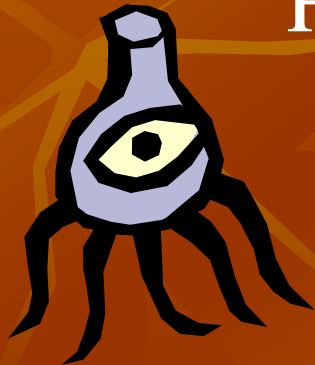


Evaluating Modern Monsters

How Scary are They, Anyway?



What criteria makes a really good monster?

- Not human
- Ugly
- Predatory (kills humans)
- Humanlike (physical/emotional)
- Based on common fears
- Hairy
- Cunning (sneaky/stealth)
- Based on myths
- Unpredictable
- Evil
- Big
- Scary-looking
- Immortal
- Destructive
- Experiment gone wrong (science-based)

Shrek, the Ogre

Shrek is a big ogre who lives alone in the woods and is feared from all the people in the land of Duloc. When he sets out to find Lord Farquaad to convince him to take the fairy-tale beings back where they belong, Shrek meets the beautiful young princess Fiona, fiancé to Farquaad, who has a secret of her own.



Ghost rider?

In order to save his dying father, young stunt cyclist Johnny Blaze sells his soul to Mephistopheles and sadly parts from the pure-hearted Roxanne Simpson, the love of his life. Years later, Mephistopheles offers to release Johnny's soul if Johnny becomes the fabled, fiery Ghost Rider, a supernatural agent of vengeance and justice.



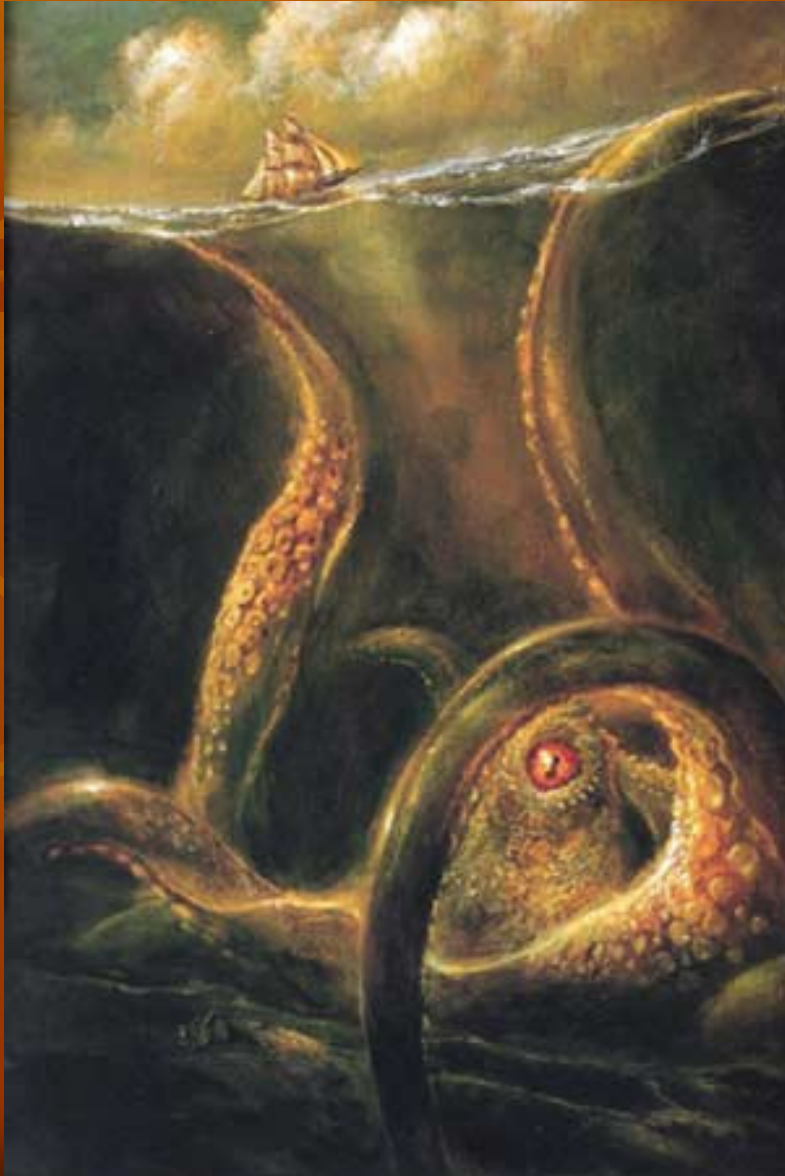
The Walking Dead - Zombies

Here's a basic breakdown of *The Walking Dead* zombies (UNDEAD):

- They don't just walk, instead speeding up when excited by food
- They eat any living animal within reach, not just humans
- They hunt primarily by smell, also using sight and hearing
- They can climb fences, and overcome complex obstacles
- They use tools and weapons, and seem able to learn
- They don't moan, instead using vocalization as an alert
- George A. Romero invented the modern zombie in 1968, and AMC's take falls nicely in line with much of the master's original vision.



