

## 23: Trolled with class

This night we almost perished at the hands of a Troll and the ninja who appeared again.

The night started quietly with the Sergeant and I keeping the watch. Let me remind myself of the wisdom of keeping watch while in hiding, because if the troll targeted me I would have surely ended wounded beyond healing. The sergeant on the other hand was keeping watch using the wagon as a platform, his silhouette clearly visible against the night sky.

Without any warning he was impaled by two huge arrows that flew in from the distant forest. The arrows did not only pierce him but went clearly through his amour and protruded from his back, sending the sergeant straight into the dark slumber of unconsciousness. I immediately sounded the alarm and Grimwald acted immediately and brought the sergeant back from the threshold of death itself.

We spotted a huge silhouette of what later turned out to be a huge troll. Reed used the special spell saved for the ninja to light up the troll. Blinded by little lights dancing all around the troll it ran away, unearthing the underbrush while it went. Knowing that blinded creatures are easily hit with precision strikes I charged the beast. I noticed others following me, if everybody would have followed my lead we would have surely ended this fight victoriously but our so-called battle leader decided to guard the wagon. This error almost cost us our lives. Grimwald's teachings were once again the wisest, for in numbers we have force!

Not to waste too much ink on this dreaded fight, all I could say was that everybody worked together as a team to inflict huge amounts of damage upon the troll. The stories I heard when I was young even turned out to be true because the trolls wounds healed in an alarming rate.

If the blinding lights from Reeds spell only lasted longer, or even if the dwarves little legs could have ran faster I'm sure we would have brought the monstrous troll down. But alas, the troll regained its vision and then the fight turned completely. I wasn't able to place my attacks on the right place any more, as a matter of fact I was happy to hit the monster at all. To make things worse it drew two big swords and one of them was flaming. It's huge arms allowed it to hit us from several feet away. Just approaching it to try and land a blow attracted one of it's swords like a magnet to iron.

Later on we found out that it had a huge wolf as a pet just like Kendalan has. Zhae had already taken care of that threat before he finally arrived at the then still blinded troll. This wolf would later on be our salvation but I should return to the fight.

We all fought like heroes but the luck was against us, somehow Zhae seemed to fumble in a horrible way and the troll took us down one by one like a forester cuts down trees. It even had the chance to end my sorry life but strangely enough it told me that it had no interest in me and beckoned me to leave. The fight however continued and even Reed resorted to fighting with her strange weapon, her spells must be drained from the fight yesterday.

Then Kendalan's voice sounded through the frenzy of the battle "The ninja is here" and I see Zhae going down. In the next seconds I see the horror continuing, Reed is missing, Grimwald aiding Zhae. The sergeant was already put back on his feet by the dwarf and returned to the futile fight. Finally Cuura arrived, but here late entry couldn't make a difference anymore. This couldn't continue and we decided to run for our lives. This was the moment that the wolf I mentioned earlier saved our lives for the Troll decided to attend the wolfs wounds, giving us a little time to get out.

Under the cover of my darkness we were able to increase the distance between us and the troll and allowed us to regroup back to the wagon. It was then that Kendalan told us about the

ninja who used the commotion to show himself again. I guess this is why Reed ran away, she would have had a better chance to outrun the ninja on her own. The dwarf and the wagon wouldn't have been able to keep up with her dashing through the underbrush. Felina and I decided it would have been best to follow Reed while the others voted for taking a gamble and remain with the wagon. Still I don't understand why the troll decided not to pursue immediately, but I thank the monster for it, for we would have surely died!