

## Chapter 007 – It's Play Time

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### Scene #1 – The Old Fishery – Fishery Floor

*Moments later, a second door on the upper catwalk burst open to reveal the diminutive form of a crazed and wiry looking gnome. "Oi this better not be anyon- Oi, you weren't kidding Giggles!" The gnome yelled out in a loud voice. "Oh, they got that rascal Bloo huh? Never liked em... Oi, Lambs! What are standing around for?" He added as he turned to the huddled children underneath the catwalk, "Do you all want to be dinner for Gobblegut eh!?! Go stop em then eh!"*

*Below, some of the children, clearly terrified, began to rise and grab what they could find around them...*

Redii, laser-focused on Giggles in front of her, lunged at the half-orc as soon he became momentarily distracted by the strange bell that was summoned; managing to stab him once with a sai under his armpit. As she lunged aggressively to stab him again, Giggles caught her wrist and stopped her. **"Hehehe, we're supposed to take turns you know. Now it's my turn."** he commented to her as he started to spin his flail around menacingly.

Despite the threats from Hookshanks, Brack keeps focus on Redii as she manages to land a solid blow onto the towering half-orc. He continues his chant, again missing a beat to lace the air with nauseous dissonance. **"Dorrooh seh gOH bahck!"** though this time the jarring melody carries through the air towards the focus of everyone's attention.

Witnessing a similar mockery from Hutton's attempts to prove his physical prowess against Giggles, the dwarf pauses before the next verse and chastises the grown man, **"Oh come on now 'utton. Are yeh all bluster or are yeh finally going to put yeh muscle where yeh mouth is!?"**

Around Hutton, the Lambs nearest him - intimidated into action by the crazed-looking gnome - rose from their hiding place beneath the catwalk and encircled Hutton. At first, they attempted to hit him with makeshift clubs before quickly realizing that it wouldn't work against a man as big as him. Dropping their weapons, they resorted to the next best thing and grabbed at his arms and legs, attempting to keep him still and hinder him as much as possible. The Lambs on the other side of the room, seeing the same thing, quickly followed and tried the same tactic on Mazour (though there was a lot less to grab onto).

At the same time, with Brack's chant finally breaking through, Giggles fidgeted uncomfortably for a moment as the wave of magical energy hit him. **"I don't like this song very much hehe,"** he began as he swung even more wildly at Redii again, missing her completely and smacking his flail against the wall, **"Can you do 'The Shipwright's Two Lovers' instead?"...**

Shaking off the multitude of tiny hands, Hutton sighs at the futility of it all and looks back up to the catwalk above him. He leaps to grab the ledge and manages to easily pull himself up.

Righting himself, he squares off against the half-orc in the corner and growls, **"No more waiting, chum. As you say, it's play time,"** and he lunges at the man in an attempt to grapple him.

Giggles tried to shrug out of Hutton's grasp, but Hutton's superior form and position plus Giggles bad leg led to the Half-Orc getting caught. **"You're an impatient one aren't 'cha. If you really wanted to play so bad hehehe, you should've just said so!"** Giggles tittered annoyingly.

Mazour bobbed and weaved his way between the children rolling away from their grasp. The angry mountain plowed straight through. *Bully for him, I suppose.* Not wanting to attack children, he looked for options. *They are the symptom. Remove the problem.* The Lambs clutched at him as he raised the reliquary. **"And you shall know the end by the sounding of the bell."**

The reliquary glimmered, bathed in purple light. Again, the bell formed over Giggles. And as the spiraling comet symbol etched into its side lit up, the bell rang.

The familiar unearthly bell of Maz's tolled above Giggles' head, but he seemed to resist or ignore whatever effect it was supposed to have.

At the same time, a muttering Hookshanks made his way across the catwalk towards the surrounded Giggles. **"Good-for-nothin' Lambs and good-for-nothin' Giggles can't do nothin' right..."** he muttered as he stopped and pulled out a dirty looking cleaver, taking aim at the combatants below. **"...Always having to do everything for me self cause everyone here is a coward or an 'diot..."** Picking Hutton as his target, he launched the cleaver in his direction as he yelled out, **"Take this Jumbo!"** The blade spun in the air a few times before embedding itself deeply in Hutton's lower back. **"Now kills them quick Giggles so I can finally get some shuteye!!"** ...

Focusing mostly on Giggles, Brack catches Hookshanks out of the corner of his gaze wind up to toss the cleaver towards Hutton. Reflexively, he stomps his foot against the beat he's been keeping and immediately shouts **"YISH!"**

As if a momentary stutter in the fabric of the universe unfolded before the eyes of the halfling, a jolt of discordance races up his spine and assails his concentration with the uneven meter of the strange chant the dwarf had been making.

After the shuddering, Brack pauses before continuing his chant **"....dahn YAHCK!"** The chorus wafts through the air like a pleasant breeze, seemingly now in tune with some unseen rhythm from within one's own soul. The harmony of the notes washes over like a cascade upon Redii, lifting her spirits like that of the first sunlight after the last cold day of spring.

