Simon versus Jack the Ripper

It'll do until I can think of a better title. I like steampunk, and I like the concept of almost magical technological devices as a toolkit to solve problems. And let's face it - virtually all Interactive Fiction is puzzle solving. If all goes well, I'll do a series of semi-comedic adventures with Simon the Technomage. Because he's basically the first original character I thought of (although he's based on someone else's IP setting) — Peter Cobcroft 13/03/2006 14:36

Plot

- 1. Introduction of character
- 2. Introduction of setting
- 3. Example puzzle (fixing the engine)
- 4. Cut To: Jack's first crime (Shadow offer)
- 5. Simon's arrival (crash in gardens)
- 6. Side guest #1 that leads to public social event
- 7. Cut To: Jack's second crime
- 8. Discovery of body by Simon and subsequent incarceration/mistaken identity
- 9. Plot A: Simon escapes before the next body turns up Plot B: Simon stays in jail until the next body turns up.
- 10. A: Fugitive Simon must track clues by himself
 - B: Innocent Simon must gather evidence for the constabulary
- 11. A: Confrontation with Jack
 - B: Entrapment and escape (Vorlon)
- 12. B: Confrontation with Jack (similar to A: above) (Vorlon)
- 13. Finish

Set pieces

• Bad puns and situations

Simon

All about Simon

Technomagic Toolkit

Technomagic Toolkit

- Microphone and small loudhailer for Voice of Authority
- Smokebomb for mysterious disappearances (shortly followed by mysterious coughing and hacking, and mysterious hiding around corners or running really fast)
- Wizard's staff for hitting things with (sometimes this is intentional) and zapping things (requires recharginge each time)

Last update: 2023/11/29 20:27

Illusion powers

- A robe of keeping sharp hurty things from being sharp and hurty
- A black spaceship. Called Kewl. Capable of time travel, occasionally does so while Simon is in it.
- Crystal ball. For looking at locations where a probe is hidden.
- Probe. Microscopic camera/microphone.

Other Characters

- Jack the Ripper antagonist (circa 1888 non fictional) Sebastion (fictional)
- Police Constable Larry McSweeney
- Metropolitan Police Commissioner Sir Charles Warren GCMG KCB FRS (7 February 1840–21 January 1927) (non fictional)
- Lord Talbot Farnsworth and his wife, Lady Penelope
- Vincent and Pansy a lovestruck, but unlucky, couple.

Locations

- Whitechapel (majority of adventure)
 - Buck's Row a back street in Whitechapel two hundred yards from the London Hospital.
 First victim (Mary Ann Nichols discovered at about 3:40 in the early morning of Friday, August 31, 1888)
 - Back yard of 29 Hanbury Street, Whitechapel. Second victim (Annie Chapman discovered 6:00 on the morning of Saturday, September 8, 1888)
 - Dutfield's Yard, off Berner Street (since renamed Henriques Street) in Whitechapel
 (Elizabeth Stride discovered close to 1:00 in the early morning of Sunday, September 30,)
 - Dark corner of Mitre Square (Catherine Eddowes discovered at 1:44 in the early morning of Sunday, September 30, 1888)
 - Sewers
- Kewl (start and finish)
 - Pilot's cabin
 - Quarters
 - Access corridor
 - Storage room
 - Airlock
 - Engine room
- Ball (Entrance quest and Side quest #1)
 - o Entrance foyer
 - Dance hall
 - Buffet
 - Terrace
 - Bushes
 - NW Grounds
 - NE Grounds
 - SW Grounds
 - SE Grounds
 - Fountain
- Jail (after the Ball)
 - Office

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- Corridor
- Cell
- Graveyard (for the shootout/confrontation with Jack)
 - Behind gravestone
 - Behind crypt
 - Pathway

Puzzles

- (3) Operating time device and/or repairing same
 - Object/logic puzzle
- (5) Landing Kewl
 - Maths puzzle
- (6) Socialising and getting people to talk to Simon
 - Conversation puzzle
- (v non-puzzle, gathering clues from body
 - Investigation
- (9) Escape from jail
 - Timing/object puzzle
- (10a) Getting in to the scene of the crime without being arrested
 - (10b) Getting past obnoxious Londoners to gather clues
 - Timing/object puzzle
- (11a) Attacks and defences, possibly maze-like
 - (11b) Arrangements of police to trap Jack
 - Placement/movement puzzle
- (12b) Attacks and defences, possibly maze-like
 - Placement/movement puzzle
- (13) Getting back into Kewl and taking off
 - Maths/logic puzzle

Objects

Should be an object-light game as Technomages come with their own toolkits 🙂



The tricky part is to creatively come up with negatives to most of the toolkit in situations it isn't meant to be used.

Code

simonvjack.t - the code so far (only just started)

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