MOCRISIS 2025
BACKGROUND GUIDE

# A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS



V.F.D CONCLAVE

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# **Firefighters**



## **The Quagmire Triplets**

"Don't worry, Baudelaires. Don't feel disgrace. The Quagmire triplets are on the case."

Once orphaned by the same mysterious fire that destroyed their home, the Quagmire triplets have dedicated their lives to uncovering the truth behind VFD's divided legacy. Intelligent and resourceful, they combine investigative skill with moral conviction.

Their survival and determination have made them symbols of resilience among VFD's younger members, and their presence during the Baudelaire's story.

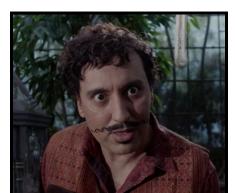


#### Fernald The Hook Handed Man

"Oh, Fiona. You don't understand. There is no wrong side of the schism."

A former member of Count Olaf's troupe, Fernald is a man burdened by his past crimes and seeking redemption. Torn between loyalty to his sibling in VFD and guilt for his past, Fernald's role in the

Conclave is still unknown to many, untrusted by some, but potentially one of the most valuable voices for reconciliation with overall good intentions.



# **Dr. Montgomery Montgomery**

"In the words of a very wise and surprisingly talkative Tibetan monk snake: Life is a conundrum of esoterica."

An eccentric herpetologist and beloved VFD member, Dr. Montgomery Montgomery was once a guardian of the Baudelaire orphans. HIs fascination with the natural world and his kind-hearted nature embodies VFD's intellectual spirit. His scientific work and moral compass greatly influences the VFD's curiosity, compassion, and truth.



## Josephine Anwhistle

"Grammar is the greatest joy in life, don't you find?

Having faked her death and gone into hiding,
Josephine returns to the VFD reluctantly. Still
haunted by fear but fiercely loyal to her friends, she
offers valuable knowledge of the Medusoid
Mycelium and the Deadly Lachrymose Leeches.

Despite her cowardice, she has moments of great bravery when lives are at stake. Her challenge is overcoming fear to contribute meaningfully in a time of crisis.



# <u>Jacques Snicket</u>

"I do not know when I will see you again. Someday, perhaps, the world will indeed be quiet once more, but until the fires have been extinguished we must go our separate ways and risk our separate lives"

A respected VFD field agent and one of the three Snicket siblings, Jacques is a calm, rational voice

amid chaos. Believed dead by many, he has returned under mysterious

circumstances, determined to unify the divided sides of the organization. He is both investigative and kind but his reputation as a spy and secret-keeper means few know his true intentions.



#### **Justice Strauss**

"A library is like an island in a vast sea of ignorance"

Once a kind neighbour to the Baudelaires, Justice Strauss has become a leading advocate for transparency within VFD. Outraged by the secrecy and manipulation that allowed Olaf's crimes to go unchecked, she pushes for legal reform and

accountability within the organization. Some see her as an idealist unsuited for the life of a secret agent while others view her as a conscience VFD desperately needs. Justice Strauss may represent the last hope for moral clarity in a collapsing system.



# Olivia Caliban

"In a world too often governed by corruption and arrogance, it can be hard to stay true to one's philosophical and literary principles"

A former librarian and eventual fortune-teller for the VFD, Olivia survived the collapse of the Caligari Carnival and dedicated herself to rebuilding the archives destroyed in the fire. Torn between her

guilt and her devotion to knowledge, she works to recover lost records about the Mycelium and the Baudelaires, as well as her search for her beloved Jacques Snicket. Olivia's kind and caring persona hides a deeply analytical mind, she believes information is the most powerful weapon.



#### Frank Denouement

"It's hard to know who you can trust in a hotel lobby. There are countless wicked people in the world. Sooner or later, some of them will check into a hotel"

One of the three Denouement brothers and current acting manager of the Hotel Denouement, Frank remains loyal to the VFD and committed to order

and hospitality even in times of chaos. He hopes the Conclave will bring reform rather than revenge. His major challenge is distinguishing between friend and foe, especially with his identical brothers often mistaken for one another. Frank seeks to preserve the hotel as a neutral ground for all sides.



# **Dewey Denouement**

"Right, temporarily defeated, is stronger than evil triumphant"

Quiet and scholarly, Dewey has resurfaced after being presumed dead. As the secret archivist beneath the Hotel Denouement, he possesses vast knowledge of VFD history and secrets. Revealing too

much could destroy what little unity remains, and Dewey's moral dilemma lies between exposure and preservation.



#### Jerome Squalor

"Hello, everyone. I'm Jerome, and I am proudly one of the legal guardians of Violet, Klaus and Sunny Baudelaire, and in the short time they have been under my care, I have been impressed with their intelligence, their fortitude and their charm, at least during the hours I was awake. They're noble children, like their parents"

Once a socialite trapped in his wife Esmé Squalor's shadow, Jerome has found a new purpose as philanthropist funding education for VFD orphans. Though kindhearted, his aversion to confrontation makes him easily manipulated. He believes diplomacy, not revenge should define VFD's future, although his optimism may not survive the politics of the Conclave. Whether he stands firm or bends once again will determine his legacy.

