

CANYON of the SNOW CAIRNS

by JC Connors

ABOUT THE ADVENTURE

Canyon of the Snow Cairns is a *GURPS Ice Age* adventure with Lovecraftian horror undertones. It is set 30,000 years ago in the Blue River Valley, somewhere in Europe, long before the dawn of civilization. Weeks before winter sets in, the PCs witness their tribal leader captured by a mysterious, rival tribe. Fearful that their tribe will be doomed without his leadership, they set out to rescue their chief in the Forest of Howling Sorrows.

Canyon of the Snow Cairns can easily be adapted to other systems (*Call of Cthulhu* and *Savage Worlds* versions are also available on www.1shotadventures.com).

Canyon of the Snow Cairns is suitable for four-to-six 100-150 point characters. The end of this adventure includes six pre-generated characters so you can get started right away – plus an extra character should one of the PCs meet a grisly fate before the adventure's conclusion!

Characters introduced for the first time in the adventure are noted in ALL-CAPS. Skill rolls are in SMALL-CAPS. Sections marked with a map icon are side-quests and adventure hooks, and not important to the overall plot of the adventure. Sections marked with a person icon are opportunities for specific PCs, notably the pregenerated characters from the end of this adventure.

ADVENTURE SUMMARY

CHIEF KUSIM-AHA has led the Clan of Three Claws for ten years. The young chief was adored, and his bold leadership was marked by warm winds and an endless supply of fat river fish. It was because of the chief's bold leadership that the Lion Tail Tribe was finally destroyed, after a generation of fierce rivalry for food and shelter.

As the Great Autumn Hunt concludes, Chief Kusim-Aha and his brother, war chief TANSUM-AHA are brutally ambushed by savage warriors from an unknown clan. Dressed in black wolf pelts, the attackers speared Kusim-Aha and then escaped with his body across the river and into the primeval Forest of Howling Sorrows.

Dying from his wounds, Tansum-Aha predicts that if his brother is not rescued and returned to the Clan of Three Claws, a terrible tragedy would be unleashed. Without Kusim-Aha, he fears that the tribe will be erased from the earth during the winter.

Tansum-Aha's prediction is not altogether untrue. His brother's captives, vengeful survivors of the Lion Tail Tribe, have turned to worshipping the dark god-spirit known as THE WALKER IN THE WIND. Their zealous and desperate

worship weakened the ancient boundaries between worlds, and they discovered a portal that allowed them to freely travel between the forest and the Walker in the Wind's frozen home world of Borea. However, each trip has eaten away at their very sanity.

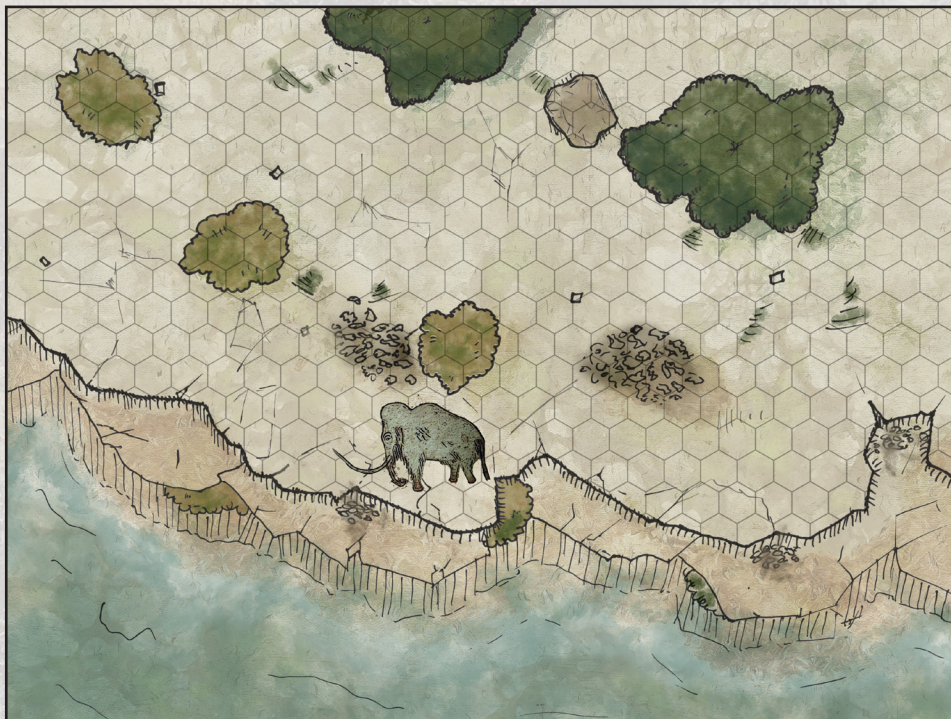
The Lion Tails carried the wounded Chief Kusim-Aha through the portal, so that they can sacrifice him to the Walker in the Wind himself. They hope this act will bring them favor with the Walker in the Wind, while utterly destroying their generational foes.

To save their tribe from doom, the PCs must venture into the Forest of Howling Sorrows, survive its dangers, discover the secrets of the ancient portal, and finally, claw back their leader from the primal ice world of Borea.

THE RECKLESS CLIFF SIDE HUNT

For six days, the Great Autumn Hunt has been underway, a rare time when both the black deer and mastodon herds migrate through the Blue River Valley. Seventeen black deer have fallen to the spears of the Clan of Three Claws, almost half them by the strong hands of young Chief Kusim-Aha and his war chief brother, Tansum-Aha.

Despite the early success, no tribesman has yet to take down



one of the great mastodons. This year, the massive beasts have been especially strong, fast, and aggressive, and two of the finest hunters of the clan were gored and killed by a great mastodon bull dubbed "STONETUSKS". The mastodon is recognizable by its one broken tusk (the other half of which was buried in the gut of one of the ill-fated hunters). Many hunters have sought to take Stonetusks down.

The adventure begins at dusk. The evening is chill and a light northerly breeze is marking the end of the season. Breath frosts in the air as a light drizzle rains down from the darkening sky.

The PCs are hot on the trail of Stonetusks, who has been spotted ambling along the high cliff edge that runs along the southern bank of the Blue River. The mastodon is alone and far away from his herd. The terrain here is rough and rocky and visibility is limited.

A terrible shout comes from the trail up ahead, followed by the fierce trumpet of a furious mastodon. Racing ahead, the PCs see Stonetusks mauling one of their reckless clan mates, stomping him aggressively with one of his huge feet. The dangerous mastodon, backed up against the cliff side, rears up and then glares at the PCs, challenging them.

The PCs recognize the man under the mastodon as MEELO, a young tribesman known for his carelessness during hunts. The man is still alive, though his leg is gruesomely crushed. If the PCs take a moment to assess the surroundings, they see no one else nearby. A PERCEPTION (VISION)-2 roll spots the fallen tribesman's stone-tipped spear under some brush just a few yards away.

STONETUSKS

ST	44	HP: 37/44
DX	12	Will: 12
IQ	4	Per: 10
HT	14	FP: 14

Basic Speed: 4	SM: +3 (10 hexes)
Move: 8	Tusks: 5d+1 cr, Reach 1-2
Dodge: 7	Trample: 4d+1 cr

Traits: Crushing Striker (tusks); Wild Animal; DR 4; Enhanced Move (Ground Speed 8); Peripheral Vision; Quadraped; Trunk (Extra-flexible, long, +1 SM, weak); Weak Bite.

Mastodons typically attack by *slamming* their victim for 3d+2 cr damage, which can only be dodged. This then knocks human-sized opponents over then automatically does 4d+1 cr trampling damage.



The great mastodon is angry and frightened. His first instinct is to scare the PCs away, by bellowing challenges, brandishing his tusks, and stomping his feet.

Saving Meelo

Rescuing Meelo is a dangerous affair while Stonetusks looms over him. If someone approaches Stonetusks, perhaps to pull Meelo away from him, make a **FRIGHT CHECK** for the mastodon. A clever plan that keeps the animal calm, or a PC with Animal Empathy that uses an appropriate influence skill, may give a bonus to the roll. If Stonetusks succeeds the roll, he stands his ground and threatens any approaching PC with a tusk attack. If he fails, he bolts along the cliff side – slamming and trampling a PC who approached from that direction.

Challenging Stonetusks

If the PCs wait and do nothing, Stonetusks huffs and bellows. Meelo's moaning and cries for help eventually anger the beast, and he'll find the courage to charge at the PCs, trampling and likely killing poor Meelo in the process.

If the PCs startle, rush, or otherwise attack Stonetusks, make a **FRIGHT CHECK** for the beast. If he succeeds, he trumpets a challenge and charges the closest PC. If he fails, he bolts alongside the edge of the cliff, trying to get away. This **FRIGHT CHECK** should be repeated when he is seriously wounded (below 10 hit points).

Anyone, including Stonetusks, who runs closely along the wet cliff side runs a risk of falling and plummeting 20 yards into the river below. A failed **DX** roll indicates a slip and fall into the water below for 2d+1 cr damage (or 9d+1 for poor, massive Stonetusks). A PC who makes a **SWIMMING-6** roll takes no damage as he executes a perfect dive! A PC must then make a **SWIMMING** roll to escape the river, else they begin to drown. Fortunately, fellow tribesmen are nearby to fish PCs out if they struggle.

If the PCs take down Stonetusks, they hear the cheers of their fellow tribesmen who witnessed their victory from below. They have achieved a mighty task and the spirits will heap many rewards upon them this winter. Hauling the six ton carcass of the mastodon back to the tribe's camp is beyond the ability of a small group of men. They'll have to get help to do this, but their allies are quickly rushing up the cliff to help.

If Stonetusks falls into the river and is still conscious, make a **DX** roll for the creature. If he succeeds, he manages to swim down the river and find his way back to his retreating herd. If he fails, he limped from the water too slowly, and was overtaken and killed by other tribesmen, who appreciate the PCs' assistance nonetheless.

THE SHAMAN'S REWARD

If the PCs killed Stonetusks and rescued Meelo, the shaman KOVA-KEEYA, declares that the broken tusk of the mastodon is theirs to keep. On the other hand, if Stonetusks was killed by the tribe after a fall in the river, the shaman's first inclination is to give the tusk to the other hunters that actually killed the beast. Kova-Keeya can be convinced otherwise with a satisfying story that plays up the PCs' participation (and a Very Good or better reaction roll).

Either way, Kova-Keeya spends the night sawing the ivory into several rough-hewn and heavy mastodon talismans, which can be hung from the neck.

The mastodon talismans contain the savage spirit of Stonetusks, and give the wearer a blessing. Treat this as a limited Bless spell, but effective only when the PCs are in the cursed land of Borea. The blessing gives +1 to all rolls and ends when the subject is in serious danger and fails some die roll (or a foe makes a good die roll). Then the talisman averts or reduces the danger, and becomes a useless trinket.

Meelo will survive the cliff side encounter as long as he doesn't get trampled or gored by Stonetusks again. (GMs preferring more detail can assume Meelo has ST 12, HT 12, and -2 HP when first encountered.)

If Meelo is rescued, he gasps that he will be forever grateful to the PCs. He tells them that he believes Stonetusks possessed the fury of the defeated Lion Tail Tribe. This brave act earns the PCs a token from Meelo's uncle, the tribe's shaman, when they return to their settlement (see text box).

FESTIVAL AT THE CAMP

A full moon shines on the Three Claws' camp of hide-tents and tall, sheltering rocks. Barking dogs welcome the PCs back to the camp, which is lit by three large fires in its middle. A large black deer already roasts above each fire, giving the camp a wonderful smell of oily smoke and crisping flesh. The mood is festive, with men and women dancing and singing around each fire.

