

```
Connecting JackPoint VPN ...
... Matrix Access ID Spoofed.
... Encryption Keys Generated.
... Connected to Onion Routers.
> Login
*****
> Enter Passcode
*****
... Biometric Scan Confirmed.
Connected to <ERROR: NODE UNKNOWN>
```

Don't look under the bed. No, really. Don't look.

JackPoint Stats

33 users currently active in the network

Latest News
They keep changing the protocols al-most as fast as I can hack them, so it's making me a little pre-occupied. At least, that's the excuse I'm using right now. -Slamm-0!

Personal Alerts
Camera drone 4 confirms sighting of Squatch. Squatch is presenting a rude gesture to drone. Do you wish to reply?
* You have 2 new private messages.
* You have 4 new responses to your JackPoint posts.
* Eight people have added you to their list of contacts

First Degree
Six members are online and in your area.

Your Current Rep Score:
2 (51.2% positive)

Current Time: August 3, 2075 06:28

- PREFERENCES
- FEEDS
- TASKS
- LINKS
- HISTORY

Welcome back to Jackpoint, chummer; your last connection was severed: 16 hours, 37 minutes ago



Today's Heads Up

* I finally had time to compile the rest of Dr. David Wright's work on paranormal animals. It's a good continuation on what he has compiled about our Awakened world. -Glitch

Incoming

- * Get back on the street fast after you get hurt--no one's giving us any sick pay, after all. [Tag: [Bullets and Bandages](#)]
- * Whatever it was that got FastJack? It isn't gone. Brace yourself. [Tag: [Stolen Souls](#)]

Top News Items

- * New York Police clash again with Green War over preserving the population of stryx in Manhattan. Police counter that all this fervor is to introduce a new drug to New York. [Link](#)
- * The montauk strikes again! The victim, a resident dog walker of East Hampton, said that it scared off all six of her dogs. She only managed to recover two. Police are still trying to track the others through RFID chips. [Link](#)

Sample file

- CHAT
- MESSAGES
- FILES
- POSTS
- NEXUS
- SEARCH

- Active: ComStar Firewall
- Active: Jack-in-the-Box Antivirus
- Active: SpamWitch Filter
- On/Receiving: Comcode
- Excellent: Signal
- Active: Hidden Mode
- Local Map

PARAZOLOGY 2
Posts/Files tagged with "Parazology 2":

- * Ammit
- * Aerial Lionhead
- * Bahari
- * Bombardier
- * Brucha
- [More]

CONTINUE
ADVANCED SEARCH
SAVE

THE WORLD, A BIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE

The world has been going through a unique extinction phase, one that man engineered. For the first time, one species on earth has been able to manipulate the environment on a global scale, while other species are unable to evolve fast enough to survive. Since the 1600s there have been over a thousand species of plants and animals documented that have gone extinct due to the actions of humans, with probably five to ten times that number of undocumented species also vanishing.

On top of this, the world is also going through what has been designated as the Sixth World. During this event, species have rapidly diversified through the infusion of magic into the environment, manifesting unique and sometimes mythical creatures. It is estimated that within a span of seventy years, two to four thousand Awakened plant and animal species were born. To date, less than a quarter of them have been documented.

Between these two global events there may be an unfortunately small time window to find these fantastic creatures before they become extinct. My work, and the work of others, will do as much as possible to document and present these Awakened species, which I hope will inspire others to preserve what ecological environments we have in order to save the Awakened and mundane species that remain.

PARANORMAL CRITTERS

AMMIT

CROCODYLUS FURTIM

Habitat: Swamps, creeks, lagoons, and rainforests

Range: West Africa (particularly in the Kingdoms of Nigeria)

Frequency: Uncommon

Identification: The ammit is a reptile that averages four meters long in length from nose to tail with a bronze-colored scales on its back and a dark purplish color on its belly scales. It weighs in at 250 kilograms. It has a v-shaped snout, and four of its lower teeth protrude over its upper lip.

Habits: The ammit Awakened from the common crocodile (*Crocodylus niloticus*). Unlike its brethren, the afanc and behemoth, the ammit relies more on speed and intelligence than brute strength, though they are considerably strong. They have chromatophores in their thick, armored hide, allowing them to get quite close to their prey before striking. They have been known to knock over small boats in order to eat the metahumans inside. Ammits survive in brackish waters of river deltas and use the muddy waters as part of their camouflage while hunting for prey. They are carnivorous; they generally prefer to kill their own prey, but they will not pass up a chance to consume carrion.

The ammit reaches maturity at ten years. Females mate during the dry season and lay clutches of up to sixty eggs. Both parents take care of

the young, with the female directly watching them while the male stays close in case of intruders. The ammit is very aggressive and dangerous. It has been recorded that a mated pair of ammits will surprise and flank an enemy, using an empty nest as bait.

Young ammits leave their parents' care after two years. By then they are almost a meter long, weigh thirty kilograms, and have grown into their abilities.

