

Ch'ing Shih Vampire

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The Chinese believe in a demonic vampire creature that goes by many names, including *Ch'ing Shih*. Variations of this name include *Chiang-Shi* or *Shih*, *Giang Shi*, *Kiang-Kouei*, *Kiang Shi*, *Kiangshi*, *Kouei*, *Kyonshi*, *Xianhshi*, and “The Hopping Vampire of Asia,” to name a few. There are some differences in these creatures, but the similarities are far greater.

The *Ch'ing Shih* originated from a region between China and Serbia and is known all over the world as the “hopping vampire,” because it’s “created” when a cat jumps over a corpse or if a person has been cursed to rise as the undead. If a person has the misfortune to die far away from home, and is not returned to his or her homeland for burial, he or she will rise as a *Ch'ing Shih*.

When the *Ch'ing Shih* returns, its eyes are red, fingernails curved, teeth serrated, and skin a pale green-white that glows slightly. Its hair still grows and turns white; long white hair on a *Ch'ing Shih* is indicative of physical maturity.

They are very strong and vicious; there are reports of victims’ heads and limbs being ripped off. Men are its favorite blood source. They have to surprise their victims, because they don’t have any special or particular powers to lure humans.

They are well known for a voracious sexual appetite; women are often raped and then devoured. Its breath is so stinky that if it breathes on you, it would kill you.

The *Ch'ing Shih* is a shape-shifting vampire. It can change into a ball of light, called a corpse candle. Once it is matured, it will be able to fly at will, can hunt its prey by scent, and take the form of a wolf.

The moon gives the *Ch'ing Shih* its power. On moonless nights or during the day hours it stays underground. It’s also blind.

This vampire can’t cross over running water, and it’s afraid of thunder and loud noises. The only thing it truly fears is the White Emperor (an Emperor of the Xin Dynasty) and his court, which it has to pay homage.

If you need to destroy an adolescent *Ch'ing Shih*, you must capture it. There are two ways of doing that. Trap it



in a circle made of iron filings, red peas, or rice. Another method is to toss handfuls of grain in front of it or as soon as you see it, and then begin to sweep it back to its grave. The *Ch'ing Shih* is compelled to count the grains.

Once you have it trapped, you must press a Buddhist or Taoist death blessing that’s written on paper to its forehead. You could also lead it to its ancestral burial ground and give it a proper burial rite. When the *Ch'ing Shih* is buried, perform a Buddhist or Taoist magic spell to bind it to its grave.

Capturing a mature adult *Ch'ing Shih* can only be done by firing a bullet into the air. You may be lucky enough to try to trap it while there’s a thunderstorm; a very loud thunderclap will work. As soon as it falls over, burn the body. ♦