

The Dungeons and the Dragons

By Kyle John Schmidt

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Draft 3

Characters

Brett -- Dungeon Master. He controls the narrative of the story. He's a teenage boy with an angry emo/goth look to him.

Felicity Hydrangea Karmikal Onyx Wizard -- Gender Ambiguous Destruction Wizard. Wears glittery robes. Is absolutely fabulous. She is the character of a teenage boy who worships all things shiny.

Jean Verlaine -- Elf. Wears a tunic and a bow and arrow. He is the character of a teenage boy who thinks he has a +5 literary sensibility and a +2 twink factor.

Marlin Bricks -- Valkyrie Warrior. Has mithril chainmail and a sword. She is the character of a teenage girl who wants to be tough as nails.

Staging and Costumes

This play takes place in a magical fantasy world created as the characters play Dungeons and Dragons, the popular role-playing game. The audience does not necessarily see any “real world” business (rolling dice, eating Hot Pockets, etc.) and the actors shouldn’t feel like they need to mime these things.

However, in actuality the characters of this play live in rural America and this may be hinted at in their costumes.

(A blank stage. BRETT sits to one side. He has a small table next to him that's littered with D&D accoutrements. He's the Dungeon Master.)

BRETT

You come to a village. It's a small place. Only one street. There's an apothecary. A tavern. A blacksmith. A few houses. It's morning but you can't see anyone in the streets. Except. At the end of the street there's a mangy goat tied to a hitching post in front of one of the houses.

(JEAN VERLAINE enters. He's dressed as an Elf.)

JEAN VERLAINE

Danger check.

BRETT

Roll your dice.

JEAN VERLAINE

Which one?

BRETT

D-20. The twenty-sided one.

JEAN VERLAINE

Eleven.

BRETT

What's your Perception Bonus?

JEAN VERLAINE

Four.

BRETT

You succeed. Jean Verlaine uses his heightened Elven sense and gets a creepy feeling from the direction of the goat.

(MARLIN BRICKS enters. She's dressed as a Valkyrie Warrior.)

MARLIN BRICKS

I slash off the goat's head with my Flutter Blade.

JEAN VERLAINE

The creepy feeling is near the goat. Not necessarily the goat.

MARLIN BRICKS

Last time we hesitated with that mewling bundle of kittens in the Murk Forest, they morphed into Steel Resistant Werepanthers and I got knocked unconscious.

JEANS VERLAINE

Jackie, jeez! That wasn't my fault!

BRETT

A flood of blood ravens swarm from the sky and peck out Jean Verlaine's left eye.

JEAN VERLAINE

Hey! What? Why?

BRETT

Her name is Marlin Bricks. She is a Valkyrie Warrior. You called Marlin Bricks by a non-game name, you lose an eye.

JEAN VERLAINE

I won't look cute with a missing eye.

BRETT

It's the rules.

JEAN VERLAINE

Jean Verlaine is supposed to be cute.

BRETT

Too bad. Jean Verlaine has one eye.

(JEAN VERLAINE puts an eye-patch over an eye.)

MARLIN BRICKS

The goat's going to be a monster. Remember the kittens. Brett's a bitchy Dungeon Master.

BRETT

Hey.

MARLIN BRICKS

My character has VD.

BRETT

You used a public toilet.

MARLIN BRICKS

That's not how it works.

BRETT

In this world it is.

MARLIN BRICKS

I slaughter the goat.

JEAN VERLAINE

Let's at least do a magic check.

MARLIN BRICKS

Fine. Where's Felicity?

JEAN VERLAINE

(Yelling offstage:) Felicity Hydrangea Karmikal! We need you in the living room.

FELICITY

(Offstage:) I'm making HOT POCKETS!

JEAN VERLAINE

You get to do magic.

FELICITY

(Offstage:) I'm coming! I'm coming!

(*FELICITY HYDRANGEA KARMIKAL enters grandly. She is a glittery gender ambiguous wizard.*)

FELICITY

(With a flourish:) Spell Detection!

BRETT

Roll for it.

FELICITY

Sixteen! (With a bigger flourish:) Spell Detection!

BRETT

You succeed. Felicity Hydrangea Karmikal Onyx Wizard sends out a Spell Detection and feels magic wielded in the direction of the goat.

FELICITY

Yes! (A microwave ding offstage.) Hot Pockets!

(*FELICITY exits.*)

MARLIN BRICKS

I'm killing the goat.

JEAN VERLAINE

What if it's a transmogrified person?

MARLIN BRICKS

It's bait or it's guarding something. Metallurgical check. Fourteen.

BRETT

You succeed. You sense treasure near the goat.

MARLIN BRICKS

See, it's guarding treasure.

(*FELICITY enters.*)

FELICITY

Who's hungry?

JEAN VERLAINE

Oooo. Hot Pockets.

MARLIN BRICKS

I get cheeseburger.

BRETT

It's this one.

JEAN VERLAINE

Ouch hot. What is this, broccoli?

FELICITY

There's a truck that keeps driving by your house.

