

**Session/Game:** Polychronopolis/Rampage      **Date:** October 10, 2021  
**Polychronopolis Episode #2:** Boogins, Bowstrings and Balducci  
**Campaign Date:** Aries 19-26, 1195 M.Y.

**Characters:**

Mongo Junior, half-ogre, F-3, Neutral (Jason L.)  
Woe Be Gone, ratter, Th-3, Neutral (Bob L.)  
Emrys Borealis, human, MU-3, Neutral (Quinton L.)  
Father Corin, human, CL-3, Neutral (Craig J.)

**Judge:** Dave N.

**LOG:**

Scampers the Ratter had gotten Mongo, Woe Be Gone, Emrys and Father Corin all excited about the prospect of exploring the Broken Tower of Thorgok to the northwest of the city. However, when they had gathered their crackers and bacon for the trip and assembled, Scampers was nowhere to be seen. After twiddling for a while, they decided to just go on without him.

*Aries 19<sup>th</sup>, The North Road*

Mongo, Woe, Emrys and Corin headed north along the North Road through the March of Chronos. They had walked much of the day when they spotted an elaborately painted wagon stuck in a ditch. The wagon's owner Marvelous Stan, a traveling peddler of wonders, approached Mongo and asked him to help, for a fee of course (chaos monkeys had spooked his mules). Mongo was far more expeditious and successful than anyone had expected and had the wagon back on the road properly within an hour. Marvelous Stan rewarded him with 20gp and an Ogre Sammich. In the meantime, Woe Begone Tried to sneak into the wagon to rob it, but failed miserably and was reprimanded by Stan for "not pushing the wagon from the right direction." Father Corin questioned Stan about his wares, but rudely cast dispersions on his offering of blinding powder, tanglers, and goblin pancakes. Corin used divine power to speak with Stan's mules, trying to get them to run off, but they hadn't had their oats yet.

Moving on from Stan's wagon, by night fall, they discovered a roadside inn called "The Raging Goat" run by Ugly Rhonda. They decided to spend the night there. Father Corin tried to help the ailing Old Man Herbertson with his ailment, but it proved beyond his powers.

*Aries 20<sup>th</sup>, Cross Country, March of Chronos*

Heading to the west along a cattle-trail, they went in the general direction of the Tower. Around noon they stumbled across an abandoned wagon in the path, and spotted 2 half-elf thieves trying to hide behind a big Red Berry Tree. The thieves were preparing an ambush, but were singularly inept. Father Corn and Woe Be Gone each wound one with missile fire, but Woe Be Gone's bow string snapped in the process. He didn't have a replacement, and wouldn't stop whining about it for the rest of the trip. Mongo rushes in and smashes one thief into a bloody paste. The second rushes Emrys who was standing all alone. His plan was to do the old "grab him, put a knife to his neck and demand to be allowed to leave" gag, but was singularly inept at pulling it off. After three rounds of the adventurers being equally inept at stopping him, he finally does get an arm around Emrys and the knife to his neck. But Father Corin blinds him with a light spell and Mongo stabs him in the face, killing him. He did try to plunge his dagger into Emrys' neck, but spectacularly failed to do anything but damage his knife on Emrys' gear.

Proceeding farther, they find a fork in the path, with marked "Dungbramble" to the northern fork, and "Peak Onion" to the southern fork. Father Corin decides to use a speak with animals spell to have a local hawk scout things out. It reports that the broken tower lies straight ahead, across a wood between either village. The team leaves the path and marches straight ahead and when Emrys' navigation skills don't meet the challenge, promptly get lost. Emrys spots a farmhouse nearby and they go and ask the farmer how to get to the tower. He tells them that they need to backtrack to the

fork and take the path to Peak Onion (the people at Dungbramble are really ugly, you don't want to go there). So, they backtrack a bit and eventually trod into Peak Onion around nightfall.

Peak Onion is a small hamlet of about 8 farmhouses on a small, flat hillock, surrounded by a fence and lots of wild onions. At Peak Onion they are met by Angry Ralph, who's angry about everything. Emrys uses a Mind-Reading spell to determine that he has a deep-seated trauma involving his mother and a pot of boiling water. However, Loise of Farmington (Ralph is very angry about her flaunting her big-city ways all the time) calms him down and says that they can spend the night in the public house (a farmhouse with no current occupants, used for meetings, and local drinking meets).

During the evening, one resident, Old John, asks if anyone is up for a good whittle and spit. Emrys decides to join him and gets a few whittling tips. Later, a man named Brother Kenneth, who says he's from the Poor Brothers of Charity asks them for a donation to help with Poor Sick Timmy and his poverty and ailments. They give him a small donation.

Loise, Old John and Brother Kenneth are separately unanimous when the subject of the Broken Tower is raised. They all agree that you don't want to approach the tower, especially at night, or the Boogins will get you. They are a bit vague about the Boogins, but they'll get you all right.

### *Aries 21<sup>st</sup>, The Broken Tower of Thorgok*

Arising bright and early in Peak Onion, Mongo, Corin, Woe and Emrys take the unmaintained section of the cattle-path that leads to the tower. They see that the roof and the battlements of the tower are indeed broken off and that the only door is located on the wall at the third level up. While Woe Be Gone is busy pounding a series of Mongo's iron spikes into the wall to gain access (and Emrys stands beneath to catch him), Mongo and Corin spot someone lurking behind a tree nearby. They give chase but he eludes them.

