

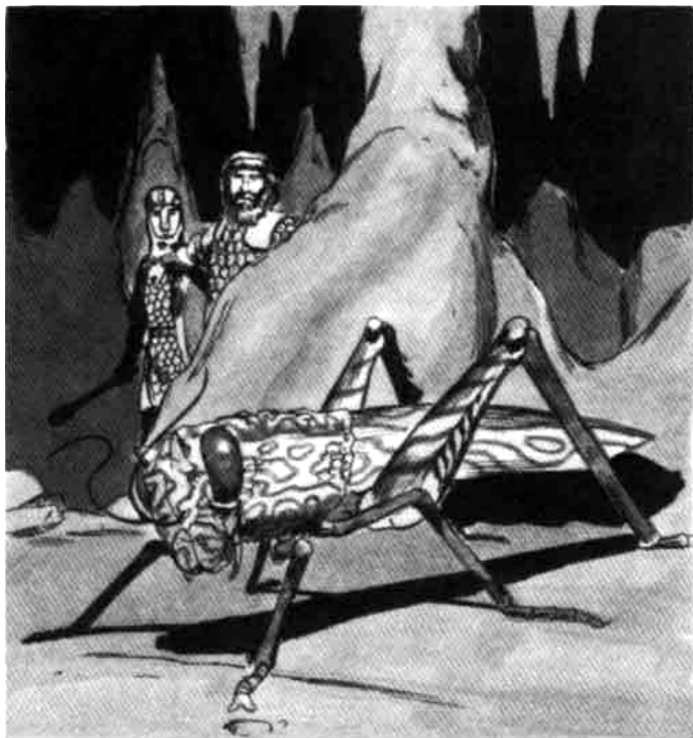
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locusts are stone gray and may not be noticed until they move or until the party approaches within 20. They are very nervous and will flee most of the time rather than fight. They flee by jumping up to 60. Unfortunately, when they panic their only thought is to escape. There is a 50% chance that they will try to flee by jumping right through the party. If they try to jump through the party, choose a character at random and roll to see if that character has been hit. If so, the character takes 1–4 points of damage from being battered. The locust then flies away.

Cave locusts can also attack and bite for 1–2 points (but not when they are fleeing). When frightened or attacked, cave locusts make a loud shrieking noise to warn their fellows. This shriek has a 20% chance per round of attracting wandering monsters to investigate.

If cornered, a cave locust will spit a brown gooey substance up to 10' at its attackers. To hit a character, the locust need only make an attack against armor class 9, no matter what type of armor the individual is wearing. A character hit by cave locust spittle must save vs. Poison or be unable to do anything for 1 turn due to the awful smell. After this time he or she will be used to the smell, but any character approaching within 5' of the victim must also save or be violently ill. This effect will last until the spittle is washed off.

The blue glow of the stalactites and stalagmites is caused by a type of moss. The moss is harmless. It can be used as a weak light source, casting light up to 10'. If the players search the cave they will find a small silver statuette of a dragon readying for flight. The statuette is in a niche along the north wall. The statuette looks the same as the one found in room 33 (for more details see room 33).



#### 45. CAVE POOL

A large pool of pitch black water fills the room. You see the glint of gold coming from the far side of the pool. A hot wind blows through the cave. Moisture fills the air and tiny beads of water form on clothing, skin, and hair. The floor is damp and slick.

Once the characters have entered the cave they will be able to see the crowned head of a large statue of a man. The statue seems to be made of bronze. The eyes of the statue are small rubies (value 50 gp each). The glint of gold comes from a crown on top of the statue's head. The crown appears to be made of gold. The statue really is bronze, but the crown is only gold paint.

The liquid in the pool is a kind of ink. The water of the pool is heated by hot springs. The hot water absorbs color from a particular kind of mineral lining the pool. The result is a deep purple ink. Anything which comes in contact with the ink will be stained purple. Since the ink is permanent it will have to wear off naturally (1–6 days). It will not stain non-porous surfaces which do not absorb water very well (such as steel). The ink will not harm characters.

