

FANTASY ROLEPLAYING GAME



KILL THE MESSENGERS A Special Encounter for 2nd-Level Characters



Introduction

Kill the Messengers is a 1-hour DUNGEONS & DRAGONS[®] encounter intended for 4–6 characters of 2nd level. It serves as an entertaining dénouement to "The Twisting Halls," an adventure in the DUNGEONS & DRAGONS Fantasy Roleplaying Game box, but feel free to plunder it for your home campaign!

This is the encounter written for the Celebrity D&D Game event at Gen Con 2010, featuring R.A. Salvatore (creator of Drizzt Do'Urden), Ed Greenwood (creator of the FORGOTTEN REALMS[®] world), and Larry Elmore (fantasy illustrator extraordinaire) as players.

In addition to the actual encounter, this booklet includes four pregenerated characters created using the rules and guidelines in the DUNGEONS & DRAGONS *Fantasy Roleplaying Game*: a human cleric, a dwarf fighter, a halfling rogue, and an elf wizard. Permission is granted to photocopy these character sheets for home game use only.

The Red Box

If you're new to the DUNGEONS & DRAGONS game or played the game years ago but stopped for whatever reason, the DUNGEONS & DRAGONS Fantasy Roleplaying *Game* (affectionately known as "the Red Box") is for you. An updated version of the Red Box hits store shelves in September 2010. It's designed to appeal to new players as well as lapsed players who remember fondly the original 1980 Red Box and who might be thinking about starting up a game with their kids or a group of friends.

Intended for players ages 12 and up, the new DUNGEONS & DRAGONS Fantasy Roleplaying Game was modeled after the original Red Box and includes the following components:

- ◆ A set of polyhedral dice
- ♦ 4 blank character sheets (which can be photocopied for home game use)
- ♦ A 32-page *Player's Book* containing an introductory solo-play adventure.
- ♦ A 64-page Dungeon Master's Book containing a group adventure for 1st-level characters, as well as basic rules for advancing characters to 2nd level, combat rules, encounter design guidelines, and monster statistics.
- ✦ A foldout full-color battle map
- ♦ Die-cut character tokens, monster tokens, power cards, and magic item cards

Using This Encounter

The easiest way to use this encounter is to attach it to the end of "The Twisting Halls." In that adventure, the heroes fight their way into a goblin lair to retrieve a box belonging to a dwarf merchant named Traevus. An evil necromancer named Malareth stole the box in order to get at the human skull locked inside. The skull is a focus for necromantic rituals. More likely than not, the heroes will slay Malareth in the course of completing their quest. Assuming they survive, all that remains is for them to deliver the box and its contents safely to Traevus.

Kill the Messengers takes place as the heroes leave the Twisting Halls dungeon. It assumes they have advanced to 2nd level and have Traevus's box in their custody. During the celebrity game, D&D[®] miniatures were used to represent heroes and monsters because they're easier for spectators to see, but feel free to substitute hero and monster tokens from the Red Box as needed for your home game.

Encounter Synopsis

Though haughty and ambitious, Malareth is merely the puppet or underling of a greater evil lurking in the Nentir Vale. The exact nature of this evil isn't revealed here, although Orcus (the demon prince of the undead) might be involved.

Malareth's assignment was to acquire the skull. After stealing the merchant's box, he needed to verify that its contents were genuine. He opened the box and began studying the skull. Meanwhile, messengers were sent to fetch the skull and dispose of Malareth. Apparently the necromancer had outlived his usefulness! Either that, or his vile master just doesn't like loose ends.

The dark messengers arrive just as the heroes are leaving the goblin lair. The ground outside the lair is littered with goblin carcasses (the heroes' handiwork), so the adventurers aren't likely to convince the dark messengers that they're anything other than unwanted troublemakers who should be destroyed.

The leader of the dark messengers is one of Malareth's peers and rivals, a cruel and ambitious necromancer named Nynga Murdergrave. A wererat bodyguard named Klyde accompanies Nynga, as well as several animated orc skeletons and the undead remains of a Nerathi cavalier killed in battle long ago– all in all, a wretched lot.

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Kill the Messengers

Encounter Level 3 (755 XP)

Setup

Nynga Murdergrave, tiefling necromancer (N) Klyde, wererat (K) 1 skeletal rider (R) 5 decrepit orc skeletons (S)

This encounter uses the "Monster Lair" portion of the foldout battle map in the *DUNGEONS & DRAGONS Fantasy Roleplaying Game* box. Fold the map so that only the relevant area is showing.

The encounter is higher than the adventurers' level because it's meant to be challenging. If the heroes are down healing surges or daily powers, you can hold the skeletal rider in reserve and put it in play only if they're having too easy a time.

Read the following to begin the encounter:

You were sent on a quest by a dwarf merchant named Traevus to retrieve some stolen property of his—a strongbox taken by goblin marauders. You tracked the goblins to their cave and slaughtered every last one of them, but deep within their lair you found a secret dungeon complex. Therein you fought an evil necromancer and recovered the merchant's box, inside which was a human skull.

As you leave the goblins' lair, you hear the distant peal of thunder and the fall of heavy rain.

Ask the players to decide which of their characters is carrying the box, the skull, or both. Then have them each make a DC 13 Perception check.

If one or more of the characters succeed on the check, read the following:

Approaching the entrance, you spot a number of hunched figures standing over the corpses of the goblins you massacred. The closest shape looks like the animated skeleton of an orc. Getting the strongbox back to Traevus might be harder than you thought!

If no one in the adventuring party spots the villains outside, place the heroes' tokens or miniatures near the cave entrance instead of the back of the cave, and have both sides roll initiative.

