

REAVERS ON THE SEAS OF FATE - SESSION SUMMARY 11/12/2017

TODAY'S EPISODE: PELE'S THRONE

Our heroes and their vessel have entered the Wendo World in search of Mama Watanna's brush, mirror, and comb which are held by her co-workers: Pelee, Aroaru, and Lo Lulu. If our heroes recover said items they can return to the real world and enjoy absolutely no earthly rewards.

Our 8th level heroes are:

- ♣ Captain Sindawe of the *Chainbreaker*, the fist-punchin' Mwangi monk (Chris).
- ♣ Chief Gunner Wogan, the pistol-packin' celibate cleric of Gozreh (Patrick).
- ♣ Quartermaster Serpent, the staff-bashin' Ulfen druid/ranger and his snake Saluthra (Paul).

Pele, the mirror's mistress

Pele is said to have Mama Watanna's mirror, and the loa lives on a big horking volcano island in the spiritual realm of the Wendo spirits. Serpent, Sindawe, Saluthra, and Wogan board a longboat and row for shore. The crew on board the *Chainbreaker* looks to securing the ship's cargo and drying the gunpowder... Wogan looks worried about the drying operation but Sindawe shrugs as if the pirates have bigger worries. Each pirate checks their gris-gris (an amulet of threads and sticks).

Serpent and Wogan casts *resist and protection from energy* (fire 20pts and 96pts for an hour) on their party. Their gris-gris pulls them toward the caldera, which they climb quickly thanks to multiple magic items that aid climb. Heat washes over the pirates as they approach the lip of the caldera. Wogan notes that Sindawe, who holds the gris-gris, suffers not from the heat while the others feel great discomfort. Each pirates and the snake touches the gris-gris and feels immediate relief. They head into the caldera as that is where the gris-gris pulls Sindawe. Serpent picks out a path through the steep, hot, molten terrain.

They reach the lava pools where the gris-gris pulls them along the "beach". Human sized hounds with red fur fall upon the pirates with the element of surprise, hidden by the heat waves and smoke. Several breathe fire while the rest bite. The pirates dispatch several of the creatures before a red skinned giant emerges

from a cave to mutter something racist sounding then throw a boulder. Wogan blasts back with a blunderbuss while Sindawe rushes the giant. Serpent and Saluthra kill more hell hounds. Sindawe punches and stabs the giant and mostly dodges its swinging great sword.

The last hell hound trips Wogan, who rolls clear and puts a fatal bullet into its brain pan. Sindawe unleashes a particularly successful flurry of blows on the giant who staggers backward but does not fall. Serpent rushes the giant, takes a blow on his shield from the giant's blade, and bounces his own ax off the giant's greave. The giant's blade bites deeply into Serpent's flesh, forcing Wogan to rush into the melee to deliver a maximized cure critical wounds; Serpent looks much better. Sindawe sets up flanking on the giant allowing Serpent to chop the giant to death.

Wogan heals the wounded while the giant is searched for valuables: a chainmail bag (doesn't burn), rubies (2 * 300gp), gold (285 gp, 35 pp), finely crafted black armor and sword. The armor is left; the rest goes into a bag of holding.

They follow the pull of the gris-gris around the lava lake, which takes 20 minutes to cover. A man sized crack in the caldera wall beckons them. Above the crack is a symbol associated with Pele. Lava guards the entrance. Sindawe uses his *spider climb* slippers to cross above the lava, the others follow after using a wand of *spider climb*.



Pele

Inside is a huge cavern made of flowing stone, another lake of glowing lava, and a fifty foot tall natural stone throne. Seated upon the throne is the scantily clad goddess, Pele. Her glowing yellow eyes look upon them and she demands, “*Why have you come here?*”

Sindawe bows and replies, “Mama Watanna has asked us to come here for the mirror.”

She demands, “And what will you sacrifice in turn?”

Sindawe gives forth his crystal ball which she accepts. He tosses it into the lava at her command.

The lava gives forth a 6' foot long mirror, weighting 55 pounds. It is silver, polished to a mirror brightness, with an intricate handle of gold, and the whole affair is set into a giant sand dollar.

"Give Mama my regards," the goddess says in dismissal.

Sindawe grabs the heavy mirror. The pirates flee the cavern quickly. They skirt the lava lake, which is agitated. They find themselves having to dodge spraying molten stone so they opt to climb out of the caldera immediately. This alternate route allows them to avoid the source of the agitation, which is a second, much larger giant bursting forth from the caldera.

They arrive at the ocean's edge where they have to boat quickly and expertly out of the bay to avoid fresh lava spillage. Aboard the *Chainbreaker*, orders are issued to "sail away from the island quickly!" The island erupts in volcanic plumes as they flee.

Omoru, God of the Wilderness, master of the comb

The pirates who waited aboard the *Chainbreaker* while their officers were ashore had an adventure. They had to deal with an infestation of spore rats (more plant than animal) that boarded the vessel. The crew has to deal with spores and rats. The outcome is determined by leadership rolls that say, "The crew was prepared for anything, dealt with the problem though are still cleaning up, and some crew are wounded and poisoned (by spores)." Sindawe hands out "I fought a monster" patches to the entire crew.

The gris-gris is activated again and asked, "Take us to Omoru." It is dropped into a bowl of water where it spins several times before settling on a direction across the glittering ocean. A pod of dolphins swims along with the ship, which lifts the crew's spirits. Wogan notes the soft green glow around the ship's hull, which indicates that the gris-gris has extended its protection to the vessel.

