# **Campaign Notes**

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### **Handouts**

- Death House Front
- Kolyan Indirovich's v1 Letter
- Kolyan Indirovich's v2 Letter
- Letter from Strahd von Zarovich to Gustav Durst
- Rose and Thorne
- <u>Village of Barovia</u>

### Session 1

#### Session 1

Anakir, Elora, Shalooti, Pelanil, Bardolf

- We started in a bar just west of Phandalin
  - There we met Taako and Barry playing Taako's made up game Taakala
  - <u>Anakir</u> lost 2 sp to <u>Elora</u> and also mysteriously lost another 13 sp
  - <u>Pelanil</u> did a lot of glaring a folks, and then after finding out that Barry was lich, picked a fight which Taako tried to diffuse
- The Characters received a letter via the messenger <u>Arrigal</u> that was addressed to each of them individually and signed the <u>Kolyan Indirovich</u>, Burgomaster of Barovia
- The group stayed the night at the tavern, then at first light made their way west per <u>Arrigal</u>'s directions
- As the fog closed in, <u>Pelanil</u> was struck by a vision of a woman beckoning him
- As the fog cleared, the party was surprised to find themselves in a forest
- Continuing on the road, <u>Carlos</u> the mule in tow, the group caught the stench of death
  - they followed the smell off the road where they found where they found a mauled body
  - on the body, the found another note in another script, also signed by <u>Kolyan</u>
     <u>Indirovich</u>

- This one is much more foreboding than the first, claiming that the Burgomaster's daughter <u>Ireena Kolyana</u> has been bitten by a vampire
- Right after finding the note, the party is attacked by wolves, seemingly led by a red-eyed direwolf in the distance
  - The party was able to quickly charm, kill, and put to sleep the wolves as the direwolf looked on and make it back to the road
  - <u>Bardolf</u> ties the carcass of one of the wolves behind Carlos, and the party takes off right as they hear the sleeping wolves wake up
- After a full day of travelling, night set in as the adventurers arrived in a sleeping town
- Two children (whose names we don't know) begged for help from the party
  - saying their parents are missing, their baby brother Walter is stuck in the 3rd floor nursery, and there is a monster in the basement of their house
- The party obliges to help as the mists close in

## **Session 2**

#### Session 2

Anakir, Elora, Shalooti, Pelanil, Bardolf

- The party shortly question the kids outside of the House
  - We learn that their names are *Rose* and *Thorn*
- As we enter the house, the party sees that the place is immaculate but shrouded in darkness
  - Floors well oiled and the furniture freshly dusted
  - Doors seem to be opening and closing on their own
  - The stuffed wolves seem to be watching them
  - The ornate carvings in the wood paneling is not always as it seems
- Shortly after entering, the party splits up
  - Anakir and Pelanil run upstairs, chasing the sound of a harpsicord
  - The rest of the group stays on the first floor as <u>Bardolf</u> searches for loot
    - <u>Bardolf</u>, taken by the quality of the dining room drapes, accidentally tears them to shreds as he tries to cut them down. He pockets the silverware instead
  - <u>Shalooti</u> explores a room full of stuffed wolves, and finds herself a deck of playing cards, but runs, scared, out of the room before she can unlock the other cabinet containing the crossbows

- As <u>Pelanil</u> and <u>Anakir</u> reach the second floor, the sound of the harpsicord is soon replaced by that of a wailing child
  - Anakir attacks a completely ordinary suit of armor, unable to take its spear
  - They stop halfway to the third floor as they hear footsteps and a woman shushing the baby
  - Anakir sends a message to <u>Elora</u> telling her that they know where the baby is, but her response is cut off by maniacal laughing
    - Instead of his second message, <u>Elora</u> hears heavy breathing
    - and upon trying to contact the woman upstairs, <u>Anakir</u> senses his
      message has been redirected miles away where a man answers and says
      he looks forward to meeting him
- The party regroups on the second floor where they find their way to the library
  - Inside, *Elora* finds an iron key among other things at the desk
  - While pursuing the books, <u>Shalooti</u>, finds a secret lever that opens a door to a secret room
- Inside the secret room, the party finds books that reference the occult
  - they also see a human skeleton, near a chest, with a poison dart in their side, holding a note
  - in the chest, they find the dead to the house, a deed to a windmill, and a will signed by *Elizabeth Durst* and *Gustav Durst* bequeathing the house and windmill to their two children *Thornboldt* and *Rosevalda*
  - The letter held by the skeleton is so terrifying that it sends <u>Shalooti</u> into a panic and she flees the room
    - As <u>Anakir</u> tries reading it, he becomes instantly paralyzed, but comes to as the group discusses how to save him
- From the note, we learn:
  - The people that lived in this house were part of a cult that attempted to worship <u>Strahd</u>
    - Strahd mocked them for this
  - They tortured and killed people in their dungeon and "on their hidden alter"
  - Gustav Durst had a stillborn child with another woman
  - The handwriting on this letter is the same as the letter that was brought to the party at the tavern by <u>Arrigal</u>
- Upon leaving the secret room, the house now seems disgusting
- After learning this information, the party climbs to the third floor, intent on finding this baby once and for all
  - but they're met at the top of the stairs by an animate suit of armor who proved to be a tough foe

- The party nearly finished it off as they grouped up to push it over the railing, but the armor stumbled back up the stairs for one more strike on <u>Pelanil</u> before being dealt its final blow by <u>Elora</u>
- <u>Anakir</u> rushes into the room with the crying baby to find no woman, but only a bundle lying in the crib
  - After mixing random elements, hoping for a <u>Potion of Healing</u> but only getting salt water, <u>Anakir</u> unwraps the bundle to find no baby
- A woman stirs on the bed in the other room
  - She screams and attacks <u>Anakir</u>, knocking him unconscious
- As the party prepares for yet another battle, <u>Shalooti</u> conjures up the image of a small baby boy and presents it to the specter...