If one or more heroes succeed on the Perception check, the villains outside don't notice them immediately, affording the characters an opportunity to conduct some stealthy reconnaissance. Characters can move about the caves unseen with a successful Stealth check (opposed by the nearest enemy's Perception check). The heroes gain a +2 bonus to their checks because the caves contain plenty of shadows.

Characters who can get to the mouth of a cave without being detected can see all of the villains.

When the characters see the Nynga and her retinue, read:

Undaunted by the rain, five orc skeletons use their rusty swords to poke the corpses of the slain goblins. Crouched behind some nearby boulders are two cloaked figures: a ratfaced humanoid with a sword and a woman with horns protruding from her cowl. Farther back, in the mist, stands a skeletal horse and rider.

Once Nynga becomes aware of the heroes, read the following:

A female voice rises above the rain. "You don't work for Malareth," she says. "I take it you have the skull?"

Nynga's task is simple: Fetch the skull and deliver it safely to her dark masters. Failure is not an option, lest she end up worse off than her skeletal orc minions. The heroes can converse with the dark messengers, attack them, or surrender the skull. Getting past the dark messengers unseen is not an option.

If the heroes converse with Nynga, see "Roleplaying Nynga" below. If they attack, have both sides roll initiative. If they offer Nynga the skull, she orders Klyde to collect it. Once the skull is in her possession, she and her forces withdraw. If the heroes give up the skull, they are unable to complete their quest.

Creative players might try to convince Nynga that they don't have the skull, or they might surrender a facsimile of the skull while keeping the real one hidden. To fool Nynga, the heroes must each make a Bluff check opposed by her Insight check; if half or more of them succeed, Nynga is fooled. A successful ruse is enough to give the heroes a head start, but Nynga eventually realizes she's been duped. The dark messengers catch up to the party by nightfall. The battle plays out more or less the same, but use the "Crossroads" portion of the battle map instead.

Roleplaying Nynga

Here are some questions the heroes might ask Nynga Murdergrave, along with her answers.

Who are you? "Nynga Murdergrave. This is Klyde, my henchman."

Whom do your serve? "Orcus, demon prince of undeath! Maybe you've heard of him."

Why do you want the skull? "The skull holds a small measure of necromantic power, but when combined with others like it, its power is formidable."

What do you intend to do with the skull? "I am merely a messenger. What my masters intend to do with the skull is their business and none of your concern-yet."

Have you ever danced with the devil under the pale moonlight? "Your questions tire me. Klyde! Slay these imbeciles!"

Nynga Murdergra	ive, Necromancer (N)	Level 3 Controller
Medium natural, tief		XP 150
HP 42; Bloodied 21	- U	Initiative +2
AC 17, Fortitude 13	8, Reflex 16, Will 15	Perception +6
Speed 6		Low-light vision
Resist 6 fire		
TRAITS		
🔆 Aura of Dread <	Aura 1	
Enemies in the au	ıra take a -2 penalty on	attack rolls.
STANDARD ACTIONS		
(+) Staff (necrotic, w		
0	one creature); +8 vs. AC	(+9 if the target is
bloodied)		(i s in the target is
	age plus 5 necrotic dam	age.
	then Grave (necrotic) ♦	U
	(one creature standing of	
0	target is bloodied)	fin the ground, +7 vs.
	immobilized (save ends)	
U	w: The target takes 1d6	
TRIGGERED ACTIONS		- 5 necrotic dumage.
Arise! At-Will		
	undead minion within 5	squares of Nynga drops to
00		be higher level than Nynga.
•		inion rises to its feet at the
	urn (as a free action) wi	
Infernal Wrath (fire		
, ,	y within 10 squares of N	vnga hits her.
	•	akes 1d6 + 5 fire damage.
	Bluff +11, Insight +6, Ste	•
Str 12 (+2)		Wis 11 (+1)
Con 10 (+1)		Cha 16 (+4)
	. ,	
Alignment evil	Languages Com	non
Alignment evil Equipment staff	Languages Com	non
0	Languages Com	non
0		non Level 3 Skirmisher
Equipment staff Klyde, Wererat (V		
Equipment staff Klyde, Wererat (V	V) nanoid (shapechanger)	Level 3 Skirmisher
Equipment staff Klyde, Wererat (V Medium natural hur HP 37; Bloodied 18	V) nanoid (shapechanger)	Level 3 Skirmisher XP 150
Equipment staff Klyde, Wererat (V Medium natural hun HP 37; Bloodied 18 AC 17, Fortitude 14	W) nanoid (shapechanger) H, Reflex 13, Will 12	Level 3 Skirmisher XP 150 Initiative +7 Perception +7
Equipment staff Klyde, Wererat (V Medium natural hun HP 37; Bloodied 18 AC 17, Fortitude 14	V) nanoid (shapechanger)	Level 3 Skirmisher XP 150 Initiative +7
Equipment staff Klyde, Wererat (V Medium natural hur HP 37; Bloodied 18 AC 17, Fortitude 14 Speed 6, climb 4 (ra	W) nanoid (shapechanger) H, Reflex 13, Will 12	Level 3 Skirmisher XP 150 Initiative +7 Perception +7
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Effect: The wererat alters its physical form to appear as a rat, a unique human, or a hybrid creature. The form lasts until it uses *change shape* again or until it drops to 0 hit points (whereupon it assumes human form). The creature retains its statistics in its new form. Its clothing, armor, and possessions do not change.

