

THE DARKENWALD ENQUIRER

June 602

Exclusive!
Interview with the Overseer!
Page 7!!



© B.Robbins 2002

The Necromancer of the North

By HRH Nala Griffinchow

Some recent visitors to the land tipped us off about a cave were a rather shady character they referred to as the "Necromancer of the North" resided. They informed us he had a rather large library full of scrolls and other magical things I really didn't care about, but everyone else was pretty gung-ho about it, so I tagged along. After all I'm not just going to let some Necromancer waltz in here and start raising the dead, now am I? After an amazingly uneventful walk to the cave, I realised it was indeed a good thing I had tagged along as it was being guarded by rust monsters.

The front line was made up of myself armed with my claws, Sir Kentaro with his spells and Captain Darius of the town guard, equipped with Sir Kentaro's sword, and with this done began to hack our way through the obnoxious monsters. We soon came to a cross roads in the cave, as well as a lull in the waves of attacking rust monsters. Captain Darius' spider-sense went off, warning us of something rather large and nasty down the left branch, so we proceeded on further to the branch that split off on the right.

Above the opening of this side cave, were glyphs which none of us could read. Kruppe volunteered himself as a guinea-pig, and proceeded to be struck

down by a bright flash of light the moment he passed under the glyph. After bringing him back up and returning his belongings to him, we got the brilliant idea to simply dispel the glyph. With this done, we forged our way through the door only to be attacked by more rust monsters. After a few more glyphs, which Squire Aurora dispelled, lots more rust monsters, which we killed, and a set of traps which were quickly disarmed by Magius' fiancé Lara, we were finally nearing the end of the cave. At the end we came to a magic circle containing some large undead thing, and none other than Katrina, the celestial lich sister/bride, (details on their relationship are sketchy at best, and its not like anyone really cares anyway) of old 'Izzy the necromancer' Thalen Brightstar.

And here I thought we'd killed them both for good years ago. Katrina yelled at us for coming into her nice home like this uninvited, and said she would not harm us if we just left and didn't go near her library on the way out. We did leave, but not before we grabbed the large chest that had been sitting outside, her protective circle. Outraged, she sent her rather large minion out of the circle after us. We got away, and with the chest too, but not before we had to hack our way out though more rust monsters. The chest, much to our disappointment, contained only some old useless papers.

...Continued Page 2

In This Issue:

- News pg 1
- Shinnan's Grapevine pg 4
- Luthian's SOM pg 5
- Firestorm's Cook Book pg 6
- Interview Exclusive pg 7
- Classifieds pg 8

A Note of Thanks:

We at the **Darkenwald Enquirer** would like to thank the Town guard for ridding us of our spider infestation. If it weren't for you, we wouldn't be able to put out this paper. Drop by anytime.

Shalamarr Lorie & Takysa Shandril

~ NEWS ~

Necromancer of the North, con't.

We ran down the hall to the branch that obviously lead to the library, after all she told us not to go in there so, of course we're going to, right?. Inside her 'library' were beehives and about 800 bees, I'm not sure if that included the 20 queen bees or not. Each queen bee had what looked like a ritual scroll strapped to its back, which made taking them rather hard because if tried to do so, they got mad, and so did the 800 other bees.

While Sir Kentaro and Louis went in to inspect the scrolls, (amazingly their presence didn't seem to bother the bees) the rest of us hung back a twiddled our thumbs and surveyed our surroundings. It was then we noticed one of the ornamental skulls seemed rather familiar.

On closer inspection it was found that it was the remains of a member of

the Shadow Guard. We felt that the Shadow Guard might like to have what was left of their comrade, so we tried to take it, only to anger the bees. Backing away, we thought the skull best be left alone till we leave as Sir Kentaro and Louis were still in amongst the bees.

Eventually we did leave, since we couldn't figure out how to get the scrolls off the bees without evoking their wrath, but not without that skull. After the rest of us got clear of the library, Sir Kentaro grabbed the skull from its resting place and took off. We returned the skull to the Shadow Guard and found out it was the remains of their comrade Tarl.

We didn't get any scrolls, but thanks to the rust monsters, what we did get was enough magical components to be able to recast both magic circles.

