

Session/Game: 5 Hacks Deep #27 **Date:** May 23, 2021

Episode 27: The Curse of Don Pedro

Campaign Date: November 3-14, 1130 AD

Characters:

Welshie, Welsh, Ranger-4 (Jason L)
Duda, English, Soldier-3 (Andrew S.)
Sean the Irish Bastard, Irish, Templar-4 (Bob L.)
Father Calen, Irish, Cleric-4 (Quinton L.)
Lady Osouf, Norman, Knight-2 (Marlon K.)
Don Pedro, Spanish, Knight-NPC (guest played by Peter Z.)

Judge: Dave N.

LOG

November 3-7, Kingston

Welshie, Duda, Sean, Father Calen, Lady Osouf, Reeve Angus and Wulfric all had come to Kingston for shopping, recruiting and/or repentance. Sean was consulting with the Templar Commander to receive penance for his wavering faith and to ask for a new warhorse, both of which goals were accomplished. He also handed over 5 evil books he had confiscated for the order to destroy. Wulfric dedicated himself to shopping for horses. Duda, Welshie, Tariq and Angus all recruited additional retainers.

November 8, Kingston

On the way back to the East Side Moose Lodge, where they were lodging, Calen and Welshie were ambushed by a band of 7 Radmonshire cannibals, just short of the lodge. Calen, blind during daylight due to a curse, was having some trouble. At this moment, a fellow guest at the lodge Don Pedro, a Spanish nobleman, appeared around the corner and joined the fight against the cannibals. The fight was over quickly with even Calen smashing one through blind luck. The three entered the lodge where Don Pedro treated Calen, Welshie, Sean, Osouf and Duda to a fine banquet, featuring spices from the Orient.

At one point in the banquet, the waiter opened the front door and screamed in alarm. The street was gone, replaced by a haunted tunnel. The waiter ran around the building and found that all the other doors and windows were unopenable. Don Pedro went momentarily pale and was heard to mutter "they've found me." The party from Worm's Ferry, along with Don Pedro, discussed the matter and decided the only solution was to proceed down the tunnel and settle with whoever had caused this foul enchantment.

The tunnel was wicked spooky, Sean's second sight revealed that it was filled with demonic bugs and supported by straining demons. They proceeded forward and then downward perhaps to Hell itself. At the bottom, they found a circle chamber guarded by 4 armored skeletal legion of the damned. After a brisk battle, they destroyed the monsters and found 2 exits.

Taking the right hand one, they found a narrow corridor which was greasy, real greasy. Don Pedro navigated to the end and searched for secret doors but found none. The rest, except for Osouf's retainer "Sister" managed to get through the grease, but Sister fell down and bruised her knee.

Opening one of the doors off the corridor, they discover a room with a strange rock formation, a stone sarcophagus and a pair of jars. The sarcophagus is inscribed, in Latin, HIC

JACET DOMINUS PETRUS (here lies Don Pedro). Don Pedro enters the room and examines the stone formation, which turns out to be a carved blasphemous depiction of Jesus. While he examines it, he feels an arrow whiz past his head. Sean activates his second sight and sees an otherwise invisible Djinn with a bow, drawing to shoot again. He rushes in and engages the being in combat, soon joined by Duda, Osouf and Pedro. Sean eventually kills it and seizes his bow, scimitar, fez and parachute pants. They find that they have no crowbar and give up trying to open Pedro's crypt. In the jars, they find each contains an expensive golden skull, which Sean sees to be demon haunted. Calen is corrupted by one of them as he treats them with holy water. Pedro smashes the blasphemous Jesus carving.

Across the hallway, they encounter 3 Hell Hounds, whom they kill, helped by Calen freezing them with the word of God. Calen and Duda are both pretty thoroughly chewed up in the process but are healed pretty quickly. Fishing out some more gold skulls from jars and treating them with holy water, Duda is corrupted once by the demons.

Returning to the entry chamber, they pass through a strangely warm hallway, ignore the door straight ahead (for now), and take the door to the right where they are confronted by a Knight of Hell armed with a mighty Dane Axe. It stands up well to the blows of the party, inflicting substantial damage in return. When Osouf lands a solid blow with her mace of fear, it panics the knight who begins to flee and is quickly cut down by a rain of blows. Duda claims the axe of power for himself.

Discovering a secret passage they pass into a room with an evil altar guarded by 5 legion of the damned. A long battle breaks out, with Duda and Sean inflicting many might blows and Calen freezing the creatures in place with the word of God several times. Calen is chopped up very badly in the process but remains on his feet. At one point Welshie hits Duda up-side the head with a sling stone by accident. They destroy the creatures, but the entire time they are fighting anyone who is within 10' of the evil altar is attacked by a corruptor demon. Sean is corrupted twice, Duda twice, Pedro once and Calen once. They retrieve a couple of gold skulls and break apart the altar.

Beyond the altar room lies the room housing the demon behind the strange events. A diabolus, immaterial and invisible lurked near a grotesque Satanic idol. Don Pedro rushed in and was immediate afflicted by pain to the head. Duda reckoned that the idol was responsible and rushed forward and struck it with his axe. Sean soon joined him. Don Pedro fled, and when the attacks lessened for a second, he turned around and rushed back, striking the altar as well.

Calen, meanwhile, was overcome with curiosity (or corruption) for what might be hind the door they had skipped over. He left the group in mid-battle, wandered off by himself. He opened the door, only to find it was a trap. The doors to the hallway snapped shut, the hallway began to fill with fire and a horde of undead bugs rushed forward. He was bitten to death, poisoned, roasted and devoured, taking nearly all the treasure they had found with him, never to be seen again..

Don Pedro was overcome by the demon's mind attack, collapsing to the floor in a fit of madness. Soon the idol fell to bits under the blows of the rest, but this did not stop the attacks. Soon Duda falls into a fit of madness, then Welshie, then Lady Osouf. Sean finally activates the Second Sight and spots the demon. He and Sister throw vial after vial of holy water at it until the beast is destroyed.

The hellish complex then vanishes around them and they find themselves outside the Moose Lodge in Kingston again. Sean handed over the 2 golden skulls he had retrieved to the Templars, and only Calen had had any more and he was dead and lost. The madness surprisingly lifted in a few days.

November 9-14

The party finishes their shopping, recruiting and recovery and ride back to Worm's Ferry.

THE HELLSCAPE DUNGEON OF THE CURSE OF ANOTHER DON PEDRO

