

Friars Almanac



-UNDER ROYAL SEAL SINCE TOWER'S RISING-

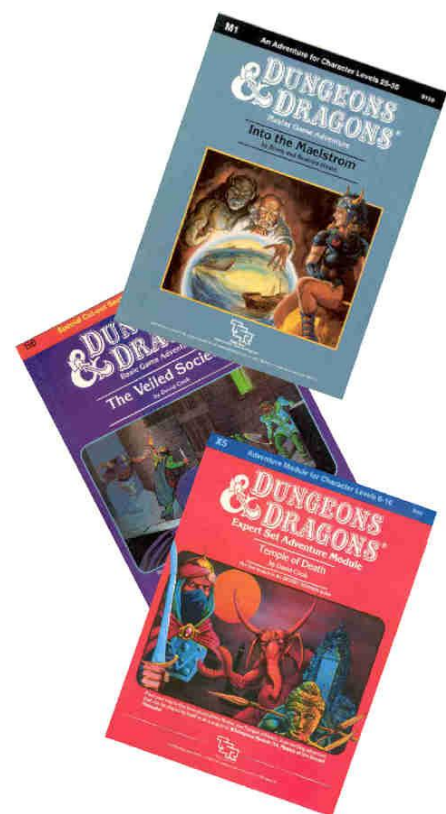
ON FOREIGN FIELDS

FINDING GAMERS

There once was a king in a foreign land, who ruled his subjects with an iron hand...

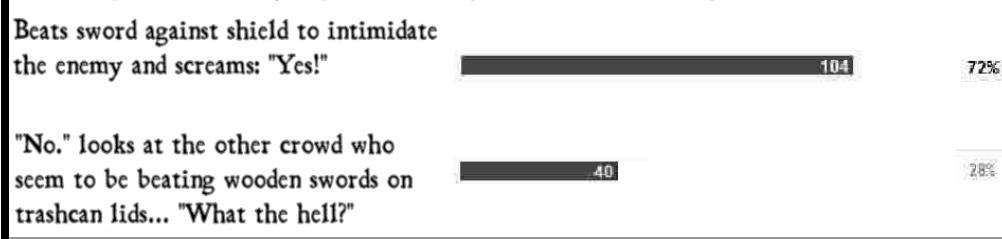
Sometimes it is hard to track down fellow players of the game. So other than hanging out on Forums like Wizards of the Coast, Paizo, The Piazza, Dragonsfoot, and Kobold Quarterly, Consider building a mailing list of interested gamers (DMs who might be interested in sharing Adventure Ideas).

I ran a poll on the Nation States forum and found that there were over a hundred people who Played D&D.



Let's just say I spent a lot in the 1980's when I picked up the D&D setting and

Have you ever played Dungeons and Dragons



Some of whom had not done so in years.

There are a lot of people out there who will be interested in sharing D&D adventure ideas that you as a starting DM can make use of and share ideas with.

Take the time to get to know the best points of light on the intermesh and make it known that you are interested in sharing ideas.

GAMING

INVESTING IN AN RPG

Game Engine. I spent about a thousand dollars on Adventures, Boxed Sets, Gazetteers, Rules Cyclopaedia, Accessories, and Almanacs. That was a well developed engine which provided for creativity and quality storytelling. It also means I spent another two thousand dollars on Support (10 years of Dragon magazine and Dungeon Magazine).

The fact is you can expect to shell out that much for a good quality RPG over the first ten years.

If that were the case for quality, then the model should carry over to any new generation product. It doesn't. Edition four has rapidly approached a collection of hundred dollar manuals consisting of DMG r-5, PHB r-3, MM r-2, and an assortment of other manuals. Unfortunately the thousand dollar game engine has yet to commit to a story setting like Mystara. The few adventures are thin on facts that can be built on, and the premise of the setting keeps it vague so a community might be there one day and raised to the ground the next.

It's a monstrous act to create an RPG Engine that is never complete and not support it with a quality setting.

Who's Side are you on anyway?

