

Freak Watch

A *Masks* Campaign

Session One

Freak Watch is a campaign using Magpie Games' [Masks](#), a game Powered by the Apocalypse and emulating teen superheroes in the vein of Young Justice or Teen Titans. Paul is our ever-suffering GM.

The campaign is set in [Hub City](#), IL, the DC Universe city home of [The Question](#) (now retired to a job as a conservative radio talk-show host). It's the most corrupt city in the US.

Our heroes, the self-styled Freak Watch, consist of:

- La Catrina, Maria Lorena Ramirez (The Delinquent), played by Ernest
- The Infamous Wasp, Purcell Stone (The Protégé), played by Chris
- Kid Kafka, Frank LaLone (The Transformed), played by Patrick
- Teenage Vengeance Shadowblade, Grace Lennox (The Doomed), played by Tim

Chris is our faithful session summarian, and Ernest the editor and blogger that posts these for your amusement.

[Avengers Dissemble!](#)

The first session starts with interactive character creation! Let's meet our heroes.

The Delinquent, La Catrina, Maria Lorena Ramirez

Powers: teleportation, illusions
Moves: Mary Contrary, Are you watching closely?

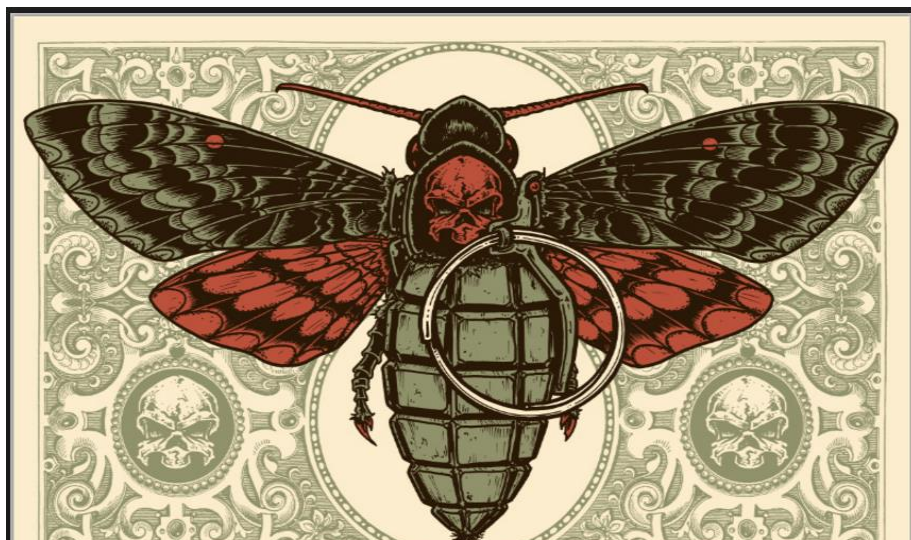
La Catrina is a teenage Hispanic girl. She was part of the Los Muertos gang and was nearly killed in a shootout with a rival gang, but she believes Santa Muerte brought her out safe and granted her special powers. Her brother Lalo is still in the gang.

For fun, she likes to go out dancing, airbrush art, and is a graffiti artist. Her tag is a death's head moth.

Sometimes she lives at home with mom, and sometimes crashes at the Haunted Mansion when mom is being crazy.

Relationships:

- You keep trying to impress The Infamous Wasp with your antics.
- You and Kid Kafka pulled an awesome (if illegal) stunt together. (giant graffiti in impossible places)



The Death's Head Moth

The Protege, The Infamous Wasp, Purcell Stone

Powers: Detective Skills, Impossible Fighting Skills

Moves: Been reading the files, Fireside chat, Heroic tradition

Mentor's resources: vehicle (pale blue Volkswagen bug), communicators, med lab

Purcell Stone is a black teenager who is the protégé of The Question.