Elves flee Roza's Inn in Terror

By Shalamarr Lorie

The blood of many Elves froze Sunday afternoon of the last gathering, as Sir Tenson Demanno, Knight of Griffinclaw was seen walking down the stairs of Rosa's Inn, holding two packages of peppermint. Sources tell us the Griffinclaw Knight proceeded to wave the dreaded herb under the nose of Sir Kentaro of Icewurm, a Gorbe. Matters became worse as the Icewurm Knight grabbed both packages and ran upstairs to the warded room where he and HRH Princess Nala were residing for the weekend. The situation became more severe when it was revealed that, at that time, not only the Princess and Sir Kentaro were in the room, but also the Baron Nathan Bloodmoon and Fetchstorm / Firestorm as well.

Outside in the Inn's common rooms, non-elven adventurers advised all those with pointed ears to flee for their very lives. As we all know, Gorbe find Elven meat rather tasty and who knows what they might do under the effects of peppermint. As far as we know this first warning was not headed by any of the Elves in the Inn, though most were visibly on guard by this point.

Finally, a few of the adventurers worked up the courage to knock on the door and asked if "Everything was alright in there." The response they got was less then encouraging, as the ward was dropped long enough for the shredded remains of both packages to be pushed out from under the door.

It wasn't until the Princess' rather loud and aggravated order for Sir Kentaro to drop the ward immediately, that the Elves really sprung into action.



© Amano

...Continued Page 3

"You may have to fight a battle more than once to win it."

~ NEWS ~

Report by Townsman

by Jarid Donner, Local teacher of young children

I saw something very weird the other day and thought I would share it with everyone. I was sitting near town thinking about leaving, I mean if it was not for the town guard I would have left long ago, bugs undead and what not, but I have wandered off my point.

As I was sitting there looking at the stars and daydreaming, even if it was night, I saw a white tiger sarr, fade into being, that is the only way I can describe it. He was a interesting looking man, and had a silver rose pinned to his chest and was holding a second one in his hand. He kept mumbling something about his rose bride, it think it was, it was hard to hear. I asked him if he was all right and he said soon soon I will be once and trailed off.

I tell you I got the strangest feeling off this man it was like he was a noble or something, I wanted to bow down to him even though I did not know who he was...

Quest for the Bandoleer

by Shalamarr Lorie

A rescue mission was undertaken at the last gathering, for the Bandoleer of the resident Gypsy clans. At first, the town adventurers were under the impression that he was kidnapped by Orcs, but when Monday morning rolled around, they were proven wrong.

A large hoard of spiders with human like faces and red markings across their faces, showed up claiming they had the Bandoleer. At first glance the adventurers thought they were Driders, but the Spiders claimed they were a different creature called the Attercob. The Attercob claimed they had found the Bandoleer and would give him back for 50 gold coins.

Darkenwald's adventurers then entered 'aggressive negations' with the Attercob and once all were dispatched, they followed the Attercob's tracks back to their den. Inside they found the missing Bandoleer in good condition and then returned with him to Roza's Inn.

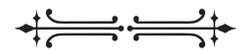
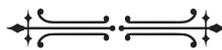


© M.Smith 2002

Elves Flee Inn in Terror, con't.

The Elves, practically trampling each other, were out the door and out of sight down the road to Darkenwald, before the Gorbe could all file out of the room. Some Elves ran to take shelter within the woods, with a pack of rather large wolves, others ran all the way to Darkhaven and were hidden by the Shadow Guard, others still are believed to have barricaded themselves behind warded doors.

Thankfully, the effects of peppermint do not last very long and all the Elven adventurers eventually returned to Rosa's Inn, with all body parts intact.



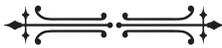
© S.Douglas 2002

“You may have to fight a battle more than once to win it.”

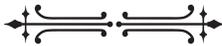
Shinnan's grape vine



Does the token Hobling of The Shadow Guard, have the Sixth sense? Does he see dead people and do they want him to do things for them? Or is Chester just another nutcase? On a recent adventure to the Library of "The Necromancer of the North". Chester was heard having an argument over magic with one of the Necromancers ornamental skulls. The skull, it seems, was most upset that the Hobling had wasted most of his spells the night before, and didn't have any to defeat the Necromancer with.



Are the Goblins of Darkenwald just not getting enough calcium in their diets? It seems their bones are awfully brittle, even something like a small head on collision with another person will cause their bones to snap like a dry twig. Drink more milk little Goblins! It does your body good!

