

Expedition R28

Expedition Date: March Week I, 1026

Lead Pursued: *Oops, Need Rope and a Mirror* (completed)

Members of the Expedition: Scott Scooter, veteran ; Windy Silverfox, acolyte ; Bernie Inglenook, adept| **Hirelings:** Skittle, Wolf Silverback

Summary:

After the discovery of the Well of Orr last week, a new party was quickly arranged to fetch some water and bring it to the Botanist. With some hired help and plenty of rope, the party smartly followed the existing map down to the well.

It took 250' of rope to finally get the bucket far enough to reach water, and the water pulled up was dark and viscous, tasting very cold and strongly of minerals. The party filled 6 waterskins of the stuff, and was about to make their way to the Botanist, only to find the way was blocked by a growing mass of cottage cheese! The party instead took an alternate rout, through several rooms until they came to the familiar (by the description of other adventurers) botanical garden.

The part was directed to the upper level containing the Botanical Garden Library and they met with Michael Wurst, a practicum student whose human form was apparently incapacitated, though he was able to speak thanks to a bright orange Screaming Squash whose roots wove into his brain.

The botanist was fetched, and offered the party a bracelet and 250 gold for the water, of which the party in turn paid the botanist *back* the gold for wyvern poison antidote (to heal Gertrude Waldgrave) and some Mending Paste (for quick healing). The party asked the botanist for salves or pastes useful against medusae, to which the botanist was evasive, stressing that he could not do anything which would sour his relationship with Minerva, and that he was really *not* a very political person.

Asked about plants to see through walls or doors, the botanist did describe the Lenkowski Knot Flower, a desert flower which grows from cacti 20-30' high and blooms only once every 71 years. This flower, if ingested, allows the wearer to view space as if from a fourth or fifth dimension. Such a flower is quite valuable, and the Botanist said he would gladly pay 2000 gold for a single one of these flowers. He mentioned that the Lenkowski Knot plants might be found in the Small Desert, some 30 miles northeast from Redux.

Asked about plants which might make a very large birdlike animal sleepy, the Botanist said he could probably whip up 3 wheelbarrows of sleeping herbs attractive to a hydra, capable of causing sleep for about 30 minutes. Asked for 1500 gold pieces to assemble such a dose.

Asked if there was anything of interest nearby, the botanist encouraged the party to see the Hyper-Intelligent Lichen of Kaz-Lacan, an extraordinarily old and knowledgeable lichen improperly named according to the (far more recent) statues in its vicinity. The botanist was quite insistent on the magnificence of this being.

The party went in the direction of the indicated, and passed through several vast chambers containing dozens of 5'-7' stone heads, and several gigantic 15'-40' ones, each of the larger's mouths seemed to be upwards and downwards stairways and passageways to who knows where.

At length the lichen was discovered. They felt as though they were in the presence of an ancient being entirely indifferent to their presence. The party asked many questions of the lichen but were met with immense silence. Bernie sat in meditation for a while and then asked whether the lichen was a colony or an individual, and Bernie was struck that in the context of such life this question had no meaning. Bernie asked the lichen what the meaning of life was, and found the silence grew deeper. At one point the party seemed to think the lichen was laughing at them.

Scott laid a hand on the lichen to see if he could commune in some way with it, and realized that this ordinary experience—sitting in this room with silence, was already the full experience of two connected beings.

The party decided to clamber up to a mouth-opening of a head some ways off the ground, and as they were doing so a long goblin patrol happened to be passing by, and immediately began to fire upon the party. Skittle was already having a bad time, and fled immediately; Wolf was shot while trying to clamber up into the mouth. The remaining three adventurers found an elevator in the mouth with the following buttons:

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o	ε

Not knowing what to do, the party pressed the lower button and descended into a circular room attached to a square room with many colored doors and a large green chest bearing suspiciously teeth-like accents.

Feeling that it was a better bet to face the goblins than try to find a way home by an entirely unknown route, the party waited for two turns before heading again upwards, and thankfully

found the place deserted. The party made its way home as quickly as possible through the botanical garden with no further incident.

110 gold pieces were paid to the families of each hireling
3 gold pieces total were paid in tax to the town of desire.

Deaths: Skittle, Wolf

Rooms Traversed: 15

Hexes Traversed: 18

Foes Encountered: 1 cottage cheese monster fled from, botanist met, Hyperintelligent Lichen of Kaz-Lacan encountered, 8 goblins fled from,

Treasure Recovered: Silver bracelet (500gp)

Leads Completed: *Oops, Need Rope and a Mirror!*

Experience Points: Base 100 (leads) + 500 (Level I)= 600 experience was awarded to each principal character, modified by experience bonuses and relative levels.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Old XP</u>	<u>Awarded</u>	<u>New XP</u>
Scott Scooter	Vet.	880	600?	1480?
Windy Silverfox	Aco.	1260	650	1910
Bernie Inglenook	Ade.	4036	375?	4411

* Reached XP threshold for next level this session