WHO WAS THIS MAN WHO HAD SAVED THE PRIESTESS FROM THE CLUTCHES OF THE VILE GOBLINS?

GOBLIN SLAYER ...?
THE STORY SO FAR: A PRIESTESS SETS OUT WITH A GROUP OF NEWBIE ADVENTURERS TO SLAY A NEST OF GOBLINS, BUT THE GOBLINS LAUNCH A SURPRISE ATTACK, NEARLY WIPING OUT THE PARTY. THE PRIESTESS' LIFE IS IN JEOPARDY, BUT SHE IS SAVED BY A MAN WEARING A SUIT OF ARMOR, CALLING HIMSELF "GOBLIN SLAYER"...

YOU JUST REGISTERED?

OH... YES

LOOKS LIKE YOU CAN TALK.

PRACTICALLY SPEAKING, ONLY SILVER-RANKED ADVENTURERS AND BELOW ARE ACTUALLY OUT IN THE WILDERNESS.

HE'S A SILVER-RANKED ADVENTURER!

A SILVER TAG...
WHAT'S WRONG? DRINK IT.

IT WILL NUMB THE PAIN.

IU WANT...
I want you to give this... 

...to her...

They stabbed her with a dagger...

I couldn't... I couldn't help her...

With my miracle...
THEIR METHODS ARE PRIMITIVE...

BUT THE EFFECT IS DEADLY.

THEY MAKE IT FROM A MIXTURE OF THEIR OWN URINE AND EXCREMENT, ALONG WITH POISONOUS HERBS.

GIVE IT UP.

SHE'S BEEN POISONED.

IT'S ALREADY SPREAD THROUGH HER BODY. EVEN AN ANTIDOTE WON'T HELP NOW.

YOU'RE LUCKY...
I WILL.

WAIT! WE CAN STILL

DON'T BE UPSET.

HOW COULD YOU...? WE STILL

WE STILL COULD HAVE SAVED HER...
Drink the potion. It will help with the pain.

What about you? Will you go back or wait here?

I'm going to go finish off the goblins.

That was a hobgoblin. Maybe they took on a wanderer as a guard.

DID YOU SEE ANY BIG ONES?

PHEW...

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

WILL YOU GO BACK OR WAIT HERE?

THERE WAS ONE... I THINK... BUT...

I'M GOING TO GO FINISH OFF THE GOBLINS.
Can you move?

Yes!

I... I'm coming with you...!

Three altogether.

I've received the miracles minor heal and holy light.

How many uses?

What are your abilities?

I have two left today.

In that case, we've something to do first.

Thank you!

...All right.
YOU DON'T NEED TO— WHAT ARE YOU DOING ?!

WE HAVE TO MASK THE SCENT.

THEY HAVE AN EXCELLENT SENSE OF SMELL.

ESPECIALLY WHEN IT COMES TO GIRLS WHO HAVE WET THEMSELVES.
SAVE YOUR MIRACLES FOR HOLY LIGHT.

MINOR HEAL WON'T DO US ANY GOOD.

YES, SIR...

YOU'LL HAVE TO GET USED TO THE SMELL OF BLOOD AND VISCERA.

BREATHE THROUGH YOUR NOSE.

AS AN ADVENTURER, YOU WILL FIND IT EVERYWHERE.
This place is...

Eight...

Nine...

Too long to use in a cave.

RRRGGHHH!!

RRRGGHNN!!

We're going goblin slaying!!
WERE YOU ATTACKED FROM BEHIND BY A GROUP OF THEM?

WHY DID THIS HAPPEN...?

WHY...

BUT THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE.

THEY MUST HAVE COME FROM THERE.

THERE ARE SIDE TUNNELS UP AHEAD.

COME LOOK.

S...SIDE TUNNELS...!?
HERE.

A common mistake for beginners.

These weren't here when we came by...

HOW...?
THE CAVE IS DARK...

...AND YOU HAVE ONLY YOUR TORCH FOR LIGHT.

AND, THIS Distracted...

YOU DON'T NOTICE THE TUNNELS.

...YOU FOCUS ON THAT TOTEM INSTEAD.

WHAT'S THAT?

SOME KIND OF GOBLIN SET TOY?

AT THAT MOMENT...

