**Fates of Role Play Characters**

**Thomas Allstadt**

Thomas, his father, and their slave were taken prisoner by Brown’s men. Both father and son survived the ordeal.

**Jeremiah Anderson**

He was killed in action in the Engine House. On the subject of his fight for freedom, he once stated, “Millions of fellow-beings require it of us; their cries for help go out to the universe daily and hourly. Whose duty is it to help them? Is it yours? Is it mine?...” He was 27 when he died.

**Osborn P. Anderson**

He escaped from the Arsenal building and later served in the Union Army as a non-commissioned officer. He survived the war and wrote the only African American first-hand account of the raid.

**Captain Turner Ashby**

He served as a cavalry general in the Confederate Army. Ashby was killed in a rear-guard action near Harrisonburg, Virginia, on June 6, 1862. In regards to the Civil War, Ashby would comment, “the war began not at (Fort) Sumter but at Harpers Ferry.”

**John Avis**

He was Brown’s jailor. Avis and his wife ate dinner with John Brown and his wife the evening before Brown’s execution. Brown presented Avis with his watch as a present for the kindness he had shown Brown during his incarceration. Avis served in the Confederate Army and survived the war.

**Fontaine Beckham**

The mayor of Harpers Ferry, he was killed by John Brown’s men on the afternoon of October 17. According to his will, his slaves, Sarah Gilbert and her children, were to be set free upon his death. Sarah and her children were the only slaves freed as a result of John Brown’s raid.

**Thomas Boerly**

He was killed in action during the raid at about 7:30 a.m. on October 17, 1859.

**John Wilkes Booth**

He was an actor and the assassin of President Lincoln. He was killed during capture in Caroline County, Virginia. His family wrote a public apology to the American people.

**Annie Brown**

She migrated out to California with her mother and brothers. She taught school to African American students in both Virginia during the Civil War and in California. She married a carriage-maker and blacksmith. She had eleven children; eight survived childhood. She died in 1926, the last surviving child of John Brown.

**John Brown**

He was captured in the Engine House, tried, and hanged. He was 59 years old at the time of his death. He is buried in North Elba, New York.

**Martha Brown**

She died in premature childbirth along with her newborn daughter, five months after her husband’s death at Harpers Ferry.

**Oliver Brown**

He was 21 years old when he was killed in action in the Engine House. His wife Martha died during childbirth five months later.

**Owen Brown**

He led the escape from Maryland Heights back home to North Elba, NY. He eventually migrated out to California with his brother Jason in the 1880s. He never married. The last of the raiders to die, he was buried in his mountain home in Pasadena in 1899.

**Watson Brown**

He was killed in action in the Engine House. He was 24 years old. He was survived by his wife, Isabella, and their young son. His son only lived to his fifth year.

**Joseph Brua**

Even though he was a prisoner of Brown, Brua acted very nobly towards his captors. He urged the citizens not to fire, for fear that they would hit the hostages. He rescued the body of wounded raider Aaron Stevens and then returned to his state of captivity. He survived the raid.

**John Cook**

He escaped from Maryland Heights. His identity was discovered in Chambersburg, PA during an attempt to acquire food. He was captured, returned to Charlestown, VA, tried, and hanged. His wife, whom he met in Harpers Ferry just prior to the raid, survived him. Miss Mary Kennedy knew nothing of her husband’s connections to abolitionism or John Brown until the raid occurred. While in jail, Cook wrote a pamphlet entitled “Confession,” describing his actions in Kansas and Virginia. He was considered the “Judas” of the raid party.

**John Copeland**

He was imprisoned for some time in Cleveland for his role in aiding fugitive slave John Price’s escape in the famous Oberlin incident. Surrounded at Hall’s Rifle Works, Copeland was captured, tried, and hanged. During the trial he earned respect for his conduct, intelligence, and education. Prosecutor Andrew Hunter made the observation that if he “had had the power and could have concluded to pardon any man among them, he was the man.…” He wrote his family, “I die in trying to liberate a few of my poor and oppressed people…”

**Barclay Coppoc**

He was on Maryland Heights and escaped. He served as 1st lieutenant of the 3rd Kansas Infantry. He died in service during the war when his transport train fell into the Platte River from a trestle 40 feet above the water. The Confederates had burned the supports for the trestle. He was buried in Leavenworth, Kansas.

**Edwin Coppoc**

During the raid Edwin shot and killed the mayor of Harpers Ferry, Fontaine Beckham. He was captured at the Engine House, tried, and hanged. His widowed mother and younger brother, Barclay, survived him. He is buried in Salem, Ohio.

**John Dangerfield**

He survived the raid and did not harbor bad feelings towards Brown. He said that Brown “had made me a prisoner, but had spared my life and that of other gentlemen in his power; and when his sons were shot down beside him, almost any other man similarly situated would have exacted life for life.”

**Frederick Douglass**

After the raid, Douglass feared for his life and fled to England. He helped raise two black regiments in Massachusetts during the American Civil War. Later, he served as a government official in the District of Colombia and was a diplomat to Haiti.

**Mahala Doyle**

In her letter to Brown in jail Doyle said, “Although vengeance is not mine, I confess that I do feel gratified to hear that you were stopped in your fiendish career at Harpers Ferry, with the loss of your two sons, you can appreciate my distress in Kansas when you then and there entered my house at midnight and arrested my husband and two boys, and took them out of the yard and in cold blood shot them dead in my hearing. You can’t say that you did it to free slaves. We had none and never expected to own one.”

**Colonel John T. Gibson**

He went on to join the Confederate Army and was paroled at Appomattox. After the war he eventually became mayor of Charles Town.

