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# THE BOY BAND BANDITS

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A Casefile for the Rivers of London RPG



A pair of magical bandits are robbing banks across London while disguised as members of famous boy bands. Dive into banking, fanfiction, and magical healing.

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## Organization

This casefile is organized in the following fashion. First, the background of the case is laid out, then details for specific locations and approaches are laid out in the rough order players will encounter them, and combined with suggestions for the likely resolution. Finally, the last portion includes various handouts and reference photos/links.

## Overview

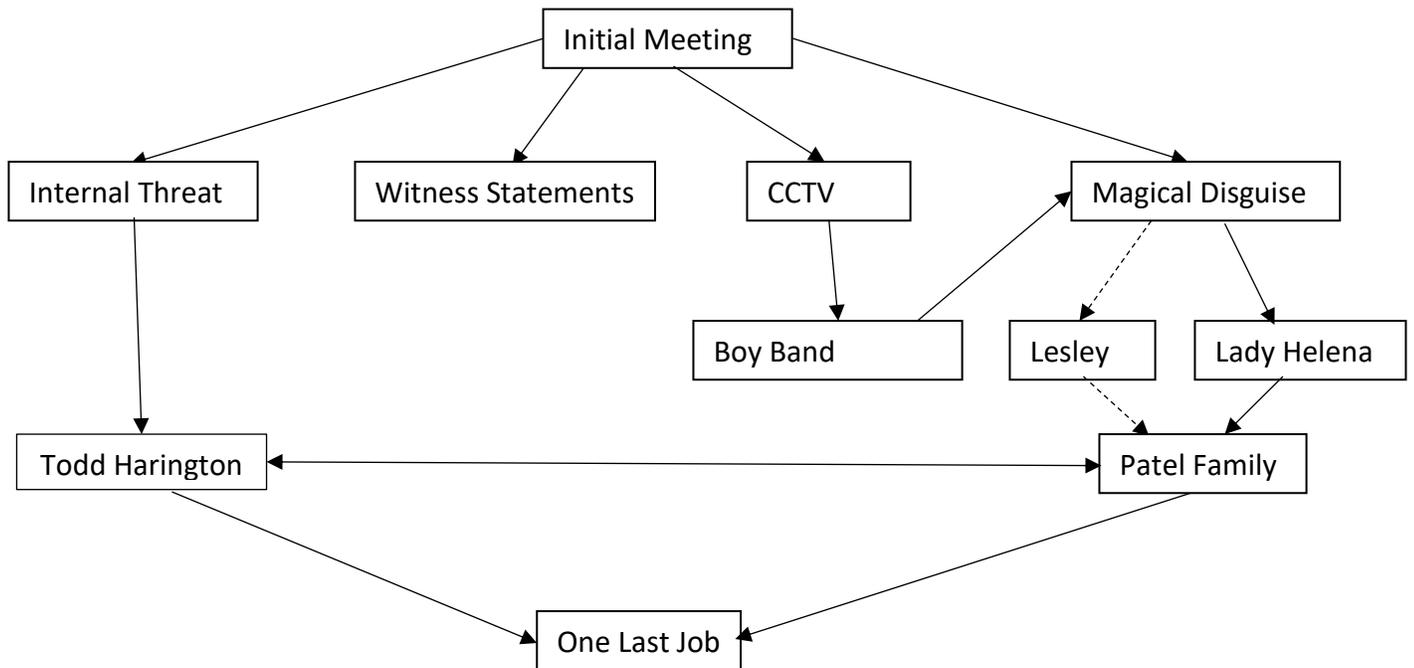
Back in the 1970s, Rahul Patel worked alongside Lady Helena Louise Linden-Limmer to heal the poor and sick of Calcutta. From her, he learned her technique to help speed the healing of surgery patients and reshape bodies. Back at home in London, he established a great career as a plastic surgeon and taught these magical techniques to his sons. One, Ramesh, followed in his footsteps while the other, Sandip, used the methods irresponsibly and was prohibited from medical practice by Rahul.

Sandip pursued other careers but jealous at his brother success and greedy for greater money and fame convinced his boyfriend, Todd Harrington, to join him on a series of bank robberies. Using the magical healing to help change their appearance to match celebrities, they have conducted a series of daring robberies of Barclays Bank.

Called in by a former police constable, the investigators will dig into the robberies and identify Sandip and Rahul through their connections to Barclays and Lady Helena. The casefile culminates with a daring robbery of a Royal Post vault followed by a chase through the former postal rail tunnels and possibly up to Manchester.

## Flow of Scenes

The investigation starts with the initial meeting with the Barclays staff. From there the party can investigate various aspects of the case including internal threats, witness statements, CCTV Footage, and magical disguises. These lines of enquiry will lead them to one or both of the bandits after which they will have to race to stop the bandits doing one last job.



## Scenes

### Initial Meeting

This case begins with a call from Geneviève Nguyen, the VP of internal controls at Barclays who previously worked as a Folly liaison<sup>1</sup> with the City of London Police. See the [below](#) for personal details. She has information that a recent series of bank robberies targeting Barclays branches around London may have Falcon elements. She will ask the Folly to come in for a meeting to discuss the case.

