

THE SECTION DIMENSION

A CHRONOLOGICAL RUNDOWN OF THE "FEAR ME" ARC



Introduction:

The story that follows in the music by The Gloom In The Corner is a long, twisting maze-like spider-web that crosses into the realms of religion, supernaturalism, and violent, narcissistic characters that laugh at the thoughts of events like someone tripping in front of a bus. Though music is our main vessel, there's only so much that our ballads and breakdowns can deliver without completely losing the plot in the lyrics. Much gets lost in translation; metaphors get taken literally, and literal events get taken as metaphors, and the lines get blurred between what actually happens in the story and what the character(s) of the story say metaphorically. So this is where I come in, on this cold Sunday in my workplace with too much time on my hands; I'm here to fill in all the blanks so everyone gets what the fuck is actually going on.

So let's start from the start...

Fear Me (2016 Album)

Our debut record "*Fear Me*" begins with our opening track "Heaven's Collapse", a medias res introduction rap track (god help me now, oh wait...) that introduces the pinnacle character of the Gloom storyline, Julian Oscar Hardy; an agent of a secret government agency known as Section 13 that deals in all things supernatural and likewise, and his team Echo Squad, and more importantly Coffin Crew (the 'inner circle' of Echo Squad), consisting of characters based off TGITC's member lineup in 2016. There's Adrian "Preacher" Mitzoni-Lee (Matt Stevens), a borderline psychopathic medic that draws his power from a religious standpoint with a dark background that delves into the evil corners of the Catholic Church. He's also Echo Squad's weapons curator, along with Daniel "Goose" Warren (Jaya Wirawan), a wizard who deals destruction with twin Beretta M9's and a wooden staff crafted from the tree of Babylon. He earned his nickname as a sick joke after his drug-dealing father killed his pet goose, boy-Warren's only friend.

There's Yuri Kravchenko (Nic Haberle); the Ukrainian-Russian vodka drinking demolitions expert who was born on the outskirts of Chernobyl, giving him the mutated ability of altering the texture of his skin to hard metal, making his internals impenetrable to outside inflictions. The ability, along with his build, earned him the nickname "The Machine." He was married to Katya Kravchenko, who was killed in the tale told in "War", but we'll get to that later. And finally, we have Charles "Slendy" Philips



Figure : Coffin Crew
Badge

(Michael Vallerant), the foul-mouthed shapeshifter with a natural blank face that likens him to internet phenomenon The Slender-Man (something he claims was based off him). As for Jay's abilities, he attained powerful telekinetic abilities at birth, as well as regenerative skin tissue that dates back through his family as far as World War 2 (the Nazi's did some real oogidy-boogidy stuff to their POW's...)

"Heaven's Collapse" gives a brief and metaphor filled outline of what happens up to the events of the (main) closing track "Grim Sleeper" (yes, "Twenty-Five Nine" and "Grim Sleeper" are around the wrong way; we know, we screwed the pooch on that one chronologically). So with that in mind, let's delve into the album.

"Jay", the main opening track of the record, tells the story of how Jay's girlfriend Rachel Barker, another member of Echo Squad, is kidnapped and killed, supposedly by one of the many enemies Jay has made during his time at Section 13. The song describes his violent and chaotic way to the top of the building where they're keeping his love, only to find that she's already been executed; hung by rope. Our friend Danny Munoz of Sydney based band The Sign of Four helped provide some aggression to the track.

Following Rachel's death, Jay's life takes a turn for the worse; "Soul of Angels" and "The Funeral" follow the weeks after Rachel's death, a bleak ode to how the man's outlook on the world has changed; he's stopped taking case-work for Section, he's stopped talking to his friends, he spends most of his time drowning his sorrows in a bottle, and worst of all, he thinks Rachel's death is his fault. Angel is a literal and metaphorical term, as it describes Jay's image of Rachel, as well as a description of her own supernatural abilities, having the ability to heal even the most traumatic of wounds, be it physical or otherwise. In Jay's downward spiral of excessive drinking and intrusive thoughts, we get introduced to the Gloom.

