

Events of Conclave 2.0

10:00 PM to 11:00 PM OOC Time

Cast of Characters:

Bojan Petrov: Everyone's favorite martyr

Algernon Stone: Petrov's self appointed, Halifax-native advocate

Maris Streck: Justicar for Clan Malkavian, knows that Petrov is likely innocent of Evans and Amelia's demise, but pursues his death out of regard for his other sins (specifically the murder of a helpless man - Itch) and out of a reluctance to alienate Paschek.

Jaroslav Paschek: Justicar for Clan Brujah. He genuinely believes that Petrov is guilty and is thirsty for blood. He is genuinely rattled by Evans' demise.

Armon LaFayette: Ventrue Prince of Halifax. Not appearing in this scene

Richard Crane: Ventrue Sheriff of Halifax. Not appearing in this scene

Toffee and Chipper: Deputies that would have been excellent comic relief. Not appearing in this scene.

What has happened:

1. Petrov, with Roske's help, ended up on a several month long chase looking for Evans after leaving NYC.
2. Roske and Petrov got a tip from an informant that Evans was headed to Halifax, Nova Scotia. Unfortunately the informant (a Canadian Nosferatu) worked for Evans' network and sold them out immediately
3. Amelia Piccoli Rossi and Hadrian Evans arrived in Halifax a few days prior to Roske and Petrov expecting them to. Evans decided to set a trap, based on the information.
4. Evans cornered Roske, after he split up from Petrov en route to Halifax, appeared out of Astral and Dominated him into having some bad information and a Mesmerism command to lead him to suggest the Neptune Theatre as a good location to lure Evans to via Summon
5. Roske and Petrov arrived in Nova Scotia, and Roske procured two hookers (unknowingly from an associate of the unnamed Nosferatu contact) for feeding purposes.
6. Sheriff Crane was tipped off by said associate about a possible breach of hospitality.
7. Evans went to the Neptune and lay in wait for Petrov. When he showed up, Evans tried to goad him into frenzy through excessive jerkwaddery (I asked Evans' player for input on this), and was taken somewhat by surprise when Petrov overpowered him and beat his face in until he hit torpor.
8. Amelia, however, who had followed Evans with a plentitude of *Obtenebration*, appeared on the scene and *Dominated* Petrov into recalling both Evans' death and her own. She ripped off several of Evans limbs before taking his torpid body away with her.
9. Crane and co. arrived on scene to find Petrov confused and covered in ash. He puts up a rather ferocious struggle before being staked.
10. Elle Herriot, the obnoxious ghost that follows Petrov, throws a brief tantrum at the theatre, until a Giovanni is found and she is sent through various means into a Harrowing.
11. Prince Lafayette, not wanting to have Petrov's blood on his hands for fear of the local Rabble rioting, pulls some strings to see if he can't get a Conclave to try him.
12. Paschek and Streck, both already set to condemn Petrov for their own reasons, are willing to oblige.

What has been perceived as just happening:

1. Petrov went on a several month long chase looking for Evans after leaving NYC.
2. Petrov arrived in Halifax, and an unknown accomplice of Petrov's who is not standing trial, procured two hookers (unknowingly from an associate of the unnamed Nosferatu contact) for feeding purposes.
3. Sheriff Crane was tipped off by said associate about a possible breach of Hospitality.

4. Petrov, under false information that the Neptune was controlled by an elder not falling under LaFayette's Domain, went to the location and made an attempt to Summon Evans, only to find that he was already there.
5. It is likely, given circumstances, that this was a trap of some sort, but whatever the case, Petrov killed both Evans and Amelia here.
6. After a disturbance was noted in the area, Crane sent out the deputy squad to investigate. They found/staked Petrov.
7. A slight disturbance that took place following Petrov's arrest which is largely unaccounted for. A hired Giovanni claims it was an agitated wraith, probably upset that it's haunt was invaded.
8. Prince Lafayette, not wanting to have Petrov's blood on his hand, for fear of the local Rabble rioting, pulls some strings to see if he can't get a Conclave to try him.