The meeting will occur the next day at Barclays HQ at One Churchill Place in Canary Wharf. The meeting takes place in a secure windowless room with just Geneviève and one of her investigators. The investigator is named John Goodheart who is an ex-job detective sergeant lured away by the higher pay in the private sector and frustration with budget cuts. He is in his late 40s with graying black hair, a nice suit, and a slight limp. The party will be offered coffee, tea, and nice baked goods by an assistant before they leave. The relevant information can be shared with the party in either the attached PowerPoint and briefed in character by John/Geneviève or summarized in the narrative below.

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<sup>1</sup> She appears in Lies Sleeping and some of the comics.

Geneviève will request the party join the investigation into the robberies to address the mystical aspects. She will offer assistance with the insider portion of the investigation and provide contact information for Detective Sargent Hilary Hainsworth who is leading the investigation into the robberies within the Met. DS Hainsworth will simply be a contact point to provide police information as needed.

### Crime Narrative

Over the past two months, a pair of robbers, presumably young men, have robbed Barclays branches while disguised as members of popular boy bands<sup>2</sup>. The robberies follow a simple pattern. The two men enter with some form of disguise such as prosthetics, makeup, or plastic surgery designed to closely match that of members of famous boy bands (See the PowerPoint for exact Band Members). They enter the bank and according to witness brandish weapons and demand the tellers empty the drawers and cash reserves in the branch vault. They then leave the premises often catching a cab within a few blocks and getting dropped off at a major transit hub.

A number of key oddities have been discovered that suggest to Geneviève that there may be magic involved. First, witness reports are highly inconsistent regarding the weapons carried by the robbers. Witness reports everything from laser guns to revolvers as being wielded by the men and CCTV footage from nearby has revealed no weapons. Second, most video footage inside the banks is missing due to camera failures and what footage exists appears to show the robbers making finger pistols. Third the staff on site describe feeling compelled to obey the robbers. All of these were indicators of magical activity that she remembered from her training with the Folly.

Currently, she believes that the crimes are done in at least cooperation with a Barclays' insider who has access to information about cash balances at branches as all 3 robberies occurred on days where these branches had unexpectedly high amounts of cash on hand. John Goodheart has been interviewing employees who work on the CMS<sup>3</sup> team, who handle managing branch and ATM cash amounts along with transfers of bills to and from the Bank of England. So far, he has failed to identify a leading candidate for the insider and would welcome assistance on that front.

### Compliance at Barclays

Compliance is the black sheep of the bank profession. It consists of the bank's employees who review the work of other parts of the bank to ensure that they (1) understand laws, (2) the bank follows the laws, and (cynically) (3) at least they don't get caught. In the UK, most banking regulation comes from the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulatory Authority<sup>4</sup> who supervise most activities. As Barclays operates internationally, American

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<sup>2</sup> Or other male band members that were popular in the 90s or 2000s.

<sup>3</sup> Cash Management System

<sup>4</sup> Yes, that is the real name. This is somehow not a joke.

regulators like the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency will often regulate portions that interact with the American financial system.

The culture within compliance is much more restrained than most bankers. Expect there to be lots of rule-followers and snitches as opposed to finance bros looking to get rich. Within Barclays Geneviève is VP of internal controls. She reports to the head of compliance and her team handles things such as screening new hires for past financial crimes, employee theft of assets/inside information from Barclays, and looks for indications of trading activity that is potentially illegal. She is in charge of this investigation as there are signs of insider involvement in the robberies. Her boss and more senior management are not aware of the mystic aspects of this case and only a couple of her employees are aware of the weirdness. She intends to keep it this way for her own creditability.

Geneviève's background is as a Vietnamese-French banker who joined Credit Suisse trading complex financial instruments. She eventually ended up working at their London office where she traded corporate bonds from East Asia on the European markets. In her spare time, she decided to join the City of London Police<sup>5</sup> as a volunteer special constable to assist in the tracing of complex corporate structures. While working there, she ended up taking a Folly taught course on recognizing Falcon situations and served as their liaison to the Folly. After several years of investigative work, she took a job at Barclays to combine her enjoyment of investigative work with the lucrative salaries of a major bank.

### Insider Threat

John Goodheart is currently conducting an investigation into employees who would be aware that the targeted branches had unusually high cash balance on hand at the time of the robberies. He has compiled lists of employees who might have access to the relevant CMS system at the time of the robberies. The lists of employees include the following 5 who have displayed one or more red flags and merit more attention. A full list is available as [Appendix B](#) and the 5 leading suspects are described below. One or more investigators can assist with John's interviews.