A lot of people have asked me what the Gloom actually is, and how it works, so allow me to give a rundown; the best analogy to describe the possessive entity is the same way you would describe someone who has an STD. Much like people who take part in devious activities, ability gifted people, such as Jay, are prone to "supernatural diseases", such as a Gloom; easily dismissed as a multiple personality disorder and schizophrenia, Gloom's are an entity that develop from the darkest thoughts in someone's mind until they gain enough power to develop their own mindset and personality, like a voice in an earpiece telling you what to do and how to do it. They're the rarest of Supernaturally Developed Diseases (SDD's), but they're also the most dangerous. So, you can see how having a bullet-proof telekinetic become infected would become a bad thing.

Jay's Gloom is introduced in our track "Coffin Bearer", a track that describes how Jay has reached the point of suicide, though the Gloom keeps him alive; he's maintained enough power from Jay's mind and body to strengthen the detective, and because of it, the man has suddenly become the most powerful agent Section 13 has to offer, and he's suicide prone. The Gloom, who's been paying attention to the details of the case of Rachel's death while Jay has been wallowing in misery, has figured out that it wasn't his enemies whom had killed Rachel, rather the 'outer-circle' of Echo Squad, who shall now be referred to as "The Mud". Their intentions are unknown, but the anger driven telekinetic detective and his new imaginary friend have enough to justify the massacre that follows, and it begins with Stephanie Welsh, the main perpetrator in Rachel's death.

The gruesome second half of the record begins with “Oxymoron”, as Jay recruits the help of Detective Sherlock Bones, a violent and narcissistic demon who too wants to see Nega-Echo Squad suffer for their crimes, though his reasoning is left unheard, nor does Jay really ask. He corners Stephanie Welsh at a nightclub in London, confronting her about her involvement in his girlfriend’s death. She resists arrest and as a result, ends up being killed in front of Stephanie’s friends in the process. Jay walks away with little remorse for his actions, leaving one friend dead along with Stephanie, and the other two mentally scarred.

And so begins the gigantic masquerade that is “When I Walk, My Regret Follows Like Shadows”, the 3 part back and forth operatic breakdown ballad between Jay and his Gloom as Jay comes to terms with what he had just done in “Oxymoron”, unsure if he can continue down the path. He negatively reflects on his actions, and the Gloom reveals more about himself and his dark and vengeful mindset. At the end of the track, Rachel comes back as an apparition, watching Jay’s downfall with great disdain, and reflecting upon her death in the track “Body of Glass”, where she earns her nickname “Girl of Glass”. As Jay finally cracks and lets the Gloom take full control of his body, he and Sherlock commit to massacring the remainder of the Mud, funnily enough in the track “Mud”. Through selective executions, they discover that the Vice Director and Head Witch of Section 13, Emily Scarlett, someone Jay already holds a grudge against for past trespasses, was the organiser and instigator of Rachel’s murder. Our friend Jerry Chard of Honest Crooks jumped on the track to provide some vocalisations that I couldn’t quite reach, and truly made the track something else.

Before “Grim Sleeper”, at least chronologically, Jay gives one last reflection on Rachel’s death in the somber and balladic track “Twenty-Five-Nine”, the date of Rachel’s death and the release date of the record, the 25th of September, 2016. (This places Jay’s age at 24, his birthday is November 13, 1992).

The second last track of the record, “Epilogue of a Deadman”, a monologue story track, tells the story of how Jay confronts Emily Scarlett and attempts to kill her. She pleads the truth, telling Jay she was coerced into doing it once Rachel discovered that Section 13’s Director, Stuart Thatcher, was laundering money through Section 13, using their operations as a front, from illegal operations that trafficked souls illegally from the Garden (TGITC’s version of Heaven) and the Rabbit Hole (TGITC’s version of Hell), as well as trafficking other demonic entities and monsters around Earth. Outraged, but still remorseful, Jay takes pity on Scarlett after waking her daughter, realising the irony in taking away someone’s loved one from them. In exchange, he tells Scarlett to tell Thatcher that he knows about the operation, and if Thatcher wants to confront him, he can do so after Jay turns himself in.