B	A	R	S	C	I	L	W	Edg	Ess	Init	IP
7	5	4	7	1	4	2	2	0	6	9	2

Movement: 15/35

Skills: Perception 3, Infiltration 2, Shadowing 3, Tracking 3, Unarmed Combat 3

Powers: Adaptive Camouflage, Enhanced Senses (Smell), Hardened Armor (4), Natural Weapon (Bite DV 6P, AP -2)

- Lagos has gangs named after this beast—be wary of them as they are about as tricky as the real thing.
- Am-Mut



AERIAL LIONHEAD

CYANEA TASSIN

Habitat: 60+ kilometers in the atmosphere

Range: Global

Frequency: Very rare

Identification: 2.3 meter diameter bell-shaped body with over a dozen eight-meter-long tentacles. Its skin is a transparent blue with some opaque spotting. Its body is divided into six gas-filled chambers. A collection of sensory cells (optical and electric sensing) ring the edge of the body.

Habits: The aerial lionhead is one of the weirdest extremophiles in existence, and it's the most complex organism of this type known. It is classified as a large jellyfish but doesn't live in the ocean. It floats in the atmosphere with chambered sacs of hydrogen giving it lighter-than-air capabilities like a weather balloon. The aerial lionhead can be found as high as ninety kilometers in the air. It is here where it was first sighted by a satellite tasked with recording any lifeforms it could find in the stratosphere. The aerial lionhead feeds on electrical charges built up in the atmosphere. Its trailing tentacles have fine hairs that can generate power through static electricity. The electrical current combined with the gases and liquids it collects provides the nutrition it needs to survive. While hydrogen is an explosive compound, especially around lightning, the aerial lionhead's body chambers contains the hydrogen in bubbles of thick soapy material to prevent a catastrophic explosion.

While their mating rituals have never been seen, there have been discoveries of immature aerial lionheads descending from storm clouds. Observation has shown that these creatures migrate along the tradewinds, and we assume that large storms will attract them so they can descend to feed or mate.

While not a direct danger to metahumans, they can be a hazard to flying vehicles carrying a large amount of electrical equipment, power stations, and even some radio towers, since they are attracted to high EMFs. There have been occasional encounters with these creatures, and they are physically strong unlike their mundane jellyfish brethren. The tentacles have powerful muscles that allow them to grab or pull on

things much like an octopus can. The aerial lionhead can generate and discharge electricity as a defense mechanism, though we have yet to see what kind of predator feeds on them.

B	A	R	S	C	I	L	W	Edg	Ess	M	Init	IP
4	3	2	5	1	3	4	3	2	6	5	8	1

Movement: 5/10 (Flying)

Skills: Flight 2, Unarmed Combat 4

Powers: Energy Aura (Electricity), Energy Drain (Electric), Enhanced Senses (Electrosense), Immunity (Electricity, Cold), Natural Weapon (Tentacle, Reach 5, DV 3, AP —)

- To be clear, the satellites that found this thing were not looking for lifeforms. They were spy satellites recording the Tir?
- Stone
- No, they were looking for elves and sprites, where "elf" is "emissions of light and EMF perturbations from EMP events," and "sprite" is "stratospheric/mesospheric perturbations resulting from intense thunderstorm electrification."
- Orbital DK
- That's how Matrix creatures migrate around in the real world ...
- Plan 9
- Don't start. I don't want to see a 10 megapulse argument on the life of e-critters.
- Netcat
- Wait, Plan 9's back?
- Pistons
- Provisional basis. Long story. I'll explain later.
- Glitch



AETHERPEDIA: PARAZOOLOGY TERMINOLOGY

Awakened Animal/Species

“Awakened animals” is the all-encompassing category covering metaspecies as well as paranormal animals. “Awakened” is used as the determinant of the species from which the new species has originated (e.g., the ammit is an Awakened crocodile). The term Awakened could be used to describe species that can use magic (e.g., an emperor hawk is an Awakened hawk because it can cast magic), though it is used less frequently in this situation.

Metaspecies

Metaspecies are various animal species whose genetic diversity sprung from the Awakened world. These genetic changes can be as minor as a digestive protein, which changes the species' diet, to color, size, or other physical changes. There is a grey area between mutation and meta, but with extensive genetic and environmental study, mutations can be weeded out quickly, especially non-seed mutations. While metaspecies and paraspecies can be interchangeable terms, metaspecies is used most often to categorize animal species that do not manifest extraordinary powers or abilities (e.g., a Russian grand silkie is a metaspecies of chicken, while a cockatrice is a paraspecies). Metachicken is acceptable substitution for the term “metaspecies of chicken,” but parachicken is not acceptable terminology for describing a cockatrice.

Paranormal Animal/Paraspecies (also Paracritter)

Paranormal animals are various animal species that have been able to manifest some fantastic changes and/or extraordinary abilities. Over time, the definition of what an “extraordinary ability” is has become more lax, with dual-natured abilities now falling into the metaspecies category instead of paraspecies. “Paracritter” has become acceptable slang term for any animal exhibiting unusual traits or abilities, including metaspecies. It is also used erroneously for mutants and warforms.