Within minutes, the eldest huntsman TUMBA THE HAPPY shouts a merry welcome to the PCs. He witnessed their encounter with Stonetusks from a distance, and tells them to prepare a great story to tell to Chief Kusim-Aha when he

returns – no doubt bringing more deer for the tribe to cure for the winter.

As the PCs are pulled into the festivities, the shaman Kova-Keeya sings a celebratory song to the spirits. Soon, the tribe's women hang garlands of dried flowers about the hunter's necks. This is followed by the sacred tokens of the tribe – necklaces with three claws, that of a wolf, a lion, and a bear. These tokens are only given after a successful hunt or battle. Receiving them is the greatest honor among the clan.

Jealous Ugly Bearface

Tumba informs the PCs that the day's hunt has gone well for all the hunters. If the PCs managed to take down Stonetusk, Tumba proclaims them *bavaaks*, or “great and towering huntsman,” second only in skill to Chief Kusim-Aha and his brother and war chief, Tansum-Aha. This title earns the PCs many embraces, slaps on the back, and smiles from the amorous clan members who do not have mates already (and some who do). Otherwise, always-happy Tumba will still celebrate the PC's bravery and risk-taking in a public manner.

A hunter called UGLY BEARFACE is not thrilled by the PCs' adventure. Normally one of the clan's greatest hunters, Bearface has had a bad season. He brought down no black deer this year, and worse, scared the mastodon herd away when he had an angry outburst at a younger huntsman who made a joke at his expense. He received no flower garlands or clan tokens this year.

Bearface will hurl insults at the most likeable or capable PC. He claims the PC is taking too much credit, and by doing so, he is dishonoring the great chief. He then pushes and spits at the PC in an attempt to pick a fight. Bearface can be talked down with a Neutral or better reaction roll. If a brawl breaks out, other tribe members will pull Bearface away from his victim once first blood is drawn. Either way, Bearface angrily leaves the camp and disappears into the night.

GM Note: Ugly Bearface soon ends up witnessing the kidnapping of Chief Kusim-Aha and shows up later in the adventure. The end of the adventure includes Ugly Bearface as a replacement PC, in the event one of the PCs dies before the adventure is over.

The Search for Chief Kusim-Aha

Hours after nightfall, Tumba quietly expresses his concern to the PCs that Chief Kusim-Aha and his brother Tansum-Aha have not returned to camp yet. It is highly unusual for any hunter to not return before nightfall. Tumba asks that the PCs lead a search party, and reminds the PCs that the brothers were last seen a several miles west of the settlement, along the bend in the Blue River where the black deer herd graze.

UGLY BEARFACE

ST	13	HP: 13
DX	11	Will: 11
IQ	9	Per: 10
HT	11	FP: 11

Basic Speed: 5.5 SM: 0
Move: 5 Punch: 1d-1 cr
Dodge: 9

Traits: Acute Vision +3; Appearance (Ugly); Bad Temper; Combat Reflexes; Impulsiveness; Jealousy.

Skills: Brawling-13; Intimidation-10; Spear-12; Survival-12; Tracking-10.

Gear: Spear (1d+3 imp, Reach 1,2, Parry 10), though he will not use this during a brawl.



An AREA KNOWLEDGE-3 roll (due to the rain and the dark) recalls a shortcut to the bend in the river. A failure simply means it takes the typical couple of hours or so to reach it.

Blood at the Blue River Bend

As the PCs approach the bend in the Blue River, they hear the distressed screams of the tribe's war-chief, Tansum-Aha. He is shouting his brother's name into the night, his voice filled with anguish and defeat.

As the PCs come closer, they see Tansum-Aha lying on the ground, a broken spear wickedly piercing his side. He is surrounded by a perfect circle of dead black deer, which twitch and spasm in weird unison in their death throes. This unnatural sight calls for a FRIGHT CHECK-2! As soon as the PCs step over the circle of deer, the deer instantly cease their movement and fall dead. Additionally, the air inside the circle is heavy and freezing cold.

There is no sign of Chief Kusim-Aha. Tansum-Aha is severely wounded, a bone spear shaft buried deep into his side. Wracked with pain, he sobs out his story.

“My brother and I were hunting the black deer, here, in this place. When the deer circled around us, dancing and tossing their antlers, we thought the spirits were smiling. But when my brother loosed his arrow we were attacked by savage, wolf-headed men whose eyes held the light of the setting sun. They hurled many spears all at once and all the deer fell, together in this circle. Brother was also pierced by spears and I was afraid for him. I could not move, the fear felt like a winter cold. I tried to crawl to him, but the wolf-men with black nails dragged him away to the river. I was helpless to chase them.”

A FIRST AID-6 roll safely removes the spear from Tansum-Aha. Otherwise, he dies from his injury, pleading for the PCs to find his brother immediately. The spirits have told him that his brother still lives but is in mortal danger:

"My nightmares have become living things. I know that our clan will be erased from memory if Kusim-Aha is not returned to us. Without him, we will not survive the winter, I am sure."

If a PC examines the broken spear, they see that it is made from particularly dense bone. It is unknown what animal it is from; a NATURALIST roll confirms the bone comes from a creature as big as a mastodon, but also that it is not from any known animal from these parts. An OCCULTISM-2 roll surmises the bone comes from a large spirit-creature. *GM's Note: The spear is made from the bone of the dragon-like shantak, which the Lion Tail survivors killed months ago.*

There is a second, still-intact bone spear lodged into the low-hanging branches of a nearby tree, which only a PERCEPTION (VISION)-2 roll will find (plus darkness penalties if at night). Treat this as a bone spear, doing thr+1 (0.5) damage, but only breaking on a successful attack on a roll of 1 on 1d.

Examining the deer carcasses, the PCs find no wounds or sign of obvious external injury. Unusually, their bodies are stiff and cold already. A SURVIVAL-2 roll identifies marks of frostbite on the creatures. Despite what Tansum said, these deer were not likely killed by spears. *GM's Note: They were killed by the freezing powers of the bear-like Gnoph-keh, an otherworldly beast who accompanied the wolf-clad Lion Tails in their ambush.*

A successful TRACKING (plus any darkness penalties, likely -5) roll finds a trail of bare footprints leading away from the clearing and towards the river. It looks like at least a dozen men made the tracks. If the roll is made by 2 or more, the PCs also find bear-tracks mixed in with the human tracks. Otherwise, the PCs will have to wait until light to find any tracks.

A Sign of Canoes

The prints lead about a half-mile to the riverbank, where PCs see obvious signs of canoes. Deep slide marks in the mud show where at least three canoes landed and then took off again.

If the PCs made good time and followed the tracks at night, they see faint torches on the other side of the river, soon vanishing into the dense woods of the Forest of Howling Sorrows. If the PCs find the tracks during the day, they see abandoned canoes on the other side of the river.

An appropriate AREA KNOWLEDGE roll knows the name of the forest as well that it is a dangerous wild place avoided for

its fierce, stalking predators – wolves and lions. No one has heard of another tribe living in the woods there, though there are rumors that some survivors of the Lion Tail tribe fled into those woods last year.

Distress at the Settlement

If the PCs return to camp, they find their home under great distress and anguish. The loss of their chief has already spread through the camp. The shaman Kova-Keeya declares the tragedy the worst of all omens, and shares his belief that the tribe will lose many children this winter without the chief's wisdom and guidance.

In the unlikely event that Tansum-Aha survived his wound, he is declared the new chief of the Three Claws. However, Tansum-Aha makes it clear he has no desire for such a position, especially since he believes his brother still lives and must be recovered.

After much debate, the clan decides that the chief's attackers must be survivors of the Lion Tail tribe, who were defeated in a bloody war almost a year ago.


"Like the treacherous pouncing lions they pray to," announces Kova-Keeya, "the cowardly Lion Tails hid in the tall grass and the shadows to attack us by surprise!"

Whether it is Kova-Keeya or Tansum-Aha, the tribe begs the PCs to mount a rescue mission for their chief. They are too fearful to send more than a handful of tribesmen on the mission, because they believe that the Lion Tails may be trying to lure away the hunters and warriors of the clan so that they can attack its precious food supplies before winter.

Crossing the Blue River

Swimming across the 150 yards of cold river water takes a few minutes, requires a successful SWIMMING+1 roll (-2 per level of encumbrance), and costs 1 FP. A failure costs 1 FP and requires another SWIMMING roll (see p. B354 for details on drowning).

The clan also possesses a disused wood and hide canoe. The vessel was built by a deceased tribesman named KOMSA, who liked to spear the fat silver fish from the middle of the river. Unfortunately, he drowned in the spring, and his boat has been unused ever since. It is big enough to hold two people. Navigating the river with Komsa's canoe only requires a BOATING+2 roll (a failure indicates overshooting the other bank, costing hours of lost time).

 A Per-based BOATING roll identifies that the canoe needs to be patched up before leaving the shore. Otherwise, it will

THE FOREST OF HOWLING SORROWS



begin to sink halfway across the river! Patching the boat requires replacing a torn hide and a **SEWING** or **LEATHERWORKING** roll.

THE FOREST OF HOWLING SORROWS

Three hastily-constructed canoes lie abandoned on the north side of the Blue River. One of them has an ample amount of blood inside it, likely from the wounded chief. A **TRACKING+1** roll finds a blood trail that leads into the dense forest (at night, this will be at -5 or worse due to darkness). If the roll is made by 3 or more, the tracker can identify the prints of eleven men, several of whom were carrying something heavy, as indicated by their deeper footprints in the mud.

There are two paths that visibly lead into the forest. The first path is narrow and shows signs of recent, human usage (this is also the one that the blood trail leads down). This path leads towards the abandoned settlement (#1, detailed below). The second path is wider, and from many obvious hoof marks, looks like a path deer use to get water from the river. This path leads near Neelia's Grotto (#2, detailed below).

Regardless of which path the PCs choose, as soon as they enter the forest, the temperature drops noticeably and unseasonable flurries begin. A **WEATHER SENSE+2** roll confirms that it is unusually early for snow in this area.

Navigating the Forest

The primeval forest is wet, dense, and features rapid elevation changes and rough ground. An icy wind blows through the old trees, making an unusual whining sound. Punctuating

the wind gusts are warbling howls that are impossible to identify to any known creature. An OCCULTISM roll recalls that this forest is said to be the home of wolf spirits who cannot leave, and are therefore eternally hungry for the flesh of men.


GMs can assume the wary PCs can travel approximately 1.5 miles per hour, or 3 hexes on the map above. Reduce this 1 mile per hour, or 2 hexes, if traveling at night. Traveling at night may attract the attention of the pack of three-eyed Borean black wolves that roam the forest (see the Lair of the Three-Eyed Wolves below for more details).

#1 - The Abandoned Lion Tail Settlement

As the PCs travel on the trail through this area, they may spot an abandoned settlement. A PERCEPTION (VISION) roll sees a few makeshift, hide tents in a nearby clearing, just a few minutes off the trail.

This clearing contains twenty or so tents. Several more are overturned. There is no sign of life in the settlement, nor any signs of recent activity. What was once a fire pit in the middle of the settlement is nothing but trodden remnants and ash. It is obvious the pit has not been used in a while (a SURVIVAL-2 roll more specifically reveals that it has not been used in *months*).

A quick search of the abandoned settlement discovers two interesting findings:

- A blue-black wolf pelt, matching the description of Kusim-Aha's attackers, can be found hanging inside one of the tents. A SURVIVAL (PLAINS) or NATURALIST roll identifies it from a dire wolf, though the blue-black color is extremely unusual.
- The largest tent holds a large, mammoth-sized skull. Sharp incisors in the skull clearly mark it as that of a predator. The species of the skull is unrecognizable, although a SURVIVAL (PLAINS) or NATURALIST roll identifies it as similar in shape to the skulls of the wild horses that graze the plains to the south. A successful OCCULTISM roll recalls stories of massive birds with scales like snakes that were once seen generations ago.  A PC with the Racial Memory advantage may suddenly have a vivid recollection of *shantaks* – terrifying dragon-like creatures who would appear during the fiercest winter storms, tear down shelters, devour men and babes, and fly off with the women of the tribe.
- There is an unusual number of sharp skinning stones, used to scrape flesh from animal pelts scattered everywhere in the camp.