An outlaw at this point, Jay turns himself in to Section 13 to be arrested, as is Sherlock, and the two are placed in Section’s lockup and mental institution, Cane Hill Asylum, so it does make sense). Jay gets multiple attempts on his life in the asylum after Thatcher secretly puts out a hit on him to silence him, though none of them follow through, as he and Sherlock extinguish all their foes who dare try to silence them. Those who live tell Thatcher that Jay has a message for him; “if you’re gonna try kill me, hang me off my bedpost and do it yourself”.

So as “*Fear Me*” comes to a close, Thatcher makes a last-ditch effort to silence Jay; he’s run out of options, with his only one left being to confront Jay himself. And so, he does, in the album’s (chronologically) closing track “Grim Sleeper”, coined after Thatcher’s nickname from

his time in the field in the SAS; he'd put his victims to sleep before killing them with a hand scythe. Thatcher confronts Jay, who's expecting him, and a battle ensues in the middle of Cane Hill's visiting lounge. Jay ultimately prevails, telling his Gloom and Sherlock that he needs to do it alone with just his basic abilities, and follows up in his threat; he takes Thatcher's hand scythe, guts him, grabs a bed sheet from the laundry basket cart passing by, ties it around the already doomed director's neck, drags him to his cell with Sherlock cheering him on, ties the bedsheet to his bedpost and kicks the director out the window, hanging him off the building with his guts spilling out. Jay gives in to his Gloom state, and we end the record on a rather... grim note.

Homecoming (2017 EP)



In our next release, *"Homecoming"* we cover the tale of Julian Hardy's older brother Ethan, a war veteran with more powerful telekinetic abilities than his brother, but lacking in the regenerative tissue ability, making him the first in his bloodline to not attain those abilities.

Much like *"Heaven's Collapse"* on our debut record *"Fear Me"*, the record opens with an introductory track *"Rodent"*, named after Ethan's nickname for his "runt-of-the-litter" persona due to his abilities, but largely states that even though he may not be like his brother, he's still not a force to be reckoned with.

The real story starts with our track *"War"*; telling the tale of how Ethan lost his entire squad, Delta Company (or their nickname, the Death Dealers), after a botched operation pits them against an Afghani town and a Taliban force after Ethan accidentally shoots a child he thinks could be wearing a suicide vest. Katya Kravchenko, Yuri's pregnant wife and Section agent also loses her life, and Ethan is shot and left for dead. The situation leaves Ethan with PTSD and anxiety, something he battles with in the two years leading up to the events of *"Fear Me"*, and he becomes retired to a desk job for the Section Branch in Syria.

Two years pass since the events of *"War"*, and Ethan returns home to see his brother Jay just after the events of *Grim Sleeper*. He doesn't get the homecoming he's expecting, however; Section's Director is dead and replaced by Vice Director Emily Scarlett, an old lover who's hellbent on making his life as difficult as possible, his parents are battling through a difficult divorce, his brother is possessed by one of the worst SDD's the supernaturally gifted can get, and his girlfriend Isabella is resentful towards him despite his mental state. His meeting with his brother leaves him with a mission however (mentioned briefly in *"Brother"*); he must travel to the Rabbit Hole (Hell) in a Dante like styled tale to rescue Rachel, Jay's dead girlfriend, from the Rabbit Hole, a location he must die to get to. Ethan, who's fairly comfortable with death



