys some rules of the Universe, such as electronic devices still working. However, Users cannot freely leave the Metaverse by the usual means for the time being. Strangely, the Users are also unable to leave the station by conventional means: The entrance and exit tunnels are blocked off by train cars, and a strange weakness befalls any person who tries to climb out through the fences at the parking lot or break through windows to leave. The only way Users can escape Kisaragi-eki is through the tunnels, past the initial blockade, or returning to the Universe once the option is unlocked.

At first, Kisaragi-eki looks like a standard train station, although surrounded by a town you've never been to. The boarding platform has two escalators, powered off, that lead the party into the station proper, a place that extends far beyond what logic would allow. At this point, the crushing darkness of the station becomes a problem: The batteries on all light-producing devices the Users are carrying will quickly deplete, leaving them stranded in the dark. This can only be circumvented by Aspects or if the party acquired the *Power Bank* during the previous Scene.

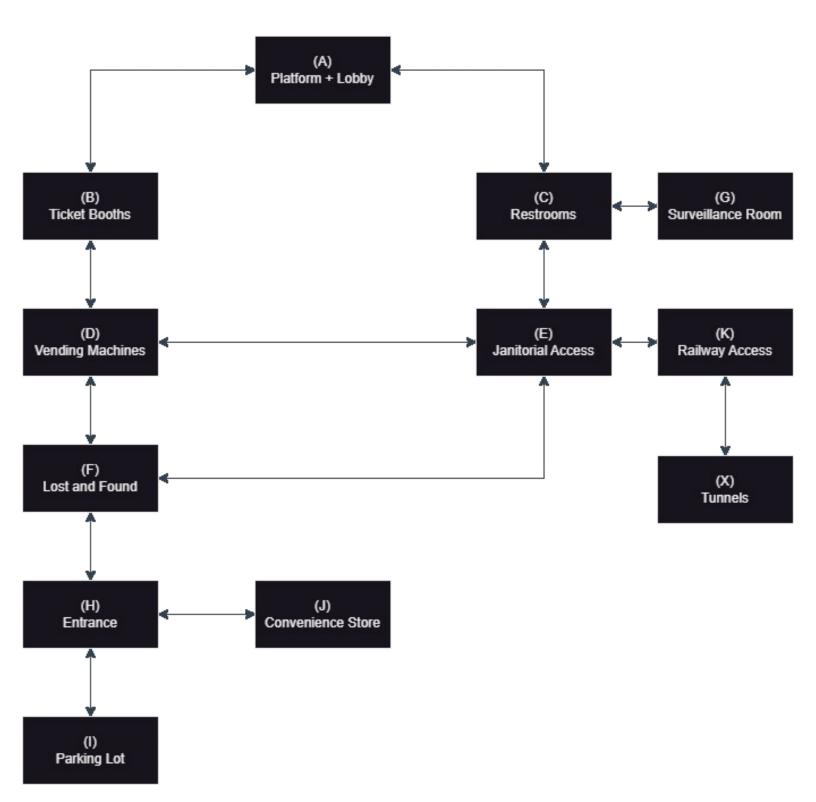
The party starts at the Lobby (A) and has the option to travel down the corridors to the Ticket Booth (B) or the Restrooms (C). If the party does not have a light source, every time they travel to a room they haven't been to, they must roll a *Vitality* (4) check. On failing, they lose 1 Energy each, though this cannot lower their energy below zero.

Narrators here should emphasize the strangeness of the station: The corridors seem to make random turns that feel like they'd loop onto themselves, the posters plastered on the walls display events and dates that make no sense, the vending machines only offer odd and gross-looking food items, etc. The station is clean, save for a dark stain that seems to trail through every corridor. It smells faintly of rust but the Users are not able to identify what exactly it is. Feel free to get creative with the descriptions and the provided Aspects to create an uneasy atmosphere for your players.

Once players reach this Scene, Hasumi will respond to a few more inquires. Her experience with the station seems similar to yours, and although she cannot give an accurate guide of which turns she took, she'll let the Users know that she managed to leave the station through a service entrance and is now running down the tracks looking for a way out. If asked about any other people in the station, she'll vaguely mention a "creepy one-legged man" but will mention he disappeared before she could come any closer. At this point, Hasumi is clearly shaken and her responses will become sparse and erratic.