If a SEARCH roll is successful, the PCs find signs of digging just outside the perimeter of the settlement. If the PCs dig

SURVIVAL IN THE FOREST

The Forest of Howling Sorrows is an old-growth forest. Large trees and standing dead trees are everywhere. While the high canopy gives the forest a sense of dimness, occasional shafts of cold light cut through to the forest floor. The ground is littered with coarse, woody debris and occasional stones, making it not too difficult to craft primitive wood or stone weapons, if needed.

Because of the presence of the Walker in the Wind and his minion, the Gnoph-keh, the forest is chillier than it would normally be in autumn. Typically, it is around 45° (7° C), but the temperature drops below freezing as the PCs get closer to the Gnoph-keh and the Altar of White Stones.

The PCs should make a SURVIVAL (WOODLANDS) roll for each full day they spend in the woods. On a failure, they suffer 2d-4 damage from twisted ankles, cold nights, and other wilderness maladies. Additionally, each day, the PCs can forage as they travel with a successful SURVIVAL or NATURALIST roll. Additionally, a character with Bow skill can make a roll to bag a rabbit.

Sleeping in the forest is difficult, with harsh owl screeches, strange movements, wolf howls, creaking boughs, and the faraway screams of the Gnoph-keh. This experience costs 1 FP.

in that area, they soon uncover a hole with a dozen, rotted lion tails buried there. PCs recognize these as the tails that the Lion Tail Tribe wore in their hair as tokens of victory in hunting or war.

If a SCROUNGING roll is successful, the PCs can find a handful of useful tools scattered around the camp, including stone knives, a stone axe, and several spear and arrowheads.

GM's Note: This settlement was once the home of survivors from the defeated Lion Tail Tribe. However, once they began worshipping Ithaqua, they ceremonially buried their lion tails and left this place to spend most of their time in Borea.

#2 - Neelias' Grotto

The rough ground in this area is marked by a sheer granite cliff that cuts through the forest. Only a five or six yards high, the cliff is easily climbed (a CLIMBING+1 roll can scale it).

About halfway up the cliff side is a grotto. It is impossible to see inside the grotto from the ground, though it looks big enough to shelter a few people.

If the PCs make their way up to the grotto with a CLIMBING roll, they find that the cramped cave has become someone's home. Remains of a small fire are inside; a SURVIVAL roll reveals that the fire was used within the last day or two. Deer hide bedding is neatly laid out in the back of the cave and a nearby carved wooden bowl holds fresh water. Three fire-hardened arrowheads can also be found in the cave, along with a pointed stone knapping tool designed to chip them into sharpness.

Paintings of animals decorate the rear cave wall. One of the paintings depicts a large flying creature (see [Handout A](#)). This is a painting of a monstrous shantak, who was killed by the Lion Tails and whose huge skull is found in their settlement. Compared to the other animals depicted on the wall, this creature is *huge*. (The GM may allow an appropriate ARTIST roll to identify that this is *not* a scale error... or can let the players debate amongst themselves exactly how big this creature was in life!)



The grotto is the home of NEELIA, a capable Lion Tail huntress. She survived the war with the Clan of Three Claws and fled into the forest with the rest of her kin. However, when they began feverishly worshipping the Walker in the Wind, she left the tribe to survive on her own.

As the PCs search Neelia's grotto, she returns from hunting. Recognizing the PCs as members of the Clan of Three Claws, she thinks them to be a war party keen on murdering her. She stealthily approaches, aims with her bow, and then angrily looses an arrow or two at the nearest PC from about a dozen yards away (-5 to hit). She then bolts into the woods to avoid capture.

A PERCEPTION (VISION)-5 roll followed by a CURRENT AFFAIRS (LOCAL) roll recognizes Neelia as a member of the Lion Tails and a skilled huntress. She is known for her feat of killing a sabertooth by shooting it in the eye from fifty yards away.

If the PCs give chase, the GM can just hand wave the outcome, or use the chase rules from *GURPS Action 2: Exploits*. If using the chase rules:

- The chase starts at Short range (for PCs on the ground near the cliff), or Medium range for the PCs up in the grotto.

NEELIA

ST	11	HP: 11
DX	12	Will: 12
IQ	11	Per: 13
HT	12	FP: 12

Basic Speed: 6.0 SM: 0
Move: 6 Punch: 1d-2 cr
Dodge: 10



Traits: Appearance (Attractive); Combat Reflexes; Fit; Loner; Night Vision 2; Reputation +1 (skilled Lion Tail huntress, 9-); Sense of Duty (to her sisters); Not superstitious.

Skills: Area Knowledge (local)-13; Armoury-11; Bow-14; Cooking-11; Fast-Draw (Arrow and Knife)-13; Knife-12; Naturalist-10; Sewing-12; Scrounging-13; Spear-12; Stealth-13; Survival-13; Tracking-14; Traps-12.

Gear: Small stone knife (1d-2 (0.5) imp), reach C, Parry 9); Short bow (1d-1 imp (0.5), Acc 1, RoF 1, Shots 1(2)).

- Roll a Quick Contest of DX+2 or RUNNING+2 each round. Move 6 characters get +1 to the roll.
- If one party wins by 5 or more, they may close the distance (which allows for a grapple or tackle) or lengthen the distance.
- If the PCs manage to grapple or tackle Neelia – and she looks outnumbered – she screams and immediately surrenders, hoping for an opportunity to escape later. She will also surrender if badly wounded (3 HP or less).
- Once Neelia is at Long range, she will try to hide, using her STEALTH skill. If she wins the contest, she escapes and vanishes into the brush.
- Once at Short range, the PCs can attempt a PERCEPTION (VISION)-2 roll to identify her again.

If Neelia escapes, she returns a few hours later (ideally at dusk) to try another shot from the distance, or set a trap for her prey. She enjoys the hunt!

Once subdued or captured, Neelia surrenders and demands to know why the Clan of Three Claws ventured into the forest. *“Was murdering most of our tribe not enough? Do you seek to destroy every last one of who survives?”*

However, if treated reasonably, Neelia explains more of her situation. She tells the PCs that after her tribe was defeated in battle last winter, she and a couple dozen others fled into the forest.

“The Lion Tail tribe had little food that winter, and we were afraid to emerge from the forest to fish along the river, for fear that your tribe would kill us. So we stayed in the trees and survived with what little we could find.”

“One day, Creel the Stalker, the eldest of our survivors, took us to a round pile of unusual white stones he found in the forest. He told us that his dreams demanded we worship the Walker in the Wind that lived in this forest. If we did, we would be saved, and the Walker would give us our vengeance. Every night we went to the white stones, and some nights we would hear the distant, indescribable voice of the Walker in the Wind. The winter grew harsher, but still we lived.

“One night, as we returned from the stones, we heard a terrible noise from behind us. A razor-toothed, mammoth-with-wings fell upon our tribe, accompanied by wolves-with-three-eyes! The horrible things killed many of our tribe before we slew them with our spears and arrows.

“Creel the Stalker said our prayers had been heard, and that this was the sign that we had atoned for our defeat at the hands of your tribe, and that the Walker in the Wind had accepted us. The winged creature had culled our tribe of those weak and unworthy. Creel insisted that we furiously strip the things of their hides and return to the ring of stones, where he said we would receive our reward. But my gut felt that this was not right. We were like a herd of savory young deer to the Walker in the Wind, and I feared any ‘reward’ he would give us.

“Creel called me a great betrayer and tried to crush my skull, so I fled deep into the woods. As I ran through the night, more hungry black wolves chased after me, but I escaped with my life.

“I do not know what became of my tribe after that. A week or two later, I snuck back to the camp to try to convince my sisters to come with me. But the camp was abandoned, and there was no sign of my former tribe. I stand before you as the last of the Lion Tails.”

If asked about Chief Kusim-Aha whereabouts, she does not know much. If given any description of his ambush, she suspects that Creel the Stalker led a war party to capture the chief. She saw signs that her tribe had stripped the skins from the black wolves and the mammoth-with-wings (the shantak) and were wearing them in favor of the old lion hides. She also explains that her tribe buried their once-sacred lion tail tokens once they started worshipping the Walker in the Wind.

On a Good reaction or better, Neelia warns that a dangerous “howling white bear” has appeared in the woods, and to be cautious. She says that the air freezes when the howling bear is nearby, and that he often lurks near the circle of white stones.

Neelia can also be convinced to give the PCs directions to the areas in the forest she knows well, such as the Lion Tail settlement, the Altar of White Stones, and the area where she glimpsed the howling bear (the Lair of the Gnoph-keh).

On a Very Good or better reaction roll, Neelia may offer to accompany the PCs, hoping that their search for Kusim-Aha will also yield the discovery of her lost sisters. Otherwise, assuming the PCs release Neelia, she will vanish back into the forest.

#3 - The Altar of White Stones

In an icy clearing, the PCs see an altar made from piled white stones. The altar is huge, at least seventy feet in diameter, and stacked as tall as a man. A circle of soft, wispy snow surrounds the altar, marked by a perimeter of hard ice. Human footprints have sullied the perfect snow, trampling it down in most of its area.

Anyone making a PERCEPTION (VISION) roll spots a three-clawed necklace half-buried in the snow near the altar. While it is impossible to be certain who it belonged to, it is clearly one of the necklaces that marked the bravest members of the Clan of Three Claws, and likely belonging to Chief Kusim-Aha himself. A TRACKING-2 roll reveals that about a dozen different men were moving rapidly in the area, perhaps dancing.

The altar stones themselves are unusual, and look to be more like heavy frosted glass than rock. Each one is pitted with thousands of tiny cracks and imperfections. Anyone touching the stones of the altar receives a painful electric shock and takes 1 point of damage. To the primitive ice age characters in this adventure, this shock will also cause a FRIGHT CHECK! Once a stone is removed from the altar, however, the stone ceases to have any unusual electrical properties.

Disassembling the altar would take days of work from many men. Furthermore, if the PCs remove too many stones from the Altar, they will attract the attention of the Gnoph-keh, which will crash through the bushes and attack the PCs for desecrating the Walker in the Wind’s sacred site.

A PC suspecting that the altar is a place of power may make an OCCULTISM roll to recall that such places are said to be an ancient door between the real world and the spirit world. In the stories, a special totem is usually required to cross between worlds.

If a PC touches the altar while wearing the hide of a Borean creature (i.e., a Borean Wolf Pelt or the hide of the Gnoph-keh), he is instantly hurled to the distant dimension of Borea – a cruel land carved from endless sheets of ice. See Borea (p.13) for details.

The Dead Body

If the PCs search the area, and make a successful SEARCH roll, they will find blood sprayed and frozen on a nearby tree.

Searching in the area finds a chunk of severed, human torso, a razor-sharp tooth embedded in a piece of its rib cage. This was a victim of the Gnoph-keh, who devoured one of the weaker Lion Tail survivors at the height of their last ritual.

#4 - Lair of the Gnoph-keh

A six-limbed, coarse-haired, carnivorous Gnoph-keh lives in this area of the forest. The monstrosity is the size of a polar bear, emanates an unnatural cold from its body, and feeds on the weakest members of the Lion Tribe as well as the any Voormi-Men that wanders into the woods.

As the PCs approach the Gnoph-keh's territory, the temperature drops sharply and snow flurries come down.

The creature is not stealthy, and ambles loudly around the woods, walking in weird patterns that only its primeval race understands. If the PCs are purposely trying to track the Gnoph-keh, the snow and the creature's six legs make it is fairly easy to find – a TRACKING+2 roll picks up a trail in its territory.

