

1st Session in The World of Haze 20220326

A small cadre of exceptional young adults from House Shatum had been sent to a special island for advanced training not available to many. Just over halfway through their training the City State of Voneer fell to the Orc forces commanded by the evil Wizard Puhl. House Shatum escaped with only a quarter of its members to the island, Midlay, named after the small town of humans located there, along with two other Houses. With winter approaching and the Houses in crisis the cadre was recalled to Midlay to help.

On arrival to Midlay the party of three, Noble fighter – Gundal, Soldier – Faed, and Scholar/Druid – Bordi, were well received and began settling in. They soon left the fortified villa that House Shatum has occupied and explored the town, ending up at a tavern/inn where they drank, ate, and caroused with the locals. A puzzling piece of information they gained was that there apparently is some animosity of some kind towards House Shatum from one of the other Houses.

After retiring for the evening, the party was awoken by frenetic activity within the villa and the call to report for duty. There they were informed that one of the essential caravans of food and supplies critical for the town to survive the winter had been attacked by orcs. Twelve able members from House Shatum, including the party of three, were sent with mounts as the House's levy to the designated commander of town security, currently the lieutenant of House Lupay.

The combined force from all three Houses rushed to the site of the attack to find death, destroyed carts, and some ruined supplies. The levies from each house were split into search teams and sent out to find where the supplies might be headed to. The party of three were sent by the commander in a particular direction.

As the party travelled deeper into the woods they pondered the oddities they had noticed. After a bit Bordi began to hear noises over the near ridge. At that point they dismounted and the horses retired to a safe rendezvous point. Bordi then used her powers as a Druid of the Mountain to transform into an immense lion and topped the ridge with stealth, with Gundal and Faed hanging back to avoid immediate discovery. At the crest of the ridge Bordi saw what appeared to be a group of Orcs attacking each other in the presence of the carts and supplies!

With a pre-arranged tail signal to the others to charge, she did so. Combat ensued. Several of the Orcs from both sides fled, and those that stayed were slain forthwith. However, Gundal was incapacitated with injuries. With care from Bordi he was able to partially recover enough to head to the rendezvous point and travel back to the site of the initial road attack to report to the commander. Faed and Bordi stayed behind to guard the supplies.

The commander was greatly surprised by the report and sent the remaining force, minus messengers to the other search groups, to the location of the missing caravan, where repairs and reloading occurred and the caravan began again its trip to Midlay. The party of three indicated that they would attempt to follow the trail of the fleeing Orcs, but instead travelled parallel to the caravan for a bit before speeding ahead to Midlay, returning first.

News of the successful recapture of the supplies was met with great joy in the town, and once the caravan arrived the party of three were hailed as heroes. Celebrations ensued and within House Shatum a special ceremony of recognition was held, and secretly each member received a ring of +1 protection! There's more, but that will have to wait for Saturday. :)