

The Festival

A one page scenario for WFRP by Lauri "doc_cthulhu" Maijala

Overview: The Characters are visiting a remote hamlet when they learn that the troll does not actually take the toll and that it not always wise to trust the folk tales.

Act 1: Crossing the Bridge

The hamlet of Brücke sits beside a lazy but wide river. The place is most famous of its bridge called Totenbock and from the troll that is said to live under it.

While the characters approach the bridge a rugged but seemingly fat man runs from one of the hovels and warns them to leave a bribe for the troll living under the bridge. There are quite a lot of bones, bones and other trinkets laying around under the bridge so it is obvious that at least the villagers are respecting the troll and keeping it happy.

The villagers actually prefer the troll living under their bridge. As the rumor goes it hates beastmen and as the village is hard to reach by any other way than by crossing the bridge the people of Brücke think they are safe. Any talk about killing the troll will be frowned and disliked.

Act 2: The Festival

It turn out that the village is preparing for a feasting night. The troll called Gaun'r has been quite happy with the sacrifices but reacently it has demanded more and more mead, food and valuables. Nobody is quite sure why or how this is known but if it keeps the hamlet's guardian happy the Brückers are happy.

The characters are welcomed to take part to the festival (if they have not been all high-and-mighty about killing the troll) and are given the first cut of the slaughtered bull if they have been seen worthy.

After the bull is roasted on a big bonfire and the people have had their share of dance, meat and

laughter the head of the bull, the best pieces of the meat and a barrel of ale are taken to the bridge with a smal purse of copper and silver coins.

The village bailiff Allein Verstandt is not happy about this as it all away from local ruler's (and also his) purse but can do nothing as all of the villagers take part to this strange ritual.

After the sacrifice is left on the bridge the villagers sneak back to their hovels so that "the troll won't see us!"

Act 3: Three Goats on a Bridge

While resting after the festival a sudden cry is heard. The villagers are not keen to find out its source as it is most likely some fool who has tried to sneak a peak of Gaun'r.

Should the characters investigate the noice they see three gors on the bridge butchering the same rugged man that warned them about crossing the bridge without a sacrifice. The troll is nowhere to be seen and will not take any bribes after this night...

Possible Complications

The three gors were only scouts for a larger warherd that might attack Brücke if they get away. Or maybe they tell about the sacrifice to their leader and they begin to levy a tax on Brücke.

Maybe there actually is a river troll living under the bridge and the rugged man has only recently started to steal some of the sacrifices.

Alternative Uses

This episode could also be run with any other mythical creature as it mostly goes to show how gullible the people of Empire are when it comes to the creatures of Old World.