

Session/Game: ACKS/Gatavia III #32

Date: December 21, 2014

Episode 32: “You may have the Blue Thingus, but we’ve got a Giant Whang.”

Campaign Date: August 1—September 2, 1431 AY

Characters

Exorcist Rinaldo, human, cleric-8, neutral (Robert Swan)
Decius, human, explorer-6 neutral (henchman)
Mighty Beavis, gnome titan-6 neutral (henchman)
Manfred, human, mage-6 neutral (henchman)
Sindrain, elf, ranger-5, neutral (henchman)
Edwulf, human, fighter-3, neutral (henchman)
Murderface Jack, dwarf, fury-8 neutral (Jason Liebert)
Whispy Nuggets, elf, enchanter-2, neutral (henchman)
Fancy Jack, dwarf, level-0, neutral (henchman)
Stagger Jack and Swagger Jack, dwarf fury-1, neutral (followers)
Tiberio, human, mage-8, neutral (Tim Moyer)
Helpful Bill, human, fighter-5, neutral (henchman)
Muttering Osborn, human, shaman-4, neutral (henchman)
Pontifex Amicus, human, cleric-9, neutral (Andrew Smith)
Louise Impetuous, human, fighter-1, neutral (henchman)
Sister Helena, human, blade-dancer-4, neutral (henchman)
Whang, human, fighter-7, neutral (Marlon Kirton)
Granny Web, human, witch-1, neutral (henchman)
Yengenel of the South Deserts, human, mage-1, neutral (henchman)
Fortenbras, human, fighter-1, neutral (henchman)

Judge: Dave Nelson

Prologue:

The Masked Archer of the Apocalypse, after examining documents he captured from Leandra the Mystic, revealed to Pontifex Amicus that there was set to be a large, important sacrifice at the Grand Temple of 1000 Devils, at the north end of the Island of the Dead, on September 1. Amicus decided to lead a force of Skull Collectors to catch as many of the Devil Cultists as he could at the moment of the sacrifice and sack the temple to boot. This way whatever Dengwur’s scheme was would be foiled, the cult ruined and the temple made over to be a new shrine to Jupiter. So the Collectors spent a month in preparation for the assault.

August 1-28

Manfred attempts to research a new spell “Fire Wind” but fails. Tiberio, however, succeeds in creating the spell “Tiberio’s Fast Travel.” Amicus tries to craft a “Tiara of Healing” but fails the attempt. Down in Orchester, Split-tongue researches “Improved Choking Grasp”. Murderface Jack recruits the henchmen Whispy Nuggets and Fancy Jack.

August 29

Amicus turned over rule of Yoesville to his henchman Clovis the Venturer and, joined by Rinaldo, Whang, Tiberio, and Murderface, he sallied onto the Island of the Dead. The expedition made a stop at the mysterious black monolith on the west coast of Island. They used a Spade of Colossal Excavation to tip the thing over, but it STOOD BACK UP and gave out a louder and louder humming sound, which drove the party away and back to their original mission.

That night, they camped at the edge of a spooky graveyard and bedded down. However, as soon as the sun was completely set a large horde of 54 Legion of the Damned attacked the camp, causing much chaos, damage and wounds all around before the Skull Collectors could rally and use holy power and fireballs to destroy the undead menace.

August 30, September 1-2

Approaching the Grand Temple of 1000 Devils, the expedition paused at the edge of the dead forest and sent Decius and Sindrain ahead to scout. The scouts, however were spotted by a half-dozen patrolling gargoyles flying above. The gargoyles chased the pair back toward the woods, as Tiberio and Murderface flew to the rescue on Tiberio's magic carpet. The carpet arrived nearly simultaneously with the gargoyles and despite the fact that Murderface missed them on his first daring leap from the carpet, the gargoyles were quickly killed.

The collectors then rushed the main gate of the Grand Temple. They killed 17 of the Devil Cult Soldiers, with their champion and priest leaders, who were guarding the gate. However, they did set off a "Glyph of Specially Targeted Warding" which helped bring down Beavis, Swagger Jack, Stagger Jack and Whang's warhorse during the fighting.

Pressing forward, the Skull Collectors entered the main Chamber of the Grand Temple. There Blue Thingus, the Grand Priest of 1000 Devils was beginning the sacrificial ceremony. Thingus was guarded by 6 red-skinned Demon Warriors, and the ceremony was attended by 10 goat-demon warriors, 3 lesser winged demons, and 1 greater winged demon.

Whang and Murderface (both enlarged by growth spells) entered the chamber, supported by Amicus and a Hydra summoned by Tiberio and several summoned heroes and a few henchmen. The winged demons played initial havoc by hacking down various mage henchmen in short order. The hydra was killed by goat-demons and a winged demon, and then Tiberio summoned a second to shield himself in the outer corridor. The large winged demon joined by a lesser one burst into the hall and proceeded to hack down a large number of henchmen, as the goats and other winged demons in the room managed to hack down Amicus, Whang and Murderface.

Finally, the tided turned when the hydra and henchmen managed to finally clear the 2 demons from the hallway and break into the main room. Tiberio used a confusion wand to significantly impede the power of the demon warriors during the last stage of the battle. A long, slow grind later, and the demons were destroyed, the maidens for sacrifice freed and Blue Thingus slain, all at a terrible butcher's bill. Many heal spells and restore life and limbs over the next few days cleaned things up.

THE BODY COUNT:

Hacked at the Outer Doorway:

Beavis and Swagger Jack: recovered fine

Stagger Jack: legs lamed

Hacked in the Gallery

Helpful Bill, Manfred, Whispy Nuggets, Edwulf: all recover cleanly

Sindrain: permanent damage to the groinal area.

Louise Impetuous: killed, but raised from the dead later.

Hacked in the Main Chamber:

Murderface: recovers with an addled brain, but restored by magic

Whang: recovers cleanly

Amicus: killed but raised by Rinaldo

Muttering Osborn: recovers cleanly

Sister Helena: killed but raised by Amicus

Yengelmel: killed but Reincarnated by Rod of Castor

Fortenbras: killed but raised by Rinaldo: has grown pixie wings

Afterwards: Amicus and many others require much bed-rest. Amicus claims the Grand Temple as his own. Edwulf, henchman to Rinaldo, quits his service and slips off in the night, to Rinaldo's fury. The 5 Skull Collectors split a mountain of 60,000gp (mostly in the form of melted-down devil statues, like 1000 of them).