Dr. Horrible	8	80%
Captain Hammer	0	No votes
Bad Horse	2	20%
Total votes : 10		

While Dr Horrible is increasingly evil, Captain Hammer can only be described as a 'Bastard' which brings up

JOSS WHEDON AT WORK

THE DR HORRIBLE SING-ALONG BLOG

This web-Opera was created by Joss Whedon (Buffy the Vampire Slayer, Angel, Firefly/Serenity, Dollhouse) a few years back. It stars Nathan Fillion as Dr Horrible's 'Super-heroic' Nemesis, Captain Hammer (You will love his "Stand back everyone, There's nothing here to see..." introduction).



Basically Dr Horrible is a want-to-be villain angry at the failure of the world to be better, and in search of something within himself.



He is in love with a girl named Penny (Of course we all know Penny from the Web series THE GUILD and their music Video 'Do you want to date my Avatar? Yes she is geek hot -- and not your usual thing) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=urNygftMIU>

Dr. Horrible doesn't have the strength to talk to penny about feelings he harbor's, and is conflicted by his need to join the Evil League of Evil ruled over by the mysterious 'Bad Horse' who will make Dr Horrible his Mare if Dr H. doesn't pull off some great act of Villainy to prove his worth.

a question in the DR. HORRIBLE v. CAPTAIN HAMMER Dispute: WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON ANYWAY?

As we can see, there are always going to be that 20% who prefer the greater of two evils.

The links to the DR HORRIBLE SINGALONG BLOG can be found on YOUTUBE (Shame on all you folks who made it available on YOUTUBE by the way -- how the hell do you expect Joss to make money and create more movies?).

DR. Horrible Sing-along Blog links

Act 1, Scene 1:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=apEZpYnN_rg

Act 1, Scene 2:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YxnOBhQ4fNY>

Act 2, Scene 1:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6hCtugXr8dw>

Act 2, Scene 2:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WN0T3tiKke4>

Act 3, Scene 1:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CdERWTSXEog>

Act 3, Scene 2:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=To8V4RdY6No>

The Dr. Horrible sing-along blog is validation that the New Renaissance in creative arts has been led from YOUTUBE. YOUTUBE is the new film industry frontier for those who would otherwise not have the means. Basically if you can film it and put it on YOUTUBE, you can get the message out there.

As to Dr. Horrible it is an interesting Origin Story for a Super-villain.

EMPIRE TODAY

GETTING YOUR ADVENTURE IDEAS FROM THE NEWS

Friars Almanac



-UNDER ROYAL SEAL SINCE TOWER'S RISING-

It can be hard to come up with awesome and terrible Adventure Ideas on the Spot. Sometimes DMs (even experienced DMs venture into the Newspaper for Inspiration). Here are Eight Adventure items and links to their Real World Sources.

1. THE HARLEQUIN'S MASK

Investigator Riyu stared at the brutalized woman. Her face had been cut on by the very madman he was pursuing.
"When was she found?" He turned to the Watchman who had found her.
"Last night," The Guardsman turned away from the Corpse. "Neighbours reported Screaming."

DM Briefing: A Psychopath has been attacking Women. All the victims have their mouths cut at the edges so they look like Harlequins or Puppets.

Source:
<http://news.ninemsn.com.au/national/1032184/woman-leaps-off-balcony-to-flee-torturer>

2. BLOOD SACRIFICE

Dura the Fortune-teller leaned forward through the smoke.
"If the clay is no longer baking red and true, A Sacrifice of Blood will see you through." Dura Fell back from the Trance.
Furdad rushed from the tent.
"What did the fortune Teller say?" Azawe was waiting.
"We must conduct a blood Sacrifice..." Furdad looked around. Which of his workers would he sacrifice?

DM Briefing: When the clay of a Clay digging no longer baked to traditional red, Brick Makers Sacrifice a labourer on advice of a Fortune Teller.

Source:
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2010/03/22/bangladeshi-man-beheaded_n_508172.html

3. FIRE AND ICE

Sigismund turned toward the direction of the explosion. There at the top of the Glacial ice wall that towered above the far end of the Valley, the red and

orange embers of an inferno spewed upward like a fountain of fire. All around it the Ice turned to Steam. Sigismund reached for the Alarm bell; a sound barely audible to the population of the village over the roar and thunder coming from the Glacier.
"We must flee!"

