16-Oculus Tempore Apr 7, 2025

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- 1. So Much for the Party.
- 2. Bound and Paralyzed in a Wine Cellar.
- 3. Sky Blue is Frozen.
- 4. We make a Daring Escape.
- 5. Running Through the Storm Sewer.
- 6. Getting to the Longboat is a Bust.
- 7. Hiding In a Dive Bar Again.

Details

So Much for the Party

The engagement party was a bust. The place was raided, and we are all now bound, hooded and being carried away. Talon's paralysis is wearing off, he knows that we have been dumped somewhere not very far away. He can hear the goons talking and learns that they work for some "guy". As paralyzed Hans is being carried away he can hear his captures say "Who are these people, there was supposed to be one guy and we are not supposed to even have him. Did they find the item?"

Bound and Paralyzed in a Wine Cellar

Hans gets dropped to the floor. Talon felt someone flopping on the floor near him. Kryssle is trying to listen to her conspirators and she hears another group nearby. Talon has never changed back to his normal form, he still looks like Rook, but his head is in a bag. Hans uses' his mage hand and takes the hood off of everybody in the group. It looks like we're lying in a wine cellar, Eventually, the paralysis wears off of all of us. Hans and Talon worked together to get their bonds loose. Kryssle sees a barrel poorly covering what looks like a fancy storm sewer.

Sky Blue is Frozen

Sky Blue is lying on the floor with us but, she's not paralyzed, she is frozen in a solid block of ice. Her captors simply laid her bounds across her frozen body. Hans in a panic, and without really thinking the situation through, fires a fire bolt at Sky Blue. It does melt a little of the ice, but it burned a hole into her chest.

We Make a Daring Escape

When Rook is freed we started asking him what the heck is going on and what was this "item" they were after. He pretends to have no idea who these people are or what's happening. We are pretty sure he's lying. Talon is listening carefully to the hallway and hears people coming. He puts a barrel under the latch of the door and casts spirit guardians. Kryssle grabs the still frozen Sky Blue and we jumped down into the storm sewer. It's gross we're not happy and it smells very bad, but we are out of the room and on the run.

Running Through the Storm Sewer

The storm sewer we're in runs north toward the center of town and south away toward the dock area. We run south about one city block before we hear crashing from the room we just left. We can see an exit at the intersection ahead that also has an intersecting storm sewer that runs east and west. Looking up, the exit opens into a park. Climbing up out of the storm sewer into the closed gazebo of the park, Rook turns to see that his pub is engulfed in fire.

In the Dark Park

The park we are sitting in is large and it's dark. The main gate is closed. Kryssle jams her crowbar into the sewer gate that we just climbed out of to lock it. We know it won't stop our pursuers, but it will hopefully slow them down. We move off to find shelter away from the gazebo. We hear the gate of the sewer rattling, then there's a massive explosion. The gate is open and we are being hunted.

Talon cast a fog cloud for us to hide in. The park is dark and we can hear the sounds from the nearby zoo. We're sitting quietly to see who's coming out behind us. Kryssle cast fairy fire to try to see who's coming out. It is extremely bright, iridescent, and sparkly. We don't see a single person. It looks like they have spread out inside the park in their search to find us.

Fly Away

We fly away from the fog cloud with Kryssle carrying the still-frozen Sky Blue. Unfortunately, we brush a few limbs on a tree and disturb some extremely loud birds. They are on to us. Landing, we run toward the dock area. Managing to get back to the shipyard, we see guards everywhere. Kryssle calls Falak to get the ship ready to pick us up. He answers but says, "Hey it's going to be three hours for us to get back to Messis. We are hiding at a party moon in a distant orbit around Messis. Our lifeboat is parked at the Grand Shipyard.

Even standing outside of the shipyard we can see the massive inferno that used to be Rook's pub. We briefly discuss our plan of action knowing that Sky Blue is still frozen and will need to be carried.

Getting to the Longboat is a Bust

Kryssle decides that perhaps a distraction would allow the rest of us to get to the lifeboat. So she starts playing the violin as we pass into the Central Terminal. It works, the entry guard thinks we are entertainers for the crowd. As we enter, we notice that security is beefed up and they're checking everybody that's going to the loading docks. Rook is still in his night clothes and stands out like a big blue beacon. Hans takes Rook to the gift shop and gets some sweatpants that have the Messis symbol on one of the legs, and a t-shirt that says I Heart Messis, and a hoodie to try to discuss him. Sky Blue is thawing out. She is soft on the outside and able to and slightly move her mouth. When she moves her mouth it is only the lips, the inside is still frozen.

There are also roaming pairs of guards. The guards have palm pads, that project a holograph. The holograph is a very poor likeness of Rook, it's just a bust, and it's not the best. But a blue Dragon born sticks out since most folks here are human or fey. We are now past the entry gate, but we are stuck in the Central Terminal. The gates to the loading docks where our parked lifeboat is waiting are completely closed, with guards on every gate.

Kryssle continues to play loudly. Luna, Rook and Hans go check the lifeboat. Talon is watching Kryssle from the edge of the room and holding the slowly thawing out Sky Blue. Hans tries to get past the loading gate guards. Fortunately, a lot of very nice BS with the gate guard prevents us from getting arrested and they give us a gift package of five gold pieces to spend in the terminal gift shop as compensation for the delay. They tell us they are trying to find the perpetrators of the great crimes being committed in Messis.

Hiding In a Dive Bar Again

Sky Blue has thawed out quite a bit, but still has a significant wound in her chest. Hans has a healing potion in his bag and gladly gives it to Sky Blue. She recovers but we are trapped. Right now we can walk around the main terminal without much of an issue, but we know they're looking for a giant blue dragon born. We managed to get out of the terminal and back out into the streets. We head into the rougher neighborhoods of the dock workers section of town. Rook knows of a dive bar over in the dock workers area called Sol's Bar. It's run by a couple of fey, Dia and Sol. It's getting close to morning now, but the search is not stopping. Rook tells us, "I arrested Sol one time, but like, he's a really nice guy. So I put in a good word for him and he served some community

service. We're good friends." They aren't exactly honest but Rook knows them and we can hide there.

To be continued

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