Skills Bluff +6, Ste	alth +10		
Str 10 (+1)	Dex 18 (+5)	Wis 12 (+2)	
Con 15 (+3)	Int 13 (+2)	Cha 11 (+1)	
Alignment evil	Languages	Common	
Equipment short s	sword		

Equipment short sword				
Skeletal Rider (R)		Level 3 Elite Soldier		
Large natural animate (u	undead)	XP 300		
HP 94; Bloodied 47	indead)	Initiative +6		
AC 19, Fortitude 16, Re	eflex 15. Will 14	Perception +3		
Speed 8		Darkvision		
•	n; Resist 10 necroti	ic; Vulnerable 5 radiant		
TRAITS				
Brittle				
Whenever the skelet	al rider is knocked	prone, it takes 5 damage.		
STANDARD ACTIONS				
(Hooves ♦ At-Will				
Attack: Melee 1 (one	creature); +7 vs. A	С		
Hit: 1d8 + 6 damage,	and the target falls	s prone. If the target is		
already prone, it tak	es 5 extra damage			
🕴 Death's Charge 🔶 At	-Will			
Effect: The skeletal ric	ler charges and ma	kes the following attack		
instead of a basic at	tack.			
Attack: Melee 2 (one	creature); +8 vs. A	C		
Hit: 1d10 + 7 damag	e, and the target fa	lls prone and is dazed (save		
ends).				
MOVE ACTIONS				
↓ Ride-By Attack ✦ Re				
	•	l and can make the following		
attack at any point of	0	_		
Attack: Melee 2 (one creature); +7 vs. AC				
Hit: 1d10 + 10 dama	ge, and the target i	s marked until the end of		
Hit: 1d10 + 10 dama the skeletal rider's r	ge, and the target i			
Hit: 1d10 + 10 dama the skeletal rider's r MINOR ACTIONS	ge, and the target i next turn.			
Hit: 1d10 + 10 dama the skeletal rider's r MINOR ACTIONS Mark of Nerath ✦ At-V	ge, and the target i next turn. Vill (1/round)	s marked until the end of		
Hit: 1d10 + 10 dama the skeletal rider's r MINOR ACTIONS Mark of Nerath ◆ At-V Effect: An enemy with	ge, and the target i next turn. Vill (1/round)			
Hit: 1d10 + 10 dama the skeletal rider's r MINOR ACTIONS Mark of Nerath ◆ At-V Effect: An enemy with (save ends).	ge, and the target i next turn. Vill (1/round) nin 5 squares of the	s marked until the end of e skeletal rider is marked		
Hit: 1d10 + 10 dama the skeletal rider's r MINOR ACTIONS Mark of Nerath ← At-V Effect: An enemy with (save ends). Str 18 (+5) Da	ge, and the target i next turn. Vill (1/round) nin 5 squares of the ex 17 (+4)	s marked until the end of e skeletal rider is marked Wis 14 (+3)		
Hit: 1d10 + 10 dama the skeletal rider's r MINOR ACTIONS Mark of Nerath ✦ At-V Effect: An enemy with (save ends). Str 18 (+5) Do Con 15 (+3) In	ge, and the target i next turn. Vill (1/round) nin 5 squares of the ex 17 (+4) t 5 (-2)	s marked until the end of e skeletal rider is marked		
Hit: 1d10 + 10 dama the skeletal rider's r MINOR ACTIONS Mark of Nerath ◆ At-V Effect: An enemy with (save ends). Str 18 (+5) Do Con 15 (+3) In Alignment unaligned	ge, and the target i next turn. Vill (1/round) nin 5 squares of the ex 17 (+4) t 5 (-2) Languages –	s marked until the end of e skeletal rider is marked Wis 14 (+3)		
Hit: 1d10 + 10 dama the skeletal rider's r MINOR ACTIONS Mark of Nerath ✦ At-V Effect: An enemy with (save ends). Str 18 (+5) Do Con 15 (+3) In	ge, and the target i next turn. Vill (1/round) nin 5 squares of the ex 17 (+4) t 5 (-2) Languages –	s marked until the end of e skeletal rider is marked Wis 14 (+3)		
Hit: 1d10 + 10 dama the skeletal rider's r MINOR ACTIONS Mark of Nerath ◆ At-V Effect: An enemy with (save ends). Str 18 (+5) Do Con 15 (+3) In Alignment unaligned	ge, and the target i next turn. Vill (1/round) nin 5 squares of the ex 17 (+4) t 5 (-2) Languages – ight shield	s marked until the end of e skeletal rider is marked Wis 14 (+3)		
Hit: 1d10 + 10 dama the skeletal rider's r MINOR ACTIONS Mark of Nerath ◆ At-V Effect: An enemy with (save ends). Str 18 (+5) Do Con 15 (+3) In Alignment unaligned Equipment longspear, lit	ge, and the target i next turn. Vill (1/round) nin 5 squares of the ex 17 (+4) t 5 (-2) Languages – ight shield etons (S)	is marked until the end of e skeletal rider is marked Wis 14 (+3) Cha 5 (-2)		
Hit: 1d10 + 10 dama the skeletal rider's r MINOR ACTIONS Mark of Nerath ♦ At-V Effect: An enemy with (save ends). Str 18 (+5) Da Con 15 (+3) In Alignment unaligned Equipment longspear, li 5 Decrepit Orc Skele	ge, and the target i next turn. Vill (1/round) nin 5 squares of the ex 17 (+4) t 5 (-2) Languages – ight shield etons (S) e (undead)	is marked until the end of e skeletal rider is marked Wis 14 (+3) Cha 5 (-2) Level 2 Minion Brute XP 31 each		
