

The Ankh of Chephren Campaign Log

Session 2: 26:2:08

Fireworks

Joe Jenkins – Tom

Edward Cholmondley – John

Dr. Karl Gustav Magnus – Gord

Damon Toyler – Karl

Claverley House, Northamptonshire, Autumn, Evening

12/10/36

The previous session ended with Edward Cholmondley being hit over the back of the head by one of Lord Brockhyrst's servants and falling to the floor of his office. As it happened, Edward was aware of the 'surprise' attack, and feigned his falling unconscious. So he began the session lying on the floor of the office, fully conscious, having kidded his captors that they had knocked him out.

Damon and Fiona Featherstonehall made their way down to the waterfall. They exchanged pleasantries, but Damon probed Fiona for any sign that she might be a nazi sympathiser or had any other hidden agenda. He ended up satisfied that she was not particularly interested in Lord Brockhyrst's politics, but still unsure of her motivation. He seemed to believe that she was after the same thing that you were after. They came to the cave entrance behind the waterfall and investigated. An artificial watercourse joined the waterfall and they followed it back into a strange cave. It was weirdly decorated in Gaudi-esque tiles and shells, with mirrors and statuettes and lit with many torches. Fiona said it was all the rage about one hundred years ago to have underground grottoes like this built on estates. Fiona did not seem at all worried about anything and was making a lot of noise. Damon suggested she take her shoes off so she did not slip on the wet tiles.

Back at the party Dr. Magnus and Joe Jenkins met up and exchanged news. Magnus was keen to trace the whereabouts of Edward, while Jenkins was interested in the locked office he had discovered earlier. They decided to go outside and see if they could make out what was happening in the office Edward had been lured to. They were rudely interrupted by some guest or other, but managed to get rid of him, equally rudely.

Edward felt himself being picked up and carried off. He went through a door and then down a steep and narrow slope. He tried to see what one of his carriers was thinking but did not manage it. At the bottom of the slope his carriers were told to put him on the slab and lock the girl back up, as 'this one was special.' Edward took the girl to be Jennifer Burton whose parents he had encountered earlier that evening.

When he was put down and opened his eyes, Edward found himself in a strangely decorated underground chamber with many water features. He also found himself chained atop a large stone altar. Four 'butlers' seemed to be guarding the place, carrying German Schmeisser machine guns, and the cavern was hung with huge pennants depicting red swastikas. They differed from the German nazi swastika in that there was no black in the design, and some of the flags seemed to be aping the St.

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George flag.

For Damon and Fiona, the underground way entered a large cavern, equally strangely decorated. There were loud water sounds from the various pools and streams and waterfalls. The cavern narrowed and led off to underneath the house, another narrow passageway led off to the left and they decided to follow that one, even if Fiona did seem to get a bit confused by it all. They followed this plainer way for a few hundred yards and came out into a gazebo in a copse overlooking the house and grounds. They decided they had found a possible escape route, though Fiona wondered what they might have to escape from. And the pair made their way back into the underground complex.

Having not been able to get any clue from the office window, Jenkins and Magnus considered trying to break into the other office from the outside, when Magnus' thoughts were interrupted by Edward's voice in his head. Magnus was shocked at first, but steadied himself to understand Edward's words. Apparently Edward was being held prisoner in a cave under the house, and he guessed that it could be reached behind the waterfall that Damon had already discovered. Magnus answered the thoughts with some of his own but could not tell if they were picked up. Edward also tried to contact Damon in the same way, but his mind was not so easy to impose upon.

Magnus and Jenkins rushed to help Edward. It was announced that the Firework display was about to begin and most of the guests made their way to the veranda to watch. All the guests had a good view of Magnus and Jenkins clambering down the side of the rockery to get to the waterfall. But they decided now was not the time for timidity.

Damon and Fiona made their way back to the large cavern, and traversed it, crossing a couple of ornamental bridges. They reached another even bigger cavern, with similar decor, but were surprised to find it hung with many swastika flags. They could see some sort of table in the distance and noticed a couple of Brockhyrst's butlers hanging around. They promptly made their way towards the butlers and loudly announced their greetings. To be suddenly shocked to find them armed with submachine guns. The butlers pointed their guns and rudely told them to stay there, while one went off to fetch Lord Brockhyrst.

