

Baltazar (Brishen)

Archetype/Function: The Politically Correct Host

“Gonna build a mountain From a little hell
Gonna build a heaven and I know darned well
With a fine young son who will take my place
There'll be a sun in my heaven on earth
with the lord's good grace”

*-Gonna Build a Mountain,
Stop The World I Want To Get Off*

PERSONAL

Age: 28-30 (he's not sure)

Occupation: Stage host, currently unemployed

Gender and sexuality: Cis-man.

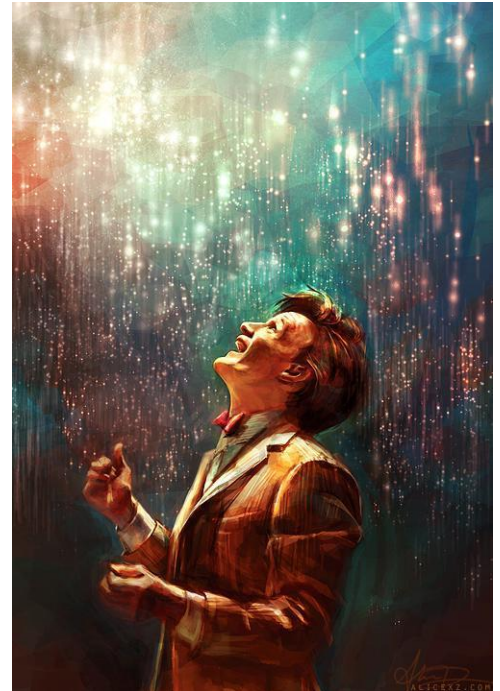
He considers himself heterosexual.

Character traits: Witty, Protective, Unscrupulous

Personal dilemma:

Serve those in power / Protect your loved ones

Special function: Can be a member of the Stage Group



RELATIONS

Esmeralda (At the Ballet) - Sister

Laurence (The Cabaret Organisers) - Competition

Edwina McTaggart (The Starving Friends) - Former girlfriend

Background: Baltazar is Brishens stage name, and no one except his sister Esmeralda knows of his Romani background. She plays exotic “the gypsy girl”, whereas Baltazar has realized that it is better to keep a low profile. His forthcoming personality and on-stage charisma has rendered him some success. For a while he even had his own club, but it was shut down in February along with most other Berlin clubs. While he still was running his club (which was a good deal classier than the Silhouette), he dated a British newcomer to Berlin, Edwina. A nice girl on the whole, but prone to falling in love a bit too easily with men of high status. When she ended up pregnant, Baltazar even offered her marriage but Edwina made arrangements for herself. Brishen knows that it was the sensible thing to do, but it still affected him deeply. He had never entertained the notion of becoming a father, but the thought of his unborn child that will never be has haunted him ever since. And now he finds himself caught up in Edwina’s presence again since she has joined the stage group at the Silhouette. He tried to forgive her but failed. He tried to hate her but he failed. He only knows he need someone to blame, and if that person can’t be Edwina, who else could it be?

Baltazar sweet-talked himself into Silhouette where his sister dances. He immediately got off the wrong foot with Laurence. The man (or woman?) is too weird and very unpleasant. Luckily, the new clientele seems to think so too, so Baltazar has high hopes of outmanoeuvring Laurence. He can win a crowd, and he could certainly use a raise. He has always supported Esmeralda, and it stings his male

pride that she at the moment is the breadwinner. Not that Esmeralda knows that, but supporting two people with one's savings is not a long term solution. Or with the savings Brishen has, not even a short term one. At the moment he "works" at the cabaret being charming and entertaining to the guests. He doesn't get paid but it gives him access to the other employees and plenty of opportunity to make connections. And if nothing else he can always sweet talk himself to some food by the kitchen staff. And after all it is only temporary...

He has told Esmeralda to keep their kinship to herself, and for some reason that seems to anger her. Damn girl. It's not like any of them is a part of the family anymore; they left the roads years ago for a chance at something better! She should stop announcing her origin to the world. Baltazar loves his little sister, but the silly girl clearly doesn't know what's best for her. He will have to look out for her, against her wishes if it comes to it.

