

Curse of Strahd: NPC Dialogue

Purpose & Use

This is a community-curated free resource intended to enhance your *Curse of Strahd* experience. Within the following pages you will find various quotes, dialogue excerpts or sayings by the various NPCs in the module. These are meant to be short, easy to use phrases or quotes, that would ease one's preparation and allow for creating more life-like characters.

If you wish to contribute, leave a comment with your quote or dialogue together with your Discord or Reddit username below in the appropriate NPC section. A mod will check every once in a while and accept the suggestions.

TO DO LIST:

- *Group Vallaki by association*
- *Merge Barovia, Bonegrinder, Death House*
- *Reorganize the locations by expected player progression*
- *Update with quotes from these places:*
https://www.reddit.com/r/CurseofStrahd/comments/9q09pb/your_best_strahd_lines/
https://www.reddit.com/r/CurseofStrahd/comments/af03xo/strahd_oneliners_to_talk_to_the_players/

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Werewolf Den

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Wizard of Wines

Davian Martikov

Amber Temple

Exethanter

On seeing a PC in his addled state

"Oh, have you seen the rest of my head? I seem to have misplaced it." *His lower jaw rests on a table within arms reach* - Bocchi-Boi

On conversing a PC in his addled state

"Don't you worry son, you and your beautiful wife are safe with me." *PC's are neither his children nor married.* - Bocchi-Boi

Neferon

Upon being unable to repel the PC's

"If you're lucky, you'll die in here." - Bocchi-Boi

Argynvostholt

Sir Godfrey Gwilym

Vladimir Horngaard

When asked to help defeat Strahd

"You fool! The vampire already stews in a prison of perfect design, to remove him from it would be a mercy I will not allow! Speak such a thing again and I will have your head!" - Bocchi-Boi

If Vladimir knows the Sunsword's location, either seeing the party hold it, or, it's in his control

"There are two things in this valley which can end the Fell Prince, the Order of Argynvost, and this blade. The Order is uncompromising, and this blade will be mine" - Dark_Archer

"Should you have stood alongside me all those years ago and watched the devil split my Lord limb from limb, wing from wing before carving his skull off as a trophy... could you blame me for becoming what I am now..." - Trusty Peaches

"If I strike you down here and now, can you say with certainty that the hatred you bear in your heart will curse you to share the same fate as I?" - Trusty Peaches

Barovia

Bildrath

On a PC's attempt to haggle

"You want it, you'll pay for it." - Bocchi-Boi

A PC has the money for something, but is debating waiting until Vallaki

"Suit yourself," Bildrath eyes your general ensemble, "Maybe I'll be picking up that armor to sell off a corpse I find on the road." - Tem

"Wait until Vallaki? If you think you'll make it that far as you are now, then be my guest." - Gespenst

A PC treats Parriwimple very kindly.

"Not many folk would treat a boy like my Parry so well..." Bildrath pauses for a long moment, considering the lot of you, "Tell ya what. You go ahead and pick out what you like. I'll give you a fairer price for it. Barovia needs more good folks like you." / "Don't go telling people about this! Today only!" - Tem

Doru

Describing the battle of the Mad Mage vs. Strahd:

"I saw their battle on the walls of Ravenloft. It was like we didn't even matter. Strahd played along and let us push him back, until the wizard had burned through his spells. Then the Devil summoned his minions, and they tore through us. The more of us fell, the faster he healed." - Tem

Who is this mage?

"He wouldn't give us his name. He said that was dangerous when your enemies can use magic to watch you. He told us to call him 'Greyhawk'." - Tem

Father Donavich

"He (Doru) is all I have left. If there is any mercy in your hearts do not take my boy from me!"

On PCs killing Doru:

Frantic reaction "He only needs a little blood and he'll be well again. Let me through!"