Tell Petrov's Player is going on

- Ivan as Stone, ought introduce himself to Nick/Petrov and run a short scene/narration as to what's going on with the Conclave.

Enter PCs

Travel Time to Halifax: 15 minutes

PCs may arrive at any time they like and the schedule of events WILL NOT ADJUST for them. If they come late, they get a later part of the Conclave. Whenever PCs arrive in this timeline there will be a brief scene in which officials will attempt to bar them from entering. Brody will be allowed to enter fairly quickly for fear of massively snubbing NYC too heavily, but *everyone* else will be extorted for boons.

10:00 PM – 10:15 – Arguments Regarding Evidence

Assuming they arrive as EARLY AS POSSIBLE, PCs will find that Conclave has already been in session for a while. This is not the beginning of things and it's obvious that Stone is making his case after the Justicariate has already discussed a lengthy case against. No more witnesses are being consulted, save Bojan occasionally.

At this point, Stone ought be partially into an argument which attacks the evidence and circumstances of the investigation.

He'll hit on the following points. The outlines below are loose scripts for how the exchange might go, and are there to demonstrate the rough flow of ideas.

The Lack of Body

- **Stone:** There's not a body.
- **Streck and Paschek:** Kindred don't LEAVE bodies. In any event, ashes have been found in the Neptune Theatre and on Petrov's person and that it was confirmed via Auspex that they belong to Hadrian Evans.
- **Stone:** No trace of Amelia was found. It's also not as if Petrov would have had any time to clean up, given the state he was in.
- **Streck and Paschek:** All Traces of ash cannot necessarily be preserved, especially given that the incident took place close to dawn and a full day passed before further investigations were really made. Prince Lafayette did all he could, given the time, but the evidence has naturally degraded. Evans' ashes ought stand as evidence enough.

The Lack of Witnesses

- **Stone:** There are no witnesses
- **Streck:** Petrov's own memories bear witness to the events.
- **Stone:** Petrov was barely coherent at the time of his "arrest". Everyone admits this.
- **Streck:** He remembers killing them.

- **Stone:** Could you tell us again what you remember about killing them?
- **Bojan:** [says whatever]
- **Stone:** *points out how fuzzy the memories are*

IT'S A TRAP! (Or this sounds like Evans staged it)

- **Stone:** Why did Sheriff Richard Crane and Deputy Sheriffs “Chipper” and “Toffee” show up at the scene so quickly? This whole scenario, as Petrov has already attested too seems staged.
- **Streck and Paschek:** To reiterate, Sheriff Crane ALREADY TESTIFIED that he was informed of the disturbance by a Nosferatu who wishes to go unnamed. Apparently he gave the Sheriff a head's up after two ahem... “ladies” in his company were picked up by a Kindred he didn't recognize. He followed at a distance and gave Crane a call, given that a potential breach of Hospitality was underway. Crane started paying attention to his extensive network of police as a result and was keeping an eye out for disturbances. When somebody overheard the break in at the Neptune, Crane was naturally fast to respond.
- **Stone:** Why weren't Chipper and Toffee questioned on this?
- **Streck and Paschek:** Unfortunately Chipper has been rendered torpid through application of a crowbar to the skull. Toffee is indisposed, and the Justicariate, upon evaluation, has found her testimony would likely be of little use anyway.
- **Stone:** The Cainite that Crane reported feeding on prostitutes. That wasn't Petrov. Correct?
- **Streck and Paschek:** That's correct.
- **Stone:** And WHY hasn't this been looked into?
- **Paschek:** Petrov's accomplice has been questioned, we see no reason to have him testify here.
- **Stone:** Why not?
- **Streck and Paschek:** We did not judge his testimony necessary, and his sins are not the topic of discussion
- **Stone:** Petrov, could you repeat for us Hadrian Evans' commentary as to his ability to pre-empt you?
- **Bojan:** [says whatever]
- **Streck and Paschek (possibly more Streck):** You do admit that you came to the *Neptune* with the intention of killing him.
- **Bojan:** [says whatever]
- **Paschek:** The Justicariate can concede that Evans may have planned to bait Bojan Petrov – which may in turn have led to his demise. We are not here, however, to ascertain any guilt or innocence of Hadrian Evans, but to evaluate the guilt or innocence of Bojan Petrov

10:15 PM – 10:30 PM – The Fallibility of the Justicariate

If It COULD be a trap, then couldn't Petrov be innocent?

