

Campaign/Game: Saturday Showups - D&D 5e

Date: July 1st, 2023

Session 10: Wherein the Showups fight against the servants of the great dragon Cismarthy

Characters

Alys, Dwarven Sorcerer/Warlock (Sheila)

Bull in China Shop, Luxon Barbarian (Scott)

Carmen Fircanen, Tiefling Bard (Bekah)

Heskan, Dragonborn Paladin (Adam)

Jonathan Arris, Human Rogue (Andrew)

Kelric Moontrad, Eladrin Dragon Sorcerer (Joe)

Tilly the Tinkerer, Gnome Artificer (Julianna)

DM: Rew

Log:

In an arcane age, adventurers have arrived in the “new world” from wherever they originally came from in search of adventure, riches, destiny - something that drives them. Collectively, they are known as the “Showups.” This is their story.

Following the death of Droughtsburg’s most famous son, a solemn funeral is held for Stevem. He was remembered as a lover of llamas, and a friend to all. Sometimes a little cranky, but a good man nonetheless. He shouldn’t have gotten mixed up with that dragon pretending to be a woman to give birth to that evil sorcerer Stevoak¹.

After ministering the last rites, many speak about Stevem. Susam tells a sweet story about how Stevem helped her brother get his head unstuck from a barn door. Tilly spoke on behalf of the technology community about how despite at first opposing any innovation he had taken to the way the llamas were helped quickly. Finally, Mayor Jonathan Arris addressed the crowd. He expresses regret at losing such an “industrious taxpayer” but expresses his optimism at the future of the new Alpaca initiatives.



Just then, a large, snaky dragon drops in from the sky! This angry black beast is slender and moves like a flying viper through the sky. It snaps at the attendees of the funeral, “Which of you killed the son of my mistress Hemlock! I am here for vengeance or else my name is not Noirjun!”

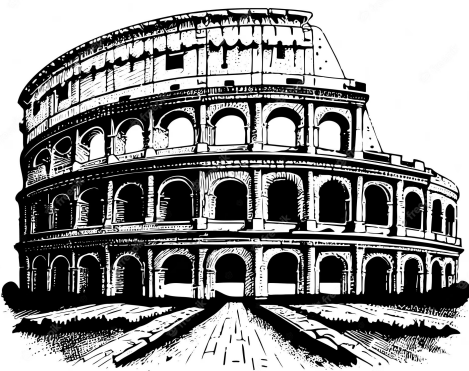
¹ Read [Showups Episode 8](#) for more details!

The fight is on! Alys uses her spiritual weapon, a gravy-covered turkey leg to attack. Tilly assaults the juvenile dragon with her arcane energy launcher. Some fog is created allowing Jonathan hides long enough to sneak attack the monster. Bill just charged the beast, followed closely by Heskan. As Noirjun weakens, he loses his nerve. Alys hit the creature with Dissonant Whispers making it fly up and away. Bolts from crossbows and of eldritch energy finally bring the dragon down. It is rendered for valuable parts by Kelric.

A terse elven woman named Mirian introduces herself. She knows where the green dragon Hemlock lives. Heskan knows that this foul beast had been maimed. She lost a front claw in the dragon war recently fought in his homeland. The elven woman carries a similar permanent wound. She tells the Showups that Hemlock herself snapped her limb off in mockery of the scars that Heskan and his friends had given her. After some discussion, the Showups follow Mirian to the forgotten elven island of Eldoria.

This deserted military settlement set in the middle of the Lake of Sorrows has an array of ancient magical defenses. However, the Showups find no obvious defenses by the arched gates near the ruined dock district.

The heroes head for the central plaza. Here there are several sets of stone busts sitting on top of pedestals in an empty area that seems to be slowly reclaimed by nature. The heroes find one bust that stands out amongst the others. It is eerie how much this elf bust looks very much like Kelric. Next, the Showups travel to the library left abandoned when the elves fled this island enclave. In the library found a series of interesting books including a [selection of tomes that are described below](#). A huge hole was burned into the roof of the ruined building, and many sources of learning were lost long ago.



