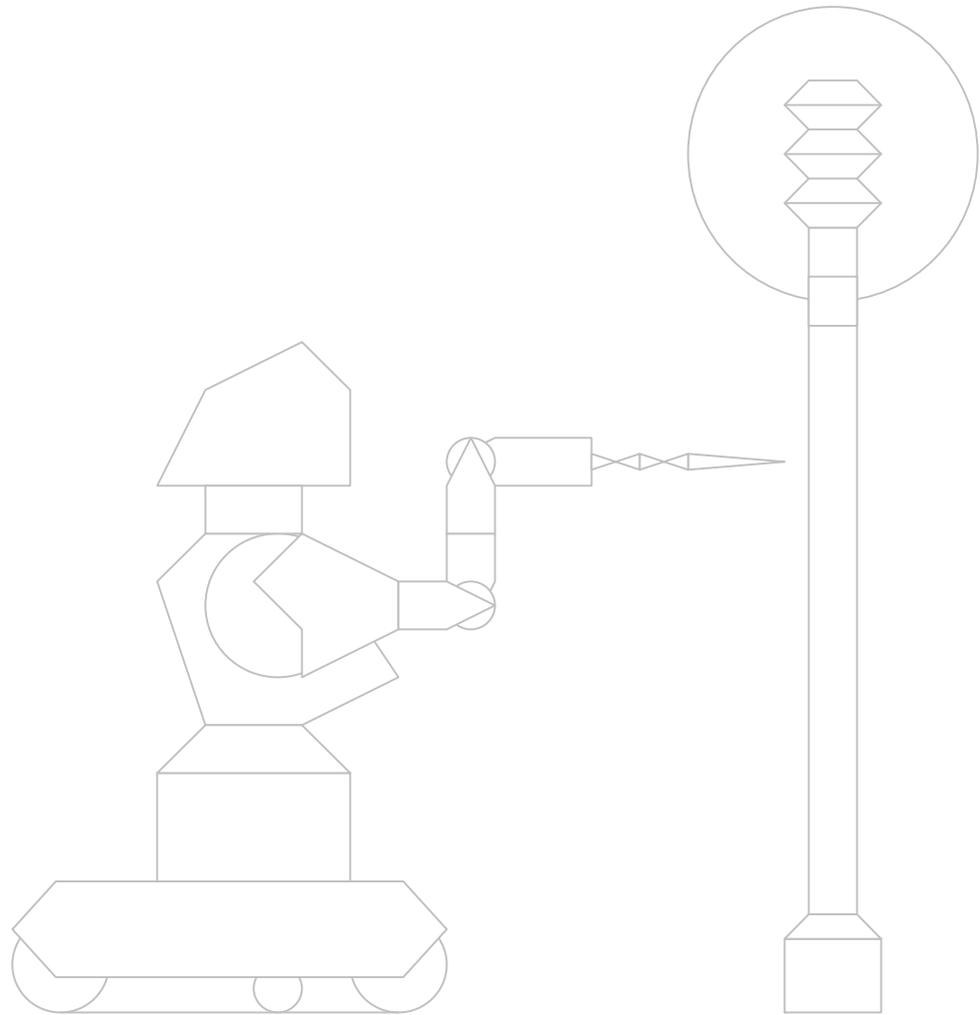


The Blacklore Elves

Mystaran Year AC1014



DUNGEON MASTERS EYES ONLY

THE BLACKLORE ELVES (Valley of)

Location: Hollow World near the southern polar Opening

Area: 10 sq. mi.

Population: 0

Languages: Signs, instructions, messages are in Elf (Blacklore Dialect)

Coinage: None

Taxes: None.

