

Goodman Bond, the Drover

Jedediah Bond of Boston

Description:

Aged 27, a short man with brown hair and stocky build. He walks with a slight limp in his left leg, where a cow kicked him when he was a teen, shattering the bone. It never healed properly, and the pain returns with the rain.

Reason For Going:

Goodman Bond has been hired to take twenty fine head of cattle to Dover by his cousin.

Brief History:

Goodman Bond has lived in Boston all his life. Coming from the prominent Bond family of farmers, he has been something of a black sheep of the family. Not as smart, or able as the rest of his family he often gets stuck doing tasks that the rest do not want to do: like taking a herd of cattle to Dover.

He has married, and has several children at home. His small plot of land adjoins his families, but he has never been able to make much of the land. This frustration has led to him having a bit of a temper. He has fought with a neighbor before over a fence line, and it came to blows. He was fined for this event, and to his great shame he had to borrow the money to pay it from his younger brother Jessop.

His Items:

A musket in poor condition, a knife, a bedroll, an old riding horse, two weeks worth of food, a few bottles of booze. And of course, a number of fine cattle that will cause no end of problems.

Goodwife Downing, the Maid

Creedence Downing of Boston

Description:

Aged 16, a young woman with long, curly blonde hair. She is slightly more heavysset than most girls her age, with a rosy complexion. She wears glasses to read, her most prized possession.

Reason For Going:

Her great aunt has need of a maid to help her in her dotage. Creedence has kindly volunteered to stay with her until...until she is longer needed. She tries not to think of that.

Brief History:

Goodwife Downing is the youngest daughter of the Downings of Elm Ridge. Her father is a respected silversmith, and as such she grew up in more wealth than any of the other travelers.

As the youngest daughter she was somewhat babied by her father, and this is her first real experience out in the world. She is a bit naive at times, and can struggle with stress.

With her great aunt doing ever more poorly it was decided that Creedence should go and tend to her. Goodwife Walker, a member of the same congregation has agreed to keep an eye on her, though they have practically never met before.

Her Items:

Her spectacles, a trio of books (mostly fairy tales) that she keeps mostly hidden, her bedroll, a week's worth of food, a small doll she has hidden in her pack (a memory of childhood).

Goodman Mayo, the Irishman

Samuel Mayo of County Cork Ireland

Description:

Aged 24, he is a tall man. His skin is weathered from years at sea, and he keeps his red hair short. He has a bit of stubble, and the puritan style clothes he wears are ill fitting.

Reason For Going:

Samuel is engaged to be married. He met his fiance Sarah on his last shore leave in Boston, though her family has since moved to Dover.

Brief History:

Samuel took to sea when he was just twelve years old, serving as a cabin boy. In the years that followed he has served on a number of vessels, crossing and recrossing the Atlantic ocean. On his last stop in Boston he met and fell in love with Sarah. Deciding to put his wild life behind him, he took one last trip to try and save up enough money to start a farm.

Samuel is no farmer, he longs for the sea, but he thinks his love of Sarah is even stronger. He is, frankly, even more terrified of the forest than everyone else. He also loves to sing, though he knows that most of his songs are best heard by sailor ears, not Puritan.

His Items:

His sea chest, some good rope, a set of knives, a small necklace with a pearl pendant, the crumpled remains of a couple of Boston newspapers. He also has a fair bit of money hidden in his chest, which would surely not prove any sort of temptation to his fellow travelers.

Goodwife Lathrop, the Midwife

Ashes Lathrop of Salem

Description:

Aged 36, she is a small, happy looking woman. Her black hair is long and straight (though of course tucked away to be unseen, as is proper), and she is so thin as to be almost gaunt.

Reason For Going:

Ashes is returning to her husband in Dover. She has been visiting her Uncle in Boston, and has a thought to see a cousin while in Salem, if there is time.