## Kisaragi-eki Layout





#### **❖** A – Lobby and Platform

- o "A standard train boarding platform, although the complete darkness feels unfamiliar in this setting. A series of derailed cars litters the tunnels from all sides, and an oppressive silence surrounds you. A set of escalators leads you underground into a wide, slightly outdated lobby that was seemingly designed to allow heavy foot traffic to and from the trains. You see two corridors, one leading west, and the other leading east.
- Where Users start exploring the station. There's nothing of note in this wide area, and Users will be required to jump over the ticket gates to progress further. This area is connected to the Ticket Booths (B) through the west and the Restrooms (C) east.

#### **❖** B – Ticket Booths

- "The winding corridors suddenly make way for a wider room, dimly illuminated by flickering ticket machines. A series of human-operated booths lay at the far end of the room, but they seem shuttered and closed. From here, you can move east, or proceed south."
- o The ticket booths in this area requires Users to scan their IDs to function. However, instead of dispensing a ticket, the booth will display the User's name and the following message: "FINAL DEPARTURE: SWITCHYARD". If Users happen to have the ID of a non-User in their possession, it will instead display a random location and a date in the future. This area is connected to the Lobby (A) through the east, and the Vending Machines (D) through the south.

#### **❖** C − Restrooms

- o "As you wander through the corridors, you come across two doors with characteristic bathroom signage on one side, and a plain white, firmly locked door labeled "AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY" on the other side. There is an exit to the west, but no other corridors besides that.
- Once inside the bathroom, you find the bathrooms to be in pristine condition, well-lit and cleaned to a mirror sheen. A door sits at the far end of the bathroom with a small sign that reads "Janitorial Access", and it seems to be unlocked. After a few seconds in the bathroom, you hear a loud thud coming from the farthest stall from the entrance.

The loud noise only happens in the first bathroom the party chooses to enter. Investigating the stall reveals it's locked, and trying to open it will cause an irate voice to berate the Users. The stall is inhabited by a *Belphegor*, a powerful Shadow who seems unwilling to engage with the Users or open the door to its stall. Users must pass an *Empathy* (2) check to convince Belphegor to talk to the party, upon which it will reveal that its only request is a can of "Dr. Salt", a carbonated beverage none of the Users have ever heard of before, and that he will, in turn, give them the keys to the Surveillance Room near the restrooms. This objective is optional, but highly encouraged. This area is connected to the Janitorial Access (E) through a south-pointing door in the bathrooms, a corridor to the west that leads to the Lobby (A) and to

## **❖** D − Vending Machines

"You enter a wide, drafty room with a few benches and a series of vending machines. Most of the machines have been picked clean, although one of the machines is lined with bright red cans of something called 'Dr. Salt'. Oddly enough, the machines are all powered on, and entering this area feels you with the slightest bit of comfort. There is

the Surveillance Room (G) to the east.



- a corridor north, another one south, and a plain unlocked door labeled 'Janitorial Access' near the vending machines.
- O A can of Dr. Salt costs 0.25 RP, is considered a Consumable and restores 15 HP. You can buy up to 1d6+1 cans before the machine runs out of cans. The party is allowed to take one short rest in this area per day. The Dr. Salt consumable can be given to Belphegor in the Restrooms (C) in exchange for the key to the Surveillance Room (G).

#### **❖** E − Janitorial Access

- o "You pass through the simple door to what seems to be a maintenance area linked to a series of corridors that employees once used to navigate the station unseen by the public. It has four doors total, labeled as follows: 'Concessions', 'Restrooms', 'Lost and Found', and 'Railway Access (Authorized Personnel Only)'. The spaces are cramped and hard to navigate, and the darkness makes traversing this area an unsettling affair. After taking in the general layout of the area, an uncomfortably loud noise rings through the station, the sound of something heavy slamming against metal and reverberating intensely. Suddenly, you feel like you are no longer alone in the station."
- O Unbeknownst to players, entering the Janitorial Access triggers the main threat of this area, a powerful Shadow known as *Ippon-Datara*. Ippon-Datara will immediately spawn in the Entrance (H) area. Every time the party takes a short rest or moves to a different area, Ippon Datara will move to an area it has access to from its current position. If the party and Ippon-Datara enter the same area, combat immediately starts, with Ippon Datara taking the first spot in the initiative queue automatically.
- This area is connected to the Lost and Found (F), Vending Machines (D), Restrooms (C), and Railway Access (K).