BRETT

Probably a dumb farmer looking at his field.

FELICITY

At night? You guys know Eric Caves tried to hit my car with his truck when I was leaving school today, right?

BRETT

Stop talking about it. We heard you already, like fifty times. He wasn't trying to hit your car. He must not have seen you coming out the parking lot.

FELICITY

He tried to run my car over.

JEAN VERLAINE

Maybe if you didn't have such a flaming hood ornament.

FELICITY

It's not flaming.

MARLIN BRICKS

It's a disco ball.

FELICITY

That's not flaming.

BRETT

Your car might as well be on fire.

FELICITY

Eric Caves has been after me since the year began.

BRETT

You already told us. Fifty times.

JEAN VERLAINE

Stop wearing your Kelly Clarkson shirt to school.

FELICITY

I don't have a Kelly Clarkson shirt. I had a limited edition Kelly Clarkson signed concert tee that I formerly liked to show off, until Eric Caves burned it with an acid compound in Chemistry.

MARLIN BRICKS

Too bad he doesn't know you're actually an Onyx Wizard.

FELICITY

I know! (*FELICITY strikes a magic pose.*) ERIC CAVES! MAGIC MISSILE! METEOR STORM! COLOR SPRAY!

BRETT

Death by magic tranny.

FELICITY

Felicity Hydrangea Karmikal is not a tranny. Onyx wizards don't have gender.

MARLIN BRICKS

Let's kill the goat and get the treasure.

JEAN VERLAINE

NO! It might be someone.

FELICITY

Looks like that truck stopped on the road.

BRETT

Stop being dramatic.

FELICITY

We should go check outside.

BRETT

If you don't focus on the game, I'll send a swarm of tranny-eating hornets into the village.

FELICITY

I'm not a tranny.

MARLIN BRICKS

Why are you being so safe about a mangy goat?

JEAN VERLAINE

It might be Rimbaud.

MARLIN BRICKS

Who's Rimbaud?

JEAN VERLAINE

Did you not listen to my backstory? I'm on this adventure to find my one true love, the youthful Lord Oscar Rimbaud, who was kidnapped after we shared our first tender kiss by the evil Necromancer, Mastigious.

MARLIN BRICKS

We can have lovers? Why don't I get a girlfriend?

JEAN VERLAINE

Because you're the only lesbian in school.

BRETT

A blue metapede burrows out of the ground and gobbles Jean Verlaine's left hand—

JEAN VERLAINE

I meant that in character. Marlin Bricks said she was the only girl at Warrior School.

BRETT

Fine, the metapede was a phantom and you get your hand back.

MARLIN BRICKS

I forgot to tell you, I had a girlfriend and I'm trying to find her.

FELICITY

I think there's people outside.

JEAN VERLAINE

What!?! You're on this adventure cause your family was killed by owlbears.

MARLIN BRICKS

I lied. My family's alive and don't know I'm a Warrior. My girlfriend was at Warrior School and, like me, she dressed as a boy to escape detection. But the other Warrior students found out she was a girl because the evil Necromancer, Mastigious, revealed her identity. Now they're all hunting her and I must save her so we can go on hot adventures together.

FELICITY

Brett, I think there's guys outside your house with that truck.

BRETT

It's stupid farmers picking up varmints. They'll go away.

JEAN VERLAINE

You can't steal my backstory.

MARLIN BRICKS

No one told me we could have love interests! I won't be the only single hero.

FELICITY

I'm staying single. There's no one in the world awesome enough for Felicity Hydrangea Karmikal Onyx Wizard. (*FELICITY looks offstage.*) Can you guys hear that?

BRETT

Suddenly, the party realizes that the sun has set and the temperature has dropped considerably.

JEAN VERLAINE

This conversation has not taken an entire day.

MARLIN BRICKS

The town could be enchanted. How much time do we feel has gone by?

BRETT

A few minutes. The goat starts bleating loudly. You can see icicles forming on its chin beard.

MARLIN BRICKS

I'm approaching the goat, with my Flutter Blade out.

JEAN VERLAINE

I'm following.

BRETT

Felicity, are you following them?

FELICITY

Hold my character, I hear something outside. (*FELICITY exits.*)

BRETT

You die, it's your own fault, tranny. As the party approaches, you see a shadowy alley near the goat. The goat tries to break its tether to come to you. The bleating gets more desperate.

JEAN VERLAINE

I put my hand on the goat.

MARLIN BRICKS

I don't like this.

BRETT

It licks your hand and nuzzles against your thigh.

MARLIN BRICKS

I'm going to use a Listen check.

BRETT

Roll for it.

JEAN VERLAINE

I'm talking to the goat: Rimbaud?

BRETT

It nibbles at your fingers.

MARLIN BRICKS

Crap. Nine.

BRETT

You succeed. Barely. You hear a scratching.

MARLIN BRICKS

From where?

BRETT

Near Felicity. The shadowy alley.

MARLIN BRICKS

Felicity moves away from the shadows.

BRETT

She can't until she tells me she does.

JEAN VERLAINE

I'm going to kiss the goat.

