

Session/Game: Eldritch Earth: 5 Hacks Deep
Episode 19: The Crypt of Peleh

Date: February 6th, 2021

Campaign Date: August 11th - 13th 1130 AD

Characters

Sean the Irish Bastard Irish, Templar - 2 (Bob)
Wulfric of Ascalon, English Knight - 3 (Dave N.)
Young Penda (NPC)
Father Calen Kildare, Irish Cleric - 2 (Quinton)
Welshie (aka Tom Jones), Welsh Ranger - 3 (Jason)

Judge: Andrew Smith

August 11th, 1130

A small group of three heroes arrive in Frogtown. Wulfric and Father Kildare introduce Sir Clovis to Sean the templar. They have a cordial yet guarded discussion to ascertain why it is that Lord Ulfwin and Bishop Osmund thought Frogtown to be a den of treachery and blasphemy. While they could tell that Clovis was clearly anxious and couldn't turn his eye away from a lovely young woman who walked by, they got no clear answer to their questions. Clovis made it clear that despite wishing he could in good conscience pledge his loyalty to Reeve McNasty he was duty-bound to hold Frogtown for Lord Ulfwin until the new year.

In accordance with Bishop Osmund's wishes as stated at the last shire moot, the Reeve's men decide to visit Father Luther. As they approach, and observe him embracing Sister Katharina. Sean realizes that the "orphans" who live with Luther and Katharina all look like the dour priest himself. These Germans have actually come to follow a pastor who eschews the vow of chastity in order to instead marry and raise children of his own! The cult of personality in Frogtown as well as its remoteness and obscurity has allowed Luther's congregation to grow and interact naturally.

After confronting Father Luther, and learning the truth of the village's protestant ways, a plan is hatched. Father Kildare would report back to Bishop Osmund that in haste to put his own man in charge of the church of Frogtown that he found a new parish priest to replace Father Luther who had fled in guilt and shame along with sister Katharina and the fruits of their shame.

In reality, they would see that Father Luther would spend the remainder of the summer in Lesserton among the newly-liberated fields and then return to Frogtown only once the situation was remediated.

TWO-DIRK McLaine



HORTENSE



As the Reeve's men relax at the Cocked Crock, they are approached by a mercenary who calls himself "Two-Dirk McLaine" who offers to murder Sir Clovis in his sleep as long as he is then made the new speaker of the hamlet. He reveals that Sir Clovis is caught between his oath he made to Sir Ulfwin, and his unrequited love for the lovely Hortense. The Reeve's men are shocked by this cad's behavior and immediately take him into custody for his seditious acts. "Two-Dirk McLaine" will face sentencing at the next moot. Wulfric, interested in learning more about the lovely Hortense attempts to start a conversation with the comely woman only to find that the language barrier is too great so he quickly gives up.

August 12th, 1130

Now joined by Welshie, Sean, Wulfric, and Calen investigate the Atlantean crypt of Peleh, a forgotten tomb located North of Lesserton that was located by reading a crude map sketched into the back of one of the pages of the book found among the effects of the Lesserton Oracle.

After clearing rubble away from an ancient staircase, they descend and are surprised to see live torches burning in their sconces along the walls. If the heroes were to lift them out of the sconces they would realize that these magic torches burn forever and without heat, but if they are removed from their sconces they immediately go out.

In the first room they find an ancient black tapestry outlining the architecture of the night sky. Since none of those who were there were able to make any sense of it, the item just stayed right on the wall. The stone door to the South is magically locked, so the party proceeds to the North.

In the second room, they are attacked by two Ardent Cadavers. These skinless undead burn white-hot with chemical fire, but they are chopped and crushed until they no longer move by the

Reeve's men. A giant mouth carved into the rock wall has a metal scorpion in it. Calen removes the scorpion seemingly without fear that the mouth would come down and crush his arm, winning the party a pure Olichalcum scorpion.

Helm of Taurus



As a Quick Action, the wearer of this helm may enter a berserk rage. While enraged, you gain a +2 bonus to attack throws and become immune to fear. However, the character has a -2 penalty to AC and cannot retreat from combat. Once it has begun, a berserker rage cannot be ended until combat ends. This effect only works for characters with the taint of at least one point of Corruption.

They move on, but Wulfric blindly stumbles onto a magic rune that shakes his being to the very core, making him fear for his life and that of the party. They continue on into the final chambers where the ghost of Peleh himself rises out of a fancy sarcophagus. Peleh's three ghostly brides and skeletal guards also join the fray. The heroes are outmatched at first, and the wailing of the wives is overwhelming. However, Wulfric manages to crush the skeletons and send Peleh back to the grave. They take the valuable sarcophagus and other treasures including a magic helm out of the crypt. Sean takes the helm as his part of the treasure because of its value as a blasphemous item to destroy for the church.

August 13th, 1130

Sean and Calen report to Bishop Osmund about Father Luther's heretical rejection of clerical celibacy and subsequent "guilty flight" from Frogtown. The bishop is pleased and immediately congratulates Father Kildare on his quick wit, but then chastises Father Kildare for not somehow giving him the ability to pick the priest himself.