#### <u>Firestarters</u>



# The Man with a Beard but no Hair

"But we know how to solve problems, don't we? Fire can solve any problem in the world"

One of the two primary leaders of the Firestarters faction, he is one of the most feared figures in all of the VFD, even to Count Olaf. He has committed various acts of arson, burning down the Mortmain VFD

headquarters and rigging the high court in *Penultimate Peril* to free Count Olaf of his crimes. ...



# The Woman with Hair but no Beard

"Then we burned down the rehearsal studios and the testing centers and the swimming pool, which was very hard to burn down. Then we burned down all the bathrooms, and then finally, we burned down the V.F.D. library last night. That was my favorite part- books and books and books, all turned to ashes so no one could read them."

The other of the two dominant Firestarter leaders, she is a master manipulator and arsonist. Believing destruction is the only path to progress, she also assisted in the Mortmain VFD headquarters fire. She works to erase the past by burning libraries and silencing witnesses in an aim to build a new VFD.



# Mr. Poe

"You must forgive the children. They tend to see Count Olaf everywhere"

Once the Baudelaires' banker, Mr. Poe continues to represent the bureaucratic world outside of VFD. As a liaison between the organization and the government, he insists on procedure and paperwork even as chaos

spreads. Well-meaning but oblivious, his commitment to rules over reason often

causes more harm than good. He may be the only member who believes VFD still functions normally, a dangerous delusion in times of crisis.



#### **Eleanora Poe**

"I had my star reporter write an article for the front page so that everyone will know your home was destroyed and you're orphans now. The front page! Some people wait a lifetime for that"

Editor-in-chief of The Daily Punctilio, Eleanora Poe wields the power of the press. She sees the Mycelium crisis as the story of the century and is determined to report it, whether or not her facts are correct.

Opportunistic and self-serving, she may expose VFD's secrets to the public for fame. Delegates must decide whether to silence her or use her influence to restore public trust.



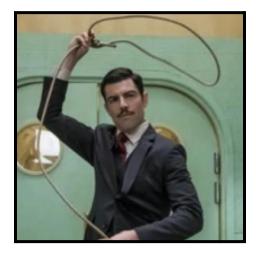
#### **Georgina Orwell**

"You think you're so clever, but you only see in black and white. Just like your parents. They were shortsighted, too"

A skilled hypnotist and psychologist, Dr. Orwell survived the fire at her clinic and now studies the Mycelium's effects on the human brain. She believes mass hypnosis may help control the panic or the infected. Her

interest in psychological manipulation makes her both a valuable researcher and a moral threat. Orwell's methods raise the question of how far VFD should go to preserve order.

#### **Ernest Denouement**



"The job of the concierge is to give our guests everything they ask for. When they ring, you volunteer"

Unlike his brothers, Ernest remains self-interested and morally flexible. He has positioned himself as a political broker, willing to side with whoever offers

him power. To some, he represents corruption within the VFD to others, a necessary pragmatist in a broken system. His knowledge of both sides of the schism makes him a wildcard and potentially a traitor.



## White-Faced Woman #1

"No. We mean no. We don't want to participate in your schemes anymore. For a while, it was fun to fight fire with fire, but we've seen enough flames and smoke to last our whole lives. We don't think that it was a coincidence that our home burned to the ground. We lost a sibling in that fire, Olaf"

White-Faced Woman #I is known as the observer. She is quiet, calculating, and has a talent for noticing

details others miss. She catches onto whispered conversations, hidden symbols, and shifting alliances. Her strength lies in gathering information and predicting other delegates' next moves. With the combined skill of the sisters, they can wreck havoc.



# White-Faced Woman #2

"No. We mean no. We don't want to participate in your schemes anymore. For a while, it was fun to fight fire with fire, but we've seen enough flames and smoke to last our whole lives. We don't think that it was a coincidence that our home burned to the ground. We lost a sibling in that fire, Olaf"

White-Faced Woman #2 is known as the manipulator. She's charismatic in a strange, and icy way. She's excellent at slipping into conversations and twisting them. She can nudge delegates' emotions, steer arguments, and create tension without ever appearing involved. Together, her twin sister and her can be unstoppable.



# **Carmelita Spats**

"I'm the cutest, prettiest, nicest girl in the whole wide school"

Once a spoiler brat from Prufrock Preparatory school, she becomes aligned with Olaf's troupe and Esme Squalor. Obsessed with fame and attention, her manipulative nature gives her the potential to rise as a dangerous but unpredictable figure after Olaf's death, and her running off with Esme Squalor.



# **Esme Squalor**

"But I want to steal from you. I want to steal from you the way Beatrice stole from me"

Formerly the city's sixth most important financial advisor, and fashion-obsessed socialite, she was deeply loyal to Olaf, though primarily motivated by greed, status, and style. Her previous shallow connections with the VFD, and involvement in the

schism due to her stolen sugarbowl give her motive to seize power within the villainous faction of VFD.