

Scene 3

Scene setup:

I still have to move the Demon Core to a more suitable place. This time I have a Plaguebearer with me.

Altered Scene: A storm is coming.

"Do you really think it makes sense to fly in that weather? Isabelle will hardly travel the island in the storm without reason."

"Even better. That makes easier to find a defensible position before she finds us." A thunder rumble in the distance underscored Dargoth's concerns.

"I need to take a look at the coastline before I fly there." With those words, I sat on a fallen tree and directed my senses to the east coast. (Scrying) Without being physically present, wind and waves did not matter to me. So I let my view drift along the shoreline.

Q: Do I find suitable structures? (Somewhat likely) 78 -> Yes.

A rugged stretch of coastline, where slopes of the island mountains fell into the sea, looked promising. I decided to do a closer inspection before I actually went there.

Q: Is there a half-flooded cave? (50/50) 65 -> Yes.

Almost ideal. A hole in the rock, for humans only accessible at calm weather and with boats. That was a good starting point for further development.

"I found a good spot for our temporary lair." With that, I called my Plaguebearer and we swung into the air. Darkened by the approaching storm both of us were barely visible as more than random shadows from the ground.

Q: Is meaningful flight still possible in the weather? (Unlikely) 20 -> Yes

We had to try to cover a distance as large as possible before the storm hit. I did not want to fly over the ocean because there would be no protection in case of doubt. That meant a bit over the plane and then through the mountains. A look at the storm front did not bode well. The mountains could wait until that storm had passed.

For the following I used the Location Crafter with a special rule: Before every scene, I rolled a d10 against progress points. On a result lower then the current progress points the storm will be too strong to continue.

S: L: Exp E: None O: Exp

Although the clouds clenched threateningly and weather lights on the horizon made for an eerie atmosphere, but all in all, we made good progress. So we paid little attention to the terrain below us to waste no time.

S: L: Pond E: Animal O: None

As we flew over the pitch-black surface of a pond a few birds of prey raced up from the surrounding treetops.

Q: Am I hit? (High vs Awesome) 38 -> Nope.

Q: Is PB hit? (High vs Below Average) 22 -> Yes.

One of the birds circled my plaguebearer in an attacking flight and caught it with its claws.

Q: Does it do damage? (Weak vs. weak) 65 -> No

The birds swarm around us and are annoying. But not more. My call to the Plaguebearer:

"No time to waste. Go on."

Q: Do the birds leave us if we disappear? (Near sure) 42 -> Yes

After a short while, the birds flew back to the pond. It seems that was just a territorial thing.

S: L: Exp E: Special O: Random

L: Special: Random Element, Bravely Exotic

O: Daintily Rare

Below us, on a serpentine path, a colorful spot moved along. A traveling circus stood like us up to the weather, filled with the hope to find shelter in time. A special wagon spurned my interest. A mechanic orchestra with graceful dancer figures. Hopefully they survived the storm. That surely would be amazing to observe.

S: L: Special E: Animal O: Special

L: Add Element Violently Strong

O: This is bad (Exp)

A smell like sulfur grabbed my attention. A splash of water sprayed at me. But not rain from above but from below. Together with rain and storm, a geyser worked to destroy every path down below. We flew over all that. Some goats run away in panic.

S: L: Random E: Animal O: Exp
L: Offensively Drab

The sulfur must have increased in recent times. For the woods below us were dying of. Panicking beasts seem to belong to this island everywhere. At least Kraken will not starve. Moving on.

Storm

A squall caught me and only with difficulty I could avoid a fall. I called out to my Plaguebearer to find shelter.

Q: Do we find a wind-protected spot? (50/50) 55-> Yes

Event: Move toward a thread (Avoid Isabelle) Postpone Weather.

Unbeknownst to me, the storm will blow longer than expected. Isabelle gets bored and makes plans to leave this unimportant Island as soon as possible.

Immediate effect for me: A long storm.

A rock overhang served as a shelter for us. With my Removal and Creation skills, it did not take long and we had a spacious and safe shelter. Here we could comfortably expect the end of the storm.

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Almost everything went according to plan, so CF is back to 6.

Goats here? Must be escaped domestic goats.

For the caves I am going for I imagine something like that: https://metode.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/68_74-Coves-i-cales.jpg without the climber.