

# REAVERS ON THE SEAS OF FATE - SESSION SUMMARY

03/08/2015

## TODAY'S EPISODE: RAHADOU (RA-HA-DOOM!) PART II

The pirate ship *Teeth of Araska* (ToA) is docked at Rahadoum's Azir, aka Port Godless. The officers have been busy selling loot and maintaining discipline, while the crew (and some of the officers) have been enjoying port life with a pocket full of coins. After a handful of days in port a group of Keleshite kidnapers targeted five or six crew members. The kidnapers were killed or dispersed, but only after they sold crewmen Zorzi to Ahbib Atomy, a wealthy and connected local individual enamored with green-eyed women.

Our heroes are:

- ♣ Captain Sindawe H'kilata Narr of the *Teeth of Araska*, the fist-punchin' Mwangi monk (Chris).
- ♣ Chief Gunner Wogan, the pistol-packin' celibate cleric of Gozreh (Patrick).
- ♣ Quartermaster Ref "Serpent" Jorensen, the staff-bashin' Ulfen druid/ranger and his snake Saluthra (Paul).
- ♣ Mitabu "Keel Breaker," a Mwangi rogue and breaker of Chelish ships (Ed).
- ♣ Zoamai "Elf Burner," a half-elf sorceress/arsonist responsible for burning down the Elven embassy in Korvosa (Ashley).
- ♣ Samaritha, a serpentfolk wizard in the guise of a pretty half-elf and Serpent's wife.
- ♣ Ship's Surgeon Hatshepsut, monk and high priestess of a lost civilization and her cobra Naja.
- ♣ Bosun Tommy Blacktoes, the staff-slingin' sneaky halfling rogue.
- ♣ Lavender Lil, a buxom tiefling ex-prostitute, and Tommy's girlfriend.
- ♣ With them is a pirate crew of professional pirates, escaped slaves, and adventure seekers.

## *Ransom*

Youssef, a friendly local, has been working as the go between for the pirates and kidnapper Ahbib Atomy to ransom crewmen, Zorzi. Several days of negotiation are spent discussing a swap of Octavia for Zorzi. When that fails negotiations return to ransom, which Ahbib starts at 5000gp. Youssef agrees to get the best price possible for the pirates.

## *Planning a Trip*

Meanwhile life on board the pirate vessel must go on. Sindawe and Wogan hit the harbor drinking spots looking for a person who can navigate to Ilizmagorti. They track down Tarek. He's under contract, which can be bought out for 167gp. Another 390gp is his fee to navigate them to Red Mantis central.

The deal is sealed with spit and handshakes. The pirates purchase an Ilizmagorti flag on Tarek's recommendation; entering the port of a civilized nation while flying their colors is a sign of respect and peaceable intent. Sindawe also commissions flags for Sargava, Port Shaw, and others that will be import for the trip south.

Kitty the Cantankerous approaches Wogan and Sindawe later that day about her pregnancy. She is due in three months and believes it best to remain in a civilized port.

Wogan asks, "Do you really want to raise a child in Port Godless, because there are no gods allowed."

Kitty replies, "That part is bad, but their orphanages are supposed to be good."

Sindawe talks to Kitty about her options. Take maternity leave long enough to have the kid, then rejoin the crew; the ship will be back this way in 4-6 months. Or buy her way out. Or

run a *Teeth of Araska* business interest in Port Godless. Or some combination of those items. She opts for the maternity leave. Sindawe orders an “injury” payment to Kitty of 500gp, so she has something to help tide her over.

Sindawe purchases a plunder point of furniture and a plunder point of dishes for sale in Ilizmagorti, because Ilizmagorti wants finished goods and Sindawe wants to turn a profit even if no piracy occurs. Both units cost 600gp and take up 10 tons of cargo space.

Tarek says the trip to Ilizmagorti takes approximately two weeks, longer if weather plays a part. Sindawe orders four weeks of crew provisions, including rum rations. Provisions cost 500gp per week per 60 crew. These provisions take 40 tons of cargo space. Only a week’s worth of water is bought on board, because the ship’s equipment includes a recently captured *decanter of endless water*.

### *The Black Egg*

Sindawe, Wogan, and Serpent visit Rombom the sage, an expert in all things extraplanar. They ask him to examine their black egg and extraplanar plunder from the Otter King Xeros, an alien crystal ship. The sage charges 15gp/day for research that will take as long as it takes. The same deal applies to each plunder point of extraplanar goods; a successfully research conclusion will raise the sales price by 10%. Research is completed in 14 days and costs 210gp.

The black egg is a product of a shadow creature called a soul eater, proper name is *nalusafalaya*. The egg’s proper name is *black water drop*. It is reputed to prevent soul eaters from possessing the bearer. There is a religious angle to it too in that this drop represents the inner shadow, which might be the soul but closer to a twin of the physical shadow.