- Nina Henderson: Senior Cash Management Specialist, Greater London. Middle-aged white woman who wears flower patterned dress. Her job is running daily reports on cash levels at branches and ATMs in the London area and coordinating with Vaultex UK. to pickup and deliver bank notes as need for the Greater London area. She is a suspect due to running cash level reports for the robbed branches just before the robberies. When interviewed she will be mildly annoyed with the process and point people toward Helena Carr due to her love for boy bands and constant complaints about being broke.
- Helena Carr: Cash Management Specialist, South London. Women in her late 20s who dresses slightly too casually and is very friendly. She works with Nina to manage cash levels in South London and placing pick up/drop off orders with Vaultex. She enjoys the excitement of the case and will admit that it's the most exciting thing to happen at this job. She will attempt to discreetly point investigators toward Nina as she finds her

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<sup>5</sup> The City of London refers to the financial district and is a distinct legal entity from the rest of London.

overbearing and too motherly. A **read person** roll will reveal that this is pure mischievous. Investigation into her personal life will reveal bad financial habits and immense spending on One Direction merch and concert tickets. She will happily reference the Larry<sup>6</sup> theory and explain it. Her love of boy bands and initial reviews of her finances flagged her as a risk.

- Troy Pollard: Commercial Cash Operations Associate. Mixed race man around 40 who dresses in rumpled suits. He currently works with commercial clients around London who take in large amounts of cash and arranges for armored cars to collect the cash and bring it back to branches. He is very efficient at his job and is tipped for a promotion. He has a hidden secret, a major gambling problem leading to him being nervous during meetings. He gambles on horse races, including while at work, with shady bookies and as a result his banking history has triggered a few internal alerts. There are large deposits and withdraws around the time of the robberies. A **social** roll to confront him during an interview will reveal the truth.
- Todd Harington: IT specialist for CMS System. A fit white man of about 30 years old. He works in IT providing support for users of the CMS system both for people at the HQ and in individual branches. He ensures various reports generate correctly and helps the system's users along with performing updates to the system. He was recently passed over for promotion. He is responsible for the robberies with his romantic partner Sandip Patel. He has run reports before choosing the targets but has created a decent paper trail of tickets requesting that he check or make tweaks to the system on the date in question. He was flagged as he had run reports shortly before the dates of the crimes. He is somewhat socially uncomfortable in the meetings and will deny knowledge of boy band. A hard **sense vestigia** test will pick up just the faintest hints of Sandip's vestigial and a hard **read person** will pick up signs of evasion in his answers.
- Morgan Cox: IT Developer for the CMS System. White woman in her mid-20s and tends to wear metal band t-shirts under a black suit jacket. Obtained the job over Todd about 6 months ago and gloating a little too much. She is responsible for major updates to the CMS system and informally manages Todd. She is happy with Todd as he seems to of taken the loss of promotion well and is taking initiative to develop new updates for the system. She is under suspicion as she is constantly running reports and fiddling with the CMS system. She can provide a few details about Todd's personal life like partner name etc.

A clever party may find reasons to suspect Todd with good tests but they should not have sufficient evidence to detain him but can use it as a basis for further investigation of him and his personal relationships.

### Todd Harington

Todd Harington grew up in Reading with his older brother and loved boy bands. He got an IT certification from a local junior college and moved to London to work in IT for various companies. He eventually obtained a position at Barclays around the time he meets Sandip at a

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<sup>6</sup> <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Larries>

mutual friend's party. They soon starting dating and stayed together through the present. Both are happy with their relationship but are worried about their financial situations as friends and family are doing better and the high cost of living cuts into their ability to enjoy life. Roleplay Todd as a somewhat grumpy and put upon tech support guy. Outwardly polite but frequently making jokes about users.

One night after watching Ocean's Twelve, the two joke about robbing a bank but soon start to take it seriously. With Sandip having let Todd in on the secret to magical healing ([Patel Family](#)) the two build up a plan to use Todd's access to bank records and Sandip's magic abilities. They plan to hit a half dozen banks over a few years to bolster their funds and live a bit better life. They choose to disguise themselves as members of boy bands due to their mutual love of boy bands and to avoid framing some random person for their crimes. After the first couple jobs, they realize they are going to need a bigger haul so they can retire and no longer need to work. They soon adopt the plan to hit the cash depository and to then run as the party's investigations are starting to get close and they realize they are going to need to disappear.

### Apartment

Todd has an apartment in Greenwich he shares with Sandip. The place is decorated in designer brands and has a large pop music CD collection including boy bands. Both dress in various clothing lines associated with celebrities. They have hidden the stolen cash under their bed in an old suitcase. Successfully checking their apartments bathroom for **vestgia** will pick up the strong scent of cinnamon and cloves; the sound of applause; a sensation of scrapping skin on cement; and an anxious knot in their belly. Unless otherwise caught in the act of planning their final job, the investigators will not find other evidence of their crimes such as the clothes worn during the crimes as they were disposed of.

If they raid the apartment after the bandits are aware of the investigators closing they will find some hastily left behind evidence of the plan. With an **observation** test they will find the following:

- Regardless of result they will find a receipt from the Mount Pleasant Post Office.
- A success will give them a map of the postal museum and rail.
- A hard success will indicate that the printer is out of paper. Putting paper in will print out an e-ticket for the train they are taking to Manchester.
- A critical success will give them a full overview of their plans.

### Witness Statements

The party can follow up upon the various witness statements collected at the scene and reinterview the individuals listed in [Appendix A](#). They will broadly repeat their statements and maintain the claim that their statements were accurate despite obvious inconsistencies. They will report feeling like they were spoken to by an authority figure when yelled at. They will also display poor memories and mental fuzziness regarding the events.

