

## Frank Barlow AKA "The Black Hood Bandit" AKA

### "Robert Locke" \*

#### **A Man Wrongly Accused, Fugitive From Justice**

You didn't do anything wrong, see? You're currently wanted for murdering a sheriff along with robbery, theft, and a couple other crimes you forget. Now, you are one hundred percent innocent of that sheriff's murder. The other crimes you might or might not have done (the list of stuff you're accused of is long) but any you did commit were in the effort to clear your name.

You see, you were an honest, god-fearing rancher a few states over. Then, the local sheriff Amos Winthrop was murdered, and found dead in your barn. The replacement sheriff, he was crooked, and wanted to string you up rather than do any real detective work. So you've been on the run, looking for the real killer. Sometimes when you're on the run you have to commit a few crimes yourself: in particular, you've held up a few stagecoaches and trains, looking for folks involved in the murder. And you've waylaid the postman a couple times, looking for communications between the murderers. You beat up a few accomplices and associates and eventually learned the real killer is a woman. you didn't get a name, but you did learn she is also the infamous **Fox Valley Killer**. She is supposed to be here in town somewhere, involved in this tournament. Now you just have to find her, bring her to justice and clear your name somehow.

Along the way, you acquired an ally: **Delilah Allen**. You're not entirely sure why she's helping you, and she can get weirdly pushy about minor things sometimes. But having someone not wanted by the law is of great help and you're not in a situation to be turning down allies. She runs into towns to get you stuff you need, learn news and scout things out for you. Very helpful. She's helped you track the killer here, and has suggested that you enter this poker tournament under an assumed name. You were reluctant to play, but she pestered you into it. Well, if the killer is here, you want to be here too, so you might as well go along with Allen's plan, even if she ain't told you the whole plan.

Newspapers have been calling you "**The Black Hood Bandit**" and saying crazy things about you. Most if seems to be made up nonsense. A couple papers seem to think you're some kind of outlaw hero, but you don't feel like much of a hero at all. Just a man looking for justice.

In town there are two "**Watchdogs of the Lord**" - **Brother Artemis** and **Sister Fidelia**. You wonder if you could enlist the aid of two religious types like that. If they hear the story of a suffering Christian like yourself, surely they would come to your aid? Would there be any harm in telling them your secret? It's like confessing to a priest, right, in that they'll keep your secret? you could use all the allies you can get, and if you can't trust the representatives of the Lord, then who can you trust?