



**Synopsis**  
*The 15th Day of Ches in the Year of the Sudden Journey*  
Charged with investigating and perhaps even clearing a goblin warren near Blackengorge, the party move slowly up to the lair behind a waterfall. Encountering a strong force of goblins and kobolds they are eventually victorious, and make their way past the cascading water into the goblin's lair.

- Beltak Ancaron - 3rd Level Male Human Cleric of Pelor (NPC)
- [Khâlin Grundokri](#) - 3rd Level Male Dwarven Warlord
- [Kireth Majere](#) - 2nd Level Male Half-Elven Wizard
- [Tradden Aversward](#) - 3rd Level Male Human Fighter
- [Zero Uhliit](#) - 3rd Level Male Human Rogue

**Scene Length**  
This scene starts on Sunday 23 January 2011 and is expected to be completed by the end of Sunday 30 January 2011. Players are expected to be able to post at least once a day.



Me, Random and Neil:

Feb 3 ▼

## INITIATIVE BLOCK

### Combat Encounter Complete

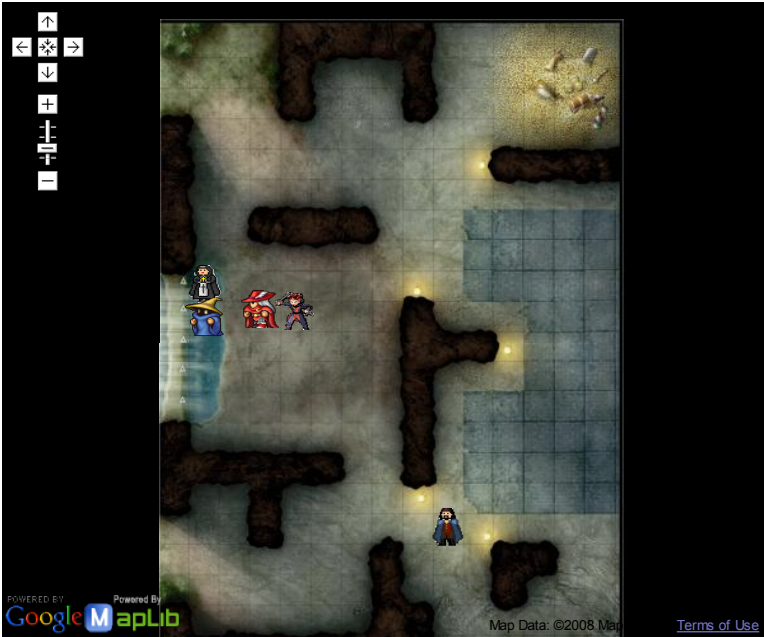
- 01) [25] Kireth - ~~1d20+7+2: 25~~ - HP 20/27  
02) [25] Tradden - ~~1d20+3+2: 25~~ - HP 14/38 (~~Bloodied~~) (Marked by KD#01)  
03) [24] Zero - ~~1d20+4+2: 24~~ - HP 35/35  
04) [24] Beltak - ~~1d20+2+2: 24~~ - HP 21/32  
08) [13] Khalin - ~~1d20+2+2: 13~~ - HP 2/36 (~~Bloodied~~)  
09) [12] Kobold-Denwardens - ~~1d20+4: 12~~  
Kobold-Denwarden #1 - Dmg: 12+4+8+13+8=42  
Kobold-Denwarden #2 - Dmg: 8+22+11=41 (Marked by Tradden) (~~Bloodied~~)  
11) [11] Irontooth - ~~1d20+3: 11~~ - Dmg: 13+17+11+13+8+10+10-5+16+13-5=109  
  
**Removed from Play**  
05) [23] Goblin-Froghandler - ~~1d20+5: 23~~ - Dmg: 12+9+14=35 (Weakened) (~~Bloodied~~)  
06) [22] Thornskin-Frogs - ~~1d20+4: 22~~  
Thornskin-Frog #1 - Dmg: 29+13=42 (~~Bloodied~~)  
Thornskin-Frog #2 - Dmg: 25+10=35 (~~Bloodied~~)  
07) [18] Goblin-Grunts - ~~1d20+4: 18~~  
Goblin-Grunt #1 - Dmg: 7=7 (Marked by Tradden)  
Goblin-Grunt #2 - Dmg: 4=4  
Goblin-Grunt #3 - Dmg: 6=6  
Goblin-Grunt #4 - Dmg: 11=11  
Goblin-Grunt #5 - Dmg: 13=13  
10) [11] Kobold-Wyrm Priest - ~~1d20+4: 11~~ - Dmg: 8+24=32  
12) [08] Kobold-Minions - ~~1d20+3: 8~~  
Kobold-Minion #1 - Dmg: 9=9  
Kobold-Minion #2 - Dmg: 6=6  
Kobold-Minion #3 - Dmg: 4=4  
Kobold-Minion #4 - Dmg: 4=4  
Kobold-Minion #5 - Dmg: 9=9  
13) [07] Kobold-Slinger - ~~1d20+3: 7~~ - Dmg: 3+6+8+4+8=29 (~~Bloodied~~)



Me, Matt and 2 others:

Feb 3 ▼

## BATTLE MAP




 Me: Jan 22 ▼

**FEATURES OF THE AREA**




All squares that contain a small triangle in the top right hand corner are marked as difficult terrain.

**Illumination:** Bright light.

**Walls:** Blackened squares are rock walls, that can provide concealment and prevent line of sight.

 Me: Kireth took a good look around the chamber. More than a dozen goblins and kobolds scurried in and out of sight throughout the cave. Screams, shouts, and cries of alarm reverberated throughout the torchlit hollow. None of the creatures were huddled in a group, though, and Kireth decided to wait until they acted in force. Jan 24 ▼

[Kireth **Delays** until minions have acted]

 Matt, me and Random: Although Khalin's earlier sage words had calmed down the young fighter, Tradden was still very much in battle-mode. In many respects his role in the group was easy to perform at times like this. Jan 24 ▼




"Chhhhhhhhaaaaaaaaaammrrrggggggggggeeeeeeee!" he screamed. It seemed a bit pointless to actually describe what he was doing with such force - it was fairly obvious what he was doing after all, but it made him feel better.

In any event, he smashed into the two goblins right in front of him, looking to hit both with a wicked sweep of his longsword.

[Cleave v Goblin Grunt#1: **1d20+9: 14**] - misses!

[**Marked**]



Tradden bounded into the group of goblins, but missed his contact, his swords slicing through clean air. At least it gathered the attention of one of the goblins! The grunt ducked under Tradden's blow and moved to the side to flank the fighter with his comrade. [Goblin Tactics; Shift]

 The.brainbuster@googlewave.com, me and Random: Zero didn't like the look of the giant frogs. Ugly things with bulbous eyes and smelly, oily skin. He hastily moved to a decent vantage point and loosed off a bolt. Jan 24 ▼

[Hand Crossbow vs Thornskin Frog #2: **1d20+7+2: 29**] - critical hit!



[Damage: **1d6+3+2d8: 25**] (maximum damage)

The bolt squelched into the side of the frog, releasing a cloud of sickly green mist and drawing a huge croak from the monstrosity. However, much to Zero's surprise it did not fall, and kept croaking. [Bloodied]

 Me and Random: Beltak strode forward, more confident now, and struck at one of the goblins flanking Tradden. Jan 24 ▼

[Invigorating Assault vs Goblin Grunt #03: **1d20+3: 8**] - misses!



But his mace swing was way off the target.

 Me and Random: The froghandler, straining at a leash holding back the frogs, looked distraught that one of his beauties had been hurt. With a point at the offender, Zero, and a screech that sounded almost like "Kill!" he let go of the leash and drew a javelin which he hurled at the rogue. Jan 24 ▼

[Goblin Froghandler Javelin: **1d20+8: 18** vs Zero's AC(16)] - hits!



