

The Explorer

Maidee looked up the entrance portal; it was a scary place to behold indeed, just as all the tales she heard about it from seasoned adventures who came by her father's inn in Humberton.

"Darkness Falls" they said, "it is the place of demons and their likes, and not a place for no ordinary man". Maidee smiled to herself, she was no ordinary man she was a proud new member of the Defenders of Albion and was trained in archery, the art of stealth and how to use a shield and sword, so she felt confident that what ever this evil place would throw at her she could handle it.

She gazed at the small flying demons circling the entrance, they didn't look all that scary she decided and started walking towards the entrance. The small demons stopped their circling and looked at her as she approached them, only to look away and resume their circling.

She entered the shimmering portal and was almost sucked into it only to appear with a low humming sound on the other side, inside the dungeon. She looked around to get her bearing, and saw the spirit guardians the men at the inn talked about, the path between them was the road ahead, so she started to walk down that way and after a turn she was looking at the big stairs leading down to the depths of the dungeon.

She walked down the stairs and saw the creeps of unnatural origin the men also spoke about, she ventured even deeper into the dungeon and managed to get past the creatures with the turtle like shield on the back, fiends of some sort did the men call them, and all the sudden she found herself looking down a ramp and saw the biggest spider she had ever seen, it was the size of one of the smaller huts in Humberton, she didn't know what to do as it started to walk up the ramp towards her, then her training kicked in and she backed away and hid from it behind some rocks hoping it didn't spot her. She got lucky, the spider walked right past her like she didn't even exist.

She decided that from now on using her stealth training would be a good thing to use, and she started to move again, although moving a lot slower she didn't attract the attention of the monsters walking around her.

She took a left turn somewhere and found herself looking out over a roughly made balcony, below she could see some very large versions of the turtle shielded fiends, she looked around for a way down and saw a tunnel to the left, only the ugly wart dotted beast posed a problem, but she was confident that she could take down the beast.

She got her bow out and got a few arrows ready, she aimed for where she believed the beast's heart would be and let the arrow fly. It hit true and the beast started to collapse, but before it died it let out a primal scream of some sort and Maidee saw a similar beast emerging from the tunnel and lurch towards her, she quickly got a new arrow ready and aimed again for the heart of this new beast, but this time the arrow only

hit the beast in the shoulder, so she quickly got the last arrow she had readied up and let it fly, it struck the beast in the stomach, but still it continued towards her.

She dropped the bow and drew her sword and got the shield of her back and prepared for the inevitable close combat, it was not her favorite way of fighting because it got the opponent up close and she would be able to see the pain in their faces as she sank her sword into them, it was not a feeling she liked. But the beast didn't care about her feelings, it was upon her and she jumped to the side only to let her shield smash hard into the wounded stomach of the beast, this seemed to paralyze the beast somewhat, and she quickly launched a series of blows that made the beast bleed even more, it got over the initial blow and turned to face her, she dodged a blow from its hideous claws and quickly struck out to sink her sword into the beast's heart.

The fight was over and she had won, she looked around to see if there were more of the beasts, but it seemed like it was all done. She quickly got her bow and moved into the tunnel, it had a downward angle and she followed it down. All the sudden she got the feeling that she had to hide, she had no idea why she got the feeling, but the tingling down her spine made her go into stealth again before she continued. She came around a corner and saw a group of people standing in front of her. It wasn't any race she had ever seen before, there was a big stone like fellow and a short blue skinned female, or at least she thought it was a female. Beside these two they had company of a few more, one was human, but the rest wasn't. "That big stone man must be a troll" she said to herself, so these must be enemies from the realm of Midgard, but how did they happen to be here? Why were they here?

She saw one of the enemies start to wave his hands in the air and summon what seemed to be a spirit warrior, then she saw one of the others start to say a lot and wave her hands, and she saw bright light surround the spirit. When this was over the spirit was ordered into the next cave and she saw it run towards some huge demons in there. It then returned to its creator dragging the demons out of the cave and out to the waiting group of people.

When the demons were clear of the cave the troll and the human started to beat on one of them in a furious manner, but then for some reason the spirit who kept the other 4 demons busy vanished and the creator got a startled look on his face as the 4 demons came rushing towards him. There was nothing he could do to protect himself and he went down like a ton of bricks, this made the demons turn their attention on what had to be the healer in the group. She saw how the demons tore the entire group apart, and when the troll went down as the very last one she felt sick to her stomach, even though these were enemies of Albion nobody deserved to be butchered like this.

She decided that this place indeed was an evil place, and even if she thought of herself as a stone cold woman when it came to battles, she went over to the side and offered her stomach content to the demons, because they could have this dungeon all to themselves, she was leaving for good.

She made her way back towards the entrance, determined to leave this foul place. When she came to area near the big stairs she saw a small group of 3 people from Albion trying to clear their way through the fiends. And then without a warning a blue skinned enemy stealthier attacked them. He dropped the cleric

before they even got a chance to get their defenses up and had the wizard dead in his second wave of attacks. Then he turned on the paladin who was fighting for his life now.

Maidee got so furious that she lost all sense of pity she had on the group below, she quickly got 2 arrows ready, aimed at the enemy and let the first one fly, she didn't look to see if it struck true but got the other one ready and let it fly as well. The puzzled look on the assassins face was worth it all, because as Maidee moved in to start hitting him with her sword the paladin smashed his shield hard into him and had him even more confused.

Maidee took advantage of this and rushed in sword first and without as much as a thought about seeing the pain on his face she stuck the sword into her enemy all the way to the hilt, only then did she stop, she put her foot on the chest of the assassin and redraw her sword. Then she turned to the paladin who was on his knees crying.

She went over and hugged him and then reminded him that if they acted fast they might be able to get his dead comrades to one of the powerful priests in the city of Camelot, these might revive them. The paladin looked at her and quickly took her up on the offer; they got the dead bodies out of the dungeon and headed for the great city.

As they rode towards the city Maidee thought to herself that she would sign up for defense duty in the frontiers, because the way that assassin had slaughtered those two people was not something she could forgive.

So now Albion had a new seasoned scout taking up arms to defend the realm.