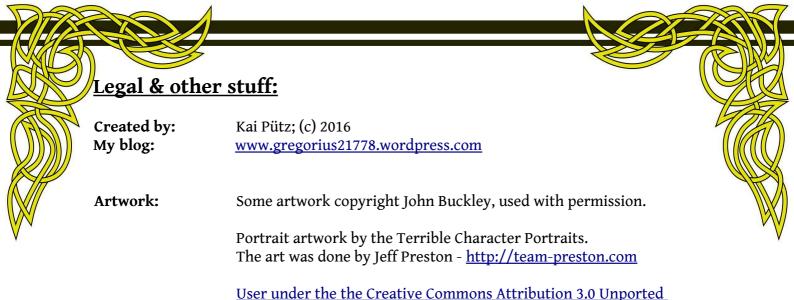




A weird, random encounter for just before the start of an adventure



Version 1.3; written by Kai Pütz (c) 2016



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Ye ol'mad monk is a gimmick, something weird to spice up the start of a game. For the encounter it is assumed that the characters are in a town or village and get ready to embark on their next adventure. They may or may not have been acquiring equipment, but are walking on the streets near the market square as they note a disheveled, partially bald man in rags that once were a monk's robe. He babbles, rants and argues with a stray dog who barks at him before running away. He is mid 40s, bearded, unwashed, shabby, his front teeth are missing and his eyes have the unsteady, haunted look of a madman. Just as the characters are about to pass by he babbles something. Something the characters have heard already, something that has something to do with their task at hand. Does the old madman know something... could it be...?

If the characters ignore him, nothing happens. If they don't, roll up a random response from the following table or use the one you fancy the most.

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1			_
	#	d100	Response
	1	01-03	A golden coin
	2	04-06	A cryptic warning
	3	07-10	Doom!
	4	11-13	That mad grin
	5	14-16	You might make it
	6	17-20	You will die
	7	21-23	Lend me an ear
	8	24-26	Kiss! Kiss!
	9	27-30	I follow you!
	10	31-33	Surprise!
	11	34-36	It is dangerouse to go there
	12	37-40	The map
	13	41-43	Noooo!
	14	44-46	If ye talk to the mad
	15	47-50	but what he said
	16	51-53	Thewhisper
	17	54-56	Beggar
	18	57-60	Bloody words
	19	61-63	Bad company
	20	64-66	Here!
	21	67-70	Laughter
	22	71-73	Beautiful hair
	23	74-76	
	24	77-80	Hush!
	25	81-83	Don´t go there!
	26	84-86	Thekey
	27	87-90	Freehug!
	28	91-93	By heart
	29	94-96	A kind advise
	30	97-00	Stay strong!
,			

But who is this ol' mad monk?

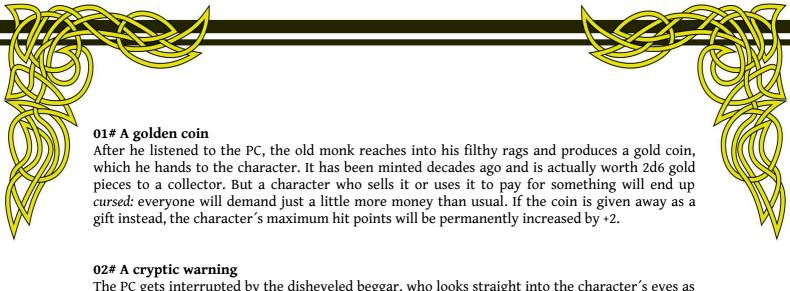
Is this really important? If it is, his name is **Wilbur** and he used to be a member of a party of adventurers, not unlike the PC group. But during their journey, something went wrong. They met something men was not meant to meet, and this encounter killed all of Wilbur's companions and left him mad. Or perhaps it left them all mad and he is just the only one who survived what happened... or is he...?.

Wilbur is a 1st level cleric with 9 hit points and an AC:12. As he has lost his mind, he stopped praying to his deity and thereby is not having any spells prepared. But, as something has touched and changed him, he is a source of strange, erratic phenomena all of his own. Those powers, however, are beyond his command and as much beyond his understanding as the rest of the world now is to him.

...or he is just a lunatic! No matter what he is, he will have been in the town/village for a long time now, and all the inhabitants know him. They can tell that he once arrived in a much better state, together with a group of other strangers.

But when he returned alone a little more than week later, he was in this condition. The kind people give him alms so that he does not starve, but they try to keep away from him out of fear.





