

Dagon's Best

Game: To A Bloody Pulp, Savage Worlds

Session: #7: The Book of Frankenstein

Date: March 26, 2017

Campaign Date: March 26-27, 1934

Characters

Sister Maria Cobblepot (a.k.a. Mother Superior), Andrew Smith

Friday Jones (a.k.a. American Fist), Bob LaForge

Captain Hank Freemont (a.k.a. Captain Avalanche), Dave Nelson

Stefan Malju (a.k.a. Evil Eye), Marlon Kirton

Judge: Jason Leibert

THE PROBLEM: The Committee has been concerned, for quite some time, with large quantities of gold being smuggled into the country through Gotham city. However there has been little headway into the investigation. During a particular lull in Team C's normal activities, they receive a briefing. A jewelry store owner in the Diamond district, who is allied to the Gotham Restoration Project, has reported that he has somebody in his store who is trying to sell him a large quantity of gold items of unknown providence. The jeweler convinced the young man to wait in a secure room, which was promptly locked while he called Mr. Cheavers with this information.

THE TASK:

GOAL 1: Find out how the gold is getting into the country, and where it comes from

GOAL 2: Recover all the gold, and return it to the Gotham Restoration Project

GOAL 3: Identify the perpetrators, and see to it they are punished appropriately

Pawn Shop Punch-Up

Monday, March 26, 1934, 6AM

Joe Schwartz, a jeweler in the Gotham Diamond district, welcomes the party to his jewelry store, and directs them to his security room where he was holding the young man, later identified as young Billy Batson. The party prepares an aggressive questioning session but, upon opening the door, they discover that young Billy Batson has bitten off his own tongue and drowned in his own blood. A thorough search of the corpse reveals only a pawn ticket for a pocket watch to one 'Egyptian Steve's Pawn Shop'. The group stores young Billy Batson's body in the henchmen's quarters back at the base "Just in case".

Egyptian Steve's Meldown

Monday, March 26, 1934, 9am

The group makes its way to 'Egyptian Steve's Pawn Shop' taking along their soldiers and Scraps the Invulnerable Dog, finding a fairly quiet neighborhood pawnshop and thrift store, with a small group of Free Men gang members lounging around the front stoop of the store, apparently keeping an eye on the place. Egyptian Steve turns out to be an elderly man in a wheelchair, helping customers while his two hulking, scarred helpers (Brick Head Bruno and Vinny the Mook), the entire area making Sister Cobblepot uncomfortable. Evil Eye sneaks into the building while invisible, and waits for the group to talk Egyptian Steve into opening the vault, so he could get inside to search around. Evil Eye finds a crate full of gold bars, a gold encrusted crucible, and another crate full of miscellaneous gold items (coins, religious tokens, and jewelry). Upon further searching, he also finds several large "Dagon's Best Fish Food Product" crates that contain several bound and gagged captives. Sister Cobblepot decides that the time for soft words is over, and the time for harsher words is now, intimidating Egyptian Steve in his own shop. Steve asks the customers in the store (including Shemp, who walks out with a bag-load of Dagon's Best Fish Food Product) to leave. With a smirk on her lip, Sister Cobblepot says "What now?", to which Egyptian Steve replies with a sawed off shotgun blast to her face. A massive brawl breaks out, with Egyptian Steve being shot down with a shotgun blast from the Sister. Egyptian Steve quickly runs into the bathroom, and barricades himself inside while the group slowly beats down the freakishly strong and durable mooks, while the Free Men gang members run off screaming, "We don't get paid for gunfire!" Evil Eye peaks into the bathroom, and finds that Egyptian Steve has wrenched the toilet out, and dropped into the basement. While the brawl slowly progresses, something tries to smash through the floor to get at Sister Cobblepot (which fails) and at the American Fist (which succeeds). American Fist is yanked down into the darkened cellar by a freakishly strong Egyptian Steve. American Fist breaks out a cigar lighter flame thrower, which illuminates the area, providing enough light for Sister Cobblepot to lend a hand. American Fist manages to knock Egyptian Steve into the now raging blaze, before running out of the building. The group polishes off the goons, releases the captives, and drags the gold back to base, leaving Scraps to bark into the flame as the building burns down around him.

Interlude

Monday, March 26, 1934, 12pm

Scraps returns to the base, covered in soot and carrying a still squirming hand belonging to one of Egyptian Steve's goons. In order to get a grasp on the gold smuggling conspiracy, the group examines the intact gold recovered from Egyptian Steve's vault. They find the gold items to be from a wide variety of areas and influences, the only really common theme among all of them being that they appear to have spent time underwater. Sister Cobblepot takes a large golden crucifix, and heads to the church to see if the Catholic historian might have some ideas. Captain Hank Freemont selects the most arcane looking piece, and goes to talk to Professor Hans Gruberman (pretending to be a Treasury Agent), to see if there might not be an Atlantean origin to the gold. Sister Cobblepot's church historian tells her the golden crucifix is one that had been given to the religious leaders who accompanied the crusades, while Professor Gruberman reveals that the golden ring isn't Atlantean, it is from the same period and clearly has influences from pre-collapse Atlantis.