The Infamous Kraken



Probably no legendary sea monster was as horrifying as the Kraken. According to stories this huge, many armed, creature could reach as high as the top of a sailing ship's main mast.

A kraken would attack a ship by wrapping their arms around the hull and capsizing it. The crew would drown or be eaten by the monster. What's amazing about the kraken stories is that, of all the sea monster tales we have, we have the best evidence that this creature was based on something real, the giant squid.

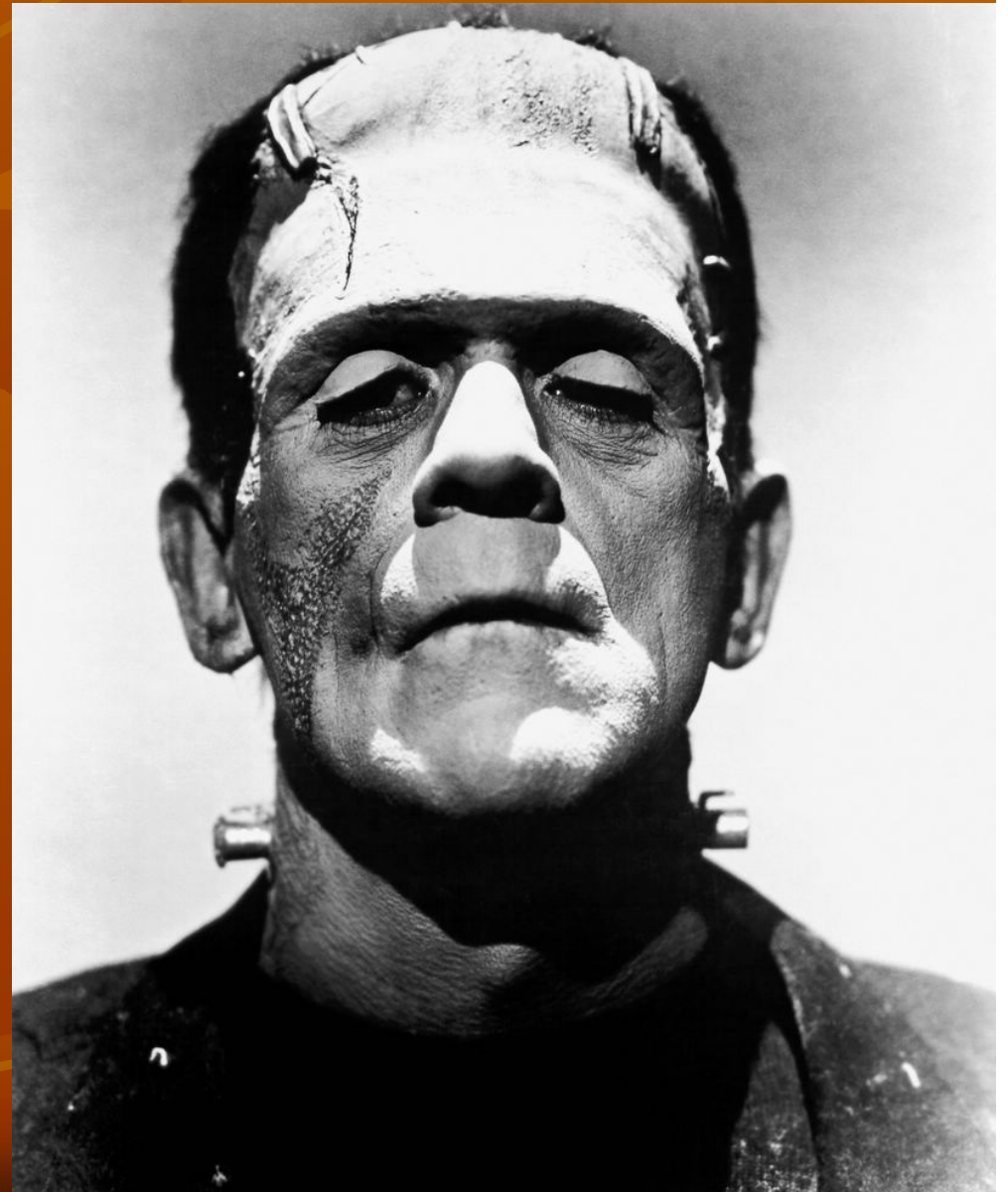
Gollum, from Lord of the Rings



Originally known as **Sméagol**, he was later named *Gollum* after the guttural choking coughing noise he made in his throat. His life was extended far beyond its natural limits by the effects of possessing the One Ring. His one desire was to possess the Ring which had enslaved him. He pursued the ring for 76 years after having lost it to Bilbo Baggins.

Frankenstein

- A human made from parts of cadavers
- Named for the doctor who created him
- Made taller, stiffer, and uglier in the movies than in the original book.



What About Davey Jones?



- Davey Jones is the captain of the feared ghost ship, the *Flying Dutchman*, and roams the seas searching for souls to serve upon his vessel for a century, after which most crewmen have already fused themselves to the ship, becoming part of it.
- Although he is often portrayed as a merciless and brutal antagonist, it is possible to empathize with Jones, a tortured individual wracked by powerful emotions that he was unable to control. After allowing himself to be twisted by love, hate, fear and rage, the only outlet for these conflicting emotions was violence after he cut out his heart to rid himself of the emotion of love.

Sulley

James P. "Sulley" Sullivan is the premiere scarer at Monsters, Inc. the factory that collects power from children's screams to run Monster City. After Sulley accidentally lets a human child, Boo, into Monster City, he and friend Mike spend most of the film trying to get her back to her own room.



Mike Wazowski



- Sulley's coworker/ friend, Mike Wazowski, also works for Monsters Inc., a utility company that generates power for a very paranoid and nervous city of monsters.

Mike: Can I borrow your odorant?

Sulley: Yeah, I got, uh, smelly garbage or old dumpster.

Mike: You got, uh, low tide?

Sulley: No.

Mike: How about wet dog?

Sulley: Yep. Stink it up.

Hellboy

