

A hunger for freedom

Process:

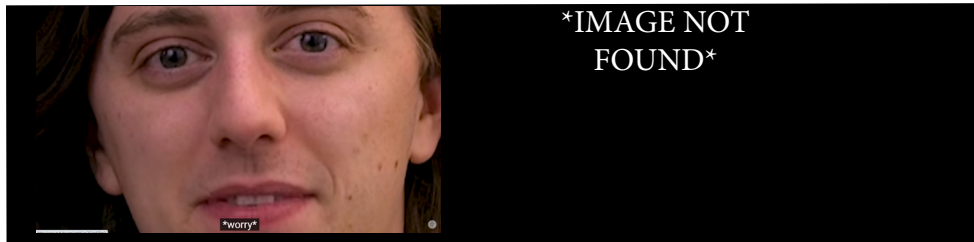
1. Brian David Gilbert
2. Toriyama Sekien
3. Konjaku Hyakki Shūi
4. Aoandon
5. Hyakumonogatari Kaidankai
6. Whats Scary? Thats right, Hunger!
7. Hidarugami

1. Brian David Gilbert

2. Toriama Sekien

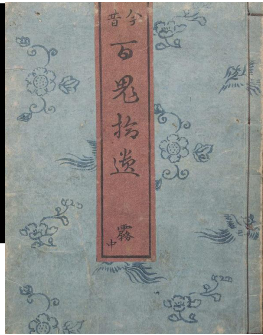
3. Konjaku Hyakki
Shūi

4. Aoandon



I started my research where all good things do, YouTube. I started here, not because I was procrastinating, but because I remembered that in a video made by this guy (brian david gilbert, depicted above), he talks about this Yōkai called the Tenome, which is just an old man with eyes in his palms. however, he references a book that was full of cool drawings of *Yōkai*. Thankfully Mr. Gilbert had cited his sources, and i was easily able to find out where al these cool creatures were coming from.

Toriama Sekien was a an interesting person, born in the year 1712, and painted several books, and in the process showed the world what these creatures looked like. He painted a tetralogy of books called 'The Illustrated Night Parade of a Hundred Demons '. But while he may have been prolific in his art, he did not feel the same about capturing his own likeness, so unfortunately, we do not know what he looks like.



Because Toriama ahd illustrated so many *Yōkai*, i just had to start looking through them. Almost all of these had horror potential, you had your classics like *Kappa* (water child) or *Jorogumo* (Spider Woman), but then you also have things like the Oboroguruma, which is an oxcart with a huge human face on the front, which appears on hazy moonlit nights in Kyoto. but one in particular piqued my intrest.



The Aoandon is the spirit of the blue lantern that was said to appear at the end of a game called Hyakumonogatari Kaidankai (more info soon). While this spirit didnt really do much on its own, the discovery of Hyakumonogatari Kaidankai, was great

6. Hidarugami, becuase
what's more scary than
being hungry



5. Hyakumonogatari
Kaidankai



Hyakumonogatari Kaidankai or "A Gathering of One Hundred Supernatural Tales" was a popular game during the Edo period in Japan. The game was played as night fell upon the region. In preparation, participants would light 100 andon and position a single mirror on the surface of a small table. When the sky was at its darkest, guests gathered in a room taking turns telling tales of ghoulish encounters and reciting folkloric tales passed on by villagers who claimed to have experienced supernatural encounters. These tales soon became known as kaidan. Upon the end of each kaidan, the story-teller would extinguish one andon. With each passing tale, the room slowly grew darker and darker as the participants reached the one hundredth tale, creating a safe haven for the evocation of spirits.

Spirits of hunger that usually appear in mountains / forrests, but not always

Can be warded off by a number of methods

- The character *kome* (米)
- Eating a large meal before traveling
- Throwing away part of your provisions.
- or you could actually just eat something.

A Sample:

If you were to see him the first thing you would notice would be his eyes. They were a brilliant blue-green mixture, and if you looked into them for long enough you could hear them speak. They could talk for hours, but you wouldn't want to hear what they had to say. They would find the qualities that hated the most about yourself and taunt you with them. The more you looked into them, the more they could see about you. The pupils of those eyes were deeper than a canyon, they pulled in so much light that even your vision starts to bend towards them. These eyes had seen a lot but they were going to see much more soon.