**Lieutenant Israel Green**

He was the lieutenant who led the charge into the Engine House and subdued John Brown. He served as an adjutant and inspector for the Confederate Marine Corps. After the war, he migrated out to Mitchell, South Dakota, and died in 1909, 50 years after the raid.

**Shields Green**

He was captured at the Engine House, tried, and hanged. It is believed he was 23 years old at the time of the raid. The Winchester Medical College took his remains for study.

**Albert Hazlett**

He was able to escape during the raid. He was eventually captured in Carlisle, PA and taken to Charlestown with the rest of the captured raiders. Even though all the surviving raiders claimed not to have known Albert, he was put on trial anyway. He was found guilty and hanged.

**Major Thomas Jonathan Jackson**

He and his VMI cadets witnessed John Brown’s execution. Later known as “Stonewall,” he served as a Confederate general until he was wounded on May 2, 1863 at Chancellorsville from fire from his own men. He died from pneumonia complications several days later. His wife and young daughter survived him.

**John Kagi**

He was sent to secure Hall’s Rifle Works. Seeing that he was outnumbered, he attempted to escape across the Shenandoah River. He was shot and killed while trying to do this.

**Lewis S. Leary**

He was sent to secure Hall’s Rifle Works. Seeing that he was outnumbered, he attempted to escape across the Shenandoah River. He was shot while trying to make it across. He died ten hours later. While awaiting his death he desperately pleaded with a reporter to write a farewell message to his wife.

**Lieutenant Colonel Robert E. Lee**

After being offered the command of the Federal Army, which he declined, he resigned his commission in the United States Army and later became the commanding general of the Army of Northern Virginia. After the war, he served as President of Washington College in Lexington, Virginia. He died in October 1871 at the age of 64.

**William Leeman**

He attempted to escape across the Potomac River. While doing so two militiamen shot him at point-blank range. The citizens of Harpers Ferry used Leeman’s corpse for target practice while it was still in the river.

**Mary Mauzy**

She was outraged by Brown’s actions. After the raid she became outspoken in favor of Southern rights and joined in the fundraising efforts for the local militia groups.

**Francis Merriam**

He escaped from Maryland Heights and later served as a captain of the U.S. 3rd South Carolina colored troops. He survived the war.

**Dangerfield Newby**

He was killed in action near the railroad bridge. The citizens mutilated his body, slicing off parts for souvenirs. Newby’s mutilated corpse was then eaten by hogs. His slave wife and children were sold south to Louisiana.

**Marine Private Luke Quinn**

He was killed in action by John Brown’s men while retaking the Engine House on the morning of October 18, 1859. He was buried in the Catholic cemetery in Harpers Ferry.

**Edmund Ruffin**

Ruffin was present at the firing on Fort Sumter. He committed suicide after the Army of Northern Virginia surrendered at Appomattox Courthouse.

**Heyward Shepherd**

He was wounded by John Brown’s men at about 1:30 a.m. on October 17. He died that afternoon. His wife and children survived him and lived in Winchester, Virginia.

**Dr. John Starry**

Starry played a prominent role during the raid. He tried to nurse the injured Heyward Shepherd back to health. He was also instrumental in alarming and organizing the citizens to help put down the raid. Starry even prevented the lynching of raider John Copeland.

**Aaron Stevens**

He was wounded while carrying a white flag of truce. He was captured in the Engine House, tried, and hanged. One prisoner described him as the bravest of the raiders. While awaiting his execution Stevens wrote in a letter to a friend, “I am glad that I did not die from my wounds, for I believe that my execution upon the gallows will be a better testimony for truth and liberty.”

**Lieutenant J.E.B. “Jeb” Stuart**

He became a Confederate general and cavalry leader. He was wounded at Yellow Tavern on May 11, 1864 and died the next day. He was 31 years old at the time of his death.

**Stewart Taylor**

He was killed during the raid in the Engine House. He was buried in a mass grave along with the other raiders. In 1899 his body was secretly exhumed and moved to North Elba, New York.

**Dauphin Thompson**

He was killed in action when the Marines stormed the Engine House. Dauphin was bayoneted as he tried to crawl underneath a fire engine.

**William Thompson**

He was taken prisoner by the citizens of Harpers Ferry. After Mayor Fontaine Beckham was killed the citizens took William to the railroad bridge, shot him, and then threw him into the river. Still alive, he managed to reach one of the piers, where he was discovered and riddled with bullets by the enraged citizens.

**Charles Plummer Tidd**

He escaped from Maryland Heights. He served as the 1st Sergeant of the 21st Massachusetts volunteers. He died in service of a fever at the Battle of Roanoke on February 8, 1862.

**George Turner**

He was killed in action during the raid at about 2 p.m. on October 17, 1859.

**Colonel Lewis Washington**

Brown’s men took Washington and his slaves prisoner. Brown confiscated a sword owned by Washington that belonged to his famous relative, George Washington. Brown wore that sword at his side during the raid. Washington survived the raid and testified against John Brown during the ensuing trial.

**Daniel Whelan**

He was the second prisoner taken. Brown approached him and exclaimed, “I came here from Kansas, and this is a slave state; I want to free all the Negroes in this state; I have now possession of the United States Armory…” Whelan survived the raid and testified against Brown during the ensuing trial.

**William Williams**

He was the first prisoner taken. His father Samuel was also a prisoner. Both father and son survived the raid.

**Henry Wise**

He served as a major general in the Confederate Army and survived the war. He interviewed John Brown while he was awaiting trial. Wise was instrumental in making sure that Brown was put on trial in the State of Virginia and not in a federal court.

**Daniel J. Young**

He supported the Union during the Civil War. He was a captain in charge of ordinance at Harpers Ferry. After the war, he received commission to the regular army as a captain. When he retired, he moved to Troy, New York where he died in 1895.