

Purity Lake.

'A crowded, foul-smelling, soot-choked warren, overcrowded with the children of now second-generation factory workers, surrounding a pool that every day more resembles sludge than water.'

How long has the Ragman been stalking the streets? What are all the strange symbols and what do they mean. The victims disappear into the polluted waters and the crowded slums are full to bursting, so what if a few disappear. There are always new arrivals.

One who refuses to forget is the eccentric and wandering female Puppeteer called Miss Fortune. This street performer travels the districts from Purity to the Nettles performing street shows and picking up bits and pieces of news and stories as she weaves through the streets and alleys. Her popularity means a trail of children can always be found tramping after her wherever she goes. Uru has gotten to know the strange woman, and unlike most, who think her as being a little touched in the head, Uru thinks she is one of the few inhabitants, after Tinker Jack and little Jack, who do not find Uru unnerving. Miss Fortune's shows have always seems a little unnerving, as even before the murders, she had a rag-doll Marionette who snatched naughty boys, and some say that she can make others dance on strings as much as his puppets. Some even whisper that the plays she acts out foretell of evils to come.

