

Blood Moon Rising ep 5 Transcript

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Storyteller Rina 00:01

Thank you for joining us wherever you are. This podcast episode is brought to you by the Old Ways actual play team. This actual play uses the 5th edition Vampire the Masquerade tabletop role playing rules by World of Darkness. This actual play is performed by adults and in an adult setting. Listeners should know that this podcast is intended for a mature audience and will include strong language and mature themes. All content, including names, places, events, companies, and so forth that may bear resemblance to entities living, dead, or undead is strictly coincidental. My name is Rina Haenze, and for tonight's game, I will be your Storyteller.

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Storyteller Rina 01:00

Good evening everyone and welcome to another episode of the Old Ways Podcast's Vampire the Masquerade chronicle, "Blood Moon Rising." I am your Storyteller, Storyteller Rina, and we have quite an array of investigative delights in store for you this evening. But before we get to any of those, we need to do character introductions. So to my right:

M

Marcus 01:19

Hi, I'm Mike and I will be playing Marcus Voss of Clan Brujah.

S

Storyteller Rina 01:24

To Marcus's right:

T

Teagan (Rahm) 01:25

My name is Teagan and I'm playing Rahm the Shaman of Clan Malkavian

My name is Regin and I'm playing Rahm the Shaman of Clan Markavian.

S Storyteller Rina 01:34
And to Rahm's right:

A Ali (Katerina) 01:37
Hi, I'm Ali and I'm playing Katerina Bogdonovich, and I'm going to be looking forward to some legal interaction

S Storyteller Rina 01:47
Or some not so legal interaction, as the case may be. And finally, to my left:

T Tiffanie (Alex) 01:53
This is Tiffanie and I play Alex Giovanni, of Clan Hecata. And, yeah, there's stuff to do.

S Storyteller Rina 02:03
Surprisingly, yes, lots of stuff to do. So we'll see how much of it you get up to tonight. We are in the "missing Vince Markevich" formation, and so we'll see what happens without our resident Tremere. I'm sure everyone will get along just fine. And let's get into the story. Alright, so after the events of the previous evening, with all your various slam poetry events, and investigation and discussions about lawyers and other things, you all retired back in your own homes, your own havens to rest for the day, and you had a pretty decent day's sleep, so to speak. And it is time once again to rise and face the world. So I would like a Rouse check from everyone. So as you're waking up, and you're starting to feel hungry, especially those of you who didn't feed the night before, I would like to see how well you're going to be controlling yourself today. So 1d10, and you want a 6 or above.

M Marcus 03:13
I got my 6.

S Storyteller Rina 03:15
Alright, Marcus is alright.

M Mike (Marcus) 03:17
For now...

FOR NOW.

S Storyteller Rina 03:19
For now. We'll see how long that lasts.

T Tiffanie (Alex) 03:22
I didn't do well.

S Storyteller Rina 03:23
So Alex, you're going to take 1 point of Hunger.

A Ali (Katerina) 03:28
I rolled an 8.

S Storyteller Rina 03:30
So Katerina is fine. And Rahm, how did you do?

T Teagan (Rahm) 03:36
I believe that I've rolled a 2.

S Storyteller Rina 03:41
That means you need to take a point of Hunger. So you're going to be struggling a little bit more to control yourself in certain situations. Perhaps you're a little still a little freaked out by all of last night's events, and that's making it a little bit difficult. You also didn't feed the night before, so it makes sense that you're more hungry than usual when you wake up this evening.

T Teagan (Rahm) 04:06
Understood.

S Storyteller Rina 04:08
So let's start with Marcus and Katerina, who had some plans for this evening. So how are you meeting up, the two of you? Where are you meeting? Is Katerina coming to you, Marcus, are

you going to her?

M Mike (Marcus) 04:26

No, I don't think that's proper. I think having seen her operate a little bit, I think I probably want to be on my my best behavior. Obviously the member of Clan Toreador is gonna have to be...is gonna be worked pretty in a different way socially than other vampires would. So I think in that regard, I would, when I wake and am feeling relatively good having fed the night before, I would immediately have one of my, one of the crew downstairs deliver a message to the bakery that I would be willing and able to arrive at whichever location she would need to be plucked from and shepherd her to the office.

S Storyteller Rina 05:25

Alright. Do you have them call her or go to the bakery in person?

M Mike (Marcus) 05:30

No, go to the bakery in person.

S Storyteller Rina 05:32

Sending in person messengers, that's very socially appropriate of you. So Katerina, you're at the at the bakery, just arrived to check in on things. Ray Ray has filled you in on the events of the day and is heading out for another date this evening. Things seem to be going pretty well for him and Raul. So you have a knock on the front door.

K Katerina 05:59

And that's a bit unusual, because most people don't knock on the front door. We're open all the time. So I'll wait and see if whoever's behind the counter gets it this time. If not, I will go for it myself.

S Storyteller Rina 06:20

A moment later, Lexie, your counter manager pokes her head in and says.

L Lexie 06:26

There's a very hyper-looking young man out front, says he has a message for you. He knocked on the door. I don't know why. The sign says we're open.

K Katerina 06:40
Send them back here.

S Storyteller Rina 06:42
So Lexi closes the office door and a moment later, there is a another knock, this time on your office door.

K Katerina 06:50
And I will stand and open the door because it just...it's my area. I need to control that a little bit more. And I will hold my hold my arm open because the door swings out.

K Katerina 07:09
Can I help you?

S Storyteller Rina 07:11
There is a young man with kind of tousled hair, bouncing a little bit on the balls of his feet, very, very hyper. He's holding a very large cup of coffee in one hand, looks like he picked it up at a gas station or something on his way over here. But he blinks at you owlishly through his large, large glasses and he says,

G Greg 07:34
I'm here from Marcus Voss, from, from down at the, at the Union. He said, he said, he said that he can, he can meet you at wherever you need tonight. Um...what time?

S Storyteller Rina 07:51
He scratches his head a little bit as if he's trying to remember if there was anything else he needed to say.

M Marcus 07:57
So there should be there should be a handwritten message in this man's back pocket. He's clearly ignored it. But more on that later.

S Storyteller Rina 08:06

Oh, yes.

K Katerina 08:08
Well, I know Marcus and I will be meeting but why are you here?

G Greg 08:17
Because he told me to... Wait!

S Storyteller Rina 08:22
He holds up one hand, blinks and he reaches in his pocket.

G Greg 08:26
This! That's it! I knew I was forgetting something.

S Storyteller Rina 08:31
He hands you a note.

G Greg 08:34
I think this is it. But he told me to bring this and to tell you things and I think I got the wrong order.

K Katerina 08:41
And I will open it.

M Marcus 08:44
Yeah, as described, the note in fairly direct fashion says that "pick a time and place and I'm happy to chauffeur you to our meeting."

K Katerina 09:00
I'm just, I'm gonna like just like put three fingers of my nose between my eyes and I'm gonna go,

K Katerina 09:11
Ok. This is ridiculous. Will you tell Marcus that I do not need handed notes. You do not need to knock on the door to the place of business. Please do not draw attention unnecessarily. And if he insists on picking me up, do so as soon as possible so that we may conduct business and have it done.

S Storyteller Rina 09:40
He blinks at you.

K Katerina 09:42
snaps You may go.

G Greg 09:45
Oh! Ok. Cool. I guess. Cool. Cool. Cool. Cool. Cool. Cool.

K Katerina 09:51
I will be here.

G Greg 09:54
Oh, yes, I should have asked that. Got it.

K Katerina 09:56
Go!

S Storyteller Rina 09:58
And he just runs out, literally runs out. And Lexie pokes her head back in.

L Lexie 10:08
Is everything okay, Katerina?

- K** Katerina 10:11
Yes. I will take care of it. It is a much longer story than I wish to get into at the moment.
- L** Lexie 10:19
Ok, business as usual then. Alright, well, I'm headed out for the night. Is everything ok? Do you need me to stay for anything? Or...?
- K** Katerina 10:28
Nope, your replacement will be here in, you know, half an hour or so. I will be here. And the bells will ring in the office for me to hear.
- L** Lexie 10:39
Unless someone else knocks at the door.
- S** Storyteller Rina 10:40
And she smiles at you.
- K** Katerina 10:42
I swear to God, children these days.
- S** Storyteller Rina 10:46
And she laughs and hangs up her apron in the in the back and heads out. So Marcus, about an hour or so after you sent him out, Greg comes back with a giant coffee cup in his hand. Perhaps you were hoping by sending him he'd have a chance to calm down, cool off, get some get some of the jitters out, but he seems to have found yet another large cup of coffee and is even more hyper when he returns than when you sent him out.
- M** Marcus 11:18
I see.
- G** Greg 11:21
She said she, oh, she said she'll be there. And you can pick her up at any time.

