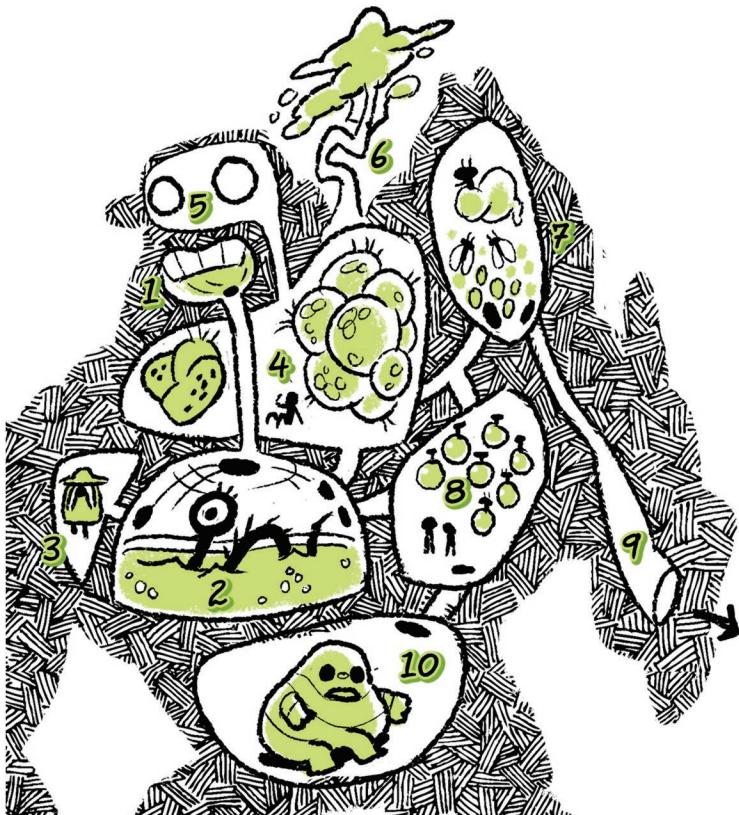


# The COLONY

Ned Hugar  
twitter: @nedhugar

This lumbering colossus is quickly crossing the wilds, eating herds of oxen and boars in its path. Your party is summoned to stop the earthen titan before it crushes a humble mountain village in its path!



## BEASTIARY

**WORKER ANTS:** Completely blind and the size of small dogs, these ants link their bodies together to form a network of muscles and nerves. If provoked they emit a purple cloud of PANIC PHEROMONES that summon nearby soldier ants.

**CARGO ANTS:** Carry nectar or other liquids in their abdomens to feed and tend to the workers. They ignore adventurers but will emit PANIC PHEROMONES if attacked.

**SOLDIER ANTS:** Bulky ants the size of wolves. Attack anything that smells like PANIC PHEROMONES but cannot emit more to call for backup. Otherwise, they rest in the heart chamber or patrol along scent trail lines.

**FLYING DRONES:** Soldier ants with wings. All males.

**THE JETS:** A rival gang stuck in the Colony, and a love triangle. Ace - human fighter, leader of the jets. Amazing hair. Valerie - half elf sorcerer from wealthy upbringing. Steph - human ranger, sweet and tomboyish girl next door. Bottleneck - elf rogue. Broke his leg.

**PROFESSOR RODERICK BRINKLEY:** A halfling druid entomologist studying the Colony. His position inside is always changing. He has vials of ant pheromone he freely hands out. It's been a while since he's interacted with another person.



The Colony is a mobile anthill that functions as a giant body. Instead of muscles, WORKER ANTS form massive chains that pull its arms and legs. CARGO ANTS and SOLDIER ANTS skitter through its hallways like red and white blood cells. Mysterious beings live inside it and fight over resources like parasites. Who is really in charge here?

1. **THE MOUTH:** the destination of many adventurer's caught in the Colony's grip. A straight shot to the stomach.

2. **THE STOMACH:** a catwalk path circles a vat of gastric juices. A vast DIRE TAPEWORM swims the depths looking for live prey. Cargo ants hang on the edges, lapping up the acid broth. CAPTAIN SPODE is fishing out pieces of debris with a pitchfork and retreats to his secret chamber.

3. **SPODE'S CHAMBER:** a hammock hangs over his various treasures (all junk). SPODE is an alcoholic sea captain who only wants to live in peace in the Colony. He has several vials of PHEROMONE that hide your scent from the SOLDIER ANTS, unless you happen to get sprayed by PANIC PHEROMONES.

4. **GREAT CHEST CAVITY:** One side has a four chambered barracks that houses an army of sleeping SOLDIER ANTS. The other side lives a great BALLOON FUNGUS that symbiotically lives on the roots of the TREE and provides air to the Colony. A member of the JETS broke his leg trying to climb up to the head and wants to be reunited with his friends.

5. **HEAD:** the eyes are two camera obscuras that project onto a wall of WORKER ANTS linked together in a tight web that connects to the chains of WORKER ANTS below. The eye sockets are large enough to climb out through.

6. **TREE:** A huge sentient tree lives on the shoulder and pretends to be the brain of the Colony, but all it can really do is guide the Colony's direction by making shadow puppets in front of the eyes with its branches. The tree can see through and speak from any part of its body, which is handy because its roots permeate the chest cavity and brood chambers. It is unaware of the PROFESSOR. It thinks the JETS are here to destroy the Colony and wants them killed.

7. **ROYAL BROOD CHAMBER:** the walls are lined with cells of maturing pupae. An immense QUEEN lays eggs, cleaned and protected by several winged drones. A massive brood cell is growing a new Queen.

8. **STORAGE ROOM:** CARGO ANTS, abdomens stuffed with nectar, hang from the walls. Undigestible materials are scattered around the floor. The JETS are debating which tunnel to take.

9. **ARM SOCKET:** chains of WORKER ANTS form long muscles around a straight tunnel down and out the arm socket

10. **THE WOMB:** Worker ants slap mud and wax together to build a new Colony. Once the new QUEEN hatches it will be complete. The Colony is seeking a safe place to give birth.