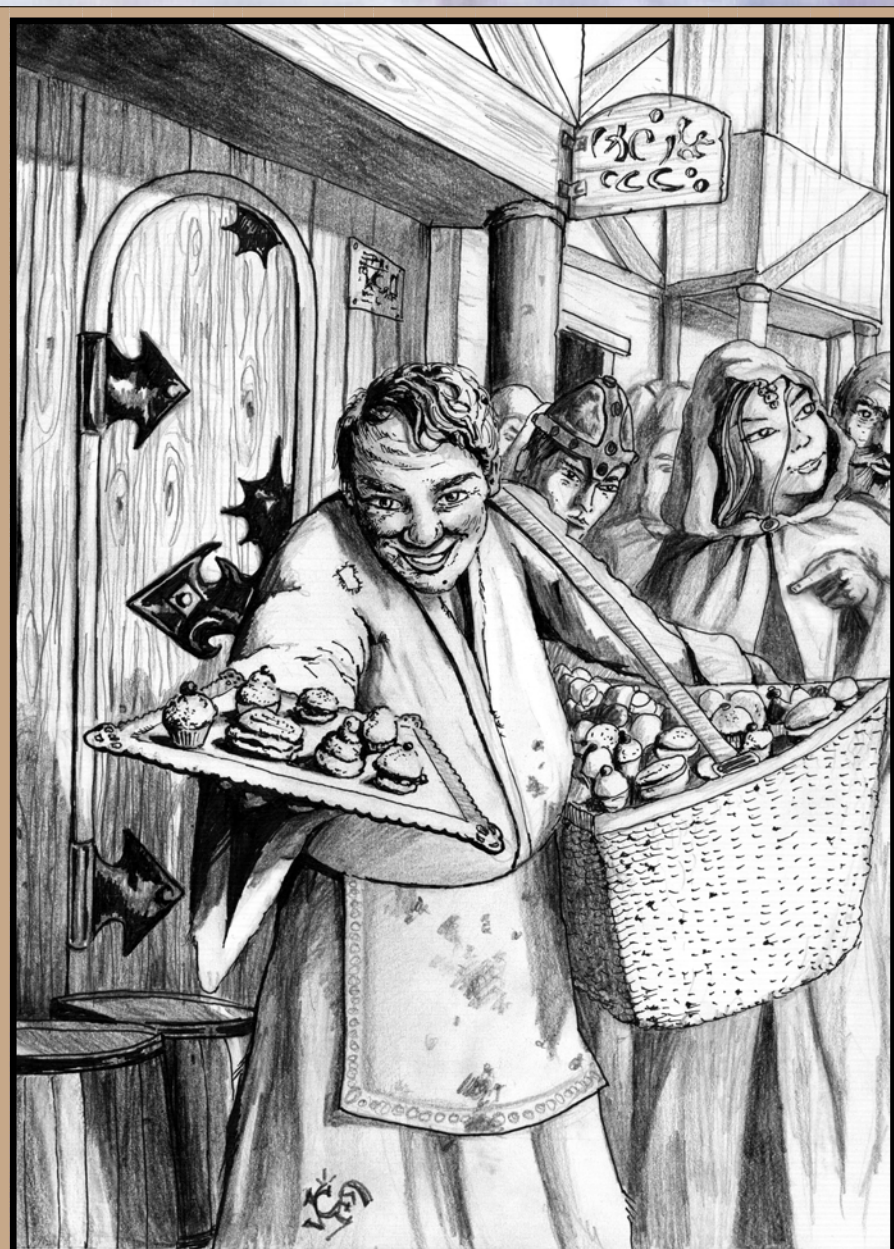


Tabletop Adventures presents

# Bits of the Banquet Into the Desserts



**Tabletop**  
ADVENTURES



# Bits of the Banquet Into the Desserts

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## Introduction

Welcome to “Bits of the Banquet™: Into the Desserts.” Have you ever wanted to see your PCs get their Just Desserts? A sumptuous banquet often awaits those heroes who successfully navigate a quest for a king. Perhaps you lack the gourmet food gene and have no idea of what succulent sweet stuff is suitable for such a table. On the other hand, evil Game Master that you are, you may simply long to place something decadent before the party only to tell them these lovely desserts cannot be had. In each case, Tabletop Adventures’ has what you need.

“Into the Desserts” includes 20 short descriptions of desserts suitable for the finest nobleman’s table. These are authentic desserts from the 14th – 18th centuries in Europe. However, many of them might be had—for a hefty price—from a local merchant on the adventurers’ next visit to town.

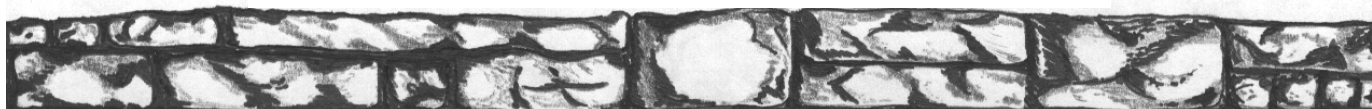
This product provides the GM with a way to stimulate the characters’ senses and the players’ imaginations. The descriptions can give players a “feel” for a situation, a better image of what is happening or what their characters are experiencing. The text shown in bold type is designed to be read aloud and shared with all. The information included in a normal typeface is reserved for the use of the Game Master.

