THE LIGHTLESS BEACON

PLAIN TEXT HANDOUTS

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April 2nd, 1926.

Dear Mr. Cassidy,

Thank you for your letter dated February 28th of this year.

I do, indeed, recognize the coin you described. Or, at least, I recognize the style of decoration, for we have a piece of similar origin here in our museum in Newburyport. As a result, I suspect your coin hails from nearby Innsmouth, and only the locals of that benighted town could tell you its true worth—to them, at least.

However, if you value your immortal soul, I strongly caution you against contacting any denizens of that place. No good ever came from dealings with Innsmouth. Instead, the Newburyport Society would be glad to purchase any coins you may have from you at market value, once their authenticity has been confirmed.

If you would care to make arrangements to visit me here at the Society’s Museum at your earliest convenience, then I can arrange to have our appraiser examine the coins, whereupon we can agree to a fair price for the sale.

Again, Mr. Cassidy, I urge you most strongly not to approach anyone in Innsmouth about your find. It really is for the best of all concerned.

Yours sincerely,
Miss Anna Tilton

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February 13th, 1926

I found something on one of my walks. A coin! I kept walking and found another then another! I know it’s gold. Found some mechanical parts as well. Looks like it might be from a ship. Must have gone down recently, but I don’t recall hearing anything about no wreck of late. Unless it went down in last night’s storm when the light was out.

I better keep this quiet. Don’t want the other two here to get a slice of the action. I will keep this journal as a means of documenting my findings. This has to be worth a mint!

February 16th, 1926

That coin catalog I bought in Folly Point is useless. One thing I know is that the coins are old. Real old.

I’ve asked if I can stay on for as long as I can until I’m sure there’s nothing left here for me to line my pockets. And I have to find a good lead on these coins and go where the money takes me. Maybe I should write to some of my old “colleagues” to see if they can help. Should probably try some of those fancy antique stores in Rockport, while I’m at it.

March 10th, 1926

The coins are getting hard to find. The two new crew members aren’t helping matters. Makes it difficult to search without being noticed. Hope they don’t cause me any trouble. Even so, I’ve filled a small purse which I keep on me at all times.

April 3rd, 1926

I’ve got a good lead now. I’ll be sending one more letter to Innsmouth then I’m confident I can get off this stinking island for good. I think Michael is watching me. I’ve bought a gun just in case.

April 11th, 1926

Smith said he will leave the lighthouse tomorrow morning. He says he doesn’t care if it voids his contract—he’s had enough of this island and everything on it. Least that’s one less pair of eyes watching me. Still stuck with that sneak, Michael, though.

Smith says the radio busted again halfway through talking to the bosses. Said he’d fix it before he leaves.

Counted my coins just to be sure he didn’t lift any off me in my sleep. I’ve seen Michael peering out the window, spying my daily walks. I’ll have to be a bit more careful.

April 12th, 1926

Smith left without a word. Me and Michael didn’t even see him go. Didn’t take his paintings with him, which is a bit odd. Lousy rat didn’t even repair the radio before he left. I’ll get to it later tonight.

Michael has gone to check something outside. Seems paranoid. Think there’s more than just tobacco in that pipe of his. At least I get more time to write. No word from
GEORGE CASSIDY PREVIOUS CRIMINAL RECORD. INVOLVED IN SMUGGLING?
LIGHTS ON WATER. SMALL ROWBOAT?
FOUND SHIP PARTS ON NORTH SHORE.
FOUND GOLD COIN ON NORTH SHORE.
BIGGER THAN JUST BOOTLEG MOONSHINE? WHAT IS GOING ON?
SMITH SAID SAW SOMEONE IN TREES AND PEERING THROUGH WINDOW.
MEN ON ISLAND AT NIGHT?
CROAKING NOISE?
FROGS?