M Marcus 11:32
And that's it?

S Storyteller Rina 11:35
He takes another swig of the coffee and then looks at it. Sadly it appears to be empty.

G Greg 11:42
She said...no need to send notes. It's a place of business and not to knock.

M Marcus 11:49
incredulous You knocked?

G Greg 11:52
Yes?

M Marcus 11:53
Greg. Let me ask you something. What fucking year is it?

G Greg 11:58
20...something. 2022?

M Marcus 12:00
exasperated Yes. So not the 1200s. Why would you knock?

G Greg 12:08
I thought it was polite.

M Marcus 12:09
You're an idiot.

S Storyteller Rina 12:10
He looks confused.

M Mike (Marcus) 12:14
Oh, where's Marie?

S Storyteller Rina 12:16
Marie's in a back corner surrounded by a pile of books that she's working through, some legal texts. She's got a an iPad out that she's also taking notes on as she looks through some things.

M Marcus 12:30
brusque Marie?

M Marie 12:31
Yes? What is it?

M Marcus 12:34
Come here.

M Marie 12:35
Ok, one moment.

M Mike (Marcus) 12:37
I'm probably seething frustrations.

S Storyteller Rina 12:42
She approaches with caution, clutching the iPad under one arm.

M Marcus 12:46



Marcus 12:49

I am putting you in charge of this office, effective immediately. Your first order of business is to make sure Greg doesn't have another cup of coffee today.



Marie 12:58

I replaced all the office coffee with decaf...



Storyteller Rina 13:01

And then she notices the large cup.



Marie 13:04

Oh. Ok, Greg, you're banned from the coffee machine.



Storyteller Rina 13:11

And Greg just kind of slumps his shoulders and slowly moves off towards his desk.



Marie 13:16

anxious Should I be taking this desk now?



Marcus 13:21

Yes.



Marie 13:22

Ok.



Marcus 13:22

I'm going out for the evening. I have things to do. If I come back and I find Greg has managed to get coffee, it'll be the quickest turnaround in employment you've ever had. Am I clear?



Marie 13:34

Yes, Mr. Voss. Yes. Sorry, Marcus. No more coffee. I'm going to mysteriously break the coffee machine in the in the breakroom and no one will have any coffee in this office ever again.

M Marcus 13:49
Good. And don't let him switch to Red Bull. I've seen that shit.

M Marie 13:55
Oh, God.

S Storyteller Rina 13:57
She looks horrified at the idea.

M Marie 13:59
Alright. You got it. There won't be any anything of the sort when you get back, Marcus.

S Storyteller Rina 14:04
And she scuttles off towards Greg's desk where she engages in the unpleasant task of informing him said desk is now hers and they will have to swap.

M Marcus 14:16
I'm going to get dressed for the evening and go out. And I'm going to try very hard not to simply break the coffee machine myself.

S Storyteller Rina 14:23
Well, let's see if you manage to avoid doing that. I want you to give me Composure plus Resolve.

M Mike (Marcus) 14:32
Yes, yes. I have 2 6s and 2 10s. I break the coffee machine anyway.

S Storyteller Rina 14:45
Ok, so you break the coffee machine anyway.

M Mike (Marcus) 14:47
But I do it in a controlled fashion.

S Storyteller Rina 14:50
Instead of just shattering the entire break room? So you walk past the coffee machine and your hand tightens into a fist a little bit And then you walk back and you take the coffee pot and you methodically drop it onto the ground and it shatters. You feel a little better now.

M Mike (Marcus) 15:11
I'll feel better when this little project from the Prince is done. So I'll get dressed, get in the car and get to the bakery and try to let the loud music and fall air of San Francisco purify whatever the fuck just happened here.

S Storyteller Rina 15:30
It takes some very loud music, perhaps, as you're driving towards the bakery, but you manage and you somehow somehow don't run over any pedestrians on your way.

M Marcus 15:42
That's good.

S Storyteller Rina 15:44
It is a little difficult. A few people insist on walking through traffic not at a crosswalk, because they're just too impatient to go the fucking extra 50 feet to get to the fucking crosswalk. But you manage. So Katerina, you are able to get some more work done as you're waiting for Marcus to arrive, but eventually, Marcus does pull into the parking lot. I assume it's behind the bakery. A lot of parking lots are behind the buildings, right? So Marcus, do you just walk in?

M Marcus 16:21
Yeah. I'm not gonna fucking knock, that's for sure.

S Storyteller Rina 16:23
Poor Greg. So you hear the the bell on the door ring as he walks through and there is Marcus Voss.

A Ali (Katerina) 16:34
And I assume whoever is my replacement for front of house is already there.

S Storyteller Rina 16:40
Lucy is there with her hair all netted up and apron on. And no more cheesecakes tonight.

A Ali (Katerina) 16:48
Alright, fantastic. And I will grab my longer trench coat from the back of the door and I head out front.

M Marcus 16:58
Good evening.

M Mike (Marcus) 16:59
I will extend an arm back towards the open door.

K Katerina 17:04
Good evening.

M Marcus 17:05
Shall we begin?

K Katerina 17:06
Yes.

M Mike (Marcus) 17:08
So I'll walk over the car. I would look over the car at her and say,

M Marcus 17:17
This lawyer is one of us. So we need to be careful.

K Katerina 17:22
Well, we're simply asking a few questions, ja? Shouldn't need to upset in any way.

M Marcus 17:31
No, that's true. And socially speaking...

M Mike (Marcus) 17:33
I open the car door.

M Marcus 17:34
...We're asking them on the prince's behalf. Should have given us quite a bit of clout.

K Katerina 17:39
Indeed.

A Ali (Katerina) 17:40
And I slide into the car.

M Marcus 17:42
I get in and head to the offices of Green and Johnson, accounting.

S Storyteller Rina 17:48
So there's not a whole lot of traffic at this time of night, thankfully. There's a lot of bright lights from the overpasses and all the buildings and you pass a few groups of what look like tourists wandering around in the evening as you drive down some of the hillier streets into the office district, so to speak, where you have some of your more high profile accounting firms, legal firms and PACs offices and so on. This part of town becomes fairly quiet. You have some lights on in a few places where you have the higher profile law firms working overtime for some of their wealthier clients, and perhaps some of them are your own people as well. But it's it's really hard to tell with some of these human occupations. They tend to stay out fairly late, working themselves to death, as it is. But you make your way to the accounting firm of Green and Johnson and the parking lot has only a couple cars in it, seems to be fairly cleaned out for

the most part. There are a couple people parked there without the tags for this particular parking lot, so apparently someone couldn't find parking elsewhere and is illegally parking here, but that's not your business right now.

M Mike (Marcus) 19:16
No, I love it.

S Storyteller Rina 19:17
You arrive. The lights are on on the 4th floor of this office building. And you can go up.

M Mike (Marcus) 19:26
I head in, open the door and then take a look at names on any sort of wall placards or directory listings, just a casual glance, not stopping at them just to reaffirm and also to check to see if there's anybody else I know working in the building.

S Storyteller Rina 19:44
As you walk in, there is a guard in security uniform, sitting behind the desk. He's sitting very straight and tall. He doesn't look like the usual security you get in a lot of these buildings, and he eyes you with a little bit of perhaps suspicion.

G Guard 20:06
Can I...can I help you?

M Marcus 20:08
No, I think I know the way.

G Guard 20:09
wary Alright.

S Storyteller Rina 20:13
He watches you; you can feel his eyes on the back of your head as you move towards the directory. And on the directory, you note that there is the firm of Conrad and Associates; this is a political fundraising organization. And you know the name of Conrad, he's a fairly high profile

Ventru. And there's a few other legal firms that you've probably seen billboards for, or television ads, but other than that, you don't see anyone else you recognize as Kindred.

M Marcus 20:51
Fair enough. I head towards the elevators.

S Storyteller Rina 20:54
Katerina, are you following?

A Ali (Katerina) 20:56
Yeah, I'm right on his heels.

S Storyteller Rina 20:59
So you both go into the elevator, and you can go up to the fourth floor. There is no irritating elevator music in this elevator, which is a pleasant change from most of the office buildings that you've gone through. Marcus has probably heard "The Girl from Ipanema" far more times than anyone was ever meant to hear that song in their life, or unlife. And you are deposited on the fourth floor, which appears to be entirely given over to Green and Johnson, Accounting, this entire floor for this one particular office.

