

Hello friends! In my zest, I have impatiently created this document to be able to paste my poem and tales of Alimus when read by the one and only Maudlin Merryman. I would like you all to be able to read along and have these tales for later (I am very proud to show them off, please "yes-and" these as much as you want). **Read along, not ahead** pretty please except for this first poem, which I think most of your characters would have heard once or twice before from other bards.

## *The collected written Poems and Tales of The Maudlin Merryman*

### *Alimus, the Stairway to the Heavens*

*Heaven cannot be climbed to, though many have ascended  
Many more will try their luck before my time is ended  
Though futile effort and sweated brows bring you one step closer  
The sky is reached only at last at Bright Sky's final closure*

*The veil can thin or bend or break, the soul can glimpse beyond  
A vision dreamt, blessings heaven-sent, or Portals open Yawned  
Passage through is barred for all, lest River Styx you sail  
The price for travel too high a cost, a forfeited mortal coil*

*Yet fret you not, dear listeners, there is hope to be found yet  
For Death and Prophetic mystics are not the sole Divine we get  
Alimus, fair Alimus, the Stairway to the Heavens  
Brings the gods to kiss our brows, blessed with faithful tenements*

## *The Epic of Alimus*

*An Original Work*

*'In shadowed mist and blackest night  
A vision 6-way split our sight  
Though gathered we had not as yet  
Our fates began their fateful thread*

*A human calm and solitary drank,  
Till a halfling shy and baleful came  
A topaz dragon born of man  
Entered also and did the same*

*Next a Hare upon table leapt  
His brother, a cockroach, on shoulder crept  
Two elves, one dark the other fair,  
Sipped their wines as a removed pair*

*The man was Darro, the Halfling - Tov  
The topaz dragon called himself Zerath  
Fitz be the name of the cockroach's brother  
Kirian and Adrienne had hoped for less bother*

*The Law came hard, with Hands of Black  
To steal the Ale from tavern in back  
Adrienne protested, saying justice was lack  
But the Law's ear was firm and did not bend, alas*

*To the bench where Darro sat  
The Elven Pair were drawn after the tavern's spat  
Introductions passed, connections realized  
The 6 did not yet know how their fates were tied*

*Discussion of history soon arose, describing Alimus  
The Beautiful City where ale rains from above  
The Dragons' Bounty Rain forms amber rust  
They fill their belly with their amber love*

*Much to our surprise as we bid our farewells  
We found a man in alley with spirit unwell  
A monstrous creature born of nothing appeared  
Struck our band, and for Adrienne brought Death near*

*An emanation of Emptiness, a beast made of want  
With magic and with blade was dispatched.  
Who knows now what creatures spawn  
When sorrows will grow too attached?*