

UNITED STATES OFFICE OF REALITY MANAGEMENT
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"KNOWN ELEMENTS OF STABLE UNREALITY IN AND AROUND THE
METROPOLITAN AREA OF GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN: SUMMER 2004"

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JULY 14, 2004

WITH ASSISTANCE OF THE GRAND RAPIDS BRANCH OFFICE OF THE
ANOMOLOUS AFFAIRS DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

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Starting Scene:

LOCATION:

Bell Telephone Building, Downtown Grand Rapids

CHARACTERS (NPC):

ROGER BEAM, a man who shows his years, but also his wisdom. He is the "owner" of the Bell Telephone Building, and gets all the Sleeper respect he needs (basically, they just leave him alone.) To the local Awakened, he is a fount of grandfatherly wisdom (as well as his grandfatherly disdain for youthful stupidity.) Although he has the answers and experience, he tends to stay on the sidelines, being the simple sage and wishing to attend to little more than his "semi-retirement".

ALEX DEVOY aka **BLACK MONDAY** and **MINNIE DEVOY**, a young couple with quite a story behind them. **ALEX** and **MINNIE** reside in a run-down hole on John St, where they live a life of gray skies and addictions. Both **ALEX** and **MINNIE** are in their late twenties, but look run ragged beyond their years.

After **ALEX**'s fatal fall from an 8th-storey window in 1999, **MINNIE**, through a "friend of a friend" petitioned **THE DEVIL** to bring him back to life. Having somewhat of a soft spot (or, more likely, a sadistic, melodramatic bent) for this sort of thing, **THE DEVIL** agreed to work his magic. **THE DEVIL** siphoned the life from **MINNIE**, and split the difference among the couple. Both were left only half-alive, in an eternal dismal day where it's always cloudy and overcast.

This is true in both a figurative and a literal sense. Along with an unnatural constant and intense melancholic dejection, they see every day, no matter how bright, sunny, or beautiful, as dismal, gray, and overcast. People in their immediate presence also notice this effect, in that the sun seems to go behind a cloud, and, upon looking up, the whole sky has clouded.

Both **ALEX** and **MINNIE** are incapable of sleep or death. Unconsciousness through either physical concussion or drugging has a greatly lessened effect (an extreme coma would last only days at most). Minor wounds do not heal, or heal only to the extent of a normal human. Major wounds may cause temporary incapacitation, but generally heal with much more regeneration than normal humans. Events that would cause catastrophic wounds (beheading, explosion, etc.) mysteriously fail to occur. By the word of **THE DEVIL** both will live out an average-American, 75-year lifespan. On their 75th birthdays they will again cease to be invulnerable.

Both have numerous psychoses and mood disorders, as well as many drug habits and addictions. Drugs such as stimulants or "uppers" do affect them, but the positive effects work in a very dampened way. Depressant drugs work as normal, but have a reduced duration of effect.

Although **MINNIE** is not Awakened and possesses no Magical skill, **ALEX** is clairvoyant (Entropy-1+Time-2 Effect). By observing patterns and changes in financial markets and news statistics, he can foretell the future.

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THE 301 COLLECTIVE

JONAS ROWANOWSKI, TIMOTHY HAWKE, AND WILLIAM WEISS

THE 301 COLLECTIVE is a group of phone phreaks and hackers, respected for their ability to work the networks. All three are Mages. Finding information, planting information, and messing with the machinery of the smoothly-running city is their trade. They work from the eponymous dilapidated office building at 301 Fulton Ave, under which sits a minor Node.

All are in their mid-20s, usually found sporting comic-book or obscure technology T-shirts that may or may not have been changed in the last week.

- **JONAS ROWANOWSKI** aka **SKEE-BALL** is the computer expert of the group. His forte is programming, breaking into computer systems, and knowing what to do once he gets there.

- **TIMOTHY HAWKE**, aka **THE STRAIGHT MAN**, is the resident phone phreaker and social-engineering master. The oldest of the group and the best at looking respectable, he can infiltrate his way into amazing places to get information or supplies. He is also the business front-man for both the group's Mage dealings and the small IT business they run as a front.

- **WALTER CHESTERFIELD** aka **TRAGIC FINGERS** is the resident electronics hack. His specialties are hardware, electronics, and acoustics. He is the one to go to for a spy rig.

THE DEVIL aka **THE RED TEXAN** aka **THOMAS J. SMITH**

alias **THOMAS REDWOOD**

alias **THOMAS Q. PARKER**

alias **LUCIFER E. JACKSON, III**

alias **MICHAEL N. PAYNE**

alias **JACK R. DESMOND, JR.**

(Nothing yet...)

THE ANOMOLOUS AFFAIRS DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY is the newly-formed front for the **TECHNOCRACY'S** government-backed operations. Its existence is known to few, and its funding comes from a number of roundabout locations. Although there are other "Technocratic" elements and organizations, some more local and some more global, **THE ANOMOLOUS AFFAIRS DIVISION** is the one with presence in the Grand Rapids area.

THE ANOMOLOUS AFFAIRS DIVISION was formerly known as the **SPECIAL COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT DIVISION OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**, but was transferred to the umbrella of Homeland Security shortly after the department's creation in 2003. They never actually worked with or reported to the FCC, and now they are a virtually unknown "division" of the Homeland Security Office

To say they have "presence", however, is to overestimate them. In a town such as Grand Rapids, although it does have a higher-than-usual node concentration, the force consists of three undertrained agents and one veteran. They have power to call on military and police support, as well as other Technocratic elements from other areas, if more muscle becomes necessary. These few agents work from small offices located in rooms 919-920 of the Gerald R. Ford Federal Building.

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- **AGENT JACQUELINE J. KEYES** is a West Michigan native, born in Grand Haven and still living there to the day. She was bright and talented in her younger years, and after college the FBI picked her up. After showing exemplary expertise and an interest in odd phenomena, she was approached by