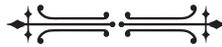


Fae spider bites give magic powers? It seems Captain Daruis of the Town Guard was granted funky powers after he was bitten by a Fae spider. The good captain can now sense danger before it happens! It seems to good to be true. After all those Fae are a tricky bunch. Lets hope this spider bite doesn't change him physically or he may become a human spider! Is this new gift a blessing or a curse? Is the good captain just caught up in a web of Fae deceit? Only time will tell.

Sir Tenson Demanno of Griffonclaw, has been spending a lot of his time with her Royal Highness Princess Nala. He's been spotted by her side constantly both in and out of battle. And at the most recent gathering, he and the Princess shared many a secluded conversation in her room at Rosa's Inn. We at the newsletter wish you the best of luck Sir Tenson! But we hear the Princess only likes guys with fur. Also, keep in mind, she's only Thirteen!

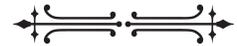


Love is in the air, after all it is spring, right? Romance is popping up like Violets. Has anyone noticed how newcomers to the land Trina Hywind Kruppe Eel are constantly at each other throats? Call me crazy, but my mother always told me that when two young people fight like that, It's because the like each other. So is it love? Is it hate? Or is it some kind of Alchemical effect?



Has someone been slipping something into the Sake of the area Dark Elves? With the exception of the few regular Dark Elven adventurers we get around here, its seems all have gone nuts and lost all sense of honour. So be careful! Unless you know them really well, be on guard. These new Dark elves will snap and attack at the drop of a hat.

Thalen and Lo'chan and Dark Elves, Oh My! Is it true? Are the bad boys of Darkenwald really teaming up and fighting together? Are they going to form some sort of League of Doom? Is the reign of Terror about to begin anew? And just after this place was really getting back on its feet!



© B.Robbins 2002

"You may have to fight a battle more than once to win it."

Luthian's song of the moment

Darkenwald Minute

Harry got up
Dressed all in black
Went down to the swamp
And he never came back
They found his clothing
Scattered somewhere down the path
And he won't be down at Rosa's
in the morning

He had a home
The love of a girl
But men get lost sometimes
As years unfurl
One day he crossed some line
And he was too much in this world
But I guess it doesn't matter anymore

In a Darkenwald minute
Everything can change
In a Darkenwald minute
Things can get pretty strange
In a Darkenwald minute
Everything can change
In a Darkenwald minute

Lying here in the darkness
I hear the undead wail
Somebody going to earth circle
Somebody's going to jail
If you find somebody to love in this world
You better hang on tooth and nail
The wolf is always at the door

In a Darkenwald minute
Everything can change
In a Darkenwald minute
Things can get a little strange
In a Darkenwald minute
Everything can change
In a Darkenwald minute

And in these days
When darkness falls early
And people rush home
To the ones they love
You better take a fool's advice
And take care of your own
One day they're here;
Next day they're gone

I pulled my coat around my
Shoulders
And took a walk down through
The park
The leaves were falling around me
The groaning city in the gathering dark
On some solitary rock
A necromancer left his mark,
"Baby, you died. Now you're
undead."

What the head makes cloudy
The heart makes very clear
The days were so much brighter
In the time when she was here
But I know there's somebody
Somewhere
Make these dark clouds disappear
Until that day, I have to believe
I believe, I believe

In a Darkenwald minute
Everything can change
In a Darkenwald minute
You can get out of the rain
In a Darkenwald minute
Everything can change
In a Darkenwald minute

- Donald Henley,
Bard formerly belonging to "the
Eagles"

Well, hello all. This segment of mine is meant to reflect the power, and also the relevance, of music and song. A song can fill us with joy, make us cry, or inspire hope. I think more people should listen to and make music, whether through a gnomish device, singing themselves, or simply humming a tune while going about your day. Most, if not all, all the songs to be featured here were not composed by myself; due credit shall be given to the creator. This song shows how, though things can be tough, there is hope and things do get better.

-Luthian Longbow



© B.Robbins 2002

“You may have to fight a battle more than once to win it.”

Firestorm's

Cook Book bwahaha...

by Firestorm



© L.Goulard 2002

Barbecued elf... it's that good :)

I'm sure this question has been on the mind of everyone now and again... How does one properly prepare an elf for dinner?

