

FOR THE BARE BEGINNERS: ESCAPING FROM YOUR HOME

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Author's Note:

This guide is for the bare beginners to Night Ops. I Had found that this was a major issue for me to tackle, and hence, I wanted to share this with all the other beginners out there (yes, you all, and I, agree that I am an utter noob at night ops, but such does not keep me from learning!), to help overcome their first 'big' step towards Night Ops!

Intro

Yes, this is usually the first part of an op. And not only just that, but also, to my experience, the most nerve-wrecking and most dangerous part of it. If you fuck up out there you can at least leg it and kick the necessary ass. Should you fuck up when you're leaving your home, not only are you caught before the Op has started, this will also mean that if you're using, for example, the OBE method, you have also just utterly destroyed your Alibi, and when that happens... Well, finish the story and colour the pictures.

But hey! You live in your home, so thankfully, you can do the necessary scouting before actually leaving the house... silently!

Making Priorities: Finding the best Exit point!

Well, you can take a bit more time in finding out what does what, what goes where, and what goes how when you're exiting your own house! when you start with a plan for this, you just start out with listing all the paths out of your house. For example:

- out of my bedroom window (visible on the streets, but to nobody in the house, silent, and little noise)
- out of the study window, off the roof, and out through the garden door (passing the garden light)
- out of the study window, onto the neighbour's roof (or balcony), out through the neighbour's garden.
- Down the stairs (wood, spiral...), and through the front door. (heavy lock, deep click)
- Down the stairs, through the door to the living room, out the back door, out through the garden door (passing the garden light)
- Down the stairs, through the door to the living room, out the back door, out through the neighbour's garden.

Right now, I have most method's of exit, it is going to be time to put these in order. Now, the back yard is in view of all my housemates, and I can NEVER guarantee they are sleeping. Next to that, the chance that I'm sure my neighbours sleep is even smaller. So naturally, that comes below even my own back yard.

Now, these conditions may differ per op you are going to make, because at different times, come different priorities. At 3AM, I just want to go out with as little sight and sound as possible. Which basically brings me to either crawling out through my own window, or through the front door. So that would make things:

1. out of my bedroom window
2. down the wooden spiral stairs and through the front door.
3. out of the study window, onto the neighbour's roof or balcony, out through the neighbour's garden (no lights, no sound)
4. out of the study window, off the roof, out through the garden door (passing the garden light)
5. down the wooden spiral stairs, through the door to the living room, out the back door, out through the neighbour's garden.
6. down the wooden spiral stairs, through the door to the living room, out the back door, out through the garden door (passing the garden light)

My first option, however, is impossible. I do not have a rope, and even less places to attach it to. Not to mention said rope would leave traces on the street, getting back in would be a pain, and everyone could see I was up to something. Which brings me to options number two. Though all the backyard options take less effort to be silent. The chance that I'll be seen is grand. And I'd rather trust that a sound will be cancelled out, than that a housemate throws a coincidental glance out the window and notice me trying to silently open the garden door on my knees in the middle of the light.

The front door is neat and silent, and at 3Am, it is not highly likely someone will bother to push the curtain aside in the street. The curtains in other people's houses are not only useful to keep us from peeking on them having sex in the bedrooms: this also saves us from those late-night lovers!

Once you've found all suitable methods: Practice them. And when you're practicing these: Just go out to take a walk! don't try to do these directly from an Op, just go out and take a walk! people can't blame you for what you haven't done, and so, just a midnight walk under the excuse of: "I didn't think you would approve of me going out at 3AM" is really just that, at that point. Once you're comfortable with them, you can use them for an Op!

Beginning Night Oppers: Building up the courage to your first escape!

This really can be a bitch. I only did ops when doing those would be appropriate. Namely when my parents were out of town, and my brother being so isolated from sound, building an Alibi nobody could prove wrong was a piece of cake. Now I'm going to op more often and without the comfort of the oldies being out of town, Exfiltrating has become really nerve-wrecking and just getting out of the house would be the part that made me turn around in fright and decide not to do it in the end.

To the younger or less experienced oppers (and lets face it: we need to create a chance in order to gain experience! so sooner or later, we are faced with this problem before we can learn.) This can honestly be a bitch, a complete and utter bitch. And for those beginning

operatives, this might just be the one of the most important steps to actually getting out there!

The key is to take small steps, if you really don't dare to! Just, at first, sneak downstairs at night a few times, to get a drink, if you don't get commentary, proceed! When you do, take those things up for next time! When I first snuck out of the house, through the front door, my mother asked if I went out. I replied honestly that I did, and figured that I locked the front door when I went back in! which it Usually isn't. Offcourse, later, I tried again, took a walk, came back, and snuck back in. I had succeeded, apparently! Now, I can start doing shit outside.

The key to daring is taking small steps. The ones that are only slightly scary, and once that isn't scary anymore, it became all the more braver, and you can move on to the next step! Simply learning to sneak out, you find, will make you more and more brave, more confident in what you do. And just overcoming this, to all the big oppers out there, simple steps, will kickstart your existence as a night opper. Even this to most now little thing, is just as much an obstacle in the beginning. It is simply overcoming this and repeating it until it is easy is what will begin to put you in the shoes of all those big posters out there!

Compiler's note:

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