

Story of Zhae (Jae)

Chapter 05

Aftermath and the crunch of bone

The fight over, none lost on our side I can once again feel the joy of this. Then the Hero and Horse rider begin grinding the remains.....

I need to go outside. Moments like these, they remind me how much I still have to learn. Still, this... it does not feel..... right, but I will trust the hero's judgment. Surely there is wisdom behind this act that is beyond my comprehension. They explained that they do it to prevent undeath...

Still.....

The oddest feeling.....

Strange feeling upon awakening, I feel much better after yesterday, I should be able to fight the horse rider properly today!

Orc's Taint

The horse rider is ill(Typical!), apparently ill from the Orc's she disposed of. The hero remains untouched. I inquired what I could do to help, this is no way for a warrior to go. No matter what issue's I have with her..... She shooed us all off, she has at least lost none of her fire. Good. I look forward to her recovery. In the meantime I go back to running through the corrections the Hero gave concerning my erroneous dates and names, I must avoid such embarrassment, it taints the masters teaching!

Into the deep

To pass the time for her recovery, we are now examining the lower depths of the caverns where the Orc's had their lair. It is very boring, these are not things that interest me, though I hope we uncover some concealed adversary. I could use someone to let out my frustration! Interesting though, I find myself recognizing one of the structures we encounter. It is clearly from the Shoon empire. As I think and recall the hero's I know of it, I remember clearly how master spoke of it back when I was....no, that was the not the Shoon we spoke of then.... but then surely then....no ...

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The Master has never spoken to me of the Shoon.....

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But I know of Q ysar Shoon IV, his battle with Rhimnasarl, Shoonach the great city along the river Agis above the great desert....

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I decided to take a better look trying to think...

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But.....

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Why....

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I....

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Then the Archer screams.

We find him still in one piece, but no adversary to be found. Then when he speaks I immediately think of the Story of Belken, Tonsilrider. The name is a fun jest, but his situation was a dire one, if we have accidentally run into the mouth of an underground beast!

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Much to my disappointment though, it seems he is simply afraid of caves.

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We return to camp.

Later that night

Thoughts of Shoon run through my head before I finally drift off to sleep.

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It just doesn't add up!

The next day

Once again the Rider can not be rid of us soon enough. She is recovering, we will have our duel soon! Once again we head back into the deep. This time though, we truly find something. The Hero leads us through a most impressive creation! A burial ground of many Heroes! I am honored and humbled to be here, the final resting ground of such magnificent people! When we are near the end we enter one of the halls, though low they may be, I can still feel their splendor! I quietly follow along, I dare not speak for to insult the memories of those that lay here. I run through my mind making sure I remember all the names he corrected me upon that I do not even think it wrongly lest they be insulted. The hero enters a further chamber mentioning we should not. I take the time to bask in the feeling this place gives me.

The great door

The hero is troubled. There is a door further ahead, but something is off. It is decided to investigate. Surely, any challenge we find there we could overcome. We are not some lowly robbers seeking to desecrate such a place as this.

If only the place agreed, it is a trap! Hurrying out as fast as possible, The hero finds himself stuck, he was furthest in after all. I go for the door, just keep it open! They will make it through! It feels like ages, this door is still closing, then suddenly it feels like everything is falling apart. I see the hero in the hall, odd I never saw him walk through? Then when I glance inside to make sure I'm not seeing things, Chi Xiaojie! What cruelty is this, the hero could have wrestled himself free eventually! What is she to do! I must get this door open! I manage to thrust it open a bit, but I feel something going in my leg, but my heart sinks when it begins slipping, even with the hero helping.

No!

I will not fail this way! If I can't keep it open I will at least wrest myself inside to keep her safe from whatever those things on the floor are!

Come on you idiot! Open the damn door! Your not some frail babe barely from he womb! You get that door open!

OPEN IT!

The next thing I realize I am lying on the floor.... my legs..the pain.... then the Xiaojie comes and massages them...thank god... she is safe.....

I think I'm going to lie here a bit longer.

Back to the camp

I just find a place to lie down again, every inch feels like a mile, but I can't care. She is safe, they are all still safe. Nothing we can't overcome is there. Just would be nice if it didn't hurt so much. The bedroll feels so nice.....