



Balthazar Crain

Basic Description

Name: Balthazar Crain, Captain of The Albatross

Sex: Male

Race/Species: Centrian, Human

Age: 51

Intelligence: Clever, shrewd, and quick-witted. Extremely book smart, if/when he applies himself.

Education Type and Level: Received a merchant's education until the age of 14. He was tained as a sailor, then a captain. He learned underworld practices during a stint in prison.

Economic Background: Well-off/middle class. His father was a successful merchant who married an heiress. Because of this he has a standard of living that is impossible to have as a sailor. But as a pirate captain, he became wealthier than either of his parents.

Profession: Pirate Captain; a member of the Pirate Confederacy's Council of 8.

Vocabulary: "Colorful" and diverse. Uses phrases from the 5 regions of Elia that he picks up in his travel.

General Attitude: Balthazar is saucy, irreverent, and arrogant. He made his mark on the naval underworld of Elia as a man who can't be trusted and an unpredictable bastard who gets the job done. He has a sense of humor but doesn't tolerate insubordination or laziness among his crew.

Backstory: The only son of a merchant and minor heiress, Balthazar and his eight sisters wanted for little. But he wanted more for himself. At the age of 14 he ran away and joined the navy as a cabin boy. He spent the next 13 years working his way up through the ranks and eventually earned himself a captaincy. Unfortunately, he came to physical

blows with Admiral Amadeus over the generalized use corporal punishment in the navy. He was court-martialed and sentenced to 15 years of prison for assaulting an imperial officer. Balthazar spend three years in prison where he made connections with members of the criminal underworld, and where he learned any number of cheap fighting techniques. During a riot, with the help of a few guards, he led a group to a secret exit, where they escaped into the ocean. The party, including the guards, were the first members of Crain's crew. Over the next 21 years he learned the ways of the Pirate Confederacy, using his knowledge of naval practices to establish himself as a leading member of the Confederacy.

Deeper Dive

Desire: He desires to be 'the richest bastard who ever lived,' or so he says to anyone who asks. He is the richest man of the underworld and wants to eventually become richer than the emperor himself. Deeper down, his desire is to get vengeance against Amadeus for the admiral's treatment of himself and his crew. This is no quick revenge, and Balthazar has been planning the perfect revenge since his incarceration.

Likes: A refined man with extravagant taste, Balthazar enjoys a good glass of sherry and a book of epic poetry. He also likes pineapple and will sail out of his way to attain the freshest selection. This, and his love of the sun and warm sea water are two of his reasons for making Bastano his port of choice. He loves being the center of attention and being a performer at heart has a soft spot for thespians and plays.

Dislikes: He loathes dishonesty in other people, despite being dishonest himself. He dislikes opera, having been forced to go to any number of productions as a child. He also dislikes his family and does whatever he can to avoid encountering them. Unfortunately, his reputation as one of the wealthiest men in Elia precedes him, and his sisters have ways of keeping up with him.

Values: He values following through with plans and threats. He also has a surprisingly strong sense of justice, even if it's skewed. He believes that people should earn respect and positions of power, rather than being given them based on birth and bloodline.

Key flaw(s): Balthazar is fickle and self-serving and isn't afraid to go back on his word if the end result is beneficial to himself and his crew. He's an instigator and will egg people into fights, much to the dismay of the Confederacy Council. He is a slightly violent drunk and often use violence to prove a well-deserved point.

Vices: Drinking, lying, whoring, and theft. For as big a man as he is, he has extremely sticky fingers, and has more than a few connections in the Thief's Guild in Portobella. As a pirate, none of this is surprising.

Character Arc/Change: Balthazar doesn't have much of an arc. He goes from questionable ally to back-stabbing bastard, but the decision to betray Astor should come as no surprise. He used Astor to meet an end, and beyond that their allyship was contractual and circumstantial.

Visuals

Physical attributes: Balthazar is 6'4", broad-shouldered and toned from a lifetime of being at sea and fighting. He has blue eyes, and his beard and hair are salt-and-pepper black; his hair reaches his shoulders. His nose has been broken at least once, and he has a scar on his left forearm from a fight with a Xan'Xibian mercenary.

Movement: He carries himself with confidence and walks with a swagger. He moves fluidly and gracefully, almost like a dancer. In a fight he is flamboyant in his strikes, but they're done with intent to fluster and distract his opponents. He gestures when speaking, but not dramatically; his hands often convey a different meaning than his words, and savvy crew members have learned to read his gestures as much as his expression and words.

Clothing: He wears a black and grey brocade coat when it's cold enough. Otherwise he wears tall boots, a loose shirt tucked into dark trousers with a sash around his waist. He also consistently wears no fewer than 11 rings and 3 necklaces.

Weapons/Paraphernalia: He has a cutlass and an arming sword and is trained to fight with both individually, or simultaneously. He also has a number of knives hidden about his person. The sash he wears is from his least-hated sister, and he wears an amulet of protection at all times. He always has at least one sheet of paper and a stub of charcoal in a pocket for sketching.

Casting/Audio

Voice age: mature (50's)

Reference actor(s): Timothy Omundson

Accent: subtle British/none

Other Notes: Balthazar is extremely sarcastic and enjoys roasting people at every chance. In a fight he sometimes sings off-key and squawks to distract his opponent.

Sample, defining dialogue lines:

"Are you *really* surprised that I betrayed you?"

"I advise you shut up, you son of a whoring bastard."

"Kill every single one of the fucks."

"Finish that comment. Go one. Make my day."

"Will someone *please* stop that caterwauling?" (in reference to opera)