Baltazar understands how the tables have turned. Getting to know some Nazis could be of use; the ruling class always likes to be entertained. Putting personal feelings and opinions aside is no big thing for Baltazar. It's just what one does, if you want to get somewhere.

CORE GROUP: Gypsies, Tramps and Thieves

You might not all *have been born in the wagon of a travelin' show*, but you all have *to dance for the money they'd throw*. Being at the bottom you have no way to go but up, but what burdens must be thrown off for you to succeed? Love may be free, but it still comes at a price. And no one knows that better than you...

What you think about your core group members:

Hans Abendroth: The boy has drive, and in another time and place the sky would have been the limit. But at this time and place the limit is set by the elasticity of his anus. And that, like the other assets he has, will dwindle and leave him with nothing.

Otto Norritz: A truly ruthless man that won't let anything stop him from getting what he wants. You have supplied him with information in exchange of "future services". But to be frank you probably would never cash them in in fear of becoming a nuisance...

Renate Lehman: Like Hans her options have been severely limited. But unlike Hans she wants to get out. Too bad that her religious upbringing have imprinted her to grin and bare it. If only she could stand tall and see her options instead of being on her knees. No matter if it's to pray or otherwise...

Hans Abendroth

Archetype/Function: The Male Prostitute

“Every single day, I walk down the street
I hear people say 'baby so sweet'
Ever since puberty, everybody stares at me
Boys, girls, I can't help it baby”
-*Take Me or Leave Me, RENT*



PERSONAL

Age: 21

Occupation: Prostitute

Gender and sexuality: Cis-man. He consider himself heterosexual, but his profession involves mostly male clients.

Character traits: Frank, Naive, Overconfident.

Personal dilemma: Sell out his friends / Build meaningful relationships

Special function:

Hans has a portfolio of incriminating photos of Herr Büber and the other members of the social circle “The Duke’s Parties”. It will be provided by the larp organisers unless the players of Hans and Benjamin arrange them.

RELATIONS

Renate Lehman (Gypsies, Tramps and Thieves) - Brief relationship

Liesl Von Humboldt (The Party Animals) - Regular customer and former love interest

Kurt Richter (The Party Animals) - Liesl bought him a night with Hans

Rupert Fried (The Party Animals) - Uncle

Herr Norritz (Gypsies, Tramps and Thieves) - Regular customer

Benjamin Krause (The Culture Workers) - Seduced him to steal his photographs

Background: Money, it is always money with Hans. Hans grew up in a poor worker home in Berlin. Every day, his parents would talk about money; nothing would be more important than a groschen lost or gained. So when Hans came home from mass with some small money they would hug him dearly and ask no questions. Taught by his confession priest, Hans learned early what some men liked. When he moved from home, he made it a career. He expanded the business with female clients which he found more pleasant, but there was no serious profit with them. He goes for the men with money and in power, and he knows his power over them.

Silhouette has been a good place to find customers. Although Hans doesn’t bother to keep track of it, Herr Norritz is actually a regular. At first, Hans was a bit unsettled by the fact that his uncle Rupert visits the club, but Rupert has not said a word to his parents, so Hans doesn’t let it disturb him. Only one person has ever touched him emotionally, the “cigarette girl” Renate. He found her sweet innocence attractive, and the fact that she was a working girl made her more accessible. But Renate

broke it off when she realised that he had chosen his lifestyle with open eyes - she's a religious nut and cannot see that in this world, it's every man for himself.

Better concentrate on the customers. Always looking out for opportunity, Hans though he had hit jackpot when the rich heiress Liesl von Humboldt started to use his services. His fantasies of her falling in love and taking him off the streets came to an abrupt halt when she bought him as a birthday gift to her best friend, the dancer Kurt. Hans still holds a grudge against Liesl for letting her fool him and would love to pay her back in full. No matter. Hans knows that if he wants to get anywhere he has to do it on his own. He got some useful information from Kurt's pillow talk, that the young photographer Benjamin Krause secretly had been taking pictures at one of Duke's parties. It was a small task to seduce Benjamin and steal some of the most incriminating photos. This could bring in the big money. If only he hadn't found his uncle on so many of the photos!

