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#### **HOW TO PLAY**

**Pathfinder Society Scenario #9–15: The Bloodcove Blockade** is a Pathfinder Society Scenario designed for 3rd- through 7th-level characters (Tier 3–7; Subtiers 3–4 and 6–7). This scenario is designed for play in the Pathfinder Society Roleplaying Guild campaign, but it can easily be adapted for use with any world. For more information on the Roleplaying Guild, how to read the attached Chronicle sheets, and how to find games in your area, check out the campaign's home page at **paizo.com/pathfinderSociety**.



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## **GM** Resources

The Bloodcove Blockade uses the Pathfinder RPG Core Rulebook, Pathfinder RPG Bestiary, Pathfinder RPG Bestiary 3, Pathfinder RPG NPC Codex, Pathfinder RPG Ultimate Equipment (UE), and Pathfinder RPG Ultimate Magic (UM). You can find these rules in the Pathfinder Reference Document online at paizo.com/prd, and the relevant rules from the Bestiary, Bestiary 3, and NPC Codex are reprinted at the back of the adventure for the GM's convenience.

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By Nicholas Wasko



s the grippli tribes of the Kaava Lands opened up to their new allies in the Pathfinder Society, a group of tribal elders approached several key Society leaders in the region with a dire request. Long ago the tribe's ancestors discovered a powerful asura named Parveen was sealed away within a ruined Ghol-Gan temple in Kaddodi. The wards that bound Parveen were fading, but the gripplis had employed their ancient art of fiend-keeping to supplement the seals and prevent the asura from returning to full strength. Thus far the gripplis have averted Parveen's release, but a new mining operation funded by the Aspis Consortium now threatens to destroy what remains of the temple's original wards. The Kaava Lands are subject to no court, and even then the gripplis' testimony would mean little before the Consortium's might. If the Society is to shut down the mines and keep Parveen from devastating the Kaava Lands, it needs to both strangle the Aspis supply lines and secure proof that might convince potential allies to join the cause.

Hoping to learn more, the Society asked several contacts to investigate regional leads. The mining operation originated out of Bloodcove, so the Society first turned to Malika Fenn, its longtime undercover agent in the Aspis-controlled city, to investigate the mining outfit's logistics. Unbeknownst to Malika, however, the Consortium had identified her as a Pathfinder agent years earlier, fed her false intelligence, and spied on her in return. When she began prying into the mining operation, Aspis overseers decided to act, subduing Malika and imprisoning her in an undisclosed location.

Now Fola Barun, the Pathfinder Society's newly confirmed contact in the Kaava Lands, has confirmed that the Aspis Consortium's mining operation is actively dismantling the Kaddodi temple complex and threatening to free the asura within. The gripplis don't have the strength to oust the well-supplied Aspis operation alone. Instead, only a combined effort from the Pathfinder Society and local power brokers can shut down the operation and avert the fiend's release.

#### SUMMARY

Fola Barun and Guaril Karela meet the PCs just outside Bloodcove, where they explain how a new Aspis mine in

## Where on Golarion?

This adventure takes place in Bloodcove, a dangerous city that straddles the Vanji River on the west coast of the Mwangi Expanse. The city rises above the silt-choked water on a foundation of mangrove roots crisscrossed by wooden walkways, and the trade port attracts a wide range of native Mwangi, merchants, and pirates. For more information about Bloodcove, see *Pathfinder Campaign Setting: Heart of the Jungle* and *Pathfinder Campaign Setting: The Inner Sea World Guide*, available at bookstores and game stores, and online at **paizo.com**.



Kaddodi may release a powerful asura unless the Pathfinder Society can shut it down. Guaril's local contacts have identified the business handling the mining venture's logistics: a company called the Vanji Prospector's Guild. The PCs infiltrate the Guild's headquarters, recovering incriminating documents and freeing the imprisoned Pathfinder operative Malika Fenn.

After the PCs raid the Vanji Prospector's Guild, the clock starts ticking as Aspis agents prepare to counterattack. The PCs must use the evidence they found to convince several of Bloodcove's independent powerbrokers to cut off the Consortium's supply lines.

To halt shipments by sea, the PCs meet with Erwyn Harvacus, the leader of the Saltroot druid circle. Erwyn's druids manipulate Bloodcove's mangroves to extort the city's merchants, clearing the docks for those who earn or buy Harvacus's favor and overgrowing the moorings of those who spurn him. The PCs can broker an alliance by addressing his concerns or blackmail him with information recovered from the Vanji Prospector's Guild.

To intercept land-bound supplies, the PCs seek out Ungala, a guerilla warrior who the Society has helped before. Ungala wishes to help, but cannot commit her operation to the cause because a mysterious force has been murdering her soldiers. The PCs identify the killer as one of Parveen's loyal asuras, whom the PCs must defeat to earn Ungala's aid.

With everything in place, the PCs must escape Bloodcove and signal the blockade to begin. As the PCs travel up the Vanji River to rendezvous with Fola and Guaril, an Aspis bounty hunter named Kemendu ambushes the party. The longer it takes the PCs to complete their previous objectives, the more prepared Kemendu is when he confronts them.

#### **GETTING STARTED**

Read or paraphrase the following to begin the adventure.

Sputtering lanterns light the grimy common room of the Poppy's Bloom, a tobacconist-turned-boardinghouse on the outskirts of Bloodcove's harbor. Two figures emerge from the room's darkest corner—the tattooed half-elf Fola Barun and Guaril Karela of the Exchange faction. Fola shrinks into her cloak to avoid being seen, whereas Guaril looks around with a nostalgic glint in his eye.

"You can take the Sczarni out of the city, but you can't take the city out of the Sczarni," Guaril sighs wistfully. "Not to say Bloodcove and Riddleport are the same, but with a little work we could make it more like home... if you're willing to lend a hand."

"Let's not get ahead of ourselves," whispers Fola tensely, glancing about for eavesdroppers. "The matter at hand is greater than a single port. I've met with the grippli tribes in the Kaava Lands and they've confirmed some troubling reports. A ruined temple that the Society recently surveyed in Kaddodi has a powerful asura sealed within its walls. The gripplis have maintained the fiend's prison for generations, but the Aspis Consortium recently began mining the temple grounds for minerals. Their operation appears to be threatening the temple's wards, and should the mining continue, the asura could be released. If we are to prevent an ancient evil from devastating the Kaava Lands, we must halt the Aspis operations around that temple."

"That's where we come in," Guaril says with a smirk. "The Exchange faction has been exerting pressure on the mine's business partners, but to shut it down for good, we need to hit its foundations in Bloodcove. Aspis agents rarely honor legal obstacles, so we'll be returning to my 'family values.' A company called the Vanji Prospectors' Guild runs the logistics for the Aspis mining outfit. Your job is to get in and grab anything that makes the Consortium's

business practices unpalatable. From there we approach some of Bloodcove's movers and shakers, expose the Consortium's misdeeds, and convince them to strangle the mining outfit's supply lines. With a little luck, we may free this city from Aspis coils and earn some new business partners in one fell swoop."

Fola adds, "We've already identified two community leaders who may be sympathetic to our cause: Erwyn Harvacus of the Saltroot druid circle, and Ungala, a guerilla warrior the Society has met before. Ultimately we need to shut down the Consortium's supply lines, by land and by sea. Furthermore, we need to orchestrate the whole thing while deep in Aspis-controlled territory. We'll cover your tracks as best we can, but I suggest you move quickly to minimize any attempts to retaliate."

After explaining the mission, Fola and Guaril answer the PCs' questions as best they can and help secure equipment without drawing suspicion. They also inform the PCs about available resources based on the PCs' previous exploits (see the sidebar on page 5). Fola and Guaril request that the PCs investigate Malika Fenn's disappearance even if the PCs don't ask about the Vanji Prospector's Guild.

What is the Vanji Prospector's Guild? Guaril shrugs and reports, "It once was a minor contractor for the Consortium, used to support mining operations without drawing unwanted attention. The Guild handles everything—personnel, revenue, supplies, even prisoners moving to and from the mine—so the guild house should be rich with secrets about the outfit's inner workings. The building is guarded, certainly, but you are strong, savvy, and more than capable of getting in and out without too much trouble. Just remember that nobody likes being attacked, and the longer you can avoid drawing blades, the longer you'll be able to search. If you have to punch someone, just remember to grab what you can and then get out. We'll run interference while you infiltrate the guild house, but afterward you need to finish the mission before they can mobilize an effective counterattack."

What evidence should we look for? Guaril makes some suggestions. "Find anything we can use to drive a wedge between the Consortium and our potential new allies. Look for transactions that work against Harvacus's interests or stolen Mwangi relics that will anger Ungala." Guaril looks to Fola then adds, "Also, the Society is a family that looks after its own, and the undercover agent Malika Fenn vanished before we began planning this job. We suspect Aspis agents caught her too close to the mining operation. Keep an eye out, and tell her Guaril sent you."

Who is Erwyn Harvacus? Fola responds. "He leads the Saltroots, a druid circle heavily involved in maintaining Bloodcove's dockyards. The entire city is built atop a giant mangrove copse, so druids capable of reshaping the root network wield considerable influence. Those in Harvacus' good graces have ready access to usable landings, but those who anger him often find their moorings overgrown or

their docks literally wandering off. The Consortium pays Erwyn a small fortune to keep things running smoothly, so you will have to convince him that ending that arrangement is worth the cost."

Who is Ungala? Fola reports, "She's an enemy of any foreigner trying to get rich by pilfering cultural relics from the Mwangi Expanse. She leads a band of guerilla raiders on missions to capture smugglers and return artifacts to their rightful owners, for a nominal fee, of course. We suspect the Aspis mining operation is supplementing their income with stolen relics, so it shouldn't be too hard to win Ungala's support if you can find proof.

Faction Notes: Before the PCs depart, Guaril Karela pulls aside any members of the Exchange faction. He informs the PCs that this mission provides an opportunity wrestle control of Bloodcove from Aspis hands and gain a foothold in an otherwise insular market—particularly one versed in rare treasures and smuggled goods. To give his associates a fighting chance, however, Guaril needs local power brokers willing to commit to a long-term alliance. He sees Erwyn Harvacus as an ideal business partner, and Guaril asks the PCs to do their best to earn the druid's respect and make a positive first impression on behalf of the Exchange.

## Diplomacy (gather information) or Knowledge (local)

The PCs may know more about the city of Bloodcove and its criminal power brokers.

15+: Bloodcove was built atop a forest of giant mangroves at the Vanji River delta. The mangroves' root systems still support much of the city's foundation, and regular maintenance is necessary to keep growing roots from tearing buildings apart. The Saltroot druid circle plays a key role in tending the mangroves, giving the Saltroots leverage in a city otherwise run by mercantile interests.

**20+:** The Saltroot's leader, Erwyn Harvacus, uses the circle's influence to extort money from merchants who use the docks his druids maintain. He launders this money by investing in local plantations, protecting the Saltroot's finances as long as the crops prosper (which he ensures with regular castings of *plant growth*).

**25+:** Harvacus rarely double-crosses those who pay into his racket, but he makes an exception for those who work with fiends. Two of his brothers perished in the Mendevian Crusades, and he's held a grudge against all evil outsiders ever since.

#### Knowledge (geography or history)

The PCs may know more about the Mwangi Expanse and its various peoples.

15+: Bloodcove serves as a bastion of urbanization in a region that largely remains the domain of wilderness and tribes of Mwangi natives, ranging from humans along the

## Previous Experiences

So long as at least one PC has earned credit for any of the following scenarios, the PCs gain the respective benefit listed below.

#6-09: By Way of Bloodcove: Ungala makes contact shortly after learning the PC has returned to Bloodcove, asking them to meet her at the hideout of a soldier who survived an encounter with a mysterious creature hunting her forces. The PCs automatically find Ungala and can question her witness with no risk of delay.

