

TOWN ENCYCLOPEDIA 24

An encyclopedia penned and illustrated by the most prestigious historiator Charum Diniael, with additional sketches by Chloe Bunsen, age 10, in the year 24.

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The Latest Most Recent Encyclopedia

This being the Encyclopedia 24, covering events from the years 23 and 24. Chronology is very important in timelines and encyclopedic naming conventions, less so in the ordering of factual content, I have found. This encyclopedia is no exception.

Let it be known, the creators of this encyclopedia seek other encyclopedists to aid in encyclopedic creations. Talk to Diniael.

New People

On this day, the 12th of April in the year 24, a day that will live in some as yet unknown manner, a pack of wild creatures descended upon Town. Do they mean us harm? Help? They did bring a lot of bullets, so they probably want to help. Lavvy is giddy with the economic implications.



Mayor Snoob Fluger greeted them as is our way, and the newcomers soon used up some of those bullets clearing out the dark recesses of the Tavern, and sealing the hole. While they did, an alarming noise burst out, flooding the Tavern. Like the bleating of sheep, but syncopated and varying in pitch. Glad I live quite a distance away. It was named 'music'.

The New Arrivals Discover the Well

The new people in Town don't listen. Some people have to touch the hot stove to learn it gets hot. As it rarely does, the Well threw metal into the air. The new people became agitated, excited perhaps, and determined to 'play in the fire' until they got it all. A number of them were burned head to toe, grasping at their metal bits.



They did figure out how to minimize the 'burning death' aspect eventually, and have since retrieved the metal 'safely'.

Economic Disaster!

It appears Wylie's Town Spiders got out again and, in a fit of fear and ignorance, the newcomers killed them all. Here is a chart of the Town Spider population during the fray. Wylie is reportedly inconsolable. A rough start.



Silk from the spiders were the main thing keeping the local defenses armed. Hope this gets resolved quickly.

Eggsesses

Well that didn't take long. Wylie convinced the newcomers to obtain more spider eggs. A critical step towards peace and reconciliation.

A short and uneventful time later, we have spider eggs. The day is saved! To quote a report at the time, they stole some eggs from a cave for Mumbling Wylie, 'as an apology for killing all the spiders'.

Tiger

A tiger tried to eat some animals. Seems pretty natural to me, I say let them. Tigers need to eat. Not sure why this was news, but it was, so here it is.

The Second Fox Influx



The first fox influx was one of the newcomers. Now another. There is some concern among the townsfolk that inviting foxes into the henhouse is a bad idea. We don't have a henhouse though, I don't know what they're talking about, and besides, 'don't judge a fox by it being a fox' is a saying I've never heard so it gives me a chance to coin a phrase.

Poor Sherifing



I did vote for Sheriff Mork, but I may now regret it. A wave of pickpocketry has swept Town. I don't begrudge someone nabbing an item here and there. This is a town-wide epidemic. If the sheriff can't stop being pickpocketed, it's a problem.

Attack of the Plants

As they sometimes do, some plants attacked Town. This was different than the usual wild plants thrashing about in the woods, they were more persistent and organized. Are they from Hotfood? They could be, though it's not clear.

Completely Unrelated Plant Spy

A plant spy was discovered in the tavern. There has been much sneaking about, as has been reported by the antennae'd folk of the area. It's not known if all the sneaking is plants, but this sneak was certainly leafy. It ran away when discovered. I wonder if it'll be friends with us.



Town's First BFG

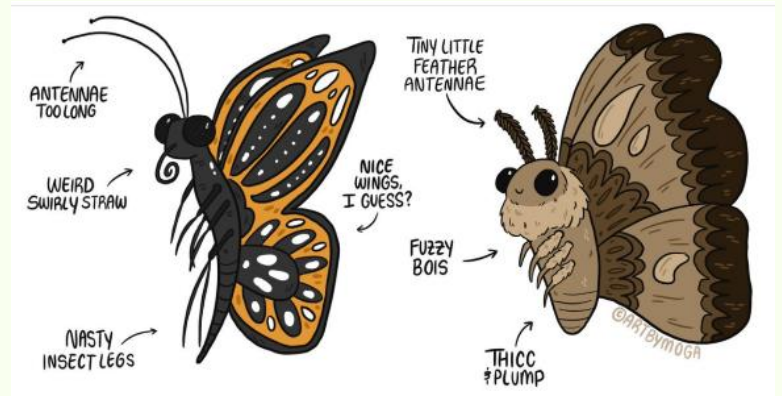
The new people are proving themselves pretty handy. I've heard of a Bubble Field Generator before, but now I've seen one! It's a bit wonky but it's better than the lack of one we had before.

