

## REAVERS ON THE SEAS OF FATE - SESSION SUMMARY 06/16/2012

### TODAY'S EPISODE: DARK WINGS OVER RIDDLEPORT

The *Teeth of Araska* (TOA) has been docked at Riddleport for 12 days and nights. Its crew runs amok in the city, blowing off steam, exercising poor judgment, and showing even poorer impulse control. Luckily, Riddleport can take the hit and charge the pirates for all the drinking, drugging, fighting, fornicating, and stealing they can stand. Wogan, Serpent, Sindawe have just thrown gigantic party to celebrate their voyage to the Azlanti islands (and back), the "patching in" of their crew/gang, and to announce to the world "We Have Arrived!" Our heroes are:

- ♣ Captain Sindawe H'kilata Narr of the *Teeth of Araska*, the fist-punchin' Mwangi monk (Chris).
- ♣ Quartermaster Ref "Serpent" Jorensen, the staff-bashin' ulfen druid/ranger and his snake Saluthra (Paul).
- ♣ Samaritha, the wand-blastin' serpentfolk wizard in the guise of a pretty half-elf, and now Serpent's wife!
- ♣ Ship's Surgeon Hatshepsut, monk and high priestess of a lost civilization who doesn't savvy much Common and her cobra Naja.
- ♣ Chief Gunner Wogan, the pistol-packin' celibate cleric of Gozreh (Patrick).
- ♣ Bosun Tommy Blacktoes, the staff-slingin' sneaky halfling rogue.
- ♣ Lavender Lil, a buxom tiefling ex-prostitute, and Tommy's girlfriend.
- ♣ With them are pirate crew *Teeth of Araska* pirates:
  - ♣ Survivors from the ship's previous pirate crew
  - ♣ Ex-slaves escaped from their Chelish owner (Martino Marcellano)
  - ♣ Recruits, now old hands, acquired during the 1st Azlanti Island voyage.
  - ♣ 15 or so ex-pirates from ex-captain Morgan Baumann's, *Black Bunyip*.
  - ♣ New recruits, most with considerable sailing skill, found in Riddleport.

### *The "Patching In" Party Continues*

Wogan asks Saul, "What do you know about a man named Ansar? Perhaps in Nidal."

Saul says, "Not much. I know a gendarme with that name. But he's a local guy."

Saul points at Lavender Lil and says, "You guys need to keep an eye on that." Wogan watches Lil tease several of the male party goers.

Wogan replies, "She is Tommy's problem." Several of Lil's admirers begin a shoving match with each other; her smile widens.

Marzielle Ajuela takes Captain Sindawe aside to discuss her arrangements for the party. That conversation doesn't last long; she turns into Mama Watanna, Sindawe's Mwangi deity. Watanna and Sindawe make the *beast with two backs* while the walls bleed, snakes crawl about the floor, and the party noises become distant.

Mama Watanna asks if she's invited to the party. Sindawe readily agrees yet is relieved to find out she doesn't mean the party outside. He aims for coitus, while she explains, "Whale, turtle, and dolphin tell me that a great evil threatens your people, your clan. Many evil things move beneath the sea, many of the sacred places are defiled, and the land dwellers are involved. But Mama Watanna does not know why, only that their reach grows further."

Sindawe's embedded cypher glyph lights up and burns. Not one to be forcibly ejected from the saddle, Sindawe press his attentions on Watanna until her form shifts back to that of Marzielle Ajuela, utterly ruining the moment. Marzielle is confused and for good reason. Sindawe starts dressing to deal with the problem outside and to escape the problem inside.

## *The Party Interrupted*

Out on deck and on the pier Wogan, Serpent, Tommy, Hatshepsut, Samaritha, and Zincher also experience the lighting and burning of their cypher glyphs. In the past, such activity has been a warning that monsters or magic in opposition to the orichalcum metal are near.

Serpent spots a lone figure at the end of the pier. He points it out to the others. The figure begins the long walk to the party. The light from the party lanterns reveals an old man with balding pate, bulbous nose, dressed in plain, dark clothes. Shadows cling to him.

Wogan orders a sober looking sailor to find the captain. The man disproves his sobriety by running down below in the direction opposite the captain's cabin.

Wogan points a rifle at the man while yelling over the party noises, "That's close enough! Who are you?"

In reply, several nearby sailors scream, "Woot! Wogan's going to shoot someone!"

Sindawe comes out on deck; his eyes are drawn to the old man who is nearing the bouncers and the line of folks waiting to get in. He hurries out to meet the old man. Serpent dogs his steps. Wogan covers them with his rifle.

The old man says, "I am here to warn you to not interfere with Lord K'stallo." He notes their confusion and adds, "You know him as Elias Tammerhawk."

