

WitchFinder General  
“Cerberus”

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a **Back From The Depths** script

(Revised 20/10/06)

## Page 1

### Panel 1

A man is standing at a river edge. He is MONK. He is wearing a dark coloured robe with a hood. A boat approaches from the distance, steered by another man. His face is hidden in his hood.

C-CAPTION: River Styx, Hades.

### Panel 2

MONK steps into the boat handing over a coin to the boatman, CHARON. CHARON is also wearing a robe except it is light coloured and has no hood. CHARON has long white hair and beard.

No words are exchanged.

### Panel 3

CHARON steers the boat away. MONK is sitting down.

CHARON: What was your grave sin?

MONK: For pushing an old man into the river.

### Panel 4

MONK shoves CHARON into the River Styx. As MONK does so, he grabs CHARON'S boat staff. CHARON makes an almighty splash.

### Panel 5

MONK drives the boat away from CHARON. He is struggling in the water.

CHARON: Help! I can't swim! I can't swim!

MONK: Sorry, Charon, I need a lend of a few things.

### Panel 6:

MONK is on dry land on the other side of the river. He is leaning on CHARON's staff. MONK takes out a wee orb.

MONK: I know you love lyre music.

SFX: GROWLING (off panel)

MONK: Cerberus, play nice!

## Page 2

### Splash page

Title: WitchFinder General

Subtitle: Cerberus

Author: Jova

Artist: ?

MONK (foreground) is pointing the orb at CERBERUS (background). There is music emanating from the orb.

CERBERUS is growling, ready to attack. It is a 3 headed dog whose mouths are drooling with venomous acid. The dog is guarding a closed gateway to Hades. The gateway is behind CERBERUS, fully bolted.

At this moment, the dogs' eyes are black as coal.

## Page 3

### Panel 1

Close up of the three heads. The lyre music has reached the dog's ears. Now all of their eyes turned white.

### Panel 2

C-CAPTION: Meanwhile...

Within a forest in England, WITCHFINDER GENERAL MATTHEW HOPKINS is riding on a horse. He wears a long black cape with hat. He is alone.

HOPKINS (CAPTION): Work is drying up. I need to do something quick. Lord, please guide me with your light and truth.

### Panel 3

Overview of HOPKINS, still on horse, he discovers a crater in his pathway. The crater is 10 feet wide.

HOPKINS: What's in God's name?!

### Panel 4

HOPKINS is off his horse, he looks into the crater. There is a pathway into the crater but it disappears into the darkness.

### Panel 5

Hopkins examines the ground above the crater. He sees two sets of footprints; one is a man and the other is a dog paw prints. Nothing unusual except the paw prints is 5 times larger than of a domestic dog.

HOPKINS: Lord, with your help, I will banish this evil.

### Panel 6

Still inside the forest, MONK is pulling a leash behind him, over his shoulder. The leash is wrapped around the CERBERUS' neck (the middle head). MONK is walking with a CHARON's staff as support.

MONK is still wearing a hood. CERBERUS' eyes remain white.

MONK: If we do this right, I will be very generous with you.

## Page 4

### Panel 1

A hunting party of four plus one Rottweiler dog. One of them is carrying a stick with pelts hanging from it.

HUNTER #1: Any hares in this area?

HUNTER #2: Nah, that is yonder the side of the hills

HUNTER #3: Ye-

### Panel 2

The four hunters are standing in shock at the sight of CERBERUS standing before them. MONK is tensing the leash. CERBERUS is straining at the leash and growling like mad.

MONK: Cerberus, NO!

### Panel 3

A wide shot of MONK holding onto the leash with both hands. He is leaning backwards trying to gain hold of the dog. The leash is tensed up and goes off panel.

MONK: STOP! BAD DOG! STOP!

Off panel, there is screaming and chewing noises. Create multiple SFX for this.

SFX: ARGGGH!!

SFX: NOOO!

SFX: (MUNCHING noises)

### Panel 4

CERBERUS is facing down the Rottweiler. It is cowering in fear. The leash around his neck is tense. Blood and gore are smeared around Cerberus' mouths.

CERBERUS snarls

### Panel 5

HOPKINS hears a dog howling in the distance. It is not far away.

SFX: (howling)

HOPKINS: It's them!

### Panel 6

HOPKINS is on horse, racing away.

HOPKINS: I hope I'm not too late.

## Page 5

### Panel 1

MONK is still holding on the leash. The boat staff is on the ground. MONK is not best pleased.

MONK: What's wrong with you?

CERBERUS is bowing his heads, but in a manner of sorrow, but in a pained way.

