



## The Icy Hell

After passing all information to the Arcona's leaders, Archian left Zainab to check on the nearest villages and their safety.

He checked his arrows and bow, sorted out the medicine bag and moved on through the icy desert.

He stopped and scented the blood. It could be just a local predator having a nice warm, freshly killed meal from Humbabas, or someone was in horrific trouble....

He followed his nose and reached a small hill covered fully with ice. He dropped at his belly and by crawling reached the edge of the hill, with no risk of sliding off from it.

He looked down and actually there was a body of the killed large herbivore, but instead of a predator capable of killing it, a lot of Attack Stohl were crawling and eating its flesh. But there was something wrong with it.

There was no visible wound at the carcass, only one clean cut at the throat of the body. That couldn't be done by any creature, especially by crawly, snake Attack Stohls.

Archian slowly crawled closer and took a smoke bomb into his hand. He threw it into their direction. After a small delay smoke came out. All long creatures retreated to the holes inside of the hill.

Shistavanen slid down and checked body - there was not much blood, like someone had drained it.

He looked around. A few meters away, closer to the side of the ice block was a few drops of frozen blood. It was a track which Archian should follow.

He came closer and touched the spot.

It was the same blood as the creature's. He turned around and started to investigate the wall of the hill.

He moved his clawed fingers alongside it and found a small gap, straight away he tried to pull it - he was right about his decision. It was the cover to the hidden entrance!

Archian pulled into his direction, and pushed alongside. There was a very narrow tunnel, but what is more it was covered with blood everywhere. It looked like a nose hole after strong bleeding.

He didn't hesitate to come in. He followed the corridor, and reached the elevation of the ice chamber.

Before he looked down, he could already hear the chanting and weird sounds of the cultists. They were singing and passing by a bowl full of blood. That has made Archian angry.

He just took his bow, reached for the arrow and started shooting. No one is killing innocent creatures just to waste their bodies and blood!

Shistavanen had aimed and shot arrow at the first cultist wearing a black tunic, who at that exact moment was holding a bowl full of blood.

He had fallen down, which followed the gaze of others at him.

After a few seconds, and accepting that someone is shooting at them, they looked around and caught sight of a Canine figure aiming at them from above. Some took out the spears and blaster, and back fired.

Now Archian understood that he shouldn't follow his emotion, it was too many of them...

He took all of his explosion materials, and after triggering them dropped them down. Total demolition was the only way this time.

He escaped the entrance to the cave at the same time when an explosion destroyed everything and all the ice hill collapsed.

Archian had shaken his head... Poor Attack Stohls!