Metamorphobia

Detailed Descriptions of Tools

1. Audio Recorder

- **Purpose:** Captures sounds that may be inaudible or distorted to the human ear.
- **Usage:** Place it in a location suspected of Skinwalker activity, or carry it for real-time audio analysis.

• Evidence it Finds:

 Mimicked voices, distorted whispers, growls, singing, or ambient noises specific to the Skinwalker type.

• Special Interactions:

- Can replay recordings for analysis.
- Some Skinwalkers (like The Siren) lure players when hearing their own recorded sound.

2. Thermal Camera

- **Purpose:** Detects temperature changes, revealing heat trails, cold spots, or unusual thermal anomalies.
- Usage: Scan environments, especially places where the Skinwalker may be hiding or has passed through.

• Evidence it Finds:

 Heat signatures from transformations or cold spots in the case of spectral Skinwalkers.

Special Interactions:

- Can track movement patterns when following fading heat trails.
- Useful for identifying Skinwalkers like The Beast or The Predator.

3. UV Light

- **Purpose:** Reveals traces left behind by the Skinwalker, such as glowing handprints, footprints, claw marks, or residues.
- **Usage:** Shine it on walls, floors, bait stations, or interactable surfaces to uncover hidden evidence.

• Evidence it Finds:

- Residue from transformations (The Shapeshifter), glowing animal tracks (The Tracker), or symbolic markings (The Hexer).
- Special Interactions:

 Can reveal cursed or occult symbols written on walls by Skinwalkers like The Hexer or The Harbinger.

4. EM Detector

- Purpose: Measures electromagnetic fluctuations caused by supernatural or shapeshifting phenomena.
- **Usage:** Hold it while exploring or leave it in a suspected hotspot. Spikes indicate nearby activity.

• Evidence it Finds:

 Electromagnetic disturbances specific to Skinwalkers like The Shadow or The Wraith.

• Special Interactions:

 EM spikes may only appear when the Skinwalker is active, requiring careful timing and observation.

5. Mirror Trap

- **Purpose:** A specially designed mirror that reflects a Skinwalker's true form, exposing their presence.
- Usage: Set it up in a room or corridor; look into the mirror when disturbances occur.

• Evidence it Finds:

 Faint glimpses of a Skinwalker's true form, glowing eyes, or distorted shadows (specific to types like The Shadow or The Watcher).

Special Interactions:

 Some Skinwalkers (e.g., The Doppelgänger) may react violently when their true form is exposed.

6. Ritual Kit

- Purpose: Contains items like candles, incense, and runes to provoke Skinwalker responses or reveal specific evidence.
- **Usage:** Activate rituals in key areas suspected of activity to trigger behavioural or visual clues.

• Evidence it Finds:

 Summons symbols, cursed markings, or provokes revealing transformations (e.g., The Shapeshifter or The Hexer).

• Special Interactions:

 Using the kit improperly may anger certain Skinwalkers (e.g., The Revenant), causing them to become more aggressive.

7. Bait Station

- Purpose: Lures Skinwalkers to leave behind physical evidence such as footprints, fur, or disturbed bait.
- **Usage:** Place food, animal remains, or other attractants in a strategic spot and observe from a distance.
- Evidence it Finds:
 - Tracks, claw marks, or saliva (specific to The Beast or The Tracker).
- Special Interactions:
 - May cause certain Skinwalkers (like The Feral) to become enraged and attack the bait.

Survival Tools

1. Tranquiliser Rifle

- **Purpose:** Temporarily stuns the Skinwalker, halting its movement for a short duration.
- **Usage:** Requires aiming and careful timing. Limited ammunition available per mission.
- Special Interaction:
 - Certain Skinwalkers (e.g., The Wraith or The Doppelgänger) are more resistant, with a shorter stun effect.
 - Not effective against spectral Skinwalkers like The Shadow or The Revenant.

2. Flare Gun

- Purpose: Temporarily blinds and repels Skinwalkers in close proximity, creating an escape opportunity.
- **Usage:** Fired directly at or near the Skinwalker to disorient it.
- Special Interaction:
 - Some Skinwalkers (e.g., The Siren) are especially vulnerable to bright lights, causing them to retreat for longer.

3. Motion Sensor Traps

- Purpose: Alerts players to nearby movement by emitting a sound or light signal.
- **Usage:** Place traps in high-risk areas to monitor Skinwalker movement.

Special Interaction:

 Certain Skinwalkers (e.g., The Predator) can bypass or disable traps, making them unreliable in some cases.

4. Protection Amulet

- Purpose: Provides temporary immunity from Skinwalker attacks for a limited time.
- **Usage:** Activate during encounters to shield yourself. Rechargeable or single-use, depending on difficulty.

