

## **Andrew's Study**

Upon entering the small study, the dominance of the three paintings is immediate. They are first of all oversized, seeming to stretch at the corners of the walls they're hung on. One hangs on the wall opposite the door, above a small desk. From the muffled sounds of street activity and trickle of light, it seems the painting has been hung over a window. Another is hung from the top of a bookshelf set against the wall to the left of the desk, and another on the empty wall to the right.

Each painting has small silver plaque engraved with the title of the work. On each is a small signature, "Garsetti."

### *First Painting (over the desk)*

Title: The Dweller in the Void

Depicts a large humanoid figure suspended in a distorted field of color. The dimensions and sightlines are confusing, almost nauseating. The figurations don't seem possible to the naked eye - not in the sense that the figure is fantastical, but that the rendering of it is somehow... alien. As if it is slipping in and out of different fields of vision. Like if one could look directly at one's periphery, while it remained a periphery. The figure is thin, mummified. It looks decayed, its features murky.

Roll random investigator: their eye is drawn to the hanging figure. As one begins to pick out the details it becomes obvious the thing is composed of twisted and tortured faces. [Roll POWx4 - if unsuccessful, they suddenly see their own face among the tortured faces and suffers 1/1D3 san loss)

### *Second Painting (over the bookshelf)*

Title: Sylvan Night

Depicts a beautiful, blonde-headed woman sprawled nude across a great rough-hewn stone. In the dark background can be seen pine trees, silhouetted against the swirling sky. Above the treetops, forming out of the tumultuous layers of crusted black paint, is a some sort of grotesque shape, not immediately discernible. Maybe not there at all. Or maybe it is.

Roll random investigator: looking into the face of the woman, you notice her eyes are shockingly realistic. There's something strangely arousing about the subtle look on her face. You feel your blood start to rush to your chest as the slightest smile somehow begins to crest across the woman's painted visage... 0/1 san - if successful, you shake your head and the smile is gone. If not, you shake your head and it's still there, then shake again and it's gone.

### *Third Painting (wall opposite)*

Title: The Watching

Depicts a solitary building, a large crumbling mansion on the coast. Tiny red points of light seem to lurk behind the building's numerous windows and cracks.

Roll random investigator: these points of light seem to you the most significant feature of the painting. In fact, the more you stare at them, the more the other details of the painting seem to fall away. [Roll POWx4 - if successful, you shake your head and look away. If not, the building evaporates and the lights congeal, revealing a multi-orbed vision of some titanic being, its figuration appearing as if from behind your eyes to meet the glow of the painting, each red dot transforming into another staring, searching eye. 0/1 SAN.

Other items:

- Bookshelf contains travel guides, some books on geography, and a few tracts on ship-building. Also lots of art books - maybe twenty large volumes containing reproductions of well-known masters. No occult books.
- Spot Hidden: a few slips of paper appear to be sticking out between the pages of a volume of pre-Raphaelite plates. Pressed between pages 22 and 23 are several letters written in an elegant, flowing script. They appear to be love notes, from a Ms. Josephine Garsetti [Give Mansion Papers #1]. None of them are dated.
- Sarah knows nothing of these letters. Is surprised that a flirtation could have gotten that far. Andrew is crippledly shy. She's also never heard of the Sailor's Club.
- Most of the drawers to the desk aren't locked. They contain stationery and writing tools - nothing of interest.
- However, the bottom right drawer is locked (STR 8, or Mechanical Repair at +25%). It contains:
  - Andrew's ledgers - he's been importing Icelandic wool, canned European cuisine, and foreign language books.
  - If successful Accounting roll, can find that the records are missing several large checks written to a person named Josephine Garsetti.