The main exception is the elderly nun, Sister Priscillia, who will note that they were clearly unarmed and she will describe some weird sensations of Sandips vestigia. At one point she will grip one of the investigators by their shoulders, stare into their eyes, and emphatically proclaim that there is “some great wickedness” and implore them to stay safe.

The key point of this line of investigation is that the crimes are magical in nature. A **magic** test would suggest that some form of glamor was used.

## CCTV

Party members can conduct investigation into CCTV footage of the incidents in two different manners. First, they can carefully examine the footage in the bank along with the wrecked cameras and second, they can hunt for additional footage of the culprits nearby.

### Bank Footage

The party can stop by the Bethel Green police station to get a copy of the CCTV footage and examine the damaged cameras. The footage will confirm the different claims regarding the incidents. Its shot at long distance and shows two men shouting at the crowd waving something small in their hands. Additional examination with a **Tech** or **Computer Use** role will let the party get a decent shot suggesting they are making finger pistols and are likely unarmed in contrast to what the witness report. Likewise, they can examine some broken computer equipment seized from the sites to confirm magic damage.

### Nearby CCTV

PCs compiled a lot of CCTV from nearby business but due to under staffing have yet to review it. Taking an afternoon to review footage, one or more investigators can trace the path of the bandits before and after the robberies.<sup>7</sup> See [Appendix D](#) for the exact paths. They generally took the tube to a nearby station before walking to the bank. They then robbed the bank, fled a the way they came. The footage also reveals two things, number one: the two of them were often holding hands and kissing and two: a few teenagers had approached them to taken a photo together/given autographs. A **research** roll to search social media sites can find the pictures posted online. See Boy Band Shipping below.

The key point here is that they are a couple and to point the party toward other pictures of the bandits in disguise that may exist on social media.

### Boy Band Shipping

Images of Sandip and Todd have been posted online while disguised as boy band members and are a major topic of discussion among shippers. Shippers<sup>8</sup> have made it a major discussion of

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<sup>7</sup> Abigale can be used for this purpose if none of the party wants to do it.

<sup>8</sup> Shippers are people who speculate about how various celebrities and fictional characters are or should be romantically involved with each other. The term comes from the word **relationship** and each proposed relationship is called a ship. The hobby as a whole is called shipping and is most popular with young women but is not exclusive to any particular age/gender.

discourse on social media and people are arguing all over twitter, tumbler, AO3<sup>9</sup>, and reddit. A successful **research** roll will get the party good pictures of the bandits in each of the disguises. The photos can be carefully examined using a **photography** or **medicine** roll to confirm their authentic and rule out makeup/prosthetics. Comparisons with real pictures of the celebrities will reveal that they perfectly match the celebrities in question.

Additionally, the party can use the social media accounts of the various boy band members to confirm they were not in London at the time of the robberies with a research roll. Use of facial recognition technology on the footage/images should suggest a near perfect match with outcomes of weak match or similar coming from the software.

Investigators should takeaway that they are likely magically altering their appearance.

### Magical Disguise

Investigators looking into how the BBB (Boy Band Bandits) disguised themselves can look into three major lines of inquiry. First, they can conduct research in the magical library with the possible assistance of Nightingale; second, they can contact Lady Helena/the Society of the Rose to learn about using magic to heal flesh; and third they could attempt to contact Lesley if they have had interactions with her already.

Conducting research in the magical library will give the party details on *Dissimulo*, a spell that forcefully reshapes one's physical features and upon its end causes the sudden collapse of the remaining face. See the sidebar for a spell description for anyone so foolish as to desire its use. The key point they should take away from it is that *Dissimulo* is a one-off use that will lead to permeant damage and is unusable in the long run or repeatedly without a major medical intervention. A successful research test will bring up notes from the Mr. Punch case and provide the party with details regarding that case.

*Dissimulo*, 5<sup>th</sup> order

**Perquisite:** *Vultus Occulto*

An illusion spell so real it rearranges the face of a person to any form the caster likes. It achieves this by breaking and stretching the bones of the skull to force the broken parts into the right shape. This effect lasts until the caster is no long focusing on the spell. If the target has been only slightly modified (impacting on a small part of the face), they take two levels of damage, three levels if major changes are made, and a full makeover will leave them with a mortal wound.

Regardless of the roll's outcome, the party will find reference to Lady Helena and Lesley's magical healing/shapeshifting abilities. Discussing this with Nightingale will lead will lead him to arrange a meeting with Helena within a day or two at the Folly. If the party has already established a relationship with Lesley, she can provide roughly the same information as Lady Helena.

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<sup>9</sup> A popular fanfiction site: <https://archiveofourown.org>

## Lady Helena

Lady Helena will come visiting the party at the Folly for tea with them and Nightingale. Molly will prepare an over-the-top tea with excellent tea, a vast quantity of treats, and classic sandwiches. The event will be held in the central atrium. Lady Helena will tell the party more details of her time in Calcutta helping to cure the sick. She will describe the history of working with Rahul Patel. She will describe their meeting when he visited her clinic while on a mission with Doctors Without Borders. He was surprised by the swift and problem-free healing of her patients and soon began to dig around her operation. She discovered his clumsy investigations and agreed to train him in some of her methods if he would keep them secret and continue to use them to help heal the poor and needy.

