

# The Phargol-Horn

Volume 59

[www.krystonia.net](http://www.krystonia.net)

e-mail: [krystoniaclub@hotmail.com](mailto:krystoniaclub@hotmail.com)

## The Literacy Project (Part Three, The Hitchhiker)

The creature paused in mid sentence. Even though the three were a great distance from being overheard you could sense the creature still did not feel safe. He craned his head about; oddly it made a complete circle. He leaned forward and once again began to speak.

I know that most feel that all who reside behind the walls of the Krak are of one mind. This is not true. Much goes on there that never reaches outside its walls. Although the Krak is truly ruled with an iron hand there is descent. You will never hear of this for those with differing opinions are sure to meet a terrible end.

There was a minor revolt many years ago by the Honji soldiers. This was not expected as you know the Honji are among the most loyal to N'Borg. Their strong shoulders have carried many a victory home for him. Regardless of their loyalty some Honji became aware of their importance and thought they should be more justly rewarded. This group was led by a legend in Honji circles. His name was Gorgon.

Gorgon was a truly magnificent warrior. As you know many Honji are not very, how should I say it, smart? Gorgon was the exception. He could create a battle plan, lead the troops and even negotiate the surrender of the enemy. He was credited with the campaigns that conquered many of the tribes that once inhabited the forbidden lands. Such major victories did not go unnoticed. A few saw this as a threat to their own quest for recognition. N'Chakk and N'Grall were the main ones who felt this way. It was not surprising when they asked to be present when Gorgon was to have his requested audience with N'Borg.

Just receiving an audience with N'Borg was an unusual occurrence. With all his previous battle experience Gorgon had no fear as he entered the hall. He did however show the proper amount of respect as he entered N'Borg's chamber. Bowing rather awkwardly it was obvious that he was not accustomed to being in this position. It did not go unnoticed by N'Chakk and N'Grall. They immediately started making snide comments to each other about Gorgon just loud enough for N'Borg to hear.

N'Borg is not a patient individual and immediately asked why Gorgon had requested an audience of his precious time. Gorgon was a true soldier and as such presented his case in a very forthright manner.

His voice was firm and direct. He felt that the Honji had contributed greatly to N'Borg's wealth and power. The Honji had conquered many areas and delivered much in the

way of riches and control of lands. N' Borg's slave holdings were the largest they had ever been. He went on to talk about the many lives given and great hardships that the Honji had endured. Gorgon felt that they were owed something for all they had done. This was the opportunity that N'Chakk and N'Grall had been waiting for.

"Owed!" yelled N'Chakk. "How dare you enter these majestic premises and demand from the great one that you are owed anything." Demand was not the word Gorgon had used but N'Chakk knew the power of words. Plus he knew N'Borg would never let anyone demand anything from him.

Gorgon turned towards the two. Although Gorgon knew that N'Chakk's spell casting could be lethal and one fireball from N'Grall could be disastrous he was not one to be challenged without a response.

"What have you two done that makes you so spectacular except sneak around looking for a way to secure more power." He spoke loudly. "You are not to be trusted."

N'Borg set on his throne listening. He seemed to enjoy this confrontation and trusted no one, especially N'Chakk. At this point he was taking no sides but this changed quickly with Gorgon's next statement.

"I read nowhere that it says you N'Chakk are deserving of any great honor," spoke Gorgon in a voice even louder than before.

N'Borg's hands found the arms of his chair and rose from it.

"What do you know of reading?" he asked Gorgon in a most accusing way.

Gorgon did not reply. He wished he could take back his last statement. No one is allowed to learn to read in the Krak except spell casters. N'Borg knew that knowledge and education were his enemies. That was one reason he so hated the wizards of the Obelisk and their push to educate all. The more mindless and uninformed a people are the easier they are to control.

The damage had been done. If you could have cut the tension in the air you would have needed a very big sword. The words "seize him" echoed throughout the hall and out the large windows. It was obvious that someone was in severe trouble. That person was Gorgon.