[Damage: **1d6: 5**]

The javelin caught Zero on the shoulder before it skidded off into the water.



 Me and Random: The first frog moved swiftly past its sluggish partner into the middle of the cave chamber, a little distance from the group. It opened its huge maw and a large tongue spat out at speed towards Tradden. Jan 24 ▼

[Tongue Grab: **1d20+4: 7** vs Tradden's Reflex(15)] - misses!

Tradden saw the tongue coming from the corner of his eye and dodged just in time.

 Me and The.brainbuster@googlewave.com: The second frog hopped across the cavern floor with a glint in its black eyes of malice towards Zero. Jan 24 ▼

The rogue felt his knees tremble, but managed to remain upright.

 Me and Random: The goblin grunts surrounded the armour clad warriors of the group and hacked away with their shortwords. Jan 24 ▼

[Goblin Grunt #01 Shortsword: **1d20+6: 18** vs Tradden's AC(18)] - hits!

[Damage: **4**]

[Goblin Grunt #02 Shortsword: **1d20+6: 19** vs Khalin's AC(19)] - hits!

[Damage: **4**]




[Goblin Grunt #03 Shortsword: **1d20+6: 20** vs Beltak's AC(16)] - hits!

[Damage: **4**]

[Goblin Grunt #04 Shortsword: **1d20+6: 14** vs Tradden's AC(18)] - misses!

[Goblin Grunt #05 Shortsword: **1d20+6: 11** vs Tradden's AC(18)] - misses!

Some of the goblins connected, opening small wounds on the heroes.

 Neil, me and Random: Raising his staff quickly, Kireth decided the time was right to act. He circled the staff in the air before him, bringing forth the words "Templa Koron". A shimmering ball of energy arced over the top of Tradden's head, its target the grunt directly in front of him. Jan 24 ▼

[Force Orb vs Goblin Grunt #05's Reflex: **1d20+1+5: 18**] - hits!

[Damage: **2d8+5: 13**]

[Secondary Attack vs Goblin Grunt #01's Reflex: **1d20+1+5: 21**] - hits!

[Damage: **1d10+5: 7**]




[Secondary Attack vs Goblin Grunt #03's Reflex: **1d20+1+5: 13**] - hits!

[Damage: **1d10+5: 6**]

[Secondary Attack vs Goblin Grunt #04's Reflex: **1d20+1+5: 9**] - misses!

Three of the goblins fell instantly, razor sharp shards of force piercing their bodies.

"Boom" said the mage with a smirk, blowing imaginary smoke from the end of his staff.




Mark, me and Random: Khalin eyed the large frog that Zero had winged, lumbering closer to himself and Kireth. But first there was the matter of the goblin minion before him. All business at this early juncture of the battle, Khalin swung quickly at the grunt.

Jan 24 ▼

[Warhammer vs Goblin Grunt #02: **1d20+6: 7**] - critical miss!


The warlord cursed under his breath - letting the giant amphibian distract him was a novice's error. He muttered a quick prayer for forgiveness to Clangeddin, the god of battle, and vowed to refocus his concentration.



Me: *The kobold denwardens moved further through the cave, taking up defensive positions.*

Jan 24 ▼


**[Total Defence]**



Me: *The wyrm priest followed the denwardens, ensuring it was behind one of its colleagues for protection.*

Jan 24 ▼

**[Total Defence]**





Me: *A harsh, bleating horn heralded the appearance of a burly, battle-scarred goblin. As he strode forward the kobolds around him scurried as if afraid to get too close. A great tattoo depicting a skeletal ram's head marked this goblin's face. He wore a wolffur cloak and a scale shirt, and he held a huge battleaxe in each hand.*

Jan 24 ▼

[Khalin Perception Check: **1d20+1: 16**] - result!

*The torchlight glittered off the scale mail and through the melee, even from across the chamber, Khalin could tell it was of dwarven origin.*

*The goblin bellowed as he moved forwards in broken common, "More food for our Lord! Kill them!"*



Me and Random: *The kobolds heeded their master's cry and flocked into the main chamber to attack the heroes.*



Jan 24 ▼

[Kobold Minion #01 Spear: **1d20+5: 9** vs Zero's AC(16)] - misses!

[Kobold Minion #04 Spear: **1d20+5: 12** vs Beltak's AC(17)] - misses!

[Kobold Minion #05 Spear: **1d20+5: 10** vs Kireth's AC(16)] - misses!

*None of the kobolds' attacks struck home, however.*




Me and Random: *The kobold slinger, blood still pouring from it's wounds had picked up another bandolier, and swung his sling round his head.*

Jan 24 ▼

[Kobold Slinger Sling: **1d20+6: 15** vs Zero's AC(16)] - misses!

*The ceramic jar from the sling passed Zero by and splashed into the water beyond.*






Mark: Khalin squinted at the burly axe-wielding goblin, his eyes slowly growing wider. "That armour's dwarven - and it's ruddy brand new!"

Jan 24 ▼



Matt: Tradden found a moment to give the Dwarf an incredulous look.  
*"Hey - eyes off the shiny stuff - eyes on the waves of nasty things heading our way!"*

Jan 24 ▼



Neil, me and Random: After dodging the Kobold's spear thrust, Kireth deftly stepped backwards to give himself some breathing room [Shift].

Jan 25 ▼

Puppies that bark at the wrong person must be taught to hold their tongues. He waved his staff to catch the insolent creatures attention. It looked past the end of its spear and caught Kireth's keen stare, burning, penetrating its simple mind.

"Gorga Amin"




[Nightmare Eruption vs Kobold Minion #5 Will: **1d20+5+1: 16**] - hits!

[Damage: **1d8+5: 9**]

*The kobold began to tremble, and then scream, visions running before its eyes. As it turned and dropped to its knees its nightmares projected out for its colleague to see who joined in the screams.*

[Nightmare Eruption vs Kobold Minion #4 Damage: **4**]

*Only a few moments passed before both kobolds lay on the floor unmoving.* [Dead]



Matt, me and Random: In the blink of an eye, Tradden assessed the battlefield. Well, battlecave.  
His companions were cutting down the weaker creatures, but he could see more menacing foes advancing from the back. They must be ready, and that meant firstly clearing a space...

Jan 25 ▼

[Cleave vs Goblin Grunt #4: **1d20+9: 24**] - hits!

[Damage is **1d8+7: 11**]

[Goblin Grunt #2 takes **4** splash damage]




Neatly decapitating both with a single swipe, the young fighter backstepped into a defensive position, ready for the next onslaught.

He was starting to learn his place in things - in the middle, side by side with other heavily armoured comrades like Khalin and Beltak. Let Kireth and Zero do their wicked, large damage attacks on the more threatening foes - he would ensure that they had that chance.

Looking at the makeshift human/dwarf barricade he was now part of, he felt ...ready. He had Beltak on one side, who if he could also move back would be in an excellent position to hold the north side of line. He knew Khalin would be rushing at the foes on the south side any time now, and if he could remain there that should buy the others time to do their thing.

They were as ready as they would ever be. Let them come ...

WeeeeeeIIIII, maybe not the frogs - they were wierd. They could stay where they were if they liked.



The.brainbuster@googlewave.com, me and Random: Zero ducked sharply and scooted away from the snarling kobold upon him. [Shift]



Jan 26 ▼

He shot from the hip, hoping to hear the satisfying 'thunk' of pierced flesh.

[Standard attack vs Kobold Minion #1: **1d20+7: 27**] - critical hit!