Since then, she has maintained a casual friendship with him and his family and suspects he taught his eldest son the methods as he followed in his father's footsteps as a leading reconstructive surgeon on Harley Street. She can provide an introduction to the family along with contact information. She can also provide other background information as needed by the party.

The key takeaway is the contact information about the Patel Family and their history.

## Patel Family

The Patel family was among the earliest British Indian families residing in the UK. Ankit Patel brought his family over following partition in the 1940s where his skills as a warehouse manager were put to good use during the post-war labor shortages. They initially settled in east London near the docks and his second eldest son Rahul grew up in a period of racism and discrimination but his studies propelled him to medical school. His work paid off and he trained as a surgeon, specializing in reconstructive surgery helping to repair cleft palates, severe burns, and similar injuries. In the early 1970s, he began working with Doctors Without Borders traveling to Northeast India to treat patients and fell in with Lady Helena Louise Linden-Limmer. See [Lady Helena](#) for details. She eventually took him into her confidence and taught him a couple of her methods to use magic to help repair injuries to flesh and bone along with methods to calm people in stressful situations while he assisted her patients in the slums of Calcutta.

Rahul took this knowledge back with him and began to use it to help improve outcome for his patients, refining the methods, and helping to build a reputation as one of the best reconstructive surgeons. Eventually, he was poached from the NHS by doctor Robert Ogdon, a well-known Harley Street plastic surgeon, and began a meteoric rise to the top of his field as the magical-medical knowledge from Lady Helena and his refinements gave him the best record for reconstructive and plastic surgery. The clinic became the go-to place for the wealthy and desperate. Dr. Patel continued his work with Doctors Without Borders traveling to India for a month each year to provide surgery to children with cleft palates and burn victims to spectacular results. He would eventually retire in 2012 leaving the practice to his eldest son Ramesh whom he trained to follow in his footsteps with his younger brother Sandip handling

the business side of the clinic. Rahul remains in London living in his terrace in Harrow with his wife.

Rahul's two sons Ramesh and Sandip grew up wealthy receiving the best education and a supportive father. In their teenage years, Rahul trained both sons in the magical aspects of his practice with the expectation both would follow in his footsteps. While about 16, Rahul discovers that Sandip was using the techniques on himself to help modify his features to resemble the Bollywood star Shahrukh Khan to impress a classmate. Angered by his misuse of the healing arts, Rahul refused to train his son further and forbid him from medical training as he felt this was deeply unethical. This has left permanent scars on the relationship and Rahul will admit he may have been too strict but that his outrage was justified. He will describe the technique to change one's face as involving essentially injuring one's face and healing it back differently. Choose how graphically you describe this process as it involves causing severe injury so that it can be repaired. If your party is uncomfortable with self-harm or similar gloss over the details, if not, describe the method as essentially beating his own face and slicing of the skin in order to create injuries to heal into the desired form.

Ramesh would obtain his medical license and work under his father in the early 2000s and Sandip would obtain an economics first from UCL and become the practice's business manager around the time his father left.

#### Rahul Patel

Rahul is an elderly Gujrati man with dark skin, white hair, and a well-groomed handlebar moustache. He tends toward traditional Indian clothing and spends his time reading, gardening, playing chess, and discussing politics with similarly aged Indian gentlemen. He is mostly likely to be found doing one of the above in his back garden which features well cared for tropical plants and a beautiful sculpture of Ganesha.<sup>10</sup> The inside of his home is generally occupied by his wife, Radhika, and features family photos and pictures of Rahul with family, politicians, and doctors.

He will cooperate with officers unless treated badly or discovers his son is under suspicion. He will avoid disclosing Sandip's knowledge of the medical magic but a **read person** test will reveal he is hiding something and confronting him with a successful **social** test will get him to describe the conflict between him and Sandip.

#### Radhika Patel

Radhika is an elderly Gujrati woman, usually dressed in a sari, who spends her time gossiping with aunties and working on charity work in the local Desi community. She is mostly unaware of the goings on with magical practice but knows Rahul and Ramesh have been doing something mystic as part of their work. She is very proud of her husband and sons and will attempt befriend investigators with homemade Indian treats. With a **social** roll the party to convince her to tell the story of Sandip altering his face and she will claim she suspects he is still doing it as

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<sup>10</sup> Hindu elephant-headed deity widely revered for luck; in relation to arts and sciences; and wisdom and intellect.

she noticed some signs last time he was living at home. She doesn't want to confront him but is worried he's becoming anxious about his appearance and relationship.

