



The

# Poodle Mulch

Progress Report

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Sponsored by Whorple Great Axes. You'll lose your head over the crappy spelling!

Issue XXXVIII

After a decent game in which roll20 didn't go as haywire as the DM thought, the party finished the last few "elk" miles and arrived at Veradic. Now it wasn't that the dwarves were unfriendly toward the little kobold named Noctis, but, well . . . actually they were kind of dicks.

In any event the people of the city didn't like seeing an unleashed/uncaged kobold/draconothel running around in their midst. The poor, innocent, never kill a dwarf and his brother just for wearing the wrong crest kinda kobold was over charged and dissed at every opportunity.

The party didn't waste time in getting a room and their gear repaired, and items bought and sold. Although they didn't find a magic shop, they did find a peculiar dwarf named Tombaq, who paid more than market prices for their magic items and seemed eager to buy more. Strange.

Later, Lykos and Squirk went to the local wizards' guild called the Hand of the Diamond. There, they were questioned about what they intended to use their magic for in Veradic before receiving two-week permits to practice their craft within the city. They also inquired about having some magic items made.

Dolly seemed to be in a chipper mood since meeting Vathroxi. When asked why, she indicated that the dragon had told her that if she wanted to be alive, she would need help from Tarkoff in Othgloom and the Boreoans. What's this? Another plot twist? God damned Curtis.

The next day, Bryhildr attended the private conference of Kharsallis priest and the Supreme High Priest Golshaank. She learned some surprising news and advised the party that the Supreme High Priest Golshaank made an important message. Evidently, there are priests of other gods who have been carefully behind fostering hostilities with wizards. The ones they know about are:

- a. Avizor: believed to have created objects that inhibit the summoning of arcane magic
- b. Su Reh: priests in Dockrawlin have been caught attacking innocents in the guise of local wizards to frame them. Others have been buying up magic items as quickly as they can.
- c. Thirion: priests and followers in several countries like Regdon, Maharool, and the Hestrillite Empire have been attacking wizards.
- d. Ianlia: a group of priests have been searching the lands for evidence of the "Heavens Eyes" which are supposedly points on Irith where the barriers between the prime and the positive/negative material planes are weaker.

e. Breahal: it's been discovered in cities in Poulcea, Sestillion, Crikhrad, and Regdon, there are powerful men who are followers of Breahal who have been preaching against wizards and trying to enact laws against them.

f. Vor: a group of men dressed as priests of Toh Pahna in the city of Ulkri in Kharamis attacked a wizards' college, killing several students.

Golshaank strongly believes that there may be other gods involved, but the reason for this trend is unknown. Golshaank is tasking his followers to investigate what is going on and to identify any gods that might be behind this. There was also an incident where someone painted graffiti on the side of the temple saying "The All-Creator is Above All."

At some point, Squirk had a little crystal ball chat with Filoriac and revealed the additional information that she had discovered about the Corux. Filoriac was quite disappointed when Squirk informed him that Vathroxi would not be able to supply more tears for the cure or any additional information.

Noctis also did some poking around and discovered that Aballanak was supposedly a god living in the mountains to the northwest. A dwarf lord named Zerqsus Bloodhammer and his clan worshipped Aballanak, and they were called the Black Fist of the One. Zerqsus also owned the Tollthrex mines up there.

Anyway, after getting training from some interesting trainers within Veradic, like an elven bard, a brass dragonborn, a barbarian dwarf, and a dwarf sorceress, the party gathered their magic items from the Hand of the Diamond. All resupplied and ready to go, the Misfits filled their tanks with 120 octane Premium Elk gasoline, and hauled ass into the mountains.

At some point, they came across some goblins. Not waiting for anything, the Misfits took them out. Now, of course no one could have possibly guessed, it, but their actions triggered a goblin ambush. Not only that, Curtis tossed in a couple of nasty fire giants for sport.

The Misfits took out the goblins in short order and turned their attention to the giants. With Brynhildr forgetting that she had an intelligent giant-hating axe in her possession, Merle decided that she wanted to knock some blood off her Cool Whipple Great Axe (wip or whhhhhip?) and went on the attack. In one fell swoop, she took the giant's head clean off. Nice job! The battle didn't last long as the others jumped in took out the second big guy.

After collecting loot and taking a little rest, the Misfits moved on. It just so happened that a covered wagon driven by a pair of dwarves appeared coming toward the party. When Noctis noticed that they bore the crest of the Black Fist of the One. After the dwarves answered a few questions in which they revealed that keep was close head and that the Citadel of Stars where Aballanak lived was just beyond, Noctis killed one of them. The party, in support of their maniacal kobold, jumped in and knocked out the other one.

The party came to the keep and decided it best to bypass it so they could get to Lucieth's home and drop off the Boreoans and one lucky NPC so they could teleport the rest to Bog Bolder for a little snip snip.

The Misfits arrived at Lucieth's place, a keep in the mountains just to the south of the Garland City of Vusjak. The place wasn't too big but had style. The only inhabitants were a husband and wife and their two kids (all servants) and Bustet, Lucieth's elderly mother. After everyone had washed up and eaten din din, Lucieth took them downstairs to meet his associate.

The party arrived at a laboratory, where they saw an insect man working with some chemicals. Lucieth introduced him as B'Karm, who went into another room to fetch someone else. To everyone's astonishment, B'Karm returned with an eye tyrant in tow. OH NO!!!!