The Old Fishery subtly shuddered for the briefest of moments as Brack's magic rewrote what was. The cleaver - once embedded deep within Hutton's back - was now instead coming to stillness on the ground behind the man. And what was once a triumphant shout from the gnome instead became another frustrated mutter as he pulled out another cleaver, **"Stupid Giggles and stupid Lambs ruinin' my perfect throw and ruining my good night's sleep..."**

As Redii attempted to extricate herself from Giggles' grip, she felt a strange sensation course through her body followed by the momentary flash of a happy memory of Redii and her sister laughing uncontrollably. Gaining a surge of positive energy within her, Redii turned her gaze back to Giggles and smiled. **"It's over Giggles,"** she said simply before using his hold of her arm as both support and leverage to leap into the air and kick out as hard as she could with both feet straight into the half-orc's face. Stunned and clearly in pain, Giggles released his hold on Redii's arm which allowed her to flip backwards and land back on the catwalk in a three-point stance. Then, without giving Giggles a chance to recover, she lunged forward and stabbed her sai straight into the side of Giggles' neck with all her might. With the human wall that was Hutton behind him, Giggles was unable to avoid the strike and coughed up a glob of blood as the blow hit before crumpling to his knees. Laughing one last time as he looked up at Redii - coughing up more blood in the process - he eventually grew still and fell forward to hang limply in Hutton's arms. Pulling out her sai from his neck, Redii then gave the gnome a fierce look that clearly said *"You're next"*.

Brack breathed a sigh of relief seeing the missile miss its mark. Wiping the small grin off his face, he got back to the task at hand in helping the crew overcome the opposition. He picked up the hymn once again, though seemingly in better spirits now that the tides have seemed to turn, clapping and stomping along to his beat as he finished, **"dahn shall..."** and flubbed the ancient verse, **"... YEh!"**

The rippling disharmony carried through the air, though this time to the senses of Hookshanks.

Brack's magically-laced chant was resisted and ignored by the gnome who stared down at the body of his fallen comrade with a look of... annoyance? **"F\*\*\*ing bloody useless idiot,"** Hookshanks said to himself as he pulled out another knife from his belt.

At the same time, the sight of Giggles' dead body – and the bloody act that led him to that fate – broke the resolve of the little Lambs. Completely forgetting about Hookshanks' command moments earlier, the majority of them stopped what they were doing and made a break for the now open door on the Fishery floor and out into the night. Five of them, instead of leaving the Fishery, instead moved underneath the catwalk Hutton and Redii were on, attempting to stay as far away from the action as possible.

Whirling around Giggles' lifeless legs dangling as Hutton carries the half-orc's body with one mighty ham-sized fist wrapped around his bandolier, he charges down the catwalk toward his cowardly assailant.

**"What kind of scum throws a knife at a man's back?"** he rages as he bears down on the gnome. **"It's over, little man. You're all washed up!"**

With that, Hutton rears back and hurls the green corpse at Hookshanks in an attempt to knock him off the end of the catwalk and into the large vat of mystery liquid.

Luckily for Hookshanks, he was quick and small which allowed him to duck out of the way as the body of Giggles sailed above him and crashed with force against the back wall. Giggles' body rolled a couple of times before falling off the catwalk and half falling into the large vat of foul smelling liquid with a splat.

Mazour pursed his lips in disappointment. His magics have had little to any effectiveness so far. So far. But they needed one alive. Unfortunately, this piece of shit needs to live. At least long enough to get answers. His purple eyes gained a silvery sheen as the power flowed through him.

**"Grovel!"** The words vibrated with power, pushing through the air toward Hookshank.

**"Are ya bloody mad!!"** Giggles shouted at Hutton as he rose and began pulling out a cleaver. Before he could do more than rise, Mazour's command reverberated powerfully throughout the room. The Fishery grew silent for a moment before Hookshanks turned towards Mazour and yelled out, **"Who tha Hells are you tellin' the Grovel!"** Ignoring Hutton's missed strike besides him, Hookshanks charged back towards the end of the platform in a rush and launched his new cleaver at Mazour with all his might.

The weapon seemed to hang in the air for minutes as it spun a few times before unfortunately finding its target and embedding itself within Mazour's midsection. **"Now you Grovel!"** Hookshanks shouted down before he opened the door connected to the upper catwalk and zipped deeper into the Old Fishery. In the near distance, Hookshanks' fading voice could be heard yelling, **"Yargin ya lazy coward! Giggles' dead cause ya hid in your room! Get out here so I can smack ya a bit! Then help me kill these fools!"**...

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Out of Character:

Scene #1 – The Old Fishery – Fishery Floor

Redii & Brack are up! We're still technically in initiative unless the group decides to slow down/pause. In that case, let me know what you'd like to do.

As a note:





- (5) Lambs are still huddled underneath right stair and the catwalk.
- Giggles went through the highlighted door on the catwalk.





Initiative Order:

- Maz: 20
- Hookshanks: 17
- **Redii: 16**
- **Brack: 14**
- Lamm's Lambs: 13
- Giggles: 6
- Bloo: 4 **(dead)**
- Hutton: 3

Health Status

100% hitpoints: Healthy  
 75% to 99% hitpoints: Light Wounds  
 50% to 75% hitpoints: Medium Wounds  
 25% to 50% hitpoints: Serious Wounds  
 0% to 25% hitpoints: Critical Wounds.

Brack	Hutton	Mazour	Redii
			
10/10 hit points Inspiration	13/13 hit points Inspiration Bardic Inspiration	3/9 hit points Inspiration	10/10 hit points Inspiration
1/1 hit dice; 3/4 Bardic Inspiration; 1/1 Joyful Verse; Spell Slots: 1/2 1 <sup>st</sup> ,	1/1 hit dice; 1/1 Second Wind; Service Tattoo: 1/1 Protect; 1/1 Heal; 1/1 Strike	1/1 hit dice; 4/4 Eyes of the Grave; 2/2 Blessing of Raven Queen; 1/1 Gifts of the Faithful; Spell Slots: 1/2 1 <sup>st</sup> ,	1/1 hit dice;
4/4 Harrow Points	4/4 Harrow Points	4/4 Harrow Points	5/5 Harrow Points
		20 Arrows	5 Sais

Bloo AC = 12	Giggles AC = 16	Hookshanks AC = 15	Lamm's Lambs AC = 13
			
Dead	Dead	Healthy	Healthy (5 Remaining)

Items	Held By