

REAVERS ON THE SEAS OF FATE - SESSION SUMMARY 01/17/2021

TODAY'S EPISODE: NIGHT OF THE SHARK

Our heroes sailed the *Chainbreaker* thru the loa spirit world to reach Port Shaw moments before Dajobas' cultists started the Night of the Shark. Once there, our heroes split into three teams to rescue dependents, possible assassination targets, and ultimately prevent the cultists from seizing a Mwangi artifact needed to allow Dajobas' passage from other world to this world... a very bad thing indeed. Serpent went solo to rescue his wife and children; he succeeded and also found an ally in Jalia, thief and leader of orphans.

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).

Team Church

Wogan and Mitabu lead a team of pirates to rescue Father Zalen Trafalgar, who they believe will be assassinated by the Dajobas cultists. They note that the church district is busy boarding and locking up in anticipation that the screams, fires, and rioting in the waterfront will reach them soon.

Wogan leads them in through the church's open doors and quickly finds Zalen.

Wogan explains, "Were-sharks working for Dagon <Mitabu whispers, "Day Joe Bus!">... I mean Dajobas are eating people in the city now! They are trying to jump start the Night of the Shark to free Dajobas! And they're after a Mwangi artifact that will make that happen! Come with us!"

Zalen replies, "Well, of course! But I just sent little Jessica home with her adoptive parents, so we need to make sure she's safe first!"

Wogan nods, "Yes, the little girl from the fishing village." Her family was mostly killed by were-sharks, though her father was driven insane by the event and has been in and out of the jail at Fort Stormshield since.

They rush back out onto the streets and run after the adoptive family, a handsome well-dressed couple.

Zalen yells, "Mr. and Mrs. Hangerhouse! It's me, Father Zalen!"

The adoptive parents freeze solid in place, one with a blank look of innocence and the other with a blank look of rage. Wogan feels his metal cyperglyph implant burn, indicating that creatures from the shadow plane are present. He calls out a warning, "They are not who they seem!"

Wogan casts *blessing of fervor* on himself and his companions and runs closer. Zalen runs after him and tries a *bold person* on Mr. Hangerhouse, so that they can "Sort this all out!"

Mr. Hangerhouse slides the forty feet separating himself from Zalen like a flying nun, where he plunges his hand into Zalen's flesh, robbing him of 5 points of intelligence. The pirate crew wades into melee with Mr. Hangerhouse, cutting away his flesh suit to reveal a shadow fiend.

Mitabu sneaks along the trash and goods lining the street to deliver a thrown backstab on Mr. Hangerhouse with his truly impressive +3 dagger.

Wogan moves closer to Mr. Hangerhouse and then uses channel energy to burn the shadow couple. Zalen tries that same trick with on Mr. Hangerhouse with less effect – he reasons that the creature before him is a shadow denizen but not the undead variety. It is incorporeal and its touch drains intelligence.

Mrs. Hangerhouse, Jessica in tow, walks up to Wogan and touches him lightly, delivering damage and a *dispel magic*. Its gaze slides across all present, freezing most pirates in their steps. Prand tackles little Jessica, removing her from the female monster's grasp. The angry phantom joins the melee against Wogan (2 intelligence damage).

Mitabu seizes his fallen dagger and rushes to Wogan's aid, stabbing the angry phantom. Wogan channels positive energy again, burning both shadow monsters. Zalen *calls lightning* on the pair (to little effect) and then rushes to Jessica's rescue.

The emotionless female shadow drains intelligence from Prand, then enters into a shadow and disappears. The angry shadow grabs at Mitabu, who dances away then back to slash with his magic dagger (12, 17, and 18 damage). The angry shadow's form is torn to shreds. Wogan casts *remove fear* on the pirates held fast by fright.

Mitabu mentally fights off a shadow attack, then spots the remaining creature in the alley. He and Wogan rush it, followed shortly by Father Zalen, who has thrown Jessica over one shoulder.

The shadow disappears from the alley and reappears near Prand, who flings himself upon it. Other pirates, free of fear, do the same. As they harry it, Wogan's *called lightning* ends it.

They look over their wounds, which on the physical level are minor. Olgvik points up, "The moon!"

The pirates, priest, and child look at the moon, then at Tiberius. Tiberius shrugs and does his best to look harmless. He does not transform into a shark.

However, Jessica does transform into a child were-shark. She takes a bite out of Father Zalen's shoulder. He throws her down at his feet and casts *calm emotions*, declaring, "Listen to the ocean's waves, child! Be calm!"

The were-shark child calms and reverts to a black-eyed child. The pirates tie her up, then moreso with more rope.

Team Brothel

Another team of pirates from the *Chainbreaker* is sent to deliver warning to their fellow crewmen and allies at the brothel, The Lavender Feather. Thalios Dondrel, Lavender Lil, and Tommy Blacktoes are the ranking officers at the brothel. Thalios listens to Tanned Hank's stammered warning, "Night of the Shark! Were-sharks running amok in the streets! Flee or fort up!"

Thalios starts throwing furniture against the front door, while shocked customers look on. Klangin joins him. Hank pushes past to the basement to go warn Tommy and Lil. They are down in the dungeon engaged sexually with three male sailors, Jareb, Sil, and Garen, who seem to be enjoying being ordered to fool around with each other.

Tommy listens to Hank's warning, then issues orders: "Whore sailors upstairs!" (Lil starts whipping them to spur them along). He throws on his combat gear and heads upstairs with the others.