WE WERE ALREADY...
A Shaman...?

A Spellcaster.

More powerful than Porcelain-Ranked Wizard.

Goblins are no geniuses, but they're no fools either.

This totem means there's a Shaman here.

He must be leading this horde.

Then we have to help her —!

Was the fourth a girl too?

They must've taken her deeper in.

F-Four of us...

How many of you were there?
A goblin...!
HARDLY.

I'VE PRACTICED.

CAN YOU SEE IN THE DARK...?
THIS SPEAR WILL DO INSTEAD. I CAN'T USE IT ANYMORE.
IT'S CAKED WITH BLOOD AND FAT.
AND LISTEN FOR ANY NOISES.
DARKNESS IS OUR ENEMY.

BUT THEY CAN.
SO BUILD A FIRE.

WE'VE GOT THE RIGHT TUNNEL.
WE'RE GOING IN.

THAT ONE WAS A SCOUT.

A LITTLE TRAP.
DON'T FORGET ABOUT IT.

AND IF YOU WANT TO SURVIVE, DO EXACTLY AS I SAY.

WHAT'S THE ROPE FOR...?
Their main hall is just ahead. You stand there and chant holy light. Then come back to the entrance.
O Earth Mother, abounding in mercy...

...grant your sacred light...

...to we who are lost in darkness

Holy Light!
SIX.

ONE SHAMAN...

ONE HOB...
EIGHT LEFT.

LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
DON'T
FORGET
ABOUT
IT.
CHANT, GRANT YOUR SACRED LIGHT TO WE WHO ARE LOST IN DARKNESS!
HOLY LIGHT!!
ELEVEN!
TH-THE OTHERS WILL BE COMING....!
SEE YOU IN HELL.
WHAT WAS THAT? Awfully expensive for such a simple effect.

Some call it Medea's oil. Others, petroleum. It's gasoline.

What was that?

B-but inside—in there, the kidnapped girls—!

The fire won't spread far with just a few bodies to feed on.

No need.

A-are you going back in, then?
They never seem to think somebody might set an ambush for them.
YOU'RE SAFE NOW...

IT'S ALL RIGHT...
I thought so.
EIGH-TEEN.

THE HIGH-LEVEL ONES ARE TOUGH.

ARE THESE...

...HUMAN BONES...

TYPICAL GOBLIN TRICK. LOOK.
YOU WERE LUCKY.
These creatures multiply quickly.

Before long, there would have been fifty of them, and they would have attacked en masse.
...KILL THE CHILDREN TOO?
OF COURSE I WILL.

WE'VE DESTROYED THEIR NEST. THEY'LL NEVER FORGET THAT.

AND THE SURVIVORS OF A NEST LEARN, BECOME SMARTER.
There is no reason to let them live.

What if it were a good goblin?

Wh...

A good goblin?

There might be, if we just looked.

But I think...
...the only good goblins are the ones who never come out of their stinking holes.
THAT'S TWENTY-TWO.
A village is attacked by goblins. Some maidens are kidnapped.

It's an all too common story.

But the goblins prove too much, and the whole party is slaughtered.

Some newbie adventurers decide they're going to get rid of those goblins for their first quest.

During their captivity, those girls were forced to serve the goblins' needs, and in despair, they enter the temple.

Or maybe just one makes it out and saves the girls too.
THERE'S NOTHING EXCEPTIONAL ABOUT THIS STORY. IT HAPPENS EVERY DAY.

THAT LONE SURVIVING ADVENTURER SLOWLY SLIPS AWAY FROM THE WORLD AND NEVER LEAVES HOME AGAIN.

DO THESE LIFESHATTERING EVENTS REALLY HAPPEN ALL THE TIME?

OR SO I THINK, BUT I'M NOT SURE.

AND IF THEY DO, CAN I, KNOWING IT FIRST-HAND, MAINTAIN MY FAITH IN THE EARTH MOTHER?
BUT THAT'S EXACTLY WHY...
I DON'T KNOW.

WILL WE BE HUNTING...?

H-HELLO!

I BOUGHT SOME CHAIN MAIL, JUST LIKE YOU TOLD ME...!

GOBLINS.

SO...

UM...
YES!

...I'm going to continue as an adventurer. At least for a while.

ARE YOU COMING?