

The Phargol-Horn

Volume 53

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No Time to Waste

(Part One)

It was a warm, beautiful, crystal clear day. Just a sprinkling of perfectly shaped clouds dotted the sky. Even the dragons could be seen as they practiced their high altitude flying. The trees and bushes were all in bloom. With the start of the open-air market season Krystonia was full of activity. Wooden carts lined the square and overflowed with fruits, berries and flowers of all kinds. Many brought crafts to sell or trade. Trolls make great toys and the female trolls knitted clothing is always in large demand. The air smelled of fresh breads and assorted desserts. Some even tried their hand at entertainment. Shlendrik the entertainer was always popular with the crowd. It seemed like a marvelous day for one and all.

Unfortunately things are not always as they seem. Beneath the surface of this wonderful day was a very serious concern. Inside the Obelisk in a small out of the way chamber a meeting was taking place. Graffyn, Turfen, Rueggan, and Azael were in attendance. All were sworn to secrecy, as they had been the only ones to witness the event that had taken place. The matter had to be handled very delicately. If word of what they were discussing were to leak out it would cause panic throughout all of Krystonia. Even worse if N'Borg were to learn of the event he would no doubt find this an ideal time to attack. He could finally cast the spell for the winter with no end and rule all of Krystonia. The wizards knew they were no match for N'Borg at this time.

Their problem came about in the most freakish of events. The Obelisk has always kept a supply of powerful crystal in a deep chamber dug into the center of its floor. The inside of the chamber has a spiraling slide that goes around its inner edges and is several hundred feet from top to bottom. When a new crystal is brought in a protective cover is removed and the crystal is placed at the top of the row. This pushes the next crystals downward. The bottom most crystal then rolls onto a platform. Four ropes are tied to the corners of the platform. The platform is then by the use of pulleys hauled up to the ground floor where the crystal is moved to whatever area it is needed.

This system has worked very well for years. Not only is there always a good supply of crystal but it is very well protected. Recently a new crystal was delivered and the cover was removed so that it could be placed with the others. It was a stormy evening with severe lightning. Actually it was rather strange how quickly the weather changed that day, almost as if someone or something unnatural was influencing it.

The lightning was incredible. The wind blew so hard that the shutters were very difficult to close. On one window the shutter blew completely off. A bolt of lightning shot through the window. As if it had eyes it bounced off the marble wall, down the side staircase, off one of Hotpot's large copper pans and headed directly to the opening where the top had only minutes before covered the crystal supply. The lightning struck the top crystal and in a chain reaction traveled through each adjacent one. It made the most awesome hissing sound. The crystal at first became very bright and then dimmed and turned a grayish black color. Crackling sounds could be heard coming from each one. A few even exploded.

To assess the damage Azael climbed down the railings. In his hand he held a crystalmeter. This is a device that has a flat metal piece on one end and a crystal bulb on the other. By touching the metal end to the crystal you can tell the potential power of the crystal. The brighter the crystal bulb gets at the end of the rod the more powerful the crystal being tested should be. If it turns bright red you have a real winner. As Azael went from crystal to crystal it became obvious that he was not pleased with his test. Some barely made the bulb light up at all. A few caused a bright color but dimmed within seconds. The lightning had done much damage.

Often both some good and some bad can come from a situation. On the good side it did not blow up the Obelisk. This could have easily happened. On the bad side it greatly diminished the power of each crystal that did not blow up. These once magical crystals would be only of use in minor spell castings.

There was no time to waste. More crystal must be brought into the Obelisk and it must be done quickly and quietly. A plan was devised.

The four wizards laid out their plan of attack. The crystal they needed must be of the highest grade. Two safe sources for this grade of crystal were Shigger of the Maj-Dron and Master Wizard Kralic. Both were most adept at locating powerful crystal. How they did this neither would tell but at this time it was only important that they could.