- **Stone:** If you're willing to admit that Evans might have staged it, why would it not follow that Evans might have staged his own death?
- **Streck and Paschek:** Such thought naturally occurred, yet the truth remains: Evans cannot be found alive by any current means. Ashes were still found. Petrov remembers murdering him and Amelia. EVERYTHING seems to fall into place.
- **Stone:** Couldn't his memories have been implanted?
- **Streck:** Having looked over them myself, I can say that I found nothing to support Bojan Petrov's innocence.
- **Stone:** In your judgment, there's no way the memories could be implanted?
- **Paschek:** Are you insinuating some fallibility on the part of the Justicariate, Mr Stone.

- **Stone:** No, sir... although Mr. Petrov is notorious at doing such things.
- **Paschek:** *gets somewhat angry, possibly threatens Stone*

What about the inexplicable happenings at the theatre?

- **Stone:** We've also been told that some manner of ghost caused a disruption at the theater by a *cough* Giovanni. Can anyone confirm that these discrepancies were caused by ghosts?
- **Streck and Paschek:** Mr. Giovanni reports that it was, in fact a ghost. Auspex confirms him to be truthful
- **Stone:** But WHY would a ghost be interfering!?
- **Streck and Paschek:** Ghosts have their own motivations. It cannot be questioned now, given that it has been effectivley destroyed for the time being.

10:30 PM – 10:45 PM – Emotional Appeal

Motive, what was the motive anyway?

- **Stone:** Mr. Petrov, what was your motive for killing him anyway?
- **Bojan:** ... [says whatever, hopefully giving some of Petrov's actual motive]
- **Stone:** *Plays Petrov's story as much as possible to invoke sympathy* Then: Very good. And your motive regarding Amelia?
- **Bojan:** ... [says whatever, hopefully an "I don't know"]
- **Stone:** Given the circumstances and the nature of the revenge, why would you kill her?
- **Bojan:** [says whatever]
- **Stone:** Did you kill her in a frenzy? Do you recall?
- **Bojan:** [says whatever]
- **Stone:** Why would you kill the woman in cold blood?
- **Bojan:** [says whatever]
- **Stone:** -continues driving home the point until Petrov doesn't have any more answers. The Justicars are obviously testy.
- **Pascheck:** Mr. Stone, is there anything else you have to say? I shant speak for my compatriot, but I feel that I am ready to make a decision

Well... fuck..

- **Stone to Petrov:** Call for Ordeal
- **Bojan:** ... [says whatever, likely "What the fuck is Ordeal"?]
- **Stone:** *Explains how fucked they are.*
- **Bojan:** *Hopefully calls for Ordeal*

10:45 PM – 11:00 PM – Ordeal

Pascheck probably acts a little condescending at the suggestion of Ordeal, but he and Streck hold to the custom and converse regarding what the Ordeal ought be.

It is eventually settled, and Pascheck announces that it will be an Ordeal by Fire – with the terms being that a 30 foot circle shall be drawn, and that the assembled should crowd around it. Petrov shall be placed in it's center, doused in fuel, and lit. He's willing to do this himself. Should Petrov refrain from setting foot outside the circle and from giving into the Beast, his innocence will be proven.

This occurs, and Streck offers up part of Psalm 23 (“Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.”) as it does, in accordance with her deranged fixation on Christian passion plays. Petrov falls into a catatonia and passed the terms of the Ordeal, although he still burns to death.