Nah

I won't denigrate this illustrious publication by including tales of the mad telling stories around Town.

Of Monarchs and Mothnarchs

A Moth and a Butterfly walk into a tavern. Our tavern. At different times, but I demand some artistic license.



The Butterfly, known as the Monarch, rules the forest, so it claims. The Moth, known as the Mothnarc, is determined to rule the forest. I'm not into politics, especially politics in other places. They'll work it out.

The Monarch seems to be representing the prey animals of the forest, while the Mothnarc is supported by predators, particularly of the night. Aren't foxes predators, particularly of the night? I hope so – everyone loves a good story tie-in.

Well Wishers

Our resident cult popped into Town to buy artifacts at unreasonable prices. Where else can one find such value though? Probably harmless.

The Mummy's Tomb

If I weren't there myself I wouldn't have believed it right away, though eventually I'd give in wholeheartedly.

On a solid lead for a 'city full of metal dust, where the stairs are made of chem', I, Diniael Charum, the great historiator, led a group of stalwart adventurers into that place of wealth and undeath.

It was real! Except for the 'made of' part, and the 'I led' part, but we did find some metal and chem. In the process a mummy was discovered!

Zombies are seen on a regular basis, not much interesting to write of such banal undead, but a mummy is a whole different thing. Unfortunately it turned to dust and no evidence was retained, though I quickly made this crude sketch. At least it looked like a mummy. More research is needed.



Trade Established

Trading has been established with Le Bees, who purportedly will give 1 Chem for 10 Food. This seems a fair rate. We've never had problems with Bees before, giving them a bunch of food seems fine.

Here's a chart of the Chem Holdings of Town that day.



Zombies

More zombies, a bit more than usual. They're slow and dumb, nothing to be concerned about. Some of the new people in Town are from the Gravelands, I'm sure they'll know what to do.

Assassination!

Mayor Snoob has been assassinated. I repeat. Mayor Snoob has been assassinated. I repeat. Mayor Snoob has been assassinated. I repeat. Mayor Snoob has been assassinated. Zpuhzipuhzp.

Topical mixes are so hot right now.



Elections – So Soon?

Very soon after the assassination of the Mayor, an Interim Mayor, Russ, was elected. Suspicious timing, but it is historically how Town functions. In addition, a Whomittee was established to quickly represent the interests of the people of Town when necessary. I'm sure that will age well.

The First Treety

A Treemissary from Hotfood arrived at Town and through peaceful negotiation the first Treety with Hotfood was established.

Frogs

Frog jumping has come to our local community. It turns out this was tied to the Well in some way. The word 'ritual' was used, so I lost interest in the fanciful ramblings being bandied about. Frogs, Well, there's water in the Well, frogs like water, I think my work is done here.



Goats

The bleating of sheep has not abated. Now we also have goats, gunfire, and the screams of goats, in that order. On a positive note, Tavern food has improved.

Ghosts

Ongoing rumors strain credulity with reports of a haunting in the tavern. Claims are it was the dead former Mayor, Snoob Fluger. Until a Scientist investigates, it is wise to not believe your lying eyes.



Who knows what sort of phenomena this may actually be. Perhaps an old man using wires and a sheet to trick some kids and their dog into leaving him alone, more convincing that one might think, as previous investigations have found.

The Well

The new Whos of Town decoded the Well soon after arriving. It still erupts, shooting metal into the air, from time to time. Apparently it is some kind of portal to somewhere. No one can say where. Ghosts, magic frogs, and now a mysterious portal that takes you somewhere 'we can't say'. Is it that these things are real, or is it perhaps that some of the new people in Town spin tales not to be believed? It could also be both. Or neither. I remain unconvinced.

The Jackalope

The mythical creature known as The Jackalope has been successfully hunted, which involved finding and talking to it. Can it be trusted?



Real Elections

Who doesn't love an election. This who, specifically. I prefer stability. But it must be recorded in the greatest encyclopedia of our time.