M Marcus 21:36
I probably look around the space and comment something like,

M Marcus 21:39
I can imagine what the square footage is costing them.

S Storyteller Rina 21:41
There's another desk, probably a reception desk, just a little bit further down where whoever sitting behind it can see the elevator. And there is a very tall person sitting behind it. They have long dark hair pulled up in a bun, and they're wearing a very neat tailored suit. And they look up from their computer as the elevator deposits you on this floor and they raise one eyebrow and say,

S Secretary 22:13

— Can I help you?

M Marcus 22:15
I step over.

S Secretary 22:17
Are you one of our clients?

M Marcus 22:19
Not as of yet. I'm actually here on business. Yes, I was looking to speak with Andrew Green. It's a private matter, of course.

S Storyteller Rina 22:29
They raise one eyebrow.

S Secretary 22:31
Well, can I have a name please?

M Marcus 22:34
Certainly. Marcus Voss.

S Storyteller Rina 22:38
And they type something into their computer. And they tilt their head and they look at you.

S Secretary 22:45
Are you one of us, Mr. Voss?

M Marcus 22:50
That depends on who us is.

S Storyteller Rina 22:52
They smile. You see just the hint of fang.

M Marcus 22:57
I spend most of my time working at night, if that's what you mean.

S Secretary 23:01
Yes, you rather have that air about you. Very well. Give me a moment, please.

S Storyteller Rina 23:08
And they stand up, lock their computer and walk away on impossibly high heels down the hallway. And you hear a door open, some lowered voices, and a moment later:

S Secretary 23:27
Mr. Green will see you both.

M Marcus 23:29
Wonderful.

M Mike (Marcus) 23:31
I will step to the side and gesture towards the hallway.

S Storyteller Rina 23:34
They lead you down the hallway to the corner office, and it has a nameplate that says Andrew Green, Senior Partner, and they just gently open the door and say,

S Secretary 23:49
Marcus Voss and...

S Storyteller Rina 23:51
They look at you, Katerina.

S Secretary 23:52
I'm sorry, I didn't get your name.

K Katerina 23:54
Katerina Bogdonovich.

S Secretary 23:56
And Catarina Bogdanovich here to see Mr. Green.

S Storyteller Rina 23:59
And a tall, fairly powerfully-built man stands up from behind the desk. He's holding a crystal glass of something very dark. You can guess what it is fairly easily. And he's wearing a suit that looks almost too small for him. His shoulders are so broad and powerful that it looks like the buttons on his shirt are going to explode as they tried to escape. And he comes over to you and holds out one big, meaty, beefy hand and says,

A Andrew Green 24:44
Pleasure to meet you, Marcus.

M Mike (Marcus) 24:46
I shake his hand.

M Marcus 24:47
And you, Mr. Green. Pleasure to meet you.

S Storyteller Rina 24:50
He laughs, just displaying some sharp teeth.

A Andrew Green 24:57
Andrew, please, please. We're family, almost, you might say.

S Storyteller Rina 25:04
And he laughs again and gives a courteous little half bow to Katerina.

A Andrew Green 25:11
Ms. Bogdanovich. Welcome. Please, please have a seat, have a seat.

S Storyteller Rina 25:17
He gestures towards these very plush, well appointed chairs. There's also a couch that's seated where you can look out towards the San Francisco skyline through this large plate glass window.

A Ali (Katerina) 25:31
Has the receptionist left?

S Storyteller Rina 25:35
Yes, the receptionist has turned away and walked back to their desk.

A Ali (Katerina) 25:38
I hand my coat to Marcus.

M Marcus 25:40
I take it, fold it over. I assume that they're...yeah, I'll fold it over and just kind of hang on to it.

A Andrew Green 25:49
What can I do for you? What can I do for you? Not often I get one of our own, much less two of our own in my office.

M Mike (Marcus) 25:58
We're working something, a very important investigation. And your name has come up. And we thought, rather than muck about and whatnot and try a bunch of backchannel questioning and answering, we think it'd be better to come directly to the office and just ask yourselves.

S Storyteller Rina 26:20
One of his eyebrows rises and rises towards his receding hairline.

A Andrew Green 26:27
Investigation, you say? Well...

S Storyteller Rina 26:30
He sits back behind the desk and temples his fingers.

A Andrew Green 26:33
Indeed. I'm going to need some...well, I don't think identification is the right word here. What kind of investigation? On whose authority are you conducting this business? You must understand, I don't talk to just any random Kindred who wanders in off the street and into my office claiming to be investigators. *chuckles*

M Marcus 26:52
No, no, of course not. Although the two of us have been in San Francisco some time and I would doubt, given my history with the city, I would be anything but random. That said, though, you make a fair point, Mr. Green. On whose authority, yes. Well, in part we are all in a way required by Kindred law to take up for our own domains, yes. Seems that there's been a terrible, terrible murder. I'm sure by now you're aware that we're we're all mourning the loss of our former Sheriff.

S Storyteller Rina 27:40
He nods slowly.

A Andrew Green 27:43
Oh, yes. Terrible, terrible tragedy.

S Storyteller Rina 27:47
He says with as much insincerity as any voice has ever possibly mustered in this office.

M Marcus 27:55

And, of course, when the Sheriff of a town so important as San Francisco is brutally murdered, one must investigate, yes? But I would be remiss to stand here on a projection of my own authority as a member of Clan Brujah. No, no, no, no, my dear. We stand here on the authority of the Prince of San Francisco. So the questions we're going to ask are going to be very important that they're answered properly.

S Storyteller Rina 28:33

So I want you to give me a roll for this, Marcus, so you're going to give me I think Resolve plus Intimidation.

M Mike (Marcus) 28:45

Very well.

S Storyteller Rina 28:46

Giving a bit of a stare down here.

M Marcus 28:51

Hey, it's a Resolve roll that I don't lose a die on. It's fantastic.

S Storyteller Rina 28:54

For now.

M Mike (Marcus) 28:59

That's 3.

S Storyteller Rina 29:01

Alright. With 3 Successes, it's enough to make him stroke his chin and nod.

A Andrew Green 29:11

The Prince, you say? Yes, well, I can see why you'd be involved in our dear sheriff's murder.

S Storyteller Rina 29:21
And he looks at you, Katerina and he raises an eyebrow

A Andrew Green 29:25
But you, Ms. Bogdanovich, you own a bakery, don't you? So why are *you* here? Him, I can understand, but, well...

S Storyteller Rina 29:36
His eyes flick towards his screen.

A Andrew Green 29:39
I find it a little strange for you to be involved.

K Katerina 29:44
And you understand that I would not be here were it not at the behest of our Prince. That is not your concern.

S Storyteller Rina 29:54
He scratches his chin and looks a bit thoughtful.

A Andrew Green 30:00
Yes...

K Katerina 30:01
you are very well aware that my reputation within the city is, let's say, extends, I have fingers in places that you cannot imagine. Do not question why I am here.

S Storyteller Rina 30:15
He nods again.

A Andrew Green 30:17

A Andrew Green 30:17

Interesting. You understand, of course, that in my line of work, I found pieces of puzzles and fit them together and figure out the whole picture. I mean, no disrespect, of course. My line of questioning, well, it comes naturally to me.

S Storyteller Rina 30:30

And he gives you a smile full of very, very white teeth.

M Marcus 30:35

Of course not, though the Malkavians enjoy playing with puzzle pieces, too. But can we get to business then?

A Andrew Green 30:41

dismissive Yes, yes. Well, what is it you want to know? How do I come into this?

M Marcus 30:47

Well, that is what we are going to get to the bottom of, I believe. Our dear Sheriff paid you a visit soon before he died. Why?

A Andrew Green 31:01

Yes, he did. It was quite a surprise. I'm not used to having our dearly departed Sheriff pay me a visit. Especially not in my office. But well, clan business. I thought perhaps it was official from the prince. Maybe they need some dirt on one of my clients or someone to follow some numbers for them. But it was actually about the clan, to my surprise. Our clan, the City Gangrel.

M Marcus 31:27

I see. His clan.

A Andrew Green 31:29

Yes, it was just about clan business.

M Marcus 31:33

Yes. it's my understanding that there were some differences of opinion between members.

A Andrew Green 31:40

Yes, you could call it that, I suppose. I don't like discussing Gangrel business with outsiders. But it seems Luther has told you some things already. So here's what I'll do. I'll give you as much as what I think is within the lines of what Luther might have said.

S Storyteller Rina 31:58

He tilts his head slightly as if sizing you up and he looks down at his desk and shuffles through some papers, kind of absent-mindedly.

