

both know this, and you should mention it if someone tries to kill Caeron when the immediate danger is eliminated. If someone *does* kill Caeron at this point, his slayer will himself be guilty of murdering a magus.

If the group captures Caeron and protects him from his erstwhile mount, the Storm Steed rears up on its hind legs, snorting fire and fixing them with a baleful glare. Marradal needs to be certain of Caeron's death, but not at the cost of his own. So rather than deliver the death-blow himself, he takes on his natural shape and weaves a few clever lies—sprinkled with truths—hoping to ensure Caeron's execution at the hands of the wizards.

•The Storm Steed ceases its attacks and retreats a short distance away. It rears up and paws the air, and as it does the flames of its hoofprints are snuffed out. Before your eyes the Storm Steed becomes a powerfully-built, dark-haired man dressed all in deep blue. His eyes are still the eyes of the Storm Steed, though—brilliant blue and full of wicked intelligence.

"Greetings to you, mortals," he says, "I am Marradal, lord of the mountain sidhe, and sire of the lightning. I thank you for what you have done, for this base villain to whom you offer succor is the author of all of the death and destruction here this past night. Had you not succeeded in removing him from my back, I might never have regained my true form, and for that, I thank you.

"This Caeron has, for several years now, been attempting to harness the power of the Stormrider to his will, and he would have fully succeeded had I not detected his efforts and taken the Storm Steed's place. Still, I had not realized how powerful were the wizard's binding spells, and I became a slave to his foul will. I had meant to deliver him to your magical order to face whatever mortal justice you might deem to mete out, but I found myself trapped, forced to relive his memories

of a night lifetimes past. All with the intent of slaying someone named Grimgroth. Sad, really. Now, though, I am freed and he is yours to punish." •

The storyguide should use his best judgement as to what Caeron's reaction will be, crafting the most interesting story he can for the troupe. Perhaps Caeron confesses fully and begs for mercy, or denounces the faerie as a liar, or admits to his part and spits defiance at the characters for having stopped him.

Sir Luc Accused

•With the enraging flames of the Steed's hoofprints extinguished, the battle at the ford falters, then stops altogether as the combatants lose their fury. In the tower, the covenfolk have already dealt with the largest of the non-magical fires, and saving the rest of the building should now be much easier. As the pounding rain fades to a light drizzle, sunlight begins to shine down. •

Having seen a handful of adventurers—including Sir Guillaume—defeat the invincible Stormrider, Sir Luc is suddenly filled with doubt about his ability to destroy Mistridge. He orders an immediate withdrawal of his men, and the Mistridge grogs are too weakened to stop them. As they are departing, however, Marradal points him out to the group, intending to further divert suspicion from himself.

•"I see that the new baron is less interested in you wizards now that the Stormrider is defeated. How typical that he would seize upon this opportunity to prosper. And how strange that he happened to have an army waiting at hand on the very night that his father-in-law met his end." Marradal looks