#6-16: Scions of the Sky Key, Part 3: The Golden Guardian: If a PC still has the Vanei's Friend boon, the Aspis turncoat provides all the information about the Vanji Prospector's Guild that the PCs could learn by canvassing the guild house.

#7-10: The Consortium Compact: The former Aspis smuggler Magali knows the typical features of Aspis storage warehouses, warning the PCs about the likelihood of a secret loading bay and a trap. The PCs receive a +8 circumstance bonus on Perception checks to find the secret door and the trap in area A4, and a +4 circumstance bonus on Disable Device checks to either open the secret door or disable trap. The PCs can make these checks untrained.

#9–10: Signs in Senghor: Shinri Dells's journal provides enough information to pass as the monk's representative, automatically convincing the bouncers to allow access to the overseers. The overseers immediately reveal the Twelve Rites tablet and Handout #2 in area A4. Furthermore, the PCs can mention Lutebu Alrati's name to reroll one Bluff or Diplomacy check against the overseers after seeing the result but before learning the outcome.

coast to gripplis, lizardfolk, and other races further inland. Each tribe boasts its own unique cultural heritage, though many formed among the ruins of much older civilizations deeper in the jungle.

**20+:** Several Bloodcove-based profiteers, including Aspis agents and members of House Cartahegn, regularly steal, smuggle, or exploitatively swindle cultural relics from local tribes to be sold abroad. The practice fans divisions between native populations and foreigners within the city. Bloodcove's law enforcement generally favors the looters, so local dissidents, including Ungala and her guerillas, have started to steal relics back by force.

**25+:** Stealing cultural relics is a lucrative but risky business. Many Mwangi artifacts contain ancient magic that even tribal leaders don't fully understand. Tampering with these items can release powerful curses upon the unwary.

#### RACING THE CONSORTIUM

The Aspis Consortium controls much of Bloodcove's commerce, and attempting to undermine them in their

## Scaling Guild House Reconnaissance

To accommodate a group of four PCs, one successful check reveals both the layout of the building and the creatures dwelling within. Two successes reveal the passcode that grants a meeting with the overseers. Additional successes still grant the cumulative +2 bonus on skill checks to infiltrate the site.

own territory inevitably draws their ire. Over the course of this scenario, Aspis agents identify the Pathfinders and organize a counterattack as the PCs try to escape. Complications that arise as the PCs complete their mission are tracked as delays, a general indicator for how long the PCs have taken to finish their tasks and how much time the Consortium has to plan an ambush. The more delays the PCs accumulate throughout the adventure, the more difficult the encounter in area **D** becomes.

As a guideline, so long as the PCs are maintaining a healthy pace through the adventure, they should not earn any delays except where listed in the scenario. If the PCs pursue an unexpected tactic that would take a considerable amount of time (usually anything that takes 30 minutes or more) or draw considerable attention to themselves, it might be appropriate to tally an additional delay. As a courtesy, consider advising the players that an otherwise clever strategy might take a long time to complete.

If the PCs spend a very long amount of time on an activity, such as resting 8 hours or waiting a long time for a different time of day, they earn 5 delays.

## A. THE VANJI PROSPECTORS' GUILDHOUSE

The Vanji Prospector's Guild operates out of a small building overhanging the Vanji River, with most of its rooms supported by large mangrove roots. Each room has good wooden doors, smooth wooden walls and floors, and ceilings roughly 12 feet high. Windows provide normal illumination in areas A1, A2, and A3. The waterlogged ground beneath the guild house functions as a shallow bog (Pathfinder RPG Core Rulebook 427), and the sluggish Vanji River requires a successful DC 10 Swim check to traverse.

PCs can canvass the guild house ahead of time with a successful DC 18 Climb, Diplomacy, Disguise, Stealth, or Swim check (DC 21 in Subtier 6–7) to find an advantageous spot to observe from afar. Each PC can attempt one such check before Guaril insists the mission commence to stay on schedule. Divinations like clairaudience/clairvoyance, detect thoughts, or scrying provide information as though the caster had automatically succeeded at her skill check. One success reveals the layout of the building, allowing the PCs to see the map before approaching. Two successes

identify the guards as two unarmored bouncers in the storefront and two elf wizards overseeing the business from the office. Three successes reveal that customers who ask to "inspect their dividends from the Kaddodi project" are brought to the overseers to discuss valuables recovered from the mining operation. Any additional successes provide a cumulative +2 circumstance bonus on all skill checks made to infiltrate the guild house. If a PC fails a check, the bungled surveillance arouses suspicion, earning the PCs one delay.

#### A1. Boardwalk

Bloodcove's waterfront features numerous boardwalks that allow pedestrians to travel unimpeded above the mangrove roots and marshland surrounding the Vanji River. The overseers in area A3 automatically spot any PCs who approach on the boardwalk without making an effort to remain hidden. If the PCs behave suspiciously (e.g. casting spells, drawing weapons, etc.) the overseers prepare for battle (see area A3).

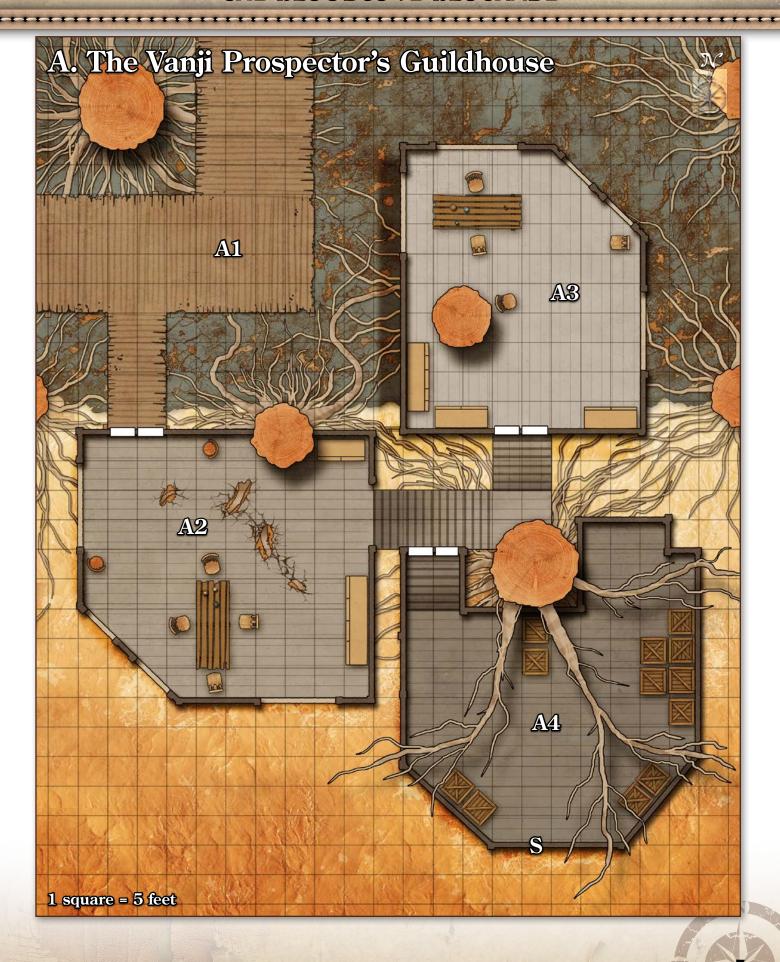
#### A2. Storefront (CR 4 or CR 7)

A polished table stands in the center of the room, surrounded by windows overlooking the Vanji River. The trunk of a massive mangrove grows through the northern wall, with two large roots breaking through the otherwise smooth wooden floor. A staircase ascends to the east, flanked by cabinets stuffed with leatherbound journals and waterproof scroll cases.

The Vanji Prospector's Guild receives clients in this room, where they discuss logistics and catalog reports from field operations. The guild only works with clients screened by the Aspis Consortium, so walk-in customers are usually detained here until they can be properly evaluated or convinced to do business elsewhere.

**Creatures:** Two bouncers guard this room, halting anyone who enters and asking about their business with the guild. They are generally wary of unexpected visitors, turning away those who come without an appointment. They listen to those who claim to have business with the guild, but if the PCs insist on staying when asked to leave, or try to force their way through this room, the bouncers attack. In Subtier 6–7, a trained tiger lounges in the sunlight along the south wall and uses its keen sense of smell to monitor for invisible intruders.

A PC who succeeds at a DC 18 Bluff or Intimidate check (DC 21 in Subtier 6–7) can convince the bouncers that the PCs are approved clients, in which case one bouncer fetches the overseers from area A3. Telling the bouncers that the PCs wish to "inspect their dividends from the Kaddodi project" automatically convinces them to bring the PCs to the overseers in room A3.



## Scaling Encounter A2

Make the following adjustments to accommodate a group of four PCs.

**Subtier 3–4:** The bouncers are pulling a double shift. Give each bouncer the fatigued condition and reduce their uses of Stunning Fist by 2 each.

Subtier 6-7: Remove the trained tiger.

#### **Subtier 3-4 (CR 4)**

#### **BOUNCERS (2)**

CR 2

LN vigilant bodyguards (*Pathfinder RPG NPC Codex* 97, see page 23)

**hp** 20 each

#### TACTICS

**Before Combat** If alerted by the overseers (see area **A3**), the bouncers drink their *potions of mage armor, potions of owl's wisdom,* and *potions of magic weapon*.

**During Combat** The bouncers use disarm combat maneuvers and their Stunning Fist feat to halt intruders, focusing attacks on those attempting to reach areas **A3** or **A4**.

**Morale** The bouncers attempt to retreat to area **A3**, drink their *potions of cure light wounds*, and join the overseers if reduced to 10 hit points or fewer.

#### **Subtier 6-7 (CR 7)**

#### **BOUNCERS (2)**

CR 4

LN cruel devotees (*Pathfinder RPG NPC Codex* 98, see page 23) **hp** 31 each

#### TACTICS

**During Combat** The bouncers use disarm combat maneuvers and their Stunning Fist feat to halt intruders, focusing attacks on those attempting to reach areas **A3** or **A4**.

**Morale** The bouncers attempt to retreat to area **A3**, drink their *potions of cure light wounds*, and join the overseers if reduced to 15 hit points or fewer.

#### TIGER

CR 4

**hp** 45 (Pathfinder RPG Bestiary 265, see page 24)

**Hazards:** Two thick, branching mangrove roots jut out between the floorboards, functioning as an uneven flagstone floor (*Pathfinder RPG Core Rulebook* 411) in the squares containing the roots. The stairs are steep and function as difficult terrain.

**Development:** Any combat in area A2 alerts the overseers if they are not already aware (see area A3).

**Rewards:** If the PCs do not defeat, trick, or otherwise bypass the bouncers, reduce each PC's gold earned by the following amount.

Subtier 3–4: Reduce each PC's gold earned by 269 gp. Out of Subtier: Reduce each PC's gold earned by 418 gp. Subtier 6–7: Reduce each PC's gold earned by 567 gp.

#### A3. Office (CR 4 or CR 7)

Arched windows line the walls of the northern half of the room, providing an expansive view of the surrounding boardwalks. Two wingback chairs with rich upholstery stand on either side of a large desk in the center of the room. Elaborate maps of the Vanji River delta and the Kaava Lands decorate the trunk of a giant mangrove bursting through the center of the room.

Guild leaders meet in this room to plan operations and provide updates to Aspis representatives.

**Creatures:** Two guild overseers manage the day-to-day affairs of the office while also monitoring for intruders. The Aspis Consortium deliberately leaves gaps in the overseers' knowledge of clients so as to maintain plausible deniability if the Vanji Prospector's Guild becomes compromised, so the overseers assume anyone the bouncers clear for access is a valid client. The overseers only trust those who are screened by the bouncers, attempting to capture or kill anyone who directly invades area **A3**. In Subtier 6–7, a conjured mephit acts as a servant to the overseers.