#### **❖** F – Lost and Found

- o "You come across a small room with a counter lined with glass panes. Behind the counter, there's a line of hangers and boxes, seemingly full of objects lost by past passengers. As you approach the counter, a small creature leaps from under the counter and onto it, beaming a friendly smile at the party. 'Hee-hi! How may I help you today?'"
- The creature at the counter is a friendly Jack Frost wearing a train conductor cap. It's not aggressive at first, but will fight normally if attacked. If Users converse with it, however, they can collectively ask for one of the following items from the lost and found:
  - "Weapon": Grants the party one Decorative Naginata (Polearm, STRd4 damage, 1-2 reach, +1 AGI, 2 RP. Core, page 78);
    - "Clothing": Grants the party one Camouflage Shirt (Armor, 2 DR, +2 to dodge rolls, 2 RP. Core, page 82);
    - "Medicine": Grants the party one Revivadrin (Consumable, Revives one ally on Death's Door with 50% HP, 1.25 RP. Core, page 85);
  - "Trinket": Grants the party one Artic Blanket (Accessory, Fortify Ice 3, 1 RP, Core page 84);
  - o The party can only get one item this way, unless a User succeeds on a *Charm (3)* skill check. If they do, they can choose a second, different item from the list. This can only be done once per campaign.
    - o This area is connected to the Janitorial Access (E) and the Entrance (H)





#### **❖** G – Surveillance Room

- "You enter a cramped, uncomfortably warm room that smells vaguely of coffee. There's barely room for the party, as the room was clearly designed for one or two people at most. A large leather chair rests in front of a large surveillance system, lined with old greenish monitors that seem to cover about every spot of the station. Looking through the room, you find a portable device with a tag that reads "CCTV AND SECURITY OVERRIDE" that can flip through the camera feed. A light on the bottom of this device, labeled 'BATT', is slowly blinking red."
- The surveillance room is mostly featureless, save for the CCTV system, the chair, the handheld device, and a few empty coffee mugs. From here, Users can see all other labeled rooms in the map and a rough idea of the connections between the rooms. It will also display where Ippon-Datara currently is, if he was spawned by the Users entering the Janitorial Access.
- O The Security Device has a total of 3 charges. When activated in any area besides the Railway Access, it will show Users where Ippon-Datara currently is, and the room it will head into next. If Ippon-Datara has not appeared yet, it will instead show the camera feed of the entrance (H). In the Railway Access, the Security Device will override the access panel and allow Users direct access to the Tunnels (X), instead of its usual effect. Activating either of these features spends 1 charge, and using the Power Bank, assuming the Users obtained it, will give it one extra charge, although this can only be done once. When using the device's last charge, it'll always show the camera feed for the Parking Lot (I), where Users can see one car that seems to have its headlights on, but little else.
  - If the Security Device runs out of charges, it blacks out and becomes useless. It cannot be restored outside of the extra charge granted by the Power Bank.
- Once Users access the Surveillance Room, the Narrator can allow them to return to the Universe, using the Surveillance Room as a re-entry point. Not allowing this will raise the difficulty of the dungeon considerably, but is left to the Narrator's discretion.
- This area is connected to the Restrooms (C).

#### **❖** H – Entrance

- o "You come across the entrance doors to the station. The doors are open and the wind is cold and unsettling. The town seems to be completely still, and not a noise can be heard from outside. You can see the parking lot across the doors, and a convenience store shines stark against the gloomy dark around it."
- o The entrance is mostly featureless, serving primarily as the entry point for Ippon-Datara.
- o This area is connected to the Parking Lot (I) and Convenience Store (J)

#### ❖ I – Parking Lot

- o "The wind is biting, the type of weather that makes you reconsider even being outside in the first place. There are a few cars parked, and a particular dull green sedan rests at the far end of the lot, with headlights on, pointing at nothing in particular."
- O The parking lot is initially empty, and most cars are unlocked, and empty. Even if the Users somehow manage to start the cars, they are out of gas and will not move. The green car, however, is locked. Users can opt to break the glass, which will immediately trigger the car's alarm, or pass a Magic (4) / Agility (5) check to unlock one of the doors and bypass the alarm before it triggers.
- o Triggering the alarm will immediately start combat, as explained on the next page.
- This area is connected to the Entrance (H).
- Once combat ends, or the car is accessed silently, Users find a Security Badge;



#### **Combat II**

- ❖ 2x Kodama (Core, page 166), 1x Koropokkuru (Core, page 167), 1x Senri (Core, page 167)
- ❖ Spaces marked with S are where the Users are positioned when combat starts, while spaces colored in black represent obstacles that cannot be moved through and hide objects and Shadows behind them
- ❖ During this combat, Kodama will prioritize staying out of sight and casting *Summon* to add more units to combat. Users are encouraged to prioritize taking them out.

