

Margaret “Maggie” MacAllan

Your mother and father moved from Glasgow to America a few months before you were born. They settled in Chicago and opened a butcher’s shop. Both are very religious, particularly your father, and had always expected the same from you and your younger brother, Graham. Both were dismayed by the rise of the new science and its “infernal devices” and believe that such things are the work of the Devil.

So, naturally, you fell in love with one of these Mad Scientists, Dr. Derek Jacoby. A few years your senior, Derek had a drive and passion about his work that you found attractive. He was also educated, smart, and, of course, devilishly handsome. So when he turned some of his drive and passion in your direction, you found it nearly irresistible. When your father learned of your courtship, he angrily and adamantly stated that the courtship was at an end. Just as hot-tempered and headstrong as your father, you adamantly decided that it would continue.

The next few months put an incredible strain on your relationship with your family. Your father did everything he could to prevent your relationship with Derek—short of violence—and even found you other suitors. This only drove you closer to Derek. When you realized that you were pregnant, however, you knew that your father’s temper would boil over with such heat that it would rival some of the Ghost Rock furnaces that Derek and his colleagues used.

Derek suggested that both of you leave Chicago and travel to Dodge City. Every year, the Kansas Scientific Symposium showcased new inventions from scientists all over North America and a clever inventor might attract the attention of Hellstromme Industries and be set for life. The Symposium would be in a couple of months and Derek had enough money saved for the two of you to live on before he “won” a contract with Hellstromme.

That’s, more or less, what you and your lover did. However, instead of traveling all the way to Dodge City, you stopped in Salina. Derek believed that there would be less chance of other scientists stealing or sabotaging his work. For a month or so, life in Salina was fine but then Derek started working more and more and spending less and less time with you. One night you decided to surprise him with some dinner in his workshop...instead, you were the one who was in for the surprise.

You found Derek in his workshop but not alone. He was with another woman...in the biblical sense. That temper you had inherited from your father took control and you threw what you were carrying at them. It just happened that dinner was in your left while a lantern—that you had been carrying to light your way to the workshop—was in your right hand. The lantern sailed over the two treacherous lovers to strike some sort of device. The resulting explosion threw you through the workshop door and clear across the street into a neighboring building. The last thing you remember as you blacked out were the screams coming from the workshop...

When you woke, you did not know where you were...a small room you had never seen before...but you knew something was horribly wrong. You quickly realized that you had lost your baby. Just as that realization struck, a woman came into the room. She introduced herself as Violet

Esperanza and explained that she had been walking by when the explosion happened. She also confirmed that you had, indeed, had a miscarriage as a result of the trauma. Violet inquired as to what had happened and you told her everything.

For the last couple of years, you have been a member of the Wichita Witches, an all women gang that works for Mina Devlin, the owner of the Black River rail company. Violet is the leader of the Witches and took you in. You've also maintained something of a façade for your family via post...you've explained to them that you and Derek have married and settled down in Salina. Of course, the reality is quite different. You've learned to fight and you've learned that the world is a much more dangerous and weird place than you had ever imagined. Monsters and magic are real! And you've done things that you never thought you would and many that you regret...you're a gunslinger for the Witches and have killed a number of innocents.

Although your father and mother have never written you back, other than to tell you of their disappointment and lack of interest in seeing their daughter again, your brother has maintained a steady correspondence. You have had to convince him many times that he should not leave Chicago to come to Salina to visit and stay. Almost every one of his letters, which he says he must send in secret for fear of your father's wrath, has raised the topic. If the life and lies that you've told him were true, you'd be more than happy for your brother to come but, sadly, they aren't and you refuse to let your little brother see what you've become or face the risks, both natural and supernatural, of the Weird West.

At the moment, you are on an assignment for the Witches. You and another operative, Ann Smedley, are aboard a Union Blue train traveling from Topeka to Salina. Although you and Ann have an intense dislike of each other, you both know your job and are doing it...planting some explosives and killing the Union Blue agent on the train (Violet has supplied a small trinket that will help locate the agent). Once complete, you both need to exit the train and join up with a couple of other Witches who have some horses waiting for you.

Rank: Seasoned **XP:** 20

Attributes: Agility d8, Smarts d6, Spirit d6, Strength d6, Vigor d6

Skills: Fighting d8, Guts d6, Intimidation d6, Notice d6, Riding d6, Shooting d10, Streetwise d6, Tracking d4

Charisma: +2; **Pace:** 6; **Parry:** 6; **Toughness:** 5; **Grit:** +2

Hindrances: Stubborn, Vengeful (Minor), Grim Servant O' Death

Edges: Attractive, Quick, Duelist

Gear: SA Peacemakers (Range 12/24/48; 2d6+2 damage; RoF 1; Shots 6; AP 1), Bowie knife (Str+d4+1; AP 1), box of bullets, gunbelt and quick draw holster, black clothes, black duster and black Stetson.

1: Agility to d8

2: Duelist

3: Shooting to d10

4: Fighting to d8 and Streetwise to d6