If the PCs successfully pose as clients, they're brought to meet the overseers here and receive updates on how the guild's operations have grown. These developments include the establishment of new overland shipping routes and successful initiatives to drive back native populations that interfere with excavation. A PC can convince the overseers to reveal evidence of various obstacles and other negative developments with a successful DC 10 Bluff check (DC 12 in Subtier 6–7). Each successful Bluff check reveals one piece of evidence from the list below, beginning with whatever best fits the PC's line of inquiry. Each Bluff check after the first increases the DC by 4 as the overseers become more suspicious.

- The overseers have several personnel files that detail the composition, fitness, and training of their operations staff, including the son of Erwyn Harvacus (see Treasure on page 9).
- There is a collection of shipping manifests that detail where the guild is spending resources (see Treasure on page 10).
- To demonstrate a return on investment, the overseers can show off numerous stolen cultural relics from the Mwangi Expanse that are stored in the warehouse (see Treasure on page 10).
- To show off their security, the overseers can show off the captured spy Malika Fenn, who is currently tied up in area A4 (see Development on page 11).
- So long as the PCs have already succeeded at two or

more Bluff checks, earning a greater measure of the elves' trust, the overseers can show off the records of investment the Aspis Consortium has provided for many individuals in and around Bloodcove—including Erwyn Harvacus as a form of leverage in case that relationship sours (see Treasure on page 10).

Failing a Bluff check causes the overseers to conclude the meeting and escort the PCs out, though with a successful DC 22 Diplomacy check (DC 25 in Subtier 6–7), a PC can convince the elves to continue the discussion. If the PCs fail this Diplomacy check, succeed but later fail another Bluff check, or are caught trying to steal anything, the overseers insist that the PCs leave, attacking if the PCs refuse.

As necessary, the elves escort the PCs through the guild house, such as to area A4 to show them the evidence there. By combining a distraction with another successful Bluff check, the PCs can convince the overseers to leave the PCs unattended for up to 3 minutes.

#### **Subtier 3-4 (CR 4)**

#### **GUILD OVERSEERS (2)**

CP 2

NE battle mages (Pathfinder RPG NPC Codex 179, see page 24) **hp** 19 each

TACTICS

**Before Combat** If the overseers notice anything suspicious, they shout a warning down to the bouncers in area **A2**, activate their *bird feather tokens* to alert Aspis allies of an attack, and then cast a series of spells from their scrolls and wands in the following order: *mirror image*, *see invisibility*, *shield*, and *mage armor*.

**During Combat** The overseers first use their *scrolls of glitterdust* on the PCs, focusing first on any invisible targets they identify. They use their spells and scrolls to attack the PCs, or they use their *scrolls of enlarge person* on the bouncers in area **A2**.

**Morale** An overseer tries to flee if reduced to 4 or fewer hit points.

#### STATISTICS

Combat Gear feather token (bird), potion of cure moderate wounds, scroll of enlarge person, scroll of glitterdust, scroll of see invisibility, scroll of magic weapon, scroll of obscuring mist, scroll of scorching ray

#### **Subtier 6–7 (CR 7)**

#### **GUILD OVERSEERS (2)**

CR 4

NE jungle wizards (*Pathfinder RPG NPC Codex* 180, see page 25) **hp** 28 each

#### OFFENSE

Wizard Spells Prepared (CL 5th; concentration +9)

3rd—empowered burning hands (DC 16), displacement, slow (DC 17)

2nd—flaming sphere (DC 17), spider climb, summon swarm, web (DC 16)

## Scaling Encounter A3

Make the following adjustments to accommodate a group of four PCs.

**Subtier 3–4:** The overseers are pulling a double shift. Give each overseer the fatigued condition.

**Subtier 6–7:** Remove the advanced salt mephit.

1st—burning hands (DC 16), enlarge person (DC 15), feather fall, grease, shield

0 (at will)—dancing lights, ghost sound (DC 14), mage hand, touch of fatique (DC 14)

#### TACTICS

**Before Combat** If the overseers notice anything suspicious, they shout a warning down to the bouncers in area **A2**, activate their *bird feather tokens* to alert Aspis allies of an attack, and then cast series of spells in the following order: *mage armor*, *see invisibility*, *shield*, and *displacement*.

**During Combat** The overseers cast *slow* and *web* on their opponents, then cast *summon swarm* into the web. If opponents are escaping the web, the overseers cast *flaming sphere* or empowered *burning hands* on them, using their scrolls of *pyrotechnics* to blind enemies near a *flaming sphere*. They cast *enlarge person* on the bouncers in area **A2** if possible.

**Morale** An overseer tries to flee if reduced to 8 or fewer hit points.

#### STATISTICS

**Combat Gear** feather token (bird), potion of cure moderate wounds, scroll of pyrotechnics, scroll of see invisibility, scroll of stinking cloud

#### **ADVANCED SALT MEPHIT**

CR 4

**hp** 25 (Pathfinder RPG Bestiary 294, 202, see page 24)

Treasure: Each overseer wears a ring that bypasses the trap in area A4. A wand of mage armor (20 charges) rests on the desk. Additionally, several personnel files currently under review are open on the desk, which the overseers present if PCs ask about the quality of the Kaddodi mine's crew. One file indicates that Erwyn Harvacus' son, Erlan, is becoming discontent with the Consortium's work and wishes to leave (see Handout #1). A PC can steal this document without being noticed by succeeding at a DC 18 Sleight of Hand check (DC 21 in Subtier 6–7).

**Development:** If the overseers successfully use their *bird* feather tokens to alert the Consortium, Aspis enforcers begin assembling to retaliate. Fola and Guaril can redirect these agents until the PCs escape, but the more time they spend harassing the Aspis response team, the more exposed the Pathfinder operation becomes. For every minute the PCs spend in the guild house after the alarm is raised, they earn one delay (maximum five delays). If the PCs have not left

after 10 minutes, Guaril arrives and frantically calls for the PCs to evacuate the premises.

Rewards: If the PCs fail to defeat, trick, or otherwise bypass the overseers, reduce each PC's gold earned as follows.

Subtier 3–4: Reduce each PC's gold earned by 328 gp.

Out of Subtier: Reduce each PC's gold earned by 478 gp.

Subtier 6–7: Reduce each PC's gold earned by 628 gp.

#### A4. Storage (CR 3 or CR 6)

The sloped walls of this dank warehouse merge with thick mangrove roots that arch overhead, their processes spun through the room like a tangled wooden web. Several crates bearing the Aspis Consortium's seal are tucked between the roots. The sound of splashing water echoes throughout the room as the Vanji River laps up against the floor.

The room holds supplies bound for the Aspis mining operation, as well as valuables recovered from the dig sites. The room remains dark most of the time, though the overseers use magic to light to room for guests. Aspis agents load and unload cargo from riverboats via a secret door in the southern wall, which a PC can locate with a successful DC 20 Perception check (DC 23 in Subtier 6–7) from inside or outside the room.

Creatures: Malika Fenn was brought here to await interrogation when Aspis agents captured her. She appreciates the PCs' help in freeing her. Malika has had some negative interactions with Guaril, so if informed that he sent the PCs, she rolls her eyes in exasperation before tersely assuring the PCs that she'll send him an appreciative letter. If the PCs ask about rivals undermining the Kaddodi operation, the overseers bring the PCs to Malika to demonstrate the fate of those who interfere in Aspis affairs. Use a freelance thief (Pathfinder RPG NPC Codex 147) to approximate Malika's statistics, except she has no gear and is bound to the roots (5 hp, Strength DC 25) in the northwest corner.

Hazards: The mangrove roots extend from the ceiling to the floor and function as light undergrowth (*Pathfinder RPG Core Rulebook* 426). The secret door is heavy and prone to falling. Opening it quietly requires a successful DC 18 Disable Device or Knowledge (engineering) check (DC 21 in Subtier 6–7), or a strong PC can lift it gently either by having at least a 16 Strength or succeeding at a DC 13 Strength check. Failure means the door crashes into the river, alerting everyone inside.

**Trap:** The mangrove roots are enchanted to become dangerous if unauthorized individuals try to pass through them. Anyone attempting to pass through the undergrowth activates the trap. Touching the roots with a bypass ring worn by the overseers (see area **A3**) deactivates the trap for 5 minutes.

#### **Subtier 3-4 (CR 3)**

MANGROVE ROOT TRAP

CR 3

Type magic; Perception DC 28; Disable Device DC 28

EFFECTS

Trigger proximity (alarm); Reset automatic (1 minute)
Effect spell effect (spike growth, Reflex DC 15 to avoid injuries that slow movement); multiple targets (all targets in undergrowth squares); Duration 10 rounds

#### Subtier 6-7 (CR 6)

#### MANGROVE ROOT TRAP

CR 6

Type magic; Perception DC 30; Disable Device DC 30

**EFFECTS** 

**Trigger** proximity (alarm); **Reset** automatic (1 minute) **Effect** spell effect (wall of thorns); multiple targets (all targets in undergrowth squares); **Duration** 10 rounds

**Treasure:** The wooden crates against the southwest wall contain ship manifests detailing where guild resources are spent to keep the operation running, which the overseers present if PCs ask about the operation's logistics. It notes that the rare seeds and minerals used to placate the Saltroot druids come from several operations throughout the Fever Sea, which frequently relocate due to the damage they inflict on the surrounding environment when harvesting these resources.

The crates against the eastern wall include numerous cultural relics stolen from various Mwangi tribes, which the overseers show the PCs if asked about return on investments in the operation. Among them is a stone slab engraved with runes and a handwritten note from Lutebu Alrati, director of the Kaddodi mine, describing it as one of a set of tablets called the Twelve Rites and warning correspondents about similar items that may contain curses (see **Handout #2**). Identifying either of these among the other materials requires about one minute of active searching and a successful DC 18 Appraise or Perception check (DC 22 in Subtier 6–7).

The crates against the mangrove trunk contain detailed records of investments in and around Bloodcove, accompanied by an incomplete cipher. A PC can decode the cipher with a successful DC 18 Knowledge (local) or Linguistics check (DC 21 in Subtier 6–7) and 10 minutes of study, and the encoded logbooks catalog which businesses received investments from the Saltroot druids. Aspis agents have been tracking Erwyn Harvacus's finances as a security measure in case their relationship with the Saltroot druid circle sours. Although his investments aren't especially scandalous, many of them are secret and could damage his reputation for being an unbiased businessperson if made public.

ERWYN

Harvacus

**Development:** Malika overheard several sensitive conversations while imprisoned here and tells the PCs where to find each piece of evidence described on page 10, providing a +8 circumstance bonus on skill checks to find them if the PCs can communicate with her. The PCs can release Malika as a full-round action, though if the overseers notice, they immediately attack. The overseers pay

little attention to Malika, so they automatically fail any saves required to notice any illusions used to cover her escape. If the PCs successfully rescue Malika, she offers to help them negotiate with Erwyn Harvacus.

#### MEETING ERWYN HARVACUS

Guaril secures a meeting with the Saltroots shortly after the PCs return from either the Vanji Prospector's Guild or Ungala's safe house, joining them as Harvacus's druids lead them to a secret meeting hall. Read or paraphrase the following when the PCs begin their meeting.

Beneath one of Bloodcove's more secluded boardwalks stretches an arched hall, its walls formed from intertwined mangrove roots and its mossy floor firm despite the Vanji's marshy banks. Motes of light float above a long table carved from a single massive tree trunk. Several large stones line the table, each sculpted into an ornate chair by druidic magic.

The Saltroot druids maintain several isolated halls hidden beneath Bloodcove's infrastructure, moving between sites to prevent anyone—even the Aspis Consortium—from tracking their activities too closely. They receive the PCs in one such hall, its amenities reshaped to resemble a conference room.