A Andrew Green 32:08

You know how many leaders we tend to have in the clan, of course, or rather, would be leaders. Well, there was a bit of a power struggle between the groups who wanted to leave and the ones who wanted to stay and fight it out, who thought the clan was overreacting. And there might have been something...unforgiveable if Luther hadn't stepped in. Well, I say Luther, but I mean, Luther and I. That's why he came, because he was concerned there might be some spilling of Kindred blood if we didn't get involved. He brought the power of being the Sheriff - he enjoyed that position so much, for all the good it did him - and the brute force, and I brought them persuasive side of things. I've never really taken part in the clan leadership struggles, I have no interest. I have my own little niche here.

K Katerina 32:56

So you and he were acting as intermediaries.

A Andrew Green 32:59

We were able to step in, stop things from getting too out of hand.

M Marcus 33:03

Now, I do find it funny that the two of you would act as intermediaries between these two, or more, but mostly two disparate groups of people who wanted to stay and wanted to go. I find it strange, given Luther and I's conversation, I find it strange. What would be worth leaving for?

A Andrew Green 33:28

Something's...coming.

M Marcus 33:33

Yes, Luther had said as much and so, if I might, I need to, I must, I must implore you to do away with this chicanery. What is coming? As someone who is somewhat learned in our methods of history, my clan has always respected the prescience and the perceptions of Clan Gangrel. If it is true that something is coming, as Luther told me, we need to know what. He's gone. He will not be coming back. The Country Gangrels have fled and those City Gangrel who are still here are either battening down the hatches and hiding or they're leaving. But you're not.

S Storyteller Rina 34:24

He casts a side glance at Katerina.

A Andrew Green 34:26

Of course, the Gangrel and the Brujah have some mutual respect and understanding, but I would have preferred it if you hadn't brought the Toreador to this discussion.

M Marcus 34:35

I look insulted.

M Marcus 34:38

Katerina is a member of Kindred society. She's been picked by the Prince for this investigation. I think their word alone, that should be enough, not to mention she's a fairly accomplished businesswoman. Something you should be able to respect at least.

A Andrew Green 34:58

deep sigh I guess old habits die hard. You understand.


K Katerina 35:03


If I were here to cause trouble for you, it would have already started.


A Andrew Green 35:09


Yes, well, I suppose that's true.


M Marcus 35:11


 Marcus 35:11
I try not to get excited.

 Storyteller Rina 35:12
He cracks his neck a little bit, leans back in his seat, and the office chair groans a little bit under his bulk.


 Katerina 35:22
You are choosing your words a little too carefully for my liking. We are here at the behest of the Prince; perhaps a little more transparency is needed.

 Andrew Green 35:33
If I have your word, on your oath as a Kindred.

 Katerina 35:36
You have my solemn vow that what we say does not leave this room except to report to the Prince because it is no one else's business but ours and the Prince's.

 Storyteller Rina 35:51
He nods very slowly.

 Andrew Green 35:53
Very well. I never enjoyed all the politicking. Anyway, I stayed because I think everyone's overreacting. I've also not been involved too much in clan politics and all of this...whatever everyone else is doing, because I don't care. I only brought up you, Ms. Bogdanovich, because as you're aware, the Toreadors and Gangrel have a way of using things against each other. But in general, I don't particularly care. I like doing my work. I like following the numbers and solving mysteries and winning complicated cases and ferreting out discrepancies and paperwork. I have my own little isolated kingdom where I am king. This is my realm.

 Katerina 36:32
And what is that?

 Andrew Green 36:36

My own little piece of the universe, all mine. That's all I've ever needed. I don't need to be chief of the clan or whip or sheriff or any of that. I'm in charge. I think that's why Luther stayed - being Sheriff, he got to be in the power hierarchy in a way no one could argue with or usurp. We just find our own ways, Marcus, Ms. Bogdanovich. Some of us just learned to break free from some of the restraints of the clan and the Camarilla. I have no wish to go back to being one Gangrel amongst many Gangrels especially with the Country lot roaming the wilds of the Bay Area.

M Marcus 37:12

None of this, none of this, Mr. Green, answers my question. What are they scared of?

A Andrew Green 37:23

The Blood Moon. I don't know the whole vision that this Malkavian gave to the rest of the clan. I wasn't at that meeting. Like I said, I have no interest in such things. I got most of this second hand. But you know what a Blood Moon is, of course?

M Marcus 37:37

I know what the natural world considers one, sure.

A Andrew Green 37:41

Yes, in the natural world. This one is apparently bringing something powerful with it.

K Katerina 37:47

Are we talking mystical power? Should we be consulting more with Tremere?

A Andrew Green 37:55

Well, considering the mystical powers involved, and there are strange things afoot. consulting with Tremere isn't a bad idea, though I suppose Hecata could also be involved. Listen, I'm not certain. All I know from what I heard in the clan is that there's some very powerful magic being worked. And the stronger and fuller the Blood Moon becomes, the stronger the magic is. I don't know if the correlation equals causation there or why it has to be that way or even who's fucking doing this magic. All I know, is that in the vision that the Malkavian gave, with my clans natural perspicacity, from the vision we gathered the Luther was not the first.

K Katerina 38:37

So how many more have there been?

A Andrew Green 38:42

Have you noticed Kindred disappearing? Maybe some who were regular customers just don't show up? Or friends who haven't contacted you in weeks? I don't know how many. All I know is the shadows, the shadows that we saw...there were a lot of them. Could be past, present, future, who fucking knows. But it's not just Luther. I gather that this magic, with this Blood Moon, they believed it was a portent of something far worse.

M Marcus 39:10

This Malkavian that gave this vision to the clan. Who are they?

A Andrew Green 39:17

Her name was Dina Forthright. I don't know her. I never met her. I didn't even get an invite to the meeting she crashed. I only got involved when Luther asked me to play Switzerland in the clan fight.

M Marcus 39:28

Which happened because she gave them the vision.

A Andrew Green 39:30

Yes. Mind you. We didn't know from the vision that Luther was going to be, well, murdered. I'm not sure I could have stopped it even if I had known. But there were images that make sense now that he's gone, from what I gather from the clan.

K Katerina 39:43

How long ago did this Dina Forthright have the vision?

A Andrew Green 39:51

It would have been about a week and a half ago. We tend to start fights fairly quickly. It doesn't take much to stir up a brouhaha in the clan.

M Marcus 40:02

Very funny. Unfortunately, the joke would be way better if Luther was still standing here. But he's not.

A Andrew Green 40:10
I didn't kill him.

M Mike (Marcus) 40:12
No, no, no, you've been you've been very careful. You've been very careful about that. No one's accusing you yet, Mr. Green. I don't think it's necessary to play accusations. We're still investigating. I do find it interesting that between most of the Country Gangrels leaving, and many of the City Gangrels going to ground somewhere else, I do think it's funny that you have your little Empire here, where you get to play King.

A Andrew Green 40:39
I worked my way up, Marcus. I worked hard for this. I'm not going to let some crazy Malkavian destroy everything I worked for for decades.

M Marcus 40:49
No, not at all. And I respect hard work. But we're going to get to the bottom of this. And so if you get another strange visit, be sure to keep me informed, so that way I **can** end this. And pay your regards to the new sheriff. I'm sure Esmeralda will be by at some point.

M Mike (Marcus) 41:16
I reach out, I extend my arm with Katerina's coat.

M Marcus 41:22
My dear, I believe we're done.

S Storyteller Rina 41:24
Both of his eyebrows go up and he turns slightly paler.

A Andrew Green 41:27
scared Esmeralda?



M Marcus 41:31
Yes. Esmeralda. Your new Sheriff.

A Andrew Green 41:36
Oh FUCK.

S Storyteller Rina 41:38
And now let's change the camera over to Rahm the Shaman as Katerina and Marcus exit the offices of a fairly shaken Andrew Green with this particular bombshell of a revelation. So Rahm, you've had time to shake yourself awake a bit, perform your yoga, although you're a little bit off center, you can't quite find your balance. You can't quite meditate the way you normally do; your mind keeps wandering off into everything that's been happening around you. Your focus is not quite right.

T Teagan (Rahm) 42:21
Not a great day to make donations.

S Storyteller Rina 42:23
Not really. You perhaps were considering it, but probably not the best day.

T Teagan (Rahm) 42:30
Absolutely.

S Storyteller Rina 42:32
So what what is Rahm planning to do this evening after some unsuccessful yoga and meditation?

