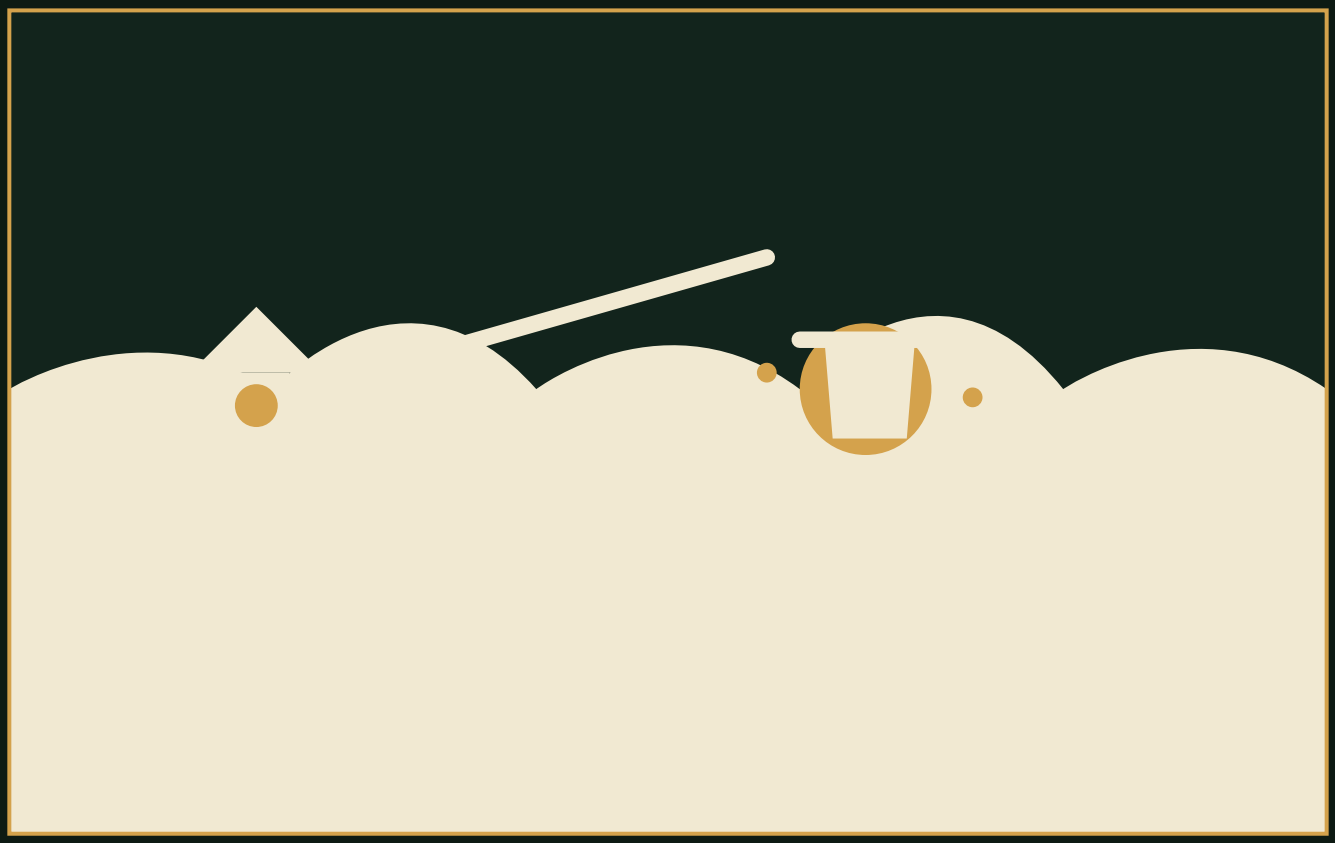
The Light on Hare Down

Reedwatch, on the Saltmere Reach



Reedwatch's tower is meant to watch the sea. For ten nights the watch has been turning round to stare inland, at a light on the downs that is counting at them.

Talewick Quests — original content, free to print and play.

Read this to your players to start

A light out on Hare Down has been counting at Reedwatch’s watchtower for ten nights, and nobody left in the tower knows the code. Find out what it is saying, and answer it before the weather it is warning about gets here.

Who's in this adventure

The Weather off the Downs

Heart Points 2 · Guard 20

None. It is rain and a west wind. It has never once come at a person.

A Shutter-Lamp

Heart Points 1 · Guard 3

None. It is a lamp in a box with a hinged flap on the front.

A Hare

Heart Points 1 · Guard 14

None. A hare is a long-legged field animal that would rather be somewhere else.

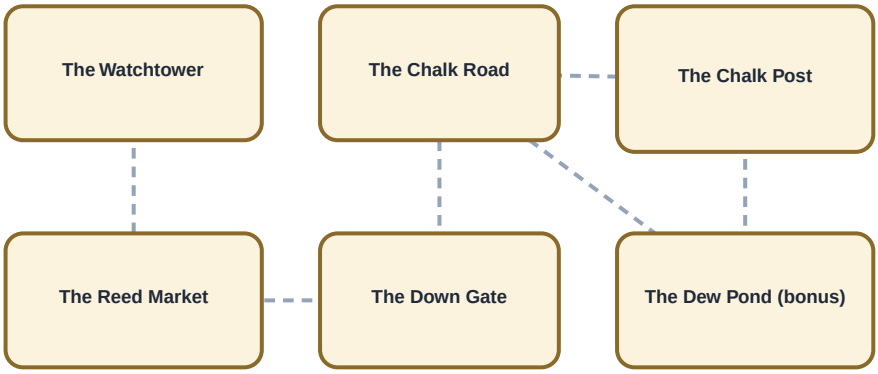
Tips for running this one

• The answer is a skipping rhyme, and that is on purpose, not a twist you spring. If a player reaches for spies or a curse, do not stop them: keep the town loud and open about the light, keep the gate-book honest, and let a rope-skipper sing the rhyme nearby again.

• Nothing in this adventure fights. If a player reaches for a sword, have nobody on the other side reach back, and let the scene stay a conversation about weather.

• Nobody is missing and nobody is in danger, Halder and Rue included: they are up there on purpose, with sheep, water, a hut and food, doing a job. Play the climax as an answer arriving, not as a rescue.

Map



The trail runs from the tower down into the Reed Market for the rhyme, out through the Down Gate for the gate-book and a shutter-lamp, and up the chalk road to the post. At the Epic length it passes the dew pond, the only place in the Reach where the water comes out of the air. The Quick Quest can go straight from the tower to the post and still land.

SHOW YOUR PLAYERS THIS

Pel’s Tally Page

A page from a young runner’s notebook, ruled by hand and kept beautifully. Ten rows, one for each night, and every row the same: three marks, a gap, four marks, a gap, five marks. Then the whole row again, and again, until the marks run off the edge. Beside each row, a tiny sun going down, and a tiny moon at the end, because it always starts at sunset and stops at full dark. At the bottom, underlined twice: "SAME EVERY NIGHT."