
Egon Spengler

Peter Venkman: What do you mean, “bad”?

Egon Spengler: Try to imagine all life as you know it stopping instantaneously and every molecule in your body exploding at the speed of light.

– Ghostbusters

After ten years in business, the Ghostbusters were closing up shop. You had clashed with the City of New York many times – they kept shutting you down for health violations, or suing you for property damage, or citing you for failures to pay property taxes (although that last one is on Venkman, that lazy b– b– barnacle). After a while it just got too tiring to keep working, and you all went your separate ways.

But with the closing of Ghostbusters, Inc., you needed a new place to perform your paranormal experiments. You applied for positions at Harvard, Princeton, Yale... all said no. So you took it down a tier, but still no. You were not going to go to the effort of even more tiring interviews just to land a position at a community college somewhere.

Fortunately, *deus ex machina* intervened, and you received an envelope in the mail addressed from a place called “Sciencetown”. An odd name for any kind of respectable research institution, but the documents in the envelope piqued your interest. You pooled your meager savings for a one-way ticket out to Arizona to check out the place, and found Utopia. Nirvana. Heaven... but with scientists and rationality.

So you never went back. Your landlord probably sold your possessions to pay your unpaid back rent, but there was nothing much there anyway, nothing you care about. As long as you stayed out of trouble in the outside world, Sciencetown would provide everything you needed to do your research – anything and everything! What a deal.

That was five years ago, and you hardly left your laboratory for the first few years, growing a grizzled beard and basically forgetting how to communicate on the few occasions you did leave.

Slowly your neighbors began to notice your problems, and they staged an intervention. With death traps. And lasers. And even some of your ghosts, your trusted friends. And they took you to see the town psychiatrist, a Lecter. This was a few months ago, and despite your continuing pessimism about the process you do feel a little bit better about yourself. You no longer stammer quite as much, you have stopped nervously tearing out your hair, and you no longer wet the bed. Your sessions have continued apace, and he is convinced that you can be cured, soon. In what he calls “compression therapy”, he is going to meet with you several times in the next day to see if the repetition helps uncover more.

As part of the process, he also signed you up – without your consent – to participate in the annual mayoral elections being held today. He figures that it will help you get over your issues with public speaking, but of course you are completely petrified. You are willing to give him the benefit of the doubt for the time being, but you should spend time rehearsing what you are going to say and do. You do not think you can win, but you should give it a try.

All of the psychological issues aside, you do have a few other things you would like to get done. There was a recent Request For Proposals from the mayor asking for ways to make sure Sciencetown was supplied with food and fresh water now that the outside world has gone just as mad. You immediately hit upon the idea of having your ghost buddies go out into the abandoned world outside and retrieve food from supermarkets, farms, whatever it takes. Then, they bring it back and Sciencetown continues on. The food acquired will spoil out there, but with advanced refrigeration technology that should not be an issue here. Yes, it could work. All you need to do is figure out how to get enough ghosts out there at once to retrieve tons of food, and train them to take only the things that are fresh or ripe or non-spoiled. It would not be so hard, except for the fact that ghosts perceive the world in vastly different ways and the translation will take quite a lot of work.

One more thing: Dr. Henry Jekyll approached you two days ago, asking for your expertise with shielding and containment – ghosts do have a tendency to pass through solid objects, after all. At the time you stammered and stuttered and eventually he

gave up. When relating the incident to Lecter, though, he suggested that you go back and offer to help out. It would provide you an opportunity to get back into the collaborative spirit that you had enjoyed so many years ago with the Ghostbusters. So now you have to go back and apologize, and offer to help out again.

Lots to do, little time, and little inclination. Still, sacrifices must be made in the name of self-improvement.

Goals

- Cure yourself of as many psychological problems as you can.
- Continue work on your project to have ectoplasmic projections (read: ghosts) retrieve food for Sciencetown from the abandoned outside world.
- Participate in the mayoral election.
- Help Dr. Henry Jekyll with his car upgrade project.

Psychlims

- You may not curse. If you are sufficiently annoyed or frustrated, you must instead stammer out the first sound of the relevant curse word and then replace it with a non-curse word starting with that sound.
- You may never initiate conversation with anyone. (Speaking from the The Podium of Science does not count as conversation.)
- You may never maintain eye contact with anyone for more than three seconds.
- You may not stay within ZoC of the same person for more than one minute. (If in a crowded area, you may move around to reset the timers.)
- You must speak in a low monotone at all times.
- You may not use contractions. (Possessives like “Jekyll’s car” are not contractions.)
- The Wire (69912) in your possession is part of your favorite childhood toy – it is part of a Slinky which you straightened out. Keep possession of it at all times. If you should ever lose possession of it, GET IT BACK.
- As a child, you were stalked by the Boogiemán, a supernatural creature who feeds on the fear of children. While you eventually defeated him during your tenure as a Ghostbuster, the experience left you with a deep agoraphobia. You may not stay in Tech Square for more than five minutes at a time if there is no one else present.

Roleplaying Notes

- In the movies, Egon Spengler is a rather nerdy, introverted guy, but pretty functional. In Sciencetown... he’s not. (You may have seen the gargantuan list of psychlims.) Good luck.

Contacts

- Lecter (Daniel Whalen): The town psychiatrist, who has been working on your case for the last few months.
- Jekyll (Alex Kandell): A man who for some reason wants your force field expertise.
- Dr. Clayton Forrester (Charles Hope): The mayor of the town; he is organizing the Request for Proposals for the food and water plans.

Memory/Event Packets

- Calamity V
- Calamity W

Bluesheets

- Residents of Sciencetown

Greensheets

- The Mayoral Election

Abilities

- Neutron-flux disruption

Items

- Wire (69912)

- Portable Ectoplasmic Container (97868)
- Ecto-Gun (08658)

- Ghosts Will Bring You Food to Eat (research notebook)

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