Sindawe looks at the quiet, brooding Serpent. He asks, "Serpent? What do you think?"

Serpent replies, "I was brooding. How much we can sell it for?"

Sindawe has Rombom go thru his explanation again, then points out, "This thing might help us against the shadow demon, Chetmetago\*."

(\* Note: the demon's actual name is Chmetugo, but the pirates have long since forgotten that.)

Serpent replies, "Yes. I see that."

The pirates discuss it for a while and decide that Serpent is the best one to carry the item because he can partially transform into a snake and swallow it. Rombom also mentions that surgery or "self insertion" should work. The sage then pulls out paper, ink, and quill and settles in to observe Serpent's "egging".

Serpent transforms, then swallows the egg in a rather aggressive manner. His cypher glyph burns hotly. Wogan and Sindawe notice a slight heat in their own glyphs.

Serpent hires the sage to research his family.

### *Cool Hand Luke Scheme*

All that talk of eggs gives the pirates an idea. They hire a fishmonger's wife to hard boil two hundred eggs, then ask for volunteers from the crew: "Who wants to earn a little cash? Who here can eat the most eggs?"

Pirro and Billy Breadbasket are the uncertain volunteers. Pirro claims four eggs. Billy claims three dozen eggs. Pirro gasps; surely no man can eat more than four eggs, which fulfills the nutritional needs and just below the "sameness" threshold that prevents overeating when other foods are available. Everyone stares blankly at Pirro and his explanation.

The pirates pick a well-liked local tavern, the *Rakshasa's Pipe*, to ply their *Cool Hand Luke* scheme. While en route Billy convinces Pirro to take a shot for each egg that he eats.

Billy explains, "It is only fair since I'm the one eating eggs and risking overwhelming sameness."

Pirro agrees, "Sure, no problem. But no one could ever eat more than four hard boiled eggs. Any more is madness!"

Wogan and Sindawe roll their eyes.

A competitive egg eating contest is arranged with the *Rakshasa's Pipe* patrons. Bets are set for and against Billy (Team Pirate) and with a giant of a man named Alibebe the Sword (Team Local Hero). Wogan is pleased to note that a lack of religion makes the locals crazy for distractions, especially gambling. Sindawe gives a local the job of handling the eggs to avoid accusations of cheating. He assigns Serpent the job forcing Pirro to match Billy's eggs with shots of hard liquor. Additional bets are made for/against Pirro. Billy seems very interested in Pirro's state of inebriation.

- Alibebe gives out after five eggs, but another local, a skinny man, takes over for "double or nothing". The skinny man eats five eggs, then matches Billy egg for egg for another five. Then twelve, thirteen, ... then finally fifteen eggs. The crowd discusses the contest loudly and hotly. More bets are laid. Eggs seventeen thru eighteen go well, but nineteen forces the skinny local to hose the immediate floor down with regurgitated eggs.

Sindawe asks for another challenger. A portly local, named Abfeid, volunteers.

Billy whispers, "Uh... captain, I am about tapped out."

Sindawe whispers back, "Relax. You get to digest while this guy eats twenty eggs."

Billy is distressed to see the man easily down all twenty eggs. The contest continues until egg number 23 – again Billy is the winner.

The pirates earn 67gp after various bets and bar tab are paid. Billy and Pirro crawl slowly to the bathroom to be sick.

Serpent notes, “I don’t want them on board, they’ll stink up the ship.” Everyone laughs.

### The Hellclown

Back at the ship they find the gangplank blocked by a child-sized figure. The night is dark and the pirates edge cautiously closer to the figure. It is a grotesque clown. It suddenly stands up straight before them.

A drunk Pirro screams, “It’s a clown doll! Save your souls! Run!” The man flails away at his companions to win his escape, including a bull rush that drops Wogan to the floor.

The other pirates enter panic mode when Serpent charges the clown doll only to have it leap up onto his face; he fails to get his staff up in time to block. The clown clings to Serpent’s head as Wogan cocks his pistol. Serpent screams out, “Don’t shoot me in the face!”

Wogan shoots from his prone position, hitting the clown. The doll leaps high into the air and hovers giving Serpent a chance to whack it solidly with his staff (33pts). The strings holding the doll give way and it collapses to the deck.

Karomander emerges from hiding, “Peace! Lower your weapons! Captain, meet my new anti-boarding weapon, Mr. Smiles. Pirates are a superstitious cowardly lot when it comes to clowns. It will scare attackers into crapping themselves.”

Sindawe notes the confusion and agrees to finance the doll operation. The pirates settle in with leftover hard boiled eggs and rum to watch the clown doll greet other returning pirates.