*Figure : Both Versions
of the Death Dealer's
Logo*

already, begins plotting to make his 'dimension jump', but grows worrisome of who he'll be letting down in his death. Isabella, his girlfriend eventually figures out what he's planning to do, and confronts him, along with claims that he was cheating on her with Scarlett. The two fight, leaving her with a black eye and mental scarring. Appalled at what he's done, he tries to rectify the bridge between them, but it was finally enough to push her away, and she leaves him. Heartbroken and appalled at himself, Ethan begins making final preparations for his death, discovering he needs a sacrifice to properly cement his slot in Hell, when Sherlock Bones, Jay's genocidal and misanthropic assistant from "*Fear Me*", tells Ethan of Scarlett's involvement, as well as how she coordinated the attack in Afghanistan that made him lose his entire squad, telling him he wasn't meant to survive the attack, and he should 'right the wrongs', as he too isn't fond of Scarlett. Sherlock gives him all the information he needs to piece together Scarlett's reasoning for killing Rachel and covering for Thatcher, leading to Jay's downward spiral, as well as reasons of his own. He plans to meet Scarlett in a secluded location to make that final sacrifice and drives towards his bitter end.

"Witch Hunt" (aptly named after Scarlett's supernatural gifts), the closing track of the record, detail how the two meet, and Ethan confronts Scarlett about her trespasses. She runs, trying to escape from her inevitable doom, but is shot in the back and finally in the head. His sacrifice completed, Ethan turns the gun on himself, and the record ends on him finally entering the Rabbit Hole.

So one might think that, with that kind of conclusion, our next record would tell the journey of Ethan and Rachel's descent through the Rabbit Hole. However, there is one more needed to make up the "Unholy Trinity" they put themselves literally through hell in that record, so we have one final story to tell, about love, loss, and Hellhounds...

Flesh & Bones / Villain (2018/19 Single + EP)

So Sherlock Adaliah Bones has been mentioned quite a bit over the course of this rundown, but you've probably noticed that the Adidas fanatic bone-faced detective doesn't appear, at least to your eyes and ears, in "*Fear Me*" and "*Homecoming*". There has been a reason for that, and that's finally about to come out in our darkest release, "*Flesh & Bones*" and our single "*Villain*", two releases that takes a dump on what many would consider a conventional love story. Spoiler alert, this story doesn't have a happy ending for a reason.

Sherlock goes by a few names; "The Devil of the Sect", "Hellhound of the Devil's Throne", "The Fist of Doom", and jokingly, "Bonehead", "Skellywag" and "Sherley" or "Sherley Temple", after his favourite drink, and the first two are the names he's referred by in



“Villain” and the opening track to *“Flesh & Bones”*, “Misanthropic”. The story opens 3 weeks after Ethan’s death in Homecoming, with the opening track delving into Sherlock and his background. Canonically, this is during his first therapy session at Cane Hill, and he gives incite to his therapist about his involvement in the Fear Me Murders. What’s also revealed, as a sick twist, was that it was he who actually murdered Rachel Barker at the beginning of Fear Me,



Figure: Sherlock Bones, portrayed by Lochie Carey in the 'Misanthropic' Music Video

making him the catalyst for everything that followed, and gave him reasoning as to assisting Jay in killing off Echo, in his words “I for once felt bad, and I thought it’d be fun to kill a whole heap of people”. So, as you can tell he’s a real charmer.

In the following track “Peace”, Sherlock goes to Ethan’s funeral to pay his respects. Jay is initially asked by his parents, but he declines, telling them he’d prefer to mourn alone, and asks Sherlock to go in his place along with Jay and Sherlock’s two ‘guardian angels’, Salvador Martoni (Martin Wood, current guitarist), a streetwear obsessed vegan vampire, and Flint “Moses” Curren (Connor McCauley, past bassist), as it’s near one of the cases Jay was working on before the Fear Me Murders occurred, and Jay asks him to wrap it up after the funeral.

