A hunger for freedom

DQ

How can I create a short horror story that incorporates elements and creatures from Japanese mythology/history/art?

RQ's

- 1. What is the scariest "still living" creature from eastern mythology
- 2. When is this creature from
- 3. What was happening when this creature was around
- 4. How can someone get rid of this creature/spirit
- 5. What was the most common style of building used at this time?

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 procrastinationg, 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.

IMAGE NOT FOUND

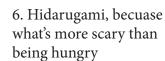
Toriama Sekien was a an interesting person, born in the year 1712, and painted several books, and in the process showed the world what these creatures looked like. He painted a tetralogy of books called 'The Illustrated Night Parade of a Hundred Demons '. But while he may have been prolific in his art,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

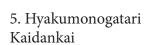


Because Toriama and illustrated so many $Y\!\bar{o}kai$, i just had to start looking through them. Almost all of these had horror potential, you had your classics like Kappa (water child) or Jorogumo (Spider Woman), but then you also have things like the Oboroguruma, which is an oxcart with a huge human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



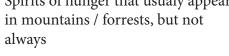
The Aoandon is the spirit of the blue lantern that was said to appear at the end of a game called Hyakumonogatari Kaidankai (more info soon). While this spirit didnt really do much on its own, the discovery of Hyakumonogatari Kaidankai, was great





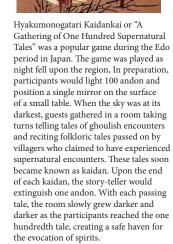


Spirits of hunger that usualy appear in mountains / forrests, but not



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:

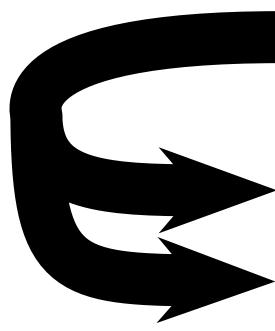
If you were to see him the first thing you would notice would be his eyes. They were a brilliant blue-green mixture, and if you looked into them for long enough you could hear them speak. They could talk for hours, but you wouldn't want to hear what they had to say. They would find the qualities that 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.

similar to the french for rock enjoys horror

- watches a bunch of horror movies he sees horror as a challenge, a way to
- prove himself Lives in Ueno village (Japan) Was born in Hamamatsu, Shizuoka Got into lots of fights as a young boy
- caused him to have to move schools a few times
- possible reason for him to prove himself brilliant blue green-eyes

typical Kyle except for:

- likes poetry good at but hates fighting
- kind of dislikes horror
- Extremely good at math Dorito shaped





Next i had to find my setting. because the Hidarugami typicaly came about in forests and mountain passes, I decided to pick somewhere, outside of any major city. i stubled apon the town Ueno mainly by accident, but it ended up fitting the bill perfectly. This image is the setting for the opening description, and all major locations in the story are real places

Check out the github repo for this story:

https://github.com/stewcop23/story/