

Campaign/Game: Throne of Arcanum: D&D 5e
Episode 5: Spring Unsealing
Campaign Date: Allmud 29th SC 932 (Spring)

Date: March 17th, 2021

Characters

Bilbo Barrelhouse, Mountainborn Dwarf Barbarian - 5 (Will)
Flemmy Kilmeister, Mountainborn Dwarf Lore Bard - 4 / Barbarian - 1 (Scott)
Dulcinea, Automaton Battlemaster Fighter - 5 (Kristen)
Mouse, Giant Barbarian - 5 (Huy)
Pruelove Tinytankard, Rockbred Gnome Life Cleric - 5 (Meg)
Rilith, Tiefling Archfey Warlock - 5 (Keith)

DM: Andrew

Log:

After ten days of rest, the Caravaneers are convinced by their patron Flimp Dinki to return to New Citadel for celebration. The "Spring Unsealing" celebration is going, a festival that marks the opening of the great double-doors to the vault city of Citadel after a long, harsh winter. The party arrives at the vault city, and sees a whole party atmosphere just outside the massive stone doors. They were not fully open yet, and there was a carnival going on. There are games, food carts, and entertainment everywhere. The "Mullets of Mistburg," one of Flemmy's old bands, is getting prepared to play a set. Gnome and dwarf children run from booth to booth excited to try everything the event has to offer. The Caravaneers find carnival games such as:

- Whack it Off!
- Guess the Beard?
- Walk the Plank
- Cup and Balls
- How Many Cookies?
- Gnome Poetry Contest

As well as all sorts of carts with sketchy food and drink including:

- Lizard on a stick
- Fermented goat milk
- Deep fried ooze feces
- Moldy bread pucks
- Licorice

Flimp Dinki bids the group farewell for now, as she is needed inside the vault for an important meeting with her guild director about the Throne of Arcanum and the future of any automatons that are born there. She promises a "surprise" in the future and heads inside.

The Caravaneers decide that they want to start with “Suplo Wrestling,” a dwarven sport much like Sumo Wrestling. There is a considerable purse to be won from victory. In the first match, Flemmy is outclassed by the raw strength of the giant monster he is paired with. However, Bilbo and then Dulcinea both won. They took home 100 gold coins from that bout.

Bilbo took his winnings and immediately got as much lizard on a stick as he could purchase. He also got several servings of ooze feces, which made him quite ill. Luckily Pruelove was there to help him out.

Next, the party checked on the mage who knew everything, FOCCINI THE ALL-KNOWING MAGE!. As it turned out, he was a bit of a charlatan, under the sway of the Queen of Air and Darkness. This fellow had quite a private discussion with Rillith, who is also a warlock of Mab. He provides the contact for Rillith to learn more about her dream.

In her dreams, Rillith communed with the Queen of Air and Darkness. She appeared as a tall, slender elven goddess in tight black leather wearing a veil that covers her eyes but leaves her blood-red lips and pale chin exposed. She whispered, “Seek the one wearing lilies at the party. She knows much about the hidden vault that holds the secrets to re-ignite the Throne of Arcanum. Enhance the passions of these new automatons, tell them my story, and bring them closer to me!”

Next, the party tried some games. They seem to enjoy the carnival game, “Whack It Off.” Perhaps too much! They also tried the cookie eating contest as well as the cup and balls, but that particular game wasn't what they thought it would be.



The party was approached by an older noble dwarf doing his best to masquerade as a “regular joe.” He introduces himself as Cleft Doomhammer, but he was actually the high-level Director of the Arcanists’ Guild in New Citadel named Cyrano Fantabulous. He was doing his best “Undercover Boss” work to learn more about the party’s experiences at the carnival and how any processes could “add value” by being more “streamlined and synergized.” He was adamant that the carnival goers should have a delightful experience. He then asked Pruelove to be his date for the masquerade ball the next day.

Next an aged gnome named Criminny Jiblets came through the crowd looking for donations for the automaton children. He was a representative of the Cartographers’ Guild, and said that he is raising money for “Automaton Awareness” within the community of New Citadel. The gnome was rebuffed by the entire party. Flemmy offered a song. Criminny was tickled by Rillith's whole

vibe. After unsuccessfully plying them for cash he asks Rilith out to the masquerade ball and gets a yes.

Next a giantess moves through the crowd with two unusually large... casks. She too is tickled by the tiefling warlock's manner and asks if Rilith may be looking for a roommate. The giantess is having troubles with her apartment, and really needs a place to stay. With the connection made, the giantess pours out a round of ale for the entire party.

The Caravanners hear some of the gnome poetry filtering through the crowd. These readings are deeply crass and profane yet lyrical and silly. They draw the party in. Flemmy joins the competition and makes a wonderful impression! All the nearby listeners, tired of the hackneyed gnomish styles, are captivated by the bards' keen observation and joyful delivery. The song speaks about the automaton children, and gives hope about their future.