If you find medieval feasting is to your party’s liking, or if you wish to replicate some of the dishes described here, you can find many recipes for these dishes online in the cookbook: <http://www.godecookery.com/>

Now providing Help for the Hungry Game Master!

**Enjoy, have fun, and create fun for others!**

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and the Overlord.**



# Desserts

## *Tidbits*

01. A small cream-filled cup is in front of you. The scent of almonds and roses fills your nostrils as you lean closer. A few crystallized violet petals are sprinkled across the top of the milky white substance. It is not nearly as thick as a true pudding, but rather a delicate, sweet, sticky affair.

02. Dyed yellow and brown eggshells with small holes in them rest in a nest of sweet smelling hay in a basket. As they are offered, the rich scents of saffron and cinnamon waft through the air. They are lighter than standard hen's eggs and there is a small hole in each end. As they are cracked open, a sweet white almond paste spills forth, with a saffron yellow yolk of a the same paste. [These are Eyroun in Lentyn, a Lenten dish in 15th century England.]

03. Row upon row of light delicate cakes glisten on the platter before you. A sweet heather honey glaze makes them sticky to the touch. In the center of each, a sugar-coated almond is pressed. When you take a bite, the moist cake fills your mouth with a refreshing lemony-orange taste. It is still warm from the oven, which makes it even more delicious.

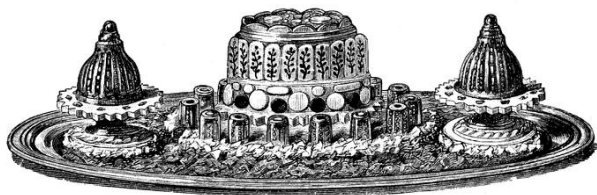
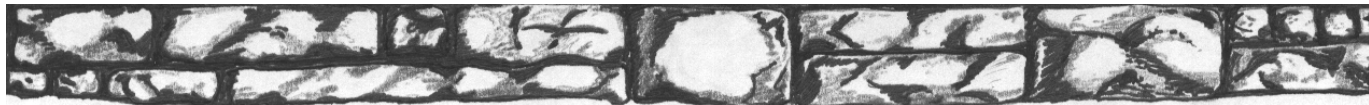
04. A pink pudding-like mixture is placed in front of you. The cream used in the pudding coats your lips as you spoon it into your mouth. The tartness of it cuts through the inherent sweetness of the dessert, making your mouth water. How wonderful it is to eat a fool! [A fool is a mixture of sugar, heavy cream, butter and a syrup made from currants, rhubarb or sometimes gooseberries.]

05. Glistening orange and green cubes of melon and dewy purple grapes are mixed together with dark green mint leaves. The colors are rich and sparkling due to a slight coating of water and honey. The sweet-tart wetness refreshes

your palate. The dish seems to have just come from a cooling cellar, and the chill of the fruit makes it even more delectable.

06. Stacks of breads and pastries covered with icings and glazes of various colors are arranged neatly in the basket propped against one of the delivery girl's wide hips. She waits impatiently for the shopkeeper to clear a spot so she can leave her delivery and return to her labor-filled day. It would be oh, so nice to sink your teeth into one of those warm, sweet-smelling yeast breads!





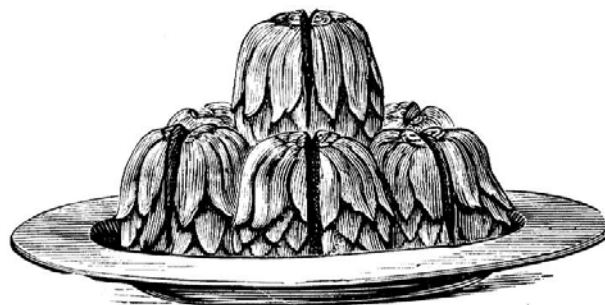
07. Four red-brown pears are glazed with a wine reduction sauce and soaked dried fruits. The exotic scents of cinnamon, cloves and sandalwood almost overpower the sweet scent arising from the warm pears. The reddish brown syrup darkens the skin of the pears and pools in the bottom of the dish. The sweet syrup has captured a small ant in one corner of the dish.

08. A mixture of raisins, nuts and other dried fruits make a scattered mosaic across the top of a starkly white porridge of rice and sweetened milk. Whenever a spoon of the porridge is lifted out and away, the remaining porridge flows smoothly into the gap left behind.

09. A light coating of ground sugar dusts the latticework top of the tarts before you. The pale sugar offsets the light brown latticework of the pastry and the much darker brown of the treacle tart filling. [The gooey filling is similar to a molasses and breadcrumb mixture, only thicker.]

10. Small white rounds of buttery cakes have been flavored with rosewater and nutmegs just to tempt the palette. Each has a slight dusting of flour to heighten its pale color. Small light brown specks of the ground nutmeg are barely visible as you hold one close to inhale the scent.