The Gnoph-keh is intelligent, though alien. Its motivation is to prepare the forest for the arrival of the Walker in the Wind, by physically dropping the temperature in the forest, and kindling the fervor of the Lion Tail worshippers, who worship it as a dangerous deity. Only Creel the Stalker is unafraid of the creature (and delusionally believes he is kin to him).

The Gnoph-keh is extremely aggressive, but also has difficulty telling humans apart. If the PCs enter into its territory, it first assumes that they are members of the Lion Tail Tribe, who often try to lure the creature towards the altar to participate in their frenzied dancing before they enter the portal (a festivity that usually ends with him devouring one of the Lion Tails). The Gnoph-keh will become confused and suspicious if the PCs seem to be surprised to see it, do not subjugate themselves in its worship, or otherwise act differently than the Lion Tails. When the Gnoph-keh realizes the PCs are not Lion Tails it will wildly try to kill them.

Along with its intelligence, the Gnoph-keh has a keen sense of self-preservation. If badly wounded, it will create a blizzard to cover its escape into the woods. Then, it will try to use its ability to create freezing temperatures to try to kill the PCs in their sleep.



THE GNOPH-KEH

ST	21	HP: 21
DX	12	Will: 12
IQ	9	Per: 10
HT	13	FP: 13

Basic Speed: 6.25	SM: +1 (900 lbs.)
Move: 7	Claw: 2d-1, cut, reach C, 1
Dodge: 9	Horn: 2d+2 imp, reach C (-2 to hit)

Traits: Acute Taste/Smell +3; Appearance (Monstrous); Bad Smell; Bad Temper; Claws; DR 2; Extra Arms; Extra Attack; Night Vision 7; No Fine Manipulators; Sadism; Striker (Clumsy Horn, -2 to hit); Sharp Teeth; Temperature Tolerance 10 (Cold).

Skills: Area Knowledge (local)-10; Brawling-13; Intimidation-13; Swimming-14; Tracking-10.

The Cold of Borea: The area around a Gnoph-keh is always noticeably colder than the ambient temperature. For each 1 FP spent, the Gnoph-keh can further reduce the temperature by 20° for an hour. If the temperature is below 35° F, a HT roll is required every 30 minutes (-1 for each 20° below 35°); a failure costs 1 FP.

For an additional 1 FP, the Gnoph-keh can create a 100-yard radius blizzard. This obscures hearing (-2 penalty) and vision (-5 penalty) and also forces any HT rolls for freezing to be made every 15 minutes.

#5 - The Cairns of Borea

A round glade lies in this part of the woods. Unusually, it is covered with several feet of snow – the same kind of perfect, wispy snow that surrounds the Altar of White Stones. Three mounds are visible in the snow.

Investigating the mounds finds the snow and ice there *gauzy* – it can be peeled away like fine silken bandages. Within a minute of peeling the ice away, the PCs realize that there is a near-naked male body buried within each mound.

The skinny bodies are blue-faced and frozen, their faces burned from frostbite. A CURRENT AFFAIRS (LOCAL) roll identifies them as members of the Lion Tail tribe. They bear no signs of injury on their bodies, and they have no valuables or weapons on them.

The survivors are Lion Tail tribe members who entered the portal at the Altar of White Stones, visited the distant dimension of the Walker in the Wind, and then returned to find more servants for him. Unfortunately, their exposure to the Walker in the Wind broke their minds, and they only seek to return to his cold embrace.

However, within minutes of being exhumed, the three frozen bodies miraculously gasp back to life! They tremble, spasm, and emit horrible sounds from their defrosting lungs. This terrible sight triggers a FRIGHT CHECK-3 for witnesses!

The survivors are desperate and insane, but not violent... unless attacked. They pull at their hair and moan and whimper and immediately try to rebury themselves in the snow. They shout strange things like, “Return us!” and “I am worthy of your blessings!” and “I will bring you stronger women, I swear!”

The entombed survivors ignore any questions or statements from the PCs. The only thing they will react to is if they are asked about the whereabouts of Chief Kusim-Aha. Then, one of the men will cackle and shake and joyously exclaim, “Creel is gifting Kusim-Aha to the Walker in the Wind! And then he will lead your clan into Borea, and your men will be his warriors and your women his wives!”

If left to their own devices, the survivors rebury themselves in the snow, and within an hour, die from exposure. If the PCs physically interfere with them or attack them, the survivors fight back (though they make pitiful foes).

#6 - The Three-Eyed Wolf Lair

The weird, warbling howls of the three-eyed Borean wolves are what gives the Forest of Howling Sorrows its name. The huge wolves are more easily able to pass through the veil be-

THE ICE ENTOMBED

ST	10	HP: 10
DX	10	Will: 8
IQ	9	Per: 10
HT	9	FP: 9

Basic Speed: 5.0 SM: 0
Move: 5 Punch: 1d-2 cr
Dodge: 8



Traits: High Pain Threshold; Confused; Obsession (Return to the ice).

Skills: Brawling-12. They also retain some of the skills they knew in life, though they struggle to summon the calm to use them.

Tactics: The entombed men only desire to return to the cold and ice of Borea. They will fight as berserkers, All-Out Attacking every turn in combat.

tween Earth and Borea, and at any given point at least two packs of these creatures roam in the forest, especially at night.

The first time a PC sees a three-eyed wolf, he will be unnerved by its milky third eye – and should make a FRIGHT CHECK-1!

The wolves are less intelligent and behave differently from ordinary wolves. They have not yet developed pack tactics, they fight more easily amongst themselves, and they are highly sensitive to the mood of the nearby Gnoph-keh, who they can communicate with mentally.

GMs can use the wolves as background ambience, random encounters, or as dangerous obstacles that add time pressure to any situation. See p.14 for their statistics.

The Lair

The large-pawed wolves can be tracked to their lair (with a TRACKING roll), a small cave set into a cliff wall on the west side of the forest. The cave was inhabited a thousand years ago by a small cult of the Walker in the Wind. Now, it is filled with old bones of elk, deer, bears, and the primitive Voormi-Men. A successful SEARCH roll can find some useful items, such as arrow and spearheads.

On the cave wall is a cave painting of the Altar of White Stones, as well as a large creature emerging from it (see [Handout B](#)). An ARTIST (PAINTING) roll identifies that the technique of painting is very, very old. An OCCULTISM roll identifies this illustration as a sacred location that spirits use to cross into the real world, and perhaps implying that either a totem or a wolf pelt is needed to perform the ritual.

STALKERS IN THE DARK

Once the PCs have visited a few of the forest locations, night begins to fall, and darkness rapidly overtakes the forest. The temperature drops below freezing, and the PCs must find or build shelter to avoid freezing. Without refuge, a HT roll is required every 30 minutes to avoid taking 1 FP. This will be worse if the PCs are in the vicinity of the Gnoph-keh; if he is aware of the PCs, he will use his powers to drop the temperature further, hoping to kill them in the middle of the night.

Sometime during the night, the PCs hear rustling sounds not too far from their camp. A PERCEPTION (HEARING) roll identifies the sounds of ten or more men walking through the woods, just a few dozen yards from the PCs' camp.

If the PCs investigate, they see ten savages – hunched, muscular Neanderthal-like men with sharp teeth and shaggy hair. They wear dirty hides and carry heavy clubs. If the PCs make a PERCEPTION (VISION) roll, they will shockingly see that the men have misshapen feet with three over-sized toes (which causes a FRIGHT CHECK+1). An OCCULTISM roll identifies these men as VOORMI-MEN, a degenerate race of humanoids that has not been seen in generations, and is said to live deep underground, practice cannibalism, and worship evil spirits.

The Voormi-Men do not seem to talk – they hoot and gesture to each other in a primitive form of communication. If watched from cover, the Voormi-Men stalk through the woods, sniffing the air, and occasionally pointing to tracks on the ground. An OBSERVATION or TACTICS roll gives the sense that the Voormi-Men are hunting a large creature, as their tactics are similar to what men might do if stalking a dangerous predator like a sabertooth tiger.

Eventually, the Voormi-Men scatter into the woods. If followed (which requires a few SHADOWING rolls to go unnoticed), they head towards the Lair of the Gnoph-keh, as that monster is their target. They plan on killing it as a sacrifice to their god, Zhothaquah, who hates the Walker in the Wind.

The Gnoph-keh is far smarter than the Voormi-Men, and will outwit them for quite some time, perhaps picking them off one at a time so that the PCs hear screams in the dark that night. Generous GMs may allow the Voormi-Men to wound the creature – reducing its hit points by 2d.

If the PCs are seen by the Voormi-Men, they attempt to intimidate the PCs with their dog-like howls. Although savage, they bear no instinctive hatred towards the Cro-Magnons (and actually try to welcome Neanderthals as they would their own). They struggle to communicate, but do their best to ges-

VOORMI-MEN

ST	12	HP: 12
DX	11	Will: 9
IQ	8	Per: 10
HT	11	FP: 12

Basic Speed: 5.5 SM: 0
Move: 5 Punch: 1d-1 cr
Dodge: 8

Traits: Acute Taste/Smell +2; Appearance (Ugly); Bad Temper; Dark Vision; Mute; Sense of Duty (the Sleeper God, Zhothaquah); Temperature Tolerance 1 (Cold).

Skills: Axe/Mace-12; Brawling-13; Gesture-13; Naturalist-10; Spear-10; Stealth-11; Survival-11; Throwing-11; Tracking-12; Two-handed Axe/Mace-12.

Gear: Knobbed club (1d+3 cr, Reach 1, Parry 9. If used two-handed, 1d+4 cr, Parry 9U).



ture that they are hunting a bear-like creature to take its pelt, and that the PCs should stay out of their way or be killed.

If the PCs make a GESTURE roll to communicate, they understand a little more:

- **Success:** The Voormi-Men are more primitive than Cro-Magnons and Neanderthals; they do not seem to use tools or fire. This band is not native to this forest, but live deep underground in the hills located many miles north of the forest. They are specifically hunting a six-legged bear creature to strip it of its pelt.
- **Success by 3 or more:** Their frog-god ordered them to come to this forest to hunt the bear-creature, which they hate with a violent fury. Once they strip it of its pelt, they will seek a glorious death in the "land of ice."
- **Success by 5 or more:** The Voormi-Men are cannibals. They ask the PCs to give them their weakest Cro-Magnon friend for tomorrow's dinner.

Even though the Voormi-Men can communicate to the PCs, they are still dangerous and ill-tempered. Any perceived threat is met with brutal violence. Similarly, if the PCs look weak, the cannibalistic Voormi-Men will clumsily seek to lure them close and then club their skulls in.

The Return of Ugly Bearface

As the PCs watch the Voormi-Men, a PERCEPTION (VISION) roll (at -5 for the night darkness) spots a silhouette spying from the branches of a nearby tree. The figure clutches a spear, but looks to make no move towards the PCs or the Voormi-Men. A closer look recognizes that it is Ugly Bearface, the tribesman who angrily stormed off from the settlement of the Clan of Three Claws.

If the PCs fail their PERCEPTION rolls, Ugly Bearface is the one who spots the PCs. He whistles to them from his perch, using one of the tribe's hunting signals that anyone of the Clan of Three Claws will recognize with an IQ roll. Once they see him, he gestures into the forest, signalling to meet with him elsewhere.

GM's Note: In the event the PCs get into a fight with the Voormi-Men, brave Ugly Bearface will rush to his clan folks' defense!

Once the PCs rendezvous with Ugly Bearface, he seems to have forgotten his past grudges, and is eager to share his story.

After angrily storming off from the village, he walked along the Blue River, scheming against his rivals. But then he heard loud wolf howls and what sounded like a nearby skirmish, so he rushed ahead. In the moonlight he saw three boats crossing the Blue River. Worse, he heard the shouts of Tansum-Aha, and knew that the boats bore his brother, Chief Kusim-Aha. Desperate to rescue his chief, Bearface swam across the river and tracked the kidnappers into the forest. From the familiar voices he heard, he knew that he was following survivors from the hated Lion Tail tribe.