We now have Mayor Lillium, replacing the dead one and the interim one; Sheriff Rozzie, replacing the living one; and 3 new council members, replacing no one, as the council was just formed. The new council consists of Russ, Luthar, and Mr. Fluffington. Of those elected, only Mr. Fluffington has lived in Town for any length of time, and so has my trust and confidence.

The Maul

The adventurers of Town took a trip to 'The Maul', led by the Great Historiorator Diniael Charum. We walked around, looked in the windows, had a snack, picked up some cool swag, and left mildly excited but also disappointed.

This was a cave of secrets and adventure, punctuated by a bit of loot and some traps. Or so I have heard – I did not enter. I spent that time writing of our adventure together.

It does appear these caves are a doorway into the past. As I obtain knowledge of further locations I'll be sure to continue to include the people of Town in my investigations.

The Well Part Deux

Fanciful tales continue, now with 'Where the Well Goes'. Well, we shall follow the evidence, anecdotal though it may be.



It was reported that, upon entering the Well, no one died (this time), because Frogs. A wall was pushed through, and then a room with a control panel and a portal was found. The panel was apparently cracked but still

worked. A portal opened leading to a 'cavern filled with Lights and Shades'. This presented a puzzle of sorts. Parsing the reports of what happened, it seems the lights sought validation? Or was it the Shades? Regardless, eventually everyone left the place and was fine.

Pie Theft

We're getting reports of a stolen pie in the area of Ma Town. Pie Chopper 1 is on the scene.

'It's chaos! There's flour and pie filling everywhere, but no pie!'

Conflict of interest disclosure, Pie Chopper 1 is Ma Town.



Science!

Finally, something rational. Foster continued to push the bounds of knowledge with three bold experiments.

First, the Sun Study, an investigation into Sun. Are the Plants correct? What is it? Why? All questions. The results of the study seemed to confirm that yes, the Sun radiates a form of power, so that aspect of the Plant origin story



is confirmed; bears like guns and science; and Sun Experiments may disorient birds.

Next was the Muddy Study, looking into Water and Dirt. This explored the questions ‘are the Plants correct?’, ‘what is it?’, and ‘why?’. The results were yes, water and dirt form mud and so that aspect of the Plant origin story was confirmed; bears like guns and science; and Mud Experiments may disorient birds.

Finally, the Night Study, following a similar format. The results were that indeed Night radiates no power at all, per the Plant origin story; bears like guns and science and snacks; and perhaps that bird, the same bird from the other experiments, is just disoriented.

In summary, it seems clear the Plant origin story has something to it, bears like guns and science and possibly snacks, though the latter needs more testing, and at least one bird is disoriented.

The Blight

Zephyr, a blighted plant from the blight ravaged village of the Aides, staggered into Town with signs of a full blown blight. It’s unknown how they managed to make it this far in this condition.

A group of hardy adventurers followed Zephyr back to the blight’s origin, where it’s reported they had a tense run-in with some Hotfood guards, daring to guard their borders. The new Mayor, Lillium, dealt with the situation with dignity and restraint by all accounts. Then someone may have snuck back in to gather information, though this report is unconfirmed.

The Cod

Interactions with the Cod remain fraught. Sometimes fruitful. On the one hand, they sell us things sometimes. On the other, apparently Town has at least one outlaw of the Cod, and so they show up from time to time trying to catch wanted Whos.



Small Letters

Someone has been killing people and leaving a small letter in the body. It seems an awkward way to send a message. Snoob's body had one, and apparently there are others.

It has been ascertained there are no more letters forthcoming. The totality of letters comprise: h s y o r d e n w v e c

Customer Support

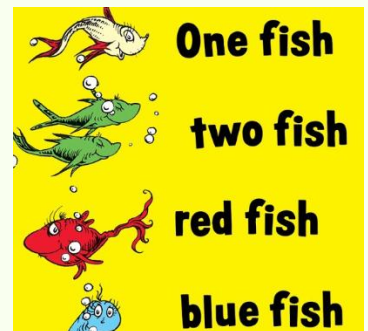
An alarm sounded from the Well, and a voice, saying something about an anomaly. Reports are that a group jumped in and went to a 'place with lizard people and a room with a thing called a phone'. Tech support was called in and sorted it all out. These reports don't make sense anymore.



A Map, a Raid, a Cloning Machine

It all started with a map on the back of a puzzle. The puzzle pieces were found just about everywhere – how did they get there? The map, it turns out, was for a 'raid to obtain an item of great power', according to reports.

