

Rethel Abbey

The empty dormitory of this old abbey became refuge for a flooded town. Everyone liked it enough that they stayed, fixing up the place. Distant church authorities dispatched a witch-paranoid inquisitor to encourage them to move back. Certain of the presence of witchery, the inquisitor is looking for a third party to investigate. He offers a minor bounty for each witch accused with evidence. He thinks a sermon can turn the accused back to goodness. Should the investigators take too long, the townsfolk will become angry. Investigators may explore 30 points of interest freely, angering the villagers for every five thereafter.

Suggested hint locations are shown on the map by the person's initials. Each clue can lead to a person's secret with the right investigating. They should be mingled into descriptions of spaces and people. Time-consuming activities have a 1-in-6 chance of interruption by wandering townsfolk. This may require stealth or explanation to avoid angering people.

Most folk own up when caught, but a few may offer goods as a bribe or 1d4 hints for a promise to not accuse. Oscar will grumble but pay a bounty on himself and his sermon will be conciliatory instead of fiery. Fumbled investigations and false accusations anger the townsfolk: **1st time**, the investigation is public and people are less friendly. **2nd time**, tensions rise (5 random hints may become Red Herrings). **3rd time**, evidence is hidden (-1 hint each). **4th time**, players are run out of town and the inquisitor declares them witches.

Red Herrings: 1-3: Misleading hint (truth); **Odd marks look like heretical signs** (wear and tear), **overhear dark muttering** (complaining), **person sneaks off** (uncouth behavior), **bladed tool in their belongings** (lost tool). 4-6: Normal hint.



- ❖ Adam Orprost - Priest (**Romance with weaver**. Eats alone in church, Romantic letters in desk, Gives special attention to weaver)
- ❖ Petr Martin - Assistant (**Blackmailing priest**. Priest secretly does Petr's chores, Robe holds Elena's letter, Keeps Elena from Adam)
- ❖ Jacc Eus - Inquisitor (**Non-canon church book**. Weird book in bags, References a saint that isn't, Explains odd prayer as a local custom)
- ❖ Beck Aimar - Elder (**Secret altar to good god**. Home icon subtly marred, Mantlepice hides shrine, Crosses fingers during prayer)
- ❖ Ralf & Cecily Aimar - Taxman and goose farmer (**Bully brother to hide theft**. She flaunts wealth, They berate Seth, He puts some taxes in a pocket)
- ❖ Dina - 1st, Weaver asst. (**Sneaks off with Bradley**. Protective of cut flowers, Hay in clothing, Hiding hickey beneath collar)
- ❖ Fenn - 2nd, Acolyte (**Steals from parents to donate**. Donates lots of coins, Jangling coins in robes, Fakes a need to pee to donate)
- ❖ Seth Aimar - Miller (**Covers brother's theft**. Always carries ledger, Nervous when Ralf or Cecily brag, "True" ledger hidden in mill)
- ❖ Hazel Aimar - Baker (**Secret death shrine with Ralf and Cecily's hair**. Mutters hexes at in-laws, Locked cupboard, Steals hair from in-laws' brush)
- ❖ Thedric - 1st, Hunter and miller asst. (**Enjoys torturing his prey**. Mangled bones in forest, Unusual animal traps, Creepy forest laughter).
- ❖ Ralf & Joan Fisch - Innkeepers (**Retired smugglers with tomb goods**. Musty storage smell, Cagey about storage, Hooded night visitor)
- ❖ Walter & Staefa Sorrells - Smiths and pregnant (**Offerings to god of fertility**. Milk odor in room, Boxes hide space under bed, Sneak pitcher to room)
- ❖ Elena Karr - Weaver (**Romance with priest**. Sneaks to dine with priest, Hides love letters in donations, Fusses over Adam's robes)
- ❖ Elli & Misa Shep - Shepherd and Fromager (**Hiding magic**. He offers bribe, She starts oven magically, Spell elements in spice rack)
- ❖ Jori and Barkus - 1st and 2nd, Shepherd asst. (**Recently acquired edgy tattoos**. Sleeves despite heat, sore arms, Smirking and Poking each other's arm)
- ❖ Alice - 4th, Fromager asst. (**Pretending to do magic**. Fake 'witch' hut in forest, Forgot to leave 'wand' in forest, Leaves in clothing).
- ❖ Grikory Hoffman and Chesha, mother-in-law (**Pray to god of disease**. Coins on their childrens' graves, Sneeze when praying, Alms to hidden icon)
- ❖ Bradley - 1st, Farmer asst. (**Sneaks off with the elder's granddaughter**. Hidey hole in hay storage, Hickey beneath collar, Collects flowers)
- ❖ Jerome - 2nd, Farmer asst. (**Copying inquisitor's heretical text**. Secretive about book, Ink stains on hands, Sneaks off to visit inquisitor)
- ❖ Nina - 4th, Smith asst. (**Anti-theist**. Debates morality of gods, Naps during church, Gestures rudely at icons and priests)
- ❖ Maria - 7th, Weaver asst., sickly (**Bears birthmark of god of illness**. Talia died before giving birth to her, Animals avoid her, She mumbles about disease)
- ❖ Marius & Kestra Lumbert; Ros & Istrida; Theotra, Besica, Alix - Loggers. (**Ancestor and fey praise**. Home shrine, Charm bracelets, Save part of meals)
- ❖ Auria Pulver - Apothecary, lost heir of late apothecary. (**Fraud, guild thief in hiding**. Accidental thieves cant, Bad herbalist, None knew he had a kid)