Once the characters reach the statue they will find that the rubies can be pried out easily. If the party carefully examines the statue, there is a 50% chance they will discover that the head of the statue can be unscrewed. Hidden inside the head, packed in a protective oilskin bag, is a **ring of protection +1**.

#### 46. BLADE TRAP

At the corner of the corridor is a trap. When a character walks over a pressure plate in the floor the trap might be sprung. Roll 1d6. The trap will be sprung on a roll of 1. Roll separately for each character that walks around the corner. If the trap is sprung, a weighted blade (like a guillotine blade) will fall from the ceiling causing 1–10 points of damage to the person who sprung the trap. The blade is hidden in the ceiling.

#### 47. TROGLODYTE ROOM

In the center of the room you see three human-like reptiles with short tails, long legs, and a spiny "comb" on their heads and arms. They block the way out.

The human-like reptiles are Troglodytes (3): AC 5, HD 2\*, hp 9 each, MV 120' (40'), Att 2 claws/1 bite, D 1d4/1d4/1d4, Save F2, ML 9, AL C, XP 25. Troglodytes are intelligent. They hate most other creatures and will try to kill anyone they meet. Hence they will attack on sight. Troglodytes have a chameleon-like power to blend into their surroundings (normally they surprise on 1–4 on 1d6), but they are not using the ability at the moment. Troglodytes secrete an oil when fighting which smells so bad that characters will be nauseated unless they save vs. Poison. Nauseated characters have a penalty of –2 on their "to hit" rolls while in melee combat with the troglodytes.

#### 48. WATCH ROOM

This room is higher than the surrounding countryside so that guards could look out on the surrounding land when standing watch. There are windows in the west and south walls. You notice that the red glow still surrounds the palace. In the center of the room is an iron ladder. The ladder leads to a trap door in the ceiling. By the south wall you see a statue that looks like a cleric. He looks frightened and had apparently just finished scratching a message into the wall. The inscription reads:

Evil red eye, malefaction!  
Sweet music from strings;  
Priceless Blade of Destruction,  
Salvation rides on dragon's wings!

The chief palace cleric had divined the evil intent of Arik when disaster struck. He hurriedly left the inscription—clues as to how to destroy the ruby—in the faint hope that it might help rescuers.

This trap door is the only way the party can reach the second level of the dungeon. It is important that the party reach the second level and finish their mission, but it is also important that they encounter a number of monsters and traps before reaching the second level. If they reached the second level too easily the adventure would not be a challenge. On the other hand, since they must reach the second level, the DM might consider sending the vision of a Protector to the party if they cannot find the way to this trap door leading to the second level.

## PART 4: SECOND DUNGEON LEVEL

### Wandering Monsters

The second dungeon level has its own wandering monster table. Check for wandering monsters every other turn. Roll 1d6: the party will encounter a wandering monster if a 1 is rolled. The wandering monster will be first seen 20–120 feet (2d6×10') away from the party when encountered, in any direction and doing anything the DM chooses. To determine exactly which monster is encountered, use the Wandering Monster Table: Level 2 below:

**Wandering Monster Table: Level 2** (Roll 1d6)

Die Roll	Wandering Monster	No.	AC	HD	MV	Attacks	Damage	Save	ML	AL
1	Ghouls	1–6	6	2*	30'	3	1d3×3+special	F2	9	C
2	Goblins	2–8	6	1–1	20'	1	1d6	NM	7	C
3	Harpies	1–3	7	3*	20'/50'	3+charm	1d4×2/1d6	F3	7	C
4	Hobgoblins	1–6	6	1+1	30'	1	1d8	F1	8	C
5	Medusa	1	8	4**	30'	1+special	1d6+poison	F4	8	C
6	Zombies	2–8	8	2	40'	1	1d8	F1	12	C

It is suggested that the monsters Harpy and Medusa be encountered no more than once as wandering monsters. If the DM rolls a wandering monster encounter with a second Harpy or Medusa the DM should choose a wandering monster from the table for Level One instead. This is because both monsters are very difficult challenges. If encountered too many times, the encounters might upset the play balance.