"I tracked the Lion Tail survivors as best I could. Ahead of me, I heard chanting and dancing and feared they were going to sacrifice Kusim-Aha to their ugly lion spirits. But when I reached the site where I thought them to be, all I saw was a circle of white stones. The air was still and smelled of burning – though there was no smoke – and there was no sign of the men I was tracking.

"Soon, the air grew colder and colder and through the trees I glimpsed a fierce and unnatural bear-creature stalking me with hungry black eyes. I fled for my life, escaped, but was lost for the entire day. Then tonight, I heard voices again and thought that I had found the Lion Tails. But instead, I found the primitive three-toed men you just saw. They are savages and only speak in the tongues of dogs. I do not know what they hunt, but they are no friends of the Three Claws."

Ugly Bearface is talkative and pliable – unless he is treated extremely poorly. He is willing to guide the PCs to the Altar of White Stones, but is also willing to return to the clan's settlement to deliver a message or get reinforcements.

OPENING THE PORTAL

Eventually, the PCs will discover that the Altar of White Stones is a portal to Borea, a cruel land carved from endless sheets of ice. While the veil between worlds is fading, the portal can only be entered while someone is wearing the skins or pelts of a Borean creature. There are several ways for the PCs to learn this information:

- Neelia's story tells the PCs that Creel forces the Lion Tail Survivors to "furiously strip the creatures of their hides and return to the portal." There are also many sharp skinning stones in the Lion Tail settlement.
- The Voormi-Men communicate that they want to strip the Gnoph-keh of its hide and seek a glorious death in a land of ice.
- Studying the altar and making an OCCULTISM roll recalls that such places are often doors between worlds, and a special totem is needed to activate the portal.
- The cave painting in the Borean wolf lair shows a man communing with the Walker in the Wind while holding a wolfskin.

While Creel and the Lion Tail survivors perform an elaborate dancing ritual before opening the portal, it is unnecessary. One must only wear a substantial pelt of a Borean creature and then climb atop the altar of stones to cross between worlds.

The PCs need to kill the Gnoph-keh and skin it in order to access the portal. The pelts of the three-eyed Borean wolves can also be used.

BOREA

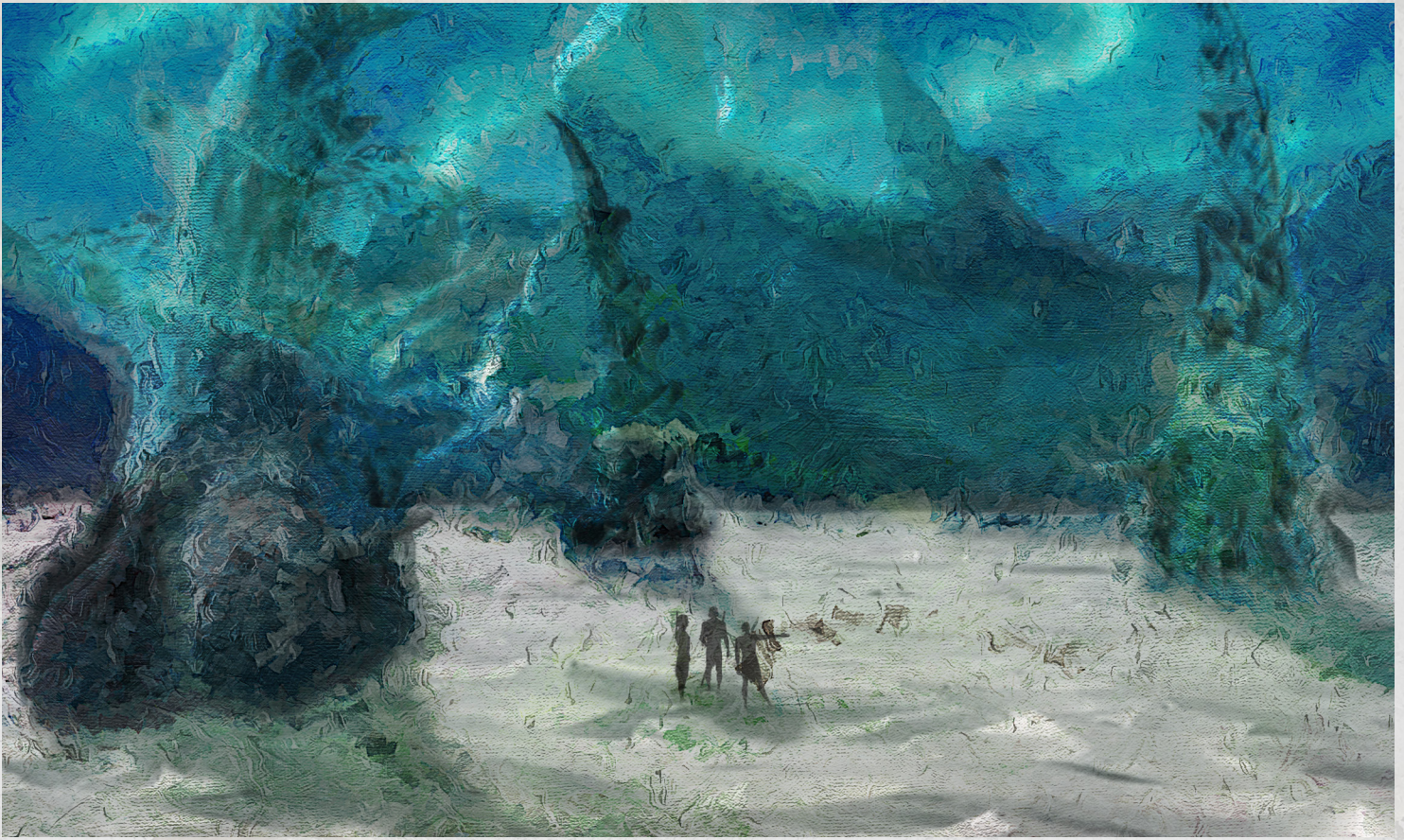
When the PCs enter the portal wearing the skin of a native Borean creature, they feel their blood freeze, their eyes turn to stone, and their limbs stiffen like tree branches. Suddenly, they find themselves near a similar altar of stones in the frozen, icy landscape of Borea. However, instead of being surrounded by a dense forest, they find themselves in a towering canyon, staring up at twisted stone formations and impossibly high peaks. The sky is a shimmering haze of green and pink colors. Faraway, the sharp cracking of heavy ice intertwines with the echoes of a dissonant song.

The dimensional trip into Borea requires an immediate FRIGHT CHECK-6! The PCs know that their ancestors have not walked in this place. They feel disconnected from the familiar. The infinite, bone-chilling sky of Borea overwhelms them. The icy winds seize at their souls, trying to hold them here and claim them for all time.

Borea is unnaturally freezing at all times (-60° with cold gusts of winds)! PCs should make a HT-6 roll every 10 minutes. A failure costs 1 FP. Additionally, the shimmering fog and strange glowing lights in the sky give a -2 visibility penalty.

A Solo Trip?

In the unusual event that one of the PCs makes the trip to Borea alone (for example, using the extra wolf pelt that



is found in the abandoned Lion Tail settlement), they find themselves surrounded by a dense, freezing fog. In the far off distance, they hear slow chanting. Suddenly, emerging from the fog are several Borean three-eyed wolves who are intent on ripping intruders apart.

If the PC dashes back to the altar stones, he can avoid the wolves' attack and return to the real world. Returning through the portal requires another FRIGHT CHECK-3.

Creel's Cold Revenge

Through the swirling fog, a hundred yards away, the PCs see a few glimpses of torchlight. A PERCEPTION (VISION)-3 roll makes out about a dozen men, fervently dancing and singing on the windswept plain. The black wolves dance among men and sometimes their legs bend grotesquely as they stand upright and lurch with the chanting.

As the PCs approach, they see the Lion Tail survivors, dressed in their wolf pelts, spasm-dancing furiously, waving their bone spears, and chanting and screaming "ITHAQUA!" into the winds. There are only men here, no sign of any women, who were handed over months ago to Ithaqua's dark purposes. All of the men look pale and sickly, little like the athletic warriors they were during the war with the Clan of Three Claws.

In the center of the circle is Chief Kusim-Aha, prone and horrifically impaled to the ground with two bone spears. He is


surrounded by a pool of frozen blood, and he writhes and moans, barely conscious.


A CURRENT AFFAIRS (LOCAL) identifies Creel the Stalker, the leader of the Lion Tails. If Fels is one of the PCs, or if Neelia is with the PCs, or described him to them, he will be easily spotted. Not only does Creel wear the blue-black wolf pelts, but he also wears a tunic of a strange, scaly material that shimmers blue in the cold light of this strange place.

Although there is slim cover in this world, the Lion Tails are distracted. If the PCs sneak up, make a quick contest of STEALTH versus the dancing Lion Tails' PERCEPTION 8.

The moment the PCs are spotted, Creel silences his men to a low whisper ("Ithaqua... Ithaqua...") and demands to know who the PCs are. Soon enough, through action or recognition, he will figure out that they are his most hated rivals, the Clan of Three Claws. The mad Creel is energetic and eager to mock the doom of his foes:

"You thought us all dead! Little did you know that the Walker in the Wind found us in the forest, taught us his mysteries, and chose us to be his honored warriors. We are destined to walk with Ithaqua into our world, bearing his heir, and trampling the Clan of Three Claws under our feet."

 If Fels is one of the PCs, Creel offers him the chance to return to his tribe. *"Fels! I never believed what they said about you slaying our chief Grumgorr! I knew that was just a lie, and that Grumgorr was too weak to survive the battle on his own. You were too clever to join our foes, and I believe you now led them here, to me, for our combined glory. Join the Walker in the Wind, my brother, and all will be well again."*

 If Jowda-Aha is one of the PCs, Creel is *delighted* to see him. With Kusim-Aha dying and about to be sacrificed to Ithaqua, and Tansum-Aha dead (at least to Creel's knowledge), he commands his men to capture Jowda alive, so that he too can be speared the ground and sacrificed to the Walker in the Wind. *"I am thrilled to know that you will die beside your uncle, frozen in your own blood, and that the Clan of Three Claws dies with your last gasps."*

The PCs can engage the Lion Tails in a final battle – destroying Creel and the Lion Tails forever. Although the Lion Tails outnumber the PCs considerably, not all of them will fight at once. If a melee breaks out, Creel orders some of his followers to continue the chanting.

The PCs might also devise some clever plan to distract the Lion Tails so that they can free Kusim-Aha and drag him back to the portal. It's also possible for the PCs to scare off several worshippers (the more sane ones) through uses of INTIMIDATION, or other influence skills. Reminders that their tribe was already decimated by the Clan of Three Claws are particularly effective.

While the GM can tune the final battle to the group's abilities, it is suggested to pit no more than two opponents per PC, plus Creel himself.

The Walker in the Wind

At some dramatic moment before Kusim-Aha is freed, a tremendous sound thunders through the wilderness of Borea. A mixture of a thousand howls, a thousand shrieking owls, and an earth-shattering avalanche reverberates in everyone's skulls. This horrifying sound does 1d-2 (∞) damage to everyone nearby and requires a FRIGHT CHECK-1. Though he is not yet visible through the fog... Ithaqua has come.