Erwyn Harvacus greets the PCs with an air of curiosity. He welcomes new opportunities to expand his influence in Bloodcove but currently sees no good reason to shut down the Aspis Consortium's operations. In order to convince Harvacus to cooperate, the PCs must persuade him either that the Society would make a more amicable ally than the Consortium or that he would benefit from teaching the Consortium not to take his services for granted. Guaril attempted to persuade Erwyn on his own earlier, but the two got off on the wrong foot. Erwyn would rather discuss the Aspis mine with the Pathfinders who have seen the Consortium's operation firsthand.

Convincing Erwyn to cooperate requires the PCs to address his concerns, with details for each concern

described below. Each concern has several key skills listed, and succeeding at a DC 24 check (DC 27 in Subtier 6–7) with a key skill allows the PC to convince Erwyn regarding that particular concern. A PC can also use other skills so long as her strategy seems reasonable (e.g. using Intimidate to convey a point better handled delicately), but the DC for these skills is 4 higher, if possible at all, at the GM's discretion. If the PCs make an especially strong argument while roleplaying

that skill check. Furthermore, PCs who contribute to the negotiation can use the aid another action with these checks. Finally, members of the Exchange faction gain an additional edge with these skill checks (see Faction Notes on page 12).

the negotiation, award up to +4 circumstance bonus on

Erwyn's a cagey negotiator who never states his concerns directly for fear of seeming weak. Instead, he frames his existing business arrangements as stable and prosperous, waiting for the PCs to challenge his assumptions. Following some

brief small talk, a PC can uncover

one of Erwyn's concerns with a successful DC 18 Profession (merchant) or Sense Motive check (DC 21 in Subtier 6–7). For every 5 by which the PC exceeds this DC, she learns one additional objection of the three

listed below. The PCs can elect to take longer during the negotiations (earning one delay) in order to learn all of his objections without a skill check. Alternatively, the PCs might learn one

or more of his objections through clever roleplaying.

Aspis Patronage (Diplomacy or Intimidate): The Consortium has never crossed the Saltroots, always pays in full, and often pads its payments with rare seeds and minerals valuable to druidic spellcasting. As a result, Erwyn considers the Consortium a reliable customer and is loath to lose such a lucrative arrangement. If asked about this objection, Erwyn says the Consortium is one of his best "customers," always providing a surplus to the Saltroots and honoring their druidic values. Erwyn argues that canceling his agreement with the Consortium is just bad business. With a successful check, the PCs can convince Erwyn to abandon (or at least suspend) his deal with the Aspis. The shipping manifests (area A4) and the note indicating Aspis agents knowingly traffic in fiend-cursed items (area A4) each provides a cumulative +4 circumstance bonus on this check.

Erlan's Employment (Bluff or Intimidate): Aspis overseers hired Erwyn's son, Erlan, for a managerial position to strengthen ties with Harvacus. Erlan fears turning on the Consortium would result in his son losing a lucrative job



Ungala

at best and possibly being kidnapped by Aspis agents at worst. If asked about this objection, Erwyn says that the Consortium provides gainful employment for both himself and his family, and he sees no reason to bite the hand that feeds him. With a successful check to influence the druid, the PCs can convince Erwyn to pull his son out of Aspis employment. The personnel file indicating that Erlan

dislikes working for the Consortium (area A3) and the decoded logbooks indicating that the Consortium has been tracking Saltroot investments (area A4) each provides a cumulative +4 circumstance bonus on this check.

Pathfinder Society Perks (Bluff or Diplomacy): Harvacus hears much of what happens in Bloodcove and knows the Pathfinder Society successfully undermined Aspis operations before. The Society's past successes have impressed the druid, but he remains concerned that cooperating with Pathfinders would cause upheaval in the status quo that currently

in the status quo that currently serves him well. If asked about this objection, Erwyn refers to the Society as an invasive species that might disrupt the economic ecosystem he tries to maintain. PCs can sell an alliance with the Pathfinder Soci

an alliance with the Pathfinder Society with a successful skill check. Testimony from freed

Malika Fenn (area A4) and the trophy taken from Evrishu's corpse (area C) each provides a cumulative +4 circumstance bonus on this check.

**Treasure:** If the PCs successfully address two or more of Erwyn's concerns, he offers them a token of good faith to assure them of his interest in working with the Pathfinder Society. In Subtier 3–4, this gift includes an *alluring golden apple*<sup>UE</sup>, an *oil of align weapon (good)*, and a polished amber nodule that contains an ancient centipede and functions as a *pearl of power* (1st level). In Subtier 6–7, this gift instead includes an *oil of align weapon (good)* and an *ochre bag of tricks* (functions as a *bag of tricks* that produces a dire bat [1–30], crocodile [31–60], constrictor snake [61–85], or gorilla [86–100]).

**Development:** If the PCs only address one of Erwyn's concerns successfully, he requires several hours of intense negotiations before he agrees to enact temporary restrictions of Aspis shipping—much less judge the quality of the Society as a business partner. This additional time spent bargaining earns the PCs one delay. If the PCs address two of Erwyn's concerns, he agrees to embargo the Consortium's ships only until the Kaddodi mining operation is shut down. If the PCs successfully resolve all of Erwyn's concerns, he decides the Pathfinder Society might make a stronger

ally than the Consortium, and he agrees to blockade Aspis ships indefinitely while setting up a new partnership with Guaril's associates.

Failing to resolve any of Erwyn's concerns causes him to dismiss the Pathfinders as provocateurs who would do more harm than good for his business. If the PCs discovered either his son's personnel file (area A3) or the

they can use this information to blackmail Harvacus into cooperating in the short-term. This functions as if the PCs automatically resolved one concern, though it poisons Harvacus's opinion of the Pathfinder Society.

logbooks describing the Saltroot investments (area A4),

As long as the PCs secure some measure of cooperation with Harvacus, he arranges for them to provide a signal of the PCs' choice once they wish to begin the blockade, such that all participating parties can target Aspis operations at the same time.

**Faction Notes:** Resolving all of the Erwyn's concerns is a top priority for Guaril's plan

to gain a foothold for Exchange faction operatives in Bloodcove's black market. If any PCs are members of the Exchange faction, Guaril joins the PCs during negotiations, and he can vouch for the PCs if things go awry. PCs can

call upon Guaril's aid once during the discussion to reroll a single skill check to

sway Erwyn. Once this happens, however, the druid grows suspicious of Guaril's intentions and has him removed from the meeting.

**Rewards:** If the PCs only resolve one of Erwyn's concerns or blackmailed him into cooperation, cross the *alluring golden apple*, oil of align weapon, pearl of power, and ochre bag of tricks off the PCs' Chronicle sheets, and reduce each PC's gold earned by the following amount.

Subtier 3–4: Reduce each PC's gold earned by 141 gp. Out of Subtier: Reduce each PC's gold earned by 353 gp. Subtier 6–7: Reduce each PC's gold earned by 566 gp.

#### **Recruiting Ungala**

Tracking down Ungala is easier said than done. She counts many of Bloodcove's elite among her enemies, which prevents her from moving about the city openly. Furthermore, a string of recent attacks against her fighters has forced Ungala into hiding, with only a few trusted contacts venturing out into Bloodcove's streets. Finding her requires a successful DC 20 Diplomacy, Knowledge (local), or Survival check (DC 23 in Subtier 6–7) to identify her operatives. Failing this check indicates the PCs find Ungala but waste valuable time while doing so, earning them one delay.

Once the PCs find her, Ungala expresses her willingness to support the Society's mission, but she cannot help because her operation is currently under siege. Three weeks ago, a mysterious entity began murdering her soldiers around Bloodcove, crippling her operation and forcing her remaining guerillas to lay low. The killer has resisted all attempts to magically discern its nature, and only one victim, a man named Embele, survived one of the attacks. Embele went into hiding, so finding him for questioning earns the PCs one delay even with Ungala's aid. Alternatively, they can use speak with dead to question the killer's most recent victim, whose corpse Ungala has recovered for burial.

Firsthand accounts describe the attacker as a pair of spiked monstrosities, their bodies interwoven in a seemingly impossible knot. Despite its twisted appearance, the attacker moved gracefully, swinging its curved knives so quickly it seemed a blur. Fighting back was futile, for even wounds that pierced its thick hide quickly healed. With a successful DC 15 Knowledge (planes) check, a PC can identify the attacker as an adhukait asura, as if the PCs had seen the attacker themselves.

If the PCs show Handout #2 to Ungala, she realizes that the attacks started just after a raid in which they reclaimed a stone tablet matching the letter's description. She quickly retrieves the relic in question, which the PCs can evaluate with a DC 18 Knowledge (arcana) or Linguistics check (DC 22 in Subtier 6-7). The PCs may retry this check, but each attempt earns one delay. If successful, the PC assesses that the tablet still has some power over the asura. Specifically, reading a key passage backward while within 60 feet of the fiend as a move action prevents it from teleporting for 1 hour and causes it to attack the reader. For each additional round after the first that the bearer continues reciting as a move action, the asura takes a cumulative -1 penalty on attack rolls and to its AC (maximum -3). If the recitation ceases for whatever reason, this penalty ends and resets, but the asura remains unable to teleport.

The PCs have enough time to purchase additional gear before confronting the asura. Identifying the asura ahead of time allows the PCs to purchase particularly useful equipment, such as oils of align weapon (good).

#### B. ASURA AMBUSH (CR 6 OR CR 9)

The asura's nondetection aura and teleportation ability makes it difficult to track, so Ungala recommends the PCs travel to the marshy path just outside of Bloodcove where they conducted their last raid before the attacks began (and where Ungala recovered the stone tablet that contained the adhukait's spirit). The attacker already killed two of her soldiers on this path, so she suspects it plans and launches its attacks from this area.

The path leads north to a ruined guard post Ungala used to stage raids, surrounded by a mossy bog studded with

## Scaling Encounter B

To accommodate a group of four PCs in both subtiers, reading the tablet's inscription backward also dismisses all of Evrishu's active spell-like abilities, including any summoned asuras. If the PCs fail to mention the tablet or identify its properties, Ungala automatically brings it up before the PCs leave and informs the PCs how to use the inscription.

wetland trees. A circle of blasphemous tokens and human remains suggests that the asura has been returning here between attacks. The PCs approach from the southwest. Also see Hazards on page 16.

Creature: Ungala's forces are being hunted by an adhukait called Evrishu, who was previously trapped in a cursed stone tablet at the Kaddodi temple. Aspis agents found Evrishu's prison and carefully stashed it in a shipment they expected to be burglarized, hoping the thieves would release the fiend and succumb to its attacks. The House Cartahegn, one Bloodcove's ruling families and the Consortium's primary competitor in trafficking Mwangi relics, sent minions to steal the relic. Unfortunately, Ungala's guerillas stole the tablet back a few days later and accidentally released the asura. Evrishu is loyal to Parveen and believes killing Ungala's forces will keep the Aspis mine operational, hastening Parveen's release.

#### **Subtier 3-4 (CR 6)**

#### **EVRISHU**

CR 6

Degenerate adhukait (*Pathfinder RPG Bestiary 6* 288, *Pathfinder RPG Bestiary 3* 22)

LE Medium outsider (asura, evil, extraplanar, lawful)

**Init** +1; **Senses** all-around vision, darkvision 60 ft.;

Perception +15

Aura elusive (30 ft.)

#### DEFENSE

AC 18, touch 12, flat-footed 16 (+1 Dex, +1 dodge, +6 natural)

**hp** 58 (9d10+9); regeneration 5 (good weapons, good spells)

Fort +4, Ref +9, Will +7; dual mind, +2 vs. enchantments

**DR** 5/good; **Immune** curse effects, disease, flanking, poison; **Resist** acid 10, electricity 10; **SR** 18

## OFFENSE

Speed 40 ft.