To cause as little alarm as possible the wizards would send unexpected messengers, namely dragons. No one would suspect these individuals to be on such an important mission. Each would carry a scroll explaining the need for the crystal and the urgency. The scrolls were made of a special parchment that when it became wet would disintegrate. They were also written in a special code that could only be deciphered with the use of a password. The password would be in the form of the answer to a question written on the scroll that only Shigger and Kralic would know the answer. This had to be done this way for if the dragons were captured by any of N'Borg's evil henchmen they would never be able to keep the secret. Anyone who makes his own troops practice by battling to the death must have terrible forms of torture.

End of part one

New Digs!!

Yes it has finally happened, we are into our new building. It has been a huge amount of work but it will be Krystonia's new home. We couldn't have done it alone.

Groc and all the trolls helped with the all the finish work and Grackene and her assistants kept everyone fed. We tried to get Hotpot and Zygmund to help but cooking for commoners as they put it was below their station. These two lend a new meaning to the word arrogance. Shadra volunteered to run the office with Jumbly as her assistant. This probably won't work. Shadra tends to be a bit bossy and Jumbly can be a bit much to handle. I guess we will stick with Martha.

Grunch said he would handle the complaint department for us. How would he have any time to do this when he does most of the complaining? It would be like a contest to see who can be grumpier.

One area that we feel may work out well is Wodema wanting to be in charge of landscaping and gardening. She will have this place looking like the Garden of Eden in no time. Wodema has more than a green thumb. She has a green heart.

Reammon wants to run our library. Too bad we don't have one yet. I'm sure it would rival the best anywhere. As for maintenance, it should be only a snap of the fingers away. A wizard's fingers that is.

It appears that we are in good hands for now. I hope it stays that way.

Guess what we found?

Over the years when we moved we had to store items and often looked for them to no avail. When we started moving into the new building guess what? Some of them reappeared. This is great time for you to take a look at you collection and see if there are any figurines that you missed adding to your collection. We might be able to help.

When the last container came in after we closed the England factory there were items that was never unpacked. Some said one thing on the outside carton but have another packed inside.

If you have English made figurines that you are looking for make a list and send it to the club. We will try to help you add those figurines to your collection. Send your list to:

Krystonia Collector's Club
125 W. Ellsworth
Ann Arbor, Mi. 48108

Krystonia Club 2005

You may rejoin at any time for the 2005 club. Dues remain at \$30.00. We are looking forward to a great year and some exciting changes. The member gift should be available in the early fall. This year you will once again receive two redemption certificates. They will be for **Secret Message** and **Kralic's Raft**. The gift figurine will be the **Lookout**.

We have received your letters and e-mails and share your concern for all the dealers that have closed. Many of you no longer have a local dealer. Some dealers are listed on our web site. If this does not work for you there will be an alternative. You can still redeem your certificates through your local dealers, but if you wish you can also redeem through the club. You can do this by sending your redemption certificate directly to the club with check, visa or master card number. You may also call 734-332-8773.

The 2005 club figurines tie in directly to our lead story for the next few newsletters. Here is a brief mention but you will learn much more later.

The **Lookout** is our gift figurine. Zanzibar is proud of his cool new cape. It is red with white polka dots. He is to be placed on **Kralic's Raft** to complete a special scene. You know Zanzibar loves to be important and he really feels that this mission would not be completed without him on **Lookout**. We think you will love **Kralic's Raft** and the **Lookout**. **Kralic's Raft** is very important for he has a delivery that the Obelisk is in dire need of.

Your second redemption figurine is the **Secret Message**. This figurine also plays a key part in our stories. It appears the wizard's worst nightmare may be coming true. N'Borg may be getting his hands on one of the wizards **Secret Messages**. He must not find out about their situation. Will he?

Pictures of these club figurines and the other new figurines will be in your next newsletter. They will also be on the web site at www.krystonia.net.

Renewals should be mailed to:

Krystonia Collector's Club
125 W. Ellsworth
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108

Newsletters are now available

Once again you may purchase past newsletters. They will be \$3.00 per newsletter. Mail your request to the club and list the newsletter numbers that you want along with your payment.