

25: Best laid plans

Back into the camp we decided to poison the water supply with the sleeping poison retrieved from the mercenaries who tried to kill us just after Berdusk. Tomorrow night Felina and I will sneak in again, put everybody to sleep and clear the area. Since the elves didn't mention anything about goblins we decided to rout them out. I saw problems with Reeds ethics and pointed out that we also had to kill the females and little ones as well, but somehow that didn't seem to bother here. I'll never figure here out I guess.

Next night Zhae together with Rebecca and the sergeant stayed behind to watch over the chest. I guess Grimwald didn't want to leave killing goblins and ogres to us.

The plan did work out great, but Felina and I couldn't take full responsibility for that feat alone. A goblin saw one of us, but was quickly disposed off by some arrows from the party. Then Reed did something with here magics cover up the warning scream from the goblin. Thankfully the ogre took the bait and we could continue. I did try to hide the goblins body, trying to let the ogres think it was killed by infighting by the greenskins. During our poisoning mission we had to kill two other goblins, one of them was also killed in a way it looked like infighting, while we took the last goblin with us. This should have looked like the guilty murderer fled the scene. At first we wanted to stay behind and watched the poison do its work, but Reed convinced us to return. In retrospect she was probably right though.

The dead goblins were discovered and one of the ogre bosses send out a patrol. This patrol was ambushed in a textbook style and were killed instantly, cut down by the combined might of the party. The Ogre boss then found out that half of his followers were fast asleep and started making a fuss. Felina Grimwald and I were to sneak back to the camp to keep the enemies from warning their kin on the lower levels. Unfortunately a goblin discovered Grimwald and us sneaking in, we were discovered!

To take the heat from us Kendalan fired a volley of arrows into the ogre leader, which promptly ordered a charge against our rearguard. The ogres ran past and Felina and I decided to leave them, we would take down the pack of goblins following the charge. Grimwald on the other hand couldn't resist the ogres charge and tried to hamstring one of the ogres. The fight itself was nasty, Felina and I took on the goblins, she was packed with magic spells to protect her from harm while I fought defensively. One after the other fell for my feigns and were cut down one stroke was one kill, even Felina did her best to keep up with me. Somehow the others managed to down the ogres and when the last surviving goblins fled we chased them down into the caves.

Down on the first level I expected to see the goblin offspring, but it was completely empty for the last surviving war goblin who died only yards before the entrance to the second level.

Quickly I started scouting the winding stairway down, finding a pack of Gnolls entrenched behind what appeared to be a table. I went up and we came up with a good plan. Cuura had brought some flask of oil that I ignited with a dragon breath bolt. This caused enough distraction to rout the Gnolls without any problems.

All the enemies laid dead on the ground and a doorway led deeper into the caverns.