T Teagan (Rahm) 42:39
Absolutely. Not a good day for donations. Of course. I believe that after last night's encounter, that the first thing that Rahm needs to do is reach out to the rest of our little coterie and bring them together, the Scooby Squad. And we need to accept this invitation from this Dina Forthright that sent their avatar, so to speak, to meet with me the night before. So that is my main focus. I'm ignoring all else going on in the house. unless it's an emergency.

S

Storyteller Rina 43:27

Alright, so who would you contact first?

T

Teagan (Rahm) 43:30

Oh, geez, um...

S

Storyteller Rina 43:33

Hard question.

T

Teagan (Rahm) 43:34

I don't think I have everybody like in a phone, or anything like that. I've been listening enough to some of the conversations to realize there are places of business and work for the individuals. And I've done my own little poking around within the network to try to understand better who I've been paired with. I think that the union office would be one that I would, I think my character would like to visit first.

S

Storyteller Rina 44:09

So it's fairly easy to find the union office. Do you take a an Uber? Do you walk? How do you get there?

T

Teagan (Rahm) 44:19

Oh, absolutely. I'm probably going to take an Uber at that point. And I guess my plan here is to see if my assumption is that they might come back to this place, you know, or at least there might be somebody there that can reach out to them to say that I'm, you know, waiting, and that I have information. So once I get there and I reach out to their particular who's there, and what I think I will ask is that they pass along that I'm here and that I have been contacted by, and I'm going to put the name Dina in the message, so that that gets passed along with enough urgency that it gets it across.

S

Storyteller Rina 45:09

We're just going to establish here that using ride-sharing apps is not part of the stay off the internet. Because that would be silly. You have ride sharing apps, we are going to use them in this world. Whether it's through setting up profiles of other people, or having your human friends set up a profile for you, whatever. We're staying off the internet in general, but we're still using ride sharing apps to get around because otherwise it's impossible.

T Teagan (Rahm) 45:37
Gotcha. Uber is okay. Grindr not okay. Got it. Understood. Yes, yes. Does Grindr violate the Masquerade?

S Storyteller Rina 45:47
Yes.

T Teagan (Rahm) 45:49
Darn it.

S Storyteller Rina 45:50
You get to the union office. The lights are still on, there's people hard at work in there. As you go in, people are running around carrying books. There's a bunch of computers set up at one desk and a very neatly-dressed, although very casually-dressed young woman sitting behind them, working away at what looks like four of the five screens that are on the desk, and she's got a large stack of books off to the side and she looks up and sees you come in and raises one eyebrow, questioningly. You're not the sort of person that usually comes into the office, especially at night.

M Marie 46:36
Can I help you?

R Rahm the Shaman 46:38
Absolutely.

T Teagan (Rahm) 46:38
And Rahm is already putting out a a cigarette of sorts as they walk in and pinching it between their fingers.

R Rahm the Shaman 46:46
This is Marcus's place, right?

M Marie 46:50
.. .. .

Marcus Voss, yes. Can I help you?

M Marcus 46:56
Yeah. Is he here right now? Or is he out?

M Marie 47:00
Not at the moment. He should be back soon. I think. Maybe there's something I can do for you?

R Rahm the Shaman 47:09
No, there's not...only Marcus will do.

S Storyteller Rina 47:15
Both of her eyebrows go up at that point.

T Teagan (Rahm) 47:18
Rahm has this smile on their face that is as wide as it can get without flashing fang. He says,

R Rahm the Shaman 47:27
I assume you have his phone number. If you would so kindly just tell him that Rahm is here and that Dina wants to speak with us. And I think that would be quite sufficient.

M Marie 47:47
hesitaant Ok. Could you just have a seat over there?

S Storyteller Rina 47:55
And she points to a chair by the door you came in through.

R Rahm the Shaman 47:59
Absolutely.



T Teagan (Rahm) 48:00
And Rahm goes over there and kind of sniffs the air, says,

R Rahm the Shaman 48:06
Did somebody burn a pot of coffee?

R Rahm the Shaman 48:09
We don't talk about coffee in here, Mr. Rahm.

T Teagan (Rahm) 48:12
Rahm just takes a seat.

S Storyteller Rina 48:15
Ok. And you see her sitting at the desk, looking a little confused. And she closes her eyes for a minute, and then she picks up a phone off the desk, and she's keeping one eye on you the entire time. And Marcus, as you and Katerina are driving away from the offices of Green and Johnson, your phone starts ringing.

M Mike (Marcus) 48:52
I never talk while driving. Of course not. I'm kidding. So yeah, I take out what appears to be a very low tech, like, flip phone. And I notice, I assume, that it's the office number. And so I'll pick up the phone and say,

M Marcus 49:16
What is it?

M Marie 49:18
Hi, Marcus. This is Marie. There's a person here...

S Storyteller Rina 49:24
And Rahm, you can't quite hear what she's saying. But you see her turn her head and look at you sort of quizzically.

T Teagan (Rahm) 49:35

I smile back.

M Marie 49:36

They say their name is...they say their name is Rahm and they're looking for you and something about a Dina wanting to have a meeting. I'm really not sure what they're talking about.

M Marcus 49:52

It's alright, Marie, everything is fine.

S Storyteller Rina 49:54

It's ok that they're in the office?

M Mike (Marcus) 49:57

I'm speaking to her in a very level tone. While I'm doing that, I am pushing firmer down onto the accelerator.

M Marcus 50:05

I will be there very shortly. They're fine to be in the office. Keep them confined to the reception area if you can. Do not let them upstairs.

M Marie 50:18

I would never let anyone upstairs without you here. It was right to call you, yes?

M Marcus 50:23

Yes. I'll be there shortly.

S Storyteller Rina 50:27

All right. I'll keep an eye on them.

M Marcus 50:34
Oh, we're not buying anything.

M Marie 50:36
Oh.

M Marcus 50:37
Don't get...you're not interested in any personal journeys, or any crystals shoved up your ass or sticks or twigs to eat or anything like that. Alright?

S Storyteller Rina 50:46
There's a bit of a pause.

M Marie 50:49
Got it.

M Marcus 50:50
Wonderful.

S Storyteller Rina 50:50
And Rahm, you notice that this young woman is now looking at you very suspiciously.

M Marcus 50:58
Alright, I'll see you in a few minutes.

S Storyteller Rina 51:01
There's a click and Rahm as you're sitting there,

T Teagan (Rahm) 51:05
Picking at the upholstery.

- S** Storyteller Rina 51:09
As you're as you're picking at the upholstery on the chair, you notice that she's just staring at you very intently, as if afraid to take her eyes off you. So while all that is happening, Alex, what have you been up to?
- T** Tiffanie (Alex) 51:22
I am going to head to Eddie's first, to give him the phone number that I found, and have him track it. See if he can locate where it originates from, who owns it, whatever. And then make like 100% sure that as soon as he finds out, he needs to give me a call.
- E** Eddie 51:47
Yep, got it, Alex, no problem. It might take me a little, might take me a little bit to track it down. This is really a buried number, it's not even showing up in a spam directory. What the heck?
- S** Storyteller Rina 52:00
And he just buries himself in his computer screen, muttering to himself.
- A** Alex 52:04
I'm really counting on you.
- T** Tiffanie (Alex) 52:05
Yeah, and then I'll leave him money for pizza or whatever. And then I will be heading to Vince's place, because I told him about 8 o'clock, I would come pick him up.
- S** Storyteller Rina 52:18
Alright. So you drive over to Vince's place. Do you have your driver tonight? Or are you driving yourself?
- T** Tiffanie (Alex) 52:27
Probably my driver.

- S** Storyteller Rina 52:29
Ok. So your driver brings you to Vince's little bungalow. And the lights are all off, you notice as you pull up, and it's fairly quiet.
- T** Tiffanie (Alex) 52:43
I will get out.
- S** Storyteller Rina 52:45
There's a very heavy smell of weed in the air as you step out of the car.
- T** Tiffanie (Alex) 52:50
Well, I mean, I guess depending where he lives. I will go knock on the door.
- S** Storyteller Rina 52:56
You knock on the door. You wait. There's no reply.
- T** Tiffanie (Alex) 53:02
Then does he have like a mail slot? Or a mailbox?
- S** Storyteller Rina 53:07
Mailbox.
- T** Tiffanie (Alex) 53:10
Oh, ok. Well, then I'm gonna lean up to the corner of the door and quietly say,
- A** Alex 53:18
Mina, darling, if you're there can you throw a book at Vince for me? He's missed his meeting.
- S** Storyteller Rina 53:28
You hear a book thud into the door.