All the monsters on the second level wandering monster table appear in both editions of the D&D®Basic rules. Only those monsters with unusual powers are described below.

**Ghoul**—A successful attack by a ghoul will paralyze any creature of ogre-size or smaller, except elves, unless the victim saves vs. Paralysis. Elves are immune to the paralysis, but still take normal damage from a ghoul's attacks. Paralysis lasts for 2–8 turns.

**Harpy**—Any character hearing the harpy's song must save vs. Spells or be charmed. Charmed individuals will move toward the harpy, resisting any attempt to stop them, but not otherwise attacking. If a character successfully saves the character will not be affected by the harpy song for that encounter. Harpies are resistant to magic and have a +2 on all their saves.

**Medusa**—Looking at a medusa will turn a character to stone unless the victim saves vs. Turn to Stone. A medusa can also attack with her snaky hair. The bite of the snakes is poisonous (save vs. Poison or die in one turn) and when the snakes hit they cause 1-6 points of damage. Anyone who tries to attack a medusa without looking at it must subtract 4 from their "to hit" roll. A medusa is resistant to magic and gains +2 on saves vs. Spells only, other saving throws are normal.

### Key to Dungeon Level Two

#### 49. WATCH TOWER

This watch tower has 6 windows overlooking the surrounding lands. There is a trap door in the center of the floor. A stone statue of a guard stands looking out each window. Except for the statues the room looks empty.

The room is empty except for the statues.

#### 50. PASSAGEWAY

As soon as you open the door, bright lights flood the hallway. You see three swords fighting each other, as if being held by invisible men.

The fighting swords and bright light is an illusion placed there by the palace magic-user to frighten intruders who might enter the palace through the tower. The illusion is triggered by the door opening without the password "Argenta" being spoken. If any character touches the illusion it will be dispelled.

#### 51. LABORATORY

You see a room filled with stuffed animals, shelves filled with books and scrolls, and jars of powders and herbs. Strange symbols\* are painted on the walls. An iron statue of a warrior stands in the southeast corner of the room. A polishing cloth is draped over the warrior's shield.

This room was the palace magic-user's laboratory. The iron statue is actually a Iron Living Statue: AC 2, HD 4, hp 18, MV 30' (10'),

Att 2 fists, D 1d8/1d8 + special, Save F4, ML 11, AL N, XP 75. Living iron statues have bodies which can absorb iron and steel. When hit, they will take normal damage, but if a non-magical metal weapon is used, the attacker must save vs. Spells or the weapon will become stuck in the body of the living iron statue, and can only be removed if the statue is killed.

#### 52. STOREROOM

This small room appears to be empty.

The room once held stores of various sorts but has recently been cleaned out.

#### 53. MIRABILIS' ROOM

A plain bed and a huge wooden desk dominate this sparsely furnished bedchamber. A broom lies in one corner near a pile of dirt. A tattered pair of silk bedroom slippers lie on the floor near the bed. A small nightstand has been overturned. While you watch, a small black kitten races out from under the bed, bats one of the slippers around, then runs back under the bed.

The room is the bedroom of the palace magic-user. The black kitten is his familiar and pet. Three times a day the kitten can transform itself into a Panther: AC 4, HD 4, hp 18, MV 210' (70'), Att 2 claws/1 bite, D 1d4/1d4/1d8, Save F2, ML 8, AL L, XP 75. The transformation lasts 10 rounds. When in kitten form the creature is harmless. Note that while panthers are usually neutral in alignment, the kitten/panther is lawful because this magical animal is the familiar of a lawful magic-user.