

PCs:

Chumbo, Kyra, Lini, and Merisiel

The Story so far:

Kyra, Merisiel, and Lini—accompanied by her pet, Doomi—joined Chumbo in the library. While there, they noticed eerie beings chanting "*Sacrifice flesh for Canker*" as they drew closer and closer. As the group discussed what to do, the undead figures appeared in the corridor ahead of them. They repeated their chant, "*Sacrifice your flesh for Canker.*" When the team rejected their demand, the creatures attacked.

During the fight, the beings inflicted some kind of disease on the team by biting their hands, leaving them feeling awful, especially in their stomachs.



During the fight, Kyra discovered that the creatures were once scholars and academics who had somehow become ghouls. The reason for their transformation remained unknown. Intimidated by Chumbo, one of the ghouls—named Joe—fled. The other two, Larry and Little Jack, were mercilessly slain and, upon death, crumbled into swarms of tiny termites.

They then investigated a nearby room from which ghostly voices echoed. Cautiously opening the door, they found the ghost of a scholar wandering restlessly around her workshop, desperately trying to meet deadlines and finish her thesis. Startled by their presence, the team managed to calm her. After learning more about the nature of ghoul fever from her, Kyra used the *Book of the Dead*—previously found by Chumbo and Husky in Session 9—to lay her spirit to rest.



Kyra needed to study the *Book of the Dead* for at least eight hours to fully understand the nature of the fever and how to stop it. The team decided to camp there for the night, taking shifts to protect Kyra as she deciphered the text. During

the night, two ghouls attacked them—one of whom was Joe, the same ghoul who had fled earlier.

The attackers inflicted significant damage on the team and nearly infected Doomi with the disease, but ultimately failed. Fortunately, through well-coordinated attacks, timely healing, and a bit of luck, the group managed to defeat both ghouls.

After crafting five antidotes, the team continued their exploration. In the rooms across the floor, they discovered the remnants of a teleportation device and a *Wand of Quench*. However, they soon encountered Aller Rosk—a ghoul with a disturbing obsession for tattooed flesh. After a tense conversation, he failed to convince the team to sacrifice their skin for what he called his *masterpiece*. Still, the encounter proved useful, as they managed to learn the whereabouts of the master scribe.

(Lini and Doomi left because she found some mushrooms in the teleportation room!)



Following Aller Rosk's directions, they made their way to the room he had pointed out. Inside, they found several ghouls busily preparing something. Attempting to strike up a conversation, the team was led by one of the ghouls to the master scribe—under the assumption they were willing to sacrifice themselves for Canker.

The master scribe was revealed to be constructing a grotesque, Frankenstein-esque statue of Belcorra, pieced together from various types of flesh. The stench of decay and rot filled the air, thick and suffocating from the corrupted materials being used.



The master scribe, Nhakazarin, attempted to persuade the team to offer their flesh for her grotesque creation. When they refused, battle broke out. With a wave of her staff, Nhakazarin plunged the room into magical darkness. Only Chumbo, with his darkvision, could see through the gloom. Even Merisiel's torchlight was snuffed out after a single action, swallowed by the unnatural shadows. Kyra's light magic met the same fate—extinguished just moments after being cast.

Realizing they had to rely on Chumbo for navigation and coordination, the team followed his voice. But just as they thought they had the upper hand, Nhakazarin cast a silence spell on Chumbo, robbing them of his guidance. Thinking quickly, Chumbo began using the sound of his belly to signal his position in the suffocating darkness.

Realizing that only those infected with ghoulish fever were immune to Nhakazarin's spells, the team made the difficult decision to accept defeat and retreat. A pathetic defeat. And yet, as the great general Cao Cao once said: *"Defeat will teach us how to conquer the world."*