

REAVERS ON THE SEAS OF FATE - SESSION SUMMARY 06/21/2020

TODAY'S EPISODE: THE SALTY DOGS

Our heroes aboard the *Chainbreaker* have sailed from the Veiled Isle and its lost city of gold with a handsome amount of looted gold to Port Shaw, where they split the take with Captain Bethany Razor, pay out shares, and look after their various pirate enterprises:

Our 8th level heroes are:

- Captain Sindawe of the *Chainbreaker*, the fist-punchin' Mwangi monk (Chris).
- Chief Gunner Wogan, the pistol-packin' celibate cleric of Gozreh (Patrick).
- Quartermaster Serpent, the staff-bashin' Ulfen druid/ranger and his snake Saluthra (Paul).

Catch Up

It's been three months since we last gamed together due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The crew recaps the summary of the end of the City of Gold expedition, with the *Chainbreaker* safely back in Port Shaw.

Captain Bethany Razor calls her men to offload her share of the gold (45% of the treasure).

Captain Razor explains the *Chainbreaker* deed given by Falken Drango to Sindawe is the real deed. Falken stole it from her man (well, minotaur), Corg, so they are masters of their own fate once again.

Passengers Loushish and his servant Mantabar depart after paying their 200gp passage.

Serpent immediately goes ashore to sell items starting with Sagacious Samuel.

Serpent returns to his home where his family, Samaritha (wife), and sons, Fenrir and Jormund.

Father Zalen and Wogan use magic and healing skills to wipe out the shakes (disease) infesting the crew. They are successful.

Replacement ship supplies are purchased (5 shares of roughly 500gp) via having the merchants drop it off on the pier and then having crew bring it aboard.

Gang Warfare

Discussion turns to taking over the dockside Salty Dogs gang by taking out their leadership and taking over. They have a ton of intel on the SD operations thanks to crewman Clubbreaker Cordell who has infiltrated them, including their general money making means, info on their leader Rickard Breedon, minor leader Glocue, packs of dogs they keep with them, etc. The pirates will launch their attack tomorrow night with a gathering at their brothel the Lavender Feather. The crew are not informed to avoid leaks but are told to show up with arms and armor. The SD HQ, an old warehouse, will have some of the gang, most of the leadership, and a dog pack. The rest of the gang live elsewhere. The pirates put together a plan:

- A basic floor plan of their HQ with the location of a concealed door in the back alley, courtesy Clubbreaker Cordell
- Sindawe arranges for six carts carrying a cask of whale oil each and hay to be used to block exits. The carts will keep the doors closed and the oil can be lit if pirate guards feel too hard pressed. 175gp.
- Sindawe orders crew to bring ship's rope along for tying prisoners.
- Sindawe orders a murder gun mounted on an extra wagon.

- Sindawe orders tarps to cover everything
- Tommy Blacktoes is paid 200gp to make the above orders happen.
- Serpent prepares some *calm animal* spells for the dog pack.

~~Wogan gets more spells from Samaritha to load up his spell holding device.~~

- A bribe (of prostitutes) to Sgt Darenar to keep the dragoons out of the way. This work is outsourced to Lavender Lil and Feather. The sergeant also owes the pirates some money. 200gp.
- Sindawe pays 600 gp for all of the above, which seems steep until he remembers that the Salty Dogs are charging him 60gp a day for protection.

The pirates show up at the Lavender Feather and are disappointed to see the prostitutes packing for an out call. Sindawe is disappointed to see that only 25 pirates showed up. The nearby shops close early. The pirates are marched to the carts and the whole caravan heads to the Salty Dog HQ. Slasher Jim is the pirate crewman with the most seniority that shows up, so he is put in charge of the 25 who are split into 6 squads.

Several “leadership” rolls are made to:

- get the 25 pirates to show
- make sure the preparations are hidden from the Salty Dog and gossiping pirates
- to make sure the 25 pirates arrive at the battle site

The pirates, led by Sindawe, Wogan, Serpent, and Slasher Jim, approach the warehouse when they encounter a group of Salty Dogs with some dogs emerging to go make collections.