### Panel 2

A close up of CERBERUS stomach rumbling

### Panel 3

CERBERUS is growing at a fast rate.

Artist could draw 'expanding' outlines of the dog to demonstrate this.

### Panel 4

A close up of the dog's leash, around his neck, splitting apart. It is splitting because the dog is expanding.

SFX: CREAKKK

### Panel 5

The leash is now slack in MONK's hands. He is looking up at CERBERUS who is looking hungry, smacking his lips. CERBERUS is slightly larger than before.

MONK: Oh, crap.

### Panel 6

CERBERUS attempts an attack; one of the head's maws opens up and aims for MONK. But he dives to the ground grabbing the staff.

## Page 6

### Panel 1

MONK is lying on the ground clutching the staff to his body. CERBERUS is standing above him sniffing him out.

MONK: I have Charon's staff to protect me. You better not bite the hand that feeds you.

### Panel 2

CERBERUS perks up and sniffs the air above him.

### Panel 3

CERBERUS runs into the thick of the woods.

MONK: No, wait! Sit! Stop!

Panel 4

MONK runs after CERBERUS

Panel 5

HOPKINS on horse sees human remains on the forest floor.

HOPKINS: This is not good.

Panel 6

Overview. CERBERUS has left the forest and now is running towards the town centre. There is a crowd in the town centre. The crowd is at a market. There are pockets of stalls cover most of the square

**Page 7**

Panel 1

CERBERUS is stomping onto the market stalls. CERBERUS' three heads are snapping at the crowd. One head is eating a person and the other is throwing someone else around.

It is chaos. Plenty of screaming and panic among the crowd.

Panel 2

Monk is standing on the edge of the town, looking on the chaos. He pulls down his hood. Clearly, he is a demon. MONK has patchy and decaying flesh on his head. Lack of hair. He smiles as his eye glows.

MONK: This couldn't have gone better!

Panel 3

MONK raises the staff above himself with both hands. He starts chanting. The staff glows in his hands. Maybe

MONK: Ibi locus nullus similus domus!

MONK: Ibi locus nullus similus domus!

MONK: IBI LOCUS NULLUS SIMILUS DOMUS!

Panel 4

CERBERUS' three heads howls upwards. The sky is turning gloomy.

Panel 5

C-CAPTION: The gateway to Hades,

The gate is creaking from the inside, it is bending outwards as if there is a force pushing it from behind.

Panel 6

The gate burst open with demon and evil spirits flying out from their prison.

SFX: Howling and groaning from demons and spirits

## Page 8

### Panel 1

C-Caption: Inside Hades

SATAN is sitting on his throne overlooking his demons working in his domain. The demons and spirits are chipping away the rockery with tools. The flames are high and place is real hot looking.

### Panel 2

Same panel as above. SATAN is leaning forward on his throne. The demons and spirits are gone, leaving their tools behind. They just disappeared. The flames are low and the place looks much cooler.

SATAN: For Pete's sake!

### Panel 3

In the town's square, the ground has broke open with demons and evil spirits pouring out of the crack.

### Panel 4

An overview of the town. In the middle of the panel is the centre point of demons and spirits escaping into the network of streets and into the sky. The clouds are dark and yet the evil spirits are glowing in the streets.

### Panel 5

MONK is laughing. Screaming and panic among the crowds.

### Panel 6

MONK turns around as he hears a voice from behind.

HOPKINS (off panel): I should have known it was you, Pravus!

MONK is now known as PRAVUS

## Page 9

### Panel 1

HOPKINS punches PRAVUS across the face.

### Panel 2

HOPKINS is standing over PRAVUS. Blood trails down PRAVUS's mouth.

HOPKINS: I had you exorcised. You should not be here!

PRAVUS: It did not work. You sent me short of the Gates of Hades.

Panel 3

HOPKINS points down to PRAVUS. PRAVUS holds onto the staff.

HOPKINS: You are lying to me!

PRAVUS: I cannot get into Hades because your exorcism was half baked.

PRAVUS: Why do you I'm making this place my new home? My new Hades.

Panel 4

HOPKINS grabs PRAVUS by the collar.

HOPKINS: Tell how to stop this monstrosity.

PRAVUS: You can't!

Panel 5

HOPKINS grabs the staff off MONK.

HOPKINS: This is the key to everything, isn't it?

PRAVUS: Give that back!

HOPKINS (shouts): I command you to tell me!

Panel 6

All of a sudden, CERBERUS bites into PRAVUS's body. He screams in pain as the fangs digs into his torso.

HOPKINS reels back in horror.