Government Type: None

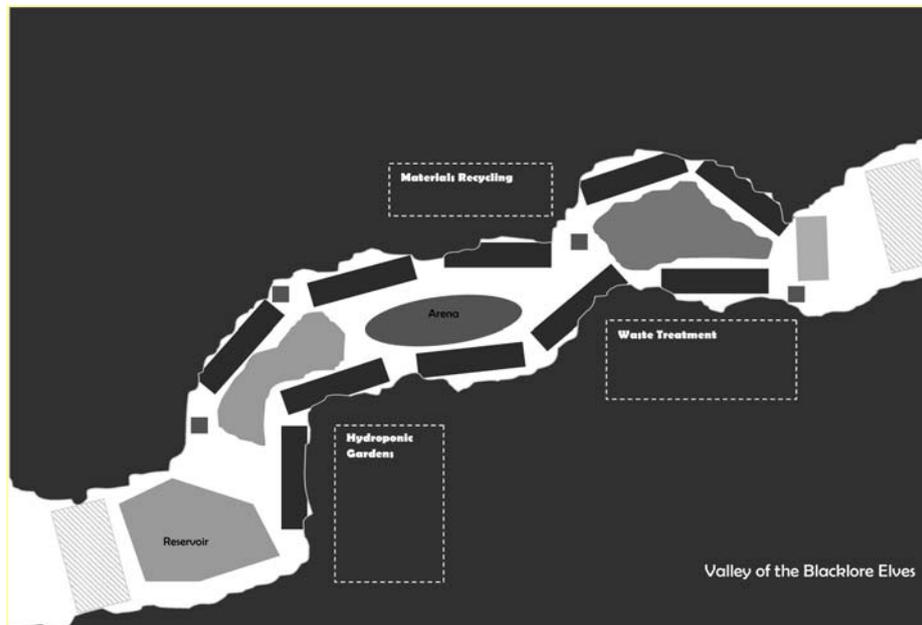
Industries: None

Important Figures:

Flora and Fauna: Automatons, Some gardens tended by robots.

Further Reading: Hollow World Boxed Set

The Land: The Valley is located in a deep fissure on the Peninsula closest to the Trench of Ka. Heated by volcanic activity deep below the surface, there are many warm spots across the Blacklore elf peninsula. The Valley itself is about eight miles long and until recently provided a home for ten thousand elves who were quite content to live their lives in their Apartments and be looked after by their robot servitors. It is now empty except for the robots.



The People: The elves living in the valley are now psychotic cannibals. They are roving about in packs devoted to killing each other (and any idiot foolish enough to wander into their valley now). A few of them had some rudimentary skill in Magic (previously as a fad, but now something that protected them from non-Magic users).

At the end of AC1009 the technology of the Valley and Magic failed for a week. Food was made available using that technology and as a consequence their society fell apart. Some fled the Valley. While the technology reactivated in AC1010, the food supply had been destroyed and the machines were forced to regrow the supply. Many looted and hoarded what they could before they fled the valley after a few months. Those who stayed behind fell under the influence of evil and turned to cannibalism to survive. The Spellcasters slaughtered the non-Spellcasters until anyone without magic was food or had fled the valley.

Although they had returned to getting their food from the machines, they had no problem with killing and eating people they encounter. Occasionally they fought each other for the right to eat the loser. This continued until there was one elf left. In AC1012, the last elf departed the valley on a quest to find their real homeland.

RECENT HISTORY

Things have changed in the last nine years. Outside influences have used the Blacklore elves need for excitement to introduce the Extreme Winter Olympiad. It is a yearly sporting event with Mountain Climbing, Snowboarding, Cross-country Hiking, and Wind Kayaking. It became very popular with the otherwise fickle elves who now brave the wild and cold to compete with each other, holiday in magic built chalet, or simply enjoy a holiday beyond the edge of the valley.

Mystaran Year AC1009

AC1009, Kaldmont 22: A Total System Failure?

Location: Valley of the Blacklore Elves

Description: With the sinking of distant Alphatia, every machine shuts down and the valley goes dark. By "Sunrise" the populace realize that something is wrong and they are not going to get breakfast in bed. By "Evening" the machines are still off and ten thousand elves are hungry and afraid as they realize there has been a total system failure.

What is going on? The sinking of Alphatia has caused the failure of the Immortal magic that powers the Valley. All the Black-lore Technology has failed. The Machines that produce foods and goods, repair and maintain the valley have shut down, The Valley is naturally heated by volcanic activity deep below the surface so it remains warm but machines directed that heat into homes generating even more heat.

AC1009, Kaldmont 23: How does this stuff work?