The crew notes that the day is always mid-day; the passage of time is impossible to determine. Wogan orders the issuing of hour glasses to properly track time. Then he and the other away team members go to bed. The vessel passes through a low lying mist.

The man on watch, Thalios Dondrel, shouts a warning! The anchor is dropped and sails lowered to drop speed. The mist clears to reveal the edge of the world. The ocean drops off into an infinite drop. Clouds and floating islands dot the distance. The crew lines the railing, gawking at the impossible sight.

The floating islands are above and beyond the rim of the world, and connected by vines. The pirate officers confer and decide to sail onward, off the edge of the world. Sindawe has to resort to physical blows to have the anchor and sails raised. Some crewmen flee below, sure that this will mean their doom. Sindawe turns to Luca Caletti and brags, "I killed a giant!" as the ship begins to move forward.

The ship drifts to the edge of the world, slips off, tips over at the edge... Wogan hits the Azlanti aeromantic device built into the *Chainbreaker* with electricity and commands it to rise via the *staff of rightful rule!* The burst of power to the flight device levels out the ship; it majestically soars over infinity.

Wogan tests the vessel's buoyancy by backing off the flight device. It starts to sink so he maximizes the power. Sindawe issues orders for Samaritha (*lightning bolts*) and Serpent (*call lightning*) to stand ready to replace Wogan on powering the device. He commands the crew to pour on the sail and steers the vessel in the direction indicated by the gris-gris. Serpent assists.

Everyone is very busy panicking, sailing, flying, etc... Only Serpent notices a cloud steadily drifting closer; it looks a little like a hydra. It looks a lot more like a hydra the closer it gets. Serpent casts a *gust of wind* at it as it manifests into a giant, thunder infused, cloud hydra.

The hydra heads breathe out in unison causing a mighty *gust of wind* to blow across the ship. Wogan and multiple pirates are swept overboard to fall towards infinity. He uses the *staff of rightful rule* to gather up the falling pirates to himself and slow their descent with feather fall. Serpent throws a rope to Wogan who grabs it; several other pirates do too. Sindawe orders Thalios to command the vessel and Samaritha to cast *fly* upon him. More ropes are thrown to the falling crewmen.

Thunder Hydra breathes lightning on Serpent and other pirates still onboard the vessel. Tanned Hank is struck directly by the lightning bolt. The ship lurches upward thanks to the extra electricity. Thunder Hydra appears on deck, radiating electricity. More pirates are shocked, in more ways than one.

Wogan grabs up Dumdum and Organ; thrown lines collect the other feather-falling pirates. Samaritha casts *fly* on Serpent who in turn casts *resist energy* upon himself... and closes with the beast. Sindawe issues orders to Hatshepsut and Samaritha, "Bring the Azlanti ghost materializer up on deck and put it on the hydra!" He dives overboard (with benefit of a *fly* spell) and retrieves Wogan, Dumdum, and Organ from the ether; they are dropped onto the deck. Other pirates continue pulling in lines attached to the falling pirates.

Thunder Hydra strikes at the ship and Serpent. The forward mast and deck creak and crack yet hold for now. The ship rises up further as the electricity pours off Thunder Hydra. Araskan pirates continue pulling in falling pirates and licking their wounds. Thalios Dondrel orders other pirates into to sailing the vessel; it goes poorly thanks to the confusion.

Wogan activates a clay tablet that repels elementals; Thunder Hydra screams in defiance but backs up a step from the windswept and ruggedly handsome pirate cleric. Sindawe corkscrews around Thunder Hydra and places the monster into flanking with Serpent. Serpent slashes away at Thunder Hydra; nothing connects with its cloudy hide.

Down below decks, Samaritha and Hatshepsut throw open the cold room doors to reveal the ghost materializer. Frosted vapors lazily drift over its surfaces and out the open door. They wrestle it out and up onto the deck. Lavender Lil dances to inspire courage for those fighting the Thunder Hydra.

Wogan casts *blissing of fervor* upon Serpent and Sindawe and others. Klangdin the orc rushes the beast with her great ax, swinging madly. Sindawe plunges his magic spear repeatedly into the beast, scoring some hits (57pts). Thunder Hydra squeezes Serpent, who continues to live, swings tentacles at Klangdin which bash the half-orc about, and many tentacles and bites at the monk... who dodges nimbly out of the way.

Samaritha strokes the ghost materializer attempting to activate it with "use magic device". Hatshepsut assists. The item hums but does nothing more yet. Thalios Dondrel's leadership has the ship sailing

not directly into the floating islands. The ship keeps rising thanks to the electricity of Thunder Hydra. Wogan calls upon Gozreh for a healing burst that revives several pirates and heals Serpent. Klangdin rains blows upon Thunder Hydra.

Mitabu throws a bomb at Thunder Hydra. Sindawe's flurry of blows fails to hit. Thunder Hydra shows its displeasure by attacking its many detractors! Samaritha's efforts with the ghost materializer pays off; Thunder Hydra turns less cloudy and more solid! (it also loses its DR 10/silver).

The crew takes better control of the ship at the last moment to avoid collision with an island's jungle covered surface.

Wogan shoots Thunder Hydra with *magic missiles* from the spell-storing gem *Rain Tiger*; it bleeds. Serpent finds Thunder Hydra easier to hit; his ax bites deeply, removing several heads. It falls to the deck and turns to mist.

Wogan looks for a good place to land the ship on one of the airborne islands. Lacking any bodies of water, he aims for a swamp. The ship sinks into the muck, then settles. Wogan switches to healing bursts, spreading Gozreh's soothing healing across the badly wounded pirates. The crew can feel beady eyes watching from the jungle canopy.