• Special Interaction:

 Ineffective against Skinwalkers that attack through environmental manipulation (e.g., The Shadow).

5. Smoke Bombs

- Purpose: Creates a dense smoke cloud that hinders the Skinwalker's vision, allowing players to escape.
- **Usage:** Throw in the Skinwalker's path to slow or confuse it.
- Special Interaction:
 - Ineffective against Skinwalkers with enhanced senses, such as The Tracker or The Beast.

6. Silver Knife

- Purpose: Used as a last-resort weapon to damage the Skinwalker during close encounters.
- **Usage:** Requires precise timing to land a strike without being harmed.
- Special Interaction:
 - Some Skinwalkers (e.g., The Harbinger) react more violently when struck, increasing aggression.

7. Decoy Totem

- **Purpose:** Distracts the Skinwalker, drawing its attention away from players.
- **Usage:** Place the totem in an open area; emits noise or light to attract the Skinwalker.
- Special Interaction:
 - Some Skinwalkers (e.g., The Doppelgänger) may mimic the totem's sound to lure players into a trap.

8. Signal Flares

- **Purpose:** Creates a visible marker for teammates or alerts them of danger.
- **Usage:** Fire into the air to signal safe locations, active Skinwalker presence, or retreat paths.
- Special Interaction:
 - May inadvertently attract the attention of Skinwalkers sensitive to light or noise, such as The Feral.

9. Scent Neutraliser

- **Purpose:** Masks the player's scent to evade Skinwalkers that track via smell.
- **Usage:** Spray on yourself or teammates; lasts for a limited time.
- Special Interaction:
 - Extremely effective against The Tracker and The Beast but ineffective against Skinwalkers relying on sight or sound.

10. Emergency Beacon

- Purpose: Temporarily stuns or repels nearby Skinwalkers when activated.
- **Usage:** One-time use; deploy in emergencies to create a safe zone for 10-15 seconds.
- Special Interaction:
 - Ineffective against Skinwalkers that attack indirectly (e.g., The Siren or The Shadow).

Skinwalker Types

1. The Imitator

- **Description:** Mimics sounds and voices to confuse players.
- Evidence:
 - o Audio Recorder: Captures distorted mimicry.
 - EM Detector: Spikes during mimicry.
 - UV Light: Claw marks near activity.
- Special Ability: Mimics players' voices, calling for help or giving false directions.
- How to kill: f

2. The Shapeshifter

- **Description:** Takes the form of players or animals to deceive.
- Evidence:
 - Mirror Trap: Reveals true form.
 - **UV Light:** Residue from transformations.
 - o Ritual Kit: Transformation triggered.
- **Special Ability:** Temporarily takes the form of a player, creating duplicates.
- How to kill:

3. The Beast

- **Description:** A hulking animal form with unmatched aggression.
- Evidence:
 - Thermal Camera: Large, hot footprints.
 - o Bait Station: Tracks or fur left.
 - o Audio Recorder: Deep growls or snarls.
- Special Ability: Roars, shaking the environment and moving objects.
- How to kill: You have to shoot it with at least 3 bullets

4. The Parasite

- **Description:** Infects players, causing erratic behaviour.
- Evidence:
 - Thermal Camera: Fluctuating temperatures in infected players.
 - UV Light: Blackened handprints.
 - Audio Recorder: Whispers directed at infected players.
- Special Ability: Forces infected players to scream, freeze, or drop items.
- How to kill: You have to

5. The Tracker

- **Description:** Expert hunter, always following the players.
- Evidence:
 - UV Light: Glowing animal tracks.
 - o Thermal Camera: Heat trails on paths.
 - o Bait Station: Disturbed bait with prints or marks.
- Special Ability: Leaves muddy or bloody tracks leading toward players.

6. The Siren

- Description: Hypnotic singing lures players to danger.
- Evidence:
 - Audio Recorder: Captures eerie melodies.
 - o **EM Detector:** Spikes near water.
 - Mirror Trap: True form flickers in reflections.
- Special Ability: Sings to lure players, causing them to walk toward the sound.

7. The Shadow

- **Description:** Lurks in darkness, nearly invisible.
- Evidence:
 - EM Detector: Spikes in dark areas.
 - o Thermal Camera: Cold spots in shadows.
 - o Ritual Kit: Temporarily reveals it.
- Special Ability: Blinks between light sources, extinguishing lights briefly.

8. The Whisperer

- **Description:** Speaks directly into players' minds, planting paranoia.
- Evidence:
 - Audio Recorder: Murmurs or mocking laughter.
 - Thermal Camera: Residual heat signatures where it vanishes.
 - Mirror Trap: Shadowy figure flickers.
- Special Ability: Whispers to a single player; others cannot hear it.