Several of N'Borg's private guards swarmed from their stations. Even Gorgon's great fighting prowess was no match for so many. Quickly he was subdued. He was tied and placed in a chair. N'Borg approached N'Chakk and whispered into his ear. The smile on N'Chakk's face was chilling. He approached Gorgon and took a sparkling crystal from his pouch. Raising it in the air he chanted the following:

**There are rules that must be obeyed,  
That is the reason they are made,  
Gorgon has broken one as we all see,  
No vision is what his punishment will be,**

A flash passed from the crystal and Gorgon's face illuminated. His head jolted backward and a scarlet beam projected from his eyes. It was done. Gorgon's vision was no longer. You would assume that this would be enough punishment but you must remember whose rule he

had broken. He was led from the room tumbling down the steep stairs that he had climbed with ease earlier. He suffered many broken bones and was left to lie at the bottom for several hours. His body never recovered.

After a while Gorgon was picked up and led into the thorn forest that rests just outside the Krak. To add insult to injury his escorts were the same Honji soldiers he had led. If you looked carefully you could see a small tear crawl down one of the Honji's cheek. To this day Gorgon wonders aimlessly trying his best to avoid the laughing bushes that prick anyone who touches them. Everyday the Honji sneak food to him. I believe N'Borg is aware of this but lets it go on. In his eyes it prolongs the punishment.

At this point the creature lowered his head and took another long pause. He appeared to be exhausted or maybe just taking a short nap. Sal and Pree set motionless. The one question that stirred in their minds was how Gorgon had learned to read under such a tightly controlled environment. They wanted to learn more and especially how this could relate to their project. Sal could wait no longer but as he was about to speak the creature sprang to his feet and went on as if he had never stopped. It was almost as if he could read their minds.

He started in a more slow and soft speaking pattern than before. Obviously he was tired but continued where he had left off.

This did not bode well for the pale ones. You can only imagine their peril. After all they are the only ones outside spell casters who can read. They are very knowledgeable. Who else could Gorgon have learned from?

Sal and Pree tried to show no surprise but this was the first they had ever heard of these so called pale ones. They set quietly and listened carefully.

The pale ones do not fit in and are kept in a small set of cottages away from all others. They are heavily guarded and most do not know of their existence. Those who have the gift of flight occasionally catch a glimpse of them. Their guards wear special helmets that completely cover their ears so they can not hear any conversations that go on.

They are visited rarely and usually it is only by N'Borg or N'Chakk. Gorgon was in charge of their guard detail. It was quite obvious that this is where he was taught to read. No punishment has been given to them but I fear that it is only a matter of time before N'Borg has no more use for them.

You may wonder why I care about this at all. There is an underlying core of resentment in the Krak. It is in the air but most will never act for fear of reprisal. N'Borg knows of your mission and it makes him even more nervous about the existence of the pale ones. You must save them and it must be soon.

With that as quickly as the creature appeared he was gone. His wings moved quickly and higher and higher he flew until he was out of sight. Sal looked upon Pree's puzzled face. They both knew their mission had changed and they would have to act quickly. But how.....

**To be continued.....**

## Krystonia Web Site

If you have visited our web site lately you will notice it has not been updated and some of the information is obsolete. Our web master has found that the time allotted to us is no longer available. That is bad news for us but great news for him as he has been promoted and is now working on some very innovative and large projects with his company. We could have one of the wizards send a spell to show our disappointment but instead we just want to say, good luck Mike.

Now back to us. We are looking at new ways to redo our site. With Krystonia being a storybook line ideally our next web project will fit comfortably with areas that tie the two together. We apologize for the delay but look forward to moving forward to our next step.

As you know in Krystonia we have a varied group of individuals. There is no lack of opinions that are being offered from these folks. Needless to say some are more forceful than others.

There is also another group that has been very involved since our very first days and that group is you our collector's. We would like to know your feelings. What direction would you like us to go towards? When you visit other web site what do you enjoy about them? If you have some thoughts take a moment and either email us at [krystoniacub@hotmail.com](mailto:krystoniacub@hotmail.com) or drop a note to the club at:

**Krystonia Collector's Club**  
125 W. Ellsworth  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108

## Keep Your Collection Current

This is a subject we have spoke of before and feel we should address again. It has been a difficult environment for the independent retailer. They have always been the backbone of the collectible industry. Many have closed over the last few years. There are numerous reasons for this. Some of the most prevalent are retirements, lost leases and a changing retail landscape.

But there are still some great stores out there that are waiting to see you. We encourage you to visit them.

Some dealers have turned to the internet and have set up web operations. We get many inquiries about these sites. You may want to visit them.

The club is also a great source to add to your collection. We are always more than happy to hear from you.

**Think Spring!!!!!!**