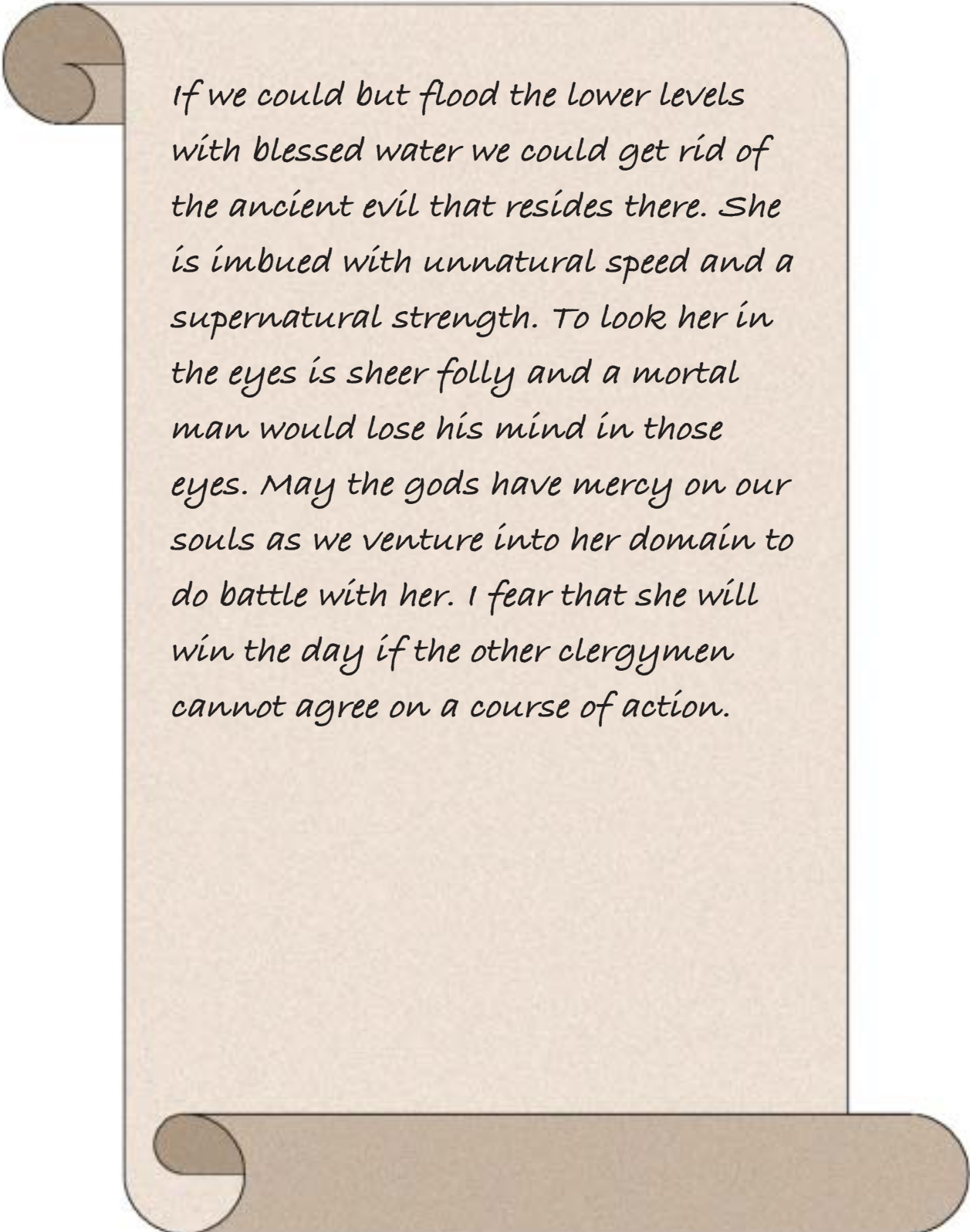


Dungeon Crawl Classics #1 Idylls of the Rat King

PLAYER HANDOUTS

The player handouts that follow are not numbered, so as to prevent players from realizing if they missed a handout. They are presented here in the same order as presented on page 31 of the Idylls of the Rat King book.

*While I lay here dying of a mortal wound that
I received from that evil demon from deep within
this dreadful hole, I cast my eyes towards a
vision of the future that may be brighter by my gift.
I give to you, reader of this message, my family
sword to use against the dreaded she-devil from the
bowels of the Hells. Use it well against her and
her undead minions, and may it strike her true.*



if we could but flood the lower levels with blessed water we could get rid of the ancient evil that resides there. She is imbued with unnatural speed and a supernatural strength. To look her in the eyes is sheer folly and a mortal man would lose his mind in those eyes. May the gods have mercy on our souls as we venture into her domain to do battle with her. I fear that she will win the day if the other clergymen cannot agree on a course of action.

To my dearest love,

Jasper Gannu told me you'd be mining this area today so I came under the cover of darkness to hide my ring for you to find. If our love is to bloom and last eternal, you must find this. I have all confidence that you will and when you return to the surface, I will marry you.

- Jessica

Silverton is a small village located two weeks north of the city of Soulgrave and three weeks south of the capitol city of Archbridge. It is a mining village that grew from the hard work of one merchant family, the Gannu family of Soulgrave.

