

# The Phargol-Horn

Volume 57

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## The Literacy Project (Part One)

The program was certainly not initiated because he had too much time on his hands. Just being around the wizards at the Obelisk is enough to keep someone overworked to the point of exhaustion. Who knows for sure where his first thought originated but more likely it was like an itch that needed to be scratched. Reammon is not one to waste time talking once he discovers a need. He is more apt to get moving.

Reammon sat down behind his large wood desk to plot a course of action. First he laid out the facts as he saw them. The way to improve everyone's life in Krystonia was through education. Education has great social, economical and spiritual benefits. You must be able to read to be educated. Any programs that had been implemented in the past had been well received. With its varied terrain some inhabitants in Krystonia were very difficult to reach. To reach them would require a new approach. A huge amount of materials such as scrolls and books would have to be gathered to make the program effective. This is the way Reammon saw it and helped him decided how to launch the program. It would be called the Literacy Project.

Reammon knew that he would not be able to add this project to his already large list of tasks and responsibilities. He needed someone he could trust and could get the project under way. A person of high integrity and dedication. Most of all someone who would keep moving even if things became difficult at times. Who better than his brother Reymon.

Reymon much like Reammon was a very learned individual. Their mother Albertha was a teacher and she stressed the importance of learning from their earliest years. She was quite an interesting character herself.

She was as round as she was tall and she waddled when she walked. Each of her feet pointed outward from the side of her body not forward as is common. This is a rare condition caused when the heel and toes of the foot are formed in reverse order. When she was young the other children unfortunately made fun of her condition. Especially mean little Triggard the troll. He loved to stick jiggly worms down the back of her cloak and watch her jump up and down trying to have them fall out. You can imagine how hard this was when your feet go sideways.

As a result she tended to shy away from the others and this was partially responsible for her weight gain. Spending a lot of time alone she turned to books which she read at a ravenous pace. She became the best student in her classes. This became a huge asset to her as the other students real-

ized that although different in looks she was someone they admired in academics. They began to seek her out for help in their studies. Before long she became very popular.

Even though she became more accepted she never forgot her early experiences and learned the power of knowledge. When Triggard came calling she even found enough goodness in her heart to offer him assistance. It did not help him as much as she hoped because he still spent more time creating mischief than learning his lessons. Albertha's love of reading she passed on to her boys.

When Reammon approached Reymon there was no doubt in his mind that he had the right man for the job. He knew that Reymon would be more than glad to help. After a long discussion to express his thoughts Reymon took over the lead on the project. Reammon would be available to help if needed but Reymon was taking the ball or should I say books and running with them.

Reymon like Reammon knew he would need much help. This was by no means a small task. His need would be individuals with lots of energy. After thinking long and hard the same solution kept coming to him. The young dragons of Carin Tor.

He went to Carin Tor to speak with Grunch. He was warned about Grunch's grumpy demeanor. Reymon couldn't believe the positive response he received as from all he had heard it takes some convincing to get Grunch to go along with almost anything. Grunch was a little upset when Reymon asked if he was speaking to the right Grunch. As Grunch's eyes narrowed Reymon quickly covered his question by stating his unfamiliarity with the dragon community.

Grunch had his own agenda. He was becoming more concerned with the dragon community that was outside the reach of Carin Tor. The more contact that was established with these areas the more apt that the dragons as a whole would become more united. This would help him the next time he negotiated a hauling and delivery contract. His new motto "When it has to be there pretty soon, it might" just wasn't getting the response he had hoped for.

He also had noticed that many of the younger dragons seem to have too much time on their paws. This led to mischief, especially by Dee and Bree. They were good youngsters but had a little too much energy to be left on their own. An added plus for these two was they loved to read.

Dee and Bree readily accepted Reymon's request for help. Their first chore was to gather the books that were being deposited in book depositories around Krystonia. Reammon had placed these bins in locations throughout the area. These books needed to be brought to a central location. A large set of caves that had once been used by the wizards for research was chosen. Dee was given a cart to gather the books and roll them back. Bree was to stay with Raymon and sort them when Dee brought them in. At first Reymon thought he would need more dragons to help. But Grunch had been right about the energy these two had. They were like blazing balls of fire. In no time the books were rolling in.

The first steps had been taken in getting the Literacy Project started. Now it was time to move ahead. While most would go as planned there was a surprise to come that no one would expect.

**To be continued.....**

**Next newsletter the Hitchhiker**

## “20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Figurines”

A mix of new, old and the first ornament in three years. That pretty much describes our twentieth anniversary figurines. They represent the revival of some of your old favorites. We wanted to tell a story with the new creations and feel we met our goal. Now let me give you a brief description of each.

#4024            Staz

Once again the mail delivery is in the hands of our unicorn type friends. This is the third of these characters. You may remember Ikshar and Misuus. Both were a little lax when getting their job done. Staz seems to have a similar problem, she loves to daydream.

#4025            Krystonia “20”

This young dragon has read the good news. Krystonia has turned twenty. It has been a time of fun and fantasy.

#4026            Young Leila and Pooter

Even in her youth Leila was an enchantress. Her mere presence could be intoxicating. Even Pooter who never leaves his cave is tempted by her charm.

#4027            Okinowathe Meets the Flawgrintawd

This figurine brings back the old retired favorites Okinowathe, Ploot and the Flawgrintawd. If you read the last newsletter you know the story of these characters.

#769             Stocking Stuffer

It being our twentieth anniversary we thought we would give you the first ornament in three years. This one is a keeper. It is truly a stocking stuffer.

#518             Literacy Project            2006 Club Figurine

The 2006 Literacy Project figurine goes to the heart of Krystonia. That all inhabitants must be able to read. More Books is the gift figurine and when you join the club you will receive it free. When you place More Books with the Literacy Project it is truly a book festival. Read more about this in the opening story.

#518A           The Hitchhiker            Event and Club Figurine

Recruited to help Reymon with the Literacy Project this figurine encounters a great surprise. I would say more but that will be in the next newsletter.

## A Birthday Poem

In honor of our birthday we been offered a lovely poem by Spyke. Fresh from their latest gig he and the Spyketones are in rare form. We would like to share it with you. It may bring you to tears. It did me. Probably not for the reason you would first think.

Krystonia oh Krystonia,  
How you make my heart sing,  
It would bring me such memories,  
But I can't remember a thing,

Krystonia oh Krystonia,  
What joy you have given,  
Just thinking about what I could have accomplished,  
If only I would be more driven,

Krystonia oh Krystonia,  
It seems like only yesterday,  
When in years it has been twenty,  
If not for the Spyketones you would never have heard my great play..ing,  
(Ok so it's a stretch.)

Krystonia oh Krystonia,  
How I salute you,  
Knowing that without my presence,  
So many of you would forever be so blue.

another great composition by the truly modest,  
Spyke

(I told you I cried, how about you.)