Session 7 - 21JUL2024

Attendees

- Tim
- Walter
- Erica
- Jin
- Nick
- Alex

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Recap to Current Situation

- We researched dragon necklaces, made friends with a single mom and kid, and ended up getting transported to a mysterious place from Erica's dreams...

Session Notes

- The figure in this room apologizes for the abrupt way in which we were summoned
- He says that we can refer to him as "The Archivist," working for the Council of the Few
- He was unaware of us until we started making inquiries into dragon artifacts
- When he learned more about us, he was relieved to find out that we were not the other group of mercenaries, members of Red Omen
- He asks if we want to do some work for him to work against the Red Omen
- Red Omen info
  - order that existed >3000 years ago
  - thought not to exist any longer
  - if it was alive, but in hiding, then it is likely most well informed about artifacts
- The Archivist is hoping that we can help go to the Grayogen Empire to ask the Empress (also known as the Oba), Lalali-puy, for cooperation against the Red Omen
- He says to ask the Empress, "Are you aware that Rajat still exists?"
- He can also help us get into the Empire
- Currently the Empire is having trouble with rural villages having their population suddenly disappear
- We hand The Archivist the amulet to examine and he says that the Cantrell family history about heroes is likely exaggerated

    - Upon inspection, he believes that the amulet belonged to Naezo, a dragon heroine that protected the weak with a fiery temper
    - Her residual magic resides in the amulet
- The Archivist thinks that the hobgoblins were being attacked because the Red Omen wishes for hobgoblin extermination (as one of their goals)
- We also ask The Archivist about "The One," previous owner of the VARDIS
    - He says that The One is an extra-dimensional being, history is full of them
    - Striking up bargains with warlocks to grant temporary power for some future cost
    - Most beings like this try to remain anonymous, so The One might be a bit different in that regard
    - In his youth, The Archivist ran across a similar being that The Archivist turned down
- Jin asks The Archivist about the Graves family
    - Investigating birth records, Mrs. Graves is 35 years old, no father of the kids on record
    - Completely unremarkable
- > Quest begin: Seek audience with the Empress and collaborate to thwart the Red Omen
- Next steps:
    - Go back to Wudu, say our goodbyes, fetch our VARDIS (and Porkchop)
    - Head outside of town, somewhere unseen, teleport away to the Grayogen Empire
    - Doing this, Jin inspects Osulf, the kid, and finds traces of magic on one of his shoes
- Jin reads the scroll to use the teleportation scroll
- He does a great job and we teleport right to where we were meant to, just inside the border of the Grayogen Empire
- We are in a temperate rainforest (think Pacific NW), weather is a little windy with light mist
- Our VARDIS is now located on the side of the road
- There is some motion ahead of us on the road, with armored humans approaching us
- Nick recognizes the banners as the colors of the Grayogen Empire
- Walter and Erica are driving the VARDIS and greet the soldiers
- We are welcomed by the soldiers due to our paperwork
- They want us to help them out with some things and will offer us a payment of 100 gold
- The captain's name is Adare Havsa
- We are asked to investigate a village whose population recently disappeared
- Villages have been disappearing since 5 months ago
- New village disappears each three weeks like clockwork
- Looks like people just literally disappeared
- ~30 soldiers in the town
- Upon investigating:
    - The captain says this happened ~3 weeks ago
    - However, nature has reclaimed too much to have just happened a couple weeks back
    - The recent growth in the forest show that the tree roots are all growing in one direction toward the town
- We ask if there is a map of the empire with the town that have disappeared

    - The map shows that the towns closer to their border have been effected first, moving closer to the center of the empire
- It is clear from arcana investigation that magic is influencing the natural growth here, possibly from a spirit of some kind
- Detecting magic reveals that this is due to the effect of transmutation magic
- We relay all this to the guards
- Bordering countries:
    - Acium
    - Whisper of Revan
    - Cormendia
    - some other one I missed the name of
- Our current plan:
    - This happens every three week - this village was the most recent one - it happened here ~3 weeks ago
    - Next village over is ~1 day from here
    - We are going to head over to the next village and get that village evacuated
- We quickly make our way over to the next village over
- We approach the city with the message that the villagers are in danger due to a rampaging nature spirit
    - We ask for volunteers from within the populace to help fight back
    - Erica tries to persuade the residents to help out, but fails
    - However, Jin lies to them about being helpful and is able to gather ~10 posse members to help out and get a couple families to skip town (~20 people)
- That evening, the weather was remarkably average for that time of year and location...
- Jin sets out members of his posse on patrol
- After a couple patrol rounds, one of our patrol groups fails to return
- The missing patrol last went to the North of the village
- Investigating where the patrol went missing, we see drag marks heading into the forest
    - There is nothing unusual about the trees/roots
- We ask the other posse members to rouse the town and gather in the center of town since there seems to be some kind of attack
- The group goes deeper into the forest, looking for what caused the patrol to go missing
- We are assaulted by a sweet smell and survive a charisma saving throw
- We know enough to know that we just survived an attempt to put us to sleep
- As Nick asks some nearby roots about what is going on, we are assaulted by some tree people (Blights X6)
- > Roll Initiative
- We killed the blights and Nick is almost dead, but Erica is able to reluctantly save him
- > Combat ends

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