Sindawe orders his caravan to one side to allow the collectors to pass. (Bluff 29 vs the Salty Dogs' Sense Motive). The collectors pass them without comment.

Slasher Jim gets the cart crews positioned and then joins Sindawe, Wogan, and Serpent entering through the concealed door. The interior is a warehouse full of crates and pallets of extorted and stolen goods. And there's gang members and barking dogs throughout the warehouse. The pirates sneak thru the maze of goods toward the offices.

Serpent casts *calm animal* on the kennel area, hitting the largest group of dogs. (13 hit dice affected, Will 13). Other dogs smell unfamiliar scents and start to growl. Wogan waves his *mace of terror* at a cluster of gangsters seated at tables (gambling) – (Will 16, fear). Suddenly there is a quite a commotion as gangsters and dogs scream in terror and run away.

Sindawe sprints past the terrorized men and upstairs to the offices. He spots Ricard with his one good eye in an office past the main office. He dashes into that room to confront a table of gangsters, five plus Ricard. Sindawe uses non-lethal punches and kicks to take down several gangsters. One slashes him with a short sword (5pts).

Ricard yells, "Come get some you parrot strangling galley slave!"

Sindawe shouts back, "The only people I've killed were childless!"

A nearby gangster whispers, "He said parrot, not parent."

Wogan runs after Sindawe. Several gangsters at the top of the stairs pelt him with darts; he shots one dead with a blunderbuss. A gangster stabs at Wogan with a short sword while cursing, "Die, you rabid butt licking hyena!" Wogan beats on the man with his mace while more darts pelt him (14 pts).

Slasher Jim tickles a gangster with his trident and switchblade. Terrorized gangsters and dogs tear open the front door to run for it, only to be cut down by grape shot from a cart-mounted

murder gun. Non-terrorized gangsters and dogs attack Slasher Jim (13pts) and Serpent. Serpent lays about his person with his magic battle ax – and kills a gangster. Saluthra slithers from the shadows to strike and grab a dog (instant kill).

In the distant there is the yelling and battle as gangsters try to flee through the building's various entrances. And at least one fire has been started. Slasher Jim staggers under multiple wounds but keeps swinging as he climbs crates to get away – he is cut down. Serpent takes down several more gangsters, then casts *cure light wounds* on Slasher Jim, stabilizing the man, while swinging his ax wildly to drive attackers back. Saluthra kills a gangster.

Wogan kills his attacker with multiple mace blows, which gives him the breathing space to notice that the dart men are running for another set stairs in the distance. He sighs. He blasts them the *mace of terror* causing half (5) to flee. He screams, "There's more where that came from!" More darts bounce off his armor. Serpent tries to improve the situation to defensively cast *calm animal*, while Saluthra crushes another gangster.

Sindawe yells to Wogan, "Time to hit the enthusiastic gangsters with a *fireball*."

Wogan yells back, "I took a nap instead of getting the Rain Tiger refilled."

Sindawe, using acrobatics, dodges past the short sword armed gangsters and into Ricard's office. Ricard, Ricard's dog (Alpha), and a well dressed thug with a masterwork clubs are ready for him. The dog leaps upon Sindawe, who dodges under it and drives his fists into its stomach (35pts). The monk dodges a thrown bolo. The monk knocks the dog unconscious and then for good measure mashes its head into hamburger.

Wogan moves into the doorway of the main office. He sees the inner office, Sindawe, and the four gangsters between them. He points his *mace of terror* at another large group of gangsters;

half of them run off. Thrown darts pepper the office as sword armed gangsters rush Wogan; he pushes them back, then hits them with his *buckler of blinding* but none of the rogues are affected.

Another cart goes up in flames as gangsters try to escape through a loading dock door. They get it open a few open before the fire drives them back. The pirates manning the cart at the front door light the sperm oil; the cart catches fire as does the building's facing.

Ricard, enraged by his dog's death, flings himself at Sindawe without flanking first, while screaming, "I'm going to kill you and your mother, you flea-ridden sea dog!" He misses with both swords. His lieutenant, Jimmy Sticks, drinks another potion and orders Richard, "Step back, Ricky!"