The band "Mullets of Mistburg" begins to play. The party realizes that the song that Manfred is singing is the same one that Flemmy created for the gnome poetry slam. Immediately Flemmy trudges up to the stage and blasts the band with concentrated magical thunder to silence the band and knock them flat on their butts.

One of the band members is hurt from the blasts, and can't finish the set. Manfred calls out to Flemmy, asking for the bard's help. The set can't be completed without him! Flemmy accepts, joining the band for the remainder of the festival. The massive stone

doors to the vault open up, and the celebration is complete.

Flimp Dinki returns. She has a wonderful surprise. She has commissioned a brief dramatic play commemorating the Caravanners' liberation of the Resounding Torrent mine. Unfortunately, the heroes realize that Manfred was the playwright. Many of the characterizations are bogus, and Flemmy isn't included at all, instead opting for a character that closely resembles Manfred himself. Mouse is a dolt, Rilith is a bloodthirsty monster, and Dulcinea is portrayed as a fragile being.

Heroes of the Resounding Torrent Mine!

A play in one act

Narrator: Our heroes bust into the mine, scattering ghouls everywhere!

Manfred: Avast ye villains! Begone!

Pruelove: Chill out, ye heathens!

Mouse: Mouse smash!

Rilith: By the power of magic, I end thee!

Narrator: The heroes attack, slicking the undead in twain spilling guts everywhere!

Bilbo: Mmm! Breakfast!

Narrator: A monster named Skarklon appears!

Dulcinea: Oh no! I'm such a delicate well-calibrated being! What shall I do?

Manfred: I'll save you, my iron butterfly!

Mouse: What? Where! Awesome!

Narrator: In a single swoop, Manfred slays the monster

Dulcinea: My hero!

Rilith: Ha! I'll eat his brains and be powerful!

Manfred: Never you worry with Manfred on the case! I'm undefeatable! Allow me to rock out with my band Mullets of Mistburg!

The Caravaneers are livid! Following the play, they locate the band playing in The Old City and to send in mass. Once again, they arrive at the Door Shots, the dive bar Flemmy played at before. A bar fight breaks out! Rillith takes mental control of the giant lady drummer who stops playing and stabs Manfred in the eye with a drumstick. Bilbo struggles fighting with two dwarven women who land a few good punches. Pruelove sneaks past the guards to discover Cyrano Fantabulous in the private rooms above. In expectation of the masquerade ball later that week, she spends her time flirting and learning more about the dwarfs polygamous relationships. She learns that the giant drummer as well as the two awful dwarves slap-fighting with Bilbo are all

three attached to the guild director. Dulcinea aids in this effort by covering the stairs behind Pruelove, preventing guards from interfering. Manfred is driven from the stage, and beaten by Pruelove's spiritual weapon, Dulcinea's fists, and Mouse's foot. Mouse fights off several bar patrons just in front of the stage. After fending off an attack from an elderly bar patron to his codpiece, Flemmy crosses the room and nearly knocks Manfred unconscious. As the dwarf musician pleads for his life, his eye gouged, his teeth bashed in, his legs broken from the nunchucks of Bruce Lee, he apologizes to Flemmy and the entire party. Following their time here, Flemmy is invited to tour along with what is left of their band.



The party prepares for the masquerade ball. Flimp had managed to get tickets for everyone. It is thrown by Cyrano. Pruelove is introduced last as the black swan. Flemmy comes to the masquerade as the back-half of a donkey - a "half ass." Dulcinea is dressed as a rabbit and introduces herself as "Hugh Hefner." Bilbo dresses up as a racially insensitive elf. Mouse is costumed as a butterfly, of course. Rillith dresses as a fey fox like the anthropomorphic one with a shiv.

Pruelove emerges in the party on the arm of the dwarven guild master. She is dressed in the dark tutu of the Black Swan. She wears a spooky swan mask and is very sinister and leering. She has a plan!

It turns out that Cyrano Fantabulous is very much an evil, manipulative dwarf. He's insensitive, scheming, and misogynist. He uses his position as the leader of the Arcanists' Guild in New Citadel for his own gain, rather than to serve. He already has three "wives," many who have been beaten to a pulp during the bar fight. As it turns out, the two severe ladies who beat up Bilbo and the giantess drummer were all already associated with Director Fantabulous. Pruelove convinces Cyrano to sign a prenuptial agreement, giving the child automatons that would be created by the Throne of Arcanum the financial support they might need. Without any more delay, a wedding is done right there. Flemmy is made the best man. Mouse is the flower bearer, and Dulcinea agrees to be the maid of honor for the ceremony.

Following the nuptials, some shady business goes on behind the scenes. Within a week it's discovered that Cyrano was infected with Finster Weevils, and died a tragic death in his sleep. Pruelove is one of the main beneficiaries. The gnomish cleric is committed to guiding this newfound wealth toward the automaton children.