

**Session/Game:** ACKS/Gatavia III #20

**Date:** June 22, 2014

**Episode 20:** "Double the Crypt, Double the Level Drain"

**Campaign Date:** December 11-18, AY 1430

### **Characters**

Split-tongue, elf enchanter-5, neutral (Marlon Kirton)  
    Flaming Jack, dwarf, vault-guard-2 (henchman)  
    Sammy the Wagon-Master, lackey-1 (henchman)  
Decius, human, explorer-5, neutral (Robert Swan)  
    Exorcist Rinaldo, human, cleric-4, lawful (henchman)  
    Muttering Osborn, human, shaman-3, neutral (henchman)  
Murderface Jack, dwarf, fury-5, neutral (Jason Liebert)  
Rotwang, human, barbarian-4, neutral (Bob LaForge)  
Max Bemis, human, fighter-3, neutral (Zach Kleiser)

**Judge:** Dave Nelson

### **Log:**

#### **December 11-13**

A quick provisioning trip is made to Portchester.

#### **December 14—The Crypt of the Warlock Hunrist**

The Skull Collectors re-enter level 5b of Skull Mountain and discover the last section, the Crypt of the Warlock Hunrist. When they open the crypt door, they encounter and swiftly kill 7 ghouls, and in a chamber immediately beyond, find and kill 5 more ghouls and a Master Ghoul. They also discover an altar to Orcus, lord of the dead, on which is perched Saphesteron, shield of light, which Murderface claims for his own.

Deeper in the crypt, they are ambushed by 9 crab spiders, whom they kill without incident. They find a pair of elven boots and 120 pounds of silver. They take a few hours to haul the silver to the surface and have Sammy drive it back to the manor, and then they resume the expedition. Reaching the inner crypt they fight the Wight of Hunrist and 3 other lesser wights and manage to defeat them without loss. Hunrist took longer to defeat than might otherwise have happened, since he wore the Ring of the Ice Lords which allowed him to resist Split-tongue's fireball. They then broke open the crypt treasury, finding a locked book-box and locked metal coffer. It took several hours to break the two containers open, during which time 2 more crab spiders and 2 more ghouls made attacks on the party. Inside the book box was one of Hunrist's spell books and a scroll. Split-tongue took both of them, narrowly avoiding the Curse on the scroll. The coffer contained a fortune in jewelry, the Regalia of Hunrist.

Exploring further, they found a shaft that led up to level 3a, near the Mouth entrance to the dungeon. They decided to go back home and rest for the night.

#### **December 15—First Raid of the Tomb of Grindle**

Returning to Skull Mountain, they entered level 4 and passed down the shaft from the trick throne into level 5a, the Tomb of the Warlock Grindle. They first have to chop down a door to the south of the entrance shaft, which takes a half hour. Just as Murderface and Max finish chopping, Split-tongue finds a secret door on the east wall of the same room. They decide to take the south passage first. They move to an intersection nearby where a Green Slime falls on Decius and when Rotwang runs over to help, a second slime falls on him. After a long

session of throwing military oil and bashing with torches both men are saved, but Decius's Magical Cockroach Armor and clothes are destroyed in the process.

After cleaning up the slime, they find a room with a mysterious stone pyramid and another with an altar to Orcus. Split-tongue uses a detect magic spell, and finds that the ceiling of the Orcus shrine is magical. He levitates up and examines the ceiling, which is revealed to be an illusion hiding 6 gargoyles. The creatures immediately tear Split-tongue up leaving him a floating wreck with permanent facial scars. The rest of the party leaps to his aid, killing the gargoyles after a hard fight. They decide to return to Skull Manor to get Split-tongue healed.

### **December 16**

They spend the entire day at rest.

### **December 17—Second Raid of Grindle's Tomb**

Returning to the Tomb of Grindle, they find one of the tomb treasuries. After fighting off a wandering Wraith and collecting a large pile of silver they discover a strong, locked metal door to the south. Flaming Jack tries to open it, but is paralyzed and wracked with devastating pain by the door's magical ward. Split-tongue frees Jack by using a dispel magic spell. Rotwang then tries the same door and is also similarly cursed. He becomes paralyzed and wracked with pain for 6 hours. As they wait, a second wandering wraith appears and drains a level from Muttering Osborn before it is destroyed. While Rotwang is in agony, Murderface finally is able to open the magic door, where they find some valuable jewels and 2 magical swords. Once Rotwang has finished suffering, the party flees back home to rest overnight.

### **December 18—Last Raid on Grindle's Tomb**

Returning to level 5a, this time they pass through the secret door. Rotwang and Murderface are sprayed by acid from a trap, but they move onwards. They surprise and kill 7 Wights who are performing religious rituals in the burial temple of Grindle. Then they pass onward into the actual burial chamber, where they disturb the bones of Grindle and cause him to rise as a wraith, joined by his 2 wraith henchmen. Grindle manages to drain a level from Muttering Osborn before he is destroyed and one of the other wraiths drains 2 levels from Decius before being likewise destroyed. From Grindle's tomb they recover an immensely valuable regalia, encrusted with gold and jewels. Having emptied the tomb, the party returns home.

### **Epilogue:**

Feeling foolish and no longer up to the challenge of leadership, Decius decides to resign as full member of the Skull Collectors and to sign on as a henchman to his own former henchman Rinaldo, who steps up to become full member of the Collectors in Decius's place.