Message received, Town set out. The journey was long, and ranged through different territories as yet unexplored. There was fighting, there was a train ride, there was a fight during a train ride.



At the end was a bunker with automated defenses. Inside the bunker, some scientists, already dead by the time Town reached them. They had advanced mutations, some would say useless. In the back of the facility was found a Cloning Machine.

WB Got Bit

Something came out of the Well and bit William Bunsen on the neck. The creature then ran off into the woods. A group pursued, but could not catch it.

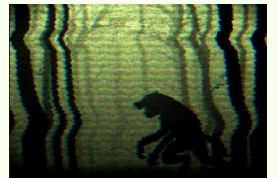
Lilly of the Lake

We know how the puzzle pieces got there. A watery plant known as Lilly had worked with the former Mayor (prior to being former) to create a message to the new people of Town, before they were the new people of Town, it's all a bit confusing. Why?

Lilly seems alright though.

Fuego Fire

A fire at the Fuego house, also known as the Bunsen house, isn't usually newsworthy. It did however come with evidence that William Bunsen may have started the fire, though this was denied by Ma Fuego at the time. William fled into the woods, howling, by all accounts, after tearing off some clothes. I'm sure he'll be fine.



Mouse Tea



Reports of a mouse living under or near the tavern have begun to appear. No one knows of its intentions, but it does seem suspiciously interested in stories about Town. Is it a spy?

Big Spider

Some spiders died, some eggs were stolen, some whos got eaten, further details are unimportant.

Things couldn't stay that way, so the Whos of Town returned the eggs they had stolen 'as an apology for killing all the spiders'.



Based on reports, diplomacy went well, no spiders died this time, no whos were eaten, and no eggs were stolen, complete success. The following agreement was made: if a spider lives in a cave, it owns that cave. Don't go in caves unless you are prepared for possible spidery death. If you defeat the spider, it's your cave. For now.

The Bunsen Body

No one will say why they were there, but a group of Townsfolk, in support of Ma Fuego, discovered the remains of her former husband, Pa Bunsen, in the basement of Pa Town.

Rumors have long persisted about the Pa Feud, and now, it seems, real evidence, after more than 20 years. Perhaps of more interest to some, a long lost CD of Pa Bunsen's former band was also found, to the delight of frequent tavern-goers.

The Plope

An emissary of Hotfood travelled to Town with a Tree escort, to discuss a possible cultural exchange with Town. After some talk, this was accepted, and for once Town has done something I approve of. More information about Hotfood is something I can write about!

Trial of the Duo-Decade

Pa Town must have known some questions would come of this. After a bit of a discussion, Pa was given some options, and chose a trial. The next day a Judge from the Church of Judicial Expediency arrived, and a trial commenced. The trial the following day was fast paced and speedy by all accounts, as is the Church's way.

Defense and prosecution were organized. A bailiff was found. A jury was selected. Evidence was presented. Testimony was had. All in about 15 minutes. It was during the testimony of Ma Fuego, the aggrieved victim, that the murder victim Pa Bunsen appeared in the court, apparently the beneficiary of the recently found Cloning Machine. I'm sure cloning the dead is a perfectly fine thing to do.

Pa Bunsen took the stand, and gave testimony on behalf of Pa Town, supporting the claims of the defense that no laws existed at the time and so no laws could be broken. They jury agreed, and Pa Town was found 'Not Guilty of the murder he definitely committed'.

In a separate civil trial, Pa Town's diary was brought back into question, and he was found 'guilty of cringe'.

Lost Sheep

Mak the Shepherd who shall Perish by my Hand (allegedly) has lost his sheep. Oh happy day! The bleating has stopped, or at least wandered off somewhere else.



That was, until the 'ever helpful' people of Town returned them.

Pa Town and the Jackelope

Hunting the Jackelope has been a longstanding tradition of Hunters throughout time. Pa Town, a Hunter of renown, has long attempted it. To hear that someone else did it, and apparently without a shot fired, or even the death of the Jackelope, must have been crushing.

Not as crushing as the bullet fired from Pa Town's gun, after a short standoff, killing the Jackelope. And so was the Jackelope truly hunted, to the satisfaction of all. Until it came back around a bush and spoke the words, 'some creatures need to hunt to feel truly alive'. Now, satisfaction may vary.

Reports are that not all consider the Jackelope to have been hunted, as it is still walking around. Lively debate will surely follow.