During the MK Ultra experiments, the CIA found something that warped reality as they knew it.

They found the power of the soul, the ability to make it persist after death when given enough emotion, at first a torturous existence that made the soul violent but a powerful fuel source.

Using this after death energy to fuel automatons with Windows Operating System; abusing an error in the code that allowed for them to force the conscious soul to fill in the major programming of how to walk, communicate or act.

1980, New York City, America.

When Edward George Fargo joined the team, he sped up the process exponentially, optimising everything in his path at age 21, the youngest genius in CIA History. (Pictured, Eddy Fargo, Artist: Islandcityradio)



His work was so good he got invited to dinner with Thomas Goldberg, the head of the project.



recently, Tanya Goldberg.

Thomas was kind and handsome and was fascinated with Edward, whom he called "Eddy." (Pictured, Thomas Goldberg, artist @Maceror) Edward was flustered and mistook his words for flirting and got promptly told it was not meant to be flirting, but he should probably keep his homosexuality hidden if he valued his career.

Edward's advances pissed off the elder William Adder, a man who's spite could be felt, who dug dirt on Eddy, his 20 years junior; revealing his homosexuality to the rest of the CIA.

Edward was suspended and sent to undergo electroshock therapy to cure him, Eddy went insane and begged to be let go, eventually bargaining with anything that would listen begging them to let him go home.

Eventually getting a call from his father, George Fargo to undergo an arranged marriage to get him out of there.

Edward chose Thomas to be his best man, Thomas had a daughter

Edward waited at the top of the aisle for his bride to be, quaking in his legs and trying not to cry, not from joy, but from shame that he had to lie this much, as the music began and his bride stepped forward, walked by nobodies and her family, his legs buckled and he cried on the floor, everyone staring he had to think of an excuse, choking through the tears "I'm just.... so.... happy..." his bride staring blankly at him, she knew the nature of the marriage, get this man's gay past behind him and be paid handsomely by him and his family. Eddy struggled to his feet and the rest is history.

Bloom Corp is a mega corporation run by the government to take bounties on things the police aren't exactly interested in handling or are morally grey targets that would be too low profile for the CIA/FBI to dedicate resources to especially since they were running out of space in prisons. It also means if they commit too many crimes, they can sever connections and call them bad guys that are not to be trusted if the situation gets too grim. Bloom counteracts this by doing nothing itself but subcontracting "Flower Agencies" who do

the brunt of the work (ROSE INC, Tulip Incorporation.) and drives competition in the field and means that if ROSE closes, they can simply move to Tulip, driving people to turn on each other but also giving them the illusion of choices and can be used as a way to divulge controversy by blaming the individual companies

rather than Bloom the head office.

The subcontractors of Bloom all have commission structures to drive people to take bounties, but they also get a daily rate. Because they are not fully self-employed, they still need to follow rules and need a badge.

(Pictured, ROSE Logo, artist: REDACTED)

ROSE Inc is the most popular Flower Agency to work for, some people get connections in the police like detectives to help with cases, but not every police officer wants to work with Bloom.

#### Session 1

1988, New York City, America.

ROSE's Strength team devised the DnD party's main individuals: Ivory, Aurora, and the rest that I don't remember right now.

They hunted down the killer of a man named Aaron Karter, a homosexual man. The party tracked the killer down, trying to find who did it and why, assuming at first, homophobia, then quickly finding out it was a called hit. Finding the guy who did it, killing him and accidentally killing a civilian by blasting him through a window with a shotgun blast, they

searched his apartment and found his last dialled number "Eddy."

# Session 2

(Pictured, Gawain Rickson: Artist @Maceror)

The Strength Team showed they needed to track this Eddy guy so they browsed public records to find who he was, eventually hitting a dead end until a Police Detective, Gavin Rickson helped out.

He asked that before he helps them, they have to help him, handing them a piece of paper with "Mike Oxlong" on it. "Can you help me track this guy?" He had the most serious face around, tired and rugged with alot of stubble. "Mike Oxlong?" one of them replied.

Immediately, Gavin sneered and cackled "HAH- you just said your dick's big!"

He then helped with the investigation, they realised Gavin was a bit of a goofball.

They searched Aaron's family home when he wasn't around and found it was a fake address, crawling with Fargo's goons and more info. Aaron tried to blackmail Fargo into paying him more money for his services, but Fargo had him killed because his career couldn't take another slip up.





One of the players got attacked by a guy with a chainsaw, but Gavin took the hit for the player instead and ended up in the hospital, still pouring over the evidence while the party tried to find who the hell "Eddy Fargo" was.

## Session 3

Gavin joins the party in a wheelchair, still paralysed from the waist down from nearly having his spine snapped in half. The party begged him to not join, since Gavin found that it wasn't Eddy Fargo they were looking for, but Edward Fargo.

They make it to the CIA building he worked at and request a meeting, but they had gotten ambushed by CIA agents with TVs on their heads. They were strong and used some sort of electrical power source to attack, the party dispatched them and were confused when they didn't bleed.

Inspecting the bodies afterwards showed they were purely made of rubber, steel and copper. Automatons.

