

THOMAS DEACON P.I.
PRIVATE INVESTIGATIONS
1 PRAISE PLAZA, GLEN COVE, NEW YORK 11542
TEL: 555-0101 FAX: 555-0102

Agnetta,

Here is the information you requested regarding the five serial killers -- referred to by yourself as The Five. My research has led me into areas I do not normally pursue -- no demon spoor (Asmodevs) as far as I can see. My sources tell me that each report is as current as it can be. The Batrachian report is particularly up to date, with a news item included that is only a week old.

When studying the information, of particular note the inclusion of symbols and poems at the crime scenes, along with the phrase "For we are many", (taken, I believe, from the Bible -- Mark, Chapter 5, Verse 9). Are these guys in cahoots, or is it simply a coincidence? Knowing you as I do, Nettie, I cannot believe it's the latter.

Anyway, hope this stuff proves useful.

Best regards,
Tom

SERIAL KILLER REPORT #1

Name: Doctor Victor Karl Batrachian

<prison photo>

DOB: April 8, 1961

Sex: MALE

Height: 6'2"

Weight: 198lbs

Place of Birth: Geneva, Switzerland

Hair: Ash Brown

Eyes: Gray

Race: White

Scars and Marks: Small scar on left temple

Background:

Born in Geneva, Switzerland, the son of a wealthy Swiss banker. A brilliant student, Batrachian graduated from Cambridge University in 1985 with a Ph.D. in Forensic Psychiatry. Batrachian spent the following four years at the London Medical School training to become a General Practitioner (MD). Was expelled from the school without completing course.

Emigrated to US in early 1991, using forged certificates to gain a Green Card. Established medical practice in Boston. Was indicated on five accounts of murder following the discovery of an insurance fraud involving five of his patients, all wealthy widows who had willed him their entire fortunes and were subsequently found dead of "natural causes." Batrachian, as their doctor, had signed all five death certificates. Captured by State Police, as he was about to cross the state line into Indiana. Batrachian absconded from the Butler Country Sheriff's Office after killing two deputies and wounding a third. At this point (December, 1995), Batrachian appeared on the FBI's Most Wanted List. In December '95, a handwritten letter with an Abilene postmark arrived at the office of the Dallas Morning News (see Attachment N1). In it, the writer intimated -- somewhat obscurely -- that they intended to commit several "bloody sacrifices." The writer of the letter has since been identified as Batrachian.

In January, 1996, the corpse of an unidentified young man was discovered in a derelict boathouse on the shores of Lake Fore Phantom Hill, Texas. Forensic examination showed that the head of the corpse had quite literally exploded -- as through some "great and unnatural internal pressure." A strange symbol had been branded on to the left side of the victim's chest. Over the next year and a half, twelve more murders followed, all with the same modus operandi. FBI agents captured Batrachian in August 1997. He was subsequently convicted of fifteen accounts of first degree murder and sentenced to die in the electric chair. He is currently on death row at Gardelle Country Penitentiary, awaiting the result of his second appeal and achieving a certain notoriety in artistic circles with what he calls his "Asylum Installations" and his "Schismata" paintings (Fig. 2).

<shows picture of symbol>

<shows picture of man in chair>

Indeed, London's Golgotha art gallery recently bought one of these "Schismata" paintings for several thousand dollars.

Attachment #1

Letter to Dallas Morning News (handwriting identified as belonging to Batrachian):

Dear Sir,

I have brought HIS Kingdom to Earth and a bloody cleansing is nigh. Indeed, it is well overdue. I am the Leader of the FIVE -- the Watchers of the GATE OF SOULS. We shall Make the Way for the coming of HIS GLORIOUS ARMY and as a fanfare -- we demand several sacrifices. Blood Sacrifices for HIS pleasure. So be aware then, that the road to your GOLGOTHA shall be slippery with your BLOOD.

FOR WE ARE MANY

I remain, as ever, disrespectfully yours,
The Lizard King

Attachment #2

UPDATE -- News story from the front page of Clearford Chronicles, dated one week ago.

MASS-KILLER MASTERMINDS PRISON SIEGE -- Mass-killer Doctor Victor Batrachian is the mastermind behind the three-day-old siege at Gardelle Country Penitentiary. Batrachian, who has been on death row for the past two years, has become something of a celebrity in artistic circles with his "Schismata" paintings. Details are sketchy, but it appears that last Thursday evening, Batrachian was momentarily left alone in the prison's Art Studio. When the guards returned, he was nowhere to be found. After killing four guards, Batrachian managed to override the security systems, releasing thee hundred prisoners from their cells. The condition of the twenty-five hostages is unknown. Gardelle Penitentiary is currently surrounded by 150 National Guardsmen, but as of yet they have not been given to order to go in.