The PC gets interrupted by the disheveled beggar, who looks straight into the character's eyes as he bellows a cryptic warning. The Referee should use a possible situation of the adventure to come that includes a *Saving Throw vs. Magic* or *Magic Devices* and construct the warning around this situation. If the PC gets into this situation, the Saving Throw will be passed automatically.

03# Doom!

The lunatic stares at the PC in confusion, than in disbelieve and shock. Out of a sudden he will wail "Doomed! You are all doomed! Doom is written all over you!!" From that moment on the characters are cursed for the duration of this adventure. In combat, their opponents get to re-roll any damage dice coming up with a "1" or a "2".

04# The mad grin

The madman just glares at the character with an insane grin and wide eyes while he moves his head slowly from one side to the other. The PC needs to Save vs. Magic Devices: on a success the old monk will pad him on his shoulder and nod encouraging before he strolls away. The character may re-roll the next failed saving throw. On a failure the PC will begin to feel unsure and the old monk will just shake his head and leave. The PC is going to suffer a (-1) penalty to all rolls in the coming adventure.

05# You might make it

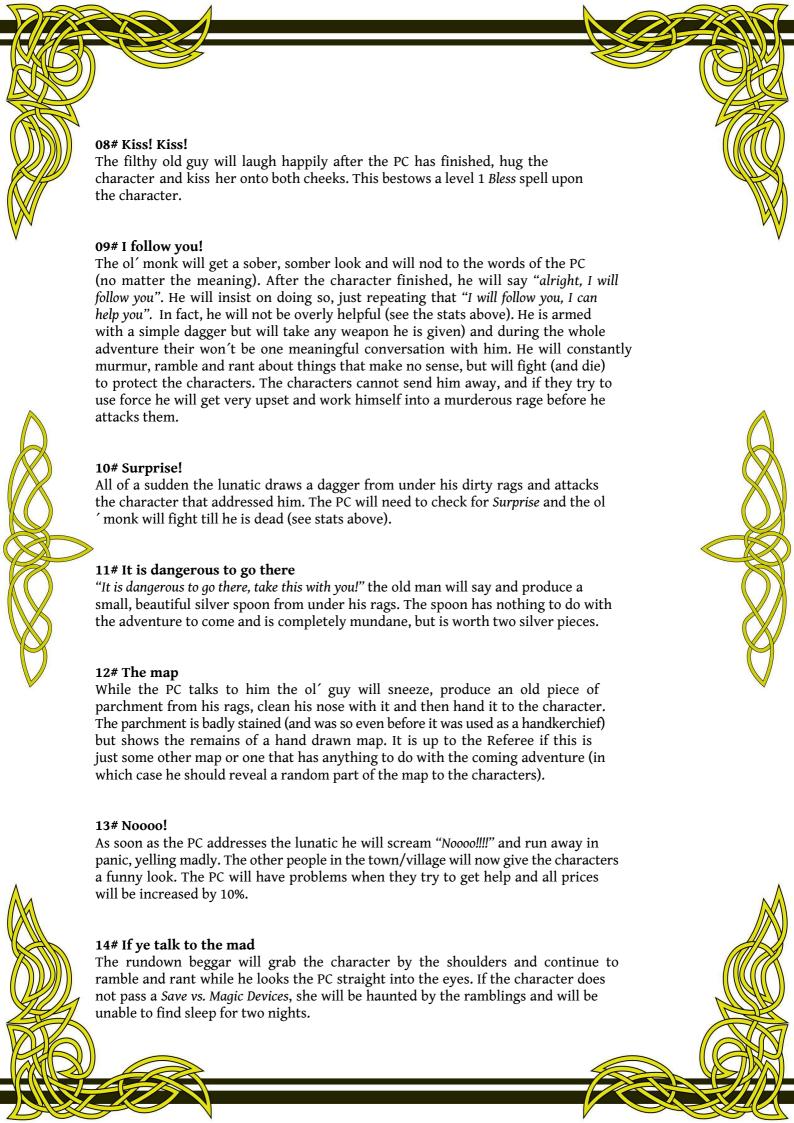
The filthy old guy nods sadly as he listens to the character and murmurs "...YOU might make it..." before he becomes absent minded and just stays there, repeating the phrase over and over again. The next time the character fails a *Saving Throw vs. Death* during the coming adventure, the Saving Throw is passed instead.