A Alex 53:32
Thank you. I will hopefully speak to you soon.

S Storyteller Rina 53:36
And you hear what sounds like the scattering of spiders inside the door. Maybe that means "See you later." Who knows? Hard to tell with ghosts.

T Tiffanie (Alex) 53:51
Yeah, I'm not that familiar with that one. So I don't know. Um, then I will be headed to the bakery because Katerina said she wanted to meet.

S Storyteller Rina 54:04
Ok, so you wait a moment, just to make sure the house is still silent. And then you get back in your car and you drive over to the Dragonfly bakery. And lights are still on; it's open most of the time. And you can go in. The bell rings slightly as you open the door, without knocking, because you're not a fucking idiot. And there is a young woman with long blonde hair that's piled up in some kind of up do with a net, hairnet, over it. She's got big blue eyes, she's wearing tight jeans and a what would be a low cut t-shirt if half of it wasn't covered up by the apron that she's wearing. She's currently cutting what looks like a red velvet cake into slices and putting them into little individual plastic boxes. She looks up as you come in.

L Lucy 55:11
Ah, welcome to the Dragonfly confections. How can I help you?

A Alex 55:16
I have a meeting with Katerina. Is she here?

S Storyteller Rina 55:21
And the young woman tilts her head and looks at you and she sniffs.

L Lucy 55:30
You're one of the evening customers. Can I see your card?

A Alex 55:36
I don't belong to the bakery. She requested a meeting.

L Lucy 55:41
Hmm, ok. She's not here at the moment.

A Alex 55:47
Then you need to call her.

L Lucy 55:50
That's not my job.

A Alex 55:53
I don't care what your job is. She requested a meeting. And she is not here.

S Storyteller Rina 56:01
Alright. So I'm going to have you give me a roll there, so I want you to give me Resolve and Intimidation. You're basically trying to stare her down.

T Tiffanie (Alex) 56:14
I got 1.

S Storyteller Rina 56:16
Ok. So the young woman methodically slides the knife into the cake again, and slowly cuts another piece.

L Lucy 56:28
Oh, I don't know who you are. And Katerina is kind of protective of her free time and also her privacy.

T Tiffanie (Alex) 56:30



Tiffanie (Alex) 56:40

So I'm going to step very close to the counter and lean down and talk quietly and be like,



Alex 56:49

Well, then I guess I have to let the Prince know that she's holding up their investigation.



Storyteller Rina 56:56

And this young woman's eyes go really, really wide.



Lucy 57:03

Oh, the Prince.



Storyteller Rina 57:09

Ok, so I want you to give me another roll here. You're trying to basically appeal to authority, so you're going to give me Composure plus Etiquette. And because you invoked the Prince, I'm going to lower the difficulty ratings. So you need 2 successes here.



Tiffanie (Alex) 57:24

I got three.



Storyteller Rina 57:28

So this young woman looks a little shaken when you invoke the Prince, and she backs up a little bit.



Lucy 57:38

Ok, I'll call her. I'll call her. Can I have a name?



Alex 57:45

Alex.



Lucy 57:47

Alex Alex Ok

ALICE, ALICE ON:

- S** Storyteller Rina 57:48
So she sets down the cake knife, gently covers the the cake with a plastic cover, washes her hands, and then pulls out a cell phone and turns away from you. And Katerina, just after Marcus hangs up the phone with whoever he was talking to and he starts flooring it, your pager starts beeping.
- A** Ali (Katerina) 58:15
I will pull it out and look at it.
- S** Storyteller Rina 58:18
It's from Lucy.
- A** Ali (Katerina) 58:19
And what does the message say?
- S** Storyteller Rina 58:22
It says in, all caps, "Alex something wants you. From the Prince. Help!" And then another message of "help" in all caps.
- A** Ali (Katerina) 58:38
I'll look at Marcus.
- K** Katerina 58:42
How long until we're back at the bakery?
- M** Marcus 58:46
Yeah, so I would, I would guess my question to you, Rina, is, how long until we get to the Union headquarters?
- S** Storyteller Rina 58:55

Were you planning to drop her off first? Or were you going to go to Union HQ first?

M Mike (Marcus) 59:00

Well, we hadn't... I guess we didn't really decide that when we left the law office. So I would imagine, I don't think I would head back. I don't think I would head back to the bakery directly. Because I would figure that our night's not over yet. We're probably still doing things. So, and I guess my having gotten Dina's name, my first reaction is going to be to find Rahm because he's the only Malkavian I know directly. So I'm probably heading back to the the union offices first, rather than the bakery.

S Storyteller Rina 59:30

That makes sense. So I would say that, at this point, you've taken the route that will take you to the union office. So you're further away from getting to the bakery than you are to get to the union office.

M Marcus 59:47

Ok. So I say to Katerina,

M Marcus 59:51

We'll stop quick, we'll pick up Rahm, and then we'll head to the bakery. Does that work for you?

K Katerina 59:56

Well, I just got a 911 from my front of house, so can I borrow your phone?

M Marcus 1:00:05

Certainly.

M Mike (Marcus) 1:00:07

I pass my phone over.

K Katerina 1:00:09

And I will dial the main bakery line and look at the phone just kind of like in disgust.

S Storyteller Rina 1:00:16

Right. So, Alex, you're waiting awkwardly with this young person whose name you still don't know. And she's fiddling around with her phone and looking at the cake and then looking back at you. And then it's almost a startle moment for her, you notice, when the the main phone starts ringing. She sort of jumps a little bit and says,

L Lucy 1:00:45

Oh, that might be her. I'll run get that.

S Storyteller Rina 1:00:47

And so she runs over to the phone on the other side of the of the main room.

L Lucy 1:00:55

Hello, Dragonfly Confections. This is Lucy. How may I help you?

K Katerina 1:00:59

Lucy, would you bring...

L Lucy 1:01:03

Oh my God. You're using a phone.

K Katerina 1:01:07

Shut up.

L Lucy 1:01:09

Welcome to the 21st century.

K Katerina 1:01:12

Shut up, Lucy. Listen to me. The person who is in the bakery right now. Put them into my office and shut the door. Give them privacy. I will be there as soon as I can. Do not ask any questions. I will explain what I can later. Do you understand?

L Lucy 1:01:30
Ok. Is this gonna be a normal thing? Like getting phone calls? I can give you my number.

K Katerina 1:01:39
Lucy? Just do what I asked, please.

L Lucy 1:01:44
Ok, ok. Okay. I'll see you in a bit.

A Ali (Katerina) 1:01:47
I hang up the phone.

S Storyteller Rina 1:01:49
Alex, Lucy turns around back to you and says,

S Storyteller Rina 1:01:54
Katerina says you should come wait in her office. She's on her way. It'll be a few minutes, but that she'll be here soon. And she'll explain things. I don't know. But she says she's coming and you can wait in her private office.

A Alex 1:02:12
That's ok. It'll have to do. I don't understand how people cannot be punctual with their meetings.

T Tiffanie (Alex) 1:02:21
And I'll walk towards the office.

L Lucy 1:02:23
Was it on the calendar?

A Alex 1:02:25



Alex 1:02:25

I doubt she would have told you. Seems a little above your pay grade.



Lucy 1:02:31

She never tells me anything. That's true.



Storyteller Rina 1:02:34

Lucy is very obviously a young vampire. Not just physically young, but young in general. Just the way she's talking to you and acting, and she knew to be scared of the Prince, but in general, she just seemed like a very young young vampire to you. And she's chattering your ear off as she leads you back towards Katerina's office.



Alex 1:02:56

Childe. You talk too much. It will get you in trouble.



Tiffanie (Alex) 1:03:04

And I shut the door.



Storyteller Rina 1:03:07

You shut the door in her wide-eyed, staring face.



Lucy 1:03:13

Ok!



Ali (Katerina) 1:03:14

There's a reason that I put Alex back in the office.



Storyteller Rina 1:03:18

Alright, so you are now left alone in Katerina's office, and Marcus and Katerina are speeding towards the union offices to pick up a certain Rahm the Shaman. Rahm, what are you doing while you wait for Marcus to arrive?



T Teagan (Rahm) 1:03:34

I mean, it's just been so long. So I want to walk outside into the night air and enjoy the basking in the light of the sodium lamps. And probably continue to empty my box of possibly cigarettes. And wait for the car to pull up.

S Storyteller Rina 1:04:01

As soon as you walk out of the union office, you hear the young woman at the desk going,

M Marie 1:04:07

You're supposed to wait....

