

Mariner Session Twelve

2021.03.21 9:00-12:00

Player Characters

Azriel Davalnath - Triton Hexblade Warlock 6 / Fighter 1 (Quinton)

Charlotte Foxtrot (aka Charlie) - Elven Rogue 2 / Trickery Domain Cleric 5 (Kayla)

Paulson - Human Battlemaster Fighter 6 / Warlock 1 (Justin)

Red "Danger" Bronson - Human Barbarian 5 / Warlock 2 (David)

Rixa - Eladrin Arcane Archer Fighter 6 / Warlock 1 (Casey)

Horace the Wise - Birdfolk Noble Fighter 1 / Life Cleric 6 (Miles)

Skye, Warrior Princess - Birdfolk Noble Warrior 5 (NPC)

Campaign Date

Fidelity 6th, 931 (Winter)

Log

The crew of the Marnier's Razor escape from Greyhollow as Pomphredo's forces arrive and tear it to bits. At first, the heroes are on edge. They aren't sure just how long they have until Graeae comes after them. What if she escapes? What does Pomphredo want? The first hour passes. After a night on edge, the heroes rest and prepare for an attack. However, after a week has gone by, they realize that for the first time in months they are free of curses and hags.

The crew begin to think about what to do next. The crew reviews the pieces of the Mariner's Trident taken from Graeae's cauldron room. She has managed to secure two of these pieces that have fallen from the sky inside meteors, and they match the one the crew had secured from the attack on the undersea kingdom of the Tritons. Horace and Skye each take parts in case they need to fight magical beasts. Rixa takes a tine of the trident that can be shot just like an Arrow of Sea Monster Slaying.

Paulson suggests that they go after Pricketts, the peg legged pirate wizard who they later realized was actually Lord Streckript - the one who created Paulson and gave him free will. Horace consults the heavens and identifies an area in the ocean nearby where Streckript is located. They turn the ship toward that area and start to sail in search of the hated wizard.

Red is at the wheel, guiding the ship. Rixa and Horace are above the deck in the crows nests above the deck. To the fore, Azriel and Charlie are looking forward to the future, while Paulson is brooding below deck.

The sun sets along the horizon, casting red shadows across the ocean. The Mariner's Razor is mysteriously swallowed by an unexpected thick fog. The crews' vision clouds, and the ship is becalmed. Without warning, the entire crew is blinded by the dark fog of blinding darkness. Whispering curses come fast and furious along with a magical foggy black cutting into their minds and causing crippling pain. The party fights off the magical attack. Rixa reads the scroll of Dispel Magic, dismissing the dire magic. The foggy darkness clears, and the crew finds that they are under attack. Lord Streckript himself is standing above the aft deck atop a thick bundle of tentacles. Below the ship "The Hunger" has several mouths and tentacles threatening the crew on deck.

Lord Streckript growls, "I want the final pieces of the trident. With it, I will have the power of the Mariner himself to bring my daughter Laetitia back to me from the Abyss. That hag will never best me even if I have to exhaust the power of all nine old Gods!"

Red immediately charges the wizard. The tentacles of The Hunger tried to knock the barbarian away, but he was persistent. He missed Lord Streckript, but a well-placed dire skeletal hand is conjured by the wizard and it drains the life away from the brash northman. Red falls unconscious on the deck and is whacked away by the swinging tentacles of "The Hunger."

Rixa shot the tooth of the Mariner's Trident into the The Hunger, destroying one of its tentacles. Azriel and Charlie, both trapped at the fore fight off several tentacles that try to grapple them and drag them into the depths. Paulson emerges and engages the fight along with Skye. Horace takes to the sky and begins doing his best to keep everyone in the fight.

Azriel uses Moloch to create an aura of life-draining magic, burning at the tentacles and forcing Lord Streckript to burn his resources. The Triton's command of the demon-spear allows him to counter much of the evil mage's most powerful magics including spells of Blight and Disintegrate.