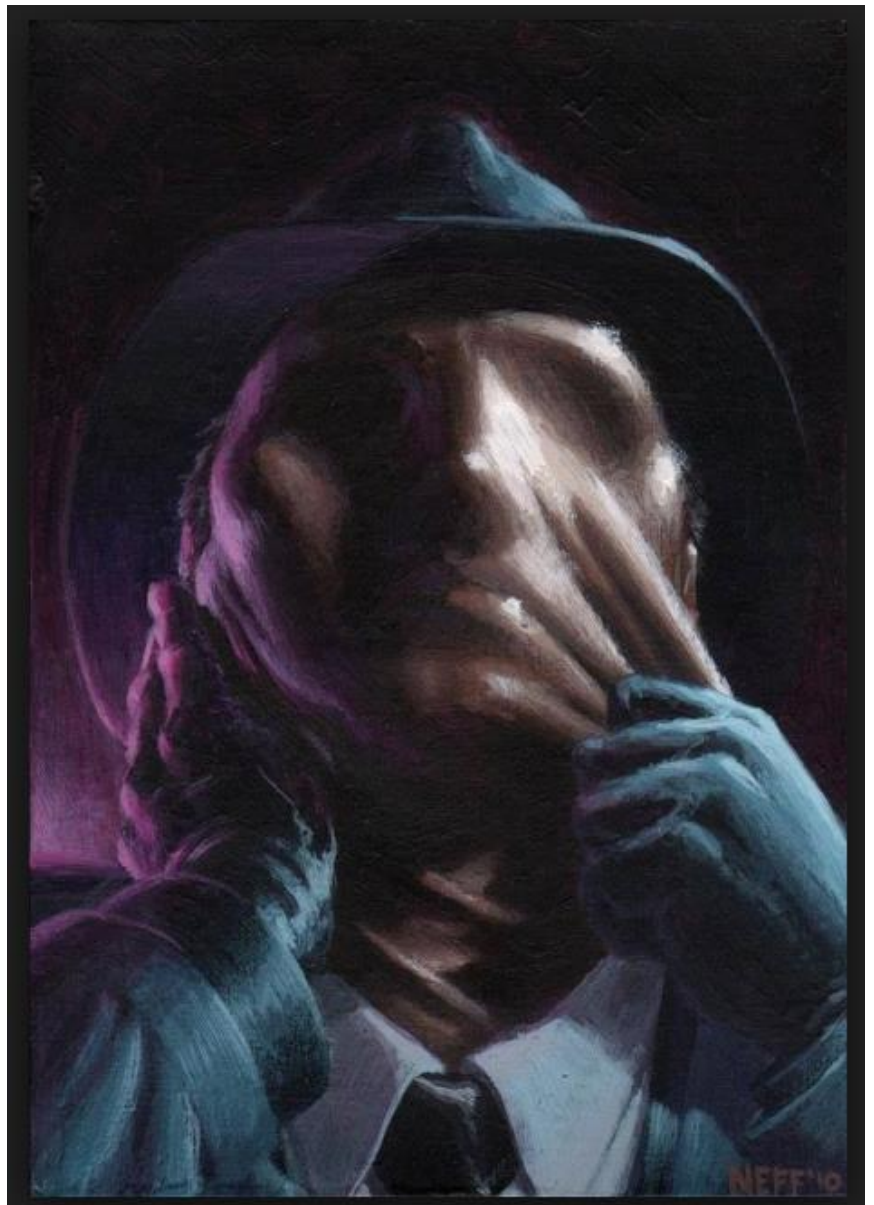
Living: with parents Darlene Stone (school teacher) and Tyrone Stone (bus driver), attending the Fortress High School (last operating high school inside Hub City)

Relationships:

- You and La Catrina teamed up a few times before the rest of you came together.
- Your mentor is cautious; they asked you to keep an eye on Teenage Vengeance Shadowblade. (She's clearly a pawn for a death cult though even she doesn't realize it.)

Other relationships:

- Purcell Stone is intern at Vic Sage's recording studio, where Vic does his talk show, "Vic Sage is P*ssed!" The show is popular inside and outside Hub City; those outside the city are shown the Hub's hellscape.
- Vic also helps those outside organize charity drives for those inside the city.



Transformed, Kid Kafka, Ralph LaLone

Powers: impenetrable armor, superhuman senses

Transformed Moves: I am not my body, Not human enough, Be the monster

Ralph is a white teenager who, while on a South American archeology dig, walked into a cursed burial chamber and got turned into a human roach.