After the spikes are installed, Woe climbs up and lifts the bar on the door (not a mean feat of acrobatics and skill). Inside the tower, that level is magically illuminated, but otherwise empty. The rest of the team follows him up on Mongo's rope. Mongo tried to throw Emrys up through the door but failed miserably spraining Emrys' face in the process.

They open-up the trapdoor leading from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 2<sup>nd</sup> level of the tower and are immediately rushed by 4 ghouls (well alerted by all the pounding). The ghouls paralyze Mongo, Woe and Emrys on their first rush leaving Corin to fight alone. He manages to kill 2 of them and wound a third (who was trying to shove Mongo down the trap-door hole), before he is also paralyzed. Luckily for them, the stranger who had been following them returned and proved to be Brother Kenneth from Peak Onion. He called on the power of the Doom Speaker (despite having blessed them in the name of Lady Mercy earlier) to turn away the last 2 ghouls and rescue the whole team.

After they regain movement, Brother Kenneth urges them to give up exploring the tower and go home. They do decide to at least go back to Peak Onion for some rest and recovery.

### *Aries 22<sup>th</sup>, Peak Onion*

The team spends a day whittling and spitting in Peak Onion to heal their wounds and make some preparations. They acquire 2 vials of rendered pig fat and whittle some torches to help deal with the ghouls and get ready to return.

### *Aries 23<sup>rd</sup> Broken Tower of Thorgok*

Over Brother Kenneth's objections, they head back to the broken tower. Coming upon the 2 remaining ghouls, they set one on fire with pig fat but the ghouls (a.k.a. Boogins) manage to paralyze Emrys and Woe before Mongo and Corin manage to finish them off. Once the pair come out of the paralysis, they send Woe Be Gone down to the first level of the tower, which proves to be the Boogins' garbage pit. He finds a scroll of cure disease and a silver dagger among the refuse.

The floor of the first level has a trapdoor which leads to a larger underground chamber. They climb down a rope to find 4 piles of garbage scattered about. There are 6 poisonous snakes hiding in the garbage and they slither out to the attack. The team manages to kill all six snakes before any of them does any harm. They set Woe Be Gone to search the garbage (see how you like it, Bob). At

one point he screams in agony as some rot worms dig into his flesh. Father Corin quickly whips out the scroll of Cure Disease and this destroys the worms. They discover some treasure (a scroll of Hold Portal, a flint knife, some coins and silver necklaces) among the garbage.

There are 4 doors leading out of the chamber (2 locked ones leading to closets, 2 unlocked ones—1 to a chamber, 1 to a corridor). Woe Be Gone narrowly avoids having Ear Worms burry into his brain listening to one door. Father Corin enters the chamber and is rushed by 3 medium sized giant crabs who snip the living hell out of him. He retreats, Mongo slams the door shut, and Emrys uses the Hold Portal scroll to seal the door against them.

Woe Be Gone returns to examine the closets. In one, he finds a bronze coffer with 500gp and a note in Orcish called "The Memorandum of Thorgok." In the other he finds a pedestal with a paper-wrapped object on top of it. Emrys uses a Detect Magic spell and discovers that the object is magic and that some magic is leaking out from below the pedestal, but that the flint knife is not magic. Father Corin picks up the object and discovers it is a crystal key wrapped in a note of instruction (the key can unlock a spiritual prison, but only once). Mongo moves the pedestal, discovering a set of +2 medium sized leather armor hidden underneath (this was presumably the Armor of Stinko, mentioned in the Memorandum).

Woe Be Gone had scouted the corridor reached through the last doorway, and found that it led to another chamber with an unlocked door. The team then entered and were ambushed by 5 giant ticks (small sized) who dropped from the floor onto them. Both Mongo and Corin took some blood-drain damage from them before they were destroyed.

While the other three have had enough and declare that they are leaving, Emrys pushes the chamber door open. He enters and finds a crystal column with a key hole at the bottom, and an iron statue in the room. A smokey face appears in the column, introduces himself as Balducci and offers to impart the secrets of levitation to Emrys if he'll use the crystal key to open the column. Emrys rushes to catch up with the others begging for the key. No one else is having any of it. Emrys briefly considers using a sleep spell on them, but doesn't like the look in Woe Be Gone's eyes.

Instead of returning to Peak Onion, the crew decides to spend the night in the unroofed top floor of the tower, inside a Circle of Protection placed by Emrys (not realizing that such a circle is only effective against supernatural enemies). In the middle of the night, a Grey Ooze crawls onto Father Corin, critically injuring him and sending him into a coma. Mongo, Emrys and Woe kill the monster with their weapons and try to treat the desperate Corin. While Emrys and Woe prove completely inadequate, Mongo's wound patching skills prove sufficient to save Corin's life. They drag him back to Peak Onion after all.

#### *Aries 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>*

After Brother Kenneth manages to restore Corin to consciousness, they spend a day resting and healing in Peak Onion. Then, over Emrys' complaints about not freeing Balducci, they all return to Polychronopolis.