

Scenario 1: Bread and Circuses

You pick away at the remains of your quickly cooling dinner as your newfound compatriot drones on about the “will of the people” and “long-standing American traditions”, hoping that he’ll arrive at his point sooner rather than later: a free meal only pays for so much.

“So you see, I can’t really go there myself, I’m sure you understand, well then what would the good people of the city think if one such as I was to go to – oh, why thank you ma’am!” His train of thoughts derails again as the waitress stops by the table to top off your coffees. She makes little effort to hide her feelings towards your mutual friend as she shoots you a get-a-load-a-this-guy look as she walks off.

“To think, he’s always been such a good young man, I hate to think that... Oh, Right!” Milton Arden, that is, this being of perpetual disorientation, your hopeful senator, this man across the table, seems to finally collect himself, straightening his jacket as he brings his attention back to you. “It’s my nephew Edwin, he’s found it worthwhile to go about and make a fool of himself, and while I won’t begrudge a man his good time, I can’t put the mirth of one over the wealth of the many! And as you know, if one member racks up too high of a bill, it’s incumbent upon the family to pay the price. With that in mind, I need you to go find him in my stead, just bring him back to me for a talk. He’s a reasonable boy – a Harvard boy, honor roll five years running! – I’m sure he’ll come around to the situation in no time at all. I’d go myself, but, well, if I were seen there, that would defeat the whole purpose, would it not? The fine people of this state need their noble leaders, and for me to deprive them of that by running into some nosy muckraker in that empire of entertainment, why that’d just be selfish!”

It’s dangerously close to kidnapping, but the he-said-she-said divorce cases were becoming intolerable, and even those were running dry lately. You agree to terms with Arden, taking a short advance, the rest paid upon the loving family reunion. With those couple extra bucks kicking the dust out of your wallet, you head down to the Imperial, the favorite pleasure palace of the downtown elite, a place on which the sun never rose, the party never ended, and the wine flowed like wine.

Setup

- ☉ Gather all of the sets from the following encounter sets: *Imperium Rex*, *Easy Living*. These sets are indicated by the following icons:



- ☉ Set the *Alaric Gang* encounter set aside, out of play. This set is indicated by the following icon:



- ☉ Put The Imperial Entrance, The Lobby, The Dance Floor, The Back Booths, The Dining Area, Stairway, The Balcony, and Dark Stairwell into play. Each investigator begins at The Imperial Entrance.
- ☉ Put a copy of The Door Man into play at The Lobby, a copy of The Lookout into play at Dark Stairwell, and a copy of Imperial Regular into play in The Dining Area.
- ☉ Set all copies of Backroom Door and A Job Well Done aside, outside of play.
- ☉ Set the 5 unique **Regular** allies in the *Imperium Rex* encounter set aside to create a “Regular Deck” Shuffle Edwin Bruce and two other random. To do this, perform the following:
 - ❖ Shuffle Edwin Bruce and two other random unique **Regular** allies together to form the bottom 3 cards, facedown.
 - ❖ Then place the other two unique **Regular** allies on top in random order, facedown.
- ☉ The players begin the scenario with two additional resources.
- ☉ Shuffle the remainder of the encounter cards to make the encounter deck.