Rixa retrieves the tine of the Mariner's Trident and trains it on the eye of the ancient sea monster that emerged from beneath the waves. After taking the strike, "The Hunger" squeals in pain and agony. The fork tine drops onto the deck and the monster slips below the waves. With the ancient sea monster gone, Lord Streckript now faces the crew alone.

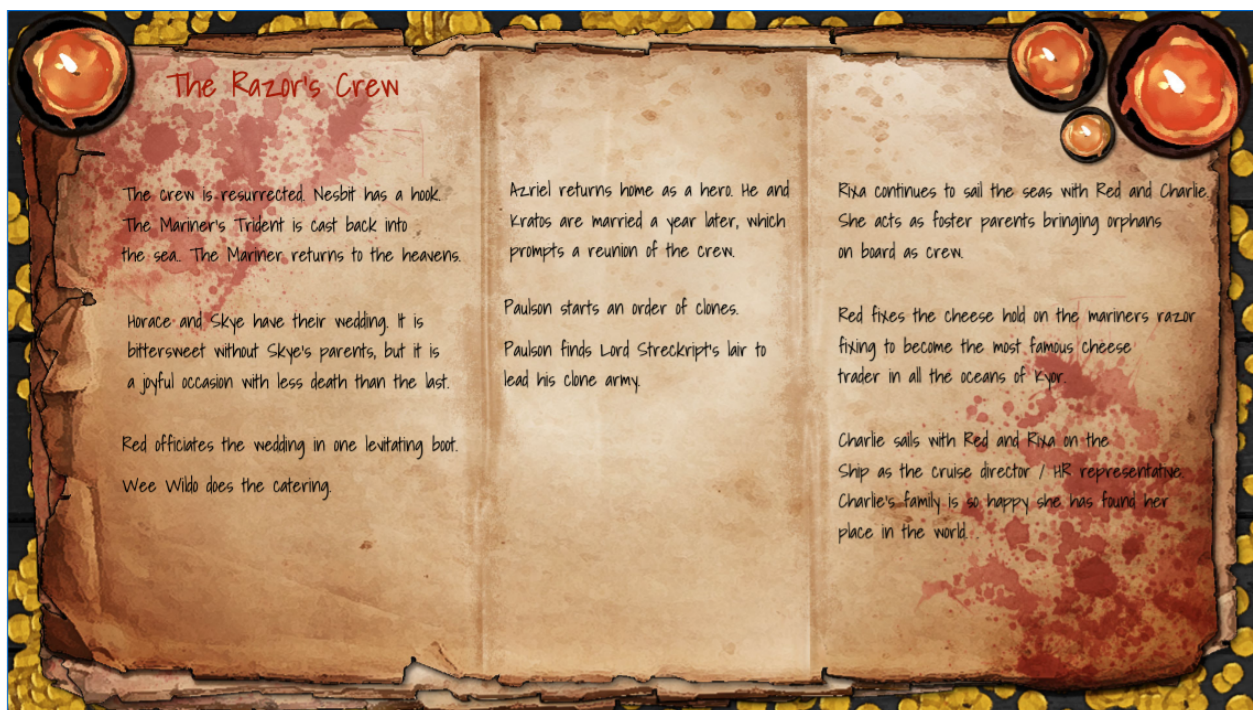
The crew boxes the one-legged wizard in. Red continues to fight despite being knocked unconscious twice. Rixa pins the wizard to the deck with an arrow through his one good foot and Paulson knocks him flat to the deck with a swift rapier stroke and a kick. Horace unleashes a titanic ghostly dinosaur which snaps at the wizard with its jaws. Charlie disappears into her lovely new magic cloak. In a beat she reappears right beside the threatened wizard. Her blade

finds a home in his heart. Lord Streckript dies on the deck of the Mariner's Razor that night. The crew stand over the source of their misery, and rejoice at their newfound freedom.

The crew re-assembles the Mariner's Trident. Lord Streckript had hoped to use it to return his daughter Latetia¹ to life from the bowels of hell where she fights to keep the very host of hell from overrunning the mortal world. This artifact's power is such that it could grant wishes to any who use it. The entire lost crew of the Mariner's Razor are given life again, including crewman Nesbit² who was ripped apart by the original attack of "The Hunger."