Hit: 1d10 + 10 dama the skeletal rider's r MINOR ACTIONS Mark of Nerath ♦ At-V Effect: An enemy with (save ends). Str 18 (+5) De Con 15 (+3) In Alignment unaligned Equipment longspear, li 5 Decrepit Orc Skele Medium natural animat	ge, and the target i next turn. Vill (1/round) nin 5 squares of the ex 17 (+4) t 5 (-2) Languages – ight shield etons (S) e (undead) ever damages a mi	is marked until the end of e skeletal rider is marked Wis 14 (+3) Cha 5 (-2) Level 2 Minion Brute XP 31 each		
Hit: 1d10 + 10 dama the skeletal rider's r MINOR ACTIONS Mark of Nerath ♦ At-V Effect: An enemy with (save ends). Str 18 (+5) De Con 15 (+3) In Alignment unaligned Equipment longspear, li 5 Decrepit Orc Skele Medium natural animat HP 1; a missed attack n	ge, and the target i next turn. Vill (1/round) nin 5 squares of the ex 17 (+4) t 5 (-2) Languages – ight shield etons (S) e (undead) ever damages a mi	e skeletal rider is marked Wis 14 (+3) Cha 5 (-2) Level 2 Minion Brute XP 31 each nion. Initiative +3		
Hit: 1d10 + 10 dama the skeletal rider's r MINOR ACTIONS Mark of Nerath ♦ At-V Effect: An enemy with (save ends). Str 18 (+5) Da Con 15 (+3) In Alignment unaligned Equipment longspear, li 5 Decrepit Orc Skele Medium natural animat HP 1; a missed attack n AC 14, Fortitude 14, Re Speed 6 Immune disease, poison	ge, and the target i next turn. Vill (1/round) nin 5 squares of the ex 17 (+4) t 5 (-2) Languages – ight shield etons (S) e (undead) ever damages a mi eflex 13, Will 11	e skeletal rider is marked Wis 14 (+3) Cha 5 (-2) Level 2 Minion Brute XP 31 each nion. Initiative +3 Perception +3 Darkvision		
Hit: 1d10 + 10 dama the skeletal rider's r MINOR ACTIONS Mark of Nerath ♦ At-V Effect: An enemy with (save ends). Str 18 (+5) De Con 15 (+3) In Alignment unaligned Equipment longspear, li 5 Decrepit Orc Skele Medium natural animat HP 1; a missed attack n AC 14, Fortitude 14, Re Speed 6 Immune disease, poison STANDARD ACTIONS	ge, and the target i next turn. Vill (1/round) nin 5 squares of the ex 17 (+4) t 5 (-2) Languages – ight shield etons (S) e (undead) ever damages a mi eflex 13, Will 11 n; Resist 10 necroti	is marked until the end of e skeletal rider is marked Wis 14 (+3) Cha 5 (-2) Level 2 Minion Brute XP 31 each nion. Initiative +3 Perception +3 Darkvision ic		
Hit: 1d10 + 10 dama the skeletal rider's r MINOR ACTIONS Mark of Nerath ♦ At-V Effect: An enemy with (save ends). Str 18 (+5) Da Con 15 (+3) In Alignment unaligned Equipment longspear, li 5 Decrepit Orc Skele Medium natural animat HP 1; a missed attack n AC 14, Fortitude 14, Re Speed 6 Immune disease, poison	ge, and the target i next turn. Vill (1/round) nin 5 squares of the ex 17 (+4) t 5 (-2) Languages – ight shield etons (S) e (undead) ever damages a mi eflex 13, Will 11 n; Resist 10 necroti	is marked until the end of e skeletal rider is marked Wis 14 (+3) Cha 5 (-2) Level 2 Minion Brute XP 31 each nion. Initiative +3 Perception +3 Darkvision ic		
Hit: 1d10 + 10 dama the skeletal rider's r MINOR ACTIONS Mark of Nerath ♦ At-V Effect: An enemy with (save ends). Str 18 (+5) De Con 15 (+3) In Alignment unaligned Equipment longspear, li 5 Decrepit Orc Skele Medium natural animat HP 1; a missed attack n AC 14, Fortitude 14, Re Speed 6 Immune disease, poison STANDARD ACTIONS	ge, and the target i next turn. Vill (1/round) nin 5 squares of the ex 17 (+4) t 5 (-2) Languages – ight shield etons (S) e (undead) ever damages a mi eflex 13, Will 11 n; Resist 10 necroti (weapon) + At-WI	is marked until the end of e skeletal rider is marked Wis 14 (+3) Cha 5 (-2) Level 2 Minion Brute XP 31 each nion. Initiative +3 Perception +3 Darkvision ic		
