

Session/Game: Thranconia Blueholme 2

Date: May 7, 2023

The Cat's Back Episode 46: FLYING SKULLS!

Campaign Date: November 1–11; YOR 2023

Characters:

Giggles, gnoll, Fighter-11 N (Pete Z)

Shump, half-orc, cleric-fighter-8, L (Craig J)

Mr. Ow, catter, magic-user-11, N (Bob L)

Renly Faire, half-elf, cleric/thief-8, N (Quinton L)

Zerkwad, human, cleric-11, L (Andrew S)

NPC'S

Red Jim the Pirate, human, fighter/thief-6, N (henchman to Shump)

Cat Astrofee, catter, thief-8, N (henchcat to Mr. Giggles)

Slam Beefcake, half-ogre, fighter-7. Ch, Slaughter King, (henchman to Renly)

Simper Fido, dogger, cleric-2, Lawful (henchman to Zerkwad)

Bud Skifferson, dwarf, fighter-2, lawful (henchman to Renly)

Goodboy Fido, dogger, fighter-1, lawful (henchman to Mrow)

Creepo, lizardo, XC, neutral, (henchman to Mrow)

Mercenary Support

The Ratburg Chuckers, F2 x6, half-orc, neutral, light foot (Giggles)

The Wall of Steel (Giggles), human, F2 x10, neutral, pikemen (Giggles)

Steady Bolters. Human F1 x10. neutral, heavy crossbow (Shump)

Thomas Stang, human, F2, Neutral, (Shump)

Reccared, human, F2, Lawful (Shump)

Chet's Demons, human, F2 x10, Longbow, Neutral (Shump)

Super Action Squad half elf, XCx10, longbow archers Neutral(Mrow)

Team Miller human, XCx10, crossbow, neutral(Mrow)

Faithful Five Times 2, human F-1 x10, crossbow, lawful (Mrow)

Judge: Dave N.

Preliminaries: Shumphold

Mrow has finally deciphered the Testament of King Orlaf:

"I, ORLAF, AS I LIE DYING, KNOW THAT I SHALL BE THE LAST OF THE LAWFUL KINGS OF THE MOUNTAINS. MY KINGDOM IS OVERTHROWN BY THE CULT OF DAMNATION AND IS FINISHED. PROPHECY SAYS THAT IT MAY BE RESTORED SOMEDAY BY SOMEONE WHO RETRIEVES MY CROWN FROM ITS RESTING PLACE. SUCH A PERSON MUST BRING THE CROWN TO THE ALTAR TO THE TOP OF MOUNT GAXTO WHERE THE ANCIENT ALTAR OF MITHRAS STANDS. THERE HE MUST PLACE THE CROWN UPON HIS HEAD AND SPEAK THE SACRED OATH WHILE HOLDING THE ALTAR. ALAS, THE TEXT OF THE OATH IS IN THE MOUNTAIN ARCHIVE, LOCATED AT THE PLACE THE DWARVES CALL WUNDOLORCH, WHICH HAS FALLEN TO THE HOBORGS. THEY SHOULD BE UNABLE TO LOOT THE ARCHIVE, DUE TO ITS STRONG MAGICAL PROTECTIONS, BUT MAY FILL IT WITH EVIL CURSES AND MONSTERS TO KEEP ITS CONTENTS OUT OF LAWFUL HANDS. LET HE WHO FINDS THE CROWN BE PURE OF HEART AND RESTORE THE KINGDOM."

November 1-3, 2023, Ostkrags

The principals and their henchmen travel across the mountains to the site of the ancient Mountain Archive.

November 4, 2023, Mountain Archive

Meet an iron golem in the entry. It poisons Zerkwad who is saved by Renly. Giggles finishes the golem off. They look up the north alcove, where Zerkwad detects a magic trap, which Mrow dispels. They open the archivist's chamber and see the undead archivist has summoned an earth elemental. They injure Zerkwad and drive him back. Giggles injures the archivist. Zerkwad dispels the Elemental and Shump finishes the archivist. Zerkwad tries a side passage and is cursed.

The group moves west into the lesser archive and are confronted by 7 Knights of the Damned. After a brutal battle, in which one of Zerkwad's spells failed due to his curse and Giggles lost a level due to energy drain, they (mostly Giggles) finally destroy the monsters. They open all the lesser archives and recover some treasure.

They push on to the Upper Archive, where a Stone Golem throws Zerkwad down the hole into the Deep Archive. Giggles used the magic hammer and pounded the golem into the ground. Zerkwad is forced to fight a Nehustan brass serpent in the Deep Archive as the party advances. Giggles leaps down to help Zerkwad, but his hammer has no effect on the Nehustan. Jim wounds it with arrows and Mrow uses stone missile to wound it. Giggles changes to 2-handed sword and finishes it.

Zerkwad dispels the traps on the Deep Archive chamber doors using 12 charges from his dispel magic talisman. Mrow uses a knock spell which opens all the doors, unleashing a shower of poison darts poisoning Giggles. Through another door came an unending stream of flying skulls. Mrow cleared away the first batch with a fireball but they came streaming back. Upstairs, Cat Astrofee and Simper fled from the stream of skulls, leaving Bud and Slam to fight alone. Renly, Red Jim and Shump hid in some of the archive rooms. Giggles called his Pixie Protector for help. He showed up and advised them to seal the chamber tightly to prevent the stream. Giggles rushes over and clears the skulls away from Mrow. Shump clears a path toward their door, and Red Jim slams the skull door closed and Mrow used wizard lock to seal it shut. Upstairs, Bud is critically wounded as Slam clears the last of the upstairs skulls.

After finishing off the last flying skulls, they looted the Deep Archive, finding the Coronation Oath and much treasure. Zerkwad uses the Great Feat spell to hurl a giant pile of silver back home (Power Drain 5 days).

November 8, Shumphold

Party returns home with their treasure and the Coronation Oath.

November 11-Shumphold

Zerkwad's power drain is over.