### *Loot – Possession is 9/10ths of the Law*

There are seven units of plunder left to sell – they sell for: 1000, 1100, 1200, 1100, 1200, 1300, and 1300. This includes a 10% bonus on the first four from the extraplanar sage's research and then minus 10% overall for Youssef's take.

### *PRISON BREAK*

Thanks to the departed Nazzio several local Chelioxans find out that the famous Chelioxan singer, Octavia, is being held hostage on the *Teeth of Araska*. The Argentate Blades grab their swords and leap to the attack! There are three of them including a halfling oracle. Their first plan is to acquire Zorzi from Ahbib Atomy and trade her for Octavia. That fails because Ahbib is an enormous jerk.

Plan B requires the blades to stake out the ship and wait for an opportunity. Unfortunately for them that opportunity is slim as Octavia lost her deck privileges after her failed escape attempt – she is locked in the brig.

That evening Serpent, Sindawe, and Wogan are dining in the map room when they hear a dog barking. Sindawe goes up top to investigate and finds a thick fog covering the ship. The barking continues. Sensing someone behind him, he spins to find a Taldoran woman in light armor and armed with a rapier.

She demands, "Keep walking."

Sindawe replies, “I’m going to take your stuff and throw you off my ship.”

She says, “Don’t say Estella didn’t warn you.”

They exchange blows while Sindawe yells, “Boarders!”

From the map room, Wogan yells back, “Charge them rent!”

Serpent yells, “Hoarders?!? The bane of every tidy ship!”

A caster hidden by the fog shoots a blinding light at Sindawe that dazzles him for a round, then Estella stabs him. Then she steps back into the mist.

Serpent charges out and seeing no one else demands, “Captain! Settle a bet. What did you yell – boarders or hoarders?” Sindawe grits his teeth.

Wogan joins them on deck and casts *dispel magic* on the fog (no impact), then dodges a *scorching ray* from the quarterdeck. Wogan fires back with a *fear* spell from his *mace of terror!*

Sindawe follows the swordswoman into the fog where they punch and stab at each other.

She screams, “Fight with a civilized weapon!”

Sindawe screams back, “OK, let me get my pants off!”

She replies, “Churl!”

Sindawe laughs, “I am not a sweet treat!”

Serpent joins the fight. Estella parries his staff.

A third member of the blade company is below picking the brig door’s lock. Octavia is oddly cooperative; she remains quiet and keeps an eye out for sentries. But she is a diva, so like the infamous clay golem she has a 1% cumulative chance each round of going “diva”.

Darkness falls on deck thanks to a *darkness* spell, which combined with night time, fog and a lack of man-made lights (they blew out the lanthorns) makes it very dark indeed. Wogan lights a sunrod and moves up onto the quarter deck with a drawn gun. He sees an opponent and



pounces – but it’s just a pirate’s hat left on top of the wheel. He is surprised by a motherly looking halfling who appears behind him and attempts to touch him.

Wogan flinches away, “Ewww! Halfling fingers!”

She scampers away and down to the main deck, where she casts spells to aid Estella’s fight.

Sindawe pulls out grey ioun stones from a black bag and tosses them up; each stone has a *continual light* cast on it. He steps to flank Estella who attempts to disarm Serpent.

Serpent declares, “I will not be your huckleberry!” He retains his grip, then he critically hits her with his staff... and misses several times. The woman is quick.

Sindawe trips the swordswoman but she quickly regains her feet to swat him across the buttocks. Serpent ends the fun by smashing her with his staff (20pts) and biting her (8pts)!

She screams out, “What?!? Peasant!”

Serpent shouts back, “You’ll want to get that checked out! I’ve been eating hard boiled eggs for days; that bite is infected with hard boiledness!”

The monk trips her again, then pummels with fists (non-lethal). She instant stands only to be knocked out while attempting to flee.

A voice rings out, “Haha! You are too late!” A man wearing light armor and hot pants is standing on the rail with Octavia clinging tightly to his torso. The man grabs a rope and swings them to the pier.

Wogan shouts, “How did we see that? There’s fog and darkness!”

The man yells back from the pier, “I used my cloak to swish the fog away. Drama!”

Wogan contents himself with hunting the halfling in the dark fog. This goes poorly; halflings are famous tiny hiders. He thinks he's found her again, but it's just a pirate's jacket they have left hanging on the mainmast. Serpent decides to pursue the fleeing couple. Sindawe begins tying up the prisoner while shouting for backup from the sleeping pirates.

The halfling oracle casts *breath of life* at range on Estella, who starts struggling with Sindawe who switches from tying to grappling. The halfling slips away not unlike a submarine to Wogan's destroyer.

Wogan finally hears the stealthy halfling and slaps her with a held *cause critical wounds*. But it turns out to only be the ship's clown doll, *Mr. Smiles*. "Come on!!!" he laments.