Serpent asks, "Who are you?"

The old man replies, "I am the messenger."

Sindawe says reasonably, "We know nothing of Tammerhawk's activities. If you were to tell us where and what those are, we will gladly avoid them." He smiles.

Serpent demands, "Yes, tell us."

The messenger replies, "Let me demonstrate". Clouds of ravens swoop down upon the ship and party goes. Tommy yells, "To arms!" while ringing the ship's alarm bell. Mostly drunken pirates move to arm themselves. The other half of the crew fails to respond due to an overabundance of partying. The party guests respond likewise; some arm themselves while others sleep through it or dive belowdecks for cover.

The Messenger emits a screech that stuns Serpent and Sindawe, then throws his cloak open to fly 30' straight up. More ravens pour from his cloak.

Tommy pops a sunrod, ties it to the flag line and pulls it aloft. The extra light reveals clouds of ravens over the entire ship, perhaps five swarms. Samaritha hits two of the swarms with a *fireball* spell, neatly avoiding the ship's rigging. Hatshepsut climbs the rigging high enough that when she *channels negative energy* only ravens are harmed; a dramatic number of dead ravens drop out of the sky. Wogan casts *bleed* on the many folks around him, then orders crew to swivel gun the flying old man. Many of Captain Scarbelly's orcs fail to rise to the fight; Wogan remembers that as many as five followed the succubus Seyanna below deck an hour ago. Those that remain fight the pecking birds. The ship's crew manages to aid Samaritha and Hatshepsut's efforts; their weapons destroy an unkindness of the ravens.

Serpent and Sindawe are swarmed by pecking ravens that concentrate on the face and eyes. Serpent is temporarily blinded; he whirls his staff about killing some ravens. Sindawe punches away too.

The messenger laughs maniacally as he summons another unkindness from the darkness of his cloak. He also casts *mirror image* which means there are now eight of him.

Clegg Zincher drinks a potion. Akron Erix runs over to Zincher and opens a gunny sack. The pair pull out a pick axe and a war hammer. Tommy shots a crossbow bolt at the Messenger,

knocking out an image. Samaritha shoots the old man with a *magic missile*, destroying several images and hitting the real thing (who is unharmed, protected by spell resistance). Hatshepsut swings to a new position in the rigging, then channels negative energy, killing a wounded unkindness and hurting a second. Wogan shoots a mirror image with his rifle.

An unkindness pecks and distracts one group of pirates. Other groups work furiously at loading swivel guns. The messenger summons another raven swarm, then uses *telekinesis* to smash a bundle of crates violently into Serpent (30pts). Serpent casts *cure light wounds* upon himself, which also removes his raven induced blindness. Akron Erix and Clegg Zincher run over to Samaritha, demanding, "Make us fly!" Samaritha complies and casts fly on Zincher... But Akron refuses to let his boss fly away until he can join. Hatshepsut swings on a line into the unkindness nearest the messenger, hitting them with *channel negative energy* as she drops to the pier below. Sindawe drinks a potion of *fiery breath*, then destroys the unkindness hurt by Hatshepsut and damages another.

Pirates throw spears at the messenger, destroying another image. Wogan shoots another image with his pistol. Swivel guns bark, hitting the messenger multiple times, including a critical hit. Most of the shot seems to rattle off the old man, except the one that penetrates his liver (Deep Hurting - double damage and fatigued).

Another unkindness leaks forth from the messenger's cloak. And he casts another *mirror image* (quickened and maximized). And then he uses *telekinesis* to smash one of the swivel gun crews with party kegs; they are left unconscious and bleeding.

Samaritha casts fly on Akron. Serpent runs back to the ship to get him some of that. Lavender Lil sings, granting everyone a morale bonus (+2 to hit, +2 to damage). Akron and Zincher fly to the attack and destroy another image. Sindawe's fiery breath kills the last wounded swarm.

Captain Scarbelly orders his orcs to shoot at the messenger; they destroy another image. A pirate group attacks an unkindness attacking the ship; they kill many ravens.

The old man is beginning to look more like a raven. He tries the *telekinesis* trick on another swivel gun crew, but they have been waiting for it... They dodge the thrown debris, then return to their loading. Akron and Zincher flail away at the messenger, knocking out another image. Scarbelly pulls his pistol and shoots out another image. Wogan heals the unconscious swivel gun crew, Serpent, and other wounded with a *channel positive energy*. Samaritha casts *fly* on Serpent. Sindawe breathes his last fire upon a fresh swarm, killing it. Wogan casts *silence* upon Serpent at a distance, hoping to shut down the messenger's spell casting.