The GM should give the PCs a few precious moments to try to make their frantic escape before the Walker in the Wind emerges from the fog, melts their minds, and hurls their bodies across the landscape with tremendous windstorms. Just seeing an elder god like Ithaqua in person is sanity-shredding and requires a FRIGHT CHECK-15! Once he gets closer, he uses his great powers to pull his worshippers from danger, and then pummels his foes with hurricane-force winds. Once this

CREEL THE STALKER

ST	14	HP: 14
DX	12	Will: 11
IQ	11	Per: 11
HT	12	FP: 12

Basic Speed: 6.0 SM: 0
Move: 5 Punch: 1d cr
Dodge: 9



Traits: Combat Reflexes; Bloodlust; Delusions (Believes that he is a native of Borea, kin to the Gnoph-keh, and invincible to freezing weather); Fearlessness +3; High Pain Threshold; Reputation +1 (Cruel but effective).

Skills: Area Knowledge (local)-13; Brawling-14; Cooking-11; Intimidation-12; Knife-14; Leadership-12; Naturalist-9; Sewing-12; Spear-12; Stealth-12; Survival-12; Thrown Weapon (Spear)-13.

Gear: Shantak hide (DR 2), small stone knife (1d-1 (0.5) imp), Reach C, Parry 9); shantak bone spear (1d+3 imp (0.5), Parry 10, Reach 1, 2, breaks on a hit on a roll of '1')

LION TAIL CULTISTS

ST	11	HP: 11
DX	10	Will: 9
IQ	9	Per: 9
HT	8	FP: 8

Basic Speed: 4.5 SM: 0
Move: 4 Punch: 1d-2 cr
Dodge: 7



Traits: Appearance (Unattractive); Bloodlust; Delusion (Chosen Ones of Ithaqua); High Pain Threshold.

Skills: Knife-11; Spear-12; Stealth-11; Survival-10.

Gear: Small stone knife (1d-2 (0.5) imp), Reach C, Parry 8); shantak bone spear (1d+2 imp (0.5), Parry 8, Reach 1, 2, breaks on a hit on a roll of '1')

THREE-EYED WOLVES

ST	12	HP: 12
DX	12	Will: 11
IQ	4	Per: 14
HT	14	FP: 14

Basic Speed: 6.5 SM: 0 (180 lbs)
Move: 7 Bite: 1d-1 cut
Dodge: 9



Traits: Bad Smell; Discriminatory Smell; DR 1; Night Vision 3; Quadruped; Sharp Teeth; Temperature Tolerance 3; Wild Animal.

Skills: Brawling-14; Tracking-13.

starts happening, it is unlikely any of the PCs will survive the rest of this adventure.

Returning through the Portal

Once the PCs reach the altar again, they are transported away from Borea and back into reality. They do not need Borean hides to return to Earth, but this helps with the reality bending aspect of interdimensional travel.

Returning through the portal requires another FRIGHT CHECK-3, or -6 if not wearing a Borean hide. Furthermore, any quirks or delusions gained from a return from Borea will compel characters to love ice and snow, or deeply desire to return to Borea, even at their own mortal peril.

Despite his injuries, Chief Kusim-Aha is remarkably tough and hardy. To see if he survives his injuries, make a HT roll versus Kusim-Aha's HT 12. The GM should also make two FRIGHT CHECKS for him versus his Will 12 (one at -6 for his original arrival, the second on his return) to see if he returns with his mind intact. The PCs will have a difficult decision to make if Kusim-Aha is rescued but only craves a return to Borea to worship at the feet of Ithaqua!

If the PCs wish to destroy the portal, an OCCULTISM or THEOLOGY roll reveals that it can be destroyed by disassembling it by hand, one stone at a time, and scattering the stones throughout the forest. Given the size of the altar, this work is time-consuming, and takes days of time with the tribe. But it will prevent Ithaqua and other creatures of Borea from emerging, for now.

CONCLUSION

Whether the PCs rescue Kusim-Aha, or flee from Borea with their minds barely intact, the adventure is concluded.

For completing the adventure, surviving PCs should receive 2 character points. They should receive an additional 1-2 character points for good roleplaying or excellent performance (i.e., defeating Creel or rescuing Kusim-Aha).

Rescuing Kusim-Aha earns the PCs a Patron or great Reputation, likely +2 or more. If befriended, Neelia and Ugly Bear-face may become Contacts or Allies. Finally, anyone who survived the trip to Borea may gain one level of Temperature Tolerance (Cold), as their bodies and minds are permanently changed by that cold and distant world.

KUSIM-AHA

ST	13	HP: -15 /13
DX	12	Will: 12
IQ	12	Per: 12
HT	11	FP: 11

Basic Speed: 5.75	SM: 0
Move: 3	Punch: 1d-1 cr
Dodge: 7	



Traits: Charisma 2; Combat Reflexes; Fearlessness +1; High Pain Threshold; Overconfidence; Reputation +2 (Great Chief); Sense of Duty (Clan of Three Claws); Sense of Duty (Brother); Status 3.

Skills: Area Knowledge (local)-13; Bow-14; Brawling-13; Current Affairs (Local)-13; Intimidation-12; Knife-14; Leadership-15; Naturalist-11; Public Speaking-13; Spear-13; Survival-13; Thrown Weapon (Spear)-14.

After being dragged into the alien world of Borea, Kusim-Aha is not himself, and only rambles incoherently about the black wolves, a devouring wind, and the leering face of Creel. Whenever he recovers from his madness depends on his Fright Checks returning from Borea and the esoteric medicines of his shaman, Kuva-Keeya.

SPECIAL THANKS

Special thanks to Barry Swedlow for editing and additional writing. Special thanks hafizaprilio on Fiverr.com for his drawing of the fierce Gnoph-keh. Thanks also to thisperson-doesnotexist.com for helping create illustrations of the various human characters.

If you enjoyed this adventure, or ran it for a group, all the author asks is that you give a shout out and let me know how it went. Send a note to @SageThalcos on Twitter, send an omen, or post on www.1shotadventures.com

Disclaimer and Change Log

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v1.0 - Original release.

v1.1 - Stat adjustment to NPCs.

v1.2 - Fixes to pregenerated PCs.

v1.3 - Edits / improvements.

v1.4 - Backup pregen - Neelia

HANDOUTS



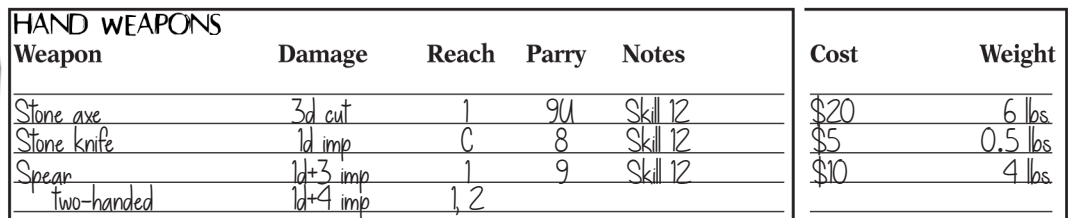
Handout A - Painting in the grotto of the dragon-like shantak



Handout B - Painting in the Borean wolf cave

HANDOUTS - PLAYER SAFE MAP





SPEED/RANGE TABLE For complete table, see p. 550.			HIT LOCATIONS		POSSESSIONS		COST	
Speed/ Range Modifier	Linear Measurement (range/speed)		Modifier	Location	Item	Location	Cost	Weight
Close	0-5 yds	0*	0	Torso	Leather foot wrappings	Feet	\$1	- lbs.
			-2	Arm/Leg	Hide bag		\$1	- lbs.
			-3	Groin	Firebow	Bag	\$5	- lbs.
			-4	Hand	Bone awl	Bag	\$5	- lbs.
			-5	Face				
			-7	Skull				
Short	6-20 yds	-3	<i>Imp or Pi attacks can target vitals at -3 (x3 dmg) or eyes at -9 (x4 dmg)</i>					
Medium	21-100 yds	-7						
Long	101-500 yds	-11						
Extreme	501+ yds	-15						
* in melee combat, ranged attacks suffer a penalty equal to Bulk of the weapon			SKINS \$3					

CHARACTER NOTES	
Note DR is doubled against stone weapons.	Ten years ago, you returned ashore the Great River. The rest of your tribe shunned it and said they would burn it in the next Flower Festival. But the boat awakened your curiosity. One morning you pushed it into the river. For four days you traveled the Great River; moving faster than the herds of elk and deer that you saw on the banks. On the fifth day, you spied a young man about to get pounced on by a lion! You quickly swam to shore and strangled the creature to save him. He said his name was Kusim-Aha, and he welcomed you to join his clan.
Totals:	\$42 11 Lbs.

Appearance Having bested the young men at hunting, Ynglis looks to establishing her own tribe

ST	11	[10]	HP	11	CURRENT	[0]	MOVE 6
DX	13	[60]	Will	10		[0]	
IQ	10	[0]	Per	11		[5]	DR 1 (cutting only)
HT	12	[20]	FP	12	CURRENT	[0]	



ACTIVE DEFENSES

Dodge	Parry	Block
9	10 (Spear)	—

Appearance +1

Status +0

Reputation +2 from Sense of Duty (in danger)
+2 from Stalker (other hunters)

SKILLS

[illegible][illegible]

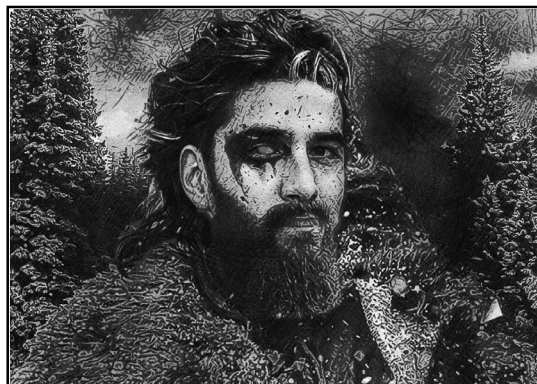
DISADVANTAGES & QUIRKS

Gluttony	[-5]
Impulsiveness	[-10]
Phobia (Snakes)	[-5]
Sense of Duty (Companions)	[-5]
Truthfulness	[-5]
	[]
Gro-Magnon	[]
Short Lifespan -1	[-10]
	[]
Believes her skill comes from the stars	[-1]
Hates fishing, finds it boring and puts her in an ill-temper	[-1]
Awful at cooking - burns everything	[-1]
Dresses in heavy furs to make herself look bigger	[-1]
Believes it's her destiny to start a new tribe	[-1]

A black and white photograph of a dark, stylized animal figure, possibly a dog or wolf, standing on a light-colored, textured surface. The figure is dark and appears to be made of a different material or is a shadow on the surface. It has a long, bushy tail and is standing on all fours. The background is a light, mottled grey.

Appearance The eldest son of the warchief, eager to bring glory to the clan

ST	11	[10]	HP	11	CURRENT	[0]	MOVE 5
DX	12	[40]	Will	12		[0]	
IQ	12	[40]	Per	12		[0]	DR 0
HT	11	[10]	FP	11	CURRENT	[0]	



BASIC LIFT (ST × ST)/5 24 1 **DAMAGE** Thr 1d-1 Sw 1d+1
BASIC SPEED 5.75 [0] **BASIC MOVE** 5 [0]

ENCUMBRANCE	
None (0) = BL	24
Light (1) = 2 × BL	48
Medium (2) = 3 × BL	72
Heavy (3) = 6 × BL	144
X-Heavy (4) = 10 × BL	240

ACTIVE DEFENSES

Dodge	Parry	Block
9	10 (Spear)	10 (Shield)

REACTION MODIFIERS

Appearance +1
Status +2
Reputation -1 from Stubbornness
 -2 from Delusion
 +2 from Overconfidence (naive), -2 (veterans)

ADVANTAGES & PERKS

[illegible]

DISADVANTAGES & QUIRKS

Delusion (Destined for greatness among all tribes)	-10
One Eye	-15
Overconfidence	-5
Stubbornness	-5
Cro-Magnon	
Short Lifespan -1	-10
Fiercely loyal to his family	-1
Superstitious - believes the spirits are always watching him	-1
Mildly claustrophobic	-1
Eats raw animal hearts to build his strength	-1
Complains that he misses the wars with the Lion Tail Tribe	-1

SKILLS

[illegible]

You are the eldest son of Tansum-Aha, the warchief of the Clan of the Three Claws. When your aunt was abducted and killed by the Lion Tail Tribe, you begged your father and his brother - the great chief Kusim-Aha - to go to war with them. They listened, and you perfectly planned and led many glorious skirmishes. The day of the final battle you sought to slay Greel, one of the Lion Tail's greatest hunters, when he loosed an arrow at you. The arrow missed you but shattered off a nearby boulder, spraying sharp debris into your eye. Still, the war was won and your father presented you with the honorary Three-Claw Necklace afterwards.