Aided again by the halfling oracle, Estella grows to large size. Sindawe is forced to switch from grappling to punching. She manages an *instant stand* thanks to a *blessing of fervor*. Her flight is cut short by Sindawe's trip. She crawls 5' away.

Tired of hunting stealthy halflings, Wogan decides to expend his spell on the enlarged woman; he touches her leg as she kicks out at him. 39 (or maybe only 20) points drops the woman. The halfling revives her with a second *breath of life*. Sindawe punches her again (again non-lethal).

The woman surrenders, "I yield. You have bested me."

Sindawe stands up and replies, "Accepted." He then kicks (non-lethal) her in the temple.

Wogan hears the halfling dive overboard, though he cannot see her from the railing. The night is dark and the fog cloud still persists.

Serpent runs down the gangplank and onto the pier. The fog is centered on the ship, so his line of sight is clear. He moves forward but doesn't see the fleeing couple. They got away?!?

Octavia shrieks and dashes out from behind a stack of crates, followed closely by Hot Pants. Hot Pants declares, "Run for it!" He grabs her hand and runs for it.

Serpent runs after them only to slam into the partially naked figures of Billy Breadbasket and Pirro who are emerging from behind the crates to figure out what the heck is going on. All three pirates go down in a heap. He regains his feet and continues the chase, but stops short as his quarry passes between a pair of banners spiked into a pier posts.

Serpent approaches the banners carefully. He sees the hazy shape of mastiff standing behind the banners. He can clearly hear its growling and barking. Serpent steps to the side, grabs a banner and swings around it and back onto the pier. The mastiff does not attack; only those passing between the banners risk its wrath!

Serpent continues the pursuit but is unable to close their healthy lead.

Sindawe and Wogan examine the prisoner and remove her armor and weapons: +1 mithral rapier, +2 chain shirt, and a belt of incredible dexterity +2. Estella revives during the process.

She declares, "Perverts!"

Sindawe shakes his head.

Wogan demands, "Where's your rendezvous point?"

Estella sneers and names Baator (a layer of hell). Wogan and Sindawe stare blankly. "I think that's near Sixth Street..." Wogan ventures.

Sindawe asks, "Are your friends willing to ransom you?"

Estella laughs, "They are willing to rescue me!"

Sindawe sighs then asks, "How much money do you have in your wallet?"

Estella replies, "If I give it to you will you let me go?"

Sindawe says, “Depends on how much you have in your wallet.”

Estella pulls out a hidden wallet and dumps out a tidy pile of precious stones (1280gp).

She continues, “If you let me go I promise that the Argentate Blades won’t tamper with your ship.”

Sindawe whispers to Wogan, “Good deal for me. For my retirement plan I’ll drop this ship in her family’s front yard and live there.” Wogan smiles; death is the only retirement for a pirate.

Sindawe agrees, “Your gear, wealth, and a no tampering with the ship promise have purchased your freedom and Octavia’s.”

Estella replies, “My blade too?”

Sindawe offers, “You can buy it back.”

Estella nods then introduces herself, “I am Estella Cheriford. My companions are my brother Tadius and our good friend Delaia. What is your group’s name?”

Wogan replies, “We don’t have one. But our ship has a good reputation.”

Estella takes her leave. Sindawe notes a sashay in her walk down the gang plank and decides it is for his benefit.

Pirro and Billy Breadbasket come up the gang plank after Estella descends. They are clothed but their hair is mussed. They inquire about the commotion. Wogan explains while Sindawe looks at the guard rotation list to identify the slackers who let the Argentate Blades aboard. He is disappointed to find that a pair of dead pirates are named as tonight’s watch.

### *A Discussion over a Sword and Hostages*

The next day Sindawe, Wogan, and Serpent meet Estella, Tadius, and Delaia at the *Moustached Genie*, a reputable harbor tavern, for the rapier buy back.

After they are seated Estella explains that she doesn't have the capital to buy back her rapier, but she and friends are in the business for rescuing kidnapped people. They will rescue Zorzi in trade for the mithral rapier.

The trio of pirates discuss the deal's merits, which are many not the least of which their own ransom negotiations are going slowly.

Sindawe says, "We agree. One Zorzi for one rapier."

Estella replies, "Good! I told my brother you were civilized..."

Her words trail off when Sindawe spits in his palm and offer his hand to seal the deal. Estella hesitates briefly, then spits in her own hand and shakes on it.

The rest of the lunch hour is spent by the six dining and lightly drinking. Estella and her brother talk about their careers: The Argentate Blades started their career in the River Kingdoms as mercenaries and later as law enforcers for hire. They eventually moved to Port Godless where they now make their living rescuing people from Keleshite kidnapers.

The deal and meal are concluded with all departing on good terms.