#### Ramesh Patel

Ramesh is the favored son and looks like a politician. He is married with 3 kids, works hard at the clinic, and is the secretary of the local conservative party leaving him too busy to waste time. He will slide in a meeting with investigators in between his many activities. He feels the pressure of his parents' expectations, despite his outward success, and mildly resents that he is merely following in his father's footsteps. He wishes to pursue a political career to prove he is his own man but first is trying to make a lot of money as a doctor to support his family while in government. To this end, he has accepted a number of shady clients who are trying to change their identity and are willing to pay double in cash. Both Sandip and him are in on this scheme. It will take a **social** test to reveal this information or a **research** test directed at the family using police resources will pick up some rumors, unconfirmed, that he provided plastic surgery to help a Ukrainian oligarch adopt a new identity. He is unaware of his brother's schemes and will generally react poorly to any accusations against himself and his brother. He will happily share the family history (minus warts) to the party including the mystical aspects.

#### Sandip Patel

Sandip is one half of the Boy Band Bandits along with his long-term romantic partner Todd Harrington. He is responsible for disguising them as the celebrities in question which he does using his father's methods with a few modifications. The process involves injuring their faces with a blunt object and a knife and healing them back to closely resemble the celebrity in question. To match skin color and hair, the two of them use hair dye, self-tanner, and bleaching agents to get the right skin hair and skin tones. Henna for tattoos and colored contact lenses complete the disguises with them heavily resembling the celebrities.

Sandip's day job is managing the business side of the plastic surgery clinic. He recruits clients, is in charge of billing, and promotes the various doctors' reputations. He has several underlings who handle the details who broadly describe him as a good boss who might be a little obsessed with money. He has become resentful of his brother due to his brother's golden boy status and his own more black sheep reputation. He generally has a warm relationship with his mum whose main complaint is that he has yet proposed to Todd Harrington and adopt a bunch of grandkids. A large part of his motivation to commit these crimes is to have a bunch of money and be better than his brother than something for once.

If interviewed, he will deny being involved in anything untoward including the bank robberies and the secret clients at the clinic. A **social** test under pressure will get him to reveal the secret clients but he will quickly clam up and request a lawyer. He will do anything to avoid revealing his role in the bank robberies and will use force to attempt to escape. See [Confronting the Bandits](#) for how to handle an attempted arrest.

## One Last Job

*Note: This bank vault is entirely fictional and any resemblance to a hypothetical real vault on the site is a pure coincidence.*

Todd and Sandip are planning to do one last job to get even more money and flee to the Caribbean. They are going to rob a cash distribution center located under the Mount Pleasant Mail Center. They plan to use their usual method to force themselves into the location using Sandip's magic to bully staff and drive off security. They will then empty a couple of cash carts into duffle bags with about 1 million pounds each. They will then use the cash cart as a ram to get into the mail train tunnel and then flee through the Postal Museum and to the King's Cross Rail Station to flee to Todd's Cousin in Manchester. See Appendix C for a map of the mail center.

Trigger this event a day or two after the party identifies the bandits to give them time to prepare. A well-prepared party should have set up some sort of surveillance at Mount Pleasant and is prepared to respond with possible backup. A less diligent party will be called during the robbery and the party will have rush to the scene mid-robbery or in the aftermath. If the party fails to apprehend them at the scene, follow up with them tracking the bandits to Manchester.

## Mount Pleasant Mail Center

Mount Pleasant Mail Center<sup>11</sup> is a 12-acre site that hosts a large mail sorting operation and other postal offices. The site has been used for postal sorting since the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. It was damaged in WWII during the Blitz and the site is still used for the post office and some residential development.

The remaining Mail Center processing operations are within the Mount Pleasant Sorting Office. See [Appendix C](#) for a map. It is a large warehouse with decorative cladding to resemble apartments or shops. Inside, there is a large processing operation in a single large room with machines sorting mail and parcels and workers pushing carts of mail and packages. Along the back are large doors that lead to a loading dock where mail trucks go in or out going to and from post offices around North London. Near the north of the building is a second secured loading dock that leads to the vaults below. During the day, the whole building is filled with postal workers moving quickly but not rushing.

## Postal Banking Cash Vault

The Royal Mail maintains a postal banking program where post offices function as bank branches and participating banks account holders can make basic deposits, withdrawals, and other basic financial transactions. To ensure each post office has the funds needed, they maintain a network of vaults to store cash and then ship it to offices at short notice. The vault is located at the north end of the sorting office. It is accessed by a secured loading dock for armored cars and a manned security booth just off the main sorting hall that controls access to an elevator to the basement.

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<sup>11</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mount\\_Pleasant\\_Mail\\_Centre](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mount_Pleasant_Mail_Centre)

The vault is located in the basement in the former station of the Mail Rail under the sorting station. It is right next to the new tourist mail rail ride and is sealed off from it by shoddy brick wall.<sup>12</sup> Employees do not directly access the vault and instead remotely operated carts loaded with cash move between armored cars and the vault.

### Postal Museum

The Postal Museum & Archive<sup>13</sup> is located on the west end of the Mount Pleasant Mail Center. It contains exhibits showcasing the history of the Royal Mail and related organizations; archives of Royal Mail records; and the Mail Train tourist attraction. The museum is on the west side of Phoenix Pl. and the mail rail is across the street. Accessing, the Mail Rail is done by entering at street level, pathing through a ticking area and descending below ground to board the Mail Rail. The area imminently around the museum is a construction site.