Hit: 1d10 + 10 dama the skeletal rider's r MINOR ACTIONS Mark of Nerath ◆ At-V Effect: An enemy with (save ends). Str 18 (+5) De Con 15 (+3) In Alignment unaligned Equipment longspear, li 5 Decrepit Orc Skele Medium natural animat HP 1; a missed attack n AC 14, Fortitude 14, Re Speed 6 Immune disease, poisor STANDARD ACTIONS ① Dead Man's Sword 0 Attack: Melee 1 (one Hit: 6 damage, or 9 d	ge, and the target i next turn. Vill (1/round) nin 5 squares of the ex 17 (+4) t 5 (-2) Languages – ight shield etons (S) e (undead) ever damages a mi eflex 13, Will 11 n; Resist 10 necroti (weapon) + At-WI creature); +7 vs. Ad amage if the target	is marked until the end of e skeletal rider is marked Wis 14 (+3) Cha 5 (-2) Level 2 Minion Brute XP 31 each nion. Initiative +3 Perception +3 Darkvision ic		
Hit: 1d10 + 10 dama the skeletal rider's r MINOR ACTIONS Mark of Nerath ◆ At-V Effect: An enemy with (save ends). Str 18 (+5) Do Con 15 (+3) In Alignment unaligned Equipment longspear, li 5 Decrepit Orc Skele Medium natural animat HP 1; a missed attack n AC 14, Fortitude 14, Re Speed 6 Immune disease, poison STANDARD ACTIONS ① Dead Man's Sword 0 Attack: Melee 1 (one Hit: 6 damage, or 9 d skeleton's allies adja	ge, and the target i next turn. Vill (1/round) nin 5 squares of the ex 17 (+4) t 5 (-2) Languages – ight shield etons (S) e (undead) ever damages a mi eflex 13, Will 11 n; Resist 10 necroti (weapon) + At-WI creature); +7 vs. Ad amage if the target acent to it.	e skeletal rider is marked Wis 14 (+3) Cha 5 (-2) Level 2 Minion Brute XP 31 each nion. Initiative +3 Perception +3 Darkvision ic III C thas one or more of the		
Hit: 1d10 + 10 dama the skeletal rider's r MINOR ACTIONS Mark of Nerath ◆ At-V Effect: An enemy with (save ends). Str 18 (+5) Do Con 15 (+3) In Alignment unaligned Equipment longspear, lit 5 Decrepit Orc Skele Medium natural animat HP 1; a missed attack n AC 14, Fortitude 14, Re Speed 6 Immune disease, poison STANDARD ACTIONS ① Dead Man's Sword 0 Attack: Melee 1 (one Hit: 6 damage, or 9 d skeleton's allies adja	ge, and the target i next turn. Vill (1/round) nin 5 squares of the ex 17 (+4) t 5 (-2) Languages – ight shield etons (S) e (undead) ever damages a mi eflex 13, Will 11 n; Resist 10 necroti (weapon) + At-WI creature); +7 vs. At amage if the target acent to it. ex 15 (+3)	s marked until the end of e skeletal rider is marked Wis 14 (+3) Cha 5 (-2) Level 2 Minion Brute XP 31 each nion. Initiative +3 Perception +3 Darkvision ic II C thas one or more of the Wis 11 (+1)		
Hit: 1d10 + 10 dama the skeletal rider's r MINOR ACTIONS Mark of Nerath ◆ At-V Effect: An enemy with (save ends). Str 18 (+5) Do Con 15 (+3) In Alignment unaligned Equipment longspear, lit 5 Decrepit Orc Skele Medium natural animat HP 1; a missed attack n AC 14, Fortitude 14, Re Speed 6 Immune disease, poisor STANDARD ACTIONS ① Dead Man's Sword 0 Attack: Melee 1 (one Hit: 6 damage, or 9 d skeleton's allies adja Str 17 (+4) Do Con 13 (+2) In	ge, and the target i next turn. Vill (1/round) nin 5 squares of the ex 17 (+4) t 5 (-2) Languages – ight shield etons (S) e (undead) ever damages a mi eflex 13, Will 11 n; Resist 10 necroti (weapon) \bigstar At-WI creature); +7 vs. A(amage if the target acent to it. ex 15 (+3) t 3 (-3)	e skeletal rider is marked Wis 14 (+3) Cha 5 (-2) Level 2 Minion Brute XP 31 each nion. Initiative +3 Perception +3 Darkvision ic III C thas one or more of the		
Hit: 1d10 + 10 dama the skeletal rider's r MINOR ACTIONS Mark of Nerath ◆ At-V Effect: An enemy with (save ends). Str 18 (+5) Do Con 15 (+3) In Alignment unaligned Equipment longspear, li 5 Decrepit Orc Skele Medium natural animat HP 1; a missed attack n AC 14, Fortitude 14, Re Speed 6 Immune disease, poison STANDARD ACTIONS ④ Dead Man's Sword 0 Attack: Melee 1 (one Hit: 6 damage, or 9 d skeleton's allies adja Str 17 (+4) Do	ge, and the target i next turn. Vill (1/round) nin 5 squares of the ex 17 (+4) t 5 (-2) Languages – ight shield etons (S) e (undead) ever damages a mi eflex 13, Will 11 n; Resist 10 necroti (weapon) + At-WI creature); +7 vs. Ad amage if the target acent to it. ex 15 (+3) t 3 (-3) Languages –	s marked until the end of e skeletal rider is marked Wis 14 (+3) Cha 5 (-2) Level 2 Minion Brute XP 31 each nion. Initiative +3 Perception +3 Darkvision ic II C thas one or more of the Wis 11 (+1)		