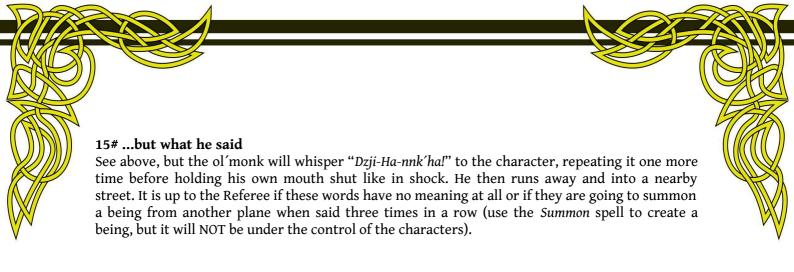
06# You will die

See above, but the mad monk will instead tell the character that she is going to die, and the next time the PC passes a *Saving Throw vs. Death* she will have to re-roll it.

07# Lend me an ear

At first the lunatic will listen to the PC with a friendly smile on his face, but all of a sudden he will grab her head and try to bite her. The character needs to pass a check for *Surprise*, or the ol' monk will bite one of her ears of!





16# The whisper

The madmen will beckon the character closer, so that he can whisper into his ear. If the PC allows that the whispered words will put her under the effect of a *Chaos* spell for the duration of one hour (six turns).

17# Beggar

The ol' man will stretch out his hand to the PC, like he would be begging for a coin. If the PC gives him one (or more) he will grin at what he has in his hands and swallow it quickly! After that, he will turn around and stroll away into the next street.

18# Bloody words

The filthy old guy will beckon the character closer, so that he can speak to her without others eavesdropping. If the PC follows the notion the former monk will start to stammer and murmur incoherently, revealing some hints to the adventure to come but will all of a sudden cough violently and spit out blood into the face of the PC. The Referee rolls a *Save vs. Poison* on the behalf of the character to see if she caught an infection. The illness has an incubation period of two days, an interval of 12 hours, an infection time of three days. Its effect is the loss of 1d3 hit points due to coughing up blood.

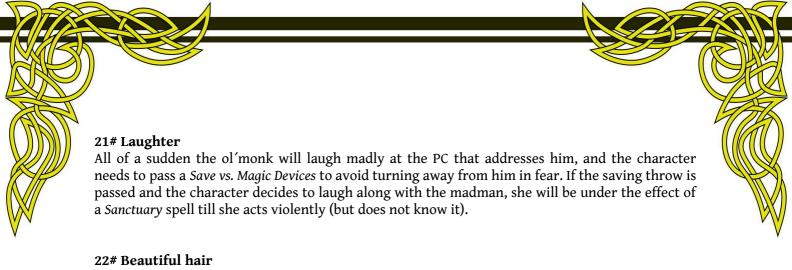
19# Bad company

The lunatic will not answer the characters but just follow them. He will rant incoherently and curse them from time to time. If the characters do not get rid of him, others will give them a wide berth.

20# Here!

The ol'monk will listen to the PC, but will then bite his own tongue off, spit it into his hands and will hand the bloody thing to the character like it would be a gift. If the PC takes the gift and keeps it, the Referee should exclude that character the next time that a random PC is determined for something bad to happen.





The madman will stare at the character in befuddlement, before he suddenly reaches out for a tuft of hair. If the PC does not pass a check for *Surprise* the lunatic will tear some out, stuff it into his mouth and swallow it.

23# -

The filthy beggar just ignores the PC and rambles on. Anything a character tries to do to gain his attention will fail, but if they try to rough him up he will begin to cry like a baby and sullen himself in fear.

24# Hush!

The balding man interrupts the character by putting a finger over his lips and hushing her. Doing so he looks at the PC with sad, serious eyes like it would be of grave importance that she shuts up. Then, he will turn away and leave. If the player describes how his character remembers this moment while the PC tries to be stealthy during the coming adventure, the test is passed automatically.

25# Don't go there!

The eyes of the madman go wide as he says "no… no!no!NO!!!… do't go there! DON't go THERE!!!". He will grab the PC and repeat that while growing more and more upset. If the character does not get rid of him by force, the madman will start to pull at her clothes so viciously that a seam pops.

26# The key

After staring at the PC for a heartbeat, the ol' monk will produce a stained copper key under his rags and hand it over. The key has no use or meaning in the coming adventure.

27# Free hug!

After the PC has addressed him, the monk will smile at her and give her a hearty hug. The character will count as being under the effect of a level 1 *Bless* spell for the coming adventure, and will be plagued by fleas now.

28# By heart
The downtrodden man will look at the PC, his eyes will widen and his mouth will go agape before he clutches his chest. A moment later, he dies form a heart attack.



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