

The Brighthelm Babblers

21/02/1313 – If you don't see it here, it's not real news.

Demons Invade Brighthelm!

It almost isn't worth reporting the presence of the now-ubiquitous blue demons which rove our streets in droves, scaring children and damaging local plantlife with their claws. However, we at the Babblers have wasted no time, effort, or expense in delving into the root cause of this situation.

The answer is, of course, the Warlocks. Some of our most trusted rumour-mongers heard it on the grapevine that one John Middlesham of the Warlocks' guild was involved in a conspiracy to transport thousands of demons to the Prime Material – a conspiracy which was quickly hushed-up by more senior figures in the guild when news of the story leaked. John Middlesham was reportedly re-assigned to recruit a team to “investigate problems” at the Ditchling Beacon ritual site – where less than 24 hours later thousands of demons did indeed materialise. A coincidence? Consider that two of those acting under this ~~eulist~~ Warlock's orders were either killed or kidnapped by demons, while he was conveniently absent.

Within the city, many decent people are helping to counter this latest atrocity. In particular, priests and paladins from the Temples of Aten and The Balance have been taking to the streets purging these abominations from our presence. Representatives of both churches have reminded the public that demons are dangerous and often deceptive creatures. Priests of Balance have even been reassuring the faint-hearted that smitten demons do not really “die”, they are meagrely banished back to their home worlds with only minor discomfort. The City Watch deserves an honourable mention in getting these demons off the streets, though their solution of incarceration until a judge can be found to deal with this case is clearly being stretched to the limits.

One thing is clear: these demons are dangerous. Though we're not yet sure how, past experience and folklore teaches us that demons are deceptive creatures, and now hundreds of them have entered our city even in some cases being welcomed into people's homes. Whether they are spies or simply waiting for us to let down our guard, the message is clear: innocent people are being deceived into harbouring these creatures while hard-working labourers from outside the city cannot find food or shelter from the growing undead threat.

More Villages Disappear

Several more small villages in the South downs have been razed (and presumably raised) by increasing numbers of undead in the area. Coton, Little Wallop, and Ditton are all no more, and there has been a sharp rise in the number of disappearances and attacks on other villages. Some field-workers returned to their homes to find them in ruins, and not a single body remaining in the village.

The church of Azrael, in conjunction with the scouts' guild, has had some measure of success

in locating and laying to rest small patrols of walking corpses; however the rest of this growing army seems to be taking maximum advantage of the terrain and concealing their tracks to some degree. Surely there will be more loss of life and enslavement of souls if more forces are not brought to bear against this menace.

Many patrols from the Temples of Aten and Balance, (who would normally be foremost in dealing with undead activity along with the

church of Azrael,) have been occupied in the city trying to curtail the mage-created problem of the Blue Demon infestation. While this has drawn some criticism from Azraelites, we at the Babblers know that responsibility for these deaths lie ultimately with the warlocks, who should be dealing with magical problems rather than creating more and letting the good men and women of this city concentrate on facing the threats that come from outside rather than from within.

Interview with a Demon

This courageous interviewer managed to engage in a brief conversation with one common-speaking blue demon being held in the watch cells before being through out by the guards. Here's what I learned:

I: What is your name?

Q: I Qi-qirel.

I: Where do you come from?

Q: We from Divac-Burr. We Divac-Burr.

I: What do you want?

Q: Come to Prime. Much safe. Only hunted a little.

I: Why did you come here?

Q: No more make weapon. Run away red demon. Hope red demon not come here.

I: What do you do?

Q: Before, eat many root. After, make many many weapon. Now, locked in tiny room.

At this point I was dragged outside as half-a-dozen or so of the small blue creatures were taken in, presumably to be kept in the hall space.

Kender Colouring Korner!



A scary blue demon

Warlock lover boys against "Atenite Idiots"!!?

After spending just ten minutes in local den of disrepute; The Sussex Arms, our reporters uncovered some shocking views from infamous warlock Johnathan Middleham and his lover; fellow warlock Tathar Linwëlin.

They made their views of the heroic acts of the Atenite Paladins' very clear. They claimed the "Atenite scum" know nothing of ritual magic, attempted to blow up the ritual circle and it was in fact they that attacked the Paladins in order to save the day! Tathar adoringly went on to describe just how brilliantly Johnathan dealt with the situation.

We feel that in defense of the Temple of Aten we must point out these two also enjoy spending their evenings in a pub where spiking drinks with and troll dissection orgies are considered acceptable social events.

Of course it's up to you, the readers, let us know who do **you** believe?

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