Well, ordinarily one would simply rip the flesh from the quivering creature and eat it as is, but sometimes a bit of preparation is in order. :) Say, for a special occasion. A birthday, perhaps. Or the celebration of ones self becoming as one, rather than having that damned annoying voice ranting about 'truth' and 'justice' and 'triumphing over evil' or some other nonsense.

ahem

But I digress.

Now, I like fire. I like Fire a lot. Fire is good. Flames are good. Flaming kitty is very good. I want to be flaming kitty again, dangit. *ahem* Anywhoo!!!

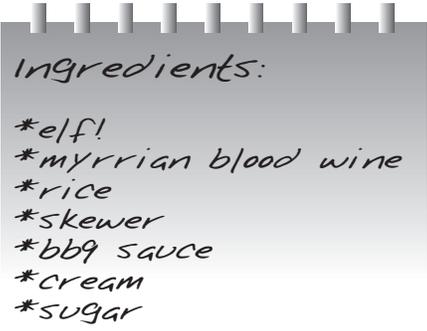
Fire!

What was I talking about again? Oh yeah, preparing elf. >:) Mmmmmm, elf :) Now, you should always have an appetizer before the main course. Why? Well, just to show how barbaric you can be, hehehe. :P Elf ears are perfect for this cause. Just take one set per guest, and marinate them overnight in Myrrian Blood Wine. This really brings out the flavor, and adds a pleasant zing to the dish. :)

Might I add that Myrrian Blood wine itself is the purrfect accompaniment to this meal? Just thought I'd throw that in. :P And a purify blood, for those whose systems are less capable of handling the wine's delicious effects, hee hee :)

Anywhoo, take those wonderfully marinated elf ears (preferably those of a stone elf, since the white color blends beautifully with the wine, but any that you have on claw er on hand is fine, hehehe) and you slice them into long, thin strips. Drizzle with the remaining marinade sauce and serve over a tasty bed of rice to make an appetizer that will make your guests beg for more. :) And more is what they will get, hee hee :)

Now, the main course. :) I find that the best meat is found in the shoulders, but whatever part you choose will work fine. :P Make sure that the meat is large enough that you can scower it with a wooden stick and won't burn to a crisp on contact with flame. :P Basically, you're going to prop it over an open fire and rotate it clockwise while the flames lick at the delicious flesh... mmmm... now, before it's finished cooking, take it off the



heat and give it a good coat of your favorite bbq sauce (mine happens to be Elf Blood Inferno, hee hee) and return it to the flame and continue to cook it until only the very centre of the cut is still red. Mmmmm... then just slice it into hunks and serve right away (it's a shame when the meat grows cold, hehehe). Now, what about the heart, you may ask? Well, I've never been able to get farther than ripping it from the chest of the elf and consuming it on moment of death, so I really don't know what else to do with it, hee hee :)

FIRE FIRE FIRE FIRE KITTY!!!!

Now, for dessert. Elf blood ice cream, anyone? Mix a quart of fine elf blood (again, stone elf preferences *cough*hanla*cough* hehehe) with an equal part of cream, add some sugar (about a half cup, depending on how sweet you like your ice cream hehehe) and mix together in a metal container that you have sitting in a bowl of ice. Cover this mixture and stir every hour for about 5 hours. By then you should have a very nice elf blood icecream :) Elvenberry swirl, if you wish :P Drizzle some Mirrian wine otop in a dish to add more of that zing. :)

So there you go, a delicious meal of Elf that is easy to prepare and your guests will be more than satisfied :)

Well, unless they're elves.

Then they're just next night's dinner, anyway, hehehe.



“You may have to fight a battle more than once to win it.”

Interview with the Overseer

by Takysa Shandril



TAKYSA: Braw effernuin, overseer, eh troost thes day finds ye weel?

OVERSEER: *blink* Good Afternoon... I am quite well, thank you. I hope this lovely day finds you well also.

TAKYSA: Cooldn't be better. noo, mr.mcoverseer, first thing's first... whit is wi' eh mask? aur ye hidin' anythin'?

OVERSEER: Hiding something? Why of course not Takysa. I have nothing to hide from my followers.

TAKYSA: Hmmm... ye ken, eh coods recommend a nice herbal paste 'at diz wonders oan sic' techt pores... :)

OVERSEER: Why thank you. That would be most appreciated.

