

Lord Vroktis Vanquished

Seven-Year Reign of Terror Ends as Phylactery Destroyed

After years of fear and darkness, the once-feared lich Lord Vroktis has been destroyed, thanks to the bravery and resourcefulness of the local heroes of Thaydon's Rest.

Some townsfolk journeyed into the Corpse Ways where they retrieved a fragment of Lord Vroktis' phylactery: the vessel that housed his soul. A lich can only be truly defeated by first destroying its phylactery.

Last moon, the enigmatic Fay known as Nyx revealed to a few brave townsfolk the whereabouts of the other half of the phylactery, hidden deep within the catacombs. However, the assistance did not come without a price. In exchange for the crucial information, Nyx demanded Lord

Vroktis' staff as payment — a bargain the town could not refuse.

With both halves of the phylactery in hand, the heroes then turned to the forge, where they painstakingly reforged the two parts into a single whole. Once that momentous task was completed, a Destroy ritual was cast on it within the Temple of Light, obliterating the phylactery and rendering Lord Vroktis vulnerable.

The task was not over yet. That very night, Lord Vroktis, aware of his newfound vulnerability, launched a final, desperate assault on Thaydon's Rest. With a horde of undead, the lich sought to reclaim his power and punish those who dared to defy him. However, the town was ready.

Citizens rallied together, armed with swords, spells, and sheer determination.

Despite his fearsome powers, the lich was greatly weakened. After a climactic battle, Lord Vroktis was defeated, his essence dissipated forever, and his staff delivered to Lord Nyx as promised.

With Vroktis's demise, the long-cursed ruins of Kel'thorn are now free. The Kingdom has already dispatched officials to oversee the reestablishment of Kel'thorn as a thriving city. Reconstruction efforts are underway.

An unexpected turn of events has gripped the hearts of the townspeople. Langley, the monstrous minion of Lord Vroktis who caused much fear during his rule, has been revealed to be an innocent child. After Vroktis's defeat, the spell binding Langley to her horrific form was lifted, and she returned to her true form—a little girl, no more than eight years old. Langley, as it turns out, is the niece of Lord Vroktis, who had been cursed by her uncle.

Let it be known that from this moment on, any citizen that casts Chaos, aids in the casting of Chaos, or knowingly allows such an act to happen, will be brought to justice and tried for Treason and Heresy. Casting Chaos carries with it a Death sentence at minimum. Any acts or people that aid the Shadow Lord will not be tolerated. Shadow Binders, Enthromancers, and any who stand in our way will also be tried for Treason and Heresy. May the Light guide us all.

Templars of Purity

Failure at the Gate

Tragedy Strikes at Valdarin's Gate: Lord Marshal Dire's Men Lost in Battle Against the Witch Mumbaga

A dark pall hangs over the Kingdom as the news spreads of the devastating failure at Valdarin's Gate. On August 16th, Lord Marshal Dire led a vanguard of sixty of his finest men to the Gate, all of whom perished in a bold yet tragic attempt to reclaim the town from the vile witch Mumbaga.

No word of Lord Dire's fate has reached the capital (or the Times - Ed.). Rumors say that Mumbaga herself met the soldiers in battle, and the power of her dark magic

proved far stronger than anticipated.

Many courageous citizens from our beloved Thaydon's Rest also ventured bravely to aid in the fight, but had arrived too late. For several days they dwelt in the town attempting to find and defeat Mumbaga. Some citizens were able to open a gate and confront Mumbaga in her own realm, but this proved too great a challenge as well, and they ended up being taunted by her once again.

Mumbaga's grip on Valdarin's Gate remains firm. Many fear that the Province may face even darker days ahead, as the witch's power continues to spread unchecked.

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THAYDON'S REST

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Letter from Crowley

How is it that you can find joy in the most mundane moments? Imagine waking up and finding a solid black line running across your floor, upon further inspection you see they are ants. Satiated by the simplest thing, a morsel of sugar, the entire colony pulls together to collect the food for the queen.

Gathering information is a truly wonderful skill. A lot like the ant, one grain of information, truly generous information, could be enough to protect an entire town. Moreover, the smallest amount of false information could lead to the downfall of a kingdom. Everything must be taken with a grain of salt.

Hearsay and slander can catch like wildfire. All that is needed is a few incendiary words to rile up the right individuals. Suddenly the world is ablaze.

Sometimes subtlety is necessary, if you have gathered information that is harmful wait for the right time. Time is the one value all should treasure. Rubys and sapphires, gold, and silver, all are lost the true treasure that is Time. Entities of true power see that words and time are the true riches in this world. Deliver your information with this in mind, are you here to help a small town, or to watch the world burn?



Delicious Bites by Cerydice

Apple Butter

As the air starts to get crisp, so do the apples on the trees. Apples can be used in many things like pies, ciders, and even cookies. One of my favorite things to do with apples is make apple butter to use year round. It's lovely spread onto a grilled english muffin or even on toast for a quick warm and delightful breakfast or snack.

Ingredients

- 4 pounds of apples (about 12-16)
- 2 cups of water
- 4 cups of sugar
- 2 teaspoons of cinnamon
- ¼ teaspoon cloves

Start by washing your apples. Peel and core, and then cut them into at least quarters. Add the cut-up apples and water into a saucepan and simmer until the apple pieces are soft. Puree or mash the mixture however is easiest for you (I tend to mash then push through a strainer). Return the pulp to the saucepan. Add the sugar and the spices. Gently boil over a medium heat until the mixture is thick enough to mound on a spoon. Make sure to frequently stir to prevent sticking. If the mixture becomes too thick just add a small amount of water or apple juice. Remove from heat.

Fill jars with the mixture, leaving ¼ inch headspace, and remove air bubbles. Clean the rim of the jar with a dry, clean towel before putting on the lid.

These jars can be preserved for longer shelf life by water bath canning. Water must cover the jars by 1 inch. Once the water is at a rolling boil, process for 10 minutes for half-pint or pint jars. Once it's been 10 minutes, remove from heat and remove cover and let sit for another 5 minutes. After 5 minutes, remove the jars and let them cool for 12 hours.

Classifieds

I am offering a glorious reward for any of the foolish scoundrels who dared to steal from me and my suppliers, or information that leads to the capture of those damnable thieves. I will find those responsible, it is only a matter of time. All who cross me end up dead; that is a promise.

Vespani Valentino

Citizens of Thaydon's Rest! I am currently seeking rare and unusual items, as well as brave adventurers who don't mind a little danger and possible death for GREAT reward.

See Dulvacon Firestorm, or just Gate me a message if you can. You can also reach me by sending to the Royal Guildhall.

Crowley's Conundrums

In decks I am found, a trickster true.

My visage worn, a grin anew.

Not royalty, nor numbered face,

Yet in the shadows, I hold a secret place.

What am I?

The Aegarius Times is looking for reporters in Thaydon's Rest. If you can write (or know someone who can), we could use reporters out and about in town to find news and happenings.

If you have news, gossip, or opinions, you can make up to 2 Silver per article! Ads cost just as little as 1 Silver (size depending), and as always, Classifieds are free to post!

Send submissions to the tavern post c/o Jesfin, your Humble Editor