Attachment #3

Poem found at crime scene (clutched in hand of unidentified victim):

The Lizard King shall lead the Five --

From out of the southern gaol shall cut his bloody
swathe.

True hate shall find a way -- in Him the Darkness
stands revealed,
His eyes as void as a dead man's gaze,
As cold as the light from a dying star.

For we are many...

SERIAL KILLER REPORT #2

Name: Marco Roberto Cruz

<prison photo>

DOB: March 13, 1968

Sex: MALE

Height: 5'10"

Weight: 168lbs

Place of Birth: Boulder City, Nevada

Hair: Dark Brown

Eyes: Light Brown

Race: White

Scars and Marks: Heavily tattooed on upper body. Scar on left cheek;
words "LOVER BOY" tattooed on knuckles of both hands

Background:

From February to November, 1996, Marco Roberto Cruz kidnapped and
murdered ten people, preying on couples mainly in and around Death
Valley and the Mojave Desert. The following symbol was found near each
victim (Fig. 1).

<shows picture of symbol>

The following poem was also found near each of the victims:

For in the western deserts He finds a form
He is the Child with the Mouth of Blood,
The bleakness before the Beginning of Time,
He is the glint of ice in a murderer's eye,
The savage heart of every crime.
For we are many...

Ironically, Cruz actually worked as a Repo Man for five years. He also
worked as a deejay and had an auto shop business at one time. Served
seven years for armed robbery and aggravated assault. No previous
convictions for homicide but was implicated in several killings, with
lack of evidence to convict. It is not known whether he is among the
inmates involved in the riot at the jail.

SERIAL KILLER REPORT #3

Name: Milton T. Pike

<prison photo>

DOB: July 4, 1952

Sex: MALE

Height: 6'1"

Weight: 240lbs

Place of Birth: Miami, Florida

Hair: Black

Eyes: Brown

Race: White

Scars and Marks: Flaming skull tattoo with inscription "Born to Raise
Hell" on left side of his chest; scars on upper lip and chin.

Background:

Vietnam Veteran (1971-73), Green Beret, Special Forces electronic
countermeasures expert. Dishonorably discharged in '72 following alleged
assault on another officer. Upon discharge worked as a TV repairman
(1974-80). Indicated in the shooting of his mother in 1975, but was

acquitted due to lack of evidence.

Joined "American Knights of the Cross" (survivalist/militia group) in 1980's, 1981 formed own breakaway/splinter group "Knights of the American Heartland" (KAH), with fortified compound located near Eureka, Florida (the identifying symbol of the KAH is remarkably similar to the "crossed spears" symbol -- see Attachment #1C -- found on stickers affixed to the videotapes sent by the "Video Nasty" offender to various State Police officials). KAH incorporated into national militia organization in 1982 with subsequent expulsion later that year following Pike's murder of eighteen of his own militiamen with a rocket-propelled grenade launcher.

In 1991 was arrested following the murder of a hiker in the Cypress National Preserve. Escaped from Custody, killing two Sheriff's deputies in the process. Pike's whereabouts unknown from 1991 to 1995. From December 1995 to September 1996, Pike murdered nine women, disposing of their bodies in numerous locations.

Pike was known by the sobriquets "Video Nasty Killer" due to the fact that State Police in all of the states mentioned above were the unfortunate recipients of videotapes showing, in horrific detail, the hunting down and slaughter of at least six of the aforementioned victims.

The following poem was found nearby each of the victims:

And lo, if War should have a face,
This one of Five would show the bleeding mask:
Ears pricked to savor every scream,
Teeth bared to strip the carcass wet,
And tongues to lap the vessels dry.
For we are many...

Pike was captured by FBI agents in October '96 following a series of anonymous tip-offs (the caller gave his code-name as "Legion"). Three agents were killed and five wounded in the furious gun-battle that followed. Pike, severely wounded himself, eventually passed out due to blood-loss and was taken to the Dallas Memorial Hospital, where he remained in a critical condition for several days. Following his recovery, he was tried and convicted on eleven counts of first degree murder (one of the FBI agents had subsequently died of his wounds) and is currently incarcerated at Gardelle Penitentiary awaiting execution.

As with the previously mentioned offender and fellow death row inmate, Marco Robert Cruz, it is not known whether Pike is among the prisoners involved in the riot at Gardelle.

