

## REAVERS ON THE SEAS OF FATE - SESSION SUMMARY 08/16/2020

### TODAY'S EPISODE: TO BEACON ISLAND

Our heroes sailed the *Chainbreaker* back to Port Shaw, divided the shares of their booty, and started repairs and resupply for another long voyage. They then launch an attack on the Salty Dogs gang, kill their leader, and announce, "You are under new management." Then they go to sleep.

Our 8<sup>th</sup> 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).

### *Before Setting Sail*

Sindawe, Serpent, Wogan, and the rest of the gang leave the Salty Dogs HQ intent on some sleep after a long night of plotting, killing, putting out fires, etc. They will meet the new Salty Dog leader, Jimmy Sticks, at the Lavender Feather in the morning. To guarantee Jimmy's good behavior and cooperation, our heroes took his longtime girlfriend, Irina, hostage.

They discuss when they will leave for Beacon Island to investigate multiple leads on the Shark Cult:

- The lighthouse keeper on Beacon Island has not been heard from and the lighthouse has been dark for weeks now.
- A musical puzzle map they got from a bard's ghost in Port Shaw's sewers leading to Garr Bloodbane's treasure on or near Beacon Island.

- Falcon Drango lost his pirate ship, the *Nightslink*, near Beacon Island.
- One lunatic, Geoff McDougal, sole survivor from the cargo ship *The Good Day's Catch*, who swears weresharks from the *Nightslink* boarded his ship and killed his fellow crew. This occurred near Beacon Island. He has been placed in the care of Father Galen at the local temple of Gozreh.
- Falken Drango borrowed our heroes' other ship, the *Encore*, which is a sturdy sloop crewed by members of the *Chainbreaker* crew: Big Mike, Claxton, Nemo, Melella, Arsonnee, and Phamas Harcey.

Their laundry list of items to do before leaving:

- Take hostage Irina with them. She is locked aboard the *Chainbreaker* in Tommy and Lil's cabin; the door is nailed shut. Sindawe naps in the cabin next door.
- Wogan to refill his *Rain Tiger* spell storing gem with exciting wizard spells, courtesy of Serpent's wife, Samaritha.
- Rigging and hull damage repairs are complete. Resupply has completed.
- Shark Bane (native shaman's poultice) – link to remove curse and it removes the were-shark lycanthropy. Seek out some more doses.
- Silver shrapnel for murder guns and cannon.

These last two will take too long and/or incur too much expense, so they are dropped.

## *To Beacon Island*

The *Chainbreaker* leaves Port Shaw at dawn with forty-something crew and one hostage. Sindawe notices that his maps have been disturbed. Nothing is missing or appears altered, suggesting someone wanted their maps and travel routes. Maybe.

Travel is poor that morning because the fog doesn't burn off. Wogan remains on deck and forward, scanning their route with his *Goz Mask* that allows him to see through the fog. It is inconvenient and reportedly common around Port Shaw for this time of year.

Irina, the hostage, is released from her cabin once the ship is far from port. Sindawe is the one to open the door and dodge a lube bucket, Jerry-rigged to spill on whomever opened the door. He avoids its plunge, then invites Irina to, "Enjoy the deck."

Full speed requires a strong wind and nets the *Chainbreaker* 64 miles. Beacon Island is 350 nautical miles. The first day nets them a light wind, so 32 miles. They end the day near the Koa Islands, which are still inside Kai Bay. Avoiding fog banks also drives their slow travel.

The Koa Islands feature woodlands sacred to the Mwangi that are being logged 24/7 by the wealthy merchants and nobles of Port Shaw. The next leg of the trip would take them past the Pearl Eye Atoll, which has a fair number of small settlements and industries on it. The Dragoon vessel, the *Albatross*, was supposedly sailing there but that was probably false as it is believed that the *Albatross* was sailing for Beacon Island.

### *Day 2 At Sea*

The next day is clear with light wind. The chop of the ocean increases noticeably when they leave the bay. The fog also returns which causes the crew to worry and mutter about superstitions. Around 6:00 PM, the alarm is raised because smoke is smelled. The crew searches frantically; one man finds it below decks.

