

Monday Nights: A GURPS 4e Anita Blake Adventure

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1 Introduction

A freak plane crash, a murdered politicians daughter, vampires and freaks. This is the world we see every other Monday night at my house in a role playing game called GURPS.¹ Because our group gets together at most twice each month, continuity gets to be a challenge. This document is an attempt to chronicle some of these adventures and provide a reference to past events.

2 Session 1: “The Crash”

Our first night of gaming was Monday, 6 March 2006. In attendance was Michael “Gep” Geppert, John Lundquist, Marya Brendle, Josh Sheppard, Mark Singer, and myself. The session was rather short, with a focus on introducing characters and the GURPS system. We spent a lot of time going over character generation.

Otori Takeo, played by Gep, master over Joe Soo, Josh’s character, received word about his stolen Katana and arranged a meeting with the messenger, who was arriving from London at the Humphrey Terminal.

¹GURPS is a registered trademark of Steve Jackson Games.

Jenna Mason, Marya's character, was at the terminal to show support for a fellow werewolf, who had been accused of murder and was being transported under high security from California.

Preston Vaughn, Mark's character, was contracted as a field operative and advisor for the collection of the werewolf.

Allen Page, John's character, was meeting a fellow professor flying in from London, one who had made a recent discovery of a Vampire culture of ancient times in South America.

Joe Soo was sent by Otori-san to receive the contact and was waiting by the gate when the London flight touched down. Shortly thereafter, a second plane, the high security transport, crash landed immediately behind the London flight. The California plane lost its wings and the fuselage broke in half, the front half of which crashed into the rear of the London flight.

Preston and the SWAT team had set up a protective circle around the Federal plane while passengers were evacuated from the London plane.

Joe muscled his way past a security guard and ran out on to the tarmac to meet the contact from London plane.

Jenna flirted her way on to the tarmac and helped out with the medical crew, treating evacuating passengers.

Allen was unsuccessful in convincing anyone to let him on to the tarmac; he met up with the Scottish professor later on.

Joe was apprehended near the plan for interfering with the evacuation.

Otori made his way to the plane personally using his super-natural speed ² to get on-site in moments.

A werebear, werewolf, and werecat ripped through the fuselage, whereas the werewolf was the only expected were-creature on board.

The SWAT team open-fired and dropped the werebear and werecat, but it was Preston who dropped the werewolf with a single, deadly sniper shot and a silver bullet. The werewolf died immediately, and the werebear and werecat were taken to the United Health Centers in Saint Paul (just North of the Airport by a couple minutes).³

Jenna vowed vengeance, noting who fired the killing blow (but surprisingly not getting a good scent on him, nor bothering to track or stalk him).

Otori collected the contact and Joe, using telepathy and command to force the SWAT officers to comply.

Allen and the Scottish professor ran into into Preston at the local Irish Bar, close to the airport, later that night.

²We'll have to come up with the technical in-game skill for this one. *Altered Time* perhaps.

³I should keep my laptop around and use <http://maps.google.com> to determine a more appropriate hospital. We determined that United was the only hospital equipped to handle were-creatures.

3 Session 2: “Nightmares”

The session took place on 20 March, 2006. In-game setting is now the 7th of March, 2006.

Preston was debriefed for a few hours, having had to give up his spiffy sniper rifle to authorities during the investigation of the incident.

Jenna was quite proud of herself for being able to control her temper during the incident on the tarmac, and was called in for surgery at United, the only hospital in the area currently equipped to work on lycans. She identified the two other lycans on the transport plane as Mark Littlepaw, a werebear from Oregon, and Mike Richardson, the wereleopard from California.

Preston Vaughn ran in to Allen Page and his Scottish colleague, Professor Angus McLoed, at a local Irish Pub near the airport later that night. After chatting over the nights events and catching up on old-times, both retired for the evening.

The next morning, the Channel 11 news anchor reported,

“Adam Miller, the werewolf accused with the his alleged involvement in the disappearance and gruesome murder of Attorney General Hatch’s daughter, Jennifer (fictional daughter), was killed today in what officials state was an attempted escape from custody at the Lindberg terminal of the Minneapolis/Saint Paul airport.

Lycanthrope rights activists are up in arms this morning, marching in front of the Capital in protest to Mr. Miller’s violent end. Many wonder why less lethal methods of capture weren’t used. FBI officials responded that given the danger to the civilians who were evacuating the passenger plane, NWA flight 424 that the correct action was taken.

These people obviously aren’t buying that explanation.”

Preston collected his pay at the FBI central offices that next morning, learning that the two lycanthropes that were shot were indeed guards on payroll. They had apparently lied on their job applications or perhaps had become infected after they began employment with the government. How they passed the periodic blood screening tests was beyond the special agent Preston talked to, who suspects there will be hell to pay within human resources.

Preston managed to get past hospital beaurocracy at United and visit Mike Richardson, who was just recovering from surgery. Mark Littlepaw was still in a medically induced coma following surgery and could not be seen.