ICE AGE



Name BEAR-SPOTTER Player _____ Point Total 124

Ht 5'4" Wt 120 Size Modifier 0 Age 24 Unspent Pts -

Appearance "The Eyes of the Clan," exuberant Bear-Spotter is said to be closest to the spirit world

CURRENT					
ST	10	[0]	HP	10	[0]
DX	11	[20]	Will	11	[0]
IQ	11	[20]	Per	11	[0]
HT	11	[10]	FP	11	[0]

MOVE
5

DR
0



BASIC LIFT (ST × ST)/5 20 lbs DAMAGE Thr 1d-2 Sw 1d
 BASIC SPEED 5.5 [0] BASIC MOVE 5 [0]

ENCUMBRANCE	
None (0) = BL	<u>20</u>
Light (1) = 2 × BL	<u>40</u>
Medium (2) = 3 × BL	<u>60</u>
Heavy (3) = 6 × BL	<u>120</u>
X-Heavy (4) = 10 × BL	<u>200</u>

ACTIVE DEFENSES		
Dodge 8	Parry 11 (Staff)	Block -

REACTION MODIFIERS

Appearance +0

Status -1 (Social Stigma)

Reputation +2 from Spirit-Talker (spirit-related)
 +1 from Merchant (when bartering)

ADVANTAGES & PERKS	
Danger Sense	[15]
Fearlessness +3 (+3 to Fright Checks)	[6]
Intuition (GM helps you pick correct choices)	[15]
Luck (once per hour, roll twice more and take the best)	[15]
Spirit-Talker 2	[10]
	[]
	[]
	[]
	[]
	[]
	[]
	[]

DISADVANTAGES & QUIRKS	
Confused	[-10]
Discipline of Faith (Ritualism)	[-5]
Nightmares (unless you roll 12 or less, lose 1 FP after a night's sleep)	[-5]
Pacifism (Reluctant Killer)	[-5]
Social Stigma (Touched by Spirits)	[-5]
	[]
	[]
Cro-Magnon	[]
Short Lifespan -1	[-10]
	[]
	[]
Loves bartering for trinkets	[-1]
Fascinated by birds	[-1]
Likes sleeping close to fire, listening to its voice	[-1]
Has a distinctive laugh, everyone knows it	[-1]
Talks aloud to the spirits around her	[-1]

SKILLS	
Name	Level
Area Knowledge (Local)	11 [1]
Boating	10 [1]
Cooking	10 [1]
Dancing	10 [1]
Detect Lies	10 [2]
Diplomacy	10 [2]
Esoteric Medicine (can heal 1d-4 damage)	11 [4]
Fortune-Telling (includes +2 from Spirit-Talker)	12 [1]
Herb Lore	10 [4]
Hiking	10 [1]
Knife	11 [1]
Meditation (includes +2 from Spirit-Talker)	12 [1]
Merchant	11 [2]
Naturalist	11 [4]
Observation	12 [4]
Occultism (includes +2 from Spirit-Talker)	14 [4]
Scrounging	13 [2]
Sewing	11 [1]
Spear	10 [-]
Staff	12 [4]
Stealth	11 [2]
Survival (Woodlands)	11 [2]
Swimming	11 [1]
	[]
	[]
	[]

When you were a girl, you saw the moon turn blue and you felt your spirit pulled into a faraway place - a land filled with dark, icy forests and mounds of thick and perfect snow. When the spirits returned you, you felt blessed by the ghosts of that faraway land. Your blessing brought your tribe great luck on hunts, helping the hunters find great herds of fat elk. When the wars with the Lion Tails started, the spirits told the chief to look for help from an enemy and it was his trust in a Lion Tail traitor that brought the war to its end. Since the war's end, however, nightmares have crept into your dreams, and you fear the next time the spirits pull you into their land.

ICE AGE



Name FELS, THE STABBING SQUIRREL Player _____ Point Total 117
Ht 5'5" Wt 135 Size Modifier 0 Age 22 Unspent Pts -
Appearance Devious, ambitious, and unpredictable - known for betraying his last tribe, the Lion Tails

		CURRENT	
ST	10 [0]	HP	10 [0]
DX	12 [40]	Will	12 [0]
IQ	12 [40]	Per	12 [0]
HT	10 [10]	FP	10 [0]

MOVE	5
DR	0



BASIC LIFT (ST × ST)/5 20 lbs DAMAGE Thr 1d-2 Sw 1d
BASIC SPEED 5.5 [0] BASIC MOVE 5 [0]

ENCUMBRANCE	
None (0) = BL	<u>20</u>
Light (1) = 2 × BL	<u>40</u>
Medium (2) = 3 × BL	<u>60</u>
Heavy (3) = 6 × BL	<u>120</u>
X-Heavy (4) = 10 × BL	<u>200</u>

ACTIVE DEFENSES		
Dodge	Parry	Block
9	9 (Knife)	-

REACTION MODIFIERS	
Appearance	+0
Status	+0
Reputation	+1 from Smooth Operator (charismatic folks) -2 from On the Edge, or +2 when bravery matters +1 from Charisma

ADVANTAGES & PERKS	
Absolute Timing	[2]
Charisma +1	[5]
Combat Reflexes (+2 vs. Fright Checks, +6 vs. mental stun)	[15]
Fit (+1 to all HT rolls)	[5]
Smooth Operator 1	[15]
	[]
	[]
	[]
	[]
	[]
	[]
	[]

DISADVANTAGES & QUIRKS	
Enemy (Lion Tail Survivors, 6 or less)	[-20]
Impulsiveness	[-10]
Missing Finger (-1 DX on the left hand)	[-2]
On the Edge (you take grossly unreasonable risks)	[-15]
	[]
	[]
Cro-Magnon	[]
Short Lifespan -1	[-10]
	[]
Thinks in trees (and tells people he was born in one)	[-1]
Does not believe lions can hunt him	[-1]
Flirts - a lot. Believes a wife will make him a permanent clansman	[-1]
Ambitious, somehow believes the chief will name him his successor	[-1]
Likes waking up before everyone else	[-1]

SKILLS	
Name	Level
Acting (includes +1 from Smooth Operator)	13 [2]
Artist (Painting)	10 [1]
Brawling	14 [4]
Carousing (includes +1 from Smooth Operator)	11 [1]
Climbing	13 [4]
Scaling	11 [2]
Current Affairs (Local)	13 [2]
Fast-Draw (Knife) (includes +1 from Combat Reflexes)	13 [1]
Fast-Talk (includes +1 from Smooth Operator)	14 [4]
Fishing	13 [2]
Knife	13 [2]
Knot-Tying	13 [2]
Leadership (includes +2 from Smooth Operator and Charisma)	13 [1]
Observation	11 [1]
Psychology	11 [2]
Scrounging	14 [4]
Search	13 [2]
Sex Appeal (includes +1 from Smooth Operator)	11 [2]
Shadowing	12 [2]
Sling	13 [4]
Spear	11 [1]
Stealth	12 [2]
Survival (Plains)	13 [4]
Swimming	11 [2]
Tactics	12 [4]
Thrown Weapon (Spear)	12 [1]

You knew that the Lion Tail Tribe was doomed. Chief Grumgorn was old and incompetent. His son was a half-wit who believed himself invulnerable to injury. His daughter had rejected you too many times. After the first Battle of the Blue River was lost, you knew your tribe had lost its faith in his leader. You snuck over to the Clan of the Three Claws and made an arrangement with Chief Kusim-Alha. The next week, as Grumgorn and his son charged into battle, your throwing stick found his skull. He fell over dead, and the Lion Tails were routed and forever annihilated. And you were welcomed to the Clan of the Three Claws as a hero and lost son.

Totals:	\$23	3 Lbs.
----------------	------	--------

A black and white photograph of a dark, stylized animal figure, possibly a dog or wolf, standing on a light-colored, textured surface. The figure is dark and appears to be made of a different material or is a shadow on the surface. It has a long, bushy tail and is standing on all fours. The background is a light, mottled grey.

Appearance Strong-willed and fearless scout, dog handler, and vengeance bringer

ST	11	[10]	HP	11	CURRENT	[0]	MOVE 5
DX	11	[20]	Will	12		[10]	
IQ	10	[0]	Per	12		[10]	DR 0
HT	12	[20]	FP	13	CURRENT	[3]	



BASIC LIFT (ST × ST)/5 24 lbs **DAMAGE** Thr 1d-1 Sw 1d+1
BASIC SPEED 6.0 [5] **BASIC MOVE** 6 [0]

ACTIVE DEFENSES

None (0) = BL	24
Light (1) = 2 × BL	48
Medium (2) = 3 × BL	72
Heavy (3) = 6 × BL	144
X-Heavy (4) = 10 × BL	240

Dodge

9

Parry

8

(Knife)

Block

REACTION MODIFIERS

Appearance	+0
------------	----

Status +1

Reputation

ADVANTAGES & PERKS

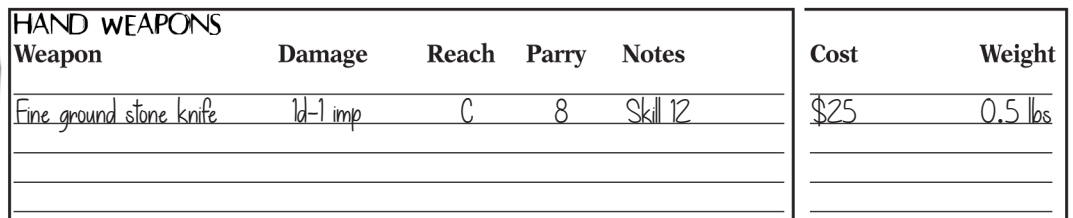
Acute Hearing +2	[4]
Ally (Smirk the wolf-dog, appears on a 15 or less)	[3]
Animal Empathy	[5]
Fit (+1 to all HT rolls)	[5]
Flexibility (+3 to rolls in tight quarters)	[5]
High Pain Threshold (ignore all penalties from pain)	[10]
Status 1 (Niece of the chief)	[5]
Visualization (spend a minute and visualize the future; make an	[10]
IQ roll- If you are right, get +1 to an action / point of success.)	[]
Call of the Wild (ignore up to -5 in penalties with wild animals)	[1]
Secret Technique (can make fine stone knives)	[1]
	[]

DISADVANTAGES & QUIRKS

Bloodlust	[-10]
Sense of Duty (Her Tribe's Dogs)	[-5]
Shyness (Severe)	[-10]
Vow (Obedience to the elders of the tribe)	[-10]
	[]
	[]
Gro-Magnon	[]
Short Lifespan -1	[-10]
	[]
Believes her dog is the spirit of her grandfather	[-1]
Enjoys keeping secrets	[-1]
Cares little for tribe politics	[-1]
Only hunts small game	[-1]
Made up own "language" - uses it with other women sometimes	[-1]

SKILLS

[illegible]



SPEED/RANGE TABLE			HIT LOCATIONS		POSSESSIONS			
For complete table, see p. 550.			Modifier	Location	Item	Location	Cost	Weight
Speed/ Range Modifier	Linear Measurement (range/speed)		0	Torso	Leather foot wrappings	Feet	\$1	- lbs.
			-2	Arm/Leg	Hide bag		\$2	- lbs.
			-3	Groin	Dried deer meat	Bag	\$3	- lbs.
			-4	Hand	Grass-woven string	Bag	\$4	- lbs.
			-5	Face	Bone awl	Bag	\$5	- lbs.
			-7	Skull	Stone hammer	Bag	\$10	1 lb.
Close	0-5 yds	0*	<i>Imp</i> or <i>Pi</i> attacks can target vitals at -3 (x3 dmg) or eyes at -9 (x4 dmg)					
Short	6-20 yds	-3						
Medium	21-100 yds	-7						
Long	101-500 yds	-11						
Extreme	501+ yds	-15	SKINS \$0					

[illegible]

You were the only daughter of Keena-Aha, the sister of Chief Kusim-Aha. You witnessed your mother abducted by the Lion Tail Tribe. You would have been taken too, if it weren't for your long legs easily able to outpace the clumsy Creel of the Lion Tails. Unfortunately, when your uncle returned with the warriors, your mother was dead in a field near the Blue River. You swore an oath to the elders that you would avenge her death. That night, you saw a vision of your grandmother take the form of a dog by your side. All the next two seasons you helped hunt the Lion Tails.

