

# ACT I – NEW YORK

## **SCENE 1: ALICE GRANVILLE**

- Yanked off her case by Captain Gauth.
- Put on indefinite administrative leave.

## **SCENE 2: MONTAGE**

- Alice Granville: Returns home and receives a phone call from Janet Winston-Rogers.
- Jason Franks: “I wire my acceptance of the contract to Janet Winston-Rogers, though I also start looking for a last known telephone number for Frankie Kearns, to find out what he's gotten us into now.”
- Other Investigators: Describe their preparations and/or travel plans after receiving their letters.

## SCENE 3: THE MYSTERIOUS BENEFACTOR

- **FLOYD BENNET FIELD**
  - *Prop: Aerial Photo of Floyd Bennett Field*
  - *Prop: Photo of Floyd Bennett Field Tower*
  - Instructions to go to Hangar #5.
- **THE HANGAR** (pg. 45)
  - Have the Investigators introduce themselves as they approach the closed door of the Hangar.
  - The door of the Hangar opens just after the last Investigator arrives.
    - *Prop: Picture of the Hangar*
  - *Prop: Photo of Janet Winston-Rogers*
- **JANET WINSTON-ROGERS – PRESENTATION NOTES (THE BRIEFING)**
  - FATHER MADE FORTUNE IN PHARMACEUTICALS / BECAME OBSESSED WITH OCCULT: “My father was a driven man. He’d made his own fortune in the pharmaceuticals business after the War and then spent a few years traveling the world, studying folklore. That led to an interest in... the occult. He was bent on battling something, but he wouldn’t tell us what it was.”
  - OBSESSION GREW / FORMED A CABAL WITH OTHERS: When my father wasn’t traveling, he was having meetings — secret meetings — with people he wasn’t in business with. Other dabblers in the occult, I think. My mother didn’t like them. This was when she started drinking.”
  - SPENT MOST OF 1924 AWAY FROM HOME: “My mother and I watched him get ever more distant, travel ever more often, until he spent almost all of 1924 away from home. On the trail of some ‘bad people,’ as he called them.”
  - SOMETHING HAPPENED IN AUGUST 1924: “Something that sent him back to us rattled and unraveling. He didn’t have any more secret meetings after that. He stopped traveling. But he wasn’t well. He saw a psychiatrist for a few years. He burned his books. He hardly ate. He jumped at shadows, insisted he was being watched. He was... never the same.”
  - HE FORBADE US FROM ASKING HIM ABOUT IT: He forbade us from asking about his travels and said more than once that ‘nothing mattered anymore.’ When mother died, in ‘32, he hardly grieved. After that, he became only more paranoid and frustrated, until he finally passed away, earlier this year, as a shadow of himself.”
  - THE LETTERS FROM DOUGLAS HENSLOEW: “That was when I found the letters — letters from a man named Douglas Henslowe, who had apparently worked with my father up until August of ‘24. I think he must have been one of the people father met with at the house, time and again. He wrote a few times, always asking my father to write down what had happened, what he had seen. My father never did. He never answered.
  - THE LETTERS CAME FROM SAVANNAH GEORGIA: “This Douglas Henslowe wrote another letter, which came earlier this year, just before my father died. All I have to go on are the postmarks, sent from two addresses in Savannah, Georgia. I think this man must know what happened to my father in 1924.
  - THIS IS WHAT I’M HIRING YOU TO DO. “And I want to know what my father was mixed up in and... whether I should be apologizing for him or defending him. Whether he left work unfinished. Whether I’m in any danger.”
    - SEE CHARACTER BRIEFING FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS/CLUES

