

snippet

Game 1 - Changelings - 2020 October 25

Beale, Casca, Hughe Lane, and Rowen Hashin discover two babies have been kidnapped in the upscale borough Dunham, and they stop harpies from stealing a third. Gregor the Naturalist and Barley tell them that all three babies are fairy changelings. Investigating the theft of the Penance Stone at the Chapel of Ajana, they're attacked by a conspicuously beautiful woman - one of three - who turns out to be a harpy disguised by the Ring of Greater Pulchritude.

DM notes for players from the live game

- Hollinsheds: stolen baby Luna, wife Mia, husband Luther
- Shaws: stolen baby Flora (2 years old), husband Giles, wife Zoe
- Parja, Secretary of the Admiralty and Keeper of the Lion's Mouth
- Volsteads: baby Violet, wife Leona, husband Yorvick
- Gregor the Naturalist - lab in Braddock; his friend Barley, who's a fairy changeling living in the city
- Penance Stone in the Chapel of Ajana; touch to dispel guilt
- Merrick - maintainer at the Chapel of Ajana
- Ring of Greater Pulchritude: +1 to your CHA bonus; can cast Charm Person or Dominate Person 1 time / day

Dennis braindump after the game

The players introduced their characters. Keith and James decided since they both came up as urchins, they know each other from that time. Carrie said because of her noble-born bastard background, there's a chance she could know folks they meet in Dunham.

Walking toward the roundabout on Mendes Street in Duhman, they see the frantic woman Mia Hollinshed come to her balcony nearby shouting "Luna! Luna!" and then she runs down into the roundabout still shouting. They save her from being run over in the roundabout. Mia tells them that she was watching her baby Luna and fell asleep, and when she woke up the baby was gone. The party investigates Mia's house and finds that the door on the second-floor balcony had a broken lock; Hughe searches for other signs of the break in like dings in the marble facade that might indicate repelling down from the roof but finds none.

Mia tells them that she was being vigilant because the neighbors, the Shaws, had a baby Flora stolen a few days ago, but she still somehow fell asleep. Casca notes that both babies had "nature" names (+1 inspiration Casca). They go to the Shaws to investigate and the mother's (Zoe) story there is similar to Mia's. They find a very large feather there with an unpleasant smell on it. The party discovers that both the Hollinsheds and the Shaws are members of the

Anhault Charter Company board, and ask Mia and Zoe if there are any other board families nearby with a baby. They say yes - Yorvick and Leona Volstead down the street have a baby Violet...also a nature name.

They rush to the Volsteads' house and find three harpies trying to steal the Volstead's baby...Yorvick and Leona are asleep. They wake Yorvick and fight the harpies, killing all three. The question Yorvick about what might be happening and he seems to know an unusual amount about harpies, e.g., harpies come from hell, are rarely in the city, and are like animals in some ways. They conclude that although Yorvick is benign, he's hiding something. Beale probes Yorvick's mind and Yorvick knows it, so he is standoffish toward the party after, however he is very grateful to the party for saving Violet.

Looking out from the Volstead's balcony, they notice an old man with steampunk goggles pushed up on his forehead and a younger-looking man together, across the street looking at the Volstead's house. Casca concludes they are witches managing the harpies and hits the old man with an Eldritch Blast. The old man shakes it off and comes across the street to the Volstead's to ask why are they attacking him!? It's Gregor the Naturalist and his friend Barley. They say that they were nearby investigating the theft of the Penance Stone at the Chapel of Ajana and came here when a little bird told them that there was trouble at the Volsteads. The party soon find that Barley is a fairy changing and he tells them they can find additional information at the Circle - the fairy court in Lofton. They convince him to lead them there, partly by healing Gregor from the Eldritch Blast.

However, they decide to go to the Chapel of Ajana first. There, the keeper Merrick tells them that the Penance Stone was stolen a few days ago, and that there's a tradition that touching the Penance Stone dispels guilt, like a silent confession. They investigate the upstairs in the chapel, and when they come down, they see three conspicuously beautiful women together, getting up from the pew where they were talking. Two leave and one stays to summon a devil and two imps to fight the party. The party fights them and kills the woman and summoned creatures. Searching the woman's body, they take the ring from her finger and the body transforms from a beautiful woman to a grotesque harpy. The ring is the Ring of Greater Pulchritude and gives the wearer +1 to CHA bonus, and lets the wearer cast Charm Person or Dominate Person 1/day.