Scientific Naming Conventions

To help name new species and subspecies, especially after the SURGE effects, the Combined International Committee of Zoological and Botanical Nomenclature designed a streamlined classification of subspecies of paranormal animals. All such subspecies add the additional scientific name “*novo*” along with a greek letter in order of their official classification. (e.g., the demon rat *Rattus diabolis novo* is a subspecies of the devil rat). This was also an accepted practice for various metaspecies (e.g., the Morpheus, the parchment, and Ekman's butterfly were classified *Papilio antimachus novo alpha*, *beta*, and *gamma* respectively). However this has led some parazoologists to lazy practice of classifications, such as when two paraspecies of tick beetle (capacitor bug and caustic beetle) were labeled *Elateridae novo alpha* and *Elateridae novo beta*.

BAHARI

TRICHECHUS BAHARI

Habitat: Rivers and coastlines

Range: West Africa

Frequency: Uncommon

Identification: The bahari grows up to four meters long and weighs around six hundred kilograms. They are nearly hairless, with grey skin mottled by brown spots. They have a thick hide with a thin layer of fat for protection against varying degrees of water temperatures. Their jaws are like that of a bear, with a large canines, and its front flippers end in short claws. The bahari has a rounded tailfin like its progenitor.

Habits: The West African manatee (*Trichechus senegalensis*) was believed extinct until two decades ago, when scientists reported seeing an Awakened form of the creature in the coastal swamps and rivers in the area. Locals call this species the bahari, or “sea man,” as it has the ability to disguise itself as a metahuman. Unlike its progenitor, the bahari is carnivorous and will attack full-size crocodiles and even challenge the hippopotamus in territorial disputes. It has the ability to compel prey into the water and then drag them under to drown before eating them. They can appear to be slow swimmers, but the rounded tailfin provides

boosts of speed like that of the dolphin. Bahari are normally found in rivers but have also been seen along ocean coasts. Rumors state that the bahari can change its hunting habits to that of a nocturnal predator, and it will stalk metahumans, luring them from houses and fishing boats into the water.

The bahari live in harems with one male for every twenty females. Young bahari males have to compete for any females. While such challenges don't lead to a fatality, they typically end with serious scarring on the combatants' backs and bite marks on their tails. The ability to change into a metahuman form allows males to migrate farther out to find better challenges for mates or to move the harem across the land to other territory.

B	A	R	S	C	I	L	W	Edg	Ess	M	Init	IP
8	5	5	8	3	4	4	4	2	6	4	9	2

Movement: 20/60 (swimming)

Skills: Diving 2, Gymnastics 4, Perception 3, Spell Casting 3, Swimming 4, Unarmed Combat 4

Powers: Aura Masking, Compulsion, Dual Natured, Innate Spell (Shapechange (metahuman form)), Natural Weapon (Bite/claw, Reach —, DV 5P, AP —)

- I've not seen these things myself, but I got a good story anyways. There was this small-time pirate on the Skeleton Coast making a living off kidnappings and small-arms deals. Pathetic really, as he was content selling pistols and automatics and not going for the brass ring with explosives and rockets. Anyways, one night after hard drinking he spotted a woman, naked and running along the beach. Him and his crew got up to investigate and found a dozen naked women running along the beach playing in the water. So they went to pursue the women. They get to this cove where the women were all swimming. Being drunk, they dived in to “play” with them. Unfortunately the women shifted to their bahari form and had a midnight snack. Bahari don't like the taste of cyberware, which is how I got hold of a cybereye recording of the whole thing.
- Kane



BOMBARDIER

GLAUCOMYS TELIDYTUJ

Habitat: Forested areas

Range: North American east coast

Frequency: Common

Identification: Its fur is light tan, with a shading to white on the belly and a black stripe along the spine. The bombardier is fifty centimeters long with a five-centimeters-wide, flat tail. It weighs an average of 175 grams. Between its limbs is a flap of skin allowing it to glide short distances between trees instead of traveling along the ground.

Habits: The bombardier is the Awakened version of the flying squirrel (*Glaucomys volans*), though its size is similar to the extinct woolly flying squirrel. Like other squirrels, it is an omnivore eating anything from insects to berries to young birds and eggs, but those that live on the outskirts of an urban environment have found soy products irresistible. The bombardier's special ability is psychokinesis, which it uses to steal food from trash cans or any other unattended morsels. As a defensive tactic, it will use its power to throw anything it can at the predator to give it time to flee.

The bombardier lives in loose colonies of up to fifty individuals in the trees, and they build multiple nests or dens for specific purposes (such as food, sleeping, raising young, and defecation). On occasion they will occupy bird nests and kill or evict the young birds within. Year-old bombardiers sleep with adults and younger bombardiers in the same nest. During the winter, the bombardier hibernates on a store of hoarded food. These food stores can be several kilograms worth of food that the whole colony will help create.

The average lifespan of the bombardier is four years.

B	A	R	S	C	I	L	W	Edg	Ess	M	Init	IP
1	4	4	1	3	3	2	2	2	6	3	7	1

Movement: 5/10 (can also glide at speed 10)

Skills: Climbing 5, Infiltration 2, Perception 2

Powers: Enhanced Senses (Smell), Psychokinesis

- Cute little things.
- /dev/grrl
- That's until you find that they lifted your soy chips while you weren't looking.
- Cosmo



Sample file