DM Briefing: five hundred Villagers are forced to flee as a Volcano erupts from beneath a near-by Glacier.

Source:
<http://www.presstv.ir/detail.aspx?id=121338§ionid=351020606>

4. WHO CAN WE ASK FOR HELP?

Elin cowered at the brutality of the attack. The Men who had raided the House and violated its women picked through the spoils of their plunder.
"Right! Where is the rest of it?" The Leader of this raid struck Elin a blow.
"Where is it?"

DM Briefing: In a community where Prostitution is not managed by the Guild or any Watch, A house of ill repute is raided by bad men, the Women violated and robbed. They cant exactly go for help.

Source:
<http://news.ninemsn.com.au/article.aspx?id=1032661>

5. BABY KILLING SON OF A...

Silber jerked back from the hessian sack he had discovered snagged on the edge of the riverbank in horror retreating away from it;
"Oh by the Gods..." He emptied his stomach contents on the bank. His friend patted him on the shoulder.
"What's wrong?" Grandim the fisherman began working his way toward the bag that had shocked his companion.
The sight of the small bodies broke Grandim immediately to tears. There were babies in the sack.

DM Briefing: Villagers discover the corpses of twenty babies on a riverbank. Somewhere up river a Wizard is conducting experiments on Babies.

Source:
<http://news.ninemsn.com.au/world/1034012/two-held-as-dead-babies-found-in-china>

6. THE TIDE OF REFUGE

Alberth the fisher pulled in his nets, struggling with the load of fish. That was when he saw it. The Boat was defiantly foreign and not of a type that Alberth was familiar with. It was crowded with the starving and emaciated. Men, Women and Children of some far away land. Their vessel seemed to struggle with the load and reek of a smell that suggested they had been at sea for perhaps a year. Their mast, broken and re-lashed struggled to withstand the forces of the feeble wind that jerked their vessel toward land.
Alberth looked back at his small fishing village and wondered if they would even make the beach.

DM Briefing: Boat People of a foreign and unknown land begin landing on the coast and crowding into and around Communities there. The hungry, the destitute and the outcast; all manner of suffering folk are amongst their number. They do not speak the local language and may become an underclass.

Source:
http://www.ntnews.com.au/article/2010/03/29/135261_ntnews.html

7. COFFIN FINDERS, COFFIN KEEPERS

Franco scratched at the dirt with his wooden Sod breaker. There was defiantly something there. He pushed back the dirt to reveal more of the Lead.
"A Lead Box...?" It seemed a little long. Gregor was three feet away and scraping dirt off the same lead box.
"A coffin perhaps?"

DM Briefing: Farmers digging in a field near some old rocks uncover a thousand pound lead coffin. Considering the value of such metal, perhaps it is the Coffin of an Emperor.

Source: <http://109.com/5504790/what-the-hell-is-buried-in-this-half-ton-coffin>

8. THE ALVA FARUK

"What kind of vessel is that?" Geran began climbing the riggings to get a better view. It was huge. Where were the Sails? where were the Masts? It seemed flat like a Barge or a Galley. Perhaps it was rowed by Slaves?

"No one knows. It simply appeared on the reef during that terrible Maelstrom last evening." Captain Franco extended his spyglass.

Geran stared down at the ocean. It was befouled with something...

DM Briefing: A thousand feet long iron hull ship has crossed through from some alternate reality and become lodged on a Reef off the Coast. It has spilled a thousand tons of oil on the ocean poisoning fish stocks in the region.

Source:
<http://news.ninemsn.com.au/national/1035661/defence-should-help-in-oil-spill-hunt>

Would you like to contribute?

Do you have an adventure idea, a new rule, or maybe a short story you would like to share?

Simply send your contributions to lokiarax@hotmail.com. We will meticulously pick apart (scan for a few seconds) your article and put it in. Be aware that unless otherwise specified for legal reasons your article becomes property of Dark Spire if they are used.