S Storyteller Rina 1:04:09

And then you close the door and it cuts her off and you go out, you walk up and down around the parking lot. You're down by the docks, so there's a lot of salty, fresh air down here, which is fairly nice, perhaps a little damp. The cold in the Bay Area kind of goes right to your bones because of all the dampness and the humidity in the area, but being dead, it doesn't bother you all that much. And so you kill some time walking up and down the street. A couple dogs come up and sniff at you before trotting off and then you hear the squeal of tires as Marcus comes tearing into the parking lot.

T Teagan (Rahm) 1:04:59

I go ahead and start putting out my cigarette again, saving it, preserving it, snuffing it out with my fingertips and putting it back in the box again. I wait for him to pull up beside me, or whatever he does.

S Storyteller Rina 1:05:16

So, as you pull into the parking lot, Marcus, you can see the very unmistakable form of Rahm the Shaman standing under a streetlight with what appears to be a cigarette.

M Marcus 1:05:28

I do my best not to hit Rahm with the car. I will drive nearby and then yell out the window,

M Marcus 1:05:37

Get in.

- T** Teagan (Rahm) 1:05:38
I promptly get in and flop myself onto a chair in the backseat.
- S** Storyteller Rina 1:05:43
A chair?
- T** Teagan (Rahm) 1:05:45
Well, yeah... but what vehicle are you driving? I want descriptions.
- M** Mike (Marcus) 1:05:50
I am currently driving a, you know, somewhat late model GTO. Perfect for San Francisco streets.
- T** Teagan (Rahm) 1:06:01
So not a minivan. Alright, fantastic.
- M** Mike (Marcus) 1:06:03
No, it's a big bench seat and back to buckets up front as God intended.
- T** Teagan (Rahm) 1:06:10
Then I flop into the God-intended bench seat.
- M** Marcus 1:06:15
So as I accelerate back out of the parking lot, I will say over my shoulder,
- M** Marcus 1:06:21
So tell me about Dina. Everything you know.
- R** Rahm the Shaman 1:06:24
Oh, well. Everything I know is not going to be a lot. I would have gotten you this information

sooner. But the creepy little Stephen King child that came by right before sunrise yesterday told me that... Well, I think it was Dina, honestly. Not the child, of course. I'm being confusing. I apologize. Small child speaking with Dina's voice said that we should meet us, we meaning us.

T Teagan (Rahm) 1:07:04

Rahm is trying very hard to say things with a sense of coolness, and they're failing completely.

M Marcus 1:07:13

So I'll just kind of put my hand up a little bit and say,

M Marcus 1:07:18

We should probably just get everyone together before you go into this whole thing, because I'm sure that Alex is gonna want to know about Dina, if they don't already.

R Rahm the Shaman 1:07:27

I completely agree. I made sure that it was okay that we brought the whole squad.

T Teagan (Rahm) 1:07:39

Rahm says with a smile.

R Rahm the Shaman 1:07:40

But, uh, apparently they want to talk.

M Marcus 1:07:48

Yeah, though with what I heard tonight, I don't know if I like that idea. You wouldn't be the first person to smoke, but you might want to wait. There's a lot of gas in the car

M Mike (Marcus) 1:08:07

So yeah, we'll we'll make our way back to the bakery. And hopefully alleviate all of the all of the tension there with some wonderful selections from the bakery.

S Storyteller Rina 1:08:22

Alright, so Alex is hanging out in Katerina's private office. So Katerina, what does Alex see as they're hanging out?

A Ali (Katerina) 1:08:31

I mean, it's a pretty standard business office. Like, there's a computer that obviously I don't use. And there's, you know, there's like, the normal thing that you see that's like the federal thing, it's sent out to all businesses of like, what their you know, rights are, like what minimum wage is and and safety is and all this other stuff, right. So it's like a legitimate business office. And there's a file cabinet that looks old and beat to shit and doesn't match the rest of the room. And it's just like a two tier. It's just a two drawer file cabinet. And it's got some stuff piled on top of it, you wouldn't know it's there, really, unless you're like, kind of snooping around.

S Storyteller Rina 1:09:29

Oh, are you sneaking around, Alex?

T Tiffanie (Alex) 1:09:32

Oh yeah, I'm gonna look and see what's laying out, whose names are on the desk or on top of the filing cabinet, or... I mean, it's what I do. I drink blood and I know things.

S Storyteller Rina 1:09:46

Ok, Tyrion Giovanni. So, Katerina, what, if any names/information would Alex be able to come across without doing any lockpicking or digging into drawers?

A Ali (Katerina) 1:10:02

There's probably a calendar, like one of those big desk calendars that's on the desk, like underneath the keyboard. And there's not going to be anything really interesting on that. It's going to be, like, a couple of meetings laid out, any notes from Ray Ray that are, like, days that maybe I took off or haven't shown up to work, which is pretty rare. And like any events, that we're going to be catering. It's all business related stuff. So if Alex wants to write down the names that are, you know, on that calendar, that's up to them. But there's not really any incriminating information anywhere, it looks very boring. It's very mundane information.

S Storyteller Rina 1:10:53

So that's mostly what you find, Alex, some names, perhaps some that you recognize, especially on the human side of things, some catering that it looks like the bakery is going to be doing for some parties for some of the wealthier people in town. You might see a couple other names

that you recognize, but there's nothing super interesting for you, necessarily, unless you want to do some, like breaking and entering.

T Tiffanie (Alex) 1:11:18

Not yet. I'm gonna at least make it seem like I'm polite. I don't snoop or stuff.

S Storyteller Rina 1:11:27

We haven't gotten to the b&e part of this game yet. So, alright, so you poke around, find some names, but you don't go much further. And before too long, you hear the front doorbell ring slightly as someone enters. In this case, it's Marcus, Rahm, and Katerina. And Katerina, Lucy has finished packaging up the individual slices of this red velvet cake and is now working on preparing what looks like a blood orange chocolate tart. And she looks up as you come in, and she says,

L Lucy 1:12:09

The scary one's back there.

K Katerina 1:12:12

Well yes, they should be. Were my instructions not clear, Lucy?

L Lucy 1:12:18

Well, I don't know. They might have left. I can't keep them there if they don't want to be there. But they didn't come out the front door.

K Katerina 1:12:26

You know the back door has an alarm if we do not purposefully disable it. You would have heard that.

L Lucy 1:12:34

That's true. Right. Well, maybe they could do something creepy. Like turn into a bat.

K Katerina 1:12:41

Please do not make me send you home, Lucy.

- S** Storyteller Rina 1:12:44
Ok, well, they're there and I don't have any interest in any of whatever the creepy one wants. So I'm just going to stay up here and you guys can go back there.
- S** Storyteller Rina 1:12:46
And she's looking at Rahm and Marcus.
- L** Lucy 1:13:01
Hi.
- K** Katerina 1:13:03
Would you two please go back and stand at the wooden table? I will be with you shortly.
- R** Rahm the Shaman 1:13:12
Yes ma'am.
- M** Marcus 1:13:13
I'll take a look around, thanks.
- S** Storyteller Rina 1:13:15
By look around, do you just look around the bakery up front? Do you have a wander around the building? What is Marcus doing?
- M** Mike (Marcus) 1:13:26
No, I don't think I'll wander around the building, but being told to stay put is a little, probably a little too jarring for Marcus's blood. Nobody tells me to stay put. So yeah, I'm happy to be in the area but I'm definitely going to keep my eyes and ears open.
- S** Storyteller Rina 1:13:45
So you amble back to the table Katerina directed you to, but Marcus, you see a bunch of boxes with the Dragonfly Confections label sealing them closed. There's a lot of different confections being set out in the on the counter to go into boxes and looks like there's a party coming up

being set out in the on the countertop to go into boxes and looks like there's a party coming up soon, perhaps, that they're preparing, or maybe it's pickup. You're not sure. But they're doing a lot of business in here. And both of you pick up the unmistakable slightly irony hint of human blood coming from the back of the kitchen as you walk into the back.

T Teagan (Rahm) 1:14:32
Yeah, I'll take a deep, long breaths.

S Storyteller Rina 1:14:38
Inhaling that tasty, tasty scent of blood. Katerina, so the other two have followed your pointing finger. What would you like to do?

A Ali (Katerina) 1:14:52
Well, I have to dress down Lucy, like, this is she she's not my favorite employee. I need her to understand there is a reason that I instruct the way that I do. She's worked for me for long enough that she should know this by now and it's getting old.

L Lucy 1:15:12
I'm sorry, I didn't know... just like creepy vampire walked in....


A Ali (Katerina) 1:15:17
Oh, no. I go to the door and I flip the sign closed for a minute.