**Melee** 2 mwk kukris +13/+8 (1d4+3/18-20), 2 claws +7 (1d4+1)

Special Attacks dance of disaster

**Spell-Like Abilities** (CL 6th; concentration +7)

At will—feather fall, greater teleport (self plus 50 lbs. of objects only), spider climb

3/day—blink, blur, mirror image, spike growth (DC 14)

1/day—summon (level 4, 1 adhukait 35%)



#### TACTICS

**Before Combat** Evrishu casts *blur* and *mirror image* on itself when it sees the PCs approaching, using Stealth to hide in the canopy and avoid being noticed until it is prepared to fight.

**During Combat** Evrishu casts *spike growth* behind the PCs to prevent escape. Then it uses its dance of disaster to attack unarmored foes before turning to heavily armored targets.

**Morale** Evrishu uses *greater teleport* to escape if reduced to 10 hit points or fewer, allowing its regeneration to heal it back to half its total hit points before returning to the battle.

#### STATISTICS

Str 16, Dex 13, Con 13, Int 9, Wis 12, Cha 12

Base Atk +9; CMB +12; CMD 24

**Feats** Combat Reflexes, Dodge, Lightning Reflexes, Mobility, Nimble Moves

**Skills** Acrobatics +11, Bluff +11, Escape Artist +17, Intimidate +7, Knowledge (planes) +5, Perception +15, Perform (dance) +8, Stealth +11; **Racial Modifiers** +6 Escape Artist, +4 Perception

Languages Common, Infernal; telepathy 100 ft.

Other Gear mwk kukris (2)

#### SPECIAL ABILITIES

Dance of Disaster (Su) Whenever an adhukait hits with a melee attack during a full action, it can move 10 feet before making its next attack. The adhukait's normal speed does not limit this movement—it can move 10 feet after any successful hit among its four attacks, as long as it has another attack to make.

**Dual Mind (Su)** An adhukait is a single creature with two distinct minds, so it can attempt two saving throws against mind-affecting effects. If either saving throw succeeds, the mind-affecting effect fails to affect the adhukait.

#### **Subtier 6-7 (CR 9)**

#### EVRISHU

Adhukait fighter 2 (*Pathfinder RPG Bestiary 3* 

LE Medium outsider (asura, evil, extraplanar, lawful)

**Init** +9; **Senses** darkvision 60 ft.; Perception +22

Aura elusive (30 ft.)

#### DEFENSE

**AC** 22, touch 16, flat-footed 16 (+5 Dex, +1 dodge, +6 natural)

hp 117 (11d10+57); regeneration 5 (good weapons, good spells)
Fort +11, Ref +13, Will +10; dual mind, +1 vs. fear, +2 bonus vs.
enchantment spell

Defensive Abilities all-around vision; DR 5/good;
Immune curse effects, disease, flanking, poison; Resist dual mind, acid 10, electricity 10; SR 18

#### OFFENSE

Speed 40 ft.

**Melee** 2 mwk kukri +18/+13/+8 (1d4+6/18-20), 2 claws +12 (1d4+3)

Special Attacks dance of disaster

**Spell-Like Abilities** (CL 6th; concentration +8)

At will—feather fall, greater teleport (self plus 50 lbs. of objects only), spider climb

3/day—blink, blur, mirror image, spike growth (DC 14) 1/day—summon (level 4, 1 adhukait 35%)

#### TACTICS

**Before Combat** Evrishu casts *blur* and *mirror image* on itself when it sees the PCs approaching, using Stealth to hide in the canopy and avoid notice until it is prepared to fight.

**During Combat** Evrishu casts *spike growth* behind the PCs to prevent escape. Then it uses its dance of disaster to attack unarmored foes before turning to heavily armored targets.

**Morale** Evrishu uses *greater teleport* to escape if reduced to 20 hit points or fewer, allowing its regeneration to heal it back to half its total hit points before returning to the battle.

#### STATISTICS

Evrishu

**Str** 22, **Dex** 21, **Con** 21, **Int** 13, **Wis** 18, **Cha** 14 **Base Atk** +11; **CMB** +17; **CMD** 33

Feats Acrobatic Steps, Combat Reflexes, Dodge,
Improved Initiative, Lightning Reflexes,
Mobility, Nimble Moves, Wind Stance
Skills Acrobatics +19, Bluff +14, Escape
Artist +17, Intimidate +13, Knowledge
(planes) +9, Perception +22, Perform
(dance) +13, Stealth +19; Racial Modifiers
+6 Escape Artist, +4 Perception

**Languages** Common, Infernal; telepathy 100 ft.

Other Gear mwk kukris (2)

#### SPECIAL ABILITIES

#### Dance of Disaster (Su)

Whenever an adhukait hits with a melee attack during a full-attack action, it can move 10 feet before making its next attack. The adhukait's normal speed

does not limit this movement—it can move 10 feet after any successful hit among its four attacks, as long as it has another attack to make.

**Dual Mind (Su)** An adhukait is a single creature with two distinct minds, so it can attempt two saving throws against mindaffecting effects. If either saving throw succeeds, the mindaffecting effect fails to affect the adhukait.

Hazards: The green marshland functions as shallow bog (Pathfinder RPG Core Rulebook 427). The trees rise 30 to 40 feet above the ground, their branches interwoven with vines to form a dense canopy. A DC 15 Climb check is sufficient to climb a tree, while a DC 10 Climb check allows a creature to traverse the canopy. The canopy can support up to 400 pounds per 10-foot square (Evrishu weighs 300 pounds), with excess weight causing the branches and vines to break and fall to the ground. The ruined walls of the guard post function as narrow hedgerows (Core Rulebook 427).

**Treasure:** Evrishu loathes religious paraphernalia and has also attacked several priests in the area, adding trophies of the kills to the improvised shrine to the southeast. In Subtier 3–4, there is an *aegis of recovery*<sup>UE</sup> resembling a butterfly made of leaves, a local representation of Shimye-Magalla, a Bonuwat janiform deity combining Desna and Gozreh. In Subtier 6–7 there is also a snakeskin *vest of escape* with 40 fangs of different serpents sewn into it, possibly tied to the Green Faith.

**Development:** Slaying Evrishu earns Ungala's support. She arranges for them to provide a signal to her once the blockade begins, so all participating parties can target Aspis operations at the same time.

**Rewards:** If the PCs do not defeat Evrishu, reduce each PC's gold earned by the following amount.

Subtier 3–4: Reduce each PC's gold earned by 176 gp. Out of Subtier: Reduce each PC's gold earned by 392 gp. Subtier 6–7: Reduce each PC's gold earned by 609 gp.

## C. ESCAPING BLOODCOVE (CR 6+ OR 9+)

Neither Harvacus nor Ungala are willing to act independently for fear of the Consortium's full might, so they agree to begin the blockade only once they receive a coordinated signal from the Pathfinder Society. In order to successfully trigger the start of the blockade, the PCs must escape Bloodcove and report the agreed-upon signal to their superiors. Even if the PCs are with Guaril Karela, he warns that the PCs should get out of the city before the Consortium can retaliate properly. With Aspis agents on high alert, traveling through the harbor becomes too perilous. Instead, the PCs must either flee on foot or take a boat up the Vanji River to rendezvous with Fola and her retainers. The PCs can choose either option. With a successful DC 18 Survival check (DC 21 in Subtier 6-7) or creative use of magic, the PCs have the option to create a false trail, reducing their number of delays by two. Though failing this check consumes precious time and instead earns the PCs one delay.

Ultimately the Consortium identifies the PCs' escape route and orchestrates an ambush along their path. If the PCs travel on foot, the ambush occurs along the waterlogged trails in Bloodcove's hinterlands. If the PCs travel by boat, the ambush occurs at a narrower stretch of the Vanji, where the mangroves encroach deep into the river and form a stretch of marshy banks.

Creatures: The Consortium, intent on removing the Pathfinder Society's agents, began preparing a response once they learned that the Vanji Prospector's Guild was compromised. They turned to Kemendu, a bounty hunter with a strong track record for hunting down fugitives from Bloodcove on short notice. Although professional, Kemendu's chatty. During combat he's willing to quip and taunt the PCs, such as informing them that they've made powerful enemies in Bloodcove or genuinely complimenting a combatant while confirming that even such skill won't save her.

With Aspis resources at his disposal, Kemendu determines who the PCs are and quickly adapts to how they plan to leave the city. He sets up an ambush along the PCs' preferred escape route, making additional preparations based on how many delays the PCs earned. These preparations are cumulative.

o-1 *Delays*: Kemendu arrives just before the PCs, allowing him only enough time to perform the actions listed in his Before Combat tactics.

2–4 *Delays*: Kemendu arrives several minutes before the PCs, allowing him to set six freezing traps in squares he expects the PCs to reach (see Traps below).

5-7 Delays: Kemendu arrives almost an hour before the PCs, allowing him to cast charm animal on a giant crocodile (Subtier 3-4) or an elasmosaurus (Subtier 6-7). The animal aids him in the fight, increasing the encounter's CR by 1.

8+ Delays: Kemendu coordinates his ambush with an Aspis wizard who casts the following spells on him (CL 7th): heroism, keen edge, resist energy (acid), resist energy (cold), and stoneskin. These spells remain in effect during the encounter.

#### **Subtier 3-4 (CR 6+)**

## KEMENDU

CR 6

Male human ranger 7

NE Medium humanoid (human)

Init +9; Senses Perception +13

#### **DEFENSE**

**AC** 19, touch 15, flat-footed 14 (+4 armor, +5 Dex)

**hp** 60 (7d10+28)

Fort +6, Ref +10, Will +5; +1 vs. fear

DR 10/melee or magic (40 points); Immune fire (48 points)

#### OFFENSE

Speed 30 ft.

**Melee** dagger +9/+4 (1d4+1/19–20) or scimitar +9/+4 (1d6+1/18–20)



**Ranged** +1 composite longbow +14/+9 ( $1d8+2/\times3$ )

**Special Attacks** combat style (archery), favored enemies (elves +2, humans +4)

**Spells Prepared** (CL 4th; concentration +7) 2nd—protection from energy

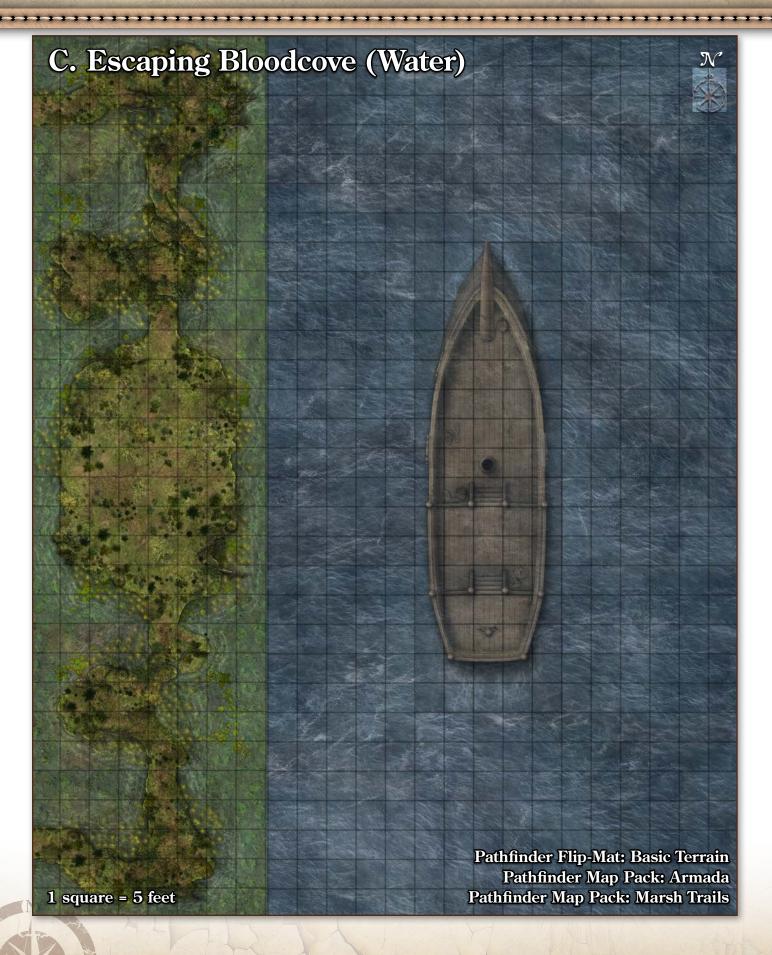
1st—anticipate peril™ (DC 14), charm animal (DC 14)

#### TACTICS

Before Combat Kemendu drinks his potion of aid, potion of

cat's grace, and potion of protection of arrows, then uses his scroll of water walk on himself. He casts anticipate peril and protection from energy on himself, defaulting to protection against fire, but switching to an energy type the PCs use frequently if the PCs earned three or more delays.