ICE AGE



Name UGLY BEARFACE Player _____ Point Total 82
 Ht 5'6" Wt 155 Size Modifier 0 Age 21 Unspent Pts -
 Appearance A capable hunter, but disliked by most because of his bad moods and foul temper

		CURRENT	
ST	13 [30]	HP	13 [3]
DX	11 [20]	Will	10 [5]
IQ	9 [-20]	Per	10 [5]
HT	11 [10]	FP	11 [0]

MOVE

5

DR

0



BASIC LIFT (ST × ST) / 5 34 lbs DAMAGE Thr 1d Sw 2d-1
 BASIC SPEED 5.5 [0] BASIC MOVE 5 [0]

ENCUMBRANCE

None (0) = BL 34
 Light (1) = 2 × BL 68
 Medium (2) = 3 × BL 102
 Heavy (3) = 6 × BL 204
 X-Heavy (4) = 10 × BL 340

ACTIVE DEFENSES

Dodge

9

Parry

10

(Club)

Block

-

REACTION MODIFIERS

Appearance -2
 Status +0
 Reputation +2 from Survivor (survival situations)

ADVANTAGES & PERKS

Acute Vision +3 [6]
 Combat Reflexes (+2 vs. Fright Checks, +6 vs. mental stun) [15]
 Fit (+1 to all HT rolls) [5]
 Hard to Kill +1 (+1 to all HT rolls to avoid death) [2]
 Night Vision +2 [2]
 Survivor 2 [10]
 _____ []
 _____ []
 _____ []
 _____ []
 _____ []

DISADVANTAGES & QUIRKS

Appearance (Ugly) [-8]
 Bad Temper [-10]
 Impulsiveness [-10]
 Jealousy [-10]
 _____ []
 _____ []
 Cro-Magnon []
 Short Lifespan -1 [-10]
 _____ []
 Picks fights after unlucky hunts [-1]
 Obsessed with actually hunting and killing a bear [-1]
 Stumbles over larger words [-1]
 Thinks he is more athletic than he really is [-1]
 Often wanders alone [-1]

SKILLS

Name	Level
Area Knowledge (Local)	9 [1]
Artist (Painting)	7 [1]
Axe/Mace	12 [4]
Brawling	13 [4]
Camouflage	10 [2]
Climbing	12 [4]
Intimidation	10 [2]
Knife	11 [1]
Knot Typing (includes +2 from Survivor)	13 [1]
Navigation (Orienteering)	8 [1]
Observation (includes +3 from Acute Vision)	14 [4]
Scrounging (includes +2 from Survivor)	12 [1]
Singing	11 [1]
Spear	11 [1]
Stealth	12 [4]
Survival (Plains + Woodlands) (includes +2 from Survivor)	12 [4]
Swimming	11 [1]
Tactics	7 [1]
Throwing	12 [4]
Tracking (add +3 when vision is key)	10 [2]
_____	[]
_____	[]
_____	[]
_____	[]
_____	[]
_____	[]

Your father never liked you. He was the one who began calling you "Ugly Bearface" when you were but a young boy. Then he was killed when the wind blew the fire into his tent. You did not mourn his death,, though you recovered his club, still singed by the flames. Soon, you became a great hunter and a greater warrior during the wars with the Lion Tail Tribe. Chief Kusim-Aha called you "Ugly Bearface the Brave" and it is a name you are proud to wear.

ICE AGE



Name NEELIA Player _____ Point Total 115
 Ht 5'2" Wt 115 Size Modifier 0 Age 17 Unspent Pts -
 Appearance One of the most revered huntresses of the unlucky Lion Tail tribe

CURRENT					
ST	11	[10]	HP	11	[0]
DX	12	[40]	Will	12	[5]
IQ	11	[20]	Per	13	[5]
HT	12	[20]	FP	12	[0]

MOVE

6

DR

0



BASIC LIFT (ST × ST)/5 24 lbs DAMAGE Thr 1d-1 Sw 1d+1
 BASIC SPEED 6.0 [0] BASIC MOVE 6 [0]

ENCUMBRANCE

None (0) = BL 24
 Light (1) = 2 × BL 48
 Medium (2) = 3 × BL 72
 Heavy (3) = 6 × BL 144
 X-Heavy (4) = 10 × BL 240

ACTIVE DEFENSES

Dodge

9

Parry

9

(Knife)

Block

-

REACTION MODIFIERS

Appearance +1
 Status +0
 Reputation +1 from Reputation (10 or less)

ADVANTAGES & PERKS

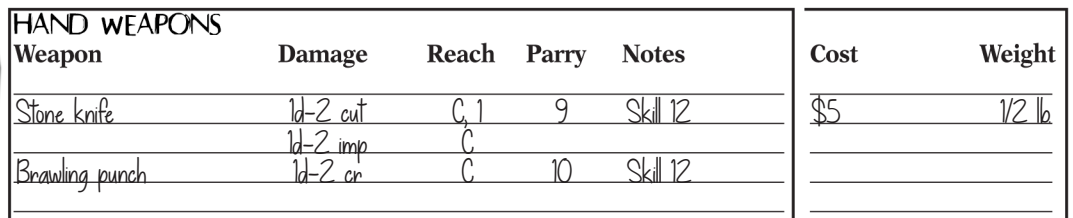
Appearance (Attractive) [4]
 Combat Reflexes (+2 vs. Fright Checks, +6 vs. mental stun) [15]
 Fit (+1 to all HT rolls) [5]
 Night Vision +2 [2]
 Reputation +1 (Skilled Lion Tail huntress, 10 or less) [2]
 Sure-Footed (Snow) [1]
 _____ []
 _____ []
 _____ []
 _____ []
 _____ []
 _____ []

DISADVANTAGES & QUIRKS

Enemy (formidable Clan of Three Claws, 6 or less) [-15]
 Flashbacks (Severe) [-10]
 Light Sleeper [-5]
 Loner [-5]
 Sense of Duty (Her sisters) [-5]
 _____ []
 _____ []
 Cro-Magnon []
 Short Lifespan -1 [-10]
 _____ []
 _____ []
 Cruel sense of humor [-1]
 Distrusts Neanderthals [-1]
 Not especially superstitious [-1]
 Ritualistic about her face painting [-1]
 Terrified of swimming [-1]

SKILLS

Name	Level
Area Knowledge (Local)	12 [2]
Armoury (Missile Weapons)	11 [2]
Bow	14 [8]
Cooking	11 [2]
Fast-Draw (Arrow + Knife)	13 [2]
Knife	12 [1]
Intimidation	10 [2]
Knife	12 [1]
Naturalist	10 [2]
Occultism	10 [1]
Scrounging	13 [1]
Sewing	12 [1]
Spear	12 [2]
Stealth	13 [4]
Survival (Woodlands)	13 [2]
Tracking	14 [4]
Traps	11 [2]
_____	[]
_____	[]
_____	[]
_____	[]
_____	[]
_____	[]
_____	[]
_____	[]
_____	[]
_____	[]
_____	[]

[illegible]

Speed/ Range Modifier	Linear Measurement (range/speed)	
Close	0-5 yds	0*
Short	6-20 yds	-3
Medium	21-100 yds	-7
Long	101-500 yds	-11
Extreme	501+ yds	-15

** in melee combat, ranged attacks suffer a penalty equal to Bulk of the weapon*

Modifier	Location
0	Torso
-2	Arm/Leg
-3	Groin
-4	Hand
-5	Face
-7	Skull

Imp or *Pi* attacks can target vitals at -3 (x3 dmg) or eyes at -9 (x4 dmg)

\$0

[illegible]

Note DR is doubled against stone weapons.

You became the last of the true Lion Tails when you told Creel the Stalker that he was wrong. The Lion Tails' way is not to kiss the feet of the Walker in the Wind - it is to stand proud, hunt the mammoths and the bears - and to fend off the other tribes who try to steal your hunting grounds. It is wrong to hide in the forest and worship at the demand of a cruel leader. You only wish that your sisters had heard your pleas and fled with you, rather than bowing their heads to Creel.

Ten-Men

Curious Neanderthal



PER 10 - RACIAL MEMORY

Ynglis the keen-eYed

Skilled Huntress



PER 11

Jowda-Aha

Son of the Warchief



PER 12

Bear-Spotter

The Spirit Touched



PER 11 - INTUITION - DANGER SENSE - NIGHTMARES

Fels

The Stabbing Squirrel

PER 12 - ENEMY (6-)



Kina-Aha

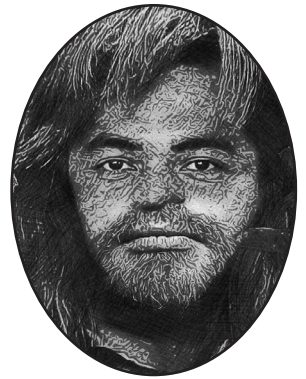
The Dogrunner

PER 12 - VISUALIZATION



Ugly Bearface

The Unlucky Hunter



PER 10

Neelia

Lion Tail Huntress

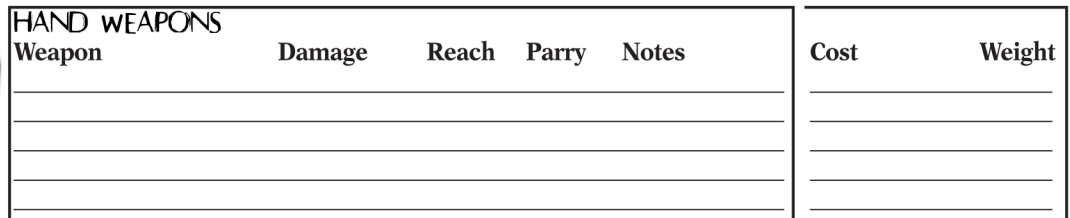


PER 13

Appearance _____

_____ []

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SPEED/RANGE TABLE For complete table, see p. 550.			HIT LOCATIONS		POSSESSIONS			
Speed/ Range Modifier	Linear Measurement (range/speed)		Modifier	Location	Item	Location	Cost	Weight
Close	0-5 yds	0*	0	Torso				
			-2	Arm/Leg				
			-3	Groin				
			-4	Hand				
			-5	Face				
			-7	Skull				
Short	6-20 yds	-3	<i>Imp</i> or <i>Pi</i> attacks can target vitals at -3 (x3 dmg) or eyes at -9 (x4 dmg)					
Medium	21-100 yds	-7						
Long	101-500 yds	-11						
Extreme	501+ yds	-15						
* in melee combat, ranged attacks suffer a penalty equal to Bulk of the weapon			SKINS					
CHARACTER NOTES								