Dagon's Best Cannery Catastrophe

Monday, March 26, 1934, 3pm

The group decides that there is clearly a link between the gold, the captives, and the Dagon's Best Fish Food Product cannery, so they load up and head to investigate. They find the cannery in the middle of a widely deserted area of Blanchaven. Other than the cannery, and a dingy set of apartments across the street, there are no other buildings for blocks in every direction. The cannery grounds are surrounded by a chain link fence, with four armed guards. The parking lot is relatively empty, with a handful of delivery trucks, and a single large fuel truck. Team C decides to have the Invisible Eye sneak into the cannery and scout things out. Invisible Eye discovers the entire cannery is filled with weak chinned men singing songs (in German) apparently involving the glory of Atlantis, the enlightened masters, and the glory of working for the enlightened masters to further the glory of Atlantis. The overseer (identified as one Joe 'Fishy-Joe' Fischbein) is directing the singing with a megaphone, and has a gigantic pearl hanging around his neck. The Invisible Eye discovers a large stack of crates which are found to contain the same sort of prisoners as was seen in Egyptian Steve's shop, alongside another couple of crates containing gold items, and carefully packaged gold items of an Atlantis theme. Invisible Eye withdraws to inform the group, and decides to carefully capture a couple of guards and open a gate on his way off the grounds. Team C decides to pull to headquarters to regroup, and rest for a bit, until Captain Avalanche finds out there are prisoners being held inside the cannery. Heroics are required! So the group decides to attack. A brief gunfight takes place outside the cannery, taking out the remaining guards, while the rest of the group ram-raids the main door. A massive machete attack heavily damages American Fist, who withdraws to allow a car, driven by Sister Cobblepot, to be driven into the doorway. A handful of the German cultists attack the invaders, while Fishy Joe calls the faithful unto him. "Now is the time!", Fishy Joe exclaims, "Now we shall ascend when the heretics endanger our holy works! Come, brothers, and lay hands upon me as the enlightened masters have ordered. We shall all ascend together!" The cultists crowd closer and closer together, as Hank Freemont and Sister Cobblepot witness the horrible gelatinous creature, released from Fishy Joe's pearl, absorbs all of the cultists and grows larger and larger! The group rapidly withdraws as the blob slowly advances, absorbing all the dead cultists it touches. Evil Eye then begins firing his submachine gun, withdrawing carefully further, drawing the blob after him. Captain Hank Freemont runs around the building, and drives the fuel truck into the side of blob, leaping clear before impact. The blob grabs ahold of the truck, attempting to absorb it, to which Captain Freemont fires a flare gun into truck, making it explode! The horribly wounded blob slowly starts heading back into the cannery, after the largest pile of organic matter possible. Captain Freemont manages to score a gigantic hit on the blob with his gun, finishing off the monster, leaving the cannery remarkably clean. The group frees the captives and seizes the gold. A further search of the office reveals a calendar with that very night circled, and an arcane symbol for midnight underneath! Clearly the cultists were awaiting their suppliers at that very time!

Pride of Innsmouth Pursuit

Tuesday, March 27, 1934 12am

Team C sets themselves up for ambushing the delivery ship (which they discover is called 'The Pride of Innsmouth'), setting up a variety of machine guns and explosives along the docks to ambush the ship. At exactly midnight, a light from a ship offshore begins blinking in some sort of code. Captain Freemont uses a flashlight to signal back in Morse code, unable to understand whatever code the ship was using. The ship turns, and flashes 'LOL' at the group, before heading back and turning north. This incenses Captain Freemont, who quickly hatches a plan to chase the ship with the autogyro, while the rest of the team heads north along the coast road (north being the direction the boat was last heading). With Invisible Eye in tow, Captain Freemont and he both use tracking and boating knowledge to figure out roughly where the boat would be, successfully finding the Pride of Innsmouth. Invisible Eye turns himself invisible, and the Captain carefully drops him onto the deck of the ship. Invisible Eye quickly makes his way down into the ship's engine room, where he barricades himself in, seizes control of the ship, and forces it to beach itself on the nearby shore line where the rest of the group has set up an ambush. Captain Freemont trails the ship as the crew alternates dumping crates overboard with attempting to regain control of the ship, as well as unlimbering a couple of heavy machineguns and rifles for the crew. Suddenly the auto gyro finds itself attacked by a giant shark man, who latches on and tried to pull the craft down (inflicting damage in the process). American Fist, Sister Cobblepot, and Bill the soldier trade considerable gunfire with the captain and crew of the ship, while Captain Freemont scrapes the giant shark man off the autogyro (who then promptly jumps back into the water). Invisible Eye slaughters his way out of the engine room, killing all the sailors he comes past, till he comes up the deck behind the machine gunners. But it was too later for Sister Cobblepot (who died from a volley of rifle shots) and Bill the soldier (who was ventilated by a machine gun). After the Invisible Eye shoots the captain of the ship through the back of the head, the rest of the crew throw their guns down and jump into the water to swim away.

Finale

With the deaths of Sister Cobblepot and Bill the soldier heavily on their mind, the group investigates the ship. According to the captain's journal, the fish men have been trading fish and gold to a fringe element of the Philosophical Ascent to Atlantis (describing Joe Fischbein as an idiot that gathered a bunch of the stupid, weak, dullards to do the grunt work in the factory in return for next to nothing except a place to belong), in return for fuel, supplies, and a number of captives (described as food or slaves alternately).

Team C managed to free all the captives as well as capture all the actual gold that had directly reached Gotham City, but the half-breed fish men crew disposed of the what they had on the ship. Their network is either dead, burned up, or in hiding.