Attachment #1C

Photograph of "crossed spears" symbol affixed to videotape sent to State Police:

<shows photo>

SERIAL KILLER REPORT #4
CRIMINAL PROFILE OF SERIAL OFFENDER KNOWN AS THE
"HOME IMPROVEMENT KILLER"
<shows 'artist's impression>

Background:

It is estimated that the offender known as the "Home Improvement Killer" has so far murdered twelve people of both sexes, over a period of two years, in and around the New York area. A peculiar facet of this offender's signature behavior is that he leaves behind the skull of a baby canary. Hidden inside the skull is a piece of rolled up paper, torn from a notebook. Written neatly on the paper in blank ink is a poem (Attachment #2A), beneath which is drawn an arcane symbol (Fig. 1).

Sightings:

Suspect possibly seen leaving the scene of the crime (westbound along Braddock Avenue) in the early hours of August 30, 1999. Description given:

White Male, 25-30 years of age

5'8" - 6" tall Weight 150lbs

Dark brown hair, pale complexion, possibly wearing night-vision goggles.

Prime Suspect:

Name: Avery Marx

Background:

Indicted in 1997 for attack on young woman in Greenwich Village, disappeared while on bail (paid for by mother). Also wanted for subsequent murder of his widowed mother, February, 1998, victim found in darkened bedroom (offender had apparently switched off the power of her apartment house).

Known to keep birds.

Present whereabouts unknown.

Attachment #2A

Poem found at crime scene (rolled up nearly inside skull of a baby canary):

From the east the idiot monster cometh,
With nails to announce the blasphemous intent.
In still dark chambers it awaits the Shadow --
Ebon body, scars the power --
Dark Messiah with a hideous strength.

For We Are Many...

<picture of symbol>

SERIAL KILLER REPORT #5

CRIMINAL PROFILE OF SERIAL OFFENDER KNOWN AS

"JACK II"

<artist's impressions>

Background:

This offender, known as "Jack II" (for reasons that will become evident later in this report), preys solely on women, striking late at night/in the early hours of the morning, on or near London Underground stations in the East End of London.

The offender has so far murdered four women.

August 20, 1999

Marie Nicholas

Whiechapel Station

September 8, 1999	Anna Chaplin	Shoredith Station
September 29, 1999	Eliza Strinder	Aldgate East Station
	Katrina Eddison	Aldgate Station

August 32 and November 9, 1888, by the offender known as "Jack the Ripper", we can see some striking similarities.

August 32, 1888	Marie Anne Nichoils	Bucks Row
September 8, 1888	Annie Chapman	29 Manbury Street
September 30, 1888	Elizabeth Stride	Berner Street
	Catherine Eddowes	Church Passage
November 9, 1888	Mary Kelly	Millers Court, Dorset Street

As can be seen when comparing the above lists, all the latest victims have been similar names to the original victims and the recent locations, when looked on the map of London, are very close to the 1888 murder sites.

Sightings:

The similarities between this case and the one in 1888 extend to the appearance of the two offenders. Compare the "Artist's Impressions" of this offender at the beginning of this report with that of the man in Fig. 2, a contemporary impression of Jack the Ripper.

<shows picture of Jack the Ripper>

Prime Suspect:

Scotland Yard has no prime suspect at the present.

Attachment #18

Discovered scrawled in white chalk on a wall near Whitechapel Station on the morning following the murder of Marie Nicholas:

The Watchers at the Gate of Souls shall make the Way,
The Five are red in tooth and claw --
The head, the heart, the hands, the teeth, and eyes,
All combine to create the Five.
For We Are Many...

<shows picture of pyramid with eyeball in center>

Attachment #28

Discovered scrawled in white chalk on a wall near Shoreditch Station on the morning following the murder of Anna Chaplin:

The knife shall curve its bloody ritual,
A sanguinary return to a darker place.
Flesh running cold with the shedding tears --
To shred, to cut, to slice, to know
The weeping wound and its glooming soul.
For We Are Many...

<shows picture of symbol>

End report

----- THE PROPHECY -----

23rd November, 1888

Dear Friend,

Although centuries may have passed by the time that you read this note, I know that I greet you both as a friend and as a brother; for I, in my time, have also borne the burden that is the Mask of Shadows.

Know then, that I constructed these passageways, the Paths of Shadows, as pathways through the place known as Deadside, so that we, and those who also bear the Mash, might bring order to this realm and transverse it without hindrance.

In my time, I have gathered and catalogued many of the ancients artifacts of power, some of which reside within these chambers. However, I fear that I must leave my work incomplete. A seed of darkness has come to this realm, more powerful than has been felt in centuries, and so I find it necessary to seal the Paths of Shadows lest they and the artifacts within them, fall into the hands of Evil.

The task of securing these passageways has been an immense labor, and I fear that with my weakening powers these outer gates have not been secured as strongly as those deeper within the Paths. Know then, that the way ahead shall require much greater strength than that which brought you here.