MARLIN BRICKS

Don't. Felicity!

JEAN VERLAINE

The goat might be under a spell.

BRETT

The scratching sounds like a ripping.

MARLIN BRICKS

Felicity! You need to move! Come back!

JEAN VERLAINE

I kiss the goat.

BRETT

Nothing happens.

JEAN VERLAINE

Dammit.

BRETT

The ripping becomes a rumbling.

MARLIN BRICKS

I stab into the shadows with my Flutter Blade.

BRETT

Roll for it.

MARLING BRICKS

Dammit. Three.

BRETT

Major fail. You move to fight, but trip over the goat and fall. But it's too late! Out of the shadows, acid goblins leap upon Felicity, they spit in her face, eat off her shimmering gown, and tear her head clear off her shoulders with metallic claws. The acid goblins scurry back into the shadows from whence they arrived.

(FELICITY enters wearing his normal clothes and holding a broken disco ball hood ornament.)

JEAN VERLAINE

I douse her in Revive Potion.

BRETT

Too late. Felicity Hydrangea Karmikal Onyx Wizard is dead by acid goblins.

JEAN VERLAINE

Felicity. You're dead.

MARLIN BRICKS

I'm running after the goblins.

JEAN VERLAINE

I'm following her with the goat.

FELICITY

Stop playing.

BRETT

The goat won't move.

JEAN VERLAINE

Can I pick it up?

MARLIN BRICKS

Just leave it.

BRETT

Roll for strength.

FELICITY

STOP PLAYING!

(Pause.)

JEAN VERLAINE

What happened to your disco ball?

FELICITY

I told you there were guys outside.

BRETT

Stupid farmers.

FELICITY

It wasn't stupid farmers. Farmers wouldn't smash up my car. Now I'm dead.

BRETT

You can roll a new character.

FELICITY

Not the game, asshole. The front of my car's all kicked-in and my dad's going to kill me. Don't worry, they didn't do anything to your cars. Just mine. They drove all the way out here for me.

MARLIN BRICKS

They can't do this. Let's go after 'em.

FELICITY

Are you going to bring your Flutter Blade? Or how about that Dragonbone Crossbow?

MARLIN BRICKS

Shut up.

JEAN VERLAINE

Don't be an ass.

FELICITY

Maybe you should've done something instead of hiding here playing pretend.

BRETT

You wanna make a new character? Felicity Part Two?

FELICITY

No. I quit.

JEAN VERLAINE

Don't you wanna see how it turns out?

FELICITY

Shitty and ruined. That's how everything turns out. Shitty and ruined.

BRETT

Suddenly, morning breaks over the town. But it feels like no time's gone by. A spell has been broken.

FELICITY

See you at school. (*FELICITY exits.*)

BRETT

Someone steps out of the alley. Someone who looks exactly like Felicity Hydrangea Karmikal.

JEAN VERLAIN and MARLIN BRICKS

What?

FELICITY

(*FELICITY re-enters in her Onyx Wizard robes.*) What?!!?

BRETT

The dead body you thought was Felicity is actually Felicity's evil twin . . . the Necromancer Mastigious! He has been impersonating Felicity this whole time!

FELICITY

That doesn't even make sense.

BRETT

I thought you went home. Jean Verlaine turns to see that the goat has been transformed into—

JEAN VERLAINE

The youthful Lord Oscar Rimbaud?

BRETT

Yes.

JEAN VERLAINE

Are you serious? Rimbaud!

FELICITY

It's not real.

MARLIN BRICKS

What about me?

BRETT

Marlin Bricks realizes she never hit the ground when she tripped into the shadows. She was caught by two familiar arms. She peers up and finds—

MARLIN BRICKS

Her lost warrior princess.

BRETT

Alive and strong.

MARLIN BRICKS

And totally hot.

FELICITY

Like that would really happen.

BRETT

And all of our heroes live on for greater adventures. The end.

JEAN VERLAINE

Awesome adventure.

MARLIN BRICKS

Yeah, that was fantastic.

FELICITY

Brett! You can't end it. You never said what happens to me.

BRETT

You said you quit.

FELICITY

I did, stupid. But obviously, I came back.

BRETT

Well, too bad, it's over.

FELICITY

No! Sit down! I get my ending. I get my ending!

BRETT

I yield the story to Felicity Hydrangea Karmikal Onyx Wizard.

FELICITY

I'm about to fly to my palace made of feathers. But then something catches my eye. On that Mastigious guy's body is a silver pouch encrusted with jewels. And it's filled with a super powerful powder that grants wishes. (*FELICITY looks at the broken disco ball. A trickle of glitter pours out.*) I wish for a wonderful world of gowns and gems, where everything's grand and everyone's nice, where Felicity Hydrangea Karmikal can cast fantastic spells with other wizards of might and magic. And where everyone—everyone—is as awesome as she is.

(FELICITY empties the glitter from the disco ball onto the floor. Then, a drizzle of glitter falls from the sky. And, for a moment, the world truly is beautiful.)

END OF PLAY