At about that time a number of party guests piled into the cavern from one of the narrow passages nearby. They were all dressed in Black robes with red swastika markings and assorted Viking symbols. Lord Brockhyrst came over to interrogate Damon and Fiona. Gloria Travers was there too and taunted Edward telepathically. He replied and they had a silent war of words. Gloria told Edward that soon they would be unstoppable; with the other pieces of the ankh, and Brockhyrst's wealth they would be the most powerful people in the country. Edward was calmly scathing of Gloria's lust for power. Brockhyrst wondered what Damon and Fiona were doing here, and he recognised Damon as a colleague of Edward, but Damon refused to answer his questions. Meanwhile Magnus and Jenkins crept into the cavern to see what was going on.

Gloria stood over Edward and pulled a gold-looking ankh-like object from a wooden box. Edward immediately decided it was the artifact they were after, the object that you had been told you would know once you saw it. And she began chanting in some unintelligible language. And then the fireworks began.

Karl bent down to mess around with Fiona's shoes on the pretext of helping her, and reached into his socks where he kept his two small pistols, and tucked them under his arms. Then as Lord Brockhyrst continued to lecture him, Damon whipped out his guns and shot the two waiters at close range, who fell to the floor.

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Hearing their cue, Jenkins and Magnus ran out of the darkness firing. They hit the waiters, too. After some of the waited fired back, Damon pointed his guns towards Lord Brockhyrst and told everyone to stop. There was a few moments of silent stand-off while everyone wondered what to do next. Jenkins solved the problem by shooting at another guard and the whole firefight erupted once more.

The shots rang out as Gloria pointed the ankh at Damon. Blue sparks and lightning seemed to erupt from the ankh and head for Damon's body. Edward on seeing this put a load of gibberish into Gloria's mind. This seemed to work as the sparks receded and Damon appeared unhurt by it all.

More of Brockhyrst's men piled into the cavern and Magnus and Jenkins ran towards the altar firing at them. Gloria tried pointing the ankh again at Damon and doing that strange blue magic stuff, but Jenkins shot her and she fell on top of Edward, and began to bleed copiously all over him.

Lord Brockhyrst took a couple of hits and slumped down by the altar next to Gloria. Magnus took a couple of hits too and fell to the ground badly injured. Seeing Gloria fall, Damon dived behind the altar and grabbed the ankh from her grasp. He landed right next to Lord Brockhyrst who pointed his pistol as Damon, but he was too weak, and Damon easily grabbed the gun from him and threw it away.

You were all pinned down by the machine gun fire from the waiters. Edward spoke into Lord Brockhyrst's mind and told him he was captured and his only chance was to call his men off and let them leave. Lord Brockhyrst was forced to agree that Edward had a point, and he told his men to put down their weapons. Even so, he insisted that he would hunt you down to the ends of the earth and would not rest until you had suffered for daring to cross him.

In the aftermath of the fight you saw to Dr. Magnus' wounds. It looked as if Brockhyrst would be alright, too, but the prognosis was less good for Gloria. Jenkins picked the locks to Edward's manacles. Edward insisted that the waiters fetch Jennifer Burton from the cells and you were all allowed to leave. You got to Fiona Featherstonehall's (who had been hiding behind a porcelain cherub for the entire gunfight) rather small airship 'Bebe,' and took off.

As Fiona was busy flying her ship, Damon made it known to the rest of you that he had grabbed the ankh, but not to let Fiona know as he still suspected she might be after it too, and he did not trust her. She dropped you off on Hampstead Heath and you took a taxi back to Dr. Magnus' place where you had agreed to stay the night. You inspected the ankh that Damon reluctantly showed you all. Dr. Magnus thought it might be made of orichalcum set with lapis lazuli. He explained that orichalcum was a legendary metal connected with the stories of Atlantis. He also said that it was probably Egyptian in origin but it looked wrong in some respects, as some of the hieroglyphs seemed to be from the wrong era. You also noticed it should have four stones set within it, but only a single Amethyst gem was still intact. You could see that the stones might have been deliberately prized out. Damon said he would bet a pound that Malvern Hedges possessed one of the other gems.

After nightcaps, you all went to bed. It had been a very long day in deed.