### Robbery Timeline

The timeline of the planned attack is described below. Use this to handle events if the party arrives on scene or is staking out the post office the day of heist.

- 11:10: The Bandits enter the Public Post Office disguised as BTS members Jimin (Todd) and Jungkook (Sandip).
- 11:15: Sandip uses his powers to force threaten the guards and they force their way into vault area.
- 11:20: Sandip and Todd scare off a couple workers who are loading up a pair of carts. They fill their bags with about ~2 million pounds in 20- and 50-pound notes.
- 11:30: They use a cart as a ram to punch a hole in the shoddy wall and flee along the mail rail pulling an emergency stop.
- 11:45: They exit the Mail Rail and Rush over to Guilford and Gary's Inn Rd. and take a bike share up to King's Cross.
- 12:24: They take the next train to Manchester.

### Hideout

The Todd and Sandip will end up at Todd's cousin's place in Manchester. Cousin Jerry is the black sheep of the family and bounces between odd jobs and criminal odd jobs. He has a rental flat in the neighborhood of Longsight where the party find them hiding out. They are waiting for a few of Jerry's buddies to get them fake IDs and other things to help them hide out in the long run.

#### **Todd Harrington, IT tech and Bank Robber**

<b>STR 60</b>	<b>CON 50</b>	<b>DEX 45</b>	<b>INT 55</b>	<b>POW 25</b>
<b>DB 1</b>	<b>MOV 8</b>	<b>MP</b>	<b>LUCK 50</b>	

Advantages: Damage Bonus

**Skills:** Athletics 35, Drive 40, Navigate 25, Observation 55, Read Person 35, Research 40, Sense Vestigia 10, Social 25, Stealth 35, Computer Use 80, Cryptology 40, Technology 55.

#### **Languages**

English (own) 65, French 15.

<sup>12</sup> The contractor was later indicted for defrauding the royal mail due to substandard work.

<sup>13</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postal\\_Museum%2C\\_London](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postal_Museum%2C_London)

Jerry is a fast-talking con artist. He has multiple convictions for various serious non-violent crimes including fraud, sale of stolen goods, and similar offences. A deep search into Todd will pick up Jerry as a contact along with other relatives of Todd that are easier to eliminate from the case.

The party can follow them up to Manchester and work with their local contact DI Eileen Monkfish. She will help trace the bandits to Jerry's house and provide backup officers for a raid. See below for the final confrontation.

### Confronting the Bandits

Confronting the bandits won't be too difficult as neither is difficult to fight but both are slippery as Sandip is able to command people. Todd is limited to hitting people but Sandip will use his magic to heal their injuries and attempt to scare off officers. Todd is easily willing to surrender but will go along with Sandip who is more dramatic and keep fighting.

Sandip will use his Glamor to sic the guards on the party and encourage random civilians that the party are celebrities so they will get mobbed or that they are zombies (or similar so that people attack them.).

Once the party is on to them, they will go dark and throw away their phones and crash at a friend's place who is away for traveling. The first opportunity to intercept will be at the robbery at the Post Office unless the party is very discrete and moves fast to arrest them.

A successful apprehension at the post office will conclude the casefile but if unsuccessful they can conduct a raid in Manchester. Police will locate Todd's shady cousin within a few days of heist and investigators can journey north to help with an interception.

### Additional Resources

<https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/banknotes/note-circulation-scheme>  
<https://www.postalmuseum.org/visit-us/what-to-expect/mail-rail/>

#### **Sandip Patel, Healer and Bank Robber**

<b>STR</b> 45	<b>CON</b> 45	<b>DEX</b> 60	<b>INT</b> 50	<b>POW</b> 40
<b>DB</b> 1	<b>MOV</b> 8	<b>MP</b> 12	<b>LUCK</b> 50	

Advantages: Magical

**Skills:** Athletics 35, Drive 40, Navigate 40, Observation 45, Read Person 60, Research 35, Sense Vestigia 25, Social 40, Stealth 15, Magic 40, Medicine 40, Pharmacy 55.

#### **Languages**

English (own) 65, Hindi (own) 40.

#### **Vestigia**

Cinnamon and cloves; the sound of applause; a sensation of scrapping skin on cement; and an anxious knot in the stomach.

#### **Powers**

The Glamor

Witchy Healing: Using 1 MP, he can reduce damage by one and make modest cosmetic changes to the relevant area such as removing tattoos, adjusting skin tone, or reshaping the prominence of certain features.

## Appendix A: Excerpts From Witness statements

“I think they had tommy guns like those old gangster movies”

- Tom Ballard, age 34, hipster and classic film bluff

“He had a big black revolver, like my dad got back in the war. He took it from a Nazi he killed on D-Day where he lost his leg. He used to use it to shoot at the rabbits around our house out in Yorkshire. I remember when...”

- Helen Armstrong, 75, retired

“It looked like one of those guns Americans use to shoot up schools, maybe an AK – 16? Tommy, don’t lick that! It was very scary. As a mother I demand you do something about this out-of-control crime. I have half a mind to ...”

