

## DOLL BABY

BY JULIA ELLINGBOE

### WITNESS

*Flavia Kingston*, PhD candidate and porcelain artist writing her dissertation on dolls of the late 19th and early 20th century. Flavia has accepted an internship to catalog and restore new items in the Greenwich Museum of New England Life's famed Emily L. Greenleaf Collection of Bisque and Porcelain Dolls. Her strength is a *lust for knowledge* and her personality trait is *trusting*.

### OTHER CHARACTERS

- ⊙ *Charlie Lirette* designs the doll-sized furniture replicas for the doll collection with his husband Gabriel Coffin. He is obsessed with creating perfect miniature pieces with secret, hidden details
- ⊙ *Frenchie Barlon*, owner of the Greenwich Goldmine. The Barlows are the one of the oldest families in Greenwich. Although the Greenwich Goldmine Cave-In forever tarnished the Barlow name everyone in town knows Frenchie. An unparalleled chef, Frenchie runs the best restaurant in town and everyone wants the secret to their perfect chiffon cake.
- ⊙ *Zane Franklin*, outgoing executive director of the Greenwich Museum of New England Life. Zane recently accepted a new position. He can't wait to leave and his attitude is rubbing off on the other staff.
- ⊙ *Kamala Greenleaf Prince*, Emily L. Greenleaf's beloved granddaughter. Kamala donated several dolls to the doll collection and she is surprisingly involved in the cataloging and restoration of the collection for an amateur.

*If anyone discovered these notes they would surely assume it was a work of fiction or based on hallucination. Perhaps it is.*

### LOCATION AND ERA

In mid-2010s *New England Magazine* described Greenwich, MA as the “Quintessential Quaint New England Town... the lovechild of Norman Rockwell and Currier & Ives.” Greenwich is known for idyllic rolling hills, excellent fishing and hiking, and quirky nightlife.

### OTHER LOCATIONS

- ⊙ *Greenwich Goldmine*, a hip farm-to-table restaurant built atop the original Greenwich Copper and Goldmine. The mine closed after a massive cave-in trapped 244 miners. Only a handful escaped and the trapped bodies were never recovered. *Greenwich Goldmine* now stands as the social center of Greenwich, where artists and agronomists rub shoulders and share pints of microbrewed IPA.
- ⊙ *Greenwich Museum of New England Life*, est. 1917 but popularised in 1996 when the estate of Emily L. Greenleaf bequeathed the Historic Society \$17 million to develop a cluster of five 1800s buildings in the center of Greenwich. The development was a tourism success but the locals now avoid those buildings where possible.
- ⊙ *Idlewilde* was the Greenleaf Summer estate and houses the doll collection. Emily Greenleaf specified that the dolls on exhibit be posed and arranged to appear as lifelike as possible, as if one were, “guests in the doll’s house.” Two-thirds of the furniture was replaced with doll-sized replicas and visitors must crawl through tiny doorways to view the dolls. Approximately 600 dolls are on display. The rest sit in storage or in the workshop.

*We have landed the plane to attempt further exploration on foot.*

*Location of Lake's specimens would place them in the earlier period of the city's existence.*

**SPECIAL CARDS**

- ⊙ Anachronism
- ⊙ Objet D'Art
- ⊙ A hostile group
- ⊙ Reprisals

**DOLL BABY: SAMPLE CLUES**

- ⊙ An exquisite new item appears suddenly in the Museum's "to be catalogued" room.
- ⊙ A recently restored item breaks again when no one could possibly have touched it.
- ⊙ Several dolls bear an uncanny resemblance to former town residents, including a number of miners lost in the cave in.
- ⊙ Greenwich is periodically troubled by detectives seeking former Summer residents who apparently "disappeared without a trace".
- ⊙ A box of miniature replicas of the furniture of Flavia's entire room in her Greenwich apartment appears in the cataloging room.
- ⊙ A doll falls off a shelf and shatters, revealing tiny porcelain organs.
- ⊙ Toy animals made with real animal fur, claws and teeth are found ripped apart and arranged in unwholesome patterns.
- ⊙ An entire generation of former residents refuse to return to town.
- ⊙ A rare "Frozen Charlotte" doll disappears and later reappears in Flavia's bathtub.
- ⊙ Is that the smell of roasted lamb coming from the doll's kitchen exhibit? And are those real tiny vegetables?
- ⊙ Flavia keeps getting lost while trying to leave town for the weekend.
- ⊙ Small details on an exhibit keep changing, ever so slightly.