Brief History:

Ashes is the daughter of a retired minister, and the niece of a doctor. She has always found herself more drawn to the healing arts than that of the church, though she loves both. When she grew old enough to marry, she was lucky to find herself betrothed to a friend of her uncles, Andrew, a young man just out of medical school. They moved away to Dover for him to become the town doctor.

She has always assisted in any way she could, and has especially taken to midwifery. She is happiest when she is helping other women give birth, living vicariously through them, as she has never been able to give birth herself. Graciously, her husband has not divorced her for this reason. She is much beloved in Dover.

Her Items:

Her chest of medicinal tonics and elixirs, clean cloth, a week of food, a small, open topped wagon, a mule, a book of anatomy her uncle gave her.

Minister Rogers, the Shepard

Dancell Rogers of London England

Description:

Aged 42, he is a tall man with a pronounced stomach. His cheeks are ruddy, and his hair is prematurely gray, going on white. He keeps it short, and is always perfectly clean shaven.

Reason For Going:

Goodman Rogers has heard that there is currently no minister serving in Dover, not since the raid some years before. He has a thought to try and fill that role if the congregation will have him.

Brief History:

Dancell grew up in London as an orphan. After years in the orphanages and workhouses he found his calling with the Lord. It took some years but he was able to at last save enough to get into theological school. At last equipped he felt the pull of the Lord calling him to the Americas. After a couple of years in Georgia he began working his way north til he found himself in Boston.

He is a driven man, often stern, but he has the ability to joke around when relaxed. He speaks more like a man of the streets than of the cloth, but it's just as clear he is working on that. He does slip up whenever he's angry though

His Items:

A bible, several other religious tracts and books of sermons, paper, quill and ink, a fine horse, a few days worth of food, a shaving kit and a chest of clothes.

Goodwife Walker, The Widow

Reformation Walker of Boston

Description:

Aged 69, she is a small, hunched woman. What little hair she has left is stark white. She walks slowly, and her advanced age has left her pretty frail. Her blue eyes are cuttngly sharp however.

Reason For Going:

She has outlived her first and second husbands, some of her sons, all three of her daughters, and as such is going to Dover to move in with her eldest grandson and his family.

Brief History:

Reformation was married to her first husband for almost twenty years, before a stomach rot took him. She was quickly remarried to a recent widower, and that marriage lasted another almost twenty years. They were hard, loveless years however, as her second husband wanted more children, and Reformation was unable to bear them. They would have divorced, only he died of a fever first.

In the years since his death she found herself living with her eldest son. The years had twisted her though, and she has found herself to be quite bitter and angry. She has a quick tongue that gets her in trouble. Which is why her son has suggested she might find more agreeable environs in Dover.

Her Items:

The family bible, a chest of quilts, her knitting and sewing materials, food for a week, cooking implements, her mother's mirror, an old mule.

Their Secrets:

Print these, then cut them apart. Let each character only see their secret.

Goodman Bond:

Jedediah is an epileptic. There is absolutely no treatment for it of course, and his family has tried their best to hide it. If seen, it can go either way: it could be said that he was being tormented by a Witch, or that he was one. He also struggles with drinking too much.

Goodwife Downing:

Elsbeth is pregnant, and out of wedlock. This is a huge scandal that her family is hoping to hide by sending her to live with family in Dover, to hide there until the child is older, and a fictional 'husband killed by natives' can be invented.

Goodman Mayo:

Like most of the Irish of this time, Samuel is a Catholic. He has hidden it though for the love of Sarah. Only she (and his family back in Ireland) know the truth. He has a rosary hidden in his sea chest.

Goodwife Lathrop:

Ashes has performed abortions in the past, usually by way of a tonic. None know but her patients, not even her husband.

Minister Rogers:

Dancell is not a minister. He did not go to theological school, he was a thief sent to Georgia as a convict. He has heard the respect Ministers get though, and has resolved to be one. His horse, and most of his stuff, is stolen.

Goodwife Walker:

Was once accused of Witchcraft by a neighbor she was feuding with. The charge was dismissed, but it is a reason she has left Boston. Being old, mean, and outliving most of your family leads to whispers.