People of Valponte

Locals of the story arc · Proposal for the full game



From the design documents

TYPE	Locals (NPCs) of the story arc
LOCATION	Valponte, Acquatinta, the polje; the gold road in Egypt
STORY	The Weighmaster's Funeral
STATUS	**Proposal** for the full game (Act 1); every name a working name, *Unconfirmed — awaiting the director*

The story, as you play it

These are the people of The Weighmaster's Funeral. You meet them in a market town on the day it buries its Weighmaster.

The mourners. Lapo Rinaldi, the Weighmaster, was loved, and he lies in the coffin. His daughter Bice does not believe he fell, and hunts his killer. Guido Castellani, Vella's father, was his oldest friend and carries the coffin. Tonino the gravedigger buys more bread than one man eats.

The town. Agata keeps the toll and counts every cart. Assunta, a farmer, has lost her wagons and her son. Sigvat, a grey northerner, asks everyone about his missing partner.

Further along. Orsola is the dye-master of Acquatinta, the dyers' town. In Egypt, Ameny ships alum and does not look up.

How it ends Spoilers

The town is grieving a man who is not dead. Lapo skimmed the Iron King's gold, drowned the tallyman sent to find the shortfall, and hides in the catacombs. Tonino knows, and the bread is for him. Guido lent Lapo the bridge stamp that made the gold clean. Orsola boils the gold out of the alum. Sigvat is Jarnborg's Tallyman, and the drowned man was his brother.

The people of Valponte are the locals of the proposed arc The Weighmaster's Funeral, in Valponte, Acquatinta, the polje and, at the end, Meneferu and the pass road.

> ***A design proposal for the full game (Act 1). Nothing here is built; every name is a working name.*** *Unconfirmed — awaiting the director.*

Valponte

Lapo Rinaldi, the Weighmaster

Sixty-one, big-bellied, quick, a laugh you hear across the square; plays the horn in the town band. Vella's "uncle", not by blood, who carried her up the river stairs in his coat the spring Nico fell. Honest for forty years, and then not. Talks in weights and jokes; cornered, he is reasonable, which is worse.

- "Forty years I weighed this valley honest. You know what that's worth, at the end? Forty years."

Bice Rinaldi

His daughter and clerk, twenty-six: ink to the wrist, a black kerchief, precise and short and angry under it. She saw the "re-pair" nights and asked nothing. After the arc she gives the *Assaying* profession quest; in ending A she becomes Weighmistress.

- "He didn't fall. He swam under that bridge every morning of his life. Even in March."

The Castellani

Vella's family (proposal, from Vella's page).

- **Guido**, her father: big, loud, on the bridge council, weeps at a funeral without shame and can say no to no one. He lent Lapo the bridge stamp and the family tomb's key. "I never asked him why. You don't ask Lapo why. Lapo asks you."
- **Ilaria**, her mother: keeps the books better than anyone and reads a ledger upside down across a table. She lays the table for five, and she is the one who finds the stamp's wear.
- **Nico**, her brother, nineteen: wants to be like his sister, and goes into the drain alone (side chain 1).

The town

- **Tonino**, the gravedigger (55): deaf in one ear; knows the coffin held a stranger and carries two loaves to the knoll at night. "I bury who they bring me."
- **Agata**, the toll-keeper (70): counts every cart, lamp and dog on a slate. "I count. I don't ask. Asking's extra."
- **Mastro Beppe**, the miller (45): found the body in his race. "I sell eels. I'll not eat one this year."
- **Sergeant Mirko**, at the Gradina toll: his men are paid from the Weighhouse, and the pay is late.
- **Gerardo**, the smith; **Ugo**, the tower keeper.
- **Grano**, Lapo's dog, who lies at the catacomb grate and not on the grave.

Acquatinta

- **Mastra Orsola**, the dye-master (52): blue to the elbows, a voice that carries over vats. She boils the gold out of the alum and believes it is tax-dodging. "Ragosa shut its gates and my red went nowhere for a year. Then a cask came that paid."
- **Rocco**, her foreman (35): a cask hook on his belt, paid in puppet silver; runs the night carts. A boss.
- **Donna Clelia**, the bath-keeper (60): brisk, kind, counts towels. Gives side chain 2.
- **Senbi**, a Meneferu clerk taking the waters (40): thin, polite, never gets better; the factor's watcher, kept abroad for a debt.
- **Fosco**, an old tawer: the *Tawing* profession quest.

The land between

- **Assunta**, who runs the polje farm (50): her wagons and her son went out and did not come back.
- **Matteo**, her son (22), a carter, held at the Castellaccio. "I saw Lapo's lantern at the ford. The night after they buried him."

From the north

- **Sigvat, the Tallyman** (45): Jarnborg's paymaster's man, grey, neat, counts under his breath, an iron tally chain at his belt; poses as a wool buyer. If he goes home without the short, he hangs. "I count for a living. My brother did too. One of us is missing." A boss.
- **Ketil**, his brother (dead): two fingers lost to a winch. Buried in Lapo's grave; seen only by Vella.

Egypt

- **Ameny**, the alum factor on Meneferu's east quays (50): soft, careful, fanning himself. "I ship what comes down. I am not paid to look up."
- **Medjira**, the dyers' court (from Meneferu).
- **Paser**, the Pit Master of the White Pits (40). A boss.

Sources: docs/plan/full_game/island1_valponte_act1.md §3 (VALP-STORY, 2026-11-18); wiki/Characters/Vella.md (the Castellani).
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