Tactics

Nynga takes cover behind the boulders and uses *grasp* of the earthen grave to root enemies to the spot. She tries to stay within 5 squares of her minions so that when one of them drops to 0 hit points, she can use *arise!* She uses *infernal wrath* on the first enemy to wound her.

Klyde prefers to remain in hybrid form. He tries to flank enemies and reap the benefits of combat advantage.

The skeletal rider and its mount are considered one creature. When it drops to 0 hit points, both rider and mount collapse into a heap of bones. The rider cannot be dismounted. Its goal is to draw fire from the other dark messengers using *ride-by attack* and *mark of Nerath*.

The orc skeletons deal more damage when they cluster around a common enemy. An orc skeleton will stupidly provoke an opportunity attack running away from one enemy in order to deal more damage to another. When a minion falls in battle, do not remove its token or miniature from the map. As soon as she is able, Nynga scurries out of hiding and restores the minion using *arise!* The heroes do not gain extra XP for killing the same minion over and over.

Features of the Area

Illumination: Bright light.

Heavy Rain: Creatures standing outside the caves gain concealment against enemies more than 5 squares away from them.

Blocked Tunnel: A large boulder seals off the northern exit, but gaps allow a nimble character to squeeze through with a DC 10 Acrobatics check.

Boulders: The boulders outside are 10 feet high and provide cover. Climbing over them requires a DC 10 Athletics check. The boulders provide cover.

Bushes: The bushes create difficult terrain.

Creek: The creek is shallow and considered normal terrain. The wider section is deeper and treated as difficult terrain.

Ending the Encounter

If the heroes defeat the dark messengers, they can search the bodies. Nynga carries three 100-gp pearls and a *bag of holding* (for carrying the skull), and Klyde has a pouch containing 90 gp. After looting the dead, the heroes can continue on their way, return the skull to Traevus, and collect their quest reward.

DUNCEONS & DRAGONS®

Level: 2

ABILITIES AND SKILLS			
11 Strengtl		MODIFIER	c H E L K
Strength measure	ures your physical p	ower.	
Athletics	X Trained	MISC.	C+16K
13 Constitu		MODIFIER	⊂ +:2 K
	presents health, sto	imina, and vital for	
Endurance	Trained	MISC.	C +2 K
10 Dexteri	-	MODIFIER	с н е 1 к
Dexterity measurements	sures coordination, o	agility, and balance	
Acrobatics	Trained	MISC.	снетк
Stealth	Trained	MISC.	C ⋕ Ĕ <mark></mark> K
Thievery	Trained	MISC.	c h e t k
14 Intellige	nce	MODIFIER	C +13 K
Intelligence des	scribes how well you	learn and reason.	
Arcana	Trained	MISC.	C +13 K
History	X Trained	MISC.	C+18K
Religion	X Trained	MISC.	C +18 K
18 Wisdom	ı	MODIFIER	c +:5 K
Wisdom measu	ıres common sense,	self-discipline, and	empathy.
Dungeoneerin	g 🔲 Trained	MISC.	с +:5 к
Heal	X Trained	MISC.	+10
Insight	X Trained	MISC.	+10
Nature	Trained	MISC.	c +5 K
Perception	Trained Trained	MISC.	c +5 K
(12) Charism	ıa	MODIFIER	∈+2 K
Charisma mea	sures force of persor	ality and leadershi	
Bluff	Trained	MISC.	(+12 K
Diplomacy	Trained	MISC.	- +2 K
Intimidate	Trained	MISC.	+12 1K
Streetwise	Trained	MISC.	-+2 K

POWERS AND FEATS

storm hammer (at-will)
blessing of wrath (at-will)
healing word (2/encounter)
echoes of thunder (1/encounter)
storm surge (1/encounter)
levy of judgment (1/day)
Defensive Mobility (feat)
Durable (feat)

Racial Traits:

human versatility

WEALTH

200 gp

СОМВА	T STATISTICS	
(+1) Initiative Roll initiative to determin the turn order in combat.		
DI	FENSES	
(18) Armor Class	(AC)	
AC measures how hard	d it is to physically land an att	ack on you.
(12) Fortitude		
Fortitude measures yo	ur toughness and resilience.	
(13) Reflex		
Reflex measures your o	ability to deflect or dodge atto	icks.
(15) Will		
Will measures your str	rength of will, self-discipline, a	nd devotion.
+7 Attack Bonus	macen / power	d8+4
+5 Attack Bonus	implement	varies
	120 and add your attack bonu 's defense to see if you hit. If yo	
(30) Hit Points	Bloodied	15
	he damage you can take befo ed value is half of your hit poin	
Healing Surge Va	lue	7
Surges Per Day	g surge, you regain hit points	10
	which is one-quarter of your l	
CURREN	T HIT POINTS	
Temporary Hit Points		Surges Used
EQUIPMENT A	AND MAGIC I or	TEMS
<u>heavy shield</u>		
mace	Vand Grand	
holy symbol of potion of heali		nent)
bedroll	<u>п</u> д	
beltpouch		
backpack		
I		
-	S IN COMBAT	

On your turn in combat, you can take three actions: A standard action, which is usually an attack A move action, which involves movement A minor action, which is simple and quick You can give up an action to take another action from lower on the list, so you can take a move or a minor action instead of a standard action or a minor action instead of a move action. Use this space however you like: to record what happens on your adventures, track quests, describe your background and goals, note the names of the other characters in your party, or draw a picture of your character.



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CHARACTER NOTES

Race: Human Gender:

Languages: Common, Draconic

You worship Kord, the god of storms and battle.

Class: Cleric

Alignment: ____

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS®

Level: 2

Gender:

ABI	LITIES AN	ND SKILL	S
18 Strengt		MODIFIER	c +5 ĸ
Athletics	ures your physical p	ower. MISC.	-+10
14 Constitu	ution	MODIFIER	⊂ +:3 K
	epresents health, sto	-	
Endurance	X Trained	+2	+10
13 Dexteri		MODIFIER	-+ 2⊂
	sures coordination,		
Acrobatics	Trained	MISC.	c+2K
Stealth	Trained	MISC.	+2
Thievery	Trained	MISC.	C +12 K
10 Intellige		MODIFIER	с н е
-	scribes how well you	I learn and reason.	
Arcana	Trained	MISC.	GHECK
History	Trained	MISC.	CHECK
Religion	X Trained	MISC.	с н е с к
12 Wisdon		MODIFIER	c +;2 K
	ures common sense,		
Dungeoneerir	- <u> </u>	+2	c +4 K
Heal	Trained	MISC.	−+2 ⊾
Insight	Trained	MISC.	⊂ +2 K
Nature	Trained	MISC.	C+12 K
Perception	Trained	MISC.	⊂ +2 K
11 Charisn		MODIFIER	сні с к
	sures force of perso	-	·
Bluff	Trained	MISC.	CHECK
Diplomacy	Trained	MISC.	c+1
Intimidate	X Trained	MISC.	+6 K
Streetwise	Trained	MISC.	снеск
PO	WERS AN	D FEATS	
poised as			
battle fur			
<u></u>	1 (4 /	. `	

poised assault (stance)
poised assualt (stallee)
battle fury (stance)
power strike (1/encounter)
minor resurgence (1/encounter
Toughness (feat)

Racial Traits: _____cast-iron stomach _____dwarven resilience

stand your ground



180 gp

CON	DAT	СТАТ	ISTIC	-

5

Speed

Your speed is the number of

squares you can move with a move action.