Sherlock begrudgingly attends, and, as he expected, is faced by ridicule from Jay’s family and friends (with the exception of the OG Coffin Crew and Jay’s younger sister April). He delivers the eulogy that Jay had asked him to deliver, and quickly makes his exit, paying condolences to his friend’s brother. He watches from a distance as Ethan’s family bury the coffin, and for the first time he begins to feel an emotion besides his narcissistic tendencies; woe and mourning. Kadeem France of UK metallers Loathe provides incite into Ethan’s final thoughts before the end of “Witch Hunt”, and his standpoint on everyone’s hypocritical emotions at the funeral, stating there was more they all could have done to help him.

In between the events of “Peace” and “Survivor’s Guilt”, Sherlock, Sal and Moses go to a country Victorian town to finish Jay’s last case, while Clara Carne, one of the survivor’s of the Oxymoron Incident and Stephanie Welsh’s friends tail them to hunt and kill Sherlock as an act of revenge for Stephanie, oblivious to who she really is and Section 13’s existence. As Sherlock tracks down and wraps up the case, hunting down the perpetrator of the case in the Victorian bushland, Clara confronts him, shooting him in the back. At first, Sherlock is aggregated, annoyed at the fact he’d been shot in the back, until Clara reveals who she is, and he offers to take her out to coffee



Figure: Sherlock and Clara, “Survivor’s Guilt” music video.

to properly explain the circumstances. She's abrasive at first, until he reveals who Stephanie really was and takes pity. In the track "Survivor's Guilt", Sherlock comes to terms with Ethan's death and all the destruction he's caused, something he'd never done before meeting Clara, and he realises that he'd like to become a better person. Dylan Torre of Floridian heavy act Weeping Wound provides a further, more aggressive voice for Sherlock on the track near the end.

A month goes by before the events of "Bleed You Out", where Clara asks Sherlock to help with what she thinks could be a supernatural situation near her house in London, despite warnings from her friends. She asks him to meet with her to explore her family's mansion, telling him there's been a suspicious amount of "unusual" killings in the area, and that she always finds bits of the property damaged. Sherlock, keen to verify he's still useful to Section and somewhat smitten by Clara, accepts the invitation and travels to London, and the two explore the mansion. She tells him that ever since both her parents' deaths, she's always felt ostracised and different, an outcast, something that Sherlock can relate to. Upon reaching the mansion's basement, they discover that her father's apparition, still connected to this earth due to an improper burial, has been using human vessels to act out violent crimes against the people of Clara's town, and Sherlock and Carne fight. Carne gains the upper hand, and Clara burns her father's remains while he's preoccupied with Sherlock, finally removing her father from the earth and saving Sherlock over helping her father. As Sherlock consoles her, the two realise that



*Figure: Clara Carne, "Villain"
Portrayed by Bryony Carter*

they've fallen for each other, and thus follows their relationship. This is where the track "Villain" comes in, a song that expresses Clara's side of the story and her feelings about being with Sherlock, unsure if it's the moral thing to be doing considering her past relationship with Stephanie. In the end, she chooses to be with Sherlock.

There's a two year gap between "Bleed You Out" and the track "Deer Hunter", and although Sherlock had proved himself to Section in his ability to be a full time agent, the agency task him with one final act; eliminate all contact he has with everyone outside of Section 13, including Clara and Alex, the other survivor of the Oxymoron Incident.

Distraught, he goes to Jay for guidance, who utters a trigger line to set Section's operation of killing Clara and Alex in motion, "the devil is not as black as he is painted". It takes a moment for the trigger to set in, but Sherlock immediately begins to feel it start to kick in, and in the moment he has, asks Jay why he done this to him. Jay doesn't reply to the question, dodging it, but says he'll tell him why after he finishes the task.

And so, "Deer Hunter" ensues, much to Sherlock's disdain, as he's forced to gun down Alex under street light. Before he attacks Clara, he warns her, but it's no use. As she tries to escape her apartment, Sherlock emerges from the darkness and stabs her. He cries as she bleeds out in his arms, something he didn't know he could do, and Sal, Moses and Jay pull up in a car to retrieve Sherlock before the authorities can come. As they drive away, Sherlock asks

him why he would make him do something so appalling, and Jay tells him he knows who he really is, and what he's done.

