

# THE SECRET OF NIGHTGLASS MOUNTAIN

**Introduction** — A WAVE OF NEARBY VILLAGERS HAVE BEEN DISAPPEARING RECENTLY, MANY HAVE BEEN SEEN VISITING THE ABANDONED TEMPLE THAT WAS CARVED INTO THE VERY MOUNTAINSIDE NEAR THE TOWN OF COUROLEMPIERRE.

## THE DRAGON-ASH TEMPLE

### 1. THE SANCTUARY

THE ENTRANCE TO THIS SANCTUARY IS A SIMPLE CARVED HOLE IN THE SIDE OF NIGHTGLASS MOUNTAIN. ITS BLACK OBSIDIAN STONE COVERS THE ENTIRE ROOM CAUSING THE LIGHT OF THE CANDLES THAT LINE THE WALLS TO DANCE IN REFLECTIVE PATTERNS WITHIN THE INK-LIKE DARKNESS ALONG THE WALLS. TAPESTRIES DECORATE THIS TEMPLE WITH COLORS THAT BLEED DOWN FROM RED TO WHITE AS A SYMBOL TO REMIND EVERYONE THAT ALL CREATURES OF THE LIGHT INEVITABLY DIE, BUT ONLY THOSE WHO EMBRACE DEATH, WHILE LIVING, SHALL TRANSCEND THEIR MORTALITY. AT THE END OF THE BLOOD RED CARPET THAT LINES THE WALKWAY RUNS A SMALL RIVER SEPARATING THE PARISHIONERS FROM THE ALTAR TO VORGOTH, THE GOD OF DEATH.

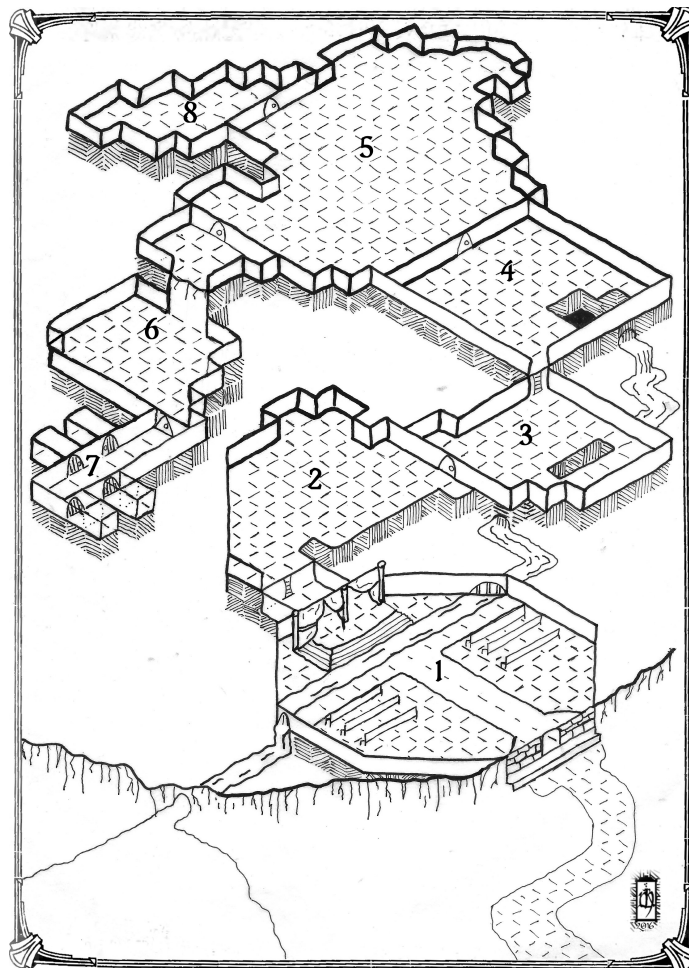
### 2. FELLOWSHIP CHAMBER

BEHIND THE VEIL OF THE VORGOTHIAN ALTAR LIES A SINGLE LARGE BRONZE LADDER LEADING UP A 5 FT. WALL THAT ONLY THE MOST LOYAL AND WORTHY BLACKHAND CULTISTS MAY ASCEND. WITHIN THIS ROOM THE CULT LEADERS GATHER AND PERFORM THEIR VILE INCANTATIONS DURING THE TWILIGHT AND AFTERNOON MASS.

## THE BLACKHAND ORDER

### 3. RED RECEPTION ROOM

EACH YEAR FOLLOWERS WHO PROFESS THEIR LOYALTY TO GUL'ZHUL BLACKHAND IN THE NAME OF VORGOTH ARE BROUGHT BEHIND THE VEIL AT THE TIME OF THE FINAL MASS. THEY PASS THROUGH THE FELLOWSHIP HALL, LEAD BY THE CULT LEADERS, INTO THE RECEPTION AREA. THESE STONE WALLS ARE ALL COVERED IN A RED SUBSTANCE MAKING THE WALLS APPEAR TO BLEED IN A SIMILAR FASHION TO THE TAPESTRIES OF THE MAIN SANCTUARY. UPON COMPLETION OF THE DARK RITUALS AND SWEARING THEIR FEALTY TO THE BLACKHAND ORDER, THE RIVER RUNNING IN THE LONG PIT RECESSED INTO THE FLOOR RUNS RED WITH BLOOD TO REPRESENT THE BLOOD OF THEIR ENEMIES NOURISHING THE FARMS IN THE TOWN BELOW.



