

The Mesmer's Pendulum

The Mesmer's Pendulum is used like a script to a play. It is broken into two parts. The DM's part is that of the Mesmer himself, questioning the hypnotized subject. The second part is shared by all the players and is the hypnotized subject's responses to questions. They should be read dramatically.

Acting out this dialogue not only provides important information to the players, but it requires the players to make choices which will influence the final outcome of the adventure, though how may not be apparent.

These cards should be cut apart and handed out among all the players. When the DM reads a question he will announce the number of the card on which the response is to be found. The player should first read the description on the side with the Mesmer's Pendulum. The DM will then query further, and the player should then turn the card over and select one of the choices in response.

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4B.

- (C) "The face is gentle and terrible, anguished and vengeful. It changes its violent mood. My life again drains into the darkness in those eyes."
- (D) "Those hands I know, which have often brought me my needs, now takes from me my very life! I scream..."
- (E) "Wisdom and nobility disappear from the familiar face and are replaced by death and horror. My life slips from me and I cannot scream."
- (F) "It is the Dark One himself. His hands seize me. My life again begins to slip from my soul."

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5.

- (A) "At the base of a smoky shaft."
- (B) "Amid walls of wisdom."
- (C) "Atop broken glass and shattered dreams."
- (D) "Atop an altar of flowers."
- (E) "Atop an altar formed of a griffin."
- (F) "On a red velvet cushion."

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8.

- (A) "I am in the lost rooms where the secret is sealed."
- (B) "I stand among the glorious dead."
- (C) "I stand before my own grave."
- (D) "I stand among the paupered dead."
- (E) "I stand on polished music and laughter."
- (F) "I stand between walls of restless tears."

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2.

- (A) "Amid the cold fire!"
- (B) "Between the pages of folly!"
- (C) "Amid the ruins of great works!"
- (D) "In the abandoned chambers of hope!"
- (E) "In the heart of faith!"
- (F) "In the folds of love's arms."

Conclude by reading this:

"Yet I cannot reach the key! The darkness falls about me . . . I smother . . . I am dying . . ."

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4A.

- (A) "It is the Dark One himself. His hands seize me. My life begins to slip from my soul."
- (B) "The face I know and honor, yet its gentle contours suddenly grow harsh. The eyes burn! My life again begins to slip from me!"
- (C) "The face is gentle and terrible, anguished and vengeful. It changes its violent mood. My life again drains into the darkness in those eyes."
- (D) "Those hands I know, which have often brought me my needs, now takes from me my very life! I scream..."

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4D.

- (E) "Wisdom and nobility disappear from the familiar face and are replaced by death and horror. My life slips from me and I cannot scream."
- (F) "It is the Dark One himself. His hands seize me. My life again begins to slip from my soul."
- (G) "The face I know and honor, yet its gentle contours suddenly grow harsh. The eyes burn! My life again begins to slip from me!"
- (H) "The face is gentle and terrible, anguished and vengeful. It changes its violent mood. My life again drains into the darkness in those eyes."

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7.

- (A) "There . beyond the cold fire and hidden. I take the circle and gaze through its weight. The people are truly evil!"
- (B) "I wander through the books of knowledge, held secret in the forgotten towers. There the circle shows the people as terrors."
- (C) "The glass and liquid encompasses me in its learned maze, but there the circle is found. I look, and see the evil behind the people's mask."
- (D) "Abandoned shrines protect the eye and give musty reverence to that which is good. The people press upon me. I look through the clear eye and see their evil!"
- (E) "The shrine stands alone in decadent splendor, while all around the illusion of good is corrupted. I look through the eye and see its terror and evil though disguised."
- (F) "In the warm heart of love's rest does the eye remain secure."

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1.

- (A) "Where the trees turn to ash and the light has grown cold."
- (B) "Where the tower of man's thought has brought ruin and despair."
- (C) "Where all began . . . though cannot end."
- (D) "Where faith once was, and is no more."
- (E) "Where good spirits still listen through the deceiving darkness."
- (F) "Where the hope of new life springs eternal."

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3.

- (A) "From whence there was warmth, did I lie, so too restore warmth to hearts grown cold."
- (B) "Man's wisdom lies hidden and used for ill; yet my power will undo what unholy does."
- (C) "Amid the ruins of false hopes and lost engines of doom does my restoration lie."
- (D) "Like a phoenix from the ashes of the holy place do I rise to return that which was so unholy stolen."
- (E) "Holy amid the unholy, light within the darkest of space; here does my power shine to bring back that which was lost."
- (F) "Soft as the pillow of love's rest shall my healing give hope to those forsaken."

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4C.

- (D) "Those hands I know, which have often brought me my needs, now takes from me my very life! I scream..."
- (E) "Wisdom and nobility disappear from the familiar face and are replaced by death and horror. My life slips from me and I cannot scream."
- (F) "It is the Dark One himself. His hands seize me. My life again begins to slip from my soul."
- (G) "The face I know and honor, yet its gentle contours suddenly grow harsh. The eyes burn! My life again begins to slip from me!"

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6.

- (A) "My passions shall no more be ruled by that part of me which so long held me captive. Now, freed shall I be, in bondage no more. My prison shall I destroy and be free to rule with horror."
- (B) "The love that should have been mine can never be. My persecutor stole my joy and now I shall steal his love from him as well."
- (C) "Life is lust! I gorge myself upon it. Never fed, never sated, I seek here new life to take for my own sustenance."
- (D) "Robbed! Cheated! The life which was mine by right, stolen from me by the Law Above! I spurn that law! I shall again have my life back! I defy the gods!"

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