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#### **❖** J − Convenience Store

- o "The air is warm and comfortable, and the smell of fresh Chakra Crepes fills the store, almost beckoning you inside. The shelves are stocked with weirdly named snacks, unusually shaped drink cans and udon-scented cleaning supplies. A short girl with translucent wings is leaning against the counter, seemingly asleep. Once you come closer, she jolts awake. 'Weh?! Real customers?! Eh... W-welcome to Pix-e-mart, h-how may I help you?'"
- O The convenience store sells all Consumable items, rolling for rarity if needed. The Pixie at the counter will also buy the Security Device off the party for 2 RP (no refunds). If the party buys any item from this store, Ippon-Datara will move one room towards the Entrance (H). If the party sells the Security Device, Ippon-Datara will move once more. If the party attacks the Pixie, she will disappear permanently, Users will be unable to purchase any items from the store, and Ippon-Datara will immediately appear in the Entrance (H) area.



- o If Ippon-Datara reaches the Entrance (H) while the party is in the store, it will stay there until it fights the party.
- o This area is connected to the Entrance (H).

#### **❖** K – Railway Access

- o "This cramped room is completely empty, save for a large gray console placed by a metal door that seems to lead into the train track, and a large security poster warning employees of the dangers of unauthorized access to the tracks. The console has a rudimentary interface and a green display that reads 'ID CHECK' in angular letters. The door is thick and heavy-looking, equipped with a square glass pane with rounded corners."
- This small area is what grants Users access to the Tunnels, where Hasumi presumably fled to, and the exit to this Scene. The door to the tunnels can only be opened by one of two means:
  - Presenting the Security Badge acquired at the Parking Lot (I);
  - Spending one charge of the Security Device, obtainable from the Surveillance Room (G) to override the security mechanism;
- Regardless of the option used, the door will open and allow the party to proceed. There is
  no console on the other side of the door, meaning that once the party enters the Tunnels
  (X), they can no longer return to other areas of the station.
- This area is connected to the Janitorial Access (E).

#### ❖ X – Tunnels

- o "The door slides shut behind you, its locks loudly clicking into place. The tunnel extends forward into complete darkness, taking a slight bend just out of your sight. You hear a loud bang, similar to a hammer hitting the security door, and you can see a strange creature on the other side of the window. You see a bronze-colored helmet with one glowing blue eye exposed, tracking you closely. The creature is tall and powerfully built, with a blueish-green skin. It slams against the door again, and the sound of drums and chanting can be heard all around you, growing more and more intense and aggressive."
- Make sure to inform the party that leaving the Railway Access is a one-way trip, as they
  may be willing to look for any areas they might have missed before proceeding.
- The party is able to return to the Universe and return to this area, but not to Surveillance Room (G). It's important to give the Users some time to recover and reconvene before the next Scene, as it will feature a lengthy combat sequence.
- Feel free to skip the creature's description if the party already faced Ippon-Datara. This
  area is mostly a straight shot to Scene III, meant to set the scene for the final confrontation
  of this Assignment.



#### Ippon-Datara

# Guardian of Kisaragi, Ippon-Datara

IX - Hermit

Level 3 Hit Points: 100



Hermit Blacksmith – Every time Ippon-Datara's HP is reduced to 0, it's revived with 100% HP at the end of its next turn. Escaping from combat against this Shadow is an automatic success.

#### Has access to Hetelic Resistances.

**STR** MAG **TEC AGI** VIT LCK 3 5 3 4 6 2 Mountain Wanderer (P): Ippon-Datara's movement allowance is treated as 3\*AGI (12) **Crush Underfoot**: One target within 3 meters. HDC +1. On hit: 5d4 (12) Physical damage. **Light Up the Forge**: One target within 3 meters. HDC +1. On hit: 3d4+3 (10) Fire damage

Echoing Roar: All units in combat except Guardian of

Kisaragi, Ippon-Datara. 20+5TEC (40%) Panicked chance.

The "one-legged billows", Ippon-Datara is an immensely powerful Shadow that lurks Kisaragi-eki and attacks any humans it finds.