Class: Fighter

Languages: Common, Dwarven

CHARACTER NOTES

Race: Dwarf

Alignment:

+2 Initiative

the turn order in combat.

DEFENSES

	TENSES	
18 Armor Class	(AC)	
AC measures how hard	it is to physically land an atta	ick on you.
17 Fortitude		
Fortitude measures you	r toughness and resilience.	
12 Reflex		
Reflex measures your a	bility to deflect or dodge attac	cks.
12 Will		
Will measures your stre	ength of will, self-discipline, an	nd devotion.
	due et euro	14.0 7
+8 Attack Bonus	greataxewer	d12+7
Attack Bonus	WEAPON / POWER	DAMAGE
	20 and add your attack bonus 5 defense to see if you hit. If you	
40 Hit Points	Bloodied	20
	he damage you can take befor d value is half of your hit poin	
Healing Surge Va	lue	10
Surges Per Day		11
	g surge, you regain hit points e which is one-quarter of your h	

CURRENT HIT POINTS

Temporary Hit Points

Surges Used

EQUIPMENT AND M	AGIC ITEMS
scale armor	
+1 lifedrinker greatax	æ
backpack	
50-foot rope	
bedroll	
beltpouch	
2 sunrods	
waterskin	

ACTIONS IN COMBAT

On your turn in combat, you can take three actions: A standard action, which is usually an attack A move action, which involves movement A minor action, which is simple and quick You can give up an action to take another action from lower on the list, so you can take a move or a minor action instead of a standard action or a minor action instead of a move action. Use this space however you like: to record what happens on your adventures, track quests, describe your background and goals, note the names of the other characters in your party, or draw a picture of your character.



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DUNGEONS & DRAGONS*

CHARACTER NAME

Level: 2

Gender:

ABILITIES AND SKILLS			
(10) Strength	1	MODIFIER	c h e 1 k
Strength measu	res your physical p	ower.	
Athletics	Trained	MISC.	c h e 1 k
(15) Constitu		MODIFIER	:+3 K
	presents health, sto	imina, and vital for	
Endurance	Trained	MISC.	C ++3 K
(18) Dexterit		MODIFIER	: +:5 ⊮
		agility, and balance	
Acrobatics	X Trained	+2	+12
Stealth	X Trained	MISC.	+10
Thievery	X Trained	+2	+12
(12) Intellige		MODIFIER	: +;2 ≤
Intelligence des	cribes how well you	learn and reason.	
Arcana	Trained	MISC.	G +12 K
History	Trained	MISC.	C +12 K
Religion	Trained	MISC.	C +2 K
(14) Wisdom		MODIFIER	C +3 K
Wisdom measu	res common sense,	self-discipline, and	
Dungeoneering	g 🔲 Trained	MISC.	C +13 K
Heal	Trained	MISC.	-+3 K
Insight	Trained	MISC.	C ++3 K
Nature	Trained	MISC.	(+3 K
Perception	Trained	MISC.	C +13 K
(11) Charism		MODIFIER	eHECK
Charisma meas	ures force of persor	ality and leadersh	
Bluff	X Trained	MISC.	-+6 K
Diplomacy	Trained	MISC.	снi£к
Intimidate	Trained	MISC.	енеск
Streetwise	X Trained	MISC.	6+6 K

POWERS AND FEATS

defensive strike (at-will)
deft strike (at-will)
acrobatic maneuver (at-will)
nimble positioning (at-will)
backstab (1/encounter)
tumble (1/encounter)
Sneak Attack (+2d6 damage)
Improved Initiative (feat)
Racial Traits:
nimble reaction
second chance

WEALTH 80 gp Turquoise gem worth 100 gp

COMBAT STATISTICS

6

Speed

Your speed is the number of

squares you can move with a move action.

Class: Rogue

Alignment:

Race: Halfling

Languages: Common, Goblin

CHARACTER NOTES

+9 Initiative

the turn order in combat.

DEFENSES

\sim	DE	FENSES	
(18	Armor Class	(AC)	
	AC measures how hard	it is to physically land an atto	ıck on you.
(13	Fortitude		
	Fortitude measures you	r toughness and resilience.	
(15)	Reflex		
	Reflex measures your a	bility to deflect or dodge atta	cks.
(13	Will		
	Will measures your stre	ength of will, self-discipline, a	nd devotion.
+8	Attack Bonus	dagger / power	d4+6
	Attack Bonus	WEAPON / POWER	DAMAGE
1		20 and add your attack bonus s defense to see if you hit. If yo	
32)	Hit Points	Bloodied	16
ı		he damage you can take befor d value is half of your hit poin	
F	lealing Surge Val	lue	8
S	urges Per Day		7
			1.

When you spend a healing surge, you regain hit points equal to your healing surge value, which is one-quarter of your hit points (rounded down).