Location: Valley of the Blacklore Elves

Description: The Black-lore Elves wake to light snowfall in the valley. While most go out to play in the snow, some elves begin looking about for answers. They soon realize that no-one knows how to fix the technology. By "nightfall" the snow is still falling in the valley.

What is going on? Only the natural heat of the valley is keeping the Antarctic weather conditions out of the valley. While the snowfall continues, the elves realize they have no food, and no way of restarting the machines. All food was produced in "hydroponic gardens" located beneath the living levels. Crops begin to die.

AC1009, Kaldmont 24: Expedition to the Hydroponic Gardens

Location: Valley of the Blacklore Elves

Description: Some elves penetrate the lower levels and make their way into the Hydroponic Gardens. They take what food they can and make the climb back to the surface. Once word gets around, the many elves descend into the hydroponic gardens in-search of food.

What is going on? Some elves find food in underground gardens. They also find the machines that grow the food, harvest the food, pack the food, and send the food to their homes.

AC1009, Kaldmont 25: The Barbarian Club does a Stock-take

Location: Valley of the Blacklore Elves

Description: Some elves were members of an extreme sport club known as the Barbarian Club. They have spent the last four years sneaking out of the valley to do extreme sports. They have equipment for Mountain climbing, Snowboarding, and Ice-yachting as well as considerable iron rations. The Club of five hundred and sixty members do a stock-take. He has made sure that they all have high quality fabricated equipment and a good reserve of food.

What is going on? The Barbarian Club was founded in AC1006 after an Ice-vale Elf (Cyrydyl Snowchild) found the valley. Cyrydyl Snowchild; as leader of the Barbarian Club, intends to evacuate as many of "his elves" as possible. He knows they are going to die if they stay..

AC1009, Kaldmont 26: The Barbarian Club Departs

Location: Valley of the Blacklore Elves

Description: On this day most of the five hundred and sixty members of the Barbarian Club begin their journey out of the Valley. They are all well equipped and have a few weeks food each. They climb out of the valley and tow their ultra-light Wind Kayak up the mountains to the north. Amongst their members is Deithryl Steelheart.

What is going on? The Barbarian Club has departed on their three-week long expedition north. The remaining nine and a half thousand elves stay in the valley confused by what to do.

AC1009, Kaldmont 27: Anarchy

Location: Valley of the Blacklore Elves

Description: The food in the hydroponic gardens is rotting, the snow is still falling, and a few elves have begun to panic. There are a few robberies as some elves begin looting supplies. Others simply hide in their homes waiting for the system to reboot.

What is going on? Social Order is declining amongst the Black-lore Elves. Robberies and some acts of violence occur.

AC1009, Kaldmont 28: Valley of the Cannibal?

Location: Valley of the Blacklore Elves

Description: The situation in Blacklore Valley declines as the temperature drops to zero degrees. A few wonder why the Barbarian Club has not come home.

What is going on? The Elves of Blacklore Valley are hungry and nervous. The natural heat of the volcanic activity is unlikely to dissipate yet they are now a week with declining food supplies. If the machines don't start soon, many thousands of Blacklore elves will die of hunger.

AC1009, Kaldmont 28: Penguins Ho!

Location: Southern edge of White Pass

Description: The Barbarian Club reaches the north coast of the Blacklore elf peninsula and discovers giant penguins huddled on the edge of the ice amongst volcanically heated rocks. With the White Pass unpassable on foot they unpack their Wind Kayak and sail north across the ice.

What is going on? The Elves of the Barbarian Club have begun a two week crossing on their Wind-Kayaks. The Wind Kayak is a kayak with a reinforced bottom and parasail. The Barbarian Club Wind Kayak is capable of doing 72 miles per day.

Mystaran Year AC1010

AC1010, Nuwmont 1: The System Reboots!

Location: Valley of the Blacklore Elves

Description: At just past "midnight" the machines switch on, the lights power up and the Automaton begin cleaning up the mess of the previous week. By morning the elves wake to find breakfast in bed (of a sort). There is only a reserve of dried fruit, nuts and water on the available foods menu.