- **PRESENTING THE SILVER SABER**
  - JASON FRANKS AND FRANK KEARNS WILL BE YOUR PILOT.
  - PRESENT THE *SILVER SABLE*: “That? Oh no, that’s an old bird. You’ll be flying in that.”
    - Indicates the DC-2 on the tarmac.
      - *Prop: Photos of the Silver Sable*
    - “It’s got features from the new DC-3 in that. Donald Douglas gave me access to it off the
    - Hatch of the *Silver Saber* opens. Frank Kearns steps.
      - “Frank and Franks rides again, eh?”
      - *Prop: Photo of Frank Kearns*
  - TOUR OF THE SILVER SABLE
    - *Prop: Photos Inside the Silver Sable (x3)*
    - *Prop: Silver Saber Diagram*



## RESEARCH IN NEW YORK

### WALTER WINSTON

- **Oral History / Credit Rating:** Walter Winston made his money in pharmaceuticals and spent it on hospitals, particularly after 1924. Winston Pharmaceuticals is in the process of being absorbed into Rogers Consolidated.
- **Reassurance / Credit Rating @ Janet Winston-Rogers:** To gain access to Walter Winston's financial records.
  - **Accounting 1:** Looking at Walter's 1924 activities reveals that there was some kind of purge. His travel documents, however, were kept under Winston Pharmaceutical accounts and were preserved. He traveled to Los Angeles in August of that year.

### WINSTON MANSION

- The mansion is moth-balled. Most of its collections have been auctioned off.
- **Reassurance:** To get one of the few remaining members of the staff to talk.
  - The longest-tenured staff member has only been here three years and has no memory of the events of 1924.
  - Walter Winston was "eccentric": Claustrophobic and terrified of leaving the mansion, never going further than the back porch (not even into the yard).
  - He would occasionally fly into rages, demanding that the "filth" penetrating the mansion be cleansed.
- **Evidence Collection:** There are strange, mouth-shaped stains on the walls.
  - *Prop: The Mouth*

## JANET WINSTON-ROGERS



### **APPEARANCE:**

*Handout: Photo of Janet Winston-Rogers*

*Wearing – Diorama: Fashion Design 2*

### **ROLEPLAYING NOTES:**

- One hand always on a half-cocked hip.
- Smiles once she's accepted you.

### **BACKGROUND:**

- Was 17 years old in 1924
- Her father, Walter Winston, founded Winston Pharmaceuticals in 1913. Made huge profits during the Great War.
- Married Horatio Rogers of Rogers Consolidated in 1928.
- Horatio Rogers was killed in an automobile accident in February 1933. She inherited her first fortune.
- Her father died in July 1934. She inherited her second fortune.
- Has never shared her father's interest in the occult (possibly because she saw what it cost him).

### **CLUES**

- **Assess Honesty 1** (she won't be judged for sharing): "I'll admit, I once thought my father's house was haunted. Shadows seemed to bend and warp, and odd stains appeared from nowhere. I thought I... saw things. Things in the walls. But of course it was all the nervous energy of a frightened girl. At any rate, I haven't seen any such things since my father died."

## FRANK KEARNS



**APPEARANCE:** Once-broken nose in a youthful face. Eyes that search the horizon.

### **ROLEPLAYING NOTES:**

- Quirks his lip in bemusement.
- Never quite gets all the way to laughing.
- Can sleep anywhere, anytime, with ease.
- Loyal to Mrs. Winston-Rogers.

### **BACKGROUND:**

- Flew with Jason Franks in the Great War. Got the nickname “Frank and Franks”.
- Worked for Jason Franks at Frankly Aviation after the War.
- Left Frankly Aviation when times got lean in '29.
- Hired by Walter Winston in 1932.

### **CLUES**

- **Reassurance:** He’s paid good money to report back to Mrs. Winston-Rogers on the Investigators’ whereabouts and doings.
- **Assess Honesty:** He’s not going to accept bribes. (Reports that back to Winston-Rogers.)

### **STATS**

Driving 4, Electrical Repair 5, Fleeing 5, Health 7, Mechanical Repair 5, Piloting 8, Scuffling 4, Sense Trouble 4, Stability 7