9. The Doppelgänger

- Description: Imitates a player's appearance to cause confusion.
- Evidence:
 - o **Mirror Trap:** Reveals the mimic's distorted form.
 - o Ritual Kit: Rituals reveal their identity.
 - UV Light: Odd residue near mimicry locations.
- Special Ability: Mirrors the movements of a random player.

10. The Predator

- **Description:** Hunts in bursts of speed, vanishing when observed.
- Evidence:

Thermal Camera: Heat trails.
Bait Station: Partial footprints.
Audio Recorder: Heavy breathing.

• Special Ability: Becomes nearly invisible when standing still.

11. The Lurker

- **Description:** Hides in corners, stalking silently.
- Evidence:
 - o **UV Light:** Scratch marks in hiding places.
 - Thermal Camera: Cold pockets in tight spaces.
 - o Mirror Trap: Shows glowing eyes briefly.
- Special Ability: Peeks out from hiding spots when unobserved.

12. The Hexer

- Description: Curses players, causing debilitating effects.
- Evidence:
 - Ritual Kit: Curse marks revealed.
 - UV Light: Symbols or runes.
 - EM Detector: Spikes around cursed players.
- Special Ability: Temporarily disables tools near it.

13. The Crawler

- **Description:** Skitters on walls and ceilings, dropping to attack.
- Evidence:
 - o **UV Light:** Claw marks high on walls or ceilings.
 - Audio Recorder: Skittering sounds.
 - Thermal Camera: Small, fast-moving heat signatures.
- Special Ability: Drops from high places to startle players.

14. The Normal

- **Description:** Just a normal skinwalker
- Evidence:
 - EM Detector: Will spike if nearBait Trap: Will eat the bait
 - o Thermal Camera: Cold aura trails.
- Special Ability: none

15. The Watcher

- **Description:** Paralyses players with its gaze.
- Evidence:
 - UV Light: Glowing eyes under UV.
 - o Audio Recorder: Low hums.
 - Mirror Trap: Eyes flicker in reflections.
- Special Ability: Locks eyes with players, freezing them temporarily.

16. The Feral

- Description: Frenzied and unpredictable.
- Evidence:
 - o Bait Station: Damaged bait.
 - Audio Recorder: Frenzied screeches.
 - UV Light: Glowing blood splatter.
- Special Ability: Charges at players, destroying objects.

17. The Echo

- Description: Repeats past sounds to confuse players.
- Evidence:
 - o Audio Recorder: Repeated footsteps or voices.
 - EM Detector: Subtle interference.
 - Thermal Camera: Heat spots where activity occurred.
- Special Ability: Replays footsteps or voices from previous areas.

18. The Harbinger

• **Description:** Signals doom with ominous signs.

- Evidence:
 - Ritual Kit: Detects chalk drawings.
 - **UV Light:** Burning symbols.
 - o **EM Detector:** Spikes before its manifestation.
- Special Ability: Causes environmental effects like crashes or flickering lights.

19. The Revenant

- **Description:** Slow but becomes stronger over time.
- Evidence:
 - Thermal Camera: Increasing heat near its location.
 - **Bait Station:** Rot or decay left behind.
 - o Mirror Trap: Flickers briefly.
- Special Ability: Becomes faster and more aggressive the longer it hunts.

20. The Decayed

- Description: Emits overwhelming rot and decay.
- Evidence:
 - o Thermal Camera: Cold spots.
 - UV Light: Rot stains glowing faintly.
 - o Audio Recorder: Wet, sloshing sounds.
- Special Ability: Slows players nearby and causes blurred vision.

Action Plan

1. Set Up Basic Player-Tool Interaction

- Action 1.1: Create a simple inventory system that allows players to equip and switch between tools (e.g., Thermal Camera, Audio Recorder).
 - Task: Create a method to switch tools via a key press or button (e.g., using the number keys to switch between tools).
- Action 1.2: Implement basic tool functionality.
 - Task: Code the Audio Recorder so it can capture sounds when activated and play back recorded sounds.
 - Task: Implement the Thermal Camera so it detects heat signatures and shows them on screen (e.g., hot footprints, cold spots).

2. Develop Basic Skinwalker AI (Start Simple)

- **Action 2.1**: Implement the **limitator** Skinwalker (since it uses sound-based mechanics and is relatively straightforward).
 - **Task**: Program the Imitator to mimic player sounds when they are near it.
 - Task: Code the AI to trigger Audio Recorder sounds at random intervals to simulate mimicry.
 - Task: Set up a basic behaviour where it moves toward the player (either directly or through mimicry to confuse them).
- Action 2.2: Set up detection by the Skinwalker.
 - Task: Create a detection system where the limitator gets "closer" when players make noise or use tools like the Audio Recorder.
 - Task: Implement basic Al logic for the limitator to approach the player after it mimics a sound.

