

## DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Springfield**—Famous world explorer and anthropologist Samuel J. Avery was found dead yesterday afternoon. The inquiry proceeds, but sources say his death has been ruled an accident, the apparent result of a fall or leap from his third-story bedroom window.

After a long sojourn in the wilds of Tibet, Avery had returned stateside in ill health, and after a brief stay at the Buffalo State Hospital returned to his childhood home to convalesce.

John and Sarah Avery returned home from a fundraising dinner in Hartford only to discover their son's lifeless body.

June 15, 1928

My dear Sir,

Your name has emerged many times in conversation with members of the Society as a learned individual with an interest in the unusual. I write to you to share a curious and rather disquieting incident you may find of interest.

The area surrounding Gijigete, the tiny Tibetan village I currently call home, is as strange to the old. I have personally witnessed incredible feats of mind over matter, including the practice of lung-yen, wherein monks run for long distances with no fatigue evident. The surrounding mountains, if taken to be believed, are home to all manner of fantastic beasts. Some of these tales are indeed just that—mere myth easily dismissed by well-bred Westerners or men of education—but about others I draw no conclusion.

The distant Himalayas are long said to be the haunt of so-called njins or "wild men"—bipedal creatures of strange disposition. The local elders, whom I have come to trust, also tell of rarely seen entities that leave behind etched footprints and have been overheard speaking in a fearful, hoarse tongue.

Recently an incident put these myths in the forefront of my mind. Three men had traveled to the nearby Shulpa monastery but were overdue in their return. A day later a villager discovered them on the road and fled back to Gijigete for help. Two of the men were dead, their bodies torn as if by the claws of a bear, and the other was returned but hobbled incoherently and had seemingly taken all leave of his senses. More frightening still, the surviving member of the party now had a shock of white hair, where before his hair was quite black.

The survivor has been rendered quite mad from whatever experience befell them unfortunately, and my attempts to speak to him have been for naught. The manner in which the others were torn apart disturbs me from assuming the survivor murdered his comrades—or more could infect the area in some way.

I plan to return to Shulpa tomorrow to return my studies there, and I hope to ask the learned monks again about the local legends in hopes of penetrating this mystery. As a fellow student of the unusual, I would greatly appreciate your valued insight in this matter. I hope to provide the frightened locals with some answers.

Yours most sincerely,

Samuel J. Avery

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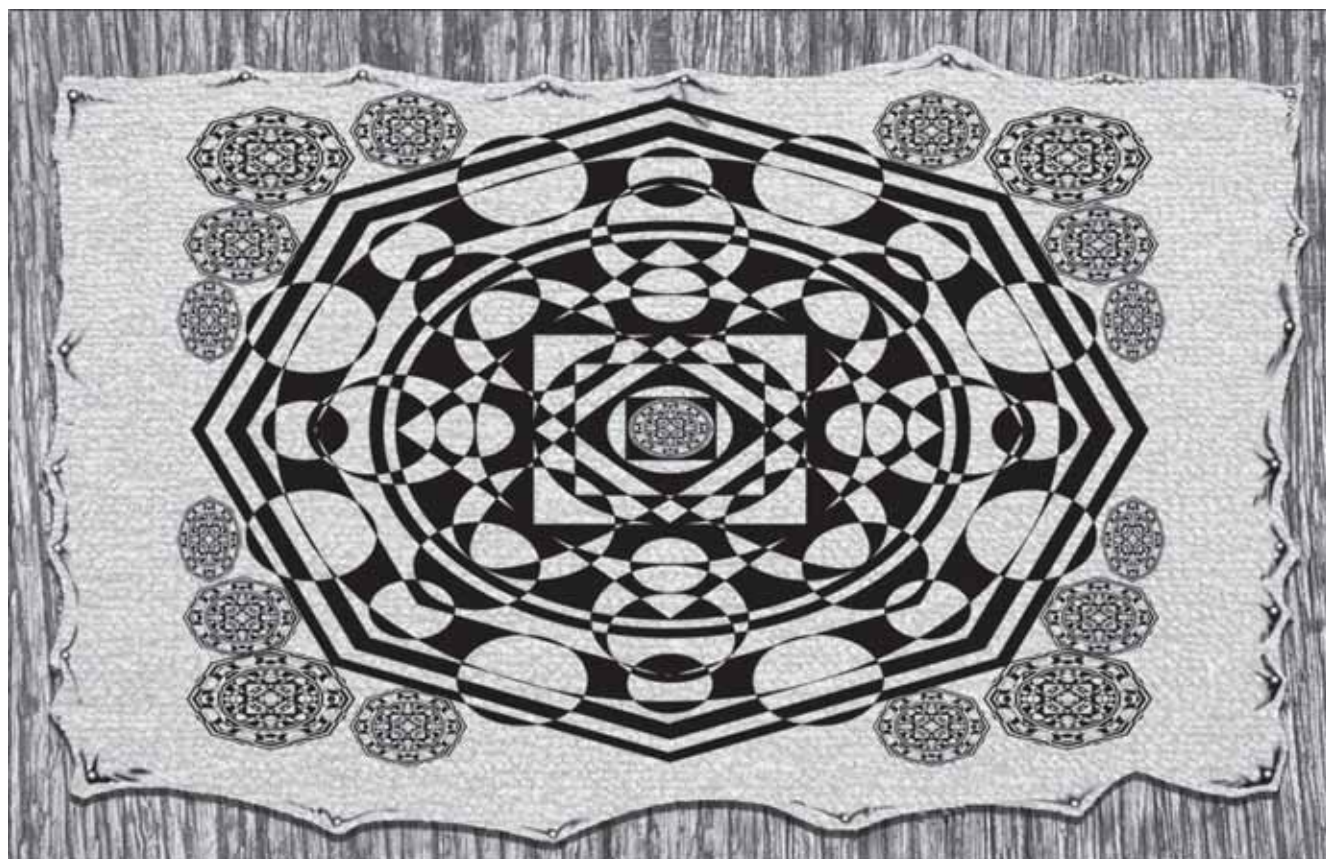




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# Ginjeste Village



# Area 6 Shukpa Monastery