Upstairs, the pirates are busy arming themselves and barricading the place. Tommy orders the lanterns dimmed to avoid attracting the were-sharks, then gives Dum Dum a bag of silver to "melt on the kitchen stove", reasoning it should be as easy as melting lead. It is not.

Thalios watches the street outside from a spy hole. A crowd runs by with a wizardly type trailing behind who drives off a were-shark with *lightning bolts*. They disappear around a corner.

Lil watches the three sex sailors drift purposely into the back room. She follows stealthily, thinking, “Why do three sailors who want to have sex with each other come to a brothel!” She witnesses them transform into a were-shark hybrid form. She flees the room, shouts a warning to her friends, and casts *invisibility* on herself. The hybrid’s heads rotate eerily, following her movements until she disappears.

The were-sharks burst out of the back room, mostly plowing into the customers and prostitutes. Ophelia and Feather, prostitutes both, are bitten. Thalios and the other pirates counterattack with silver weapons to good effect. Tommy sneak attacks Sil with the *saber of sorrows* and a *dagger of venom*. Lil, remaining *invisible*, sings to inspire courage.

Sil bites Tommy, who dodges away from his claws. Garen attacks Tommy too. Thalios tickles Garen’s ribs with his magic rapier. The pirates expertly harry Jeb, keeping him distracted, and whittle away at him with silver weapons. Jeb is still able to drag one pirate down and maul him. In turn, the fallen man’s comrades pierce were-flesh repeatedly.

Lil casts *animate rope* on the silk curtains and orders it to entangle Garen, who goes from menacing were-shark hybrid to that with entangled legs! Tommy strikes at Garen with saber and dagger (43pts and 12pts). Sil and Garen bite and claw Tommy (30pts and probably infected).

Thalios screams, “Thalios says, Take It In Your Holes!” His rapier takes Garen out of action.

Tommy feints Sil and stabs him (21pts). Thalios flanks and stabs Sil (13pts). Lil casts grease on Sil, who falls prone. Sil bites Tommy before Tommy’s saber and dagger end him.

Tommy yells, “Welcome to the Horny Coast!”, while stabbing Sil, who dies.

A distant, cowering hooker replies, “That would have been a good name for our brothel!”

The pirates decapitate their fallen comrade, Wekk the Cloven, to prevent him from turning into a were-shark. Crazy Jake, Feather, and Ophelia are tied up due to were-shark bites.

Team Mwangi

Sindawe leads the infected *Chainbreaker* crewmen (Big Mike, Dario, Stoke, and Nemo) through town to the Mwangi encampment hidden on an abandoned plantation. These Mwangi are the folks who continue to embrace the ways of their tribal ancestors, worshiping whale, turtle, dolphin, and so forth.

The way there is east of town, past Barrett's Barnacle. Every residence and business is buttoned up tight and quiet. The quiet is occasionally interrupted by mounted plantation guards warning them away. They see no Dragoons (police) their entire journey.

Finally, they make it to the encampment where they are greeted by natives with spears. They greet the pirates in Polyglot and ask about the chaos in the town. Sindawe explains about the were-shark men and Night of the Shark.

The guards take them to see their chief Mokoli Ali'i, who knows Wogan, Serpent, and Sindawe. Sindawe delivers the bad news and that the jawbone scrimshaw artifact is in danger. He is told the shaman Milliauka took it to town to show the one Mwangi on the town council.

They won't be time to get to town in time to cure his crew; the moon will beat them.

Sindawe asks about a method of imprisoning his crewmen and is relieved to hear that Milliauka left cures for the shark madness with his apprentice. Sindawe explains his men are loyal but are infected. Tribesmen enter with the herbal poultices, which are slathered on the infected pirates. The smell and strength makes them ill while they are assured, "it is working!"

Before this is completed, the doors are kicked open by Mokoli Ali'i's warriors, two local guards dragging a dying man between them. The dying man tells them that they were guarding the shaman until were-sharks showed up. Milliauka and his guards met Nakuakua, the only Mwangi on the Port Shaw council, at a restaurant to discuss the jawbone's implications to the Mwangi people. Then were-sharks attacked and kidnapped Milliauka. The dying man fled to get help.

The chief says, "We must rescue Milliauka and the jawbone! Call my warriors!"

The wounded man interrupts by transforming into a were-shark and chewing the leg off of one of the warriors holding him up. Stoke staggers over and swings away with his silver, magic mace. Mokoli Ali'i rages while rushing the were-shark, then plunges his silver-headed spear into the man. Sindawe and Big Mike join the melee.

The were-shark bites and claws Stoke into bloody bits, before he is cut down in turn. Mokoli Ali'i is saddened by the loss, but issues orders to send the dependents to the "hidden places", the warriors to gather to him, etc.

White People Ruin Everything

Then the white people show up.

- Wogan, his pirates, Father Zalen, and little Jessica (shark girl).
- Serpent, Samaritha, their children, Hatshepsut, Jalia, and her orphans.

More sorting out is required. Everyone wants to protect the children and dependents. And rescue the situation in town.

Wogan, Serpent and Sindawe want to avoid dragging an army along. They advocate for the un-infected pirates and some Mwangi to go to town, and leaving the rest behind. They agree

that Samaritha, Wogan, Serpent, Sindawe, Zalen, Mokoli Ali'i, plus two of his warriors will go to the rescue. All others will stay behind and protect the children and tribespeople.