Calm reaction "You did what you had to. I understand. But do not expect me to thank you for it. Leave. I have duties to perform." - DM Kiwijelly

Ireena Kolyana

When she sees the sunsword:

"Sometimes I feel as if I know things I shouldn't... as if I've seen them many times before. But when I look at that blade... I feel as if, instead, it knows me.." Ireena

is stricken with an inextricable sense of longing, sadness... and then, rage.
-Comrade DM

Ismark Kolyanovich

Convincing the PCs to help him:

"The only people who walk the mist at will are the Vistani. If you have been drawn here it could only have been by Strahd's own will. That means either you are his spies, which is very bad for us, or you are his playthings, which is very bad for you. You would do well to get as far away from him as possible. We have common purpose there." -Loddytops

On Strahd:

"The devil toys with us all." -Loddytops

When Ismark leaves the mansion, he risks being charmed by Strahd and consequently inviting him or his spawn into the mansion. To protect Ireena from this possibility, Ireena and Ismark have worked out a system. When Ismark returns to the mansion, Ireena does not let him in unless he says the following: "I swear on our father's soul that I hate the devil Strahd von Zarovich and I will gut him when I am given the chance." -Loddytops

Mad Mary

The Barovians

Berez

Baba Lysaga

Castle Ravenloft

Anastrasya Karelova

Cyrus Belview

Escher The Consort

Emil Toranescu

On Kiril

Oh, him and me were close as two pups suppin' on their ma's tits, we were. But friends grow apart. He says to me, he says, the count 'ill reward us well, but ye know what I say? I say a wolf that'd serve another who ain't one ain't nothin' but a dog, and 'ill die a dog's death before 'er long.

On betraying the party

"A dog's death is better than what Strahd'll offer if I let ya go." - DMKiwijelly

Gertruda

Lief Lipsiege

Ludmilla Vilisevic

Patrina Velikovna

Rahadin

On his loyalty to Strahd/threatening the party

"I committed genocide on my own people for Lord Strahd. Imagine what I'll do to you." - Bocchi-Boi

On meeting Kasimir at the Amber Temple

"Young Kasimir, whatever could you be doing here? Please tell me, I'm all ears." - Bocchi-Boi

On being called a traitor by Kasimir

"As I recall it was your incompetent king who exiled me for refusing to bow to him. I can hardly betray a race I no longer belong to now can I? Given how quickly he was crushed I'd say I made the correct choice." - Bocchi-Boi

Sasha Ivliskova

Volenta Popofsky

Krezk

Anna Krezkovna

Clovin Belview

Dmitri Krezkov

The Abbot

"Guests! It's been so terribly long since we've had guests! How delightful!" - DM-Kiwijelly

On the party being hostile, and telling him that his plan is useless. (after showing his true form)

Some things are incomprehensible to your pitiful intellect, mortal. Gaze upon my true self and rejoice, for now you know salvation is come. When the Morninglord sent me he did not do so with the purpose that I would obey, but so I would command. And now I command you to stay out of this. You have your way of opposing Strahd, and I have mine. The difference is that you are doomed to fail, whilst I will triumph. Some problems cannot be solved by force of arms alone. Since the dawn of time I have been dreaded by my enemies, and held in awe by those I protect. Take great care in deciding which side

you stand on. So do not doubt me. Do not insult me with skepticism. My very nature is that of one incorruptible, infallible. I say to you that there are no more loyal or determined servants of the Morninglord alive today, or ever.

The Krezkovians

Lake Zarovich

Arabelle

Bluto Krogarov

Mount Baratok

Mad Mage

Old Bonegrinder

Morgantha

In Barovia, greeting travellers

Greeting Outsiders - references to Volo and Mordenkainen

“Oh, outsiders! What strange-looking elves you are. There hasn’t been this many outsiders in all my life, but now? First that bard fellow, then the wizard. Now you!”
/ “Oh they weren’t here for very long. I never got a chance to meet them, but you know how people talk. The bard showed up a little over a year ago telling stories about lands of sunshine. A real downer around here, if you ask me deary, since there’s never any sun. A few weeks after he disappeared, a rather well-to-do mage came in. That bard really stirred people up, you know, got them angry about the situation. The wizard took a whole mob of them up to the castle. Town hasn’t been the same ever since.”