What is going on? Unfortunately the plants have all died and must now be regrown from seed stocks. The Blacklore elves are served dried fruit and nuts and the machines replant the hydroponic gardens from seed stocks. While many breathe a sigh of relief and go back to their way of life as though nothing happened, a few know that there is no food beyond the fruit and nut reserve; something that cannot last. The machines also clean away the few hundred elves that killed themselves out of despair.

AC1010, Nuwmont 17: The Barbarians Battle Lupus Penguina Gargantua

Location: Near the northern edge of the White Pass

Description: A few miles from the Heterath Glacier, the Barbarian Club are attacked by a flock of seven Gargantuan WerePenguins. Fifty Elves are killed in the ambush. The others are unable to risk the rescue. All they can do is continue onward.

What is going on? Unfortunately this was inevitable. Their speed has saved them from numerous hostile wildlife, yet the Gargantuan WerePenguins were simply too large to ignore and were able to descend on the elves as their speed lowered. The Elves are weakened by their journey. They can't possibly withstand a major attack.

AC1010, Nuwmont 18: The Heterath Glacier

Location: Heterath Glacier

Description: Barbarian Club members led by Ice-vale elf Cyrydyl Snowchild scale the glacier wall and hoist up their kayaks and rest the night before beginning their week long journey across the glacier.

What is going on? The voice in Snowchild's head has been guiding him to this place. They are a week from the ruins of Heterath.

AC1010, Nuwmont 18: A Wakeup Call

Location: Near the northern edge of the White Pass

Description: Deithryl Steelheart wakes to find the Gargantuan Werepenguin slaughtered or departed. A few elves in her group are still alive and they scavenge all the food reserves from the dead. They realize that the rest left them to die and are well gone. The few elves remaining repair their wind-kayaks and pick a direction.

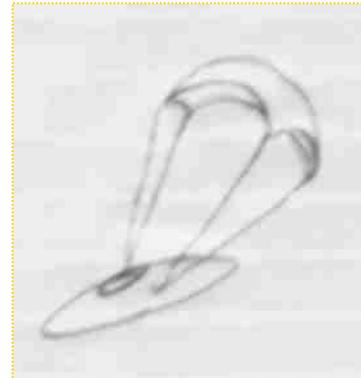
What is going on? Deithryl Steelheart and the few elves to survive the Gargantuan Werepenguin attack don't know where their fellows went. They head east.

AC1010, Nuwmont 24: White Dragons Attack

Location: Heterath Glacier

Description: Barbarian Club members led by Ice-vale elf Cyrydyl Snowchild are attacked by a pair of white dragons on the long journey across the glacier. There are only a hundred elves left as one dragon is killed and the second terribly damaged. After the end of the battle, the elves spot the crystal spires of Heterath. Yet despite the need for rest Snowchild compels his fellow hundred survivors to push forward just a little further.

What is going on? The voice in Snowchild's head has overwhelmed him. They are a day from the ruins of Heterath and the Burrower.



AC1010, Nuwmont 25: The Horror of it all

Location: Heterath Citadel

Description: The Elves struggle into the Crystal Citadel of Heterath. Snowchild sacrifices one of the elves on an altar surrounded by the corpses of a hundred other elves. The elves confused by what is going on, and weakened by their terrible journey can only watch as their expedition leader kills one of their own and finalizes a century long quest. The Citadel changes from white crystal to entropic black as the burrower's life force is infused into the Citadel of Heterath. A few elves realize they saw this in a dream a few years back when Snowchild stumbled into their Valley. Snowchild begins slaughtering the surviving elves with his pickaxe for food.

What is going on? Snowchild completes a task on his rise to immortality in the sphere of Entropy. He has just sacrificed one of every Elf clan in the Known and Hollow Worlds creating the Citadel of Night Terrors. From now on, every Cleric who worships Thanatos will be able to access Summon Elemental while in the Hollow World. Wizards in the Hollow World may access the sphere of entropy by Gate Spell only from within the Citadel.

AC1010, Nuwmont 26: Food on the Horizon

Location: Southern edge of the Ross Tundra

Description: Deithryl Steelheart and her people reach Tundra teaming with herds of Deer and other wildlife. Their food reserves are down to nothing, they are weak, so they begin hunting. For the first time ever, Deithryl Steelheart and her fellow elves eat raw meat and drink warm blood and shelter.