> The way Ippon-Datara lurks throughout the station is described under the E-Janitorial Access area.

If Users escape from combat with Ippon-Datara, they must choose one valid room to move to, and Ippon-Datara will not follow them during this movement, but will proceed moving as normal during the next change of room.





## Scene III: Terminal Switchyard ~Mountain Temple~

#### Scene Aspects: Deafening Chants, Lit by Lanterns, Overtaken by Nature

Although the tunnels seem to wind and twist forever, they will eventually give way to the switchyard, where a chorus of strained voices surrounds the party from all sides. The switchyard itself is bizarrely fused with a religious temple:

"A circle of red lanterns surrounds the switchyard, separating the maze of rails and signage from the dark, tall trees beyond. There are no trains awaiting at the switchyard, and many of the railways are bent by emerging roots or covered in overgrown weeds.

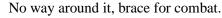
At the end of the rails, a temple rests atop a wall, imposing and lit in red and orange, with two sets of stairs carved into each side of the wall.

As you approach the stairs, the sound of an imposing gong echoes through the area, rustling the trees and seemingly waking the birds who inhabit them. Strangely, the chanting becomes louder and more distinct, accompanied by the flapping of innumerable wings.

'Itsumade!' the voices cry out as the sky darkens, overtaken by large birds with human skulls emerging from the trees, the source of the unending song. 'How much longer? How much more of this must we endure?' they plead, to seemingly nobody in particular. The ground shakes and the gong rings again as a giant green-and-rust hand crashes out of the temple, then another, and two more as the figure takes shape:

The torso of a human, lined with grated windows, with four giant arms, the head of a bull with glowing yellow eyes and a third, human eye atop its head. Its emergence lets off a wave of heat and force that pushes the party down onto the tracks. The wall that propped the temple gives way to the creature's lower half: A gigantic furnace where a fierce flame burns.

'MISBEGOTTEN! CHILDREN OF FAMINE! HEAR MOLOCH! AT LAST, THOU SHALL GORGE ON THE LIVING! MAY THE FEAST BEGIN!!' Its voice is fierce, metallic and deafening, driving the demonic birds into a frenzy. Suddenly, you hear a scream: A woman thrashes against the Itsumade, held aloft by a handful of the creatures, being carried slowly, but inexorably, towards Moloch, the living statue at the far end of the switchyard."

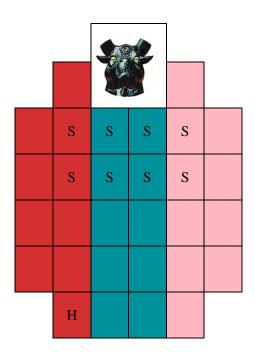






#### **Combat III**

- ❖ 1x Moloch (Tyrant)
- The colors on the map are meant to visually represent Rails I, II, and III, from left to right, used by some of Moloch's attacks.
- ❖ The Users are placed in spaces marked by S as combat starts, in any configuration they desire.
- ❖ During combat, the party must be wary of Hasumi's position on the map:
  - O When combat starts, she will be held aloft by Itsumade in the position indicated by **H**. At the start of every turn, she will be moved two spaces towards Moloch. If Hasumi's position and Moloch's overlap, Hasumi will be devoured and perish, and Moloch's *Feed the Flames* will trigger as its Interrupt action.
  - O Users adjacent to Hasumi's position can declare a basic attack against the Itsumade, with no hit check required, to push them 2 spaces in any direction, chosen by the player.
  - O Attacking the Itsumade carrying Hasumi from a greater range puts Hasumi in greater risk. The User must pass a *Discipline* (3) check with an obligatory 1d4 Risk. On failing, the attack misses and nothing happens. On a success, the Itsumade are pushed back as usual.
  - o Either attack can roll for Critical hits. On a Critical, the Itsumade carrying Hasumi are pushed back to their starting position, and will not move at the start of the next turn.





# Hungering Pyre, Moloch (Tyrant)

XII – Hanged Man

Level 3 Hit Points 252



Skill Bonus: +1 STR

**Feed the Flames** – If all Users in combat are currently under the Aflame Condition, remove this Condition from all Users, then Moloch heals 50% of its maximum HP.

STR	MAG	TEC	AGI	VIT	LCK	20	6	
4	4	6	1	9	1	Reflect	Weak	Weak

**Altar of Sacrifice (P):** Moloch starts combat first in the initiative queue. Moloch cannot be moved from its position on the map by any means.