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What you think about your core group members:

Baltazar: He seemed to be the one that had succeeded. Then the clubs shut down and he was back at the bottom with the lot of you. A pity, but proves that if one wants to escape one will need to focus on that goal and do whatever it takes. Not what one wants or are good at.

Otto Norritz: One of your regular customers. He makes you feel like a sperm-dumpster but at least it isn't violent. You have seen what happens to people he wants to be violent to, and any degrading treatment would be preferable to that...

Renate Lehman: God, you hate her. Or rather you hate the God that torments her. Fuck him, fuck her and fuck that voice in your head that whispers to you thoughts of drying her tears and hold her till they run out...

Otto Norritz

Archetype/Function: The Shady Fixer

“There are two kinds of men and only two;
There's the one who stays put in his proper place
And the one with his foot in the other one's face”

-Epiphany, Sweeney Todd

PERSONAL

Age: 37

Occupation: “Fixer”

Gender and sexuality: Cis-man. He considers himself bisexual.

Character traits:

Ruthless, Survivor, Self serving

Personal dilemma:

Protect what he loves / Use what he loves

RELATIONS

Mathilda Neumann (The Starving Friends) - Protégé

Ulrich von Loon (Money; New, Old and Lost) - Business associate

Hans Abendroth (Gypsies, Tramps and Thieves)- Regular customer

Margrethe Maier (The Opposition) - Spying on her



Background: Norritz has learned the hard way to take care of himself. His businessman father died a drunk when Norritz was just a boy, leaving the kid to fend for himself and his baby brother. On the streets Norritz soon learned that it is not necessarily the strongest one who wins the fight; it's the most ruthless one. The one without boundaries. This is true in business as well, and it has become Norritz' life philosophy. It got him through the trenches unharmed when the war came. His brother was less lucky and is crippled for life. Norritz takes any well-paying job to get the money he needs for his brothers' care, and by now, he is indeed well cared for.

In Berlin, Ulrich von Loon became his primary business associate, for whom Norritz has acquired everything from hashish-fudge to hermaphrodite strippers. Their relationship is mutually beneficial, but not friendly and has been going on for many years. It was the Duke that saved his life when he was on trial for desertion during the war. Some information on the higher officers was all that was needed for a pardon. Unfortunately the man he had deserted with wasn't in on the deal, but he had served his purpose anyway. And better be hanged than having mustard-gas eating you up.

Currently, Norritz has been scouting out Margrethe Meier on the Duke's behalf, to find some dirt on her. Von Loon needs a new medical doctor, and finds her ethical standards adorable. So far, Norritz have found very little; the clinic is impeccably run. He has hopes for finding something at the club though, as she is a regular guest and also regularly visits Frau Shroeder's apartment. For example, it

would be very interesting to connect her to the drug dealing going on around the place.

It was while shadowing Dr. Maier to the Silhouette that he met the young woman, Mathilda. He is utterly drawn to her innocence and idealism, so like his brother before the war. Norritz finds himself reverting to a younger self in her company and is predatorily protective of her; not that *she* knows that. She speaks of the Reich in a way that could make even Norritz feel enthusiastic for the cause. Yes, he's growing quite pleased with his time at the club. And she doesn't have to know exactly what he does for a living, now does she? In the meantime he gets... release with the handsome whore Hans. The relationship is sordid and not at all related to what he feels for Mathilda, but that is perhaps as it should be?

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What you think about your core group members:

Baltazar: You have occasionally used him as an informer, especially on the subject of certain persons leaving the clubs and which ways the usually uses. The payment have been in the kind of "future services". If he would cash in you would perhaps honour it. Or making an example of him, I guess it all comes down to the service in question and your current mood.