Jenna attended her Anthropology in Occultism class the next morning, which was taught by Professor Allen Page. At the end of class, he called her up to the board to ask why she had not yet turned in her last assignment. Upon leaving the classroom, a tired and confused man approached Jenna. Glassy-eyed, he delivered this message in her general direction:

“Beware Jenny’s Deliver this message or feel ____ pain.”⁴

Immediately upon delivering the message, a student that had been standing behind Allen and Jenna collapsed in abject terror, clawing at his face and screaming. The boy who delivered the message, Terry Cooper, fell to the ground holding his head and stated, “Where am I?” The terrified student, Nick Bezak, bolted out the door, running blindly out into the courtyard. Jenna pursued him, launching into a shoestring tackle to bring him to the ground.

While she attempted to subdue him, Allen gathered what information he could out of the dazed boy. The campus police arrived to help Jenna with the fear-stricken student, hauling him off to the emergency room at HCMC. By the time she returned from the courtyard, the dazed student had wandered out the door and was heading over to the bus stop.

Jenna was unhappy with the level of detail Allen collected and met up with the student to ask more questions. It turned out that he hadn’t been sleeping for two weeks on account of terrible nightmares. He hadn’t visited a doctor, but he was seriously considering it now. In his dreams he was running from something truly frightening, with fangs and claws. It was dark with lots of black, red, and yellow in the dream. A girl was running too, a girl with blonde hair and a large nose. Jenna left for HCMC to see what information she could get on the freaked-out student.

Preston called Allen’s office phone to meet up for lunch at Sally’s on Washington Ave. They talked about the strange events of the last evening and morning. Jenna met up with them shortly thereafter, and in discussing the boy’s nightmares and description of the girl, they have come to the conclusion that the murder of Jenny and the nightmares might be connected.

4 Session 3: “Trouble with the Pack”

This session took place on Monday, 10 April 2006. Game setting is still Tuesday, 7 March 2006.

Preston, Allen, and Jenna are still at Sally’s. Preston wondered if the wereleopard had been trying to prevent escape. Preston had called “the office” (FBI) about the possible connection with Jennifer Hatch.

Allen learned more about the items his Scottish colleague, Professor Angus McLoed, had given him. The red crystals appeared to be dried blood, the white crystals, ground cornea. The fangs were obvious, but the claw was indeterminate, likely a dinosaur claw of some kind. The coins were intended to pay Charon, the ferry-man, to cross the river Styx. All of these items were found in South America, dated to the late BC’s.

Preston was contacted by a messenger for a “job” from a special classified ad Preston had placed in the local area papers. He was given a manilla envelope containing the information and a payment advance.

⁴ Blanks appropriate because neither Allen or Jenna thought to write down the message. They believe the first word is “wrath” and second to be “the”.

Emerson Gastreich, the pack leader, ordered her and her arch-nemesis, Michael Stipe, a weaselly werewolf, into finding the sniper who killed Adam Miller.

5 Session 4: “Murders?”

The session took place on 5 June, 2006. In-game setting is now the 7th of May, 2006.

Preston took some time to look over the “job” offer and found that in addition to a no-obligation \$10,000 advance, the job was to kill a vampire! It turns out that this particular vampire is a nasty, ex-CIA agent, a most formidable opponent for the bounty hunter. The vampire appeared to be a disconnected, covert associate of Senator Larry Dalton, based on the surveillance photos. The dossier noted frequented bars and dance clubs of supposed rogue agent, so Preston solicited the help of Professor Allen Page to develop some sort of scrying or seeking device to help him pinpoint the assassin’s location. Also noted was the way in which this vampire was to be dispatched.

“Messy or clean, it does not matter. The more public, the better.”

Jenna learned from a colleague at work that the wife of Attorney General Hatch was just committed to a mental hospital, earlier that day, on account of a nervous breakdown. Her colleague thought otherwise, that the woman had truly cracked.

Jenna made a trip to the mental hospital after her evening shift ended and met up with another colleague, a student who was doing her psychiatric internship. There, she learned that Mrs. Hatch had indeed been admitted, babbling incoherently at times. The phrases that were notable included:

“No. Not the children,” “Leave them alone,” “I take it back,” and
“No more!!”

She also learned that at least a dozen or two people had been admitted within the last few days, and that beds were getting scarce. It was turning in to a mental epidemic, it appeared. Each of the admitted patients were struck dumb with terror. While some seemed to be recovering, the outlook wasn’t good. Some were in a complete vegetative state.

Before turning in for the night, both Preston and Allen turned on the television to watch the news at their respective residences to a disturbing revelation: a serial killer or group of killers appeared to be on the loose. In the last few weeks, the murders had been increasing in frequency daily. That day, 21 murders had taken place at all hours of the day. The Governor himself appealed to the masses to walk in pairs or groups, to lock doors at night, and not to stay out to unnecessary hours. . .