The Cult of Iron

This is the third incident involving a bunch of shadows showing up and murdering a bunch of people, but it's the first one in the Stays, so Captain Cinzia doesn't know a lot about it all. The first location was a **library in the Yard**, the second was a **church in Allroad**. Word of the massacre spreads fast. Nero is there before Captain Cinzia.

Captain Cinzia of the Gold Buttons.

Commander Donogault one of the Knights of the Black Glove. Church of Saint Pellario the Aspirant (House Navarr aka the Pope, the same dude Abbot Nofri works for) arrives.

Nero, a tall Khemite, bronze skin, hair worn long, short beard, wearing a long coat with a sword at his side flashes a medallion at the heroes. He's a Knight of the Rubric serving The Broadsheet Guild. **He would be very interested in where the Chain just were and what they were doing.**

The Footstool

Gront: A Stone Giant, owner.

Voz: A dwarf, runs the operation. "Gotta clean up after this goblin SHIT!"

Nero wants to interview everyone. What happened, how many dead? What did you see?

Gront wants action, he wants someone buttoned up and he doesn't care who. He's pissed that this happened to his inn. He knows it's happened to two other places. Why don't the cops do something about it?

"This is the end of my business! No one will come now. My reputation is destroyed!" "Oh come now. Hire a troubadour, pay her well, and this will improve your reputation. People will line up to see the tavern where the shadows attacked. Might...change the name. The Deadly Shadow, has a nice ring to it."

"You are not taking this seriously."

Donogault: "She's taking it very seriously, she's just a little out of her depth."

"Well we should find out who died, get their names. See if any of them were anyone, but I'm guessing none of them were. I'd say they were targeting you lot," Donogault says to Boots. "The Court knows you've made enough enemies."

"I'd say we should work together."

"But you know I would not listen to you."

There isn't much to this scene. Captain Cinzia is going to keep the iron bar. Commander Donagault wants it, but doesn't really have enough authority, yet.

The Clue

If anyone checks the roof of the apothecary across the street, they'll find a pile of shells from a popular sunflower-like plant. Sold in the apothecary as an ingredient. Chewed on as a mild stimulant. Someone was up, on the roof, just moments ago, watching the Chain.

Does this lead to anything? Maybe. If Copper and BigCat are the ones who check, they might be able to run the cultist to ground, but the dude drinks a potion and his body dissolves into a shadow who attacks the heroes. Not entirely unlike the plot of *Thief*. Need a different cult tactic. :D

Angel's Report

After Angel's report, Lady Czorgan shows up and demands the crown, but of course the heroes don't have it.

The Curator

The Curator's shop has a small foyer with a desk, but it's very tall. It is quite clearly larger on the inside than it is on the outside.

There's just a ton of crazy shit in here. Weapons, armor, there's a live Basilisk crawling around. There's a pile of beholder eyestalks. Mobius loop ribbons that twist in the hand. Box full of Inexorable parts. There's what looks like a mousehole, from which emerges a tiny creature that licks the floor clean if anyone drops anything.

"Wow you folks are dressed real nice "

The translation plotter: a small round plate rimmed with wood and filled with sand. The sand faintly dances around. "Oh yeah well the tangent norms are never zero, right? Someone could just pop in or out at any moment yeah?" "Oh yeah but that's super unlikely." "Yeah super unlikely." Every once in a while a small bit of sand spikes upward. "Oh probably someone going to Alloy."

Manifold = plane of existence.

Assymetrical bilinear form

"Oh this place is just a subadditive matrix, it's not normed." "No, not it's not normed, that's how we can get away with it, but it's non-linear, that's the tradeoff." "Yeah it's not continuous so our

tomorrow and your tomorrow happen on two different days." "Yeah that's why we don't sell calendars."

The Curator is interested in the Third Ray. "Oh wow, you have Semkhare's sword. That's good to know. Make a note of that."

Phil: Wants some kind of mind shielding. "Lotsa rings and amulets for that." Lars wants Magic Resistance. "Yeah I bet everyone would like that. Oh you know what I bet would do it! A brass man. Yeah you get one of them as your bodyguard, they're like a lightning rod for magic. Do we have one of them?" "No but the Brass Men guarded Ringwell, didn't they?" Anna: He has a Demon Heart. It's the heart of the demon Zra'az.

Copper's Arrows. The Arrows of Yllrich the Archer. "Oh I dunno, I never used 'em."

Burn (sulfur head) - Fireball arrow Freeze (quartz head) - Wall of Ice Excavate (stone head) - Destroys a 10' section of wall Translator (brass head) - Teleports Copper (and only Copper) to wherever the arrow hit. Web (spiderweb head) - Snares all enemies within 10'.

Akemitsu's Lost Sword, aka the blade of a thousand years. He's pretty sure the last emperor had it, so it would probably be in Ringwell. No one knows where Ringwell is, that's sort of the point. Lots of people think it's in the city somewhere. Might be! Last Emperor = Marcus Octavius

The Island Job

Offered By: The Royal Heraldic Society A Subsidiary Of: The Fulcrum In the Person Of: The Honorable Pursuivant Ithilwith (Elf)

> One of our couriers was sent to the Library at Argea, over on the Pellet. He was there to acquire a notarized copy of a government document, perfectly legal. He seems to have disappeared.

Now, the loss of a courier is a tragedy and of course we would like him returned but moreover, we need that document. It is an agreement between a former Prince of Capital and a knight, Sir Felice Brunadetti. The agreement has the prince's seal on it.

The descendants of Sir Felice would like to work the Prince's device into their family crest, but we have our standards. They must prove some legal, ancestral connection. This document would give them that.

The document is a deed to a manor house on the Pellet and awards the land and any structures on it to a knight, Sir Felice Brunadetti, and his descendents in perpetuity.

There is a mausoleum under the library. "This is very old, it will require a key to the catacombs. Could you come back tomorrow?"

The Argea is the name of the library, it's ancient, looks Roman.

Librarian is Morto Salanza