



Sketch by He Who  
(for legal reasons)  
Must Not Be Named

# *A Shoggoth on the Roof* **THE MUSICAL**

Book and Lyrics by  
HE WHO (for legal reasons)  
MUST NOT BE NAMED

Restored and digitally remastered by  
SEAN BRANNEY and ANDREW LEMAN

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## The Characters:

HENRY ARMITAGE . . . . .	45, librarian at Miskatonic University
MARION ARMITAGE . . . . .	45, his wife
PRUDENCE ARMITAGE . . . . .	21, his eldest daughter
ASENATH ARMITAGE . . . . .	20, his second daughter
JILL ARMITAGE . . . . .	17, his youngest daughter
HERBERT WEST . . . . .	35, dangerous maniac, beloved of Prudence
HEAD CULTIST . . . . .	30, studly Cthulhu worshipper, beloved of Asenath
OBED MARSH . . . . .	85, late-blooming Deep One, beloved of Jill
RANDOLPH CARTER . . . . .	35, nervous investigator
HARLEY WARREN . . . . .	35, shovel-wielding zealot
WILBUR WHATELY . . . . .	22, Dunwich creep
DR. HALSEY . . . . .	40, Miskatonic Dean, later a zombie
GRANDMA PRUDENCE . . . . .	90, Marion's grandmother, a ghost
LAVINIA WHATELY . . . . .	50, Wilbur's mother, a ghost
GREAT CTHULHU . . . . .	2,560,000,003, A Great Old One, very large
A SHOGGOTH	
A BYAKHEE	
A MI-GO	
Numerous DEEP ONES	
Numerous GHOULS	
Numerous CULTISTS	
Numerous VILLAGERS/VICTIMS	
Several ZOMBIES	

The Place: Arkham, Massachusetts

The Time: 1926

# *A Shoggoth on the Roof*

## Musical Numbers:

### Act One

Prologue. . . TENTACLES! . . . . .	Armitage, Chorus
Scene 1. . . ARKHAM, DUNWICH . . . . .	Armitage, Marion
Scene 4. . . BYAKHEE, BYAKHEE . . . . .	Asenath, Jill
Scene 6. . . SHOGGOTH PRAYER . . . . .	Head Cultist, Chorus
IF I WERE A DEEP ONE . . . . .	Old Man Marsh
Scene 7. . . ARKHAM, DUNWICH (reprise). . . . .	Armitage, Wilbur Whately
TO LIFE . . . . .	Herbert West, Prudence, Armitage, Halsey, Zombies

### Act Two

Scene 3. . . THE NIGHTMARE. . . . .	Grandma Prudence, Ghoul, Armitage, Marion, Lavinia Whately, Chorus
Scene 5. . . VICTIM OF VICTIMS . . . . .	Head Cultist, Asenath
Scene 6. . . VERY FAR FROM THE HOME I LOVE . . . . .	Jill
Scene 7. . . ARKHAM, DUNWICH (2nd reprise) . . . . .	Head Cultist, Wilbur Whately
DO YOU FEAR ME? . . . . .	Cthulhu, Armitage, Chorus
MISKATONIC . . . . .	Marion, Herbert West Prudence, Armitage, Chorus

## SCENE FOUR

Later that night. Jill and Asenath's bedroom.  
They have the covers pulled up to their chins.  
Marion is at the door.

MARION  
Good night, girls. Do not let the bedbugs bite.

JILL  
Good night, mama.

There is an odd scratching noise from above.  
Through the window we can see a tentacle from  
the Shoggoth on the roof tapping at the glass.

JILL (cont'd)  
What's that noise?

MARION  
It is nothing, dear. Pay no attention.

ASENATH  
That shoggoth's on the roof again.

MARION  
It is just the wind moving through some tree branches.

ASENATH  
(pointing at the window)  
Look! There it is!

Marion goes to the window and closes the curtains.

MARION  
There, it is gone.

Still the scratching noise. The tapping.

JILL  
I can still hear it.

MARION  
Well, let it lull you to sleep. Good night.

JILL  
Sweet dreams, mama.

MARION  
Girls, for me sleep holds the shocking final peril which gibbers unmentionably  
outside the ordered universe, where no dreams reach.

Marion exits. The girls climb out of bed, revealing that they're still fully dressed.

ASENATH

All right, Jill, are you ready?

JILL

I don't know Asenath, now it doesn't seem like such a good idea.

ASENATH

C'mon, we can sneak in and out in no time. Dad will never know the difference!

JILL

But Asenath, some of the books in the library are dangerous. Papa has warned us so many times!

ASENATH

Jill, they're just books. How dangerous could they be?

JILL

Oy.

ASENATH

Listen, Prudence has her mad scientist. She met him in the library. I want an incubus of my own to take me in his hot, powerful arms.

JILL

Well...

ASENATH

Come on. It will be fun.

JILL

Okay.

