Campaign/Game: Dark Sun - Freedom: D&D 5e   **Date**: August 11th, 2022
Episode 2: Ziggurat, Sewers, and Villa

Characters

Dalis Six String, Human Bard -3 (Keith E)
Grunk Hamfist, Half-Giant Barbarian - 3 (Adam J)
Nysos Chel, Half-Elf Druid - 3 (Preston J)
Jinx, Halfling Rogue - 3 (Rachel Y)
Krikik, Thri-Kreen Ranger - 3 (Becca)
Urrgos, Half-Giant Warrior (NPC)

DM: Andrew

As the episode begins, we review the state of our player characters. Krikik and Grunk have been imprisoned for participating in a riot with Urrgos. Sorak has been taken off to fight with the gladiators along with Lissan.

After a few days of forced labor, the heroes find themselves up on the ziggurat. It is back-breaking work, and one of the other slaves goes mad in the heat. He attacks an overseer, killing him and ripping off his arm to use as a weapon. He charges the heroes, but Urrgos and Grunk slow him down enough for Dalis to calm the mul down. Following Jinx, the whole crew uses this moment to make their escape. Jinx deceives the guards into thinking that Dalis is in fact the new overseer for their work detail. Nysos helps the party move silently past a group of mouthy slaves. Finally, a well-placed telekinetic mage hand from Krikik starts a fight between two other slaves covering the way for the group's escape into the Elven Quarter.

There, Jinx helps the group look less like slaves by purchasing clothes for them all. Krikik buys an Indiana-Jones explorer hat. Urrgos buys a fez.Krikik is nearly caught shoplifting, but Jinx pays a bribe to keep them all from being attacked and re-enslaved. They regroup, thinking of where they might find Sadria, the half-elf who is Jinx's next target. Urrgos gets a new nickname, "tasty handsome" and "beefcake"

They head to the arena, where they break into the kitchers. Grunk prepares a repast of hearty stew for the party, and dumps the slop created by the new cooks all over the floor. The party ponders their next move. They head to the "tall pointy wine bar" to meet with Prithien and Nandex, the two elves Nysos saw threatening the half-elves when he was enslaved. They are snarky and jeer at Jinx for not being able to locate Sadria for them.

As the party leaves, they try to steal two casks of pumpkin wine, only to be confronted by half giant guards and dwarf overseers in a back alley. A brutal fight ensues. The heroes kill all the guards and overseers and take their stuff.

The party decides that since Sadria is probably an "underground figure" they head for Tyr's dry sewer system. They encounter a peaceful man, nearly dead, dragging himself deeper into the complex. Nysos revives the wounded man, and he introduces himself as Korgunaard. The party feels comforted by his presence, and he leads the party to the underground home of the Veiled Alliance. They meet the scarred Granj, the sweaty dwarf Puig, the spicy halfling ascetic Skalkia, and the half-elf Sadria who was the original target of Jinx's search. Krikik threatens to eat Puig for his role in spilling gruel on the kreen.

The members of the Alliance treat Korgunaard with reverence and respect. There is a peaceful and serene manner about him, that catches the heroes attention. Sadria explains that the Alliance believes that the ziggurat's purpose is to drain the life essence of the entire city, perhaps the entire region, in an effort to transform into something hideous - a dragon. Sadria gives the party an offer to help, and they accept.

They are given magic items and offered a position in the alliance if they can get a book from the villa of the two elves Prithen and Nandex. They accept. They sneak up on the plantation of the two elves. Jinx and Nysos hang back while Grunk and Krikik charge the left flank aided by Urrgos. Dalis invisibly engages the two elves, matching them weapon for spell.

Nandex escapes, Prithien is captured by Nysos' magic and slain to be eaten by Krikik. Jinx squirms into the villa and comes back with the alien copper-plate book. The heroes are accepted into the Alliance, and are asked to help.

Next game we should be level 4.