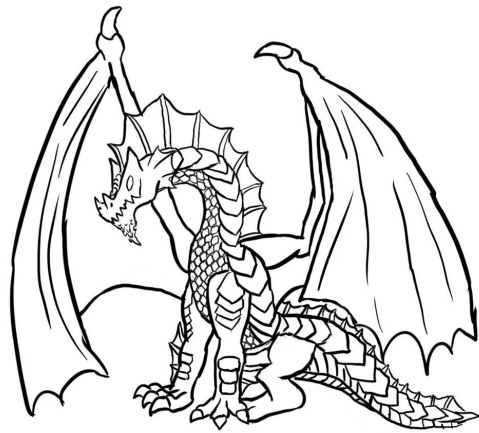
The Showups decide to move toward the Colosseum on the east side of the island. There, Mirian says the green dragon Hemlock nests and holds court. Mirian describes her time there as a slave, and vows revenge because of the treatment she was given and the fact that her family is held hostage by this monster. The heroes decide that the best way to move forward is through the Whispering Woods. There, Bull in China Shop cuts a wide swath through the foliage. Along the way they meet several ghostly elven boys who see them only to flee into the dark forest. They eventually come to an elven graveyard, filled with child-sized burial stones. While creepy, there was not much to be gained here, so they moved on.

The Showups emerged from the Whispering Woods. As they passed through an abandoned neighborhood on the way toward the colosseum, they discovered a home that was not completely abandoned. Several Wyrmlings, the evil spawn of dragons and evil spirits working

industriously on some sort of paint or ichor meant for a dark ritual. The heroes destroyed these beings, learning that the way forward was defended by this burrowing evil menace.

At last the heroes reached the colosseum. There they see a dozen Wyrmlings, and they are soon joined by a green dragon that rears back and bellows a challenge at the heroes. The dirt of the ruined colosseum becomes a killing floor with the Wyrmlings emerging from the dirt beneath to join the fight.

Kelric does his best to seduce the green dragon. Carmen changes into an illusionary Wyrmling, allowing her to get close enough to stab some of the dragon's allies. Bull attacks the great dragon Hemlock herself, but the weapon passes right through her. It's an illusion! Heskan quickly realizes that the dragon is the elf Mirian polymorphed into an elf. The green dragon takes flight, breathing poisonous gas. Tilly creates a flame cannon and blasts the dragon with super-heated flame. Bull wrestles the dragon's remaining claw, keeping the dragon from attacking with it while Carmen climbs up on the dragon's back to attack. Kelric draws his short sword and attacks. Heskan unloads a can of whoop ass on Hemlock, cutting deep into the dragon's flank with an explosion of radiant energy. Jonathan Arris lands the killing blow on a textbook backstab!



Hemlock croaks in frustration and anger, "You killed my son!" Jonathan expresses his anger at the dragon depleting his tax base. The adventure ends with the village of Droughtsburg once again made safe from harm.

Books from the Library of Eldoria

1. "The Art of Elven Warfare": Authored by a legendary elven general, this comprehensive tome outlined the fundamental principles of elven warfare. It delved into various aspects, including strategic planning, troop formations, and battlefield maneuvers. The book emphasized the elves' agility, archery skills, and proficiency with elegant and deadly weapons.
2. "Blades of the Forest": A highly sought-after manual that focused on the mastery of elven weaponry, specifically the blade. It contained detailed instructions on the elven swordsmanship techniques, emphasizing grace, precision, and fluidity in combat. This book showcased various blade designs unique to elven culture and explored their practical applications on the battlefield.
3. "Silent Arrows, Deadly Quivers": This treatise on elven archery detailed the art of marksmanship and the use of bows in warfare. It covered topics such as selecting the right bow, constructing arrows with magical enhancements, and employing stealthy tactics to gain an advantage. The book highlighted the elves' legendary accuracy and their ability to strike swiftly from hidden positions.
4. "The Forest's Whisper": This secretive tome was dedicated to the elven guerrilla tactics employed in wooded terrains. It delved into ambushing techniques, hit-and-run strategies, and ways to exploit the natural environment for advantage. The book also emphasized the importance of camouflage and showcased the elves' ability to disappear into the forest, launching surprise attacks on unsuspecting foes.
5. "The Dance of Blades and Magic": A rare volume that explored the integration of elven magic with martial prowess. It delved into the art of spellcasting on the battlefield, discussing spells that enhanced elven warriors' agility, protected them from harm, or inflicted devastating effects upon their enemies. This book was cherished by those who sought to harness the full potential of elven magic in combat.
6. "Echoes of Ancient Wars": A historical record chronicling significant elven battles and conflicts from the past. It provided valuable insights into the strategies, tactics, and mistakes of renowned elven generals and warlords. By studying these accounts, contemporary elven warriors sought to draw inspiration and learn from the triumphs and failures of their ancestors.