**During Combat** Kemendu targets a spellcaster with his *hushing arrow* first, then attacks the PCs with his bow. He uses Deadly Aim, Manyshot, and Rapid Shot to maximize damage, reverting



to normal attacks if his shots miss frequently. He uses *water walk* to traverse the bogs or the river, attempting to lure approaching PCs toward his animal companion or traps if possible.

**Morale** Kemendu never abandons a contract, and he does not flee. He fights to the death or until forced to surrender due to insurmountable circumstances.

Base Statistics Without aid, anticipate peril, cat's grace, protection from arrows, and protection from energy,
Kemendu's statistics are Init +3; AC 17, touch 13, flat-footed
14; hp 60; Ref +8, Will +5; DR none; Immune none; Melee
dagger +8/+3 (1d4+1/19-20) or scimitar +8/+3 (1d6+1/1820); Ranged +1 composite longbow +11/+6 (1d8+2/×3); Dex
16; CMD 21; Skills Stealth +13.

#### STATISTICS

Str 12, Dex 20, Con 13, Int 10, Wis 16, Cha 8

Base Atk +7; CMB +9; CMD 23

**Feats** Deadly Aim, Endurance<sup>8</sup>, Far Shot, Learn Ranger Trap<sup>□M</sup>, Manyshot, Point-Blank Shot, Precise Shot, Rapid Shot

**Skills** Climb +11, Handle Animal +9, Knowledge (geography) +10, Perception +13, Stealth +15, Survival +13, Swim +11

Languages Common, Polyglot

**SQ** favored terrain (swamp +2), hunter's bond (constrictor snake named Netto), freezing trap (6/day), track +3, wild empathy +6, woodland stride

Combat Gear potion of aid, potion of cat's grace, potion of cure moderate wounds, potion of darkvision, potion of protection of arrows, scroll of water walk; Other Gear +1 studded leather, +1 composite longbow (+1 Str) with 40 arrows, hushing arrow<sup>UE</sup>, dagger, scimitar

NETTO

Constrictor snake

N Large animal

Init +3; Senses low-light vision, scent; Perception +5

DEFENSE

**AC** 17, touch 12, flat-footed 14 (+3 Dex, +5 natural, -1 size)

**hp** 34 (4d8+16)

Fort +8, Ref +7, Will +4

**Defensive Abilities** evasion

OFFENSE

**Speed** 20 ft., climb 20 ft., swim 20 ft.

Melee bite +9 (1d4+10 plus grab)

Space 10 ft.; Reach 10 ft.

**Special Attacks** constrict (1d4+10)

STATISTICS

Str 24, Dex 16, Con 18, Int 1, Wis 12, Cha 2

Base Atk +3; CMB +11 (+15 grapple); CMD 24 (can't be tripped)

Feats Combat Reflexes, Iron Will

Tricks Attack, Down, Heel, Stay, Track

**Skills** Acrobatics +3 (-1 to jump), Climb +19, Perception +5, Stealth +3, Swim +19

GIANT CROCODILE (5+ DELAYS)

CR 3

Pathfinder RPG Bestiary 295, 51

N Large animal

Init +0; Senses low-light vision; Perception +8

#### DEFENSE

AC 15, touch 8, flat-footed 15 (+7 natural, -2 size)

**hp** 28 (3d8+15)

Fort +8, Ref +3, Will +2

#### OFFENSE

**Speed** 20 ft., swim 30 ft.; sprint

**Melee** bite +6 (2d6+6 plus grab) and tail slap +1 (3d6+3)

Space 15 ft.; Reach 10 ft.

**Special Attacks** death roll (2d6+9 plus trip)

#### STATISTICS

Str 23, Dex 10, Con 21, Int 1, Wis 12, Cha 2

Feats Skill Focus (Perception, Stealth)

**Base Atk** +2; **CMB** +10 (+14 grapple); **CMD** 20 (24 vs. trip)

Skills Perception +8, Stealth +0 (+8 in water), Swim +14; Racial Modifiers +8 on Stealth in water SO hold breath

## SPECIAL ABILITIES

Death Roll (Ex) When grappling a foe of its size or smaller, a crocodile can perform a death



## Scaling Encounter C

To accommodate a group of four PCs in both subtiers, reduce the number of delays the PCs earned by 3. If this results in fewer than 0 delays, Kemendu does not complete his preparations listed in Before Combat.

roll upon making a successful grapple check. As it clings to its foe, it tucks in its legs and rolls rapidly, twisting and wrenching its victim. The crocodile inflicts its bite damage and knocks the creature prone. If successful, the crocodile maintains its grapple.

**Hold Breath (Ex)** A crocodile can hold its breath for 84 rounds before it risks drowning.

**Sprint (Ex)** Once per minute a crocodile can sprint, increasing its land speed to 40 feet for 1 round.

#### **Subtier 6-7 (CR 9+)**

KEMENDU

CR 9

Male human ranger 10

NE Medium humanoid (human)

Init +10; Senses Perception +16

#### DEFENSE

**AC** 23, touch 15, flat-footed 18 (+5 armor, +5 Dex, +3 natural) **hp** 96 (10d10+37)

Fort +9, Ref +12, Will +8; +1 vs. fear

**Defensive Abilities** evasion; **Immune** fire (84 points)

#### OFFENSE

Speed 40 ft.

**Melee** dagger +12/+7 (1d4+1/19-20) or scimitar +12/+7 (1d6+1/18-20)

**Ranged** +1 composite longbow +17/+12 (1d8+2/ $\times$ 3)

**Special Attacks** combat style (archery), favored enemies (dwarves +2, elves +4, humans +4)

Spells Prepared (CL 7th; concentration +10)

3rd—fickle winds<sup>um</sup>

2nd—barkskin, protection from energy

1st—anticipate peril™ (DC 14), charm animal (DC 14), longstrider

#### TACTICS

Before Combat Kemendu drinks his potion of aid and potion of cat's grace, then uses his scroll of water walk on himself. He casts fickle winds on himself and his animal companion. He then casts anticipate peril, barkskin, and protection from energy on himself, defaulting to protection against fire, but switching to an energy type the PCs frequently use if the PCs earned three or more delays.

During Combat Kemendu uses his sandals of quick reaction<sup>UE</sup> to make a full attack with his bow in the surprise round, targeting a spellcaster with his hushing arrow first. He then uses Deadly Aim, Manyshot, and Rapid Shot to maximize damage, reverting to normal shots if his attacks fail. He uses

water walk to traverse the bogs or the river, attempting to lure approaching PCs towards his animal companion or traps if possible.

**Morale** Kemendu never abandons a contract, and he does not flee. He fights to the death or until forced to surrender due to insurmountable circumstances.

Base Statistics Without aid, anticipate peril, barkskin, cat's grace, longstrider, and protection from energy, Kemendu's statistics are Init +3; AC 18, touch 13, flat-footed 15; hp 89; Ref +10, Will +8; Immune none; Speed 30 ft.; Melee dagger +11/+6 (1d4+1/19-20) or scimitar +11/+6 (1d6+1/18-20); Ranged +1 composite longbow +14/+8 (1d8+2/×3); Dex 16; CMD 24; Skills Stealth +16.

#### STATISTICS

Str 12, Dex 20, Con 14, Int 10, Wis 16, Cha 8

Base Atk +10; CMB +12; CMD 26

**Feats** Deadly Aim, Endurance<sup>8</sup>, Far Shot, Learn Ranger Trap<sup>⊔M</sup>, Manyshot, Pinpoint Targeting, Point-Blank Shot, Precise Shot, Rapid Shot

**Skills** Acrobatics +5 (+9 to jump), Climb +14, Handle Animal +12, Knowledge (geography) +13, Perception +16, Stealth +18, Survival +16, Swim +14

Languages Common, Polyglot

**SQ** favored terrain (swamp +4, water +2), hunter's bond (constrictor snake named Netto), freezing trap (6/day), track +5, wild empathy +9, woodland stride

Combat Gear potion of aid, potion of cat's grace, potion of cure moderate wounds, potion of darkvision, sandals of quick reaction<sup>UE</sup>, scroll of water walk; Other Gear +2 studded leather, +1 composite longbow (+1 Str) with 60 arrows, hushing arrow<sup>UE</sup>, dagger, scimitar

#### NETTO

CR —

Constrictor snake

N Large animal

Init +3; Senses low-light vision, scent; Perception +5

#### DEFENSE

**AC** 19, touch 12, flat-footed 16 (+3 Dex, +7 natural, -1 size) **hp** 51 (6d8+24)

Fort +9, Ref +10, Will +5; +4 morale bonus vs. enchantment effects **Defensive Abilities** evasion

#### OFFENSE

**Speed** 20 ft., climb 20 ft., swim 20 ft.

Melee bite +10 (1d4+10 plus grab)

Space 10 ft.; Reach 10 ft.

Special Attacks constrict (1d4+10)

#### STATISTICS

Str 25, Dex 17, Con 18, Int 1, Wis 12, Cha 2

Base Atk +4; CMB +12 (+16 grapple); CMD 25 (can't be tripped)

**Feats** Combat Reflexes, Iron Will, Lightning Reflexes

Tricks Attack, Down, Guard, Heel, Stay, Track

**Skills** Acrobatics +3 (-1 to jump), Climb +19, Perception +5, Stealth +5, Swim +19

#### **ELASMOSAURUS (5+ DELAYS)**

**CR 7** 

**hp** 105 (Pathfinder RPG Bestiary 84, see page 23)

**Hazards:** If the PCs travel by land, waterlogged squares function as deep bog (*Pathfinder RPG Core Rulebook 427*). If the PCs travel by river, the Vanji River requires a successful DC 10 Swim check to traverse. The elevated pathways are normal terrain.

**Traps:** With enough delays, Kemendu sets six ranger traps either along the swamp trails or across the river. If the PCs travel on foot, he sets the traps on the dry paths between the bogs. If the PCs travel down the Vanji River via boat, Kemendu modifies his traps to anchor boats that trip them, buoyed to the surface by inflated bladders while ropes anchor them to large rocks below the surface. He sets them across the river in a line, evenly spaced to minimize the chance a boat slips between them.

#### **Both Subtiers**

#### RANGER FREEZING TRAP

CR -

Type magic; Perception DC 16 (18 in Subtier 6–7); Disable Device DC 16 (18 in Subtier 6–7)

EFFECTS

Trigger location; Reset none

Effect The trap creates a burst of ice that damages and encases the triggering creature. The creature takes 1d3+2 points of cold damage (1d3+3 in Subtier 6–7) and is entangled and stuck to the ground, similar to the effect of a tanglefoot bag. A successful DC 16 Reflex save (18 in Subtier 6–7) halves the damage and means the creature is not stuck to the floor by the ice. If a boat hits the trap, the ice latches onto the hull and anchors the ship unless the PC piloting the boat succeeds at a DC 16 Profession (sailor) check (DC 18 in Subtier 6–7). All creatures aboard the ship must succeed at the Reflex save or fall prone due to the sudden stop. The ice is 3 inches thick (5 inches in Subtier 6–7), has hardness 0 and 9 hit points (15 hit points in Subtier 6–7), and melts in 2d4 rounds.

