



MAGGIE'S GHOST

A Savage Worlds One Sheet™ for use with East Texas University
By Ed Wetterman & Maggie Simpson Adams for Hell Raiser Joshua Thaler



A haunting of ETU's Filmmaking wing threatens to end the program.

This adventure is designed for Junior rank characters, though it is easily modified for more or less experienced groups.

BACKGROUND

Two years ago, Professors Conner Mayes of the Theater Department and Dr. Trina James of the Television Department created the fledgling Film Making program for East Texas University. They were making great progress until the pair had a falling out and Mayes withdrew support.

Dr. James persevered with the program using a horror script she wrote and began production with the help of three graduate students. Together they auditioned locals and students for the roles since most of the Theater department boycotted the production in support for Professor Mayes. Dr. James cast Pinebox local Maggie Adams in the lead role.

Tragically for Maggie, Dr. James was the leader of a death cult comprised of her three graduate students. Filming of the slasher film concluded by the end of the second summer session. During the final scene filmed late one night, Maggie was murdered and dismembered by one of Dr. James' followers dressed as the masked villain.

Maggie's disappearance was reported three days later, but Dr. James and her followers all swore they met her for dinner at Mom's Diner the day after filming. They told the police "she was dating a new guy" and had said she was taking a vacation with him to Natchez, Mississippi. Maggie was listed as a missing person and after a couple months with no new leads the case was filed away.

When the film was released for Halloween in the ETU Student Center theater, the reviewers were brutal: "The worst kind of slasher tripe I've ever seen" and "Too realistic, too bloody, just a gross fest, and not a fun one."

Despite the criticism and her missing star, Dr. James continued the program and after two years began a new production. Although Maggie's spirit has haunted the film wing since her death, the prospect of a new murder greatly agitates her. Now the set and cast are beset with ghostly apparitions, scary sounds, and High Strangeness (see *East Texas University*).

THE INVESTIGATION

The study group may get involved by seeing a manifestation of Maggie's ghost, being contacted by a friend recently cast in the film, or being cast in the film themselves.

During the day Maggie's anger manifests by draining batteries, flickering lights, and the occasional item being tossed off shelves and desks. At night, when most of the filming takes place, her spirit lashes out and attempts to hurt anyone associated with the filming.

If the heroes view the original film, allow each to make Vigor rolls during the final scene. It is extremely gory and realistic (because it is). A failed roll results in 1 level of Fatigue for 30

minutes due to Nausea. Dr. James only laughs and expresses pride in the film's special effects.

If they decide to interview Dr. Mayes about why he left the Film Making Department, the professor begins as Uncooperative on the **Reaction Table** (see *Savage Worlds*). He is very resistant to talk about Dr. James. If the heroes can raise his attitude to Neutral, he tells them that Dr. James was more interested in exploring terror and horror than creating art. Her insistence for realism was scary and they argued over the direction the movie was to take. Professor Mayes wanted



the heroine to win in the end and kill the slasher. Dr. James ridiculed him as soft-hearted and threatened him if he didn't follow her lead. Mayes felt he had little choice but to leave the Film Making department he had helped establish. He also has doubts about how she raises money for the production, but generally doesn't concern himself about it. He thinks Maggie probably ran off after the filming was done: "Lots of people do that. People either love Pinebox or they hate it."

If the group interviews Dr. James, she is very friendly and attempts to win them over. She does things such as inviting them to come to the filming, buy them drinks and food, and

offer any actors/actresses parts in the new movie. If asked about the ghostly activities, she shakes her head, "No, I don't believe in ghosts. Nothing but children's stories." If asked about Maggie, Dr. James becomes contemplative, "I don't know what happened to her. I wish she would call or something. I hope she's okay. She was such a marvelous actress. Too bad her career ended with one movie."

Should the heroes gain access to financial records from the university, they discover that Maggie was never paid for her time in the movie. Maggie has no family in Pinebox, so very few people actually missed her once she went missing. Her family in California pressured the Pinebox Police Department to investigate, but ultimately Maggie's disappearance was considered yet another missing persons case.

THE HAUNTING

As the filming continues, always after hours, Maggie's haunting antics become much more active. Maggie finds rest if Dr. James and her cult are exposed or if the original film of her murder is destroyed. Until then, her angry spirit lashes out at anyone and everyone.