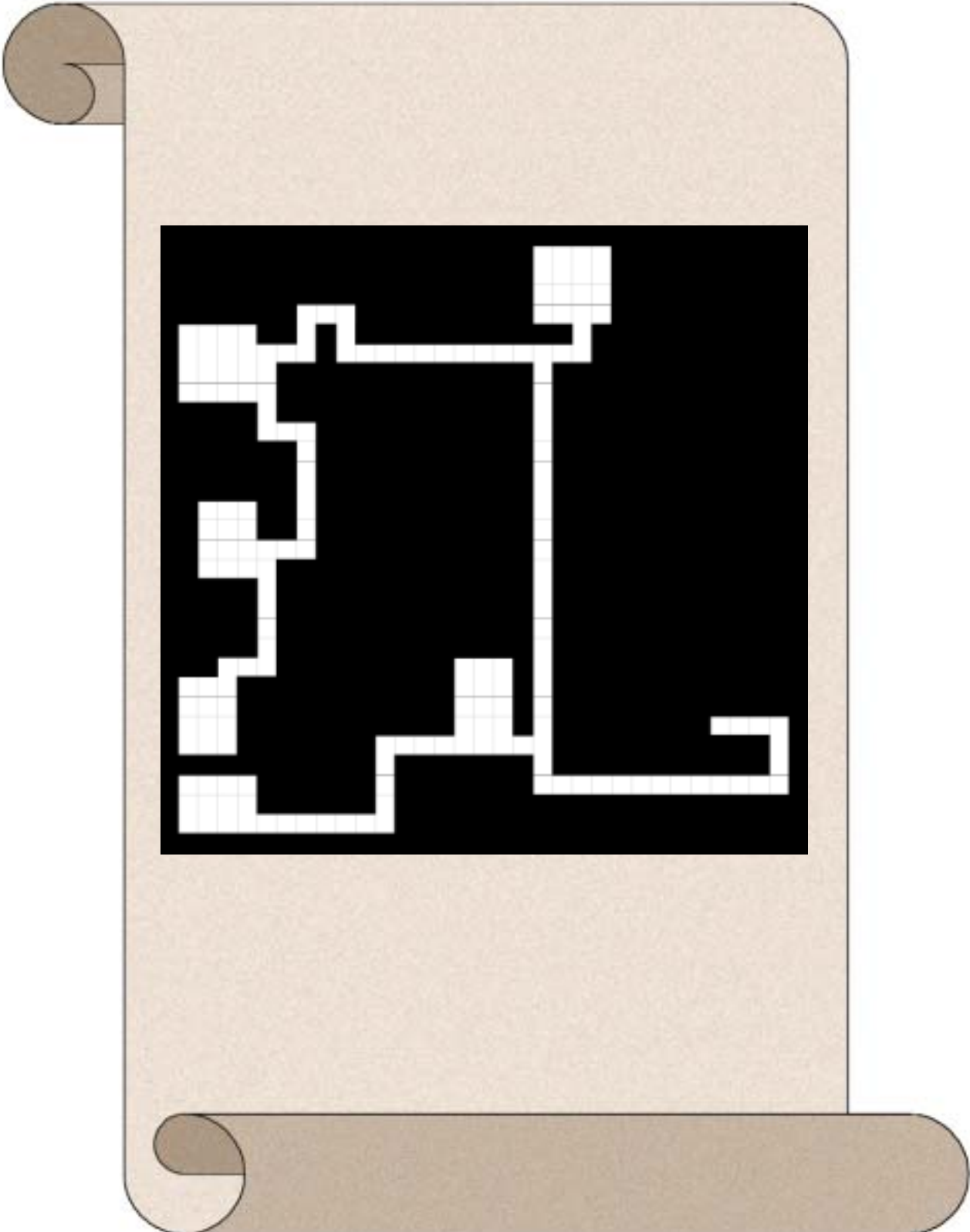
Jasper Gannu, prospector and patriarch of the Gannu family, discovered silver during a prospecting tour of the area over 100 years ago. He immediately spent his entire life's savings on funding a small mining operation and opening the silver mine on a rich vein of ore. Miners and the poor, looking for work, flocked to the Gannu Silver Mine, creating a small boomtown less than half a day's travel from the mine.

Within a few months, the mining shafts broke through large underground chambers that were littered with bones and huge nuggets of silver ore. The miners found this to be strange and priests were brought in from both Soulgrave and Archbridge to cleanse the area of evil spirits. All the while, Jasper was growing very rich and powerful from the silver that was transported to the Miner's Guild in Archbridge.

Two years after the mine opened, Silverton, as the boomtown was called, began to erect permanent structures for the miners. The silver ore was plentiful and other mines began to open to the west of the town under the banner of Archbridge's Miner's Guild. This is when disaster struck the Gannu Silver Mine.

Two years and six months to the day from when Jasper found the first silver vein, miners broke into a deep pocket under the earth. This pocket contained a hideously evil spirit that killed more than 20 miners before it was finally forced back into its lair by the priests and wizards who were called in to cast a mighty spell and lock the evil away.

The miners turned on Jasper Gannu, now with wife and child, blaming him for the catastrophic events. He was lynched and hung from a hastily made gallows in the center of Silverton. His wife and child were run out of town and cursed, "May no child of Jasper Gannu's seed be able to touch the horrid silver that has brought such evil to this town!" The Gannu family home was burned to the ground and the site was sown with thorny vines so that no one would ever be able to build on the spot again.



The evil beneath us has grown in power and has finally broken free. My companions have all perished to this terrible power and now I am afraid I will be next. I was one of the original men to break through into the forgotten tomb that held this terrible undead monster. Do not make the same mistake as we made when we reached the deepest level of the mine. Do not be as greedy as we were. Now we are going to pay for our greed in death. For this beast can raise us from the dead to serve on in undeath, as my fellows discovered too late. They are now skeletons, and even now I can hear them clawing at the beams and stone walls near me. Pray for me.