/ “The bard fellow was... something-Geddarm, if I recall. Donovan spoke to the wizard, he might know his name, but it’s best not to bring it up. Donovan’s son Doru was part of the mob, you see.” - Tem

*Volo spent some time in Barovia and was able to leave due to a pre-set spell by Elminster. It’s not terribly important, but I’m running the narrative that Volo told MK about Barovia in the first place, and I threw a few things like “Volo’s Guide to Poetry” around Barovia.

About the burgomaster:

"I suppose that would be Ismark the Lesser. His father's wake was just this past Sacred Day. Ismark's supposed to have brought him up to the graveyard yonder *she points up the slope to the church*, but with his sister handling the house, he's been in the drink. Never as responsible as his father, that Ismark. Bad for the town." - Tem

About the Mists:

"That would be lord Strahd's doing. He has mastery over this land in ways you can't imagine. My daughters and I, we get by very carefully. I'd suggest you'd do the same. Don't trust any of the wild folk in this land, nor the beasts. The Vistani aren't normally allowed in the villages, except those girls in the tavern, and for good reason. They'll turn on you on a dime." - Tem

About the undead:

"You saw zombies, did you? The borders of this land will do that. Lord Strahd used to let some people through, I heard, but that was before my time." - Tem

Lay of the land:

"The Svalich Road goes through this town **she gestures**. It will lead you through the mountains right to Vallaki, and to Krezk after that. It winds a little bit on the way as you climb the central hill, and veers off the East to Ravenloft, the lord's castle. If you stay to the West off the road, you'll avoid the castle completely, but you risk wolves and other things through the woods, and you'll have to find some other way to cross the river. If you pass the gates and see the old windmill up there, you're going the right way." - Tem

Strahd's enemies:

"Not many oppose him, not openly anyway. *she winks* We all just do what we can to live in his land. Me, I just make my pastries to help with the general **she gestures to the dark cloudy day** despair. The old ghost knights wander the land. According to the stories, they died fighting the vampire, but I'd be careful if you ran into one. They tend to avoid the roads." - Tem

About Vampires:

"I've heard the old wives tales. Vampires can't enter a home without an invitation. They sleep during the day, and can transform into all kinds of things, like bats and wolves. Hmm... oh, they can't cross water, or go onto holy ground. You'll see up at the church what I mean." - Tem

Ending the Conversation

If they talk too long, someone will walk up and purchase some pies. After handling the sale, Morgantha will say “Oh, be careful asking too many questions around here, dearies. You never know who might overhear. Lord Strahd is quite wealthy, and people are used to the idea of a vampire overlord, so they’ll take payment from him for interesting news. You mustn’t blame them for it, it’s the way it’s always been. I need to mosey along, I have customers to get to.” - Tem

Bella Sunbane
Offalia Wormwiggle

Strahd Von Zarovich

An Introduction

“I owe you an apology, outsiders. I have been a terribly ungracious host.

I have known of your presence in my land for several days, but only now have I come to extend my greetings. You see, as of late, I have been preoccupied with other things. A woman, as trite as that might sound. Little did I know that, in time, you and she would cross paths and we'd find ourselves here. Fate can be a vexing mistress.

But I digress. My name is Strahd von Zarovich, Lord of Barovia and Master of Ravenloft, and though you shall soon wish otherwise, you now have my full and complete attention.” - Trusty Peaches

Encountering Strahd on his way back to Ravenloft with a Werewolf Prisoner (Emil) in tow

You see more closely the dark oak carriage pulling up from the direction of Vallaki, with two draft horses tied to the front. Shackled as a captured animal to the back of the carriage is a wolf... his left front leg bound, forcing him to hobble. The wolf looks exhausted, and has tattered clothing covering his fur. His shackles are lined in silver. A middle-aged elven man with coral pink skin and inky black hair rides coach. His travel clothes are fine, but practical. The elf stops the carriage and watches you approach.

