

Yates - Wandering Minstrel

Taverns brighten and festivals lighten when thine voice rings out, clear and true! You are Yates, minstrel of modest fame for song and verse. On the seldom occasions you choose to grace public gatherings more than once on thine wide-ranging travels, you draw crowds that double each day. Few can resist a smile at your clever songs, razor satire, and grand attire.

...yet beneath your cheery demeanor and public identity lies a darker and vastly more lucrative truth. Behind thine easy smile is the hard-set jaw of The Mantis, a crime lord whose name freezes the hearts of her transgressors, and whose reputation breeds fear across the land. As The Mantis you rule the night: extortion rackets, gambling rings, thugs for hire—nigh on anything that puts coin in your purse.

Thou hast made your way to this humble faire with a purpose: to extend your collection of fine sculptures and art. You've brought an old Bone Idol which now bores you; in it's stead the object of your desire is a much-rumored Magic Idol. It must be yours, before the day—and faire—is out.

A more mundane matter must also be attended to: a high roller down on his luck, Earl von Chandler, is behind in his payments to The Mantis. Thou hast come to this faire alone, yet still you must collect your 250 gold pieces from him if your reputation is to mean anything. Of course, doing so without revealing thy identity is the proverbial rub.

Whilst you enjoy the fair and attend to business, keep an eye out for the Cult. Their spread has corresponded with increased profits, and anything thou could do to assist might deepen your pockets.

Yet, throughout, keep up thine guard: The Mantis has many enemies, and many pretenders seek her mantle as crime lord. Naught is new about this, and your name is well-earned....

Common Knowledge

- This popular Harvest Faire draws crowds for many miles, and it caters to those from every walk of life.
- The King's English army is camped nearby to defend Dunhurst. The attacking French are on the march, and should arrive next week!
- The popular Priestess Penelope was kidnapped yesterday. The Church hasn't paid the ransom of 100 gold pieces.
- A pagan Cult has been gaining popularity. The Church is displeased, and has been trying to root them out.

Street Knowledge

- Buyers and sellers of underground magical items identify each other by casually using the phrase “shapely sword sheath”
- Buyers and sellers of documents with murky origins identify each other by casually using the phrase “delightful devilish deeds”

Goals

- Earl von Chanaman owes The Mantis a lot of money. Collect his next payment of 250 gold pieces without him learning who you are.
- Get the Magic Idol (distinct from your bland Bone Idol) for your collection
- Recite 1+ poems—or sing 1+ verses—for the other players
- Help the pagan Cult, if you can
- Stay out of trouble

Yates	
Secret	You are the notorious crime lord known as The Mantis
Clue	The French have spies at this fair, and may attempt to secure loyal servants. The highest ranking is a woman.