

# THE LODGE

# Can Fresh Snow Cover Mount Mortem's Old Secrets?

By Mick Montague, The Cliffshead Chronicle

In the sweet sweet year of 1968, Mount Mortem Ski Lodge first opened its doors, only to close them again after just a month and a half of booming business. Why you may ask? That's a good question. But it doesn't matter now because, with barely any notice, the Lodge is set to reopen this season. The brand new CEO Reggie Rutherford IV is young, hot, and ambitious. He's spared no expense hiring a full staff trained to meet the demands of every guest. If you've been out of the loop, be sure to check out his Instagram @ruther4d where he's been posting some *very* cryptic pics of spots around the resort.

Through the years, that eerie mountain has loomed over our beloved town of Cliffshead, serving as an ominous reminder that anything could be lurking in the remains of the Lodge. As the snow piles up, I for one will be strapping on my boots and hitting the slopes ASAP. If you see me, give me a shout and we'll swap theories at the apres-ski. Oh, and a word of wisdom to all the small business owners in town: prepare for the biggest Tourist Tempest since '68. Ever heard of free samples? I'm talking to you guys up at the Maple Farm. Polish up the tasting spoons, boys.

That's all from me for now, citizens. Check in with you later. Don't forget to brush up on your Alpine Responsibility Code, and I'll catch you at the Lodge.

- Mick Montague, The Cliffshead Chronicle

## THINGS TO WATCH

Twin Peaks, Inside No. 9 (S03E01 - "The Devil of Christmas"), The Shining, Spellbound, White Christmas

Unofficial Playset by Mackenzie Blackwood (@mblackwood00)

# **RELATIONSHIPS**

## 1. FAMILY

- 🛛 Estranged Parent & Child
- 🛛 "I like you better than my real family"
- 🛚 Rival Uncles or Aunts
- Reluctantly Married
- Adoptive Siblings
- Doting Grandparent & Spoiled Grandchild

## 2. COLLEAGUES

- 🛛 Ski Lift Operators
- 🛛 Maple Farm Employees
- 🛚 Small Business Owners
- 🛙 Gossip Partners at the Lodge
- 🛛 Local Reporter & Out-of-Town Media Magnate
- 🛙 At least one of you is a Lumberjack

## 3. CONTROVERSIAL

- 🛛 Dealer & Client
- 🛚 Stalker & Stalkee
- 🛾 Scam Artists
- 🗉 Fortune Teller & Client
- 🛛 Recluse & Trespasser
- Former Cellmates

#### 4. LOVERS

🛛 Set Up and Decided to Stick With It

- 🛾 Faking It
- 🛚 Old Flames
- 🛾 Blind Date
- Inrequited Love
- II Long-Distance Lovers

## 5. LOCALS

I Alternate inside the "Cliff the Mountain Goat" mascot costume

- Clergy member and frequent confessor
- Oldest Resident & Suspicious Newbie
- Tourist Protesters
- Parent and child who should have moved out a while ago
- 🗉 Both ran for mayor, neither won

#### 6. VISITORS

- Social Media Influencers
- 🛚 Hardcore Ski Enthusiasts
- Wealthy Stakeholders
- 🛙 Trainer and Olympic Athlete
- Overzealous Vacationers
- 🗉 On the Run

# NEEDS

#### 1. TO FIND

A way into the Lodge

The next big story for your exposé

- 🛚 The Lost Documents of 1968
- 🛾 Something really super fun to do
- Something that was stolen from you
- 🛙 A place to settle down

# 2. TO PROTECT

Reggie Rutherford from defamation
 Your family from the tourists
 Your reputation from further harm
 The sanctity of your relationships
 Your business from selling out
 An unforgivable secret from prying eyes

## 3. TO GET AWAY

- With burning down the lodge
- 🛛 From your family's expectations
- 🛚 With the scam of a lifetime
- 🗉 From the chains of modern society
- 🛛 From a toxic relationship
- 🗉 With murder, why not