[Damage: **1d6+3: 9**]

*The kobold took the bolt in the throat and fell back into the water.* [Dead]



Me and Random: *Beltak held his holy symbol outstretched towards one of the kobold minions.*

Jan 26 ▼

*"Abomination!" he uttered, and a shaft of radiant light spilled down from the roof of the cave onto the lizard.*

[Sacred Flame vs Kobold Minion #02's Reflex: **1d20+6: 22**] - hits!

[Damage: **1d6+4: 6**]

Tradden gains 4 temporary hit points)

The light seared through the kobold's scales and it dropped on the spot. [Dead]



Me and Random: The froghandler watched his beauties hop towards the party with pride. Taking up a javelin, he tried to clear a path for them.

Jan 28 ▼

[Goblin Froghandler Javelin: 1d20+8: 11 vs Khalin's AC(19)] - misses!

But the javelin harmlessly passed Khalin by and splashed into the waterfall behind.



Me and Random: The first frog hopped forward slowly into the middle of the cave chamber, a little distance from the group. It opened its huge maw and a large tongue spat out at speed towards Khalin.

Jan 26 ▼

[Tongue Grab: 1d20+4: 17 vs Khalin's Reflex(13)] - hits!

The large tongue wrapped itself around part of Khalin's tunic and pulled him towards the gaping maw. [Pull 2 squares] However, Khalin dug his heels in [Stand Your Ground] and halted the slide a little short.

The frog's eyes squinted and it leapt forward in a swift movement that nearly caught Khalin off guard.

[Pounce: 1d20+4: 11 vs Khalin's Reflex(13)] - misses!

The dwarf managed to fend off the monstrosity, however.



Me, Random and The.brainbuster@googlewave.com: The second frog rounded the kobold minion and spat out it's huge tongue at Zero.

Jan 26 ▼

[Tongue Grab: 1d20+4: 19 vs Zero's Reflex(18)] - hits!

With its slaving tongue finding hold on Zero's cloak, the rogue was drawn back towards the frog. [Pulled 2 squares]. His legs scrabbled against the stone ground but found no purchase. He panicked at the horror of what seemed increasingly inevitable.

The frog then withdrew it's tongue, opened its maw wider, and slobbered down on Zero's arm.

[Bite: 1d20+6: 13 vs Zero's AC(16)] - misses!

Zero managed to get his arm out of the way before the huge mouth closed with a squelch.



Me and Mark: The enemy appeared to be methodically moving into position, but Khalin's efforts to determine the enemy strategy were cut short by the attack from the giant amphibian before him. He swung his hammer mightily to try free himself from the grasp of the thing's proboscis, while trying to provide some cover for his comrades.

Jan 26 ▼

[Shielded Assault vs Frog #1: 1d20+6: 26] - critical hit!

[Damage: 2d10+5: 25] plus [1d6: 4 flame damage]

As Khalin's weapon struck the frog gouts of flame shot down his forearms from his bracers and engulfed the amphibian. The warlord roared in defiance. [Bloodied]



Me and Random: Both of the denwardens moved up to the gap in the cave wall, ensuring that the wyrm priest was well guarded. As they settled into position, they each drew a javelin, and hurled it into the fray.

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[Kobold Denwarden #01 Javelin: 1d20+7: 20 vs Beltak's AC(17)] - hits!

[Damage: 1d6+1: 4]

[Kobold Denwarden #02 Javelin: 1d20+7: 17 vs Khalin's AC(19)] - misses!

One of the javelins grazed Beltak, but the other was deflected by Khalin's shield.



Me and Random: The wyrm priest began some chanting behind its bone dragon-mask and hurled a bolt of fire straight at Kireth.

Jan 26 ▼

[Kobold Wyrmpriest Energy Orb: 1d20+6-2: 9 vs Kireth's Reflexes(15)] - misses!

Kireth raised his staff which took the brunt of the force on its tip and smiled back at the kobold shaman.



Me and Random: The large goblin rounded the wall of the cave and charged over towards Khalin, his focus purely intent on the dwarf. As he came closer, Khalin got a better look at the armour, but an even closer look at the twin battleaxes that the goblin held, one in each hand. With a roar, the goblin charged into the attack.

Jan 26 ▼

[Irontooth Charge: 1d20+8+1: 25 vs Khalin's AC(19+2)] - hits!

[Damage: 1d8+4: 11]

One of the axes brushed past Khalin's defences, opening a wound on his thigh.



Me and Random: The remaining kobold minion thrust its spear into Zero's side as the rogue appeared next to him, dragged by the frog's tongue.

Jan 26 ▼

[Kobold Minion #03 Spear: 1d20+5: 14 vs Zero's AC(16)] - misses!

Zero was lithe enough to dodge out of the way of the spear point, however.



Me and Random: Now all alone in the corner of the cave, the slinger reloaded his sling with another ceramic pot and let fly at Zero.

Jan 26 ▼

[Kobold Slinger Sling: 1d20+6: 25 vs Zero's AC(16)] - hits!

[Damage: 1d6+3: 4] and [Immobilised] (Save Ends)

The pot struck home and broke on contact with Zero's chest spilling viscous goo over the rogue's legs. Within moments Zero found himself stuck to the floor, unable to move away.



Neil and Random: The priestly looking opponent seemed to have picked out Kireth judging from that miserable attempt a moment ago. "I accept" said the mage with a nod in his direction.

Jan 27 ▼

Waving his staff in an arc, the black clothed mage called forth his next spell "Rauko Rutha"

[Hellish Rebuke vs Kobold Wyrmpriest's Reflex: 1d20+1+2: 5] - misses

Fire started to rise around the priest, but just as Kireth had done, a wave of his staff caused them to die down instantly causing no affect. It too smiled.



Matt, me and Random: The battle was well and truly joined!

Jan 27 ▼

The party had been pulled and pushed around by the weird looking frogs, but their line basically held. Tradden stepped forward to cement his place, now away from the true centre but not much could be done about that now, and again lashed out to try and decimate their numbers – they were fast becoming overrun.




[Cleave v Thornskin Frog #1: 1d20+9: 20] - hits!

[Damage: 1d8+7: 13]

[Kobold Minion #03 takes 4 splash damage]

With a single swipe Tradden felled two of the opponents and looked across the battlefield for his next opponent.

"Who's next?" quietly asked the Fighter, to no-one in particular.





The.brainbuster@googlewave.com, me and Random: Stuck to the floor by goo, a giant frog trying to devour him in its cavernous, stinking maw, Zero lost all his faculties. He gibbered and thrashed, desperately trying to fend off the thing's tentacle-like tongue and tear his boots free from the sticky ground.

Jan 28

[Total Defence] (+2 to defences)  
[Save against immobilisation: 1d20+1: 20] - success!

Zero managed to free his legs from the goo, much to his relief!



Me and Random: Beltak took a step back [Shift: SW] discretion informing him that toe-to-toe combat was not his speciality. he could see the rogue, Zero, struggling to free himself from goo fired from the slinger, and the frog bearing down on him. This might be the best target - the warriors could deal with the axe-wielder.



Jan 28

[Sacred Flame vs Thornskin Frog #02: 1d20+6: 7] - critical miss!

But the gout of radiant light from above missed the amphibian.

Beltak scowled, and whispered a brief prayer to Pelor to send Zero some aid.

[Healing Word: Zero spends a healing surge and regains 1d6+4+8: 18 hp]





Me and Random: At the death of one of its beauties, the frog handler screamed, pushing the denwardens out of the way, and charged recklessly towards Tradden. With its spear aloft it hurled itself at the warrior.

Jan 28

[Goblin Froghandler: 1d20+6+1: 26 vs Tradden's AC(18)] - hits!  
[Damage: 1d8: 4]

As the spear found its mark the kobold screamed with glee and yanked it back ready to strike again and again.





Me and Random: The bloated amphibian, gore and ichor streaming down its side, opened its huge maw in front of Zero. The putrid stench was horrifying and Zero recoiled. Not far enough, though, and the frog's mouth descended upon him.

