The Depths

The Now in Göteborg after session 6

Powers reach into outer space and the inner self.

The greater evil and the greater good: which is which?

**Notions**

The ocean = space, water, the mind, the internet, the cosmos

* Information hidden in the quantum layers of reality
	+ Past and future
	+ Entities: The Great Dreamer, Greyface
* Conscious exploration and unconscious intuition
	+ Both have similar meditations/awareness + “lost in the haze” difficulties

The two “greaters” are not metaphysical at all

* The spook wars: KSI and UNDK, in the greater question of what Sweden is
	+ Motivated, ruthless, the worst possible combination of idealistic & realistic
* Sweden, NATO, and the EU
	+ The Luxembourg enforcers: Lovely Anna (Luxembourg), Stench (German), Hellbender (American, on loan), Slice (Serb) – prepared to strike at anti-neoliberal power points in Sweden; **direct response to events at Karlsborg**

The heroes’ partnership

* Meetings at Flygarns Haga
* Reputation and social identity
	+ Popular recognition
	+ Agency backstopping
* Loose alliance with widely-separated global heroes, all “depths” oriented as well
	+ Tuvan Republic: **Raptor (***khishchnaya ptitsa***)**, inexact shaman connection, cosmic microwave background noise
	+ Magnetic Pole (north to south): **Molten**, genderfluid, abstract magnetics
	+ Cameroon:

Göteborg culture

* Complex internationalism –investigate foreign business presence
	+ Sector who’s more committed to Amsterdam, Hamburg, Copenhagen, and London
	+ Heightened connection/exchange with Shanghai in 2003, lapsed in 2020
* Communities and interactions within and across neighborhoods
	+ 81-member Assembly with four-year elections; referendums and people’s initiatives
	+ Controversy: West Link underground tunnel
	+ 2018 elections: novel red-pink-green coalition
* Ecology and Industry
	+ Environmentalism and greening the harbor – actual ecology vs. neoliberal greenwashing
* Immigration and nativism: 12% foreign citizens, 28% foreign-born, 46% one foreign parent
	+ Suriname & Paramaibo – older immigration fleeing Desi Bourtése dictatorship following Cotonou Agreement (2003) + recent rightwing one of fleeing his 2019 conviction
	+ Black Lives Matter activism

**Rules and Points**

218 Points total; they have 1 and 9

* Both are high ratio

Play and use

* Review combat math and maneuvers; note Assist and Coordinated Attack
* Put out Presence dice reference
* Focus for Kosmonaut’s Flight

**Kosmonaut,** Carl Henrik Lytke

Lives in Örgryte

* Overly large apartment, formerly two-person
* Mathematics teacher in Bergsjön, commutes
	+ Department head, colleagues; students, obligations
	+ Sandhir and his family from Suriname

Loner and loser

* Overly passive, history of missed opportunities – student and family pressure puts him forward for a new program about systemic racism [THE GREATER GOOD]
	+ “Contributed to” awards, various junk from older projects
* Alienated, often disconnected or broken, irrational
	+ But validated through direct, publicly-appreciated heroiccs
	+ Sofie is married to Johan and pregnant – concluded arc

The space suit

* Its Soviet origin and earlier history
	+ Developed in the 1970s via information about CIA hallucinogenics research, delivered to KGB by Swedish spies; then stolen from them once their program was initiated
	+ IB assassinated most or all of the original kosmonauts
	+ SVR is looking into its forgotten history, prompted by recent exposure
* He found or bonded with it in 2011
	+ Göteborg Archipelago, deployment of Swedish military re: mysterious submerged craft or phenomenon – precise circumstances; flashback – the dead kosmonaut who barely escaped assassination, the suit’s response to ideals and empathy
	+ Its purpose and ideals: tied to his own, more so than he realizes

The Quantum Detective

* Missing persons cases
	+ Cutouts via internet to local police, state police, federal security, Schengen authorities, Interpol
* Internet fanbase, posted videos, seeking more
* Micke Byström, community admin –mistaken focus on 1950s kosmonauts (reinforced by KSI)
* Testimony: Tina, Sandhir– increasing demands for specific actions
* Swedish profiteers – killed by La Flecha Dorada – they were greedy & careless

KSI *(Kontoret för särskild inhämtning),*formerly SSI, GBU, IB (*Insamling Birger)*, T-Kontoret

