

MANSIONS OF MADNESS

Father Mateo puzzled after the strange call from the butler at the Vanderbilt mansion in his parish. He had been asked to come urgently, unnatural events were happening, talk of spirits and cults.

Nervous, he decided to take along his grave digger William (Yorick) for some muscle, plus a flare gun he had salvaged from one of his less successful missionary trips back home in Mexico; only two charges and it might not even work but it made him feel safe.

As soon as they entered the main hall a clattering from the kitchen alarmed them. William ran in to be confronted by a slithering black winged beast on the kitchen table, with butler Eugene cowering under the sink. The horror sprung past and into the hall, and regurgitated a pink fleshy mass, which could only have been the poor soul sacrificed to bring it to this world.

In a blind panic, Father Mateo squeezed the trigger on the flare gun, sending the burning beast reeling but also setting the hall carpet ablaze. William pounced on the creature and pummelled it with a trusty 2x4 he had brought along.

With it dead, they both turned their attention to the fire, but it was spreading fast. Suddenly, a cultist burst through the front door, arriving for the ritual, alarmed to see the house ablaze. On seeing the duo, he attacked, and despite a valiant fight, William succumbed.

Father Mateo used the death of his friend as distraction to evade the cultist, clambering over the ballustrade up the stairs, as the fire raged behind.

Bursting through the first door he could find, he looked to escape, and found a first floor window to jump from, but not before grabbing some incriminating looking documents - no-one would believe what he had seen unless he had evidence.

As he sprinted across the gardens and away from the house, he took one look back to see a ferocious inferno, and hear the screams of other-worldly beings mixed with all too human cries.

He stood in fear, as the enormity of the night's events hit him - he dropped the papers, he had to distance himself from this and never speak, or even think of it again, maybe back home in Mexico...