**Aflame (P):** Aflame is a Condition applied by Moloch. It applies a -1 TEC, -1 AGI penalty that stacks with other Debuff effects. Aflame is removed when the User enters Death's Door or Charred Carriage is cast.

**Charred Carriage**: All units in Rails I, II or III. HDC +1. On hit: X\*STR Fire damage, where X is the number of Users under the effect of Aflame. After casting this spell, all Aflame Users take 4d4 (10) Fire damage and are moved to the far edge of the arena.

"Moloch extends its arms and roars as the burning specter of a steam engine careens through the arena, consuming all in its path. The energy released by this attack also pushes the trapped Users away, towards the far end of the switchyard."

**Wreckage Throw**: One unit Moloch can see. On hit: 4d4 (10) Physical damage and 10+5TEC% (40%) Stunned chance. "Moloch grabs rubble from around itself and throws it at a User."

**Summon the Horde**: Up to two adjacent targets. On hit: 4d4 (10) Wind damage. This spell deals 1 extra Wind damage for each meter of distance between Moloch and each target, calculated individually. "Moloch points at the Users, bringing down a horde of Itsumade onto them."

#### Hungering Pyre, Moloch can declare two Hetelic Actions per round, as Quick actions.

Beckon Forth: All units in Rails I, II or III (Narrator's choice) are moved 1d6 spaces towards Moloch.

"Moloch roars, and a supernatural force emanates from the twisted rails, pulling you inexorably towards the monster."

Cast Into the Flames: Any number of units adjacent to Moloch are pulled into its furnace and suffer the Aflame Condition. "With a powerful hand, Moloch shoves the Users into its furnace. The heat is unbearable, twisting the very air around you. Your lungs ache as you stumble towards the exit, struggling to keep your footing.







## **Epilogue**

"With a roar, Moloch is thrown back and begins crumbling, the cracks along its surface widening as it falls apart. The chorus of the Itsumade raises to an indignant chant as they surround Moloch, swooping down and knocking its hands away, stopping the monster from any hope of keeping itself together. Finally, the roars subside as the creature collapses entirely, its flame spent and leaving nothing but a trail of embers on its wake. The Itsumade disperse, with a scant few looking back at you with apprehension, settling back down onto the trees and the mysterious city beyond."

#### If Hasumi perished during the fight:

"As the smoke settles and the embers disperse, you see a faint blue figure wander into the woods, where it vanishes. Where it first appeared, you find a charred cell phone, past any hope of repair."

#### If Hasumi survived the Moloch combat:

"The Itsumade drop Hasumi with an earthy thud before dispersing. The girl is shaken, but aware that you helped keep her safe. After calming down, she thanks you profusely, and asks how you even found her in the first place, having doubted that people in a forum would have the power to rescue her."

#### Regardless of the above:

"As silence is about to befall the switchyard, you hear the distant revving of a motor coming from the tunnels leading to the station. Suddenly, a pair of bright yellow headlights clear a curve in the tunnel and a large old-fashioned sedan swerves its way out, barely missing the walls of the tunnels and the Users. The car screeches to a halt: Firm square curves, colored in a deep blue with golden trims. Every window is tinted a deep black, and the hood is decorated with a golden cursive 'V' ornament.

Stranger still, a young girl is riding on top of the car, holding a still-smoking rocket launcher. The girl is wearing a long, frilly dress in black and blue, and the left half of her curly silver hair is decorated with a pin in the shape of a butterfly wing. Her smile is wide and sharp, and her yellow eyes carry a look of confidence and superiority. 'Whew! That's my kinda ride! C'mon, hop in, we'll get you outta here. I'm Mary, by the way, and the guy at the wheel is Frank. Hurry up already!' she shouts in your general direction before taking the passenger's seat. In the car, you find a tall, wide man wearing a blue tuxedo with a black tie, clipped with a butterfly's right wing. He does not speak when you enter, nor does he seem to acknowledge your presence at all before taking off, back into the tunnels."

Somehow, the strange vehicle can comfortably carry the whole party and Hasumi, and the strange pair leads the party back to the train platform, opening a way back to the Universe and promising to meet them again soon.

#### Rewards

- ❖ 500 Experience Points;
- ❖ If Hasumi survived, all Users gain +3 points to every Social Skill;