Serpent kills several gangsters with axe blows; Saluthra misses. There are only three foes standing near them. He rushes the stairs and kills the last gangster climbing them. Saluthra grabs another gangster. The remaining gangsters run after Serpent. The dart throwers wound Saluthra.

Serpent follows Ricard into the office, pummeling him mercilessly (35 points, successful stunning fist). The remaining gangsters follow Serpent into the office with wild enthusiasm. Jimmy Sticks whales away on Sindawe with his well-balanced clubs (no hits).

Wogan casts *call lightning* upon his attackers, killing one after the other. Swords threaten him and Serpent. Serpent kills the men following him up the stairs, then turns back to upstairs to kill more. Saluthra goes after the dart men, killing one. The rest "kite" her and hit (ropts). She charges and kills another, effectively ending that group as a "troop"... they are still four fighting individuals but they don't get the troop fighting rules/advantages.

Sindawe is unable to finish the stunned Ricard with Jimmy Sticks blocking the way. Ricard recovers and with further encouragement from Jimmy, stays out of the fight and drinks a *cure* potion. Sindawe pummels Jimmy (25pts).

The gangsters attacking Sindawe change tactics with two charging Wogan. The gangsters outside the office are reduced even further by lightning and ax blows and snake bites. Two are clotheslined off the catwalk by Serpent's rush. Wogan kills the last one with savage mace blows.

Sindawe crushes Jimmy Sticks' primary hand (critical hit, hand is useless until healed).

Jimmy drops his club, yells profanity, then says, "Hey, boss, maybe we should ask what they want."

Sindawe offers Jimmy a chance, "Kill your boss, Jimmy, and you get to live."

Jimmy Sticks leaps upon Ricard and hits him, trying for a knock-out. He drops Ricard like a sack of potatoes.

Jimmy asks, "What's this about? Does Ricard have to go? I can put him on a ship going north."

Sindawe replies, "Yeah, that sounds inconvenient to me. Kill him now."

Jimmy says, "I get to run things?" Sindawe nods. Jimmy, "Sorry, Ricard." He pulls a pistol and coupe-de-graces him.

Sindawe encourages remaining gangster he has named "Surrender-o" to watch his boss kill his other boss. Sindawe learns the man's real name is "Buster". "No, from now on you will only be called 'Surrender-o'."

Wogan uses water magic to quell the fires. He notes that neighboring building occupants came out to see what the commotion was about; they return to their buildings after seeing the commotion is over... and there's no fire.

He returns to the warehouse interior and has the wounded gathered for healing bursts.

15 dead and 20 captured. The pirate crew roll their carts inside and are given a chance to loot; the slow get to loot snake squashed bodies.

The masterwork bolo, mw stealth chainmail, mw short swords (2), 55gp, silver ring with sapphires (600gp), 4 cigars, 5 tinder twigs. Safe behind a painting in the boss' office.

Jimmy Sticks asks, "Hostile takeover, huh?"

Sindawe replies, "Yes. We take a cut, you run it."

Wogan asks, "Move Tommy Blacktoes over here to watch?"

Sindawe, "Yeah, Tommy. He'll pick up our 20%."

Surrendero and Slasher Jim are dispatched to retrieve Jimmy Sticks' girlfriend, who will be kept hostage against Jimmy Sticks' good behavior.

The pair return with a young, hot woman (Irina) who swears more skillfully than any four gangsters. Sindawe lets her go on for a while, then smacks her. She takes it like a champ. She has an accent too; she's from Mediogalti Island (the island overrun with dinosaurs and Red Mantis assassins).



Figure 1: Irina

The dragoons still haven't shown, so the pirates depart for the Lavender Feather with some loot and the hostage Irina (wrapped up in a carpet). Feather and Ophelia are manning the establishment when they arrive. Feather's eyes light up at the sight of Serpent's new cigars; she loves cigars.

The carpet is unrolled; Irina emerges furious and disheveled.

Feather and Ophelia are not wild about having Jimmy Sticks' girlfriend held prisoner in their brothel, as it'll bring heat on them.

Sindawe and Wogan discuss other options for holding her hostage. They decide, where could be more secure than their own ship!