“EVERY HARVEST MOON CHANTING CAN BE HEARD FROM THE MOUNTAIN AND THE RIVER RUNS RED WITH BLOOD.”

### 4. DESECCRATION CHAMBER

THIS ROOM ASSAULTS ALL SENSES OF REASONABLE FOLK. TABLES LITTERED WITH THE REMNANTS OF FLESH AND ORGANS, WALLS AND FLOORS WITH TRAILS OF BLOOD, AND THE FETID STENCH OF DEATH EMANATING FROM THE PIT NEAR THE SOUTHERN WALL OF THIS CHAMBER. UPON EXPLORATION IT IS LEARNED THAT THE REMAINS OF THE TEMPLES SACRIFICES ARE THROWN INTO THIS PIT TO MAKE THE RIVER RUN RED WITH BLOOD AFTER THE LAST MASS OF THE HARVEST MOON.

## THE LAIR OF GUL'ZHUL BLACKHAND

### 5. GUL'ZHUL'S LABORATORY

THIS MASSIVE LIBRARY IS FILLED WITH BOOKS ON NECROMANCY AND SURROUNDED BY OLD APOTHECARY TABLES LITTERED WITH TWISTED AND CROOKED LOOKING INSTRUMENTS. POTIONS BREW ON A TABLE NEXT TO A LARGE METAL TABLE APPROXIMATELY 9 FT LONG COVERED WITH A BLOOD SOAKED SHEET. BENEATH THE SHEET RESTS BLACKHANDS MOST RECENT EXPERIMENT MADE FROM THE FLESH OF MULTIPLE HUMANS STRETCHED ACROSS THE GNARLED FRAME OF A DECREPIT OLD TROLL SKELETON. IF THE EXPERIMENT IS AWAKENED IT WILL ATTACK ALL MOVING CREATURES WITHIN THE LABORATORY UNTIL IT IS EITHER SUBDUED OR DESTROYED.

### 6. THE UNDEAD GAUNTLET

ZOMBIE SERVANTS FEAST UPON PRISONERS AS THEY LEAVE THEIR CELLS. THE GAUNTLET IS AN ACT OF RITUAL ONLY WITNESSED BY THE HIGHEST PRIESTS OF VORGOTH. ONCE FOUR SACRIFICES HAVE BEEN CHOSEN, UPON THE NIGHT OF THE HARVEST MOON, ALL FOUR CELLS ARE OPENED BY THE LEVER LOCATED IN GUL'ZHUL'S LABORATORY. THE HIGH PRIEST OBSERVES FROM THE UPPER LANDING AS THE UNDEAD ROAMING IN THE LOWER CHAMBER FEAST UPON THE SACRIFICES IN THE HOLDING CELLS. THE FIRST VICTIM IS KNOWN AS VORGOTH'S CHOSEN AND WILL BE RESURRECTED AS AN UNDEAD TO JOIN THE OTHERS IN THE GAUNTLET. THE REMAINS OF THE OTHER THREE SACRIFICES ARE THEN PULLED TO THE DESECCRATION CHAMBERS WHERE THEIR APPENDAGES ARE THROWN INTO THE DESECCRATION PIT TO FEED THE RED RIVER.

### 7. HOLDING CELLS

EACH WEEK LEADING UP TO THE HARVEST MOON A DIFFERENT VILLAGER IS CAPTURED AND BROUGHT TO THESE CELLS UNDER THE CLOAK OF NIGHT, UNTIL EACH CHAMBER IS FILLED WITH ACCEPTABLE SACRIFICES. THE FINAL SACRIFICE WILL BE BROUGHT TO THEIR CELL THREE DAYS PRIOR TO THE HARVEST MOON AT WHICH POINT THE THREE DAY MASS BEGINS. THESE 5FT. X 10FT. CELLS HAVE 5 FT. THICK WALLS SURROUNDING THEM TO MUFFLE THE SCREAMS FROM THE CELLS AND THE SURROUNDING GAUNTLET.

### 8. BLACKHAND'S DORMITORY

THIS DORMITORY ODDLY BEARS NO SIMILARITY TO THE WICKEDNESS OF THE OTHER ADJOINING HALLS. A SMALL METAL CANARY SITS IN A LANTERN STYLE CAGE IN THE CORNER SINGING OUT EACH TIME THE CULTISTS CHANT IS PERFORMED. IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THESE CHAMBERS WERE DESIGNED TO MIRROR THAT OF A YOUNG AND KIND ACADEMICIAN. IS IT POSSIBLE THAT THIS IS THE LAST REMNANT OF THE KIND CHILD THAT LATER BECAME GUL'ZHUL BLACKHAND?