The girls sneak to the front door and take the library key their father left when he entered. They sneak out of the house and pantomime walking as the set changes to reveal the Miskatonic Library Rare Book Room. Behind the counter, there is a cage the size of a jail cell filled with books. Very moody lighting.

ASENATH

Here is the vault of the rarest and most esoteric books in the library.

JILL

Oh Asenath, be careful.

Asenath opens the cage door with the key. Lights up dim on bookshelves full of creepy volumes.

ASENATH

Look, Jill, here they all are. The Eltdown Shards. Cultes des Goules. Liber Ivonis. Unaussprechlichen Kulten. All seven cryptical books of H'san!

JILL

Wow, look at that one!

Spotlight up brighter on THE NECRONOMICON.  
Musical chord.

ASENATH  
The Necronomicon!

JILL  
Oh, Asenath!

Asenath reaches out to touch it. Jill stops her.

JILL (cont'd)  
No! Not that one, Asenath. Any one but that one. The Necronomicon is not a toy.

ASENATH  
Oh, all right.  
(she takes a different book)  
The Liber Ivonis. Also know as the Book of Eibon. Very old and powerful. Now I'm thankful that dad made us take Latin as our elective.

JILL  
Amor vincit omnia et nos cedamus amori!

Asenath checks the index at the back of the book.

ASENATH  
Let's see. Summoning, summoning... Ah, here it is. Hmmm. No incubuses.

JILL  
Oh, darn.

ASENATH  
Dimensional shambler...

JILL  
Too rugose.

ASENATH  
Hunting horror...

JILL  
Mmmm, no arms.

ASENATH  
Nightgaunt...

JILL  
They're good for a laugh but in the end they always dump you in the middle of nowhere. I've heard.

ASENATH  
Shoggoth...

JILL  
Ewww!

ASENATH

Byakhee...

JILL

Byakhee? What's he like?

ASENATH

(reads)

"An interstellar race, tame, trained, blah blah blah, capable of flying through the vacuum of space and carrying a rider." Cool! Light some candles and we'll check him out.

Jill and Asenath light candles and quickly prepare a magic circle.

ASENATH (cont'd)

Yesh shir uma yalkey.

Utuk xul ta ardata.

Kakht aktamen ias selah.

Kakht aktamen ias selah.

Music starts.

ASENATH (cont'd)

Bara na zu absu Byakhee.

Byakhee byakhee tu ama xul.

(she begins to sing)

["Byakhee  
Byakhee"]

*Byakhee byakhee fly me through space*

*Take me away, far from this place.*

*Byakhee byakhee what can I do*

*To go for a ride with you?*

JILL

*Byakhee byakhee now heed my call.*

*I've done the spells. I've done them all.*

*Out of tartarean darkness appear*

*And fly me away from here.*

ASENATH

*The boys we meet are so dreary.*

JILL

*So boring, and we both want a thrill.*

BOTH

*We're really terribly weary*

*At least that's the theory, we're virgins still.*

*As for real dating we're both quite repressed.*

*Boys here in town*

*don't pass the test.*

*We want to go on a dangerous spree.*

*Yes, we want to try byakhee.*

Music continues under.

ASENATH

(speaks)

Jill, I had no idea you were so interested in boys.

JILL

Well sure. I'm about to graduate high school. It's 1926. I'm a modern girl. But I don't want just any boy. I'm looking for someone special.

ASENATH

Sure. Aren't we all?

JILL

(sings)

*Sister, dear sister,  
The boy that I want to find  
Is wild, intense,  
He'll make me lose my mind!  
But still a nice man, a good man. Yes? Sure!*

*I want a man who's thrilling,  
Who's deeper than the sea,  
Loyal and fulfilling,  
Who's thrilled with me!*

ASENATH

*Sister, dear sister,  
Your goals are a bit too high.  
Men, my dear, are monsters.  
But please don't ask me why.  
There is no nice man, no good man. It's true.*

*So if I must have monsters,  
I'm damned if I'll despair.  
I'll summon up a real one,  
And go from there.*

JILL

*Wait, I hear a flapping sound.*

ASENATH

*Jill, there's something going on.  
Well now who would have guessed it:  
my little black book is *The Book of Eibon!**

A hideous BYAKHEE descends to the stage from above.

ASENATH (cont'd)

*Byakhee byakhee I hear your wings.*

JILL

*I smell... a smell.*

ASENATH

*What are those things?*

**BOTH**  
*Byakhee byakhee*  
*What have we done?*  
*This suddenly isn't fun.*

**ASENATH**  
*I don't know how to describe you.*

**JILL**  
*To see you is a mind-blowing thing.*

**BOTH**  
*Not moles, crows, nor ants are quite like you,*  
*Nor partially decomposed human beings.*  
*Aaaaaah!!*  
*Byakhee byakhee now that you're here*  
*I've changed my mind, I'm filled with fear.*  
*People who go with you don't reappear.*  
*So leave me alone.*  
*I'll stay at home.*  
*I will forget we ever met.*  
*I must not and won't recall!*

They blow out the candles.

**BLACKOUT.**