Jan 28

[Thornskin Frog #02 Bite: 1d20+6: 15 vs Zero's AC(16+2)] - misses!

Somehow, Zero managed to jam his crossbow in the monster's mouth before it clamped down, and the beast drew back.



Me and Random: Khalin could see Zero struggling against the remaining amphibian, and nodded quickly to Tradden. "Can you get to Zero? He looks to be in a tight spot!"

Jan 28



The dwarfs own hands were full with the axe-wielding goblin before him, but if this was the best of the goblinoid troops he'd come across so far, then he would relish the challenge.

"Now greenie, it's you and me!" he warned.

[Warlord's strike vs Irontooth: 1d20+6: 20] - hits!  
[Damage: 2d10+5: 13]  
[Until end of next turn, all allies +2 to damage rolls vs target]

As the warlord swung mightily at the armoured goblin, he fired off some encouragement to his trapped comrade. "Hang in there Mister Nothing!" before remembering under his breath, "Ah, you are already..."

[Minor action: Inspiring Word - Khalin spends healing surge and regains 1d6+9: 12 hp]





Me and Random: Both of the denwardens kept their positions near the gap in the cave wall, ensuring that the wyrm priest was well guarded. They drew the second of their javelins and hurled them into the melee.

Jan 28

[Kobold Denwarden #01 Javelin: 1d20+7: 9 vs Khalin's AC(19)] - misses!

[Kobold Denwarden #02 Javelin: 1d20+7: 17 vs Tradden's AC(18)] - misses!

Neither of the javelins struck home, however, harmlessly deflecting away and skittering across the cavern floor.





Me and Random: The wyrm priest studied the crackling energy caught on the end of his staff and with a flourish hurled it back - a pure orb of energy hurtling at tremendous speed at Kireth.

Jan 28

[Kobold Wym priest Energy Orb: 1d20+6: 19 vs Kireth's Reflex(15)] - hits!  
[Damage: 1d10+3: 12]

As the bolt travelled through the air it turned from a shimmering ball of energy into a small bolt of fire and took Kireth fully in the chest. The wyrm priest whooped with delight and looked back at the wizard with menacing eyes.



Me and Random: The large goblin seemed undeterred by Khalin's efforts moving closer in to the dwarf and the human priest [Shift: W].



Jan 28

It then roared at the dwarf and swung viciously with one of its axes.

[Irontooth Battleaxe: 1d20+8: 19 vs Khalin's AC(19)] - hits!  
[Damage: 1d8+4: 8]

The battleaxe bit into Khalin's leg and the goblin roared once again.

"More dwarf to kill! Me like!"





Me and Random: The kobold slinger now plucked up some courage and scampered across the cavern next to the wympriest. Picking the last of its ceramic jars from its bandolier it smiled at Tradden and let fly.

Jan 28

[Kobold Slinger Sling: 1d20+6: 22 vs Tradden's AC(18)] - hits!  
[Damage: 1d6+3: 8] and [Penalty of -2 to Attack Rolls] (Save Ends)

The pot smashed against Tradden's face, cutting him slightly, and then a mist descended upon his face, making the young warrior cough and sneeze. It would be harder to concentrate on melee during his coughing fit.



Neil and me: The energy from the priest's attack crackled through his body, his teeth tingled and there was an odd taste in his mouth... cinnamon he thought.

Jan 28

That was a hell of a hit he had just taken. The spell could probably not have done too much more damage had it hit him square in the face and he certainly could not take too many more like that. "Excellent" said Kireth as though the priest could hear him from way over there "It will be most interesting to pick through your belongings once I kill you".


"Istar Rutha". Kireth held his hands up before him and marvelled at the effect these two simple words had when spoken by him. His hands seemed to pulse a shining white light as though charged.

[Wizard's Fury]

"Gurtha da Sinome"

[Magic Missile Kobold Wrym Priest: Damage **2+4+2: 8**] - *automatic hit!*

The charged bolt slammed into the priest's left shoulder. He winced, trying not to show the pain. It was on now!



Matt, me and Random: Tradden shook his head and coughed – that damn Slinger!

Jan 28 ▼


He tried to focus on the enemies in front of him – despite the irritation in the back of his throat and down in his chest. He had to try and get a strike in against the large goblin! Distracting the Froghandler with a fanciful twirl of his short sword, he swept past [Pass Forward as Move Action] and into striking distance of the goblin.

[Cleave v Irontooth. To hit: **1d20+9-2: 13**] - *miss!*  
[**Marked**]

A sudden wrenching action meant he missed his target, leaving him wide open to attacks from all angles...

"Erm...."

[Save vs To Hit Penalty: **1d20+1: 19**] - *success!*




The.brainbuster@googlewave.com, me and Random: Zero backed up a little [Shift: NW] and stared into the vacant bulbous eyes of his nemesis and fired a bolt with uncharacteristic viciousness.

Jan 28 ▼

"Die!!!" he screamed.

[Unbalancing Shot vs Thomskon Frog #02: **1d20+7: 18**] - *hits!*  
[Damage: **2d6+3: 10**]

*The bolt lodged in the behemoth's throat and after a couple of strained croaks the creature fell sideways and breathed its last. As Zero's scream quietened another took its place as the froghandler began to shriek with anger.*



Me and Random: Beltak uttered another prayer to Pelor, his holy symbol held in front of him glowing with divine radiance. The light grew and then burst out around him, playing over his allies and searing through his foes.


Jan 28 ▼

[Beacon of Hope vs Irontooth's Will: **1d20+6: 13**] - *misses!*

[Beacon of Hope vs Goblin Froghandler's Will: **1d20+6: 15**] - *hits!*  
[**Weakened**] until end of its next turn

[All allies with 3 squares regain **5** hp]

*The large goblin shrugged off the light, but the smaller froghandler screeched as it struck him and looked visibly drained. Beltak moved to flank the large goblin.* [Shift: NE]



Me, Random and Matt: *The goblin froghandler changed targets, with the rogue, killer of one of its beloved frogs, the focus of its ire. In its rage it started to charge away from Tradden and Khalin, opening its flank to the pair who took their chance.*


Jan 28 ▼

[Tradden Opportunity Attack vs Goblin Froghandler: **1d20+9+2: 27**] - *hits!*  
[Damage: **1d8+7: 12**]

[Khalin Opportunity Attack vs Goblin Froghandler: **1d20+6: 7**] - *critical miss!*

*Tradden's attack caught the goblin across the knees, stopping it in its tracks before it could reach Zero.* [Combat Superiority]

"Ah, ah, ah!", tutted the young fighter, slapping the goblin back towards him with the flat of his blade. "*Seriously, you would prefer to fight me - my freind Zero gets nasty when he gets angry...*" he mocked the Greenskin, grinning.



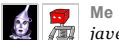
Mark, me and Random: Khalin laughed as he rounded on the Irontooth again. The green-skinned fiend may have looked the part with it's dwarven armour and twin battle-axes, but it had committed a tactical error, now flanked as it was on three sides by the forces of good. The warlord vowed to make it the creature's last mistake...

Jan 28 ▼

[Warhammer vs Irontooth: **1d20+6+2: 27**] - *hits!*  
[Damage if hits: **1d10+5: 13**]

[Minor action: Flame Bracers: **1d6: 4** extra damage]

"BURN!" snarled the dwarf, as his hammer hit home and flames once again engulfed his foe.




