

In the distant land of the wild frontier lies a large town. It lies behind a moderate set of walls. While its defenses paled compared to a citadel, the stone fortifications are sturdy enough to withstand the most brutal of sieges or the harshest storm nature can bring to bear.

Yet behind these walls lived some of the finest warriors and arcane masters the frontier has to offer. They are called adventurers, warriors, and mages who are willing to brave the treacherous dangers and unknowns of the untamed lands.

However, on this day, things seem quiet, and business went smoothly without a hitch. At least for the time being. The town's main tavern serves as a headquarter for the adventurers association for information and all work related to adventurers. There, a lonely individual sat idly, muttering to himself about his predicament.

"Hah~ Again, there is hardly any work offered today." He said with a sigh as he took a long sip from the drink in his cup before slowly placing back on the table.

The appearance of his attire was all too common to be recognized as a wizard. However, there were fewer tatters on his robe and cloak than most mage outfits which are marks of knowledge and experiences in battle. For now, he is in shortage of both, and thus his low rank does not qualify for more dangerous tasks befitting of stronger adventurers.

"If I don't find any work, I'll soon be serving drinks in this tavern instead of buying them." He spoke the sarcastic joke to himself.

His physical appearance said it all about who and what he is. The tone of the dark blue color of his skin, along with his dimly lit red eyes, was enough to unnerve anyone who came face to face with him.

There he was sitting at the corner table in the tavern, watching other adventurers possibly stronger than he is and of higher rank going about their business picking up the most rewarding of assignments but were nothing too urgent. It was still early in the day without the unusual occurring until someone came rushing into the tavern with news that put an end to that peace.

He was a civilian and a worker, but the paled expression on his face as he tries to catch his breath means the news he brought with him is worrisome.

A man came out to greet the worker. His appearance was broad and stiff, and his height was slightly shorter than most humans and much older, yet this man has more experience as a warrior than anyone else, as shown by the scars on his armor and the strength on his body. This man was a veteran adventurer.

"Are you alright, my good man? What has gotten into you, you look as if you're about to die."

"Hah-hah! Guild master! Th-the mines! The goblins have taken the mines!"

"What! How did that happen?" An adventurer asked the worker as the sudden news shocked everyone in the room.

"W-we don't know! We were working in the mines like normal today, w-when the goblin attack suddenly came pouring in."

"Some of us got away lucky, but the goblins captured many more miners who couldn't escape."

"This is bad. The mines are the town's only source of income besides the adventuring business." Another adventurer spoke up, stating the predicament.

"Those foul creatures are probably thinking of making the mines as their nest for future raiding and pillaging the frontier settlements."

"If that happens, they can even threaten the safety of the town. Call in all adventurers immediately. We need to set up a task force to deal with it now!"

"That means you too! The one in the corner with red eyes." The guild master called out to the wizard, referring to him by his physical appearance.

"Yes, sir..." The blue-skinned wizard answered with a bit of hesitation to his voice.

Soon enough, in the large town square, a large force comprised of various adventurers ranging from different skills and professions have gathered as the guild master prepares to address the crowd.

"Alright, I'm sure most of you already know the situation, so there's no need for me to repeat myself." The guild master began.

"As for all you latecomers, I'll make it simple. A goblin army has invaded and taken over the local mining area, and they have taken several captives. Left unchecked, and those foul creatures could pose a threat not just to the town but perhaps the entire region."

"The guild has posted the bounty, one gold coin for every goblin you killed. Keep in mind, the town's safety and the safety of the captives are our top priority, so don't let the reward get over to your head."

"Now, move out!"

With that said, the battalion strong of adventurers departed for the mines to clear out the threat of the goblins.

"Say, what's your name, lad." The guild master asks the wizard as they and the other adventurers traveled their way to the mines.

"It's Sulon, sir." He answered the question.

"I've seen you around quite a few times at the tavern. I don't see you taking much work other than sitting in the corner." The guild master further questioned the wizard.

"There's not much adventuring work that I'm qualified for with my low rank. I just started as an adventurer no more than two months ago."

"Haven't you tried forming a party with other adventurers? It will be good for a chance to promotion."

"No much luck with that either, sir. When everyone gets unnerved with my face." Sulon replied, referring to his blue skin. But more specifically, his dimly lit glowing red eyes.

"Ah, don't worry about it too much lad, I'm sure you'll be able to prove yourself in helping with this goblin threat." The guild master said while reassuring Sulon with a pat on the back.

After traveling several miles beyond the town's outskirts, the adventurers have reached the entrance of the mine located within the dense forest. From a distance, the scenery appears fine, surrounded by the natural growth of nature. However, when reaching closer, everyone could feel a sense of eeriness, and the smell of blood is thick in the air.

"Alright, listen up, all of you. Here's the plan. The first two teams will guard and hold the entrance. Special operations team, you will go to and lowered the smoke bombs down the airshafts." The guild master began elaborating the plan to the rest of the adventurers.

