

Saturday, November 16th, 2019

Operation Monster

Nightmares Below

I am Shandalas Irath'alon, keeper of texts for the keep. On this day a group from the Keep consisting of Blood Commander Elias Cipher, Altier Accelia, Doctor Franklin Shagoul, Lora'Thamus Anora, Leyoric Plaguefang, S'rennatha, Honey, Araelia Falore'Dris, Soltaria Sori'Thol, and a member of the Fang faction, Melatheol Silentsky dove into an unknown hideout of the infamous and now apprehended Jura'Khan Ator'Gan the Necromancer.

Though I was not there, I have gathered a very detailed account of the events that transpired that night and will detail them here for further Keep records.

Lead by Lora'Thamus Anora and intel that the young paladin had acquired on the whereabouts of the highly sought after necromancer, members of the Keep and allying groups rallied with him to dive into this unknown hole in the ground believed to be the current hideout of codename: Khan. Shortly after entering the place, the group was immediately attacked by a wave of undead that had been risen in service of the mad man. Suffering no casualties and possibly a few minor scrapes and bruises the group believed it to be an easy night. Though from accounts, it was far from easy.

Shortly after dispatching the wave of undead, the very bodies they walked upon began to move the group into another room, against their will. Dropping them off in an adjacent room, that was where they were to face the hardest fight of the night. An abomination, too big to fit into the room that it was confined to, yet made up of more than three dozen corpses, it was a horrendous sight to behold, and an even worse foe to fight.

Over the course of two hours the group fought the behemoth, suffering massive damage to each of the members, knocking three unconscious. Wounds suffered weren't from the monster alone. Gripped by fear some of the attacks dealt ended up becoming friendly fire which was quickly rectified by the casters of the spells. Finally, once the fight was finished and the behemoth was destroyed by a stunning final move by Altier Accelia throwing a massive shadow scythe at the beast, cutting it in half. Taking a moment to recuperate, Leyoric Plaguefang, who had suffered severe wounds and exhaustion volunteered to withdraw from the battle and take the unconscious members back to safety.

Moving on, the group found themselves in what appeared to be a dug out tunnel with several tree roots and skeletal limbs hanging from the walls. Thinking nothing of it, they continued on. However, having dropped their guard, cost them the life of Melatheol Silentsky, who was so mercilessly ripped apart by the roots and skeletons of the tunnel. Nothing of him remained intact to be brought back for a proper burial. In blind rage, Commander Elias rushed head first through the tunnel, only to find himself captured by the same roots that were now threatening to rip him apart.

Of the five currently left, only the Doctor and Lora'Thamus had managed to avoid being gripped by the deadly roots. Thankfully, their fast reacting managed to free the others and get them to safety on the other end of the tunnel. This however was not the end of their suffering.

Finally coming face to face with the one they were after, they were more than ready for another fight. However, this was not what happened. Khan, not only being a necromancer, but a trickster of the mind, took two victims. Altier Accelia, and Lora'Thamus Anora, strapped them to tables and before the others could react, put S'Rennatha, The Commander, and The Doctor in their own personal hells.

I have no account on what S'Rennatha's was, for she does not speak, but what I do know is that Lora'Thamus suffered severe wounds inflicted by her, believed to be the result of her actions in this... 'Lucid Nightmare'. Speaking of which, I feel it should be mentioned that, of the three suffering these nightmares, they were bound to a victim of their own. S'Rennatha to Lora'Thamus, Doctor Franklin to Altier, and the Commander.. To his mate Ana'belle Keepwalker.

No one knows how Ana'belle was captured by Khan or even when, but she was there.. And she nearly died. Khan's trick was to make the three suffer nightmares they had endured once before, whether it be as a war machine of slaughter, or fearing for his life at the hands of those he once called friend. S'Rennatha was the first to figure hers out, thus freeing the young paladin first, then, the Doctor told me that he had to let himself 'die' at the hands of the ones he killed and once called friends. The Commanders, took the longest to figure out, which unfortunately almost resulted in he himself nearly draining his mate dry. Re-living his nightmare as a Warmachine for Salder, and his battle induced hunger led him to drink from her while the ghosts of those he slaughtered encouraged it.

With only a breath of life left within her, the Commander claimed it finally clicked that he needed to let the ghosts have their revenge. So, he told them to kill him. This sacrifice

led him to be free of Khans spell. Though she was not quite dead, she was almost there, and Elias quickly got Ana to the medical ward while the others apprehended Khan and stuck him in the Keep prison, restrained by magic dampening chains.

Though the mission was a success, it was not easily earned and Khan still remains, the most dangerous threat to the Keep yet. Until further information comes, this is a recollection of the events that will shape the future of a few of our people. Hopefully, not for the worse.