TAKYSA: Braw braw... noo, mr.mcbigemptyblackeyes, foo did ye come abit findin' thes haur tree?

OVERSEER: Well, actually I was simply walking through this area on a trip that would take me well across the Kingdom. I happened to hear about the Tree and the neglect it was suffering at the hands of The Dryad. So I was going to offer to help care for it. However when I found the Tree, I found The Dryad to be in a state of... incomprehensible speech. Shortly after that she was gone from the Tree, she abandoned it. I simply took up the work that needed to be done after the neglect she had shown, as the leader of my people. My followers soon came to the area as well to help me in this effort, and

because they find this area pleasant.

TAKYSA: Aye, abit those followers... they hae anythin' 'tae dae wi' those 'elves' ye be lookin' fur thaur awhile back? whit was wi' those li'l fellers?

OVERSEER: Well, not exactly. Some of you may have seen my followers in the Tree, one especially likes to sit in plain view of people who first walk up to the Tree. The 'Elves' you speak of are not my followers. They are a... well it is hard to explain. I will simply say that the Tree has many powerful magics around it, not all of which can be easily understood. Some of the people who often frequent the Tree can leave an 'impression', something of themselves on the area. In some cases, these manifested themselves as the 'Elves'. I really do not fully understand it myself at this time Takysa, I apologize. When I first found out about the 'Elves', I found them wandering around the Tree causing mischief and problems for myself and my followers. I tried to take care of them and keep them in an area where they will not be at risk of harm from those who have misgivings towards myself. When I asked for the help of the local people, it was because the 'Elves' had escaped. The best way to keep them safe was to get them placed safely back under my protection. I would like to thank the local population once more for their assistance.

TAKYSA: Ah, okie dokie 'en.... sae, mr.mcpaleasaghostie, whit be yer plans fur eh future?

OVERSEER: Pale as a Ghostie? Why do you say that? I have numerous goals for the future Takysa. First of all, I know that some people have been disturbed by the changes they have seen on my Tree, especially when it comes to the colouring of areas. When the time comes that I am able to alter those colours once again, I may ask for the help of the local people in picking something that everybody will approve of. My other long term goals include ensuring that my followers have ample space to live in, as well as protecting them from those who would wish them harm. It is after all for the greater good of everybody that we be allowed to live peacefully and to go about our tasks, which benefit all in the area.

TAKYSA: Ye jst seem a tad oan eh pale side, 'tis aw. Sae, mr.mcsmileyoverseer, dae ye hae onie closin' remarks fur uir readers?

OVERSEER: I would like to thank them for taking the time to read this fine publication you are producing. I would also like to remind everybody that if they have any ideas of how I can improve the service that my Tree provides them with, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am always looking for new ideas.

TAKYSA: Weel, thank ye, overseer. i'll gie ye 'at paste when next eh see ye. twice a day, liberally, an' lae it oan fer abit 10 minutes.



“You may have to fight a battle more than once to win it.”

Classifieds



© B.Robbins 2002

In Game

Lost one small picture of my daughter, Jewel, Large Reward offered for its Return.

- Baron Nathen Bloodmoon

Wanted to by Ritual components, particularly power, destruction, and time

- Baron Nathen Bloodmoon

Wanted alchemical components, herbs, sulphur.

-Guildmaster Nox

Wanted: Services of experienced Jeweler and Musician. Must be able to demonstrate quality of merchandise / abilities. Will pay in coin. Please contact me to arrange a meeting to discuss terms.

- Louis

OOG

We need newsletter submissions. Even if it's just a brief outline of a module you went on that fine. We can fill in the rest. Liz and I cannot put out this whole entire news letter our ourselves. Please send us stuff!

-Bronwen

I would like some one to teach me how to make phys reps. Up to now I've just been borrowing them off people and its high time I made some of my own. Contact me at three_headedmonkey@hotmail.com

-Bronwen

Liz and I, would like to thank Norville Getty, Chris Eaton, Bobby Ogilvie, Susan Douglas, and Mallory Smith for sending us stories and art. You help was greatly appreciated. Thanks guys!

- Bronwen

The Darkenwald Enquirer

Brought to you by:

Bronwen Robbins /
Shallamar Lorie

- editor in chief / reporter

Liz Goulard /
Takysa Shandrill

- layout / reporter

“You may have to fight a battle more than once to win it.”