**Rewards:** If the PCs do not defeat Kemendu, reduce each PC's gold earned as follows.

Subtier 3–4: Reduce each PC's gold earned by 378 gp. Out of Subtier: Reduce each PC's gold earned by 657 gp. Subtier 6–7: Reduce each PC's gold earned by 936 gp.

#### CONCLUSION

Upon escaping Bloodcove the PCs rendezvous with Fola and Guaril to debrief. The PCs reveal how to signal the start of the embargo, which Fola and Guaril promise to do once they've communicated these details with their own contacts and superiors. Before long, Aspis ships begin struggling to make landfall in Bloodcove, and Pathfinder allies report that traffic to the Kaddodi mining operation quickly diminishes in the face of frequent raids. With the mine's supply lines compromised, Fola and her agents begin planning ways to further cripple the excavation projects before it undermines Parveen's prison. Fola makes a point of asking that the PCs remain in the area in case further intervention is necessary.

If the PCs rescued Malika Fenn, she thanks them for releasing her and posits that it may be time for her to relocate now that Bloodcove has become so dangerous for her. Rescuing Malika also earns each PC the Malika's Aid boon on their Chronicle sheet. If the PCs convinced Erwyn Harvacus to form a long-term alliance with the Pathfinder Society, Guaril grins broadly and assures the PCs that he plans to make the partnership worthwhile for the druid. He also tells the PCs he plans to keep them in mind if he needs to negotiate with the Saltroots again and guarantees that the Exchange's leadership will remember how they helped him get a foothold in Bloodcove.

#### REPORTING NOTES

If the PCs rescued Malika Fenn, check box A. If they resolved all of Erwyn Harvacus' concerns and recruited the Saltroot druids for a long-term alliance, check box B. If they blackmailed Erwyn into cooperating with the blockade, check box C.

#### **PRIMARY SUCCESS CONDITIONS**

If the PCs successfully recruit both Erwyn and Ungala and escape Bloodcove alive, they successfully implement a blockade against Aspis operations in the city. This earns each PC 1 Prestige Point.

#### **SECONDARY SUCCESS CONDITIONS**

The PCs successfully complete their secondary mission if they accomplish at least three of the following five goals: recover at least one piece of evidence from the Vanji Prospector's Guild without bloodshed; rescue Malika Fenn from the guild house; resolve at least two out of three of Erwyn Harvacus' concerns during negotiations; identify Evrishu as an adhukait asura before fighting it; recruit both Erwyn and Ungala before gaining 5 or more delays. Succeeding earns each PC 1 additional Prestige Point.

#### **FACTION NOTES**

If the party successfully resolved all of Erwyn Harvacus's concerns and recruited him for a long-term alliance, grant each PC belonging to the Exchange faction the Saltroot Intermediary boon on their Chronicle sheet.

## Handout #1: Personnel File

Personnel ID#: 22547 Name: Erlan Harvacus

**Occupation:** Dockyard Manager, Bloodcove

Special Considerations: Son of Erwyn Harvacus. Protect employee and maintain cordial relationship at

all costs

**Note:** Erlan appears to be rapidly losing interest in managerial tasks and has filed several complaints. Submitted a transfer request to Community Outreach department to provide a more dynamic work environment. Still awaiting response.

## Handout #2: Letter to Shinri

Dear Shinri,

Here is the tablet we recovered from the Kaddodi mine that may be one of the Iwelve Rites you described. Please let the Guild's overseers know if this is the tablet you seek so we can discuss payment.

A word of caution: be wary purchasing similar relics should they arise in Bloodcove's markets. We've encountered other engraved tablets containing spirits that don't have mortals' best interests at heart. I can use them as bait to punish those who steal from our operations, but I'd hate to see an upstanding ascetic such as yourself spend hard-earned coin on a cursed relic. It's been a pleasure doing business with you.

-Lutebu Alrati

## Handout #3: Tracking Delays

Over the course of this scenario, the PCs might earn one or more delays that indicate additional time or information that allows the Aspis Consortium to lay an ambush in area **D**. This handout provides a place to track any delays the PCs earn.

Encounter	Event	Delays
Area A	Failed check to canvass guild house	0000
Area A3	Overseers sound the alarm	
Erwyn Harvacus	Time spent learning objections	
Erwyn Harvacus	Successfully resolve only one objection	
Finding Ungala	Time spent finding Ungala	
Finding Ungala	Find the eyewitness	
Finding Ungala	Time spent studying tablet	
Area D	Time spent laying a false trail (failed)	
Area D	Lay a false trail	[–2 delays]
_	Four-player adjustment	[–3 delays]

## APPENDIX: STAT BLOCKS

The following creatures appear in this scenario.

#### **ELASMOSAURUS**

Long-necked and long-tailed, this large, predatory reptile glides through the water on four powerful flippers.

#### ELASMOSAURUS

**CR 7** 

Pathfinder RPG Bestiary 84

N Huge animal

Init +2; Senses low-light vision, scent; Perception +14

DEFENS

AC 20, touch 11, flat-footed 17 (+2 Dex, +1 dodge, +9 natural, -2 size)

**hp** 105 (10d8+60)

Fort +14, Ref +9, Will +6

OFFENSE

Speed 20 ft., swim 50 ft.

Melee bite +13 (2d8+12)

Space 15 ft.; Reach 20 ft.

STATISTICS

Str 26, Dex 15, Con 20, Int 2, Wis 13, Cha 9

Base Atk +7; CMB +17; CMD 30 (34 vs. trip)

**Feats** Dodge, Great Fortitude, Iron Will, Mobility, Toughness

Skills Perception +14, Swim +16

#### MONKS

## CRUEL DEVOTEE

CR 4

Pathfinder RPG NPC Codex 98

Human monk 5

LE Medium humanoid (human)

Init +5; Senses Perception +11

#### DEFENSE

AC 17, touch 17, flat-footed 15 (+1 deflection, +1 Dex, +1 dodge, +1 monk, +3 Wis)

**hp** 31 (5d8+5)

Fort +6, Ref +6, Will +8; +2 vs. enchantments

Defensive Abilities evasion; Immune disease

#### OFFENSE

Speed 40 ft.

Melee unarmed strike +6 (1d8+3) or

mwk siangham +7 (1d6+3) or

unarmed strike flurry of blows +6/+6 (1d8+3)

**Ranged** javelin +4 (1d6+3)

**Special Attacks** flurry of blows, stunning fist (5/day, DC 15)

#### STATISTICS

Str 16, Dex 13, Con 12, Int 10, Wis 16, Cha 8

**Base Atk** +3; **CMB** +8 (+10 grapple); **CMD** 23 (25 vs. grapple)

**Feats** Combat Reflexes, Dodge, Improved Grapple, Improved Initiative, Improved Unarmed Strike, Power Attack, Scorpion Style, Stunning Fist

**Skills** Acrobatics +7 (+12 when jumping), Climb +8, Intimidate

+7, Knowledge (religion) +8, Perception +11, Sense Motive +11, Stealth +9

#### Languages Common

**SQ** fast movement, high jump, ki pool (5 points, magic), maneuver training, purity of body, slow fall 20 ft.

**Combat Gear** potions of cure light wounds (2); **Other Gear** javelin, mwk siangham, cloak of resistance +1, ring of protection +1, 347 gp

#### **VIGILANT BODYGUARD**

CR 2

Pathfinder RPG NPC Codex 97

Human monk 3

LN Medium humanoid (human)

Init +5; Senses Perception +10

#### DEFENSE

**AC** 20, touch 16, flat-footed 18 (+4 armor, +1 Dex, +1 dodge, +4 Wis)

**hp** 20 (3d8+3)

Fort +4, Ref +4, Will +7; +2 vs. enchantments

**Defensive Abilities** evasion

#### OFFENSE

Speed 40 ft.

Melee unarmed strike +5 (1d6+2) or

nunchaku +4 (1d6+2) or

unarmed strike flurry of blows +3/+3 (1d6+2)

Ranged shuriken +3 (1d2+2)

**Special Attacks** flurry of blows, stunning fist (3/day, DC 15)

#### STATISTICS

Str 14, Dex 13, Con 12, Int 10, Wis 19, Cha 8

Base Atk +2; CMB +5; CMD 20

**Feats** Combat Reflexes, Dodge, Improved Initiative, Improved Unarmed Strike, Stunning Fist, Weapon Focus (unarmed strike)

**Skills** Acrobatics +7 (+11 when jumping), Climb +6, Intimidate +5, Perception +10, Sense Motive +10, Stealth +7, Survival +5, Swim +6

**SQ** fast movement, maneuver training

Combat Gear potions of cure light wounds (3), potion of mage armor, potion of magic weapon, potion of owl's wisdom, smokesticks (3); Other Gear dagger, nunchaku, shuriken (20), bracers of armor +1, 30 qp

#### **SALT MEPHIT**

This small humanoid creature has thin, leathery wings, small horns, and a mischievous smile.

#### ADVANCED SALT MEPHIT

CR 4

Pathfinder RPG Bestiary 294, 202

N Small outsider (varies)

Init +8; Senses darkvision 60 ft.; Perception +8

#### DEFENSE

AC 21, touch 16, flat-footed 16 (+4 Dex, +1 dodge, +5 natural, +1 size)

hp 25 (3d10+9); fast healing 2

Fort +4, Ref +7, Will +5

**DR** 5/magic

#### OFFENSE

Speed 30 ft., fly 40 ft. (average)

Melee 2 claws +7 (1d3+3)

**Special Attacks** breath weapon (15-foot cone, 1d4 damage and sickened, Reflex DC 15 partial), dehydrate

**Spell-Like Abilities** (CL 6th; concentration +10)

1/day—glitterdust (DC 16), summon (level 2, 1 mephit of the same type 25%)

#### STATISTICS

Str 17, Dex 19, Con 16, Int 10, Wis 15, Cha 18

Base Atk +3; CMB +5; CMD 19

Feats Dodge, Improved Initiative

**Skills** Bluff +10, Fly +12, Knowledge (planes) +6, Perception +8, Sense Motive +8, Stealth +14

Languages Common, Terran

#### SPECIAL ABILITIES

**Breath Weapon (Su)** A salt mephit can breathe a cone of salt crystals that deals 1d4 slashing damage. The salt also causes living creatures to be sickened for 3 rounds. A DC 15 Reflex save halves the damage and negates the sickened effect. The mephit can use this breath weapon once every 4 rounds.

Dehydrate (Su) Once per day, a salt mephit can draw the moisture from an area in a 20-foot radius centered on itself. Living creatures within range take 2d8 points of damage (Fortitude DC 16 half; caster level 6th). This effect is especially devastating to plant and aquatic creatures, which take a –2 penalty on their saving throws. This ability is the equivalent of a 2nd-level spell.

**Fast Healing (Ex)** A salt mephit's fast healing works only in arid environments.

#### **TIGER**

This powerful feline predator moves with a deadly grace, its reddish-orange fur slashed with black stripes.

TIGER CR 4

Pathfinder RPG Bestiary 265

N Large animal

Init +6; Senses low-light vision, scent; Perception +8

#### DEFENSE

**AC** 14, touch 11, flat-footed 12 (+2 Dex, +3 natural, -1 size) **hp** 45 (6d8+18)

Fort +8, Ref +7, Will +3

#### OFFENSE

Speed 40 ft.

**Melee** 2 claws +10 (1d8+6 plus grab), bite +9 (2d6+6 plus grab)

Space 10 ft.; Reach 5 ft.