If confronted, Dr. James and her three cult members attempt to capture the group and make them impromptu victims in their new movie.



DR. TRINA JAMES

Dr. James is a striking lady in her mid-forties. She has beautiful blond hair she generally wears in a long ponytail. She is friendly but comes off as a very tough, no-nonsense kind of person driven by her dreams. She had a minor career as an actress in the early 1990s. It was during this time that she met and fell in love with Thomas Bent, her mentor in the occult. She learned his lessons well and once she came to ETU she gathered a small group to practice her arcane sacrifices.

The three other members of the cult include her former grad students Dr. Gary Iverson, Dr. Felicia Stammes, and Dr. Raymond Mayo. Use the Professor stats from *East Texas University* for them.

Attributes: Agility d6, Smarts d6, Spirit d8, Strength d6, Vigor d6

Skills: Fighting d4, Intimidation d8, Knowledge (Film) d8, Notice d6, Persuasion d8, Shooting d6, Stealth d4, Taunt d8

Cha: +2, **Pace:** 6, **Parry:** 4, **Toughness:** 5

Edges: Charismatic

Gear: Glock 9mm (Range 12/24/48, Damage 2d6, RoF 1, Shots 7, AP 1, Semi-Auto), concealed carry permit, several zip ties in her purse.



MAGGIE'S GHOST

Maggie Adams grew up in California and performed in many school productions and took several acting courses at UCLA, though she dropped out her Sophomore year. After a failed marriage in Dallas, she moved to Pinebox, and heard about the movie. She went

to the auditions and won the part. Unfortunately, she was sacrificed in the final scene. Her remains were later burned in Dr. James' fireplace.

Attributes: Agility d6, Smarts d6, Spirit d10, Strength —, Vigor d8

Skills: Fighting d8, Intimidation d6, Notice d4

Pace: 6, **Parry:** 6, **Toughness:** 6

Special Abilities:

- **Apport:** The spirit can cause drops of blood to appear and fall in a small burst template area for a few seconds.

- **Bane (Salt):** Salt (both rock salt and table salt) temporarily interrupts a spirit's tether to the mortal realm. Some believe this is because salt is "of the earth" and spirits are not, but since other minerals have no effect on them most discount this old wives' tale. Whatever the reason, an unbroken line of salt blocks spirits (see **Bane** in *East Texas University*).

- **Cold Spot:** Maggie may reduce the temperature within a Small Burst Template by up to 50 degrees.

- **Drain Electricity:** Maggie can drain the electrical capacity of a battery or batteries in a device. She may also reduce or temporarily stop the electrical current in a room.

- **Electronics Manipulation:** Maggie can manipulate electronic devices at will, including turning devices on or off, channeling certain television or radio stations, and so on. Spirits often use these to communicate—stringing together parts of different songs to create a message, for example.

- **Ethereal:** Ghosts cannot be harmed by physical attacks and can pass through solid matter. Spirits may become visible at will—usually to use their Fear ability or Intimidation skill.

- **Fear (-2):** Maggie often appears with bloody limbs missing, or her head, or in some other way that resembles her grisly death.

- **Invisible:** Ghosts are invisible unless they want to be seen or opponents have some way to see them. Attackers must have a general idea where they are (in a room or other limited area) to have any chance of hitting them (at a -6 penalty).

- **Regeneration (Slow):** Ghosts that somehow suffer damage cannot heal while in the mortal plane. They must return to the spirit world to do so.

- **Resolution:** Maggie's spirit fades when the film of her murder is destroyed, or Dr. James is exposed.

- **Spirit Storm:** The favored ability of poltergeists, this causes a storm of objects in a Large Burst Template. Anyone within suffers the ghost's Spirit+d6 damage each round. The objects may be a chaotic swirl, or they might be targeted projectiles such as a coordinated attack of silverware.

- **Spirit Strength:** Ghosts can affect the physical world as they wish, using their Spirit die type as Strength.

- **Weakness (Salt):** If used to attack, salt won't wound a spirit but can leave one Shaken. A thrown handful of salt (Range 1/2/4) does 2d6 damage to a spirit, and a weapon using salt (such as a shotgun shell) adds +1d6 to its damage.