What is going on? The Steelheart party have reached the Ross Tundra at its narrowest point and have found food.

AC1010, Nuwmont 26: And the food runs out

Location: Valley of the Blacklore Elves

Description: The Fruit and nuts have run out earlier than expected. As of this day food is no longer available anywhere in the Valley of the Blacklore Elves. Hoarders amongst the elves have been preparing for this moment. They have piled vast stores of equipment and food into their Ultra-light Survival Habitats and begin a long journey to safety.

What is going on? A thousand Black-lore elves head south abandoning the eight thousand who have no food other than each other.

AC1010, Nuwmont 27: Valley of the Cannibal; revisited

Location: Valley of the Blacklore Elves

Description: The eight thousand Blacklore elves in the valley turn on each other. The Valley descends into bloody chaos.

What is going on? The Citadel of Night Terrors has begun whispering to the Elves in Blacklore Valley encouraging them to Cannibalism.

AC1010, Vatermont 16: Sun on their naked backs

Location: Southern edge of Acercia

Description: Deithryl Steelheart and her people reach the forests of Southern Acircya. For the first time since leaving the Valley, they feel warm under the glow of the Red Sun.

What is going on? The Steelheart party have crossed Ice for the last time, having finally reached forests and grassy plains.

AC1010, Vatermont 16: The Trench of Ka!

Location: Hollow World, Northern Edge of the Trench of Ka

Description: The thousand elves travelling at six miles per day, reach the Trench of Ka. The Elves halt and set up a base-camp while they discuss what to do. Some consider turning back to the valley or even heading north. In the end they decide to cross it.

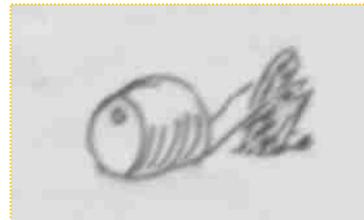
What is going on? This is the Trench of Ka. This impossibly deep fissure in the Ice and stone is at least six miles wide, one mile deep, and thousands of miles long.

AC1010, Vatermont 17: What are you doing?

Location: Southern edge of Acercia

Description: One of Deithryl Steelheart's companions casts a few spells and creates a nice wooden chalet with glass windows overlooking the south coast. She creates a nice hot tub and strips off to have a good soak. The magic use surprises Deithryl and the other elves who thought magic had failed with the machines of their valley. Sylytrys Deepeyes invites the others to join her.

What is going on? One of the Deithryl Steelheart party is a Spellcaster, the incident reveals that magic works again.



AC1010, Vattermont 18: Apprenticed to Silytry's Deepeyes

Location: Southern edge of Acercia, Silytry's Deepeyes Chalet

Description: Deithryl Steelheart's companions have just spent the night at Silytry's Deepeyes magically erected chalet. She invites them to join her as her apprentice Spellcasters.

What is going on? Deithryl Steelheart is one of the only two female elves in a group of seven survivors. Deithryl's rival for companionship is a wizard of considerable skill. She is being offered the prospect of becoming an Apprentice Wizard to her rival.

AC1010, Thaumont 19: Aliens in the Trench of Ka?

Location: Trench of Ka

Description: The Starship Ship Warden, millennia in the Trench of Ka, is encountered by the elves who have thus far managed to survive the descent into the Trench. The Oard Commander, overjoyed at finding a Technology loving species asks Ka if they can come. Ka agrees and the Thousand Elves are brought on board. There are Oard clone-banks, Gnome Engineers from Vulcania, and now a thousand Blacklore Elves who desperately need a home and breakfast in bed. The Starship Warden now has a primary Crew of Vulcanian Gnomes, Blacklore Elves and an Oard Commander. As Ka the Preserver becomes aware of their situation, he is horrified to learn what has happened to his elves.

What is going on? A few thousand years ago Ka encountered the Starship Warden (See Metamorphosis Alpha to Omega/ Amazing Engine Gaming Series). The immortal found the Oard clone-banks. With the help of Carl Glitterlode and his gnomes from Vulcania, Ka managed to learn how it works and fixed it. Finding them-selves knee deep in Oards, the Immortals decided to make best use of the situation. The Arrival of the Blacklore Elves was pure chance.

