



The

# Poodle Mulch

Progress Report

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Sponsored by Lack-o-Plan Rescue Plans. When rushing in is much better idea!

Issue XLI

In this episode of *Those Wacky Misfits*, our party piddled around outside Nakiri's Brothel while their friend inside was obLIVIA's to the situation. Eventually, Lucieth and Merle charged through the front door and engaged some really tough 3<sup>rd</sup> level guards for a few rounds. Eventually, Jillynn Pi joined in for some laughs to help.

The rest of the party went through a window either invisibly, or flying, or both. They caught the madame of the brothel and the assassin Kittorina by surprise. Squirk turned Livia into a snail, but Brynhildr couldn't grab her, so she slithered away.

A nice multi-round battle ensued between the party, the guards, the assassin, and the cambion. Things went back and forth, with Livia turning back into Livia before getting transformed back into a snail. I think Squirk might be French. Naw, she would have retreated at the first sign of battle.

Anyway, it took some time before Livia was bagged and the party gathered around Lykos. Pat's favorite backup character teleported the party and their frightened prisoner with the memory lapse back to Quillon and safety.

Squirk went to the main guild's tower to see her momma and poppa to let them know what happened. She was disheartened to find that Phappiri was bedridden and unable to cast magic anymore for fear of making her illness worse.

With daddy's help Squirk and the party transformed Livia back to her normal self and quickly got a grip on her. Squirk cast several Detect Thoughts spells on Livia and came to the conclusion that she really didn't know who she and the others were. The information about her memories being placed in a vessel seemed to be true.

Squirk determined through Livia's current thoughts that Gray Eye had taken her below the castle into a pair of roundish rooms, one of which contained alcoves in the walls. Within the alcoves were small wire stands supporting golf ball sized gems. Gray Eye had told Livia that they contained the memories of those he had loved, hated, called enemies, etc.

The party theorized that one of them contained Livia's memories. It would not be easy getting back there. Squirk also found that Livia was trying to hide the fact that she had a small gem secreted on her person which Gray Eye could use to find her. Realizing the danger they might be putting Squirk's family in, the party decided to go.

A Quillon wizard whom Squirk knew named Myra, used a teleportation circle to take the party to Regdon City before returning home. Thinking fast, Andromeda smashed Gray Eye's locator gem. With Livia bound and silenced, the party made their way quickly south a few miles from Regdon City before teleporting to Lucieth's home.

They arrived to find Lucieth's home had been destroyed. A shield leaning against what used to be the door displayed a red field upon which was a black fist with a small flame . . . The Black Fist of the One. Noctis was a wee bit miffed.

After looking around, Lucieth found everyone gone except Khaligren, who lay critically wounded. After some lesser restorations and healing, the beholder came around. He said that the attack came quickly. The only friendly body left in the house was B'Karm the Thri Kreen. Roger, Phillips, Gene, and Bustet were nowhere to be found, most likely taken as prisiners by the dwarves.

With an incensed Lucieth in tow, the Misifits quickly made their way to Vusjak, which lay only a few miles away. Lucieth guided everyone to a friendly wizard named Grue, who agreed to keep Livia safe while the party went to retrieve their friends. Grue was particularly thankful when Squirk gave him the low down on the wizards' disease spreading across the continent.

The party set out toward Zerqsus's dwarven stronghold to have a little chit chat. They made it to the city of Brahmm, where Jillynn seemed to be on her game. She wowed a crowd in the city square and was even offered a gig playing at the Browser Tavern. When the party decided to stick around for the night at the Browser, Jillynn gave another great performance earned her some butter 'n egg money

Bryn went to a local temple of Kharsallis and discovered that the All Creator worshippers were starting to recruit young dwarves as followers. Bryn also found that the power center for the All Creators was in Mearish City on the easter border of the Dwarflands.

The next morning, the party traveled to the dwarven keep. When next we meet, Noctis and Bolinda will be doing the sneaky boogie around the keep. Will the Misfits be able to handle the kind of unexpected surprise that awaits them? I doubt it. At least it'll be another three or four levels before they get Livia's memories back.