Living: The Haunted Mansion

Relationships:

- Teenage Vengeance
Shadowblade comforted you when you were at your lowest.
- Infamous Wasp knew you before you changed. (Ralph was a senior when Purcell a freshman at Fortress High School)



Mentor? Mary Beth Banes, a bug professor at Hub City university

NPCs: entomologist Mary Beth Banes

**The Doomed, Teenage
Vengeance Shadowblade,
Grace Lennox**

Powers: telekinesis,
superhuman strength and
speed, and vitality absorption
Doom Signs: Bolstered
Sanctuary: The Haunted
Mansion

TVS is a gender-ambiguous
goth Asian teen, and a
necromancer. He has an arch-
enemy named Smorgascorpse
from whom she got the
shadowblade.

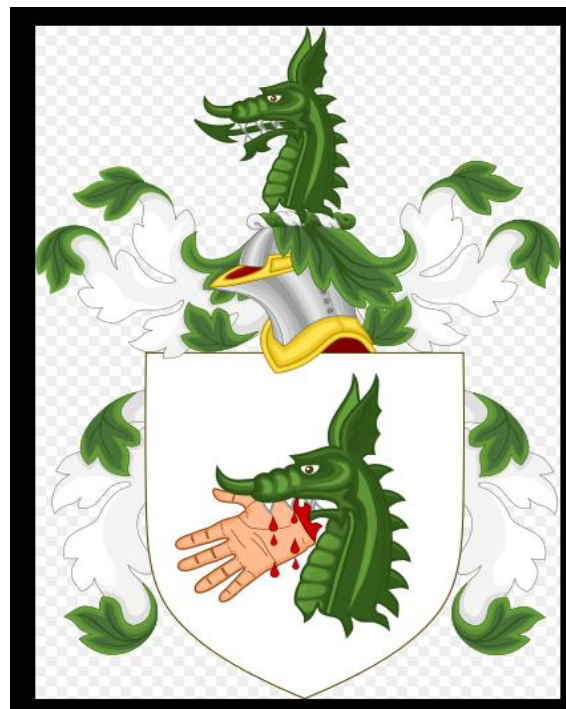
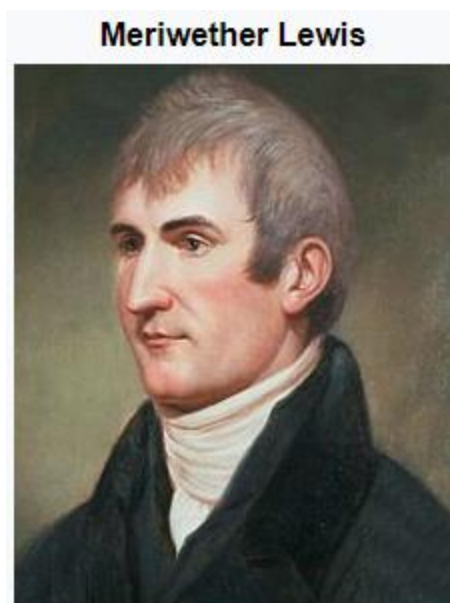
Living: The Haunted
Mansion, Haunted by
Meriwether Lewis

Relationships:

- You told La Catrina all
about your doom and
the danger you're in.
- You'd love to kiss Kid Kafka before your doom comes.



Meriwether Lewis and his Coat of Arms:



The Team Comes Together – The Backstory

Banshee and the Wailers, a punk rock band themed gang, were robbing Hub City banks. The group came together to track them down and defeated them at their final robbery, the Mega Pay Day Loan City. The Delinquent also planted a key of coke in their dressing room just before the take down... just to be on the safe side.

The Banshee and the Wailers were working for Rory Limbo, the largest businessman in Hub City and owner of a giant plastics factory. He has noticed The Team and earmarked them for retribution.

The Infamous Wasp hands out communicators and states, “Let's stay in touch. A team can clean this city up faster than any one man... or woman... or bug. Besides, those musicians were too well organized; they had to have a backer or control. And I watched them for several weeks and never even noticed they were trafficking narcotics!”

During this time Marco, a master of Capoeira, resurfaces... seemingly returned from the dead. Or perhaps of the dead.



Present Day - The Traveling Egyptian Display

The Freak Watch, in civvies, go to see the traveling historical display while it's in town to resolve an argument between Infamous Wasp and La Catrina – are Egyptians black? (Oddly, she is the one saying “yes” but the black Wasp is the one saying “no”.)