Special Attacks pounce, rake (2 claws +10, 1d8+6)

#### STATISTICS

Str 23, Dex 15, Con 17, Int 2, Wis 12, Cha 6

Base Atk +4; CMB +11 (+15 grapple); CMD 23 (27 vs. trip)

**Feats** Improved Initiative, Skill Focus (Perception), Weapon Focus (claw)

**Skills** Acrobatics +10, Perception +8, Stealth +7 (+11 in areas of tall grass), Swim +11; **Racial Modifiers** +4 Acrobatics, +4 Stealth (+8 in tall grass)

#### **WIZARDS**

#### **BATTLE MAGE**

CR 2

Pathfinder RPG NPC Codex 179

Elf wizard 3

NE Medium humanoid (elf)

Init +2; Senses low-light vision; Perception +5

#### DEFENSE

**AC** 16, touch 12, flat-footed 14 (+4 armor, +2 Dex)

**hp** 19 (3d6+6)

Fort +2, Ref +3, Will +3; +2 vs. enchantments

Immune sleep

#### OFFENSE

Speed 30 ft.

**Melee** mwk rapier +3 (1d6/18-20)

**Ranged** mwk longbow +4  $(1d8+1/\times3)$ 

**Special Attacks** hand of the apprentice (6/day)

Wizard Spells Prepared (CL 3rd; concentration +6)

2nd—mirror image, scorching ray

1st—magic missile, shield, shocking grasp

0 (at will)—daze (DC 13), detect magic, light, resistance

#### STATISTICS

Str 12, Dex 15, Con 12, Int 17, Wis 10, Cha 8

Base Atk +1; CMB +2; CMD 14

**Feats** Combat Casting, Point-Blank Shot, Scribe Scroll

**Skills** Acrobatics +4, Climb +2, Knowledge (arcana) +9, Knowledge (history) +7, Perception +5, Spellcraft +9 (+11

to identify magic item properties), Stealth +4

Languages Common, Draconic, Elven, Orc, Sylvan

**SQ** arcane bond (rapier), elven magic, weapon familiarity

Combat Gear potion of cure moderate wounds, scroll of glitterdust, scroll of invisibility, scroll of magic weapon, scrolls of mirror image (2), scroll of obscuring mist, scroll of protection from evil, scroll of scorching ray, wand of mage armor (20 charges); Other Gear mwk longbow with 20 arrows, mwk rapier, spellbook, 113 gp

#### **JUNGLE WIZARD**

CR 4

Pathfinder RPG NPC Codex 180

Elf transmuter 5

NE Medium humanoid (elf)

Init +7; Senses low-light vision; Perception +7

#### DEFENSE

AC 18, touch 13, flat-footed 15 (+4 armor, +3 Dex, +1 natural)

**hp** 28 (5d6+8)

Fort +2, Ref +6, Will +5; +2 vs. enchantments Immune sleep

OFFENSE

Speed 30 ft.

Melee mwk longsword +3 (1d8/19-20)

**Ranged** shortbow  $+5 (1d6/\times3)$ 

displacement

**Arcane School Spell-Like Abilities** (CL 5th; concentration +9) 7/day—telekinetic fist (1d4+2 bludgeoning)

**Transmuter Spells Prepared** (CL 5th; concentration +9) 3rd—beast shape I, empowered burning hands (DC 16),

2nd—invisibility, spider climb, summon swarm, web (DC 16) 1st—burning hands (DC 16), feather fall, grease, mage armor, obscuring mist

0 (at will)—dancing lights, ghost sound (DC 14), mage hand, touch of fatigue (DC 14)

**Opposition Schools** divination, enchantment

#### STATISTICS

**Str** 10, **Dex** 16, **Con** 13, **Int** 18, **Wis** 12, **Cha** 8

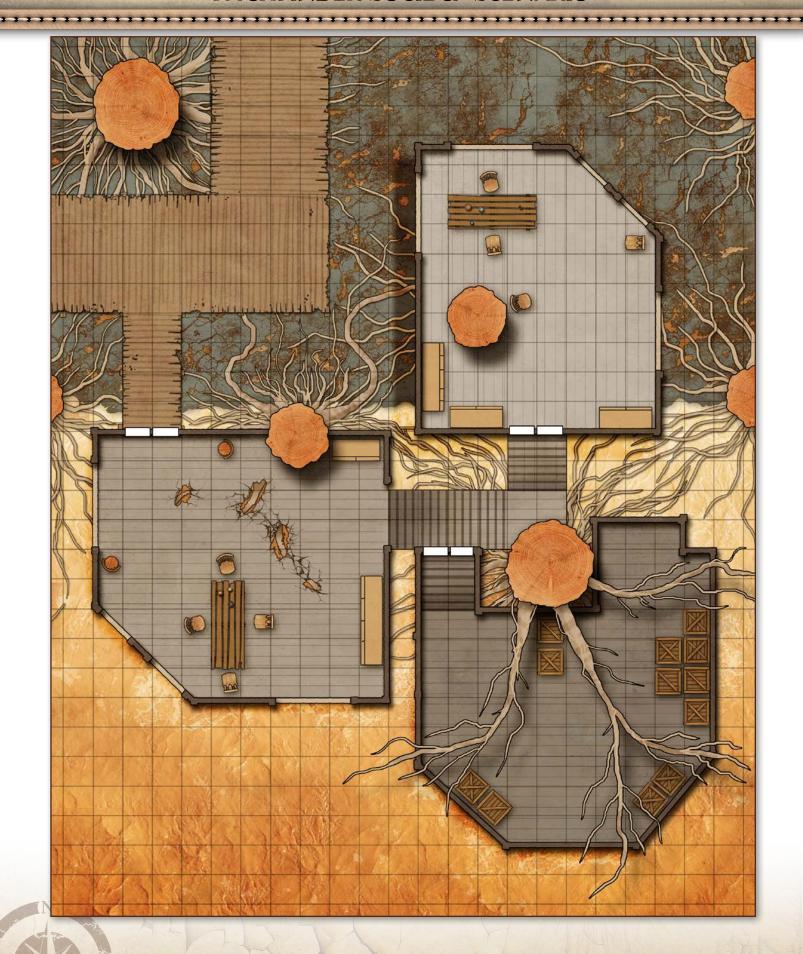
**Base Atk** +2; **CMB** +2; **CMD** 15

**Feats** Empower Spell, Improved Initiative, Lightning Reflexes, Scribe Scroll, Spell Focus (evocation)

**Skills** Acrobatics +7, Climb +3, Fly +7, Knowledge (arcana) +12, Knowledge (geography) +10, Knowledge (history) +9, Knowledge (nature) +11, Perception +7, Spellcraft +12 (+14 to identify magic item properties), Survival +4, Swim +1

**Languages** Common, Draconic, Elven, Gnoll, Goblin, Orc **SQ** arcane bond (monkey), elven magic, physical enhancement +2, weapon familiarity

**Combat Gear** potion of cure moderate wounds, potions of pass without trace (2), scroll of cat's grace, scroll of pyrotechnics, scroll of stinking cloud, scroll of web; **Other Gear** mwk longsword, shortbow with 20 arrows, amulet of natural armor +1, spellbook, 104 gp



Pathfinder Society Scenario #9-15: The Bloodcove Blockade								
Event		Date						
GM #		GM Character #						
GM Name  Dark Archive Scarab Sages A	☐ Silver Crusade ☐ The Exchange ☐ B	GM Prestige Earned Sovereign Court Liberty's Edge Grand Lodge C D						
Character #		Prestige Points						
Character Name ☐ Dark Archive ☐ Scarab Sages	The Exchange	☐ Grand Lodge ☐ Liberty's Edge ☐ Sovereign Court						
Character #		Prestige Points						
Character Name ☐ Dark Archive ☐ Scarab Sages	The Exchange Silver Crusade	☐ Grand Lodge ☐ Liberty's Edge ☐ Sovereign Court						
Character #		Prestige Points						
Character Name  Dark Archive  Scarab Sages	The Exchange	☐ Grand Lodge ☐ Liberty's Edge ☐ Sovereign Court						
Character #		Prestige Points						
Character Name  Dark Archive  Scarab Sages	The Exchange	☐ Grand Lodge ☐ Liberty's Edge ☐ Sovereign Court						
Character #		Prestige Points						
Character Name ☐ Dark Archive ☐ Scarab Sages	The Exchange							
Character #		Prestige Points						
Character Name  Dark Archive  Scarab Sages	The Exchange	☐ Grand Lodge ☐ Liberty's Edge ☐ Sovereign Court						
Character #		Prestige Points						
Character Name  ☐ Dark Archive ☐ Scarab Sages	The Exchange Silver Crusade	☐ Grand Lodge ☐ Liberty's Edge ☐ Sovereign Court						

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Pathfinder Society Scenario #9-15: The Bloodcove Blockade © 2018, Paizo Inc.; Author: Nicholas Wasko.



# Pathfinder Society Scenario #9-15: The Bloodcove Blockade

Character Chronicle	#
	-
Core Campaign	

					<b>ا</b> ل	SUBTI	R Slow	Norma
<b>y</b>	7 A				4			T
A.K			- <u> </u>	E	-	3-4	4 646	1,292
Player Name	Character Name	Organized Play #	Character #	Faction	F	SUBTI	R Slow	□Norma
	This Chronicle sheet grant	s access to the following	<b>j:</b>			Out o		2,299
		TT-121 -b11 t				Supti	R □ Slow	□Norma
	escued Malika Fenn in Bloodo he's happy to coach you on ti							Ī
check one of the boxes th	nat precedes this boon before a	ttempting a Heal, Know	ledge (geography)	, Knowledg	e	6-7	7 1,653	3,306
-	k to roll the check twice and to ck, and if your modifier is lowe				e	SUBTI	R Slow	□Norma
□ □ □ □ Saltroot Int	termediary (Exchange Faction)	: You have brokered a de	eal between the E	xchange an		_	_	-
_	e called the Saltroots. As a de u with a small amount of drui	_		_				<u> </u>
=	ng the listed number of boxes	_	-					
<u> </u>	econd list of spell-like abilities	•		one of you	r	<b>=</b>	Starting	KP GM's Initials
	signifying your ties to the Sali ilities, use your character leve			om bonus t	o	EXPERIENCE		
determine saving throw	DCs and your concentration be	onus.	-			ä X	P Gained	(GM ONLY)
•	ox), speak with plants (2 boxes), to epel vermin (2 boxes), water brea	1, 0	1 box), wood shape	e (1 box)				
	(= //						Final XP	Total
								4
						Initia	l Prestige	nitial Fame
								GM's Initials
				Pres	tige Gaine	ed (GM ONLY)		
				FAN	747			
						Prestige S	pent	
Subt	ier 3-4		ubtier 6–7				urrent estige	Final Fame
aegis of recovery (1,500 g	յр; Pathfinder RPG Ultimate	+2 studded leather arr	mor (4,175 gp)					
Equipment 254)	) as Ultimate Fauisment 27()	aegis of recovery (1,50	00 gp; <i>Pathfinder Ri</i>	PG Ultimate			Starting	CD
bird feather token (300 g	) gp; Ultimate Equipment 276) p)	Equipment 254) amulet of natural armo	or +1 (2,000 gp)				Starting	GM's Initials
bracers of armor +1 (1,00		bird feather token (300					P Gained	(611 61111)
hushing arrow (547 gp; U pearl of power (1st level;		cloak of resistance +1 ochre bag of tricks (8,5		s a baa of			P dallied	GM ONLY)  GM's Initials
wand of mage armor (20		tricks that produces	a dire bat [1-30], o	rocodile [31-	-	G105		
		60], constrictor snak ring of protection +1 (2		a [86–100])			Day Job (G	M ONLY)
		sandals of quick reacti		ate				
		Equipment 232) vest of escape (5,200 g	an)				Gold Sp	ent
		wand of mage armor (		, limit 1)				
<b>a</b>					Е		Total	<u>LE</u>
or GM Only								
EVENT	EVENT CODE	DATE G	ama Mastar's Sia			<b>511</b> D. I	hfindar Sa	