- Sarah Alwright, 36, stressed out mother

“It was so COOL! The guys looked like they were from Fortnite with the SCAR and Drum Gun! They shot up the ceiling and it was AMAZING! I felt I was in the game!”

- Tommy Alwright, 8, Sarah’s son

“I was confused. They were shouting that we should get down, that they had guns but all they were doing was point finger pistols. A rather excitable young man helped me lie down, as I’m too old to tangle with bank robbers, gun or not.”

- Sister Pricilla, age unknown, elderly nun.

“One of them had a stormtrooper laser gun and he shot the ceiling. The other had a lightsaber that matched Kit Fisto’s.”

- Kevin, 24, wearing a Star Wars T-shirt

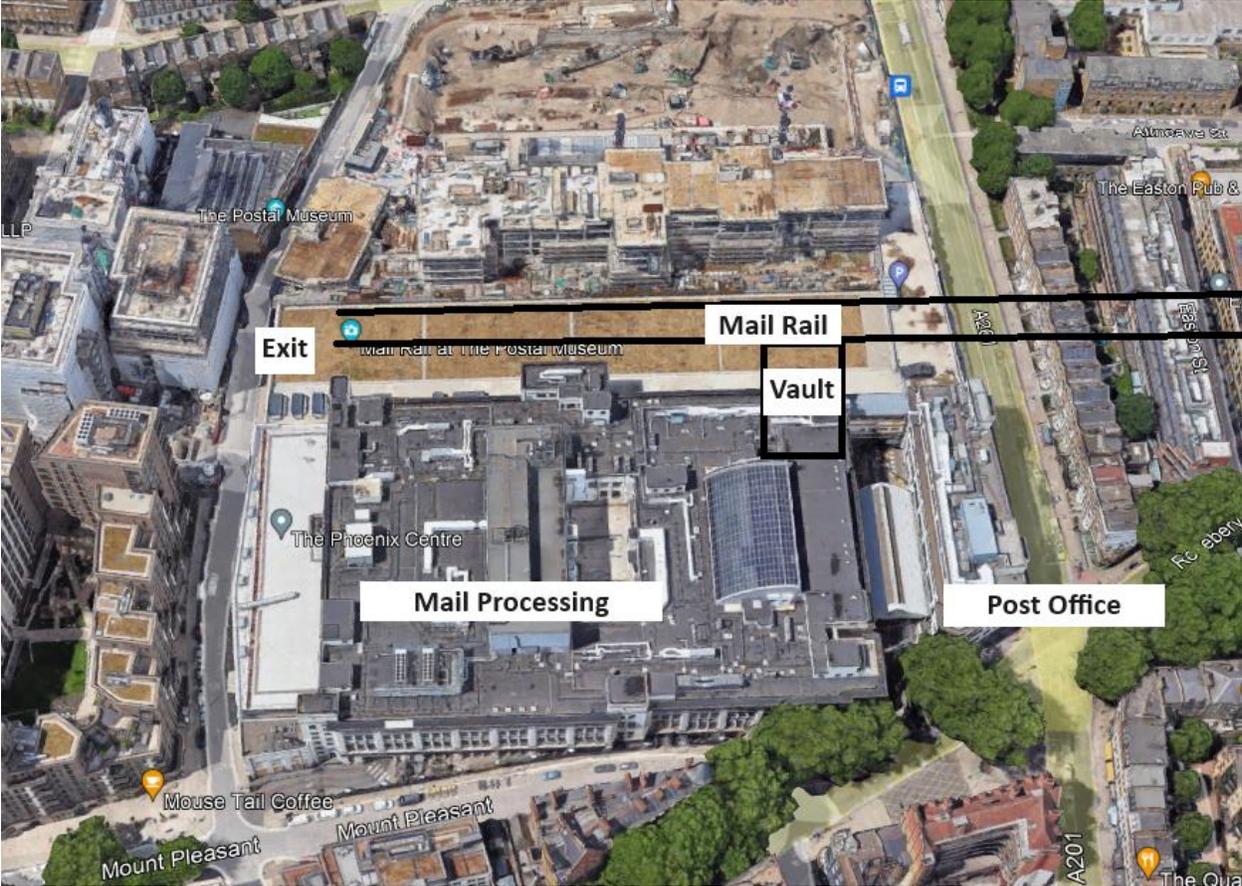
“One of them had a Glock that he used to threaten the cashiers. Look like an American cop’s. Is this going to be on the news?”

- Melissia Mann, 29, listening to a true crime podcast

## Appendix B: Other Suspects

Thelma Binder	Kasturi Nagi	Pierce Feron
<b>Helena Carr</b>	Lance Andrus	<b>Nina Henderson</b>
Gale Dawson	Bohan Yang	Alban Vargas
<b>Troy Pollard</b>	Ruth Law	Tejaswani Chowdhury
Dhanush Bhattacharyya	Troy Pollard	Ryan Fernandez
Sandra Hunt	<b>Todd Harington</b>	Eileen Hutchinson
<b>Morgan Cox</b>	Adele Schmidt	Liao Fu
Russ Frost	Tang Shi	Dominic Pauley

Appendix C: Map of Mount Pleasant Mail Center



# Appendix D: Escape Routes