Hellboy was brought forth by the Nazi's during a sacred ritual towards the end of World War II. Summoned by the evil meddling of Rasputin, Hellboy is raised by Prof. Trevor "Broom" Bruttonholm, an expert in the occult. Our demonic hero is initiated into the Bureau of paranormal research where he joins the amphibious, kind-hearted, and clever fellow "Freak", Abe Sapien.



Venom



The homicidal embodiment of pure hatred and blinding rage, Venom is a combination of two beings, each obsessed with Spider-Man. One half is Eddie Brock, an unethical former journalist whose career was cut short when Spider-Man revealed a story he had written to be false. The other is the alien that posed for a time as Spider-Man's black costume, attempting all the while to graft itself to the wall-crawler permanently.

King Kong



- **King Kong** is the name of a fictional giant ape from the legendary Island of Skull Mountain.
- In the original film, the character's name is Kong. 'King' is an appellation added by an American film crew led by Carl Denham who captures Kong and takes him to New York City to be exhibited as the "Eighth Wonder of the World".
- Kong escapes and climbs the Empire State Building where he is shot and killed by aircraft.
- It was "beauty who killed the beast", as he only climbed the building in the first place in an attempt to protect actress Ann Darrow.

The Minotaur

- Minotaurs have the head of a bull and the body of a man. In Narnia they are followers of the White Witch, and are present both at Aslan's death and at the ensuing battle .
- In the movies, they are more bull-like with bull legs, tails and body fur. In the film, the general of the White Witch's Army is a minotaur called Otmin. In the 2008 adaption of *Prince Caspian*, Minotaurs join the Old Narnians in fighting the Telmarines.





After being seriously injured by American troops, Godzilla was left to die only to be mutated into a huge fire-breathing monster 10 years later by radiation from atomic tests in the Pacific. In the film, "Godzilla versus King Ghidorah," the details of the origin of Godzilla are visited. His origin was modified by time travelers from the future so that the wounded godzillasaurus was teleported to the Bering Sea, where an accident involving a nuclear submarine in the present day created a larger, more powerful Godzilla.

Godzilla

In the late Cretaceous era (70 million years ago) there was a species of theropod dinosaur resembling a large Tyrannosaurus, but with special amphibious adaptations which allowed it to swim between the islands upon which it hunted. This dinosaur species has been dubbed "Gojirasaurus".



Who gets the highest score?