## 4. TO EARN RESPECT

- From an ex-partner
- By figuring out the truth surrounding the Lodge
- By winning the freestyle ski jump competition
- From Reggie Rutherford himself
- By receiving the Most Valuable Citizen award
- E From your family members, who think you're a big loser

## 5. TO HIDE

- From the authorities
- Your true identity
- 🛾 The money from the job
- 🛾 A surprise from a loved one
- 🛛 From the next scandal, when it comes
- The evidence of your crime

# 6. TO SWITCH

- The briefcases
- 🛛 Off all the lights at just the right moment
- It To a much higher-ranking career
- 🗉 The train tracks
- ◻ The wine glasses
- With each other, to swindle and confound

# LOCATIONS

## 1. CLIFFSHEAD

The Old Town Hall

- The most worn-out booth at the Blue Door Eatery
- A holding cell in the Police Station
- 🛙 The Library & Public Archives
- 🛛 The Episcopal Church on the Hill
- 🗉 The stockroom at Smitty's Ski Shop

# 2. THE LODGE (INDOORS)

- The Grand Foyer
   Meeting Room 4A (Closed for Maintenance)
   The Indoor Pool and Sauna
- The Richter-Rutherford Memorial Ballroom
- 🛚 The Boiler Room
- Out where they chop the wood

# 3. THE BACKSTREETS

- 🛛 The Trailer Park
- 🛛 The Museum of Fire Safety
- Behind the clock face at the Clock Tower
- 🗉 The Head Dive Bar
- 🛙 The "Hardware Store"
- 🛙 Ashes to Ashes Pawn Shop

#### 4. THE MOUNTAIN

Stuck on the chairlift
 Inside somebody else's igloo
 The Cliff Face
 The Summit
 In an isolated warming hut
 Buried under the snow

#### 5. THE OUTSKIRTS

The radio tower
The old train station
A hunting shack with a note on the door
The Richter Memorial Graveyard
That cave in the woods
Between the syrup vats at the Maple Farm

## 6. DOMESTIC

- The community fire pit
- 🛛 Douglas Wilson's backyard
- 🛾 The town notice board
- 🗉 Mrs. Mindy's Basement Hair Salon
- 🛙 The Bandstand
- Cliffshead Dog Park

# OBJECTS

## 1. SENTIMENTAL

A locket with someone's face inside

- 🛛 A marriage certificate
- 🛚 A handmade dreamcatcher
- 🗉 The last scarf your grandmother ever knitted
- A postcard from somewhere sunny
- A letter from 'Lucille'

## 2. SPORTY

- Technologically enhanced goggles
- 🛚 A crooked ski pole
- 🛚 A hot-wired snowmobile
- 🗉 Harness and zip-line equipment
- 🛛 A patched-up inner tube
- 🛙 A hockey puck

# 3. PRACTICAL

- A thermos of hot cocoa
- 🛛 A very convincing red wig
- 🛚 A tin whistle on a chain
- 🛾 A battery-powered headlamp
- 🛛 Firestarting equipment
- Hot tub cleaning chemicals

#### 4. SCANDALOUS

- A Ziploc bag of frozen cocaine
- A positive pregnancy test
- The most expensive bottle of aged maple syrup
- Performance-enhancing drugs
- Blueprint plans for something *big*
- A safe lock combination

## 5. DANGEROUS

- A rusty fire axe
- 🛾 Your last emergency flare
- A double-barrel shotgun hanging above the mantle
- 🛾 A vial of blood
- A very sharp icicle
- I Ten gallons of gasoline and a single match

## 6. JUST PLAIN ODD

- 🛛 A stuffed caribou head
- A leather wallet you found somewhere
- 🛚 A DIY tree tapping kit
- 🛾 A mix-tape with one song on it
- 🛛 A photo of a man you've never met, but have dreamt about
- A seemingly empty jar that reads "DO NOT OPEN"

Thanks for playing The Lodge!

## CREDS

This Playset is an accessory for Fiasco, a game by Bully Pulpit Games. This Playset is released into the public domain by Mackenzie Blackwood.

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