

Campaign/Game: The Academicians: D&D 5e
Episode 4: Lobeillithid
Campaign Date: Blooming 15th 931 (Spring)

Date: June 3rd, 2021

Characters

Eabon of the Woods, Green Elf Moon Druid - 2 (Ryan)

Lief, Mountainborn Dwarf Wizard Conjurer - 2 (Jamin)

Lady Pandora Gladwyne, Gold Elf Sorcerer of the Divine Soul - 2 (Camille)

Ozzy, Human War Cleric - 2 (Max)

Thorvald, Hillborn Dwarf Life Cleric - 2 (Hannah)

DM: Andrew

Log:

After a night of rest, Eabon is troubled by more nightmares that drain him of his life's essence. In these dreams, the ancients - now united both dragonborn and tieflings together - attack an installation of the Masters in a location that looks very much like the location that is now Little Kroy. In it, the ancients press through the lake and fight the grey-skinned slaves of the masters in their guard room. Only by finding a secret alternate entrance are the ancients able to make progress against the installation of the alien intelligence known only as Lobeillithid. The team of ancients tear through the defenses of the Masters only to be turned aside at the very last moment by a powerful anti-life field. In the vision, Eabon recognizes the exact same face of the Widow Qway scowling disapprovingly at the anti-life field in the green room.

Eabon awakens and explains the dream to the party. They conjecture that Qway is an ancient hag who worked on the side of the ancients - but for what purpose? Does she want the Unguis, or is it simply a means to an end?

The Academicians talked with Professor Finnbuckle using a magic sending spell. They are thanked for their help with learning what happened with Kobann.

Deena tells them they know the shortcut to the back entrance. That squares with the dream Eabon had. They find the disused concealed tunnel nestled between two large rocks on a hill above the village of Little Kroy. Before they enter, Leif checks Deena for any sort of magical influence. No magic is detected on Deena at all, which does not seem to calm the party one bit.

The party enters the complex carefully, and come upon more brain rats consuming the body of a giant spider. There is a small skirmish as the rats emerge and attack, but the party manages to crush them in short order.

The party comes across a room that once had four pools. Only one still has any liquid in it. The room offers a choice between following a route into the complex of the Masters that is red and one that is blue and green. Based on the green room in Eabon's vision, the Academicians continue along the green path.

They descend into a pit where they encounter ratmen. A ratman monk is raising skeletons of long-dead ancients to do their bidding. Eabon turns into a bear and tears the monk's head off. Pandora's thunderous magic turns several ratmen to paste. Thorvald turns the undead, Ozzy takes the fight to the rats, cutting them down.

The green path leads to a large rounded pool half filled with brackish black water. This was once the Masters' main congregation area, and there are several exits to various other parts of the complex from here. The party follows the green path that also exhibits the greatest amount of Abjuration magic from a quick check.

The Academicians approach the center of the complex. Deena is strangely giddy, prompting some tough talk from Thorvald to the orphaned tiefling. Corpses and bones lay on the far side of the chamber, and a field of blue-black energy tears at any living flesh that attempts to enter the inner sanctum. After some tests, Eabon realizes that the Unguis was created just for the purpose of passing through the barrier. The green elf stabs himself in the chest, triggering the recuperative power of the artifact allowing him to pass through the barrier now being neither alive nor dead. As Eabon heals himself and turns off the field, the entire party's brains are filled with an alien intelligence. Lobeillithid still lives!



Pandora and Eabon are attacked by a powerful blast of psychic energy. It stops them both in their tracks for a bit, but the attack uses the very last reserves of the monster's energies. As the two recover, Eabon begins to loot the strange array of artifacts that are stored in this hall, including a strange pendant artifact of surprising power.

Meanwhile, Deena has gone crazy and attempts to shiv Thorvald and Ozzy. Leif knocks Deena out with a well-placed spell, only to find the tiefling's head crack open and reveal an alien brain that runs around on four clawed appendages. This monster tries several times to disable party members and consume their brains as it did Deena, but Ozzy eventually manages to impale it on the wall of the complex.

After the small brain monster is dealt with, the party is able to regroup and focus on Lobeillithid itself. It lashes out with barbed tentacles. It attempts to drain Ozzy and Eabon of intelligence for

energy but Eabon turns himself into a bear and Ozzy apparently lacks the intellect to be much sustenance. Lobeillithid falls through magic and might of the Academicians!



However, as the elder intelligence of the Masters is torn asunder the Academicians are confronted again. The Widow Qway has arrived. They watch her mute servant Pugsley transform into a nine-foot tall duck-demon! "Give it to me!" she hisses as she turns herself ethereal and ghostly and darts toward Eabon "It belongs to me!" Ozzy takes the fight to the demon who once was Pugsley. His radiant sword tearing gashes wounds in the horrific yellow and orange monstrosity. Pandora's fire is less effective against a denizen of hell, and Leif's poison slows it down a bit.

Eabon is chased by the widow. He is pecked by the giant duck-demon, knocking him out of his bear form and leaving him unconscious. The monster's tearing claws ripped the incapacitated druid's organs from his body. Eabon falls dead on the floor in a widening pool of his own blood. The Widow Qway reaches for the fallen green elf's bag, but Thorvald is able to grab it first.

The party begins to aim its attacks at her, dealing considerable amounts of damage. "Fools!" the Widow sneers, "I'll have my prize, one way or another!" Once again the Widow Qway takes on a ghostly form and vanishes into the wall. A final blast of radiant energy from Thorvald atomizes the duck monstrosity. As the battle ends and the silence of the hold takes over, everyone breathes a sigh of relief.

In the aftermath of the battle, Eabon is buried at the base of a mighty tree as he would have wished. The Academicians make their way home to The Arcane Academy in Blackangel to collect their prizes and learn more about the goings on there.