Me and Random: *Both of the denwardens kept their positions near the gap in the cave wall, ensuring that the wrympriest was well guarded. They drew the third and last of their javelins and hurled them into the melee.*

Jan 28 ▼

[Kobold Denwarden #01 Javelin: **1d20+7: 11** vs Khalin's AC(19)] - *misses!*

[Kobold Denwarden #02 Javelin: **1d20+7: 14** vs Tradden's AC(18)] - *misses!*

*Neither of the javelins struck home, however, harmlessly deflecting away and skittering across the cavern floor.*



Me and Random: *The wrympriest looked a little rattled by Kireth's volley but gathered its wits as quickly as it could. It chittered to the denwardens in front of it, slamming its staff on the cavern floor several times.*

Jan 28 ▼


[Incite Faith]

*The denwardens moved forward and drew their spears.*

*The dragon-skull mask adorned priest then turned its attention back to Kireth and sent another flaming orb the wizard's way.*

[Kobold Wrympriest Energy Orb: **1d20+6-2-2: 9** vs Kireth's AC(15)] - *misses!*

*Kireth brandished his staff before him and diverted the attack with a smirk.*



Me, Random and Matt: *The large goblin didn't seem to mind being surrounded, in fact it seemed to appeal to him. With a great bellow he swept round with both axes.*

Jan 28 ▼

[Irontooth Dual Axe: **1d20+8-2: 21** vs Khalin's AC(19)] - *hits!*  
[Damage: **1d8+4: 8**]

[Irontooth Dual Axe: **1d20+8-2: 22** vs Beltak's AC(16)] - *hits!*  
[Damage: **1d8+4: 9**]




As the goblin wheeled around he left his back turned, and Tradden took the chance to attack.

[Tradden Combat Superiority vs Irntooth: **1d20+9+2: 22**] - hits!  
[Damage: **1d8+7: 11**]

The attack barely left a mark.

The young figher took the breifest of seconds to hold his blades up before his eyes. "I was sure I hit it..."




Me, Random and Matt: The kobold slinger patted its bandolier but looked disappointed that it was empty. From a pouch at its side it withdrew a bullet and reloaded its sling, casting it Tradden's way.

Jan 28 ▼

[Kobold Slinger Sling: **1d20+6: 23** vs Tradden's AC(18)] - hits!  
[Damage: **1d6+3: 8**]

The bullet cracked against Tradden's knee, causing the young warrior to wince!

"Gah!" cried out the youth. "Zero!", he called to his companion, "I would take it as a very great personal favour if you could kindly put a bolt in that Slingers BLOODY HEAD!"



Neil and me: Kireth squared his feet on the floor, digging them in and grounding himself ready to unleash hell. "This will hurt a bit" he whispered to the priest. Raising his staff at the Kobold Priest, Kireth's ever increasing glee was spread over his face as each bolt fired.


Jan 31 ▼

[Magic Missile Kobold Wrym Priest: Damage **2+4+2: 8**] - automatic hit!  
[Magic Missile Kobold Wrym Priest: Damage **2+4+2: 8**] - automatic hit!

[Spend Action Point]

[Magic Missile Kobold Wrym Priest: Damage **2+4+2: 8**] - automatic hit!

With each blast of energy the wrympriest was blasted backwards, its knees buckling on the second missile, and the third almost taking its head off. A burnt shell of a corpse was all that remained.  
[Dead]




Matt, me and Random: Coughing one last time, Tradden cleared his head. Putting out of his mind the last miss against this large goblin, he again put all his effort into trying to end its life in this world...

Jan 31 ▼

[Cleave vs Irntooth. To hit **1d20+9: 10**] - misses!  
[Marked]

Amazingly, this attack was worst than the last however - the young fighter nearly took a chunk out of his own leg...




The.brainbuster@googlewave.com, me and Random: Zero took a shot at the distraught Froghandler.

Feb 1 ▼

[Crossbow vs Goblin Froghandler: **1d20+7: 19**] - hits!  
[Damage: **1d6+3: 9**]

The bolt lodged itself in the goblin's shoulder, spouting blood in a number of directions. [Bloodied]




Me and Random: Beltak struck at the large goblin with his mace, uttering prayers to Pelor as he did so.

Feb 1 ▼

[Invigorating Assault vs Irntooth: **1d20+3: 7**] - misses!

The young priest failed to connect with his strike.




Me and Random: The goblin froghandler kept moving towards, Zero, dragging its leg and oblivious to the threat from Tradden and Khalin. As the froghandler neared the rogue, it raised its spear to strike, but Zero's allies had other plans.

Feb 1 ▼

[Tradden Opportunity Attack vs Goblin Froghandler: **1d20+9+2: 25**] - hits!  
[Damage: **1d8+7: 14**]

As the goblin charged away Tradden took one swipe at its hamstrings, and the goblin went down in a scream of agony, landing atop one of his beloved amphibians. [Dead]




Me and Random: The large goblin had successfully evaded Tradden and Beltak's attacks, and Khalin was determined to follow up his previous strike and get the troublesome greenskin out of the picture.

Feb 1 ▼

"Have at you, greenie!" yelled the warlord as he brought his mighty hammer to bear once again...

[Warhammer vs Irntooth: **1d20+6+2: 13**] - misses!

The large goblin casually flicked aside the warhammer with the shaft of one of his battleaxes.




Me and Random: The denwardens continued to move towards the party and surrounded Tradden, both poking at him with their long spears.

Feb 1 ▼

[Kobold Denwarden #01 Spear: **1d20+7+2+2: 13** vs Tradden's AC(18)] - misses!

[Kobold Denwarden #02 Spear: **1d20+7+2+2: 29** vs Tradden's AC(18)] - hits!  
[Damage: **1d8+1: 3**] and [Marked]

The second denwarden managed to get past Tradden's defences and hissed in his face, challenging the young fighter to face him!



Me and Random: The large goblin didn't seem to mind being surrounded, in fact it seemed to appeal to him. With a great bellow he swept round with both axes.

Feb 1 ▼

[Irntooth Dual Axe: **1d20+8: 16** vs Khalin's AC(19)] - misses!

[Irntooth Dual Axe: **1d20+8: 22** vs Beltak's AC(16)] - hits!  
[Damage: **1d8+4: 9**]



The first axe sliced across Khalin who managed to knock the blow aside with his shield, but the second caught Beltak by surprise, and opened a cut across his arm.

As the goblin wheeled around he left his back turned, and Tradden took the chance to attack.

[Tradden Combat Superiority vs Irntooth: **1d20+9+2: 21**] - hits!  
[Damage: **1d8+7: 13**]

The goblin turned briefly to scowl at the young fighter, and roared something unintelligible to the denwardens. It cast aside one of the battleaxes and uttered another shriek towards the dwarf.



"Now you feel pain!" it screamed. [Blood Crazed]

 Me and Random: *The kobold slinger drew another bullet from its sling and hurled it towards Tradden with speed.*

Feb 1 ▾

[Kobold Slinger Sling: **1d20+6: 18** vs Tradden's AC(18)] - *hits!*  
[Damage: **1d6+3: 8**]

*This time the stone caught Tradden on the elbow, numbing his entire arm for a moment.* [Bloodied]

 Neil and me: The ranged irritant needed to go... or at least be persuaded to attack someone other than Tradden. This should get his attention.

Feb 1 ▾




[Minor Action]  
[Magic Missile Kobold Slinger: Damage **2+4+2: 8**] - *automatic hit!*

*The missile slammed into the slinger's chest knocking it backwards, its sling flying into the air along with a handful of bullets.* [Dead]

*Kireth twirled his staff over and took steady aim at the large goblin "and now you!"*

[Magic Missile Irontooth: Damage **2+4+2: 8**] - *automatic hit!*

*The bolt of force shot straight at the larger goblin who took the impact on his shoulder.*

 Matt, me and Random: Tradden had watched with intent interest as the magical bolts had swept across the air and impacted onto the Kobold Slinger.

Feb 1 ▾

*"Yes! ..... Kireth ..... Thank You!"*

The danger from the Slinger now removed, Tradden braced himself to meet the remaining three foes toe to toe. The battle was now turning into a war of attrition, and he had to do his bit – hopefully he could actually hit something this time...