### Session 4

The party makes their way to Eddy's office, deep in the CIA facility, after uncovering files about the "404 Project" to find the power of the human soul and make it a power source for these bodies to use. Learning of the torture those endure to become a 404.

They also find there are multiple kinds.

Beta 404:

A 404 who relies on a soul.

Alpha 404:

A 404 who relies on soul and electricity.

Omega 404:

Many souls put together, losing themselves as their souls collide and create a much stronger being.

Most 404s do not have autonomy, but some have so much willpower, so much emotion after death that they can take over the 404 body and use it as their own.

Eddy, a man now sporting sunglasses in a dark laboratory type office meets the party and mutters something to himself as he suddenly gains immense strength and rips Gavin's body in half above his own head.

He wasn't going to have any witnesses or any loose threads.

Eddy and the party fight, Eddy loses and appears dead.

The party steals Eddy's Arcade machine which appears to be a 404 titled "Polybius." Eddy fakes his own death, his skin turns pure white as he mumbles something else.

# Session 5

The party is distraught with Gavin's death, but are uncertain if he'll come back as a 404. Strength division is given 2 new members, Jacob an OLD man who's quite quick, and HOPEs, a bulky 404 man with an English accent who was actually a failed prototype of some other kind of 404 project.

They investigate Eddy's house and find research about "Primal Phrases" the ability to tell your brain what to do in it's own language, giving people the ability to remove the inhibitors on their muscles or do anything with their bodies really, as long as they know how to tell their brain to do it, and HOPES accidentally connects himself to the Omega network which cleans Fargo's house.

(Pictured, HOPES in the Omega 404, Artist: REDACTED)



The party realises Eddy still had a heartbeat when they killed him, Eddy's body was dead but his heart and brain lived on, racing back to where Eddy was to finish the job.

Session 6

The party fights the new and improved Eddy Fargo, now infused with machinery and plant life to allow him to use photosynthesis instead of breathing or eating and the machinery to keep him alive.

The party fights this corpse fused to machines and plants until he gets torn apart by a grenade blast.

DREAMs then alerts Thomas that something's gone wrong.

Session 7

Hopes couldn't be there, he was busy.

The party investigates a weird rumour with their actual boss, Kingrose, the CEO of ROSE Inc.

Kingrose is a LARGE man (Spider Verse Kingpin big) and they investigate the warehouse where a bunch of TVs keep getting sent to.

They are also joined by Kingrose's friend in the PD, a smoker in a blue fluffy coat named

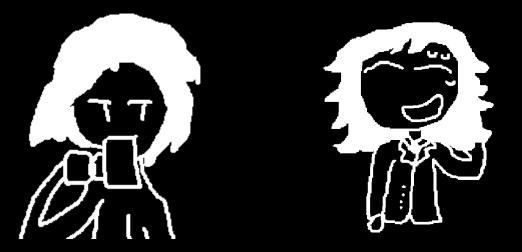
Oscar Penrith, he liked to read and was quite quiet, but a deadly shot.

They find a large supply of wires and a Floppy Disk that read DREAMs <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>.

They get ambushed by some 404s and Kingrose actually dies, leaving the company in his son's name and the party a bottle of his finest liquor.

The party find out this building is ran by Thomas Goldberg and usually has 3 main employees named Frank Orens, Simon Margo and Virsa Penrith.

(Pictured, Frank V Orens and Simon Margo. Artist: Me :3)



Session 8

The party tracks down Thomas Goldberg, fighting him and as he died, he immediately dons a 404 body, and with his very soul he constantly repairs it during the fight eventually shaping his entire lab's mechanics into the form of a dragon, firing a plasma laser as the party battles on, HOPES entering Thomas' Will Dimension, a place Thomas can create given enough willpower, the pure souls fighting inside his own mind as the rest of the party fights outside, DREAMS 2/2 is found to be running on the OS, at the end of the fight. HOPEs takes DREAMS 1/2 and 2/2 and plugs them back into DREAMS body, not just putting him back together to bring him back, but to put him away, burying him.

With that, ROSE concluded as a story in late 2021.

with 2 spinoffs that happened later,

#### ROSE 2.

1992 New York City, America.

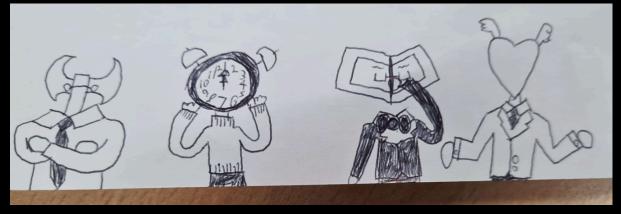
Tanya Goldberg and Silvain Ashe are attending a secondary school for the gifted, they both seem to have an incredible power, but after getting invited by Chad Dickson to go investigate an abandoned building, they find a 404 broken, with his father's coat, who disappeared when Chad was 9. The 404 begs Chad, "Please let me take one of their bodies, take them down so I can take their form."