The fire is indeed two decks down. Wogan uses his cantrip, *create water*, to aid the bucket brigade ordered by Sindawe. The fire lasts for three minutes, so 3 points of internal damage. Courtland found the fire and is complimented for his quick action; he saw no culprits. Sindawe and Wogan investigate for cause; they find a dragon smoke pipe. Probably the pipe was hidden away while still hot. Orders are re-issued on pipe smoking and handling aboard the ship – the ship's articles are read, including the part where 40 lashes is the punishment for causing fires.

They spend a foggy night at anchor. The captain's dinner is attended by Irina, Sindawe, Serpent, Wogan, and several junior officers. Irina and Jimmy Sticks have been engaged for one year; Jimmy and the Salty Dogs are well to do because they "run the docks". Irina dressed and cleaned up for the meal using found goods in Lil's closet. Irina pumps them for information with some small success.

### *Day 3 At Sea*

The next morning there is fog and the ship is becalmed. The sails are ready but there is no wind to be had. After several hours, Sindawe and the other officers order the crew to switch to repairs and cleaning. The cleaning is interrupted by loud knocking noises, which turns out to be a pod of sperm whales, adults and calves. Wogan thinks the calves are nursing and the pod is "knocking" to warn the *Chainbreaker* away. Serpent tries his "wild empathy" on the pod. Wogan orders the ship's cannon loaded. Sindawe watches for something to develop.

A pair of squid arms and tentacles emerge from the water and attack the ship's crew. Crewman Samuel is killed outright by the tentacle. Pirates counterattack with their cutlasses.

Wogan aims and fires a cannon but misses the squid. The squid attacks Sindawe and Mitabu while Serpent cuts it with an axe.

Another cannon shot barely misses the creature. Axes, temple swords, and cutlasses take their toll on the great creature. Squid arms flail the crew; Slasher Jim takes a crushing hit. The combined hits kill the squid. The sperm whales eat the corpse with gusto.

Wogan heals the wounded as rain begins to fall and the wind picks up. He decides to try the circle of truth. A complicated plan ensues to feed crew thru the circle to find which one owns the dragon smoke pipe. Prand is the sole guilty party; he admits to smoking but that he was careful in extinguishing the pipe before putting it away. The crew doesn't seem to believe his claims for "being careful". Sindawe asks a few more questions, before Prand starts accusing Fazzio. That doesn't pass the belief check either, so Prand is found guilty. Bagrak, Fazzio, and Orgon are selected to deliver the whipping because the bosun is not aboard. The whipping is applied with varying degrees of enthusiasm with Fazzio and then Bagrak applying the most muscle. The whipping stops short of 40 lashes when Prand falls unconscious.

Then the funeral for Samuel is held. And the ship sails again for the afternoon and into the early evening. The night at anchor passes without incident. The crew petitions for grog rations, which are delivered.

### *Day 4 At Sea*

Day 4 is clear with a good wind. The *Chainbreaker* sails quickly for a solid day, placing them a bit south of the Pearl Eye Atolls. That night Serpent has a terrible nightmare – a small army of dark forms attack his family's house, and Hatshepsut steps aside to let the shadowy figures

inside, and finally there is only screaming. Serpent wakes up in a sweat, then rushes out onto deck to lure a seagull close. He puts *animal messenger* on it and sends it to warn his wife.

### *Day 5 At Sea*

Day 5 is also clear with good wind. Almost immediately a stony protrusion is spotted by lookouts, so the ship is slowed to decrease chance of mishap. Wogan notices a giant clam latched onto the protrusion. They sail onward, ignoring the clam.

### *Day 6 At Sea*

Day 6 the ship is again becalmed. Sindawe is patrolling below decks where he finds Slasher Jim and Lefty squaring off against each other. Both refuse to comment until Sindawe threatens them with more chores. Slasher uses the time to threaten Lefty further, so Sindawe sends Lefty off. He warns Slasher, "Anything happens to that man, it's your fault." Jim acknowledges that with a finger gun and click. Sindawe breaks his fingers.