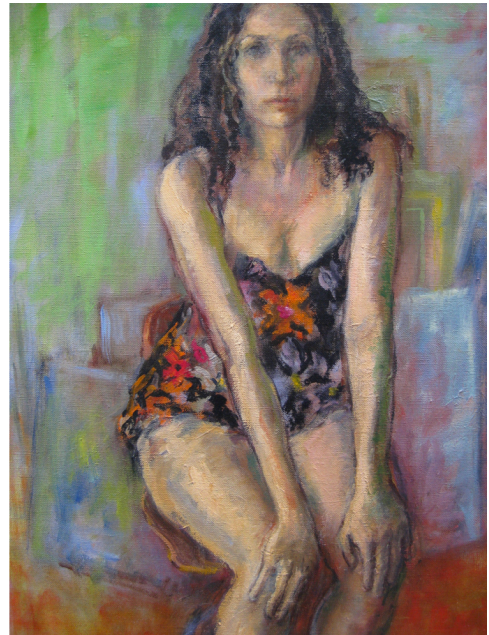
Hans Abendroth: A good man-whore that knows his business. Fucking him is like any other routine, and nothing you think about. But as you would miss your morning coffee, you probably would miss his services if they for any reason would end.

Renate Lehman: Unlike Hans, Renate is guilt ridden over her fate. And guilt is an unnecessary emotion, best gotten rid of. And if she can't bare it, well then she should do something about it. It's not like the world would miss her, or cry for the fate of another dead whore.

Renate Lehman

Archetype/Function: The Cigarette Girl

“I want to break free
I want to break free from your lies
You're so self-satisfied I don't need you
I got to break free
God knows, God knows I want to break free”
-I Want To Break Free, We Will Rock You



PERSONAL

Age: 19

Occupation: Sells cigarettes, and sometimes her body

Gender and sexuality: Cis-woman.

She considers herself heterosexual.

Character traits: Religious, Good-hearted, Uneducated

Personal dilemma: Find redemption / Descent even deeper

RELATIONS

Lafayette Lenner (La Resistance) - Fellow catholic

Hans Abendroth (Gypsies, Tramps and Thieves) - Ex brief relationship

Monika Lindhe (The Culture Workers) - One night stand

Prof. Fischel Gahner (The Golden Girls/Boys) - Regular customer

Background: Renate has only vague memories of her mother, who left her with an orphanage run by catholic nuns at the age of four. The nuns gave her a strict catholic upbringing and many beatings. She barely knows how to read and write, but can sew and cook a little. At the age of sixteen she was forced to leave the orphanage, only equipped with her mother's address from twelve years back. She found no mother there, but a tradesman in simple goods, married with three filthy children. He took her virginity, and equipped her with a tray of cigarettes to sell at the bars and clubs. Every morning she must bring him money corresponding to the whole tray; he doesn't care how she gets them. Recently Renate found a source for harder drugs. Since that pay's a lot more she has expanded and besides cigarettes and herself she also sells cocaine to a select clientele.

Renate hates her life. She is a strict catholic and blames herself for everything: every sinful club entered, that she is selling cigarettes when the nuns did not approve of smoking, and in particular every time she lets a customer buy "all of the cigarettes". She has confided her feelings of guilt to the head waiter Lafayette, who is a slightly more pragmatic catholic than herself.

She doesn't understand that she has acquired some true friends. Lafayette is one of them, and she has had a brief relationship with one of Silhouettes regular customers, Hans Abendroth. It started when he took her out for dinner to a half-decent restaurant, without asking anything in return. She ended it when she realised that not only was Hans working as a prostitute but he did it without regrets,

something she could not forgive. One night when she was crying her heart out over Hans, Frau Lindhe bought her several drinks and the remaining cigarettes. She is still confused about that night; somehow it did not feel sinful to be with Frau Lindhe. After all, two women can't have sex, but then what had it been?

One of her regular customers is Professor Gahner. He will often buy the cigarettes just to sit with her. It makes her uncomfortable as she does not really know what he wants; he is such an old and ugly man.

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What you think about your core group members:

Baltazar: Nice man who actually treats you decently. He is a self-proclaimed heathen, but God can save anyone. If only he could accept that one's faith is what is keeping you up, not what pulls you down.

Hans Abendroth: He is so smart and has such drive. He could probably succeed with anything he would put his mind to. So why did he decide to put his mind into prostitution? And how can it be that he feels no shame over this? You despise him and everything he stands for! If only to hide your admiration and jealousy...

Otto Norritz: He is not a man of God! And consider what he does with Hans, not really a man either. Not that you would ever dare telling him that. He scares you to the brink that the demons tormenting you in your dreams have started to take his visage and form...