In addition to the catalogues of artifacts, find here enclosed Les Cartes de Prophetie -- the Prophecy spoken to the Ancients by the mighty Loa.

I fear that the darkness I sense on this day might that of which Les Cartes speak of, but fate has made it my charge not to challenge the darkness. Instead, my labor is to secure these passageways so that, come the time of Prophecy, when Evil shows its true form, they may be reopened and their relics uncovered.

I wish you luck,
Maxim St. James
Former Shadowman

<marshmallow's note: I did not include the text from Les Cartes due to the fact that they are mainly pictures>

----- JACK'S JOURNAL -----

JOURNAL

Being the Journal of John Q. Pierce. Otherwise known as "Jack the Ripper."

From Hell...

I have performed the bloody ritual upon myself and now exist beyond the veil, in the place my Master calls Deadside. The darkness is visible here. This Hell is all I deserve and all that I have ever desired. Here

I shall build a monument to stand for eternity -- a Cathedral to Pain. A place of Asylum for all of the unique and misunderstood individuals who shall make it their spiritual home as the time of Armageddon approaches!

<shows sketchings of Asylum>

A great building we shall make of it and a century shall pass Liveside before Asylum is complete. When it is finally completed, we shall send five of my Master's Dark Souls across the veil from Deadside to Liveside, to prepare the way for his Armies of Judgement.

To accomplish this, I have designed a conduit between this world and the next.

The gateways between this world and the next I have called "Schisms." The idea behind these is to form a link between two souls on the very brink of crossing over to the next world.

<shows Schism sketches>

The Schisms shall act both as transmitting devices and receiver receptacles for the five Dark Souls projecting themselves across the veil and receiving them deep within their bloody breasts!

The Schisms acting as the receiver receptacles shall be called Liveside and erected in gory resplendence by five like-minded individuals with the strength to dream of the day when He shall bring about His glorious Cleansing! With the Schisms built in both worlds, dread keys in the form of medical "Retractors" may open them.

<shows gory sketch of an open Schism>

And so shall it be that the five Dark Souls shall be transmitted across the veil into the receive receptacles, whereupon, the Five like-minded individuals shall devour them, thereby imbuing themselves with an immortal, darkly glowing Life Force!

Not only this, but embedded within each of the Five shall be a crystal of the prima materia; an aetheric Prism which shall act as a failsafe key to each "Soul Gate", thereby preventing unbelievers from accessing the Way, the Truth and the Death!

<shows sketches of the "Dark Engine">

The Five shall be unstoppable! They shall be immortal, and myself shall join them as the Opener of the Way!

What a supreme honor!

Once the Schisms are in place, and the energizing Dark Souls devoured by the Five, these Five shall erect larger receiver receptacles. These are the "Soul Gates" to be built in readiness for the reception of His Dark Soul Armies.

...For We Are Many!

<shows sketching of "Soul Gate">

Whereas the five initial Dark Souls projected via the Schisms are to be spiritual manifestations, these Armies of Judgement shall comprise a

multitude of actual physical beings -- called "Trueforms" -- with each one possessing a glowering Dark Soul as its cruel core.

Thus, on the Day of Judgement, when the time is right which, my Master has explained, shall occur just before the turn of the Millennium -- the Soul Gate shall open, and the world shall be cleansed and the New Era shall dawn!

<shows sketches of "Trueforms">

Of course, all of the above mechanisms shall require an engine to drive them; a Great Dark Engine housed at the fearful heart of this place He has called Asylum.

The Dark Engine shall power Asylum and control the "Soul Flumes", those storage receptacles containing the soldiers of His Army -- the "Trueforms" -- 120 of them (this being the number of Dark Souls known to be in existence). My Master currently possesses but five of these, yet His servants are abroad searching out the remainder.

<shows sketches of "Soul Flumes">

The vast quantities of aetheric power harnessed by the Dark Engine are truly terrifying! I have, therefore, built into the design a failsafe mechanism.

Stabilizing Pistons shall be active within the Main Block of the Engine to counteract any destructive surges of power that may occur. Each Stabilizing Piston is operated via a console.

<shows various sketches of Pistons and consoles>

To deactivate each stabilizing piston a combination is required. These combinations can only be set with an Engineer's Key.

<shows pictures of the key and the consoles>

Engineer's Key penetrates Operating Console at this point.

<shows picture>

The combinations are as shown --

Console Room Four:
245

Console Room Three: <map of the Stabilizing Piston area>
312

Console Room Two:
124

Console Room One
555

So it is written, so it shall be...

The Grand Design...

F O R W E A R E M A N Y ! ! !

Signed,

John Q. Pierce
"Jack the Ripper"

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