A pirate group is blinded by ravens, while other pirates reload the swivel guns. The messenger lets loose another swarm. He also releases shadows that penetrate Serpent, Zincher, and Akron, then grow. Zincher taps the messenger with his orichalcum pick-axe (28pts). Akron hits the messenger several times with his cold iron war hammer (38pts). Serpent also hits with his orichalcum staff (20pts). Lavender Lil switches from song to dance, continuing to supply morale bonuses to the silenced combatants. Samaritha casts *slow*, but the messenger silently laughs it off.

An unkindness of ravens pecks at Sindawe while a second unkindness pecks at Lavender Lil. Both are lightly injured. The messenger grows to double his previous size, then bites and claws Zincher and Serpent. The *shadow spores* hatch dealing damage to their hosts - Zincher, Akron, and Serpent.

Zincher hits the messenger twice from a flanking position with his orichalcum pick-axe (51pts). Akron hits the messenger once (21pts). The messenger looks pretty bad. Serpent pounds the messenger's rib cage hard enough to kill him; his shriveled body falls to the deck. The remaining

raven swarms disperse. However, Serpent fumbles three times with his remaining attacks, gaining himself a -1 penalty to charisma; his staff might also be infected by the shadows.

Below, Sindawe beats back loot-happy pirates from the messenger's corpse. The corpse holds a *brooch of shielding*, potion of *invisibility*, *circlet of persuasion*, and scroll of *break enchantment*.

### *The "Patching In" Party Continues*

The pirates, prostitutes, orcs, gangsters, entertainers, food cart vendors, and tattooists return to their respective entertainments or work. Theirs is a hard life, full of interruptions, violence and such. So, when it is time to party, nothing interferes for long.

Clegg Zincher and his henchmen, Akron Erix, are the real winners, as they are credited with defeating a minion of the renegade Elias Tammerhawk. By morning everyone in Riddleport knows Zincher's deed. Zincher is so happy with his enhanced status that he agrees to broker a peace between the Cypher Gate Lodge (studious mages) and the Citizens of Riddleport (politically oriented hooligans and business men).

The next day the party weary crew of the *Teeth of Araska* sets sail for the Varisian Gulf and points further south. Their objectives:

- Piracy, preferable Chelixian merchant shipping.
- Visit Wogan's sister in Nidal and rescue her from a plague, possibly from some sea borne evil.
- Visit Tommy's family in Chelix; buy them out of slavery.
- Aid Tommy is getting Black Dog's revenge upon the Stormdaughter. Black Dog placed a geas upon Tommy to carry out his revenge.

- Seek out Elias Tammerhawk, screw with his plots, then return him or his corpse to Riddleport for hanging (and a fat reward).
- Visit Sindawe's homeland and rescue his clan from whatever evil Mama Watanna says is threatening them.

### *The Teeth of Araska's New Crew*

- Captain - Sindawe
- Master Gunner - Wogan
- Quartermaster - Serpent
- Boatswain - Tommy Black Toes
- Navigator - Sempronia
- Coxswain - Gareb
- Gunner's Mate - Stoke
- 1st Mate - Mase Venjum
- 2nd Mate - Little Mike
- 3rd Mate - Big Mike
- Carpenter - Tanned Hank
- Surgeon - Hatshepsut
- Crew: Samaritha, Lavender Lil, Orgon, Dum-dum, Slasher Jim (psychopath), Ori (cook), Bel, Pirro, Sevgi, Kahina, Karomander, Delmer, Olgvik, JJ (seamunculus), Lefty, Claxton, Samuel (gunner), Billy Breadbasket (cook), Valentine, Feissian Hareskinner, Taunya (f, gunner), Dario, Zita (f), Clubbreaker Cordell, Gaestel, Tiberiu, Nimborn (gunner), Hovax



Littlehands, “Sexy Beast” Sapier (gunner), Prand, Melella (druid), Cannonball Jack (gunner), Nemo, Kent, Ragged Pete Morgan, George Peters, Long Bonifacio Copper (good gunner), Kitty the Cantankerous, Durt (and some friends).

- Gun Crew, experienced and titled: Wogan (master), Stoke (gunner’s mate), Long Bonifacio Copper, Samuel, Taunya, Nimborn, Sapier, Cannonball Jack
- Gun Crew, experienced: Orgon, Delmer, Sevgi, and Mase Venjum

Orgon’s wife Tegan will stay in Riddleport and live off her man’s investment income.

*The Dead, be they Glorious, Terrible or Sorrowful:*

- Original TOA crew: Seven, Mano, Goat
- Ex-slaves: Olhas
- The 1st Recruits: Del, Speg, Rolf, Bojask (rapist)
- The Prisoners: Anga, Nariel, Daphne
- Black Bunyip crew: Jospur Foxkiller, bosun Peg-Leg Pete, unrated Vedui, unrated Gwyllt.