

Looking back down the slope of the caldera we could see over 2 dozen people from the camp below climbing the side of the caldera after us. Looking up the slope of the caldera the lip is about 7500 feet above us and 15-18 miles away horizontally. Thus puts the lip of the caldera about 10,000 feet above sea level. We rode straight up towards the lip of the caldera. After about 30 minutes it was clear that we were opening the gap on the pursuing party. The the pursuing party stopped at the large cave the we had entered. After a while about half of the party disappeared. We assumed into the cave. We continued up the slope on the assumption that there had to be more than one entrance to the cave system and the there would be another entrance higher up the slope somewhere or even within the caldera. We could see a number of depressions that might include a cave entrance so we went to investigate. However all we found were scraps of animal hair which Morkoth identified as goat hair. In one of the depressions we also found the remains of an old camp fire. We checked the group below us and they were still at the cave entrance. We decided that our best option was to back track the trail of the dead goblin to see from where he had come, hopefully another entrance. We picked up the goblin's trail quite easily and followed it for about 30 minutes heading up the slope at an angle. The Igrid spotted a herd of 8-10 goats up ahead of us amongst the rocks. We continued to follow the goblins trail which took up to within about 300 yards of the goat herd. Igrid spotted something else moving with the goat herd so we headed off the trail towards the goats to investigate. We got within about 150 yards of the goats before they started to move off but we only saw goats moving off so we continued on to the racks where Igrid had seen the movement. Igrid spotted something, hopped off his horse and sprinted off. We followed on much slower after I had grabbed the reigns of Igrid's horse. Igrid stopped at a small jumble of rocks. At this point a goblin jumped up and drew a knife. Igrid disarmed him with e flurry of blows and tripped him up. The Goblin was quickly back on his feet and tried to run off. Igrid jumped on him and pinned him to the ground. At this point we caught up with Igrid and the goblin so Morkoth was able to talk to the goblin. Initially the goblin just squirmed. When we mentioned the name Roth the goblin quietened down and started to talk to Morkoth. At this point Igrid stood the goblin up, dusted him down and gave him back his knife which he continued to wave at up. After some further discussions the goblin whose name was Urash agreed to take us to his home. Urash told us we would have to leave our horses here but we insisted on taking them closer to the entrance. We wait until dusk and then head off towards the waterfall. This was not "The Drop" but the waterfall that we passed earlier. WE climbed behind the waterfall following Urash to the entrance. In the distance we could see that there was a fire outside the large cave where the other party still appeared to be stopped. We had to squeeze through a very small gap which I found difficult. We continued to follow Urash through the tunnels taking turns that seemed to almost turn us back on ourselves. Eventually we came to a large cavern with a narrow ledge. There was a drop of about 40 feet below the ledge. We edged our way along the ledge. As we did so the far wall of the cavern got closer until we got to a point we we could step across to a ledge on the opposite wall. We the back tracked on the far wall until we cam to a passage way. We went down the passage into another cavern where the goblin pushed aside a stone covering another tunnel rather like the one we had found when entering the from the large cave. Once we were all in the tunnel Urash rolled the stone back over the entrance. This tunnel led into another cavern about 200 feet long. At the far end of the tunnel there was an opening with a purple glow. Morkoth said he could hear chanting but not in the goblin language. Some of the phrases sound like the casting of magic. WE went to the opening at the end of the cavern and down a short tunnel to where it opened into a huge cavern with a bridge from the end of the tunnel across to a stalagmite with a home built into it. Beyond there were several more and some stalactites with even larger homes. The stone bridge was about 50 feet long and 15 feet wide at the end narrowing to about 4 feet wide in the middle. Below is a purple glow that light the cavern. We waited at the start of the bridge while Urash went of to the house in the stalagmite. He knocked on the door which was opened and Morkoth was called across and he went into the dwelling. He was asked to leave his weapons in the room. Then Igrid was called across and again asked to leave his weapons in the room. Finally I was called across and again I was asked to leave my weapons in the room. I was carrying my bow and short sword. The room had a low ceiling only about 5 feet high and there

were three goblins in the room. WE were led out of the room across another bridge leading to a stalactite about 80 feet in diameter. There were many more and large dwellings on multiple levels within the cavern. We were led into a room and told to wait while they went to get Grash. A goblin came in with refreshments and offered them to us. There was water, milk and something else that we did not recognise so we avoided it and drank the water. We were also offered some kind of biscuit which tasted of mushroom. About 5 minutes later 6 goblins came in and joined the two guards. There was Urash and the other goblin that went to find Grash. Then there were 4 others in some finery. One in a robe covered in stones introduced himself as Grash and indicated that the large goblin was Ithak. Initial discussions were conducted in goblin before Grash swapped to talking common with an odd accent but understandable. We were told to bring the horses to the top cave where they were to be unloaded. WE had brought 6 of the 60 pouches with us as samples. A couple of goblins were detailed to show us the way. We discussed our route back and decided to go another way to avoid the tight squeeze and the wet climb behind the waterfall. We went through about 6 more of the dwellings before we came to another guard house. And out onto a bridge where one of the goblins secured a very slim rope and let it down over the side to another bridge below. We all climbed down the rope about 20 feet. We went down a passage way to a T junction where we turned left to a dead end. The goblins rolled back a rock revealing a large cave beyond. We went out into the cave and followed the right hand wall out into the open again.