K Katerina 1:15:24
Come here.

L Lucy 1:15:26
Ok...

S Storyteller Rina 1:15:27
She looks a little hesitant but she covers up the tart and walks over.

S Storyteller Rina 1:15:28

 Storyteller Rina 1:15:35

Yes, Katerina?

 Katerina 1:15:37

You need to understand. I am not just your elder when it comes to how long I've been in this business. I am your elder when it comes to how long I've been part of this clan, how long I have been managing people. You are young in too many ways. And I cannot have you undermining my authority. If you talk back to me again, if you interrupt me when I am speaking to you any time... You are on a probationary period right now, do not question the things I tell you again. If you do, you will be out that door faster on your face than you will ever see. Take pride in what you are. And in this job. You were hired for a reason. Do not let your youth end up being the thing that gets you killed. Now open this back up for business. And I expect all of your work and a little more done by the time that I return near the end of the night. Am I understood?

 Storyteller Rina 1:17:11

She stares at you wide-eyed and nods slowly.

 Katerina 1:17:16

Got it? Because I have no trouble of replacing you. If you want to be here, be here. If you do not, you know the way out.

 Ali (Katerina) 1:17:28

And I will walk into the back.

 Storyteller Rina 1:17:31

You hear a scurry of movement as Lucy flips the sign back and runs back to her workstation to keep working at the tart. And you hear a little snuffling behind you.

 Ali (Katerina) 1:17:46

I can't feel bad. I can't.

 Storyteller Rina 1:17:49

It is genetically impossible for Katerina to feel bad about anything.



.....

A Ali (Katerina) 1:17:54
At least especially in regards to her business.

S Storyteller Rina 1:17:58
Right. So you go back to your office, I assume, to pick up Alex.

A Ali (Katerina) 1:18:03
Yes. And I knock on the office door because it's only polite, even though it's my business. And I pull open the door.

K Katerina 1:18:12
I am very sorry for not being here when you arrived. Since I was unable to get ahold of you directly, I was not sure when we would be meeting, but please, come join us at the table so that we can discuss as a group everything that we have learned.

S Storyteller Rina 1:18:30
Ok. So you go to convene the council in the back, the Vampiric Council. Alex, there's Marcus and Rahm the Shaman, and no sign of Vince, but at least most of the gang is here.

K Katerina 1:18:47
We are missing one.

A Alex 1:18:49
Yeah, I told Vince I would pick him up at 8. He was not there. However, Mina will take care of it. He will be disciplined.

K Katerina 1:19:01
Who is this Mina?

A Alex 1:19:04
His roommate.

—

K Katerina 1:19:06
Is this the one that throws books?

A Alex 1:19:10
Sometimes.

K Katerina 1:19:11
Very well. Marcus and I were at the offices of Greene and Johnson earlier this evening. We were talking to Andrew Green in regards to his visit from Luther.

M Marcus 1:19:34
I smile probably far wider than I should.

M Mike (Marcus) 1:19:39
And so before we arrived here, I asked Rama question and that is who's Dina? And so since Alex is here now, why don't you inform all of us who Dina is? You'll get filled in on the rest of it in a second, but the Dina portion is pretty important.

R Rahm the Shaman 1:20:00
Moi?

K Katerina 1:20:01
Yes. Because the name came up during that conversation as the portent, as bringing forth a vision that you know, portent of doom and how there's our rise in power.

R Rahm the Shaman 1:20:27
Oh, well, Dina is, as you probably guessed at this point is a member of my Clan. Malkavian. Well, she's powerful. Whether she's a prophet, I guess we'll find out, because she wants to talk. She wants to meet with me and you and you and you and the one that's not here. But she sent a little avatar of hers, a little psychopomp last night, a little creature came by just before sunrise, which is why I didn't tell you this sooner. I apologize. And informed me that apparently, she's aware of us and wishes to talk.

A Alex 1:21:28

ARC 1:21:40

Which I think is a good idea, considering the last time I spoke to Luther, he was talking about Dina. Apparently, Dina got spooked after Luis's disappearance.

R

Rahm the Shaman 1:21:48

Luther spoke to me about Dina as well. So this is all coming full circle.

M

Marcus 1:21:56

It's interesting, don't you think? That this vision would drive Luther to talk to so many people. It's split Clan Gangrel, effectively. It's that powerful. They were that concerned. Now, Andrew, Green. He's not interested in cutting and running like most of the rest of his clan, he's planning on staying put right where he's at, because what he wants to do is keep making money. He's built a little fiefdom for himself, down there, near Water Street, and he's enjoying his spoils of his financial victories. And so when Dina came with her vision to clan Gangrel and it sparked an enormous argument, one that nearly led to some spilled blood among Kindred kind, Andrew was brought in at Luther's behest to do a little, do a little cooldown period. Try to calm the clan down. It didn't work. Worse yet, Luther's dead. And now Andrew's put all of his chips in on pushing any anything he can towards Dina so now of course, we're going to have to go talk to Dina. Now, it's possible that Green has nothing to do with this long term. He doesn't really benefit from Luther's death. Clans generally like to have their membership in positions of power, makes the clan as a whole more powerful. But that said, he called it a surprise visit. He called Luther's visit to him a surprise, which tells me two things. One, they weren't friends at all. As Sheriff, Luther's a pretty common sight for most Kindred. He's visible when necessary. If it's considered a surprise visit, then they probably weren't very much on speaking terms. My guess is Luther probably got along with everybody in his clan for the most part. But he didn't feel like his voice was powerful enough. And that also tells me that he needed Andrew. Because he was concerned that this city Gangrel were going to leave, not the Country Gangrel, who I assumed Luther would have no problem talking to.

A

Alex 1:24:49

No.

M

Marcus 1:24:50

So we need to set up, we need to set up a meeting with Dina. That's what I'm saying.

A

Alex 1:24:56

Yeah, I think she's got information that we need. Also, you got to remember, let me point this out, that the Gangrel are not the only one seeing having these visions and dreams. I know of a few Ventrue having the same issues. And a Tremere.

M Marcus 1:25:19
Yes, the Blood Moon. He talked about it. That's what Dina evidently had talked about.

R Rahm the Shaman 1:25:26
Wait. So Dina is not the one ripping people's hearts out. She's the one that knows...

M Marcus 1:25:35
Mystical power.

R Rahm the Shaman 1:25:37
Ah.

A Alex 1:25:40
Well, her being Malkavian already makes that a touchy subject. However, Luther did kind of say that she was a prophet. So she may have some particular insight or particular way she handles these things. Because it seems like a lot of other elders, I would say, are having issues.

K Katerina 1:26:13
May we not forget that just because the Malkavian brought forth the vision that perhaps it is not allowing her to stay in her right mind?

R Rahm the Shaman 1:26:23
snarky No offense, of course.

A Alex 1:26:26
Well, also, um, don't Malkavians have that thing where you guys can all share, like the same thing. So wouldn't you have seen it already?

T Tiffanie (Alex) 1:26:38
As I look over to Rahm.

R Rahm the Shaman 1:26:40
Share the same thing, very precise, very precise.

A Alex 1:26:45
I don't know how it works.

R Rahm the Shaman 1:26:48
I see it as something a bit... There's a lot of information there. And if you don't throw a filter or some focus on it, you know, if you're not looking specifically for it, then, you know, unless it's powerful enough, it doesn't force its way into your mind.

A Alex 1:27:07
So then, Rahm, it either means that it hasn't reached its full potential and you haven't felt it yet, or you haven't looked for it, which I suggest you don't do, because it seems like people are not responding very well.

R Rahm the Shaman 1:27:25
Well, when I reached out a night or so ago, it was enough to at least put me on Dina's radar, which is now how we got the meeting. So yeah, Alex, I won't scratch any deeper into this mud pit, but it did get us somewhere.

A Alex 1:27:53
Oh, I agree. I'm not saying that it's useless. I just would like everybody that we are working with to not be obsessed with the Bloodmoon and just, you know, do our research.

R Rahm the Shaman 1:28:13
We're on the same page.

M Marcus 1:28:17
Ok. Well, then, I would appreciate it, Rahm, if you are our broker for this meeting with Dina.

R Rahm the Shaman 1:28:26
Absolutely, I could do no less. I will. I'll set it up. We're off to see the Oracle.

S Storyteller Rina 1:28:40

The wonderful oracle of Oz. And with that, we will draw this session to a close. Thank you all again for tuning in as our coterie investigates the strange goings on in San Francisco. And we hope see you again next time for more adventures. Thank you and good night.