[Tempest Dance Daily Power]  
[Attack vs Irontooth: **1d20+9-2: 22**] - *hits!*  
[Damage: **1d8+7: 9**] and [Marked] and [Daily Cold Power Damage **1d8: 1**]  
  
[Attack vs Kobold Denwarden #01 **1d20+9-2: 18**] - *hits!*  
[Damage: **1d8+7: 12**] and [Marked]  
  
[Attack vs Kobold Denwarden #02 **1d20+9: 18**] - *hits!*  
[Damage is **1d8+7: 8**] and [Marked]

Tradden had performed this manoeuvre before, but in the past had skipped around the enemy whilst landing blows. This time however he stayed in the same spot, whirling around and around, once, twice, three times! With each spin his longsword sliced Goblin or Kobold flesh.

*As he twirled around after hitting the large goblin, one of the denwardens thrust in their spear.*

[Kobold Denwarden #02 Mark Attack: **1d20+7+2: 13** vs Tradden's AC(18)] - *misses!*


*"Beltak! Surely Pelor must smile on us this day?!"* he cried out in his fervour. Probably the loss of blood made him a bit light headed as well. *"Bring on his healing smile!"*  
Yes, definitely loss of blood. There had been a blow to the head at somepoint as well.

 The.brainbuster@googlewave.com, me and Random: Zero darted into the shadows while the closest Denwarden focused on Tradden. He skirted around the chamber wall and took a bead on its back.

Feb 1 ▾

[Fleeting Spirit Strike]  
[Shift 3 squares and Hide vs Enemy Passive Perception: **1d20+12: 14**] - *success!*  
[Attack vs Kobold Denwarden #02: **1d20+7+2: 18**] - *hits!*  
[Damage: **2d6+3: 13**] plus [2d8: 9 sneak damage]  
[Shift 3 squares and Hide vs Enemy Passive Perception: **1d20+12: 26**] - *success!*

*Zero skipped into the gloom by the wall and sent a bolt into the back of the unwary kobold.* [Bloodied] *He appeared for a moment as he attacked, and then slunk back off into the darkness.*




 Me: *Beltak shied away from the melee combat [Shift: SW], leaving the warriors to deal with the cut and thrust of close combat. Beltak's position for now should be guided by Pelor and drawing down His divine light to heal those that needed it. Already with his Beacon of Hope sent by Pelor he could feel the healing powers well up inside.*

Feb 1 ▾

[Healing Word: Tradden spends a healing surge and regains **1d6+5+9: 18** hp]

*The priest then laid a hand on Khalin's shoulder and energy flooded through him.*

[Cure Light Wounds: Khalin regains **14** hp]



 Mark, me and Random: As Beltak laid his hand upon his shoulder, Khalin felt reinvigoured. But with the surge of new energy also came clarity, and the warlord was forced to acknowledge that, despite his bluster and baiting, he was facing not just another greenskin, but a worthy opponent. Again he silently chided himself for letting conceit cloud his judgement.

Feb 2 ▾

This time when he swung, he left the blow unpunctuated by spoken word - his hammer would do the talking.

[Warhammer vs Irontooth: **1d20+6: 13**] - *misses!*

The dwarf managed a tight smile as the Irontooth again parried the blow - the warlord's respect continued to be merited it seemed. Still, a warrior's skills would only grow in the face of a strong foe, and if that be the case, Khalin's resolve demanded this battle only end one way.



 Me and Random: *The denwardens circled Tradden warily waiting for the opportunity to strike. Tradden tried to keep an eye on them both, but found it difficult as they flanked him on either side. After a few short jabs that Tradden pushed aside easily, they both struck at the same time.*

Feb 2 ▾

[Kobold Denwarden #01 Spear: **1d20+7+2+2: 28** vs Tradden's AC(18)] - *hits!*  
[Damage: **1d8+1: 9**]

[Kobold Denwarden #02 Spear: **1d20+7+2+2: 20** vs Tradden's AC(18)] - *hits!*  
[Damage: **1d8+1: 3**] and [Marked]

*Both lizards jabbed in hard and their spearpoints swept past Tradden's defences and pierced through his armour.*

 Me and Random: *The large goblin smiled as it parried away Khalin's blow and heard the squeals from Tradden as the denwardens struck home. In its mouth Khalin saw large pieces of iron instead of teeth jutting at odd angles. Its eyes were wild and it didn't look quite in control, ignoring Tradden's repeated attempts to get its attention it still focused on the dwarf.*

Feb 2 ▾

[Irontooth Blood Crazyed Battleaxe: **1d20+8: 16** vs Khalin's AC(19)] - *misses!*

*The first blow made Khalin duck and the goblin swung the same axe around, this time at knee-level.*

[Irontooth Blood Crazyed Battleaxe: **1d20+8: 12** vs Khalin's AC(19)] - *misses!*




Khalin jumped over the axe swing as Tradden saw the opportunity to attack.

[Tradden Combat Superiority vs Irontooth: **1d20+9+2: 18**] - hits!  
[Damage: **1d8+7: 10**]

The goblin roared as it was stung by Tradden's sword, but still continued to swing its battleaxe.

"I kill you dwarf!" it screamed. [Blood Crazed - heals **5** hp]


 Neil: "You shall kill no one this day, pitiful creature!" It was the crazed goblin's turn to receive Kireth's attention.

Feb 2 ▼

[Minor Action]  
[Magic Missile Irontooth: Damage **2+4+2: 8**] - automatic hit!

[Magic Missile Irontooth: Damage **2+4+2: 8**] - automatic hit!


Kireth rocked backwards with each pulse of his staff, the bolts, ever reliable, slamming into their victim.

 Matt, me and Random: As more magical bolts slammed into the Goblin, Tradden was having problems with the Denwardens. He jostled back and forth with them, waiting for an opening and an attack that wouldn't allow them a free hit, as had happened before.

Feb 2 ▼

[Cleave vs Kobold Denwarden #02: **1d20+9: 21**] - hits!  
[Damage is **1d8+7: 11**] and [Kobold Denwarden#1 takes **4** splash damage]


The denwarden held still for a moment, clutching it's stomach, and then dropped to the floor in a pool of blood and ichor. [Dead]

 The.brainbuster@googlewave.com, me and Random: Zero sneaked a little closer to the remaining Denwarden and loosed a bolt from the shadows.

Feb 2 ▼

[Gloaming Cut vs Kobold Denwarden #01: **1d20+7+2: 21**] - hits!  
[Damage: **1d6+3+2d8: 8**]  
[Stealth Check to remain hidden: **1d20+12: 19**] - success!

Zero was out and back into the darkness in a flash, but the bolt failed to deliver the killing blow he was hoping for.

 Matt: Tradden had to swerve to avoid the deadly bolt that came flying past from Zero's direction, and he cried in pain as one of his legs buckled underneath him, weakened as it was from the spear thrusts of the Denwardens.


Feb 2 ▼

He looked up from his now half-kneeling position, and started to haul himself up.

The main threat was still the Goblin, and whilst it had worked itself up into a battle frenzy, it was still dangerous - the way it hauled around those heavy axes as if they were mere blades of grass was proof of that.

He looked to catch the eyes of Beltak and Khalin, both of which were clearly readying themselves to strike.

"Finish it!" he yelled, hoarsely.

 Me: With the grace of Pelor's radiance the party had been stabilised - their cuts and wounds closed by His guiding light. Beltak was now able to bring forth Pelor's radiance in another vein.

Feb 2 ▼

[Minor Action]  
[Solar Enemy - targets within 2 squares gain vulnerability radiant 5]


As the divine light played across the large goblin and the kobold denwarden left in the melee, Beltak took another step back. [Shift: W]

He then raised his symbol and strands of divine radiance centred on Tradden poured over the battlefield, tearing into Beltak's enemies.

