Campaign/Game: Well Met Adventures - D&D 5e Date: August 22nd, 2024

Session 46: Aminia II: Steve Would Have Hit

Campaign Date: 22nd Island, 3,524 SD

Characters

Callie, Shadae-Kai Grave Domain Cleric (Sheila)
Tortos, Tortle Fighter/Cleric (Andy)
Goor, Bugbear Paladin (Cameron)
Jarxis Euclid, Leprechaun Artificer Armorer (Jim)
Lin, Dhampir Bard (Tori)
Pancakes, Housecat Bard (Rex)

DM: Rachel

These adventures within a shared universe of settings describes associations of unlikely heroes who band together for a common cause. For some, they explore the unknown in search of answers. Others are in it only for the riches. Many are driven by destiny. As a group, they are known as the "Well Met Heroes." This is their story.

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Sheila Fangmeyer welcomes the new group of heroes to the council chambers, and introduces the 5 members who have quests for the party. Before the party could choose, Aminia Twain pulls the party in to deal with her quest immediately. Jarxis was a bit unnerved by the lich cop being nice, and even summoning a skeleton for him to hit and informing the party of the popular pastime known as Bop-a-Cop. Aminia also brought in a zombie to run Pancakes' tummy.

The previous mission for Aminia resulted in an encrypted note that Aminia just deciphered. The note detailed a plot to kill the reigning put fighting champion of the North Side Lizardfolk, Steve. She laid out an urgent mission to prevent this from happening, as the lizardfolk tend to resort to kidnapping if their fights are interrupted.

With a map from Sheila in hand, the party made their way to the North Side Lizardfolk Coliseum, where a line of entry had stopped moving. Pancakes made his way to the front of the line, where a mention of wanting to see Steve caused the guards to panic and bring the party inside.

Steve had just been murdered!

Since the stands were already mostly full, the lizardfolk requested that the party fill in for Steve, especially once they were aware that Aminia had sent the party. Upon accepting, the party went to Steve's sumptuous waiting chambers. An assortment of raw and cooked meats were laid out,

which both Gorr and Pancakes enjoyed despite the body of the dead Lizardfolk, Steve, laying in the middle of the room.

Tortose determined that Steve died of multiple stab wounds, and Jarxis found the murder weapon poorly hidden under a nearby couch. Meanwhile, Lin cast Speak With Dead to ask Steve some questions. He recalled that a West Side Kobold stabbed him, but that this kobold had no distinguishing features beyond being a kobold. Lin then sent the soul off to be reincarnated as an East Side Kobold.

Jarxis and Callie worked together to figure out three things about the dagger: it was enchanted to be deadly exactly once, it did not appear to line up as being made by kobolds, and there was an encoded inscription in the hilt noting that it was made by a Yuan-ti crafter. At this point, the gate to the arena opened.

The crowd was cheering for Steve, but went silent when the party entered the arena. A few threw vegetables at the party; Gorr managed to catch a cabbage, take a bite, and throw it behind him. Once everyone caught their bearings, Lin was able to recognize the armored skeletons on the other side of the arena as creatures from his homeland known as Stalfos.

The fight kicked off with Pancakes using his bardly prowess to give everyone some temporary hit points. Callie was able to position her Spirit Guardians effectively while Jarxis engaged one in melee. Two of these Stalfos targeted Lin, and used their battle master tactics to deal some heavy blows. Gorr attempted to attack from a distance with some javelins, which failed to connect. He was heckled by one member of the crowd, calling out, "Steve would have hit!" The battle ended when Callie took down one, Jarxis took down two in a single round, and Tortos sent the skull of the last one flying into the crowd.

The party didn't have long to recover, as the second round began. A platform rose up in the center of the area with another creature that Lin recognized: a dodongo. Upon seeing this creature, Lin recommended everyone attack the mouth when it opened. Most of the party attempted to attack the body, anyway, but Lin and Jarxis had readied some attacks the first time it opened its mouth that prevented it from acting. Subsequent rounds did not go as smoothly, with the dodongo being able to use its fire breath twice before enough damage was done to the mouth to take it down. The final blow was claimed by Jarxis with a thunder punch in the mouth.

Once defeated, the dodongo vanished in a poof of smoke, leaving behind the Celestial Sapphire for Lin to claim. New images of Lin's past life were shown before it settled into his chest where his heart should be. The party had won the pit fight and prevented a riot from occurring within the arena, while also discovering clues about who killed Champion Steve. Aminia Twain thanked them for their help and rewarded them appropriately.

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Each member of the party gained a total of 3000 XP from this adventure. Additionally, each member of the party received a total of 3000 gold coins as well as a number of magic items.