The players then fight Chad trying to make the most of their battle, no one dies and they release Chad's father's soul from the 404 allowing him to pass on. But his soul seemed to be the last one needed.

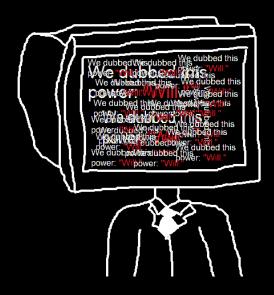
With enough souls with lingering willpower they formed a new reality, Bermuda. Bermuda is also regarded as the land of Angels with 4 deities. Juno, Cupid, Ares and Quetzacoatl.

Bermuda Juno represents that the person ran out of time, Bermuda Cupid that they didn't have enough connections to others, Bermuda Ares represents that they didn't have enough power to keep living and Bermuda Quetzalcoatl represents they didn't have enough knowledge to keep living.

(Pictured, the 4 Bermudas, Ares, Juno, Quetzalcoatl and Cupid. Artist: me :3)



Each Bermuda can make deals allowing people to come back to life with a boon, Cupid's being the ability to restore the locked memories of others.



ROSE: Foxglove

1993, London, England.

Amelia Patois' research into primal phrases has allowed her to infuse a primal phrase into a body part then sever it, allowing it to be activated like magic, like a finger that will explode by constantly heating up at it's centre. Patois' 404 network consists of 404s with Cameras for heads, indicative of the UK's nature as a surveillance state. The party fought Patois with a 404 lady called Bea, who spoke in a french accent and was able to manifest fire from her willpower.

(Pictured, Bea. Artist: Me :3)

Lotus LLC

1996, New York City, America.

Leon Shelby is a 30 year old man down on his luck who knows something about Flower Companies but always wanted to be a self made man, Leon starts his own Flower Company not owned by Bloom but completely independent, a Limited Liability company, instead of the usual 60/40 split of commission between the Agent and Company with a standard rate.

Leon took it differently, he had no daily rate, but had an 80/20 split between his employees, he only takes 20% to keep the lights on, Leon sleeps in his van and is the only main member

of the company until he hires Loid, Elias, Barry Burckson, Cabal and Ciele. (Pictured, Leon Shelby, Artist: Islandcityradio)



The main new force in the New York power vacuum is actually Eddy Fargo in a new human body, not as a 404. Dewey Nights, SiMon (Smile Maker.) Snow Golia the Mafia's new head and Montgomery Newcastle.

Leon's first mission gets him in contact with Simon and his flesh homunculus the Smiler, a giant corpse with many wavy heads that constantly have a twisted grin, each one representing a soul in the body and each soul being carved of their emotions, only wanting to experience joy or currently experiencing joy. a metaphor for drug abuse and also a callout of my mum. His theme Smile! is very odd and plays in 5/4 because he is built different and a freak. SiMon's skin is purely white and is almost rigor mortised, he has around 10 fingers on each hand and has been named "Simon 20 fingers, the rubbery man." SiMon's power comes



mostly from Patois' brain, sometimes called a "Philosopher's Stone" (Pictured, Simon the Smile Maker, Artist: Islandcityradio.)

Dewey's theme is brooding starts slow, building tension then releasing it eventually making it to Phase 2 where the bassline has the word "Darkness" whispered over and over again and it fucks pretty hard, banger tune. Dewey's theme is repeating over and over, this implies something about who Dewey is that hasn't been revealed yet.

Dewey's whole body is completely vantablack and has a large eye inside of the centre, as if it's under the darkness.

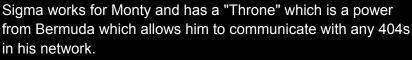
(Pictured, "David Roberts"/Dewey Nights, Artist: Olly)

Eddy's return shows a lot about Willpower, Eddy being able to take over other people's bodies with his pure willpower.

Eddy seems to know Leon but the way they met is never revealed.

Eddy also repairs Leon's face after he is forced to bite the curb and have his head stomped on by Dewey's goons as he watches.

Eddy is seen to know alot about Willpower after his return as he was alive during the last part of ROSE 1 alongside the 404 Gavin, now named Sigma.



Monty also has a "Throne" which allows him to see the past perfectly.

Monty is a DANGEROUS man, his son was stillborn when his wife delivered, named Elias Fritz, he was buried less than a week later.

(Pictured: Sigma and Monty. Artist: Islandcityradio.)



Monty was so distraught he kidnapped Tanya Goldberg (Thomas' daughter) and named her Elias Fritz, using Primal Phrases to lock memories away, making Tanya believe she IS Elias



Fritz.

After Tanya escaped she impersonated her dead father, calling herself Thomas Pyrite (Fools Gold, there was a whole ARG. <u>https://youtu.be/csNvZxGTjeg?si=cj3FANyMhK8HrkS-</u>)

Alongside this, there was a project to prove Bermuda Exists, see Bermuda Project.mp4 on youtube for more. (<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zLe\_0Y-V7jE</u>) This is where Bea came from, who burned down Dewey's family home to kill him, ordered by Monty but he lived, his daughter was then kidnapped and became the Elias in Lotus LLC.