3. Add Evidence Collection System

- Action 3.1: Implement Thermal Camera evidence collection.
 - Task: Program footprints or other thermal anomalies (like heat trails) to appear when the player uses the Thermal Camera.
 - Task: Create visual feedback (like red-colored footprints or fading heat) that tells the player they have collected evidence.
- Action 3.2: Add basic UV Light functionality.
 - Task: Code glowing handprints or footprints to show when the player uses the UV Light in certain areas.

• **Task**: Create a basic "evidence" system where players can "collect" these visual clues and track them.

4. Implement Survival Tools

- Action 4.1: Program the Tranquilizer Rifle functionality.
 - **Task**: Code the tranquilizer dart mechanism—shooting darts at Skinwalkers to temporarily stun them.
 - Task: Make sure the tranquilizer has limited ammo, and ensure it has a cooldown between uses.
- Action 4.2: Implement the Flare Gun for light-based defense.
 - Task: Create a flare mechanic where players can fire the flare gun to temporarily repel the Skinwalker.
 - Task: Program a cooldown system for the flare gun.

5. Set Up Basic Skinwalker Interaction and Environment Effects

- Action 5.1: Implement Skinwalker detection mechanics.
 - Task: Program a simple proximity system for when the limitator gets close to the player (either through mimicry or direct pursuit).
 - Task: Create an event where the Thermal Camera detects abnormal heat (like footprints or the presence of the Skinwalker).
- Action 5.2: Set up the Mirror Trap interaction.
 - Task: Code a basic system where the Mirror Trap can reveal distorted reflections or glowing eyes of the limitator when placed in the environment.
 - Task: Create a brief animation or visual effect when the player uses the mirror, showing the Skinwalker's true form.

6. Implement Simple Combat & Evasion Mechanics

- Action 6.1: Code Player Evasion mechanics.
 - Task: Program player movement (like running or hiding) to escape from Skinwalkers when they are in close proximity.
 - Task: Implement a stamina or energy bar that depletes when the player runs to avoid the Skinwalker.
- Action 6.2: Implement a basic defensive action with the Flare Gun or Tranquilizer Rifle.
 - Task: Program the Flare Gun to temporarily blind or disorient the Skinwalker when it is fired.

 Task: Make sure the Tranquilizer Rifle has a stun effect (the Skinwalker becomes immobilized for a short period).

7. Build the First Skinwalker Encounter

- Action 7.1: Create the encounter event for the limitator.
 - Task: Set up the environment (rooms, corridors) and spawn the limitator at strategic points.
 - Task: Program the limitator to mimic a sound or voice when it is near the player, causing confusion and tension.
- Action 7.2: Add the audio feedback to trigger the player's survival tools.
 - Task: Set up a system where the Audio Recorder can capture distorted whispers or growls, signaling the Imitator's presence.
 - Task: Add audio cues like footsteps or growls that tell the player a Skinwalker is nearby.

8. Implement Basic UI & Feedback System

- Action 8.1: Build a simple UI to show evidence.
 - Task: Display a small evidence log that updates with new clues like footprints, growls, handprints, etc.
 - Task: Include a visual indicator on the UI when tools are activated (e.g., show the camera icon when the Thermal Camera is in use).
- Action 8.2: Implement player health and Skinwalker awareness.
 - Task: Add a health or fear meter for the player, which decreases when they are near a Skinwalker or in danger.
 - Task: Display a heartbeat or tension indicator on the screen as the Skinwalker approaches.

9. Testing and Iteration

- Action 9.1: Test the **Imitator AI** with all its core mechanics.
 - Task: Playtest the AI to ensure it mimics sounds correctly and pursues the player in a believable way.
 - Task: Ensure that all tools (like Thermal Camera, Audio Recorder, etc.) work as expected.
- Action 9.2: Test the player-survival mechanics.
 - Task: Test if the Flare Gun and Tranquilizer Rifle effectively allow the player to survive encounters.

o **Task**: Adjust Skinwalker speed and reaction times for balance.

10. Polish and Optimise the Prototype

- Action 10.1: Fix bugs and refine the user experience.
 - o **Task**: Fix any movement glitches, tool malfunctions, or UI bugs.
 - **Task**: Optimize performance for smoother gameplay (frame rates, loading times, etc.).
- Action 10.2: Add basic sound design and music to enhance immersion.
 - Task: Add eerie background sounds, creature growls, and audio feedback for tool interactions.
 - o **Task**: Ensure the sound effects and music heighten the tension and atmosphere.