

## **THE SCHOLAR**

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You are privileged, well-educated, soft-spoken and a little snobbish.

Your primary reason to take this train journey is because the Lover told you it was important to Bakker. You were going to try to make the Lover publicly choose you over him to humiliate Bakker.

### **What you know:**

- You think Bakker is a cash-grabbing social climber who made his money during the war as an arms dealer.
- You met him at social events and parties in the last few years. At one he humiliated you and you've hated him ever since.
- You've been sleeping with The Lover, who Bakker has had on his arm, for a short while.

### **Who you know:**

- You hate Egan Bakker
- You've met the Spouse once or twice
- You've been sleeping with the Lover for a short time.

### **At the time of the murder:**

- You were just waking up in your cabin with The Lover.
- They left shortly before you heard the conductor yelling for help.
- You are unlikely to want to advertise you were with the Lover if you have a choice, as it gives you another motive to kill Bakker but if you are accused, you'll use them as an alibi.

### **The player must decide:**

- How did Bakker humiliate you?
- How do you really feel about the Lover?

### **Items in your cabin:**

- A lot of books, writing materials and ink
- One of the Lover's earrings under your pillow

## If the Scholar is the murderer

If the Scholar killed Bakker, it was on impulse. After the Lover left your cabin you went into the dining car and saw Bakker there unconscious. His pistol was ostentatiously on his hip, as always. Maybe when you picked it up at first, you were thinking of stealing it, just out of spite.

Then as you held it in your hand, remember him boasting about how quiet it was, you realized you can have him dead and gone from your life.

You tossed the gun back onto the table, burning your hand on the hot barrel. Your nightshirt was covered in blood, you pulled it off and hid it behind some seats before running back into your room. The conductor found Bakker's body and started shouting for help just seconds later.

### What might get you caught:

- The burn on your hand
- The Lover left before the muffled gunshot
- The bloody nightshirt might not identify you, but it narrows it down to someone of your size.

## A second murder

The Scholar will be reluctant to commit a second murder but will panic if they feel anyone is getting close to figuring them out.

If an NPC sees the burn on your hand, the DM will pass you a note and you can decide if it's enough to kill them. If a PC looks close to catching you, you can strike without warning the DM.