AC1010, Thaumont 20: Engines ready for Firing

Location: Starship Warden, Trench of Ka

Description: Gnome systems engineers inform the Oard Commander that The Starship Warden, after eternity in the Polar Ice, is ready for an engine firing. They simply need warm up the main reactors. Ka and Carl Glitterlode give the nod and the Oard Commander gives the order to activate main reactors.

What is going on? The main reactors are heating up and the engines should be ready for a pre-launch burn in a few decades and perhaps even a launch this millennia.

AC1010, Kaldmont 8: You're not apprentice material, I'm sorry

Location: Southern edge of Acercia, Silytry's Deepeyes Chalet

Description: Deithryl Steelheart fails after almost a year of training to achieve the minimum ability of a wizard. The despair of being the only non spellcaster compels Deithryl to seek her own destiny. She departs Silytry's little "pleasure commune" by the Sea with a single gift (an ever-full pouch of fruit and nuts), her Ice-climbing pickaxe, Kayak (converted for water travel) with hand carved wooden paddle, and tent.

What is going on? Deithryl Steelheart doesn't become a wizard so she leaves.

Mystaran Year AC1011

AC1011, Vattermont 3: Is that a road?

Location: Milenian Imperial frontier

Description: Deithryl Steelheart paddles up a river in her kayak to find a stone-paved road. She puts her kayak in a nearby tree and continues on foot.

What is going on? It has been a long journey but Deithryl Steelheart has made it to the Milenian Empire.

AC1011, Vattermont 5: Civilization

Location: Milenian Empire, Temple of Zirchev

Description: Deithryl Steelheart arrives at the temple of Zirchev on the edge of the Milenian Empire. They tell her about the Milenian Empire and the other "lesser civilizations" off to the west. She explains that her "Valley of Elves" are a years walk to the south.

What is going on? The Priests at the temple take her in for a time (they provide shelter to all the peoples of the forest).

AC1011, Flaumont 13: Throwing away the garbage

Location: Valley of the Blacklore Elves

Description: The hundred and twenty spellcasting Elves left in the valley no longer hear the whispering of the Citadel of Night Terrors in their head suggesting cannibalism.

What is going on? Having caused the death of eight thousand Blacklore Elves and the destruction of their society, the forces of evil got what they wanted and thus have abandoned the vermin that remain.

AC1011, Swiftmont 27: Excuse me, Can I eat you?

Location: Valley of the Blacklore Elves

Description: Free of influence the seventy spellcasting Elves left in the valley establish rules regarding Cannibalism. The Machines have re-established the crops and there is no real need to kill and eat one another. A set of rules by which the two in dispute must duel with magic in the Arena to decide who eats whom seem more convenient.

What is going on? Having killed and eaten eight thousand other non-spellcasting elves, some Spellcasting Cannibal Elves make some rules about appropriate conduct regarding killing and eating each other.

AC1011, Klarment 27: Hello? Is anyone there?

Location: Valley of the Blacklore Elves, the Arena

Description: Duels have whittled down the population of Blacklore elves to two. They fight it out in the Arena for the right to eat each other. The victor is Calysantys the Bloody, an elf wizard of 12th level. After gutting the corpse on the Arena floor he instructs the automaton servitor to bring the body back to his apartment for food.

What is going on? Having killed and eaten eight thousand other elves there is only one left in the valley.

Mystaran Year AC1012

AC1012, Nuwmont 1: Right, I'm off.

Location: Valley of the Blacklore Elves

Description: Calysantys the Bloody, an elf wizard of 12th level concludes that someone has replaced their technology with technology powered by magic. This was why the technology failed when the magic failed. He intends to find their real homeland and the technology that is there. He also concludes that they were "got at by something or someone". He is going to make them pay. After the necessary preparations, equipment, food, and replacing his mechanical hand with a tool end allowing various devices including a "hand" crossbow to be attached, departs the valley to investigate the chalets to the west.

What is going on? The Last elf leaves the valley heading west to the Ski-Chalets on the nearby mountain.