[Light of Arvandor]  
[Attack vs Irontooth's Will: **1d20+6: 7**] - critical miss!

[Attack vs Kobold Denwarden #01's Will: **1d20+6: 16**] - hits!  
[Damage: **1d8+5+5: 13**]

The large goblin shrugged off the light, but the denwarden succumbed to the radiance. [Bloodied]

 Mark, me and Random: Khalin again had to marvel at the priest of Pelor's contributions to the skirmish. It seemed the warlord had misjudged a great many things this day. But there was no better teacher of the finer arts of war than the cauldron of battle itself.

Feb 2 ▼

Khalin gave silent thanks again to Clangeddin, followed by a prayer that his hammer might find it's target this time. Noting the goblin's growing fury, Khalin played his latest gambit...

[Brash Assault vs Irontooth: **1d20+6: 17**] - hits!  
[Damage: **1d10+5: 13**]  
[Opportunity attack to Irontooth, free counter to Tradden if taken - combat advantage applies to both]

Khalin's sweep knocked two of the iron teeth clean out of the goblin's maw, drawing a snarl of rage. Furiously, the goblin struck back regardless of the consequences.


[Irontooth Blood Crazed Battleaxe: **1d20+8+2: 22** vs Khalin's AC(19)] - hits!  
[Damage: **1d8+1d10+4: 12**]

The axe smashed against Khalin, who rode with the blow allowing Tradden to stick the knife in.

[Tradden Longsword vs Irontooth: **1d20+9+2: 16**] - miss!

But the fighter couldn't take the opportunity.


Khalin gritted his teeth against the sting of the axe's blade, before firing off a pained scowl at his partner-in-arms for missing the gilt-edged opportunity to finish the battle. That boy...

 Me and Random: As Tradden struck at the large goblin, the denwarden set itself and thrust forward its spear once more.

Feb 2 ▼

[Kobold Denwarden #01 Spear: **1d20+7+1: 24** vs Tradden's AC(18)] - hits!  
[Damage: **1d8+1: 4**] and [Marked]

The spear bit into Tradden's side.

 Me and Random: Swaying on the last ounces of energy, the large goblin heaved his axe around again in a vicious arc at Khalin's chest.

Feb 2 ▼



[Irontooth Blood Crazed Battleaxe: **1d20+8: 16** vs Khalin's AC(19)] - misses!

The goblin raged and brought his axe round once more at Khalin's exposed chest.

[Irontooth Blood Crazed Battleaxe: **1d20+8: 28** vs Khalin's AC(19)] - critical hit!  
[Damage: **1d8+1d10+4: 22**]

The dwarf's mail nearly split across the seam and the goblin put all his effort into the blow, a few of the metal scales falling to the floor in a bloody spray. [Bloodied]

"You feel pain now!" it screamed. [Blood Crazed - heals **5** hp]



Neil and me: The fight reached its furious finale. Kireth, from his point of relative safety (at least in the current circumstance), had the liberty of being able to see it all play out before him. What had started out as probing and sparring shots was now a full blown melee, axes and swords swinging with bloodrage force, magic arcing overhead and prayers to pointless gods.

The mage marvelled at its horrible beauty.

But, all things must end and Kireth Majere had brought finality on more than one occassion.

"Enough!" boomed the mage's voice, echoing above the clash of steel. He trusty staff whirled over in his hands, pointing first at the Kobold.

[Minor Action]  
[Magic Missile Kobold Denwarden #1: Damage **2+4+2: 8**] - automatic hit!



The bolt slammed into the creature's midrift, it's feet flipping out backwards it fell face first into the dirt. Motionless.

In a blur the staff was on the move again

[Magic Missile Irontooth: Damage **2+4+2: 8**] - automatic hit!

Feeling the force slam into his torso the goblin looked up, confusion on its face. The axe falling from his hand, Irontooth sank to one knee. As his breathing became shallower he looked around at the faces. A bloodstained smile spread across his face "You... have no... idea" he croaked before falling sideways. As his toothy grin closed he muttered, perhaps in goblin speech, "Skauril ka Gash Orka, chikkada passa!" Then all was silent. [Dead]

Kireth broke the moment of silence. The mage was again staring at his hands, which seemed to shimmer with renewed power. "I have no idea? Oh, but I think I do!"





Matt: The last two combatants fell, and Tradden was not far behind, his badly injured legs finally giving way. He lay on his back, breathing heavily and trying to recovery from what had been a ferocious battle.



Me: [...combat encounter completed...]

[Kireth spends 2 healing surges]  
[Tradden spends 3 healing surges]  
[Khalin spend 4 healing surges]

[Kireth moves to 3rd Level]





Matt: Beltak came over to Tradden and assisted the young fighter in firstly sitting up, and then retiring over to sit against the nearest wall. Tradden congratulated the Cleric as he treated his wounds. "Fine work Beltak – good to have you with us!" smiled the fighter, weakly.

Before too long however, Beltak had used a combination of divine powers and more practical first aid and the young lad was on his feet again, albeit battered and bruised. He was a sight – his body was bloodied, cut and punctured, and his armour was just the same. He still wobbled a little bit, and shook his head to try and clear it, despite the pain it caused which stemmed from the fast-expanding bump above one blackened eye.

Suddenly, with frightening quietness, the shadows next to Tradden suddenly produced Zero. The rogue was looking around, likely trying to spot something shiny, thought Tradden.


"Quite the fight eh? Takes it out of one!" said the rogue, sloping off towards the north east of the cavern, presumably having seen something to investigate. Looking at his friend, his long, un-tattered cloak flowing, his fine clothes looking like they had just been bought and not a hair on his head out of place, Tradden found that for one of only a few times in his entire life, he was speechless...



Me and Random: **Khalin** took a number of deep breaths and then laid his hammer down carefully. He staunched the flow of blood across his chest, relieved that the cut looked a lot worse than it actually was - a good rest would be good enough for it to heal.

Kneeling down next to the goblin the dwarf pushed back some of the shredded clothes it wore to get a better look at the mail. The mail was ill-fitting for the goblin, but was still fine workmanship. Tracing his fingers over runes on the shoulder guards it was obviously of dwarven manufacture, but not from The Islands. The conundrum was that it was fairly new.


[Khalin Perception Check: **1d20+1: 6**]



Me: **Kireth** moved across the chamber swiftly, pushing aside limbs and debris in his way with a swift stroke of his staff. His target was the wyrm priest, prostrate near one of the cavern walls.

The kobold's body was not in good shape - **Kireth's** energy bolts had crushed its ribcage. A wry smile crossed the wizard's lips; a job well done.

To his dismay, however, the wyrm priest appeared to have nothing of any value - the staff was a simple wooden affair, carved crudely, and the dragon-skull mask looked to be just a cleverly disguised animal skull, not of any benefit or use.



Me: **Zero** skipped effortlessly across to the far northeastern corner of the chamber, intrigued by the mound of items stacked up.

Most was simple provisions and fur blankets, perhaps for the large goblin to sleep on, but one item took his eye. A simple wooden chest trimmed in bronze stood to one side, it's lock twinkling in the torchlight, beckoning to the rogue.



Matt and Mark: Tradden felt a bit lost.

All the others had objectives to achieve – Khalin was straight onto the body of the large Goblin, and gasps and outbursts about "Dwarven armour", and things being "incredible" echoed around the cave.

Kireth moved straight to the mangled body of the Kobold magic user, but the mage quickly angered at not finding anything of use.

Zero had indeed seen some shiny things, and was currently looking intently at a box he had found, staring at it as if to dare it to be trapped in some deadly fashion.

