

## **synopsis**

The Admiralty lumberjacks that Casca attacked at Lofton Castle spot the party and attack them, but they escape with Hughe's magic. Rowen gets helpful news from her fellow thief Harbin, but when she relays it to the party, Casca uncovers Rowan's history of stealing for the Coven. The party goes to the harpies' Eyrie where they find the last Duchess, Hercate, being wooed by sharp-dressed devils and Rowan Banishes her to the restful plane Hereward. They rescue the kidnapped changelings Luna and Flora and their friends Gerte and Thelonious.

## **warmup**

Asked if Beale had a muse - a wench or something in Hollin that he was inspired by - James said Beale was inspired by the story of Ulm harpooning Huhner, and was driven by thoughts of the harpoon still being in the immortal whale. So, +1 inspiration and a permanent +1 to Performance for Beale.

We briefly discussed who would get the two pendants of Ajana that the party found on Annabelle and Beatrice in Game 3...I believe one went to Casca and one went to Hughe Lane.

## **the game**

Game 3 ended with the party interrogating Laurel in the alley behind Ulm's monument. They decided they would now go to the Mooncalf's opium dens for a short rest, then head to the Circle at Lofton Castle to tell the fairies that Astrid was going to attack with Fey Extinction Event.

Coming out of the alley into the square that Ulm's Monument (and Hughe's monument) was on, they heard voices ring out, "There they are right there!" and "That's the one who shot me right there!" It was two admiralty lumberjacks (including the one that Casca shot in the Lofton Castle outer courtyard) and two admiralty marines armed with Congreve rockets. They immediately ran back into the alley, where Hughe created a Minor Illusion of crates that the party and Laurel hid behind; as soon they'd done this, an exploding Congreve rocket exploded near them. The admiralty men then ran into the alley to attack the party, but they failed their check against the Minor Illusion and went to look the other way in the alley. The party ran the other way, escaping back to Market Street by running through a mannequin shop.

They headed to the Mooncalf and took a short rest in the opium dens there. While the party rested, Rowan went to visit her thieve's guild friend Harbin, who also did thieving for the Coven and had a room in the Mooncalf a few doors down from Kasskar. Harbin told Rowan:

Harbin confirms that harpies working for the Coven stole the Penance Stone from the Chapel of Ajana.

He also tells Rowan that the three pieces of jewelry that the Coven gave the Duchesses (the Ring, the Girdle, and the Broach that the remaining Duchess is wearing) aren't just beneficial. Unknown to the Duchesses, each piece also has an enchantment that lets the witches bring the wearer down (paralyze them) if the witches need to.

Rowan came back and reported this information to the party and Casca and Beale took off the Ring and Girdle. In doubt about whether just carrying (as opposed to wearing) the items would endanger them, they decided to give them to the fairies at the Circle for safe keeping.

Rowan's new information naturally brought up questions about how she knew this and how it related to her apparent connection to the witches in Game 3. Casca asked if the party could meet Harbin and Rowan said yes, and the party went to Harbin's room. Casca immediately cast a Charm on Harbin from the Ring, and Harbin catastrophically failed his save, rolling a 1. He instantly fell in love with Casca and told her everything she wanted to know, throwing Rowan under the bus with abandon. He told Casca that Rowan worked for the witches stealing things for them, and that although Rowan appeared to be confused by *deja vu* and things she saw in the catacombs, she had always known about the witches. However, the party decided that Rowan was reformed or safe to keep in the party.

They headed to the Circle. There they talked to the fairies and the fairies bowed to Laurel and they told the fairies about Fey Extinction Event.

Discussing what to do next, Casca wanted to pre-empt Astrid by attacking her before the three days were up, instead of looking for kidnapped babies at the Eyrie, saying harpies had probably already eaten the babies. But, Hughe said his own goal from the original crisis of the stolen babies was to rescue the kidnapped changelings, and the Circle also expected the party to try to rescue the kidnapped changelings at the Eyrie. The fairies convinced them to seek out the missing changelings at the Eyrie, since they were potentially in imminent danger and there were still 2-3 days until Astrid would attack, and Casca asked that Aurora and Aurelien come along to the Eyrie, which they agreed to.

However, the party still went to the top of the left-hand mountain (to Apogee) to see if they could see any preparations going on for the Fey Extinction Event. They didn't see anything or detect any magic there. (Editor's note: actually they should have detected magic there - [in the previous campaign we learned that there's a gate to the restful plane Hereward at Apogee.](#)) They did get a good look at the entire city from Apogee though. They also saw that the right-hand mountain (which includes the Eyrie) had a gradual, hikable backside and they decided when they went to Apogee that they would hike up the back of the mountain and then rappel down the ~50 feet to Eyrie openings in the cliffside.

We talked briefly about how the party kept going down in combat, but hadn't bought any healing potions. They took a detour to Chambers the apothecary (who Thelonius and Gertie had told them about) in Braddock and got 2 hearing potions each there. Chambers told them

anecdotally that he hadn't seen Thelonious and Gertie in a few days, whereas they often brought him stuff everyday or sometimes more than once a day.

They headed back to Lofton, remet Aurora and Aurelian, and hiked up the backside of the right-hand mountain. They decided they would cast invisibility on Rowan and she would rappel down and scout the Eyrie ahead of the main party.

As they were setting up their ropes to rappel down, 7 women (6 young and 1 old) stepped out of the nearby forest and started to brazenly criticize the party and their morals, out of nowhere. The party threatened to attack them but the women dismissed their threats, saying they couldn't attack them, and saying that they weren't part of this story. The women mainly criticized Casca for not wanting to save the changelings from the Eyrie, saying that a few children dying is a tragedy, but a thousand fairies dying from Fey Extinction Event is just a statistic. They also disparaged Casca's name, saying it wasn't a name at all, but just some random letters. They then stepped back into the forest and disappeared as easily as they had appeared.

Rowan then repelled down invisible, and entered the tunnel. She found a tunnel about 100 feet long, which led to a kind of natural gallery or balcony looking down on a large cavern with hundreds of harpies singing a kind of piercing evil choral mass. She continued on another hundred feet through a climbing tunnel, until she came to the Duchesses' throne room. There she saw three crude thrones carved of stone, with Hecate there being wooed by 4 sharp-dressed devils. Rowan saw 4 rusty cages on the other side of the room, the padlocks on them, and natural windows above them, with sunlight streaming into the throne room.

Rowan went back and reported to the party. They all rappelled down and went to the edge of the throne room. Rowan, still invisible, snuck up behind Hecate and attacked her with the Shank of Banishment. The attack hit and Hecate failed the CHA check to avoid being Banished and she was transported to Hereward, the Elysian-Fields-like restful plane. As Rowan attacked she became visible, and the rest of the party burst in to fight the 4 devils. As they burst in, they heard two children in the cages - Thelonious and Gertie - squeal, "Hughe Lane, help us!"

The party then fought the 4 devils and took them down.

After the fight, they freed the children, with Hughe making an ad hoc baby carrier out of his shield, for the 6-month-old. They looked out of the natural windows below and could see Hell, with Hell's capitol city Pandemonium right under the cliffside. There, they could see a square with a Louvre-like palace on it, with devils and demons busily coming and going from it. Pandemonium had a river flowing through it, and they saw suspiciously mundane looking trade ships going up and down the river.