"Once the smoke spreads, it will drive most of those foul creatures out into the open. That's when we'll take down the bulk of those goblins. After that, the rest of the teams enter the mine to clear out the last of the goblins."

"Sulon, you go with the special operations team. I heard you specialized in telekinesis spells. It would help in this operation. After that, the rest of you rejoin with us before we venture into the mine."

And with that said, the quest to eliminate the goblin threat from the mine began. All the adventurers prepare their respective duties and positions and brace for whatever dangers that might await them.

When the special operations team reached the airshafts to the mine, it was time to begin the first step.

"Alright, here it is. Get ready to light up the smoke bombs on my command." Sulon gave the order to the group upon reaching their destination.

"But sir, shouldn't we lowered the bundles of smoke bombs down the shafts using ropes?" One of the adventurers accompanying the group asked in doubt.

"No, if we do that, it will just give the goblins something to climb up to escape the smoke. Trust me, light the bombs, and I'll handle the rest."

"O-oh, alright if you say so."

As the group light up the fuse to the bombs, Sulon cleared his mind into a deep meditation. Raised his staff with one hand, he made a simple gesture of motion towards his targeted objects. The bombs suddenly began to lift above ground and into the air. Sulon, through his gesture, hurls them down the opening of the shafts. Just in time, as the smoke grew ever thicker due to the fire.

"H-how did you do that?"

"Simple telekinesis spells require only a concentration of deep thought and just enough mana, but they rarely require much of a chant to cast it."

Back at the entrance to the mine, the guild master signals the rest of the adventurers to ready themselves.

"Everyone, get ready for a fight. I can already see the thick smoke coming from the tunnels. The goblins will come charging out any moment now."

RAA-AAAGH!

The goblins' howling cries came pouring out from the mines. Albeit somewhat inconsistently, as they are finding it difficult to breathe through all the thick smoke. Then a horde of the fiendish green-skinned monsters came swarming out from the entrance in a disorderly fashion in an attempt to escape onto the surface. They carried knives, daggers, clubs, and other forms of crude or makeshift weapons.

"Here they come! Charge at them in encirclement formation!" The guild master called out as he gave the order to battle as the adventurers drew their weapons and charged.

The sound of clashing weapons and metal echoed throughout the dense forest. The noise of the fighting even reaches the position of Sulon's group.

"Looks like they've already started. Everyone go regroup with the main company and prepare for battle!" One of the adventurer in the group commanded. With that, they rush to join their comrades in arms.

The battle at the entrance of the mine was chaotic as the goblins ferociously try to push through the adventurers' battle lines. They scream and smashed their crude weapons against the shields and armors of the adventurers, even going as far as to bear their fangs and claws on them. At the moment, the adventurers had the upper hand encircling and trapping the goblins, slaying them one at a time. However, as the goblin attack continue to pour out from the entrance, the adventurers were being pushed back by the enemy's continual assault.

"We can't hold them down forever!" One of the adventurers cried out to his companions at the frontline.

"Don't falter! If they break through the formation, they'll turn the tables on us."

As the goblins fell by the blade and their bodies piled on the ground, something unexpected happened. A goblin began to push and climb on top of the bodies of its dead brethren. It leaped over the adventurers' trap, landing on top of another adventurer.

"Damn! They're using their dead to climb out of the encirclement formation."

"Ahhhh! Get it off me!" The adventurer cried frantically as the goblin viciously clawed at the man's helmet and straps. As the monster raised its dagger for a killing blow, a large rock was hurled and smashed at its head, killing it.

Whack!

RE-EEEGH!?

"What!?"

"Looks like we made it just in time to finish them for good," Sulon said, arriving with the rest of the adventurers flanking the goblins from behind right on top of the entrance.

"Reinforcements!"

Again concentrating his mind and thoughts, Sulon raised his staff, levitating several rocks raising them into the air high above the ground. Then, Sulon hurled all the levitated rocks at the goblins below in a deadly stone hail.

RAAAAGH!

The foul creatures cried out in agonizing pain as the hail of rocks broke limbs and crushed bones, either killing or incapacitating the goblins. When the rain of deadly projectiles has ended, the remaining goblins could barely put up a fight.

"This is it! Let's finish this, charge!"

With that, the adventurers finished their encirclement formation and rid the vanguard of the goblin horde.

"Report, how much damage did we suffered?" The guild master asked, turning to one of his subordinates.

"We have at least a hundred wounded, fortunately, no heavily injured or casualties. Damages to our equipment ranged from minimal to moderate."

"Alright, as soon as we finish recovering, we will head into the mine to clear out the stragglers and rescue the captives. Everyone, you've done well, be proud of yourself as adventurers." The guild master said, addressing everyone and praising them for all their efforts.

From the corner of his eye, he spotted Sulon surveying the battlefield in its aftermath.

"So much carnage in a single day," Sulon said to himself as if lamenting the situation.

"You've done well today, lad." The guild master praised the young wizard as he approaches him, standing next to him.

"Not so much a rookie adventurer now. You think you're up to the task to finish this?"

"That I am, sir."