Out of the carriage steps a tall, pale human. He wears resplendent noble clothing with a long black cloak trimmed with wolf fur, and has pale Barovian features. The wolf tied to the carriage shrinks back until it's chain goes taut. This man appears to have been waiting for you.

“It's a miserable day, isn't it? / It's a lovely night, isn't it? I am Count Strahd Von Zarovich, son of Barov and Ravenovia, the rightful lord of Barovia.” - Tem

Strahd will politely wait for introductions.

"It is nice to finally meet you. I will arrange a dinner, perhaps, to greet you properly into my domain. Right now, I am escorting a dangerous prisoner to my castle. A werewolf who proved... disloyal. Under his rule, the werewolves of this land began taking more victims than ever before. As the lord of this land, it falls to me to oversee the transfer of leadership." - Tem

On Leaving Barovia

"To leave Barovia requires either my permission, or my life. The former shall never be given, and the latter shall never be taken. The last man who tried as such, now lives with a mind so utterly broken, he wanders the hillsides believing himself an elk!" - Bocchi-Boi

If the PCs want a way out

It is not as simple as my allowing you to leave. There is a cost to pay, and I'm not sure you have the capabilities to pay it. If this is something you truly seek, I will think on the matter. Wait for my invitation, and come to the castle when I call. - Tem

If conversing with a PC with whom he is annoyed

"Thus far you have been adrift in the sheltered harbor of my patience."
- Bocchi-Boi

On Starting Endless Night Mode

"Was it naivety or foolishness that allowed you to believe that you could enter, without invitation, into the lair of a Dark Lord, and escape without retribution?! Now, all of Barovia will suffer for your hubris. All will know, that while each of you lives, there will be... only... **darkness**. I am Strahd von Zarovich, and this... is **my game**." *Strahd pulls the sun from the sky* - Bocchi-Boi

On Ireena

"I had thought the lands beyond our borders civilized enough to know matters of the heart are a private affair? Speak of them again, and I shall cut your tongue out for your indecency." - Trusty Peaches

If he's accused of being an undead aberration

I am not a curse on this land, I am the land. I stand between the citizens of Barovia and the darkness. As my father conquered Barovia over 500 years ago, I have conquered the shadows and keep them locked in the mists. Without me, this land would fall into chaos. My... diet is an unfortunate side effect. - Tem

Talking with Ireena to convince her to join him

"You will come with me of your own free will, one way or another. Your father succumbed to his elderly heart with wolves scratching at his door, but your brother is not so protected by a fortified mansion now. Your *friends* hardly care for you, and what little protection they can provide will only last so long before they too are overcome by my will. When I wish it, you will come with me, my Tatyana. I have waited ages for you, and I will have you by my side." -Danathan

"Believe me, no one was more shocked or saddened than me when your father passed away. He was a good man, an honest man. And if you had not been so obstinate, if you had not refused so long to do as you know your heart has always wished, he might still be alive today, taking a quiet meal with your brother." -Kaiya

On the PCs surrendering

"I have received your offer of surrender and reject it; I did not come to receive your supplication but to enact judgement. The time to surrender has long passed. The verdict is writ by your own hands. Now is the time to suffer."

Final battle

"So you've come to finish your magnificent little quest.

You fancy yourselves something you are not. Saviors, Heroes, Righteous, Mighty. Did you know everything you've done in this land has been so by my abiding? That not a single step, not a single kill and not a single saved soul has gone unnoticed?

Why, you think you've got artifacts of power. I let you have those artifacts, and I let you come here unscathed because I found you amusing.

But you are nothing to me.

For I am the ancient and I am the land.

And now I'm bored with you."