Azriel knows how to return the trident to the Mariner to restore the Daeva's power. After using the weapon to restore life to the lost members of the ship, they drop it into the sea where it finds its way home. The planet representing The Mariner returns to the night skies above Kyor and all is set back as it should be.

Epilog



¹ GM Note: I felt bad that you all never quite figured out what the BBEG's plan was. It was hard without Brad's PC ever making an appearance. Streckript hated Graeae and wanted to reincarnate their daughter Latetia. However, Raise Dead was not enough because Latetia didn't actually want to return. Instead, their daughter had become the singular celestial fighting back the devils of the nine hells. Streckript cared nothing for the order of the planes, instead deciding to cripple one of the nine old gods in a quest for power to force his daughter to return to the Prime Material Plane.

² Nesbit's left hand was still missing. He's got a fancy hook instead. Magic isn't always perfect.

Following the events of the three months following the voyage of the Mariner's Razor from Juntandria, the crew decides to go their own way.

Two weeks later, the crew is already reunited. Skye and Horace are wed in a much less bloody ceremony than before. Red officiates the crazy ceremony in one levitating boot taken from the fallen mage Streckript. The birdfolk nobility of Auria are relieved to have a married family and Horace's family back on Radavan are relieved of their considerable debts. The two live happily ever after.

Rixa continues to sail the seas of Kyor along with Red and Charlie. The three of them are a great team. Red becomes an expert on all the cheeses of Kyor. The trio quickly find that the magical qualities of the Mariner's Razor allows it to become a lucrative cheese-hauling ship. Red himself makes sure that he is a more respected cheese connoisseur than any of the elven losers on the island of Albion.

Charlie checks back with her "family" in Juntandria. After leaving as little more than a child, she has come full circle and now has a more mature view on adulthood. While she is still not above getting herself into shenanigans, she respects others opinions and takes advice. She goes on to become a savvy merchant and is always on the lookout for deals in the world of cheese.

Captain Rixa manages the whole enterprise. The new crew is made up of orphans, both those saved from the clutches of Graeae as well as younger members of Charlie's "family" in Radaan. Many grow in skill to become ship captains or merchants themselves.

Paulson searches the corners of Kyor for all the remaining clones of Streckript. He forms an association of sorts with a half-dozen other identical twins who are now at their wits' end now that their master is dead. Unlike Paulson, they have no free will of their own. Paulson assumes control of these clones, creating an enclave of power and acumen that becomes renowned on the continent of Radavan where they are based.

Azriel helps the Triton nation rebuild following Lucifer's betrayal. Along with the other members of the watch, he returns "The Hunger" to the prison of The Perdition. He seals the sea monster in the depths of the undersea caves. With a violent shrug, Azriel pins the door closed and barred with the demon spear Moloch. The monstrous weapon keens and screams in frustration and anger at being disposed of in such a disrespectful way. How dare a simple, miserable Triton walk away from boundless power! The world could be theirs! It wails for Azriel to turn back, but the Triton leaves behind the adventuring life for a quieter one.

No longer welcome among the Watch of the Perdition, Azriel marries his lover Kratos one year after Streckript falls in a simple ceremony held in the Royal City. As with the birdfolk marriage all the crew of the Mariner's Razor are there again to support him on this special day. Kratos is assigned to be the bodyguard for Azriel as he takes on his new duties as ambassador to the peoples of the land.

The End?

A hideous undead corpse looks deep into a misty crystal ball. He has seen the entire struggle between the wizard Streckript and the heroes. This being Nosalup is simply an emaciated lich. All that remains of him is one arm with three fingers on the hand, a head and half a torso. This monster turns its head, and reveals that it also resembles the visage of Streckript.

Paulson was not the first clone to have been given free will, Nosalup had done it centuries earlier and created Streckript himself. What is left of the destroyed lich looks up from the vision globe. The dread being virtually glows in excited amazement. "Interesting" it hisses.



You guys are the best! Thanks for waking up and playing fantasy with me all these Sunday mornings. I can't thank you enough!