
Rundown

2A17/329

Purdue, Renn and Gilead grabbed the Shroud of Healing, Pyroh's wand of *Dispel Magic* and a pair of the newly-found Bracers of Armor and set off in pursuit of the fleeing assassins Budd and Elle.

They negotiated the invisible bridge and climbed the stairs to find Templeton still on duty, guarding the flank. He told the players that he'd smelled and heard one person run by and saw a large woman at full run just in the past few minutes. In their haste the DVAS had abandoned stealth and left a usable trail of wet footprints and blood.

With the wererat in the lead using his scent and tracking abilities, the party followed the trail west through the tunnel. Templeton paused at one point where the scent was particularly strong, suggesting that the DVAS had paused there.

About 500 yards further west the tunnel took a slight turn and joined a round drainage chamber. A ladder led upward toward street level, but Templeton's nose told him that the DVAS hadn't gone up the ladder. Instead, the trail led past it into a northbound tunnel.

As the group paused to consider the options, a pair of poison-coated knives flew at them from behind. Templeton took one in the neck and collapsed. Renn was hit with the other but saved against the poison.

Once again the Guardians found themselves facing invisible foes. Gilead took a poisoned knife hit, made his save, and tried an area *Dispel Magic* to break the enemy's concealment. The spell failed. Purdue took a hit from an invisible katana, indicating that Elle was nearby. Renn sent an arrow into the space and scored a glancing blow, then winced as an arrow found him from a different location. Purdue felt his legs get swept out from under him and hit the floor but rolled away from the invisible attacker and righted himself for a counter attack.

Gilead continued to work on dispelling the invisibility while Renn and Purdue engaged the invisible foes. On his third try Elle became visible, putting Purdue in a better position to defend himself. Using Pyroh's wand, he revealed Budd on the next round. The bard abandoned his bow, drew an elven thinblade and made the wizard pay with some of his blood.

Without the protection of invisibility, though, the wounded DVAS found themselves at a disadvantage against Purdue's multiple attacks and Renn's precision archery. Gilead fired off *Magic Missile* spells and felled Budd, then Elle to end the battle.

With the enemy dead, Gilead hurried to aid Templeton and found that the wererat was dead. The group picked up all three bodies and headed back to the abandoned temple. A cluster of dire rats followed at a safe distance.