

One Hundred Rare Wonders



Strange, Rare, & Frightening Encounters for a Fantasy City

Telecanter

Some of the following encounters are stationary, used by beggars & buskers to earn money or by devout worshipers to perform sacred rites, others are moving through the crowds from one location to another for inscrutable purposes. To confuse these situations could cause predicaments. Some of the following encounters are specific, some only evocative. All are yours to fuel your fantastic world. More than 100 are given in the expectation that some will be unsatisfactory. Enjoy.

1. Pig-faced child herds child-faced pigs
2. Teeming wave of pink, hairless, eyeless mice
3. Parrot negotiates embargo with a Nuncio
4. Dancing great ape ... with the head of a goat
5. Exquisitely-winged hermaphrodite hovers ominously
6. Hyena chained to a badger ... fight viciously
7. Blood merchant with cart full of sloshing barrels
8. Swordsmith demonstrates wares on slaves
9. Giraffe giving birth
10. The bloated corpse of an ... elephant?
11. Tiny man in an ivory cage, on the end of a pole, swung over the crowd, screaming in terror
12. Four cheetahs awkwardly walking upright
13. Black giant distracted by the clapping of 30 concubines he carries on his back
14. A lion paces loose
15. Bloated, grey creature chained with flowers to a cedar sled pulled by children
16. White sparrows alight on the heads of the crowd as far as you can see
17. A pig squeals out hymns
18. Wedding procession of seven sets of twins ... sisters & brothers
19. Orchestra of instruments made from the bones of those killed by whales
20. Armless man reads & records secrets in knotted thread
21. Five maidens tattoo scriptures on an albino elephant
22. Senile king with a mother of pearl saddle ridden by a bored phlebotomist
23. Huge bronze pot that passersby vomit into
24. Giant glass sphere rolls slowly by, half-filled with wine & a tiger
25. Four warriors face the four cardinal directions, chains grown into their backs connect them

26. Haruspex performs extispicy on whale entrails
27. Procession honors conjoined orangutans
28. Respectable gentleman with five porters bearing his beard
29. The crowd moves through & idles in a landscape– hillocks & pathways ... of rice
30. Bald woman carves a delicate city from cart-sized molar
31. Three eunuchs nod knowingly & tally passersby
32. A dust merchant
33. Fish-maiden performs a sash dance while weeping pearls
34. Infant Infanta in feather crown & petal robe being given a tour of the sights
35. Procession of blind guides one after another after another ...
36. Moaning beggar covered in mold like black feathers
37. Two Rhinos reluctantly bear a library of scrolls
38. Fat men fornicating with straw manikins
39. Intricate tessellations chalked on the ground, people nervously avoid
40. Beautiful nudes covered in calligraphy
41. A wondrous steam engine explodes killing crowded spectators
42. Toothless friar sells expired indulgences
43. Fourteen crucified monkeys
44. Pregnant woman performs acrobatics
45. Small Iron box emits hoarse chanting
46. Wizard sneezing incessantly
47. Wheezing frost lizard sheds plate-sized, ivory scales
48. Merchant sells ambergris Buddhas
49. Vast vat of live eels bursts
50. Merchant sells tiny, beeswax spheres filled with slime.
51. Burly man surrounded by wicker-armored guards bears eight lead bells
52. Wicker cage holds cannibal children baring filed teeth
53. Warrior stalks past in a featureless golden mask
54. Flowing fountain wheeled by on brass casters
55. Young men line up for tar & suicidal flame
56. Three bearded women wield luminescent lizards tied to the tips of their staves
57. An orchard of potted pomegranate trees
58. An adolescent girl sits cross-legged on a cauldron of quicksilver while eating a plum

59. Circle of worshipers kneel before whirling blades
60. Two albino alligators shamble along, firework bombards firing from their backs
61. A Band of thralls naked but for brass torcs harvest thumbs
62. Merchant sells fairies riding seahorses, dried, on sticks
63. Dung beetles roll confectionery balls in an ebony tray
64. Priests time rituals to the transformations of a man in a bamboo cage to ... hippo & back
65. Tin peacocks clatter about, fanning their bland tails
66. Alabaster bull on crystal wheels with a voice screaming from inside
67. Scabrous octopus performs religious pantomime, silver bells on every tentacle
68. Tall couple with hair braided together smash ancient clay tablets
69. A Wine Fountain
70. A Manatee is vivisected by arguing pedants
71. A group of gray, old folk whose exhaled breath is smoke
72. Three fat women fight with obsidian fans
73. Giant candles slowly burn revealing morsels at the proper time for emaciated priests to eat
74. Merchant sells the pickled tongues of emperors
75. Mice in vestments perform rites in bread dioramas
76. A communal hookah
77. White flakes drift from the sky, edible, but ephemeral
78. Sloths on silk pillows play cymbals
79. Taxidermist for hire, clutching his cat-monkey-fish creation
80. Dwarf whittles gold leaf from an abandoned palanquin
81. Giant sifts saffron over the crowd, while tumblers whirl & cut purses
82. Hundreds of gongs rung as the crowd pushes between them
83. Giant drum falls down stairs deafening everyone near
84. Walrus with scrimshawed tusks is bathed in iced perfume by princesses
85. Merchant sells ogre-skin rugs, heads intact
86. Blue-skinned men with turbans & reeking of mint given wide berth by crowd
87. An antlered horse
88. Merchant sells porcelain phials of tears
89. Blind woman weaves strips of fallen battle banners into ... sails?
90. Alchemist creates a greasy, pulsating lump in a beaker before succumbing to foul fumes
91. Ex-pirates pay passersby to defecate around a giant egg, keeping it warm

92. Tree formed from broken lances, hung with the hands of the vanquished
93. Cultists shave all comers for free, carefully hide the clippings in filthy sacks
94. Innkeep sings out delicacies for sale, basso profundo
95. Ostler fusses with five black war camels
96. Young woman passes clad in cuir bouilli made from the faces of ... demons?
97. Merchant sells armor of bronzed seashells
98. Jaundiced, crawling with flies, butcher cuts *any* meat for hire
99. Roaches scurry across colorful threads strung above the heads of the crowd
100. Wardogs for sale, cropped ears, cropped tails, branded for each battle fought
101. Stuttering man feeds a small snake to a larger snake to an even larger snake ... for hours
102. Cross-eyed counterfeiter mints coins, medals, & pilgrim's tokens
103. Man with kris runs amok through the crowd
104. Merchant sells baskets, all full of random odds & ends
105. Man with a third eye painstakingly studies patterns in the wares of a carpet weaver
106. A courtesan swings languidly from a platform above the crowd
107. Five wolfskin-clad berserkers force everyone entering a plaza to wear a veil
108. A yeti impaled howls pitifully
109. Copper coins, everywhere, ankle-deep
110. Glassblower struggles desperately to shape life-sized animals