* Liaison with SOG (*Särskilda Operationsgruppen*; part of the Swedish Armed Forces, not part of KSI)
	+ Karlsborg Fortress has a special office for them; in fact they precede SOG there
	+ Vatten houses Bernsson’s original module, all the way back to T-Kontoret – forgotten!
* Kosmonaut/ethernaut history:superior control of “space/depths” medium
	+ Reinforcing misperceptions in pop media including Byström’s community
	+ Old CIA and KGB interactions; more recent equivalents firewalled from other agencies
	+ He has ancient files regarding Bernsson
* Greyface**:** the Cold War hold-over who “went cosmic” back then, when it was IB
	+ Vanished after events of 1973 – modern KSI is terrified of him and turns to UNDK for help [THE GREATER EVIL]
	+ **Now running the KSI ops at Karlsborg and activating the thing beneath the water**
	+ Aided by Maria Margareta Renström, from Skåne; aged ex-director’s wife who goes all the back to the beginning, cynical and dangerous as hell; he secured her from a Covid-19 facility
* Agency-to-agency ties to the CIA, “we know best” relative to their respective governments
	+ Manny Marcos, liaison, not connected to kosmonaut history – turns to UNDK too
	+ Tacit tolerance for CIA cover for the cocaine smuggling– “Joey” and “Johnny” are still around

**Havsmannen,** Johannes Bäck

Heritage and aquatic powers

* Havsmänn were almost exterminated during the witch hunts
	+ Expectations of producing an heir
* Grandfather: Rune Larsson, raised him and taught him his heritage
	+ Disappeared in the Archipelago events of 2011
* Difficulties – unreliability and uncertainty
	+ The Call of the Sea
* The Great Dreamer –no such thing as“Cthulhu done right” – just a mystic thing, not a Greater Evil
	+ Premonitions and inspirations – fleeting contact with Vásquez; she’s struggling vs. control
	+ Roused and provoked by Greyface’s incursion, now settled

Fishing community out in the Göteborg archipelago

* Local lifestyle and traditions
	+ Taxi boat driver, outer route including Vinga
	+ Recognition from locals with some degree of fear; has status but little true sociality
* Provides sensitive, personal help, e.g., drug-related problems
* Lasse, local weed guy

Lonely and sad, dreaming of love

* Ulrike, semi-girlfriend: hard-luck city girl, bit of a cryptozoologist; loves him on-and-off
	+ She’s smart enough to contact the Kosmonaut indirectly via fanbase
	+ She’s gone to Vatten; camping there, **has acquired crucial photo and video – apprehended by security services, they bring her to Kosmonaut**
* A hip shipside wedding out there in the lovely waters

Regular, active sea and island patrol

* Vs. corporate exploitation, military facilities, environmental hazards, drug trafficking
	+ Appreciative Hammarkullen police officer
	+ A new problem (always something) [THE GREATER GOOD]
* Natural storms and dangers
* Pollution, exploitation
	+ Göteborg harbor issues, “below the waterline” problems unmet by cosmetic policy
	+ The pilot whales at the Faroe Islands: poisoned and crazed by anti-green corporate interests

MUST (*Militära underrättelse- och säkerhetstjänsten*), specifically UNDK (*Underrättelsekontoret*): works with Ministry of Defense and deployments; not at all cooperative wth KSI

* Installation at Borhus-Björkö, specifically Boviksskären
* Lennart Hankvist, hardnosed career officer –regular, frequent communication checks
	+ - Despises KSI and their CIA connections; determined to resolve the situation without the EU’s involvement
		- Nationalist: wants Sweden to be the new UK in the wake of Brexit and Covid-19, but subtler (not quite NATO, not quite EU)
		- Willing to replace Rune with Havsmannen, if necessary [THE GREATER GOOD]
* The recovery of the *Vasa* in 1961; fully restored in its modern museum in 1990
	+ - Disturbed the Dreamer, “something came up with it” – which is what T-Kontoret used [THE GREATER EVIL]
* September 28, 1994: the wreck of the *Estonia* in the Baltic Sea
	+ - The ship was transporting horrifying SSB tech derived from the 1980s resesarch on the Vasa, ultimately bound for Kosovo via Baltic cutouts
		- Markus and Linnea Bäck, his parents, were trying to stop it – opposing post-Cold War covert arms race and NATO build-up; killed by the agents of Luxembourg – specifically Stench
		- Initial attempt to entomb the wreck; International Estonia Agreement in 1995 vs. contacting it, no-contact is enforced by Finnish Navy
* September 15, 2011: Swedish military deployment in the Göteborg Archipelago
	+ - Mysterious submerged craft + phenomenon, with original kosmonaut’s body – Kosmonaut’s origin
		- Rune was utilized and imprisoned by UNDK – recovered, freed, but not very functional