CURRENT HIT POINTS

- Temporary Hit Points
- Surges Used

EQUIPMENT AND MAGIC ITEMS +1 darkleaf leather armor
dagger
backpack
thieves' tools
bedroll
beltpouch
50-foot rope
waterskin

ACTIONS IN COMBAT

On your turn in combat, you can take three actions: A standard action, which is usually an attack A move action, which involves movement A minor action, which is simple and quick

You can give up an action to take another action from lower on the list, so you can take a move or a minor action instead of a standard action or a minor action instead of a move action. Use this space however you like: to record what happens on your adventures, track quests, describe your background and goals, note the names of the other characters in your party, or draw a picture of your character.



UNGEONS

Gender:

Level: 2

Class: Wizard

Languages: Common, Elven

CHARACTER NOTES

Race: Elf

Alignment:

ABILITIES AND SKILLS					
(11) Strength		MODIFIER	c h e 1 k		
Strength measure	_				
Athletics	Trained	+2	c ++3 K		
(12) Constitution MODIFIER (+2) Constitution represents health, stamina, and vital force.					
Endurance	Trained	+2	C +4 K		
(15) Dexterity	,	MODIFIER	:+3 <		
Dexterity measur	res coordination, a	gility, and balanc			
Acrobatics	Trained	+2	c +;5 K		
Stealth	Trained	+2	⊂ +:5 K		
Thievery	Trained	+2	C +15 K		
18 Intelligen	Ce	MODIFIER	:+5 ≤		
		learn and reason.			
Arcana	X Trained	MISC.	+10		
History	X Trained	MISC.	+10		
Religion	Trained Trained	MISC.	C+17K		
		IN LIKe	CHELK		
10 Wisdom MODIFIER C+11K					
		self-discipline, and			
Dungeoneering	X Trained	MISC.	c +6 K		
Heal	Trained	+2	G +13 K		
Insight	Trained	+2	C +3 K		
Nature	Trained	⊶4	с +15 к		
Perception	Trained	M + :4	с +5 к		
(14) Charisma	1	MODIFIER	-+13 K		
Charisma measu	res force of person	ality and leaders	nip.		
Bluff	Trained	+2	-+15 K		
Diplomacy	X Trained	MISC.	.+18 K		
Intimidate	Trained	+2	+15 1K		
Streetwise	Trained	+2	-+15 K		

POWERS AND FEATS

freezing burst (at-will)
phantasmal force (at-will)
magic missile (at-will)
burning hands (1/encounter)
shield (1/encounter)
spectral image (1/encounter)
slimy transmutation (1/day)
Jack of All Trades (feat)
Racial Traits:
elven accuracy
group awareness
wild step

WEALTH

180 gp

COMBAT STATISTICS

7

Speed

Your speed is the number of

squares you can move with a move action.

3 Initiative Roll initiative to determine

the turn order in combat.

DEFENSES

	EFENSES			
(15) Armor Class	(AC)			
AC measures how hard it is to physically land an attack on you.				
(12) Fortitude				
Fortitude measures yo	ur toughness and resilience.			
(15) Reflex				
Reflex measures your o	ability to deflect or dodge atte	acks.		
(13) Will				
Will measures your str	rength of will, self-discipline, a	nd devotion.		
+6 Attack Bonus	spell on / power	varies		
\succ				
auto Attack Bonus	magic missile	6 force		
auto Attack Bonus	magic missile 120 and add your attack bonu 's defense to see if you hit. If yo	s. Compare		
auto Attack Bonus When you attack, roll a a the result to the monster	120 and add your attack bonu	s. Compare ou do hit,		
auto Attack Bonus When you attack, roll a a the result to the monster roll damage. 26 Hit Points Your hit points measure	120 and add your attack bonu 's defense to see if you hit. If yo	s. Compare bu do hit, 13 re falling		
auto Attack Bonus When you attack, roll a a the result to the monster roll damage. 26 Hit Points Your hit points measure t unconscious. Your bloodi	120 and add your attack bonu 's defense to see if you hit. If y Bloodied the damage you can take befo ed value is half of your hit poi	s. Compare bu do hit, 13 re falling		
auto Attack Bonus When you attack, roll a a the result to the monster roll damage. 26 Hit Points Your hit points measure t unconscious. Your bloodi (rounded down).	120 and add your attack bonu 's defense to see if you hit. If y Bloodied the damage you can take befo ed value is half of your hit poi	s. Compare ou do hit, 13 re falling nts		
auto Attack Bonus When you attack, roll a a the result to the monster roll damage. 26 Hit Points Your hit points measure t unconscious. Your bloodi (rounded down). Healing Surge Va Surges Per Day When you spend a healin	120 and add your attack bonu 's defense to see if you hit. If y Bloodied the damage you can take befo ed value is half of your hit poi	s. Compare vu do hit, 13 re falling nts 6 7 equal to		
auto Attack Bonus When you attack, roll a the result to the monster roll damage. 26 Hit Points Your hit points measure t unconscious. Your bloodi (rounded down). Healing Surge Va Surges Per Day When you spend a healin your healing surge value, (rounded down).	120 and add your attack bonu 's defense to see if you hit. If yo Bloodied the damage you can take befo ed value is half of your hit poi alue 19 surge, you regain hit points	s. Compare su do hit, 13 re falling nts 6 7 equal to hit points		

Temporary Hit Points

EQUIPMENT AND MAGIC ITEMS
loth armor
-1 magic staff
backpack
pedroll
0-foot rope
eltpouch
sunrods
vaterskin

Surges Used

ACTIONS IN COMBAT

On your turn in combat, you can take three actions: + A standard action, which is usually an attack + A move action, which involves movement + A minor action, which is simple and quick You can give up an action to take another action from lower on the list, so you can take a move or a minor action instead of a standard action or a minor action instead of a move action. Use this space however you like: to record what happens on your adventures, track quests, describe your background and goals, note the names of the other characters in your party, or draw a picture of your character.



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