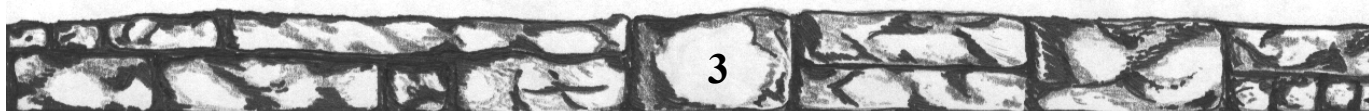
11. A sculpted and glistening substance is unmolded before your eyes. It is about the consistency of soft cheese and has the color of the spices and berry juice use to prepare it. Some call this a trifle, but it seems a wonder – retaining the shape of the mold from which it came. With the heat, the sweet delicacy gradually softens, losing its form.



12. The top of a deep red compote of cherries is strewn with miniature flower petals of almond paste. The mashed cherries float in a thickened, buttery wine sauce which has the scent of cloves upon it and is thicker than plain fruit soup or fruit syrup. [This dish is a chireseye.]

13. Miniature sugarcoated fruits of almond-scented sugar paste bristle in an intricate arrangement atop this rather large raised cake. Arranged around the base of the cake is another series of similar fruits placed upon a bed of bay leaves.

14. Layer upon layer of thin light pastry is interspersed with a filling of black walnuts and honey. Were it not for the heavy coating of honey and spices, the thin layers of pastry dough would peel away in paper-thin flakes.



15. A savory pudding of meat broth, breadcrumbs, and eggs has been prepared and placed in a decorative dish. The deep spicy smell contrasts sharply with the sweet and sweet-sour smells of the delicacies that surround this dish. All in all, the variety of aromas makes your mouth water.

16. Several varieties of a sweet honeyed confection lie arrayed before your eyes. One is a light red and it smells strongly of sandalwood. Another is darker brown in color and a sniff reveals the scent of cloves, while a third is lighter in color and smells of cinnamon. Hints of saffron and pepper seem to pervade the whole lot of confectionary goodness.

17. This jewel of a confection would barely fill the center of your palm. Coated with ground and sifted sugar, this sweet bit is a mildly spiced blend of ground dates and nuts held together with a little oil or butter. [These travel well and last for extended periods of time.]



18. A heady mix of cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg lofts from the many tiny sweetmeat pies before you. The loaves of sweetmeats are molded tightly into oblong rectangular shapes. A drink of ale, honey and spices is served alongside. [These are mince pies, and Wassail.]

19. Small warm parchment packets are proffered with wine. The packets open to reveal roasted chestnuts mixed with several deep red rose petals. The soft creamy nut meats are all the more pungent for being steamed among the petals, and the scent tickles your nose.

20. Delicate slices of fruit are arrayed in a fan pattern in the dish before you. A pastry shell which rises around the sides of the dish is pleated in neat, even folds. The edges of the fruit and pastry are toasted brown and dusted with sugar. Here and there a brown streak shows where a little juice leaked out during the baking process.



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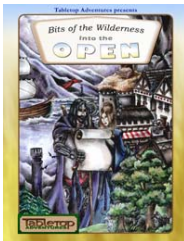
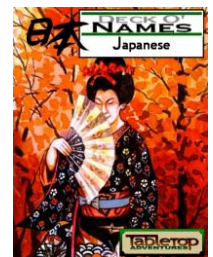
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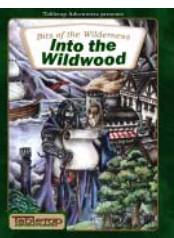
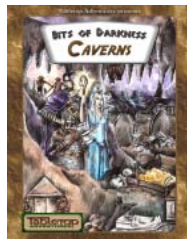
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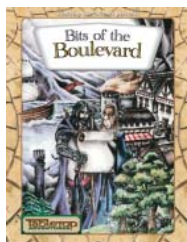
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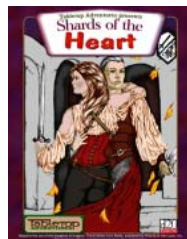
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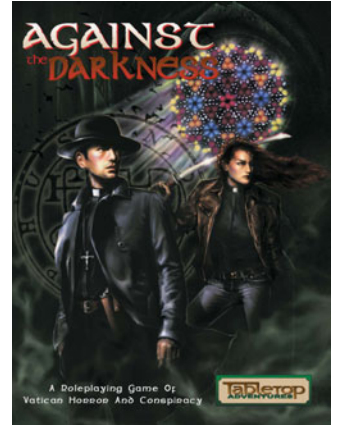
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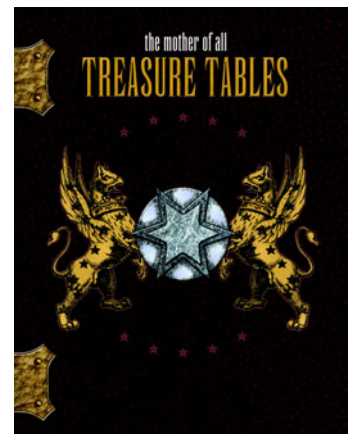
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