Kid Kafka disguising his bug form...



The floor begins to shake violently, then the building. Displays fall over and burst open. Kid Kafka sees Seismic Prime and Centipede out on the street, while the others don costumes. Seismic Prime is digging up the street.

TVS super speeds thru a museum window, using telekinesis to place shattered glass steps for her to run down and onto the street. Centipede demands, “Who are you?” Then extends her torso toward TVS and barrages with punches that are intercepted by Kid Kafka's impenetrable armor as he drops down to the street between the two. TVS drains vitality from Centipede to recover from several punches.

La Catrina puts Infamous Wasp beneath her cloak and teleports them to the street where they appear from the shadows. Her illusion powers draw a moonlit night overhead and vampires at every window and in every shadow. Centipede is freaked out by this, “Mexican Voodoo! No way!”

Seismic Prime attacks with Kid Kafka with a boulder, whose armor takes the blows but not for long. Infamous Wasp recognizes Seismic Prime from the Question's files – an inanimate object endowed with life, it feels pain that is only relieved by venting it into the ground. He yells out, “Get him off the street! He can't think without it!”

Kid Kafka strikes an intimidating bug pose and screams at Centipede, “You think you're a bug! I'll show you a bug!” Centipede fearfully flees the scene by scuttling up a wall and over the roof tops, “I didn't sign up for this!”

La Catrina drops the exhausting large scale illusion, then teleports directly in front of Centipede. She lands a fist squarely in Centipede's face, who is angered by the bloody nose. La Catrina provokes her into lunging, missing, and falling off the roof (aided by a Coyote-and-Road-Runner style illusion of

the roof continuing on farther than it really does) and into a defunct swimming pool used as a skate ramp in a tenement courtyard below... one full of storm water and random garbage.

TVS uses TK to lift Seismic overhead while chanting in backwards Latin! Skeletal hands of smoke lift him into the air. Seismic's brain is overloaded by pain a short time later and ceases to move. TVS places him gently in a nearby parking lot.

Infamous Wasp examines the hole in the street. A single large water pipe is exposed by Seismic's attack; it lightly weeps clean water. Were they attacking the city's water supply?

Kid Kafka notices the horrified civilians standing nearby. They are horrified by the broken Seismic, the vampiric Teenage Vengeance Shadowblade, and the fact that he is a giant bug. He flees their judgement and a storm of thrown debris.

Infamous Wasp decides to remove himself and give chase to Centipede. He climbs the building she fled over. At the top loose masonry and drainage pipe give way; he falls with the debris toward the crowd below. TVS uses TK to shield them. Wasp uses the TK umbrella to continue his climb up while the crowd notes, "This is some hero! We'd be better off without him and his brick storm powers." He climbs up and over the rooftop, laden with guilt.

TVS remains behind, shoving debris into the hole left by Seismic. The crowd stops chanting, "Vampire go home!" when they see what she's doing. The crowd rallies to her and some even help; a few slink off ashamed. She notes that one boy is cute... and talks to him.

La Catrina dances about the dirty pool and provokes Centipede into revealing their plan. Centipede demands her freedom in return for the information... "We were hired by Junior Musto (an arms dealer and terrorist). He wants to blackmail those fat cat water users!"

Infamous Wasp arrives in time to see La Catrina letting Centipede go. They share info despite the Wasp's accusation, "You let her go?!?"

Benno Musto was a powerful terrorist in Hub City years ago. He assigned Junior to blow up a children's school bus. He failed, disowned by his father and the family, burned off his own face with acid, and disappeared. Junior was assumed dead after taking a hospital hostage in an attempt to get his dying father a replacement heart.



Junior Musto

They teleport back to TVS on the street, who has proceeded to enlist the locals in cleaning up the wreckage and is getting phone numbers from a couple cute boys. La Catrina spots the bag lady and notes her cart is full of “It's called Rocky Mountain Cakes. Kids try it at parties, next thing they know they're in a cemetery getting paid to argue with librarians.”

Then comes the end of the session.

The group travels in ones back to the Haunted Mansion. Infamous Wasp stops at his apartment to retrieve his mom's famous mac and cheese for Kid Kafka. Wasp and Kafka go thru team moves and bond. TSV and La Catrina go thru team moves and bond too.