Beltak was, perhaps predictably, already in prayer to Pelor. And why not? The god had smiled on them today, if not beamed on them.

All Tradden could do was limp around the rest of the cavern looking for anything else that might be of interest. He also checked over the bodies of the other creatures, making sure he took a second to give a hefty boot to the body of the slinger. There was nothing of note bar 12 gold coins and 48 silver coins, all of the non-Deepingwald type.




When he had finished he shuffled over to Khalin, and asked him his thoughts on what intelligence they could report back to the Council. After a quick deliberation the Dwarf and man concluded that:

- o I was likely that they had just disposed of the core force; any others would be stragglers, or not joined to this group. That seemed a sound conclusion, judging by the type of creatures here and both the size and space of the cave.
- o With the exception of the large goblin, it was notable that the the Kobolds had been better armed and prepared.
- o Much of the weapons and armour now could be reclaimed by the town, but there was nothing significant about anything other than the armour that Khalin now guarded.

Khalin was very much of the view that the town acted quickly, there was the potential to fortify this cave. If it was left for long, it may be reclaimed by dark forces once again.

With the debrief over, Khalin clapped an arm round Tradden's back (he could barely reach the lanky youth's shoulders). *"Cheer up my friend, we weren't at our best this day, granted, but we prevailed nevertheless."* Tradden shrugged as the dwarf continued. *"You'll be better for a few ales when we get back to the town,"* he gave his friend a knowing smile, *"and I'm sure Caldning will be pleased to see you back,"* he added, hoping to raise the lad's spirits.

As the warlord mentioned Caldning's name he turned back to survey the mysterious, apparently brand new, armour, and a disturbing thought scudded unbidden through his mind. The dwarf was careful that his comrade didn't see the troubled look that passed briefly across his visage.



Me, Random and 2 others: ***Khalin** carefully unstrapped the mail from the goblin, taking care over the leather fittings, but less care over the goblin's corpse. The cuts and thrusts of combat and the bolts of energy from **Kireth's** staff had ravaged the body, but the mail looked unharmed.*

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[Khalin Perception Check: **1d20+1: 2**] - critical failure!

*With the mail unstrapped and lain to one side **Khalin** could look at it in more detail. The fog of battle and the sting of fresh wounds still dulled his senses though, and he called **Kireth** over for a moment to ask the mage for his thoughts.*

*The wizard pondered a moment or two, taking a brief look at the mail.*


[Kireth Arcana Check: **1d20+10: 17**] - success!

*He sniffed, and poked at it a couple of times with his staff. Disdainfully turning aside, the half-elf indicated that it was enchanted, with properties of protection, endurance, and healing.*

[Dwarven Scale Mail +1, gain +1 to Endurance checks, daily healing power to regain hit points as if spent a healing surge]



*Khalin brightened up instantly. He'd had his eye on the armour from the moment the goblin appeared, but this was an unexpected bonus, particularly given the fact he'd already got through two sets of scale in their relatively short time on the mainland.*

*The group were now ready to head back, and so started to gather at the cave entrance.*



Mark: *"Ah, Zero!"* joshed Khalin as he drew alongside the rogue. *"Er, you did take part in that battle, didn't you?"* he added, noticing the rogue's perfectly clean garments with barely a hair out of place. The bloodied and battered dwarf didn't quite look sure whether he was joking or not.

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Me and Random: The rogue didn't look up at the dwarf, he was far too busy squatting down next the chest and examining the lock. He deftly ran his fingers across the bronze banding and then reached into his pack to withdraw his treasured toolset.

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With a carefully selected tool he inspected the lock and the hinges, barely touching the surface of the chest.

[Thievery Check - Find Traps: **1d20+9+2+2: 31**] - success!

Nodding to himself, Zero began to hum a small tune, picking up different tools from his selection. With two small rods he spent some time inspecting the inside of the lock before twisting them sharply.

[Thievery Check - Open Locks: **1d20+9+2: 24**] - success!

With a satisfying click the lid hinged open and Zero beamed with pride. The whole show had been no longer than five minutes!



Me and Random: ***Zero** looked inside the chest, finding to his delight a heavy pouch stuffed full of coins [420 gold coins]. Under this pouch was an object wrapped in cloth, and a leather scroll case.*

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*The rogue quickly put the coins into his pack, alongside the others, calling out "Booty, lads!" to the rest of the group. The scroll case he held up absent-mindedly and waved in the air until **Kireth** ambled up and took it from him without a word of thanks.*

*Clearing a space in the furs, **Zero** took the cloth and laid it out, unravelling it to see what was within. The smell of wood oil greeted his nostrils as the cloth unfurled and both he and **Khalin** whistled in admiration of the contents.*



*Within the cloth was a small crossbow and a quiver with a dozen bolts. The crossbow was exquisitely made, decorated intricately with silver filigree shaped to look like webs. A similar pattern extended to the bolts.*

[Kireth Arcana Check: **1d20+10: 17**] - success!

*"Mildly enchanted," stated **Kireth** blandly. "Why someone would waste their time pouring their time and effort into such crude weapons is beyond me, but this one seems to have properties of restraint, as do the bolts."*

[Entrapping Hand Crossbow +1, on critical +1d6 damage or restrain]  
[12 x Spider Bolts +1, on hit slows target and adjacent enemies]

*"Well, there's no-one around to use it now, so I guess I'll, erm, hold on to them for a bit, eh?" said Zero.*



Neil and me: Kireth turned away from the pair, smirking as he did so.

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He rolled the little key between his finger and thumb before dropping it into his pocket. Had Zero failed to open the lock he would, of course, have handed it over to the thief but he liked to keep those working around him on their toes. You can never practice your skills enough.

His attention then switched to the scroll case which he opened reverently and withdrew the parchment within. His first reaction was a scowl, the writings thereon were non-magical, just a letter. However, as his eyes scanned the text his eyebrows rose.

*"Ahem,"* he coughed, drawing everyone's attention. *"It looks like we have found a message. It is addressed to one 'Irontooth' - I suggest that is the large goblin. Interestingly it is written in Common."*

*"My spy in Blackengorge suggests we keep an eye out for visitors at either the burial site or the keep. It probably does not matter. In a few more days, I'll completely open the rift. Then Blackengorge's people will serve as food for those our Lord sends to do my bidding. Keep this weapon for my spy, I'm sure it may need it close by."*


Kireth paused, the contents of the letter sinking in. *"It is signed by a 'Skauril'"* he concluded, the letter in his hand dropping to his side.



Matt: Tired and bruised, this news only caused Tradden to put his hand to his forehead. He pinched the bridge of his nose as if to clear a headache.


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*"Great."* was all the usually ebullient youth could muster.



Mark: Khalin chuckled at Tradden's groan. *"Haha! The game's afoot!"* he laughed. The day was getting better: gold, magic armour, new weaponry, and the prospect of an ale or three to come. Despite his injuries the upturn in events made him savour the deepening mystery with something approaching glee.

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Me: *With their new items and new information safely tucked away, the group took one last look at the inside of the goblin lair and set off back to Blackengorge.*

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*Everyone was a little subdued, despite **Khalin's** good humour. The battle had taken the energy out of the party and the mystery surrounding the message had them all thinking. Before they knew it, however, they were approaching the west gate of the small town - a town that was slowly becoming a home base for them, with warm fires and good meals. Expectant faces peered over the palisades as they approached and a small cheer went up when **Tradden** raised his arm and punched the air in a victory salute, drawing a quick frown from **Kireth**.*

*They had set off in the early morning and it was late afternoon by now - bellies were starting to pang with hunger and the team made their way straight towards The Bronze Lion to warm themselves, get changed, and get something to eat*

get changed, and get something to eat.



Me: [...continued in [Chapter #04\\_Scene #03...](#)]

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Tags: 

Next wave ➡