Vallaki

Danika Dorakova

Ernst Larnak

Fiona Wachter

On Stella's condition

"Strahd didn't do this to my daughter – a man did. The baron and his rotten family must be brought to justice." - shaosam

On her visit to Ravenloft as a young woman

"When I was a young woman, I decided I didn't know enough about the reality of the world I live in. And so I rode off to the Castle, to meet the lord of this land in the flesh and see what he is truly like. At the gates, I was able to convince Strahd's servants to grant me an audience with him. He invited me to dine with him. His servants prepared a meal for me then and there, and we discussed at length various topics as his past, his plans, and his motivations. I pressed him, interrogated him even, and while his responses were sometimes vague, he was never evasive. He must have been impressed by my assertiveness and drive, for he offered to have me stay at the castle and work with him, managing his servants and acting as an advisor. I of course, politely declined. I knew there was too much to be done outside the castle. But on that day, I learned that Strahd wasn't some raving, crazed monster. The fact that he hasn't strode into this city and razed it to the ground with a snap of his fingers is proof of that. No, we are dealing with a man who can be reasoned with. He is more like a negligent landlord, someone who needs to be reminded of the work that can be done to help the people. This place needs a leader who is able to effectively engage in discourse with Strahd. With all his power and resources, with his help we could improve the quality of life for all, even in this dreary land." -shaosam

On Strahd

"Hardly the first bloodsucking man I've met in my life, only the most literal." - Bocchi-boi

Gadof Blinsky

Henrik Van Der Voort

Izek Strazni

Jenny Greenteeth

Kasimir Velikov

Before departing on the journey to the Amber Temple

"I do not expect many of you to return from this journey." - shaosam

Lucian Petrovich

Lydia Petrovna

Milivoj

Rictavio

Rudolph Van Richten

If he and the party go separate ways

"Give my regards to The Devil." - shaosam

Stella Wachter
The Vallakians
Urwin Martikov
Vargas Vallakovich

If players speak ill of Vallaki

“Watch your tongue, outsiders. Vallaki survives by the spirit of its citizens; our smiles are our shields against the darkness of Barovia. To twist our joy into sorrow, into fear, is to invite the devil in yourself. Such malicious discontent is as akin to treason, and deserving of equal punishment.” - Trusty Peaches

On the Devil

“The Devil is the source of all evil, all darkness. He lurks in every shadow, in every rotten thought, in every... frown. The people of Vallaki know this. Our smiles are our shields.” - Trusty Peaches

On Fiona Wachter

“The Devil is not my only foe, I am beset by enemies on all sides within our borders. Despite the happiness I have brought to Vallaki, the safety I have offered them from the terrors outside its walls, there are those within our walls selfish and stupid enough to risk it all for power. The Lady Wachter. A wicked old crone, she conspires against me, sowing discord amongst our people.”

“Citizens have been vanishing into the night, many from my own cabinet. Just this month two of my servants have disappeared! I am certain it is a plot, it is her plot. She is an agent of the Devil, I am certain, and seeks to claim my seat and deliver us to him.”

“But she is smart, and she is careful. We have no proof. And though I am absolutely certain of her guilt, she is too well known to move against her without complete certainty, lest we upset the masses and invite the Devil in ourself.” - Trusty Peaches

Victor Vallakovich

On his parents' deaths

“My father was a lunatic and my mother was a moron. I'm glad to be free of them.” - Bocchi-Boi

Vistani

Arrigal

Ezmeralda D'Avenir

Luvash

Madam Eva

Warning PCs as they leave toward Vallaki, about the Bonegrinder

"Be careful as you seek knowledge, that you do not reveal your own hand. I sense today, you must take the cautious route. Choose your battles wisely."

If they want a reading about werewolves or other enemies, or otherwise avoid Strahd

"Come back when you've figured out who your real enemy is."

"The devil of this land will let you scurry around like the little mice you are for a time, but you cannot leave this country without his permission. Cats eventually get tired of "playing with" their prey."

"Do not waste my time with this prattle!"

The Vistani

Werewolf Den

Kiril Stoyanovich

Zuleika Toranescu

Wizard of Wines

Davian Martikov