This is where shit gets intense;

In "D.I.M.A", Jay recounts how for the past years since Rachel's death, she'd periodically visit him from the Rabbit Hole to relive their fondest memory, the two of them dancing in firelight at a Christmas party. At first, he thinks it's a dream, until the one dream where Rachel finally confesses that she knows that Sherlock really killed her, not Stephanie, and Jay loses it. Asking how it's possible that he missed it, Rachel finally reveals she knows who Sherlock really is.

And in that fateful moment, Rachel reveals that Sherlock Bones is the full embodiment of Jay's Gloom, meaning that everything Sherlock has done over the course of the record and Fear Me, has actually been Jay. And yes, that includes killing Rachel.

Let that sink in for a moment.

Sherlock knows that Rachel had been visiting, and for the most part, he'd been okay with it, because he too, thought it was just a dream, much like Jay. However, he didn't figure out that Rachel had told him until much after Jay knew; Jay knew just before Ethan's funeral and Sherlock's relationship with Clara that Sherlock was not who he thought he was, after he listened in on Sherlock's therapy session in "Misanthropic". Every unlucky thing that began happening to Sherlock was due to Jay acting out from inside Sherlock's mind, until Jay saw how much Sherlock cared for Clara, and set a plan in motion. In the odd moments where Sherlock would lapse out of control, Jay told Sal and Moses that he had a plan to completely destroy Sherlock through Clara, but he needed subliminal messages to be relayed constantly to set him up. Over the course of Clara and Sherlock's relationship, Sal and Moses subtly brainwashed Sherlock to learn the trigger code, and finally, when the time was right, they told the head of Section 13 to give that order to kill Clara. Happy with tying up loose ends and getting one of his best agents back, the Director accepted, gave Sherlock the order, and Jay delivered the code word. It was nothing personal towards Clara, Jay admits that, it would have been any friend of Sherlock's that he was close with, she just happened to be that one person that lucked out.

Upon telling him about how he did the brainwashing, Jay reassumes control and goes to the Section 13 warlocks to get a seal burned into his arm to block out Sherlock from ever properly taking control again, and Sherlock makes his grand exit in the records closing track "Can't Reach the Sun", putting up one final fight against Jay to regain control, but ultimately loses after being weakened by the death of Clara and the brainwashing. Jay reassumes full control, and Sherlock becomes a subtle voice in the back of his mind again.

And that, is where we leave the story for now, until we get to the Rabbit Hole. If you're wondering who the third of the Unholy Trinity is, the third member joining Rachel and Ethan will be Clara Carne. If you're wondering how we weaved Sherlock into Fear Me right under your noses, there is two very distinct ways we did this;

- Danny's part in "Jay" is actually Sherlock, as is all of Jerry Chard of Honest Crooks' parts in "Mud". Yes, that means Sherlock hit Rachel with the double whammy; a hanging and a bullet to the head. The dude's loopy.

- Every time the Devil is brought up in *Fear Me* and *Homecoming*, it refers to Sherlock. In “*Brother*”, it refers to how it feels like Sherlock is dragging Jay down emotionally, and most parts in the song where Jay speaks are actually Sherlock.

To be fair to Sherlock, Rachel was his first kill, and it was a complete accident. He didn’t even realise that he had done it. How Jay didn’t know was that when Sherlock took control for the first time, his presence was so powerful that it initially caused him to blackout while Sherlock was “in control”.

So yeah. There you have it. The entirety of the *Fear Me Arc* wrapped up into a nice little document for you. We hope you have enjoyed this read, and are as excited as we are for what we have in-store for the story in the future.



Figure: Sherlock Bones and Jay Hardy, “Sherlock’s Oxymoron”