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Panel 1

HOPKINS runs away from CERBERUS. The dog sees this and goes after him. One of the dog's head is swallowing PRAVUS' body. HOPKINS is now in possession of CHARON's staff.

They are in the street among the chaos. People are also running everywhere as demons evil spirits run / fly about the area.

HOPKINS is running towards a horse and cart.

HOPKINS: That monster must go back to Hades!

Panel 2

HOPKINS races away in the horse and cart, clutching onto the reins. CERBERUS runs after him, close in for the kill but HOPKINS ducks.

HOPKINS: Giddy-up!

He whips the reins.

Panel 3

HOPKINS turns a corner of an ordinary street. CERBERUS has just got bigger than before. Because CERBERUS ran so fast, chasing after HOPKINS, he crashes into a building opposite the corner. The masonry broke up and falls down to the ground.

Panel 4

HOPKINS gained sight of the forest line. He whips the reins once more, the horse speeds up. CERBERUS is still chasing after HOPKINS.

HOPKINS: FASTER!

Panel 5

They are in the forest. CERBERUS is closing into HOPKINS. HOPKINS is whipping the reins like mad. The horse can only run so fast.

HOPKINS: God help me!

Panel 6

A close up of the dog's maws ready to bite into HOPKINS' head. He looks into the dog's mouth.

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Panel 1

The cart wheels hits a rock in the pathway. The wheel breaks at impact.

Panel 2

The cart overturns. HOPKINS is sent flying into the pathway. CERBERUS trips over the overturned cart, somersaulting through the air.

Panel 3

The dog is lying on its side. HOPKINS is sitting up on the ground, dazed. He is all dusty, his arm bleeding from injuries. The dog's eyes remain white.

Panel 4

HOPKINS finds the CHARON's staff all broken up. CERBERUS is standing. His eyes are now black. The spell is broken.

Panel 5

CERBERUS leaps towards HOPKINS. Teeth gnashing. HOPKINS shields himself with his free arm.

Panel 6

CERBERUS is caught by the scruff of his neck by a gigantic hand behind the dog. The nails on the hand are long, pointy and black.

CEBRERUS is surprised he is caught by this neck. He is suspended above HOPKINS, who lowers his arm.

**Page 12**

Panel 1

The hand belongs to SATAN. He is gigantic and towers above HOPKINS, even the forest. He stands inside the crater where PRAVUS and CERBERUS came from.

SATAN is holding onto CERBERUS in one hand. The scale of SATAN makes CERBERUS is small and his hand wraps around the dog's body. CERBERUS is happy to see his master, even licks his fingers in appreciation.

SATAN is sporting 2 horns and a goatee.

Panel 2

SATAN's hand points down at HOPKINS who is standing looking at the hand before him. SATAN's voice booms.

SATAN: I believe you are responsible for this mess.

HOPKINS: Get thee behind me, Satan! It was Pravus's undoing.

Panel 3

SATAN is now angry.

SATAN: If you had done your job right, none of this would have happened!

SATAN: Thousands of my demons are out there. And I want them back.

HOPKINS (off panel): Do your own dirty work , Satan!

Panel 4

SATAN stares down HOPKINS, face to face.

SATAN: The fires in my domain are diminishing. I need those demons back.

HOPKINS: I won't be able to cast them back all. But I will not do it at your bidding.

SATAN: ENOUGH! You will find alternative means.

Panel 5

HOPKINS looks scared and horrified.

HOPKINS: You don't mean condemning innocents?

HOPKINS: I will not abide

Panel 6

SATAN is seriously ticked off. Veins are bugling around his neck. His teeth are clenched. His eyes are wide.

SATAN: YOU WILL OBEY!

SATAN: Or would you rather take their place? I can arrange that easily.

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Panel 1

HOPKINS bows his head. He says nothing. SATAN's voice booms above him.

SATAN: Are we in agreement?

SATAN: Very well!

Panel 2

HOPKINS is walking a sign which says GREAT YARMOUTH (5 miles). He walks with a limp. Arm is bleeding less.

HOPKINS (C-CAPTION): This morning, I was doing the Lord's work. Now I'm carrying out Satan's.

Panel 3

C-Caption: Elsewhere in the forest...

Another hunter is walking through the forest, holding a musket ( a type of weapon, rifle-like). He is on his own.

Panel 4

The hunter spots a dead Rottweiler on the forest floor. There is a large hole along the dog's belly. Blood pools next to the dog.

SFX: GROWLING (from background)

Panel 5

The hunter is being attacked by 3 puppies. The puppies are a cross breed of CERBERUS and Rottweiler. Each puppy has 3 heads.

The hunter screams as the puppies bites into him.

The End