

Vampire Slayer: The Story

The inhabitants of the Carpathian region have been living with supposed vampires for centuries. Settled in the area, they currently live as nobles in old castles and have little connection with the people.

Around these nobles and aristocrats there were always legends and rumors about black magic and vampirism. The villagers did not believe them or did not want to believe them.

Young girls disappeared with some regularity. Usually these incidents were blamed on elopements of lovers.

On this occasion the daughter of a wealthy local merchant has disappeared and he suspects she has been abducted by Duke TANITVANY. A character as sinister as the few servants known to him and with whom his daughter had been having horrible nightmares for days.

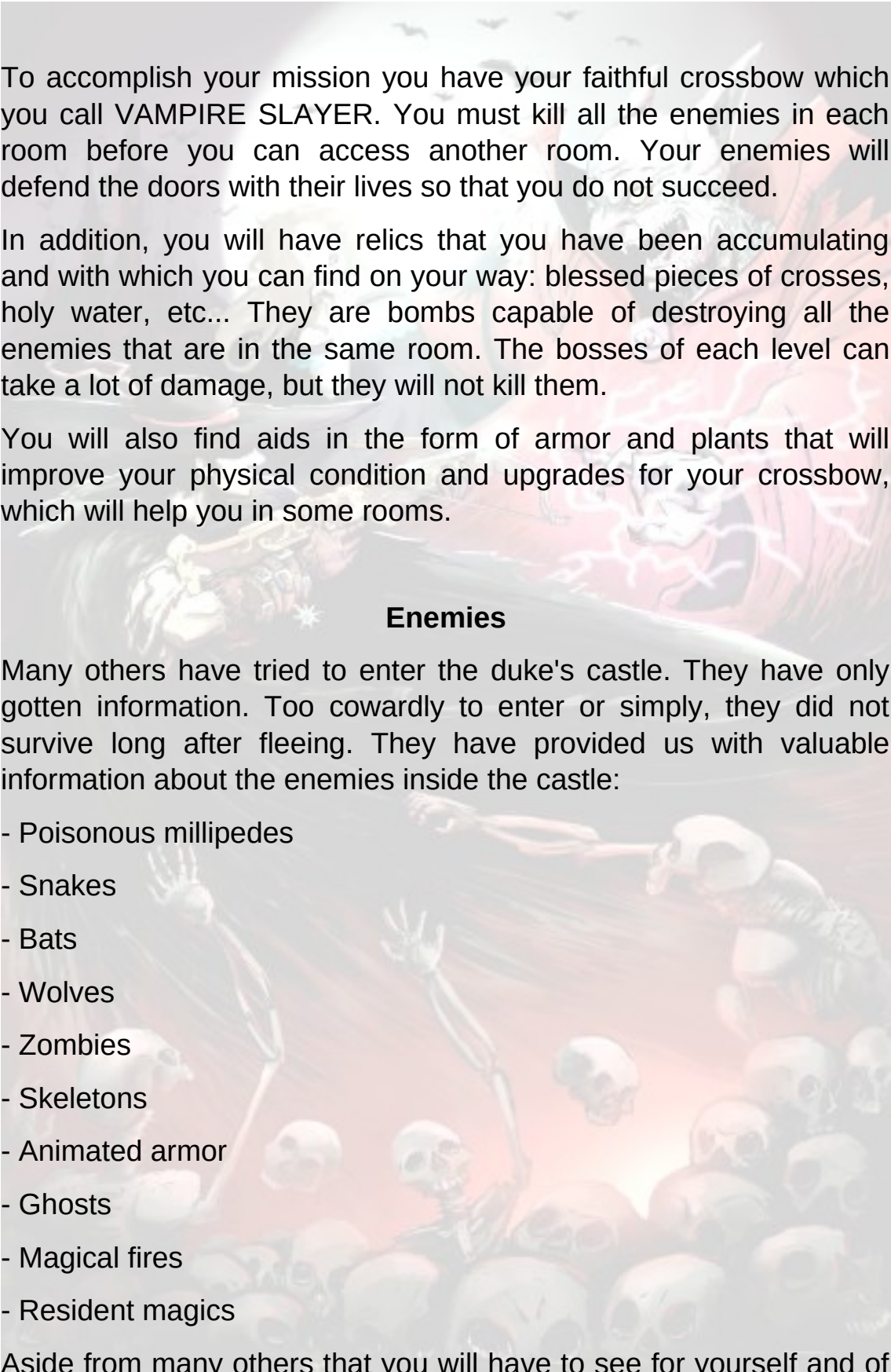
In a desperate attempt to recruit villagers to enter the castle, the merchant has put a large reward for her rescue, whatever the state of his daughter. Unfortunately, he was unsuccessful.

Enter you, IVAN BELMONT, scion of a family that has dedicated generations to hunting and destroying vampires. Armed with your VAMPIRE SLAYER you plan to wipe out the remaining disciples of Dracula.

You have before you the opportunity to wipe out one more vampire. Something you have dedicated your whole life to. In addition, the reward offered will allow you to rest for a while.

Your mission

Enter the duke's castle. Make your way through enemy-infested rooms, from the courtyard to the upper floors of the castle and get to the duke, who is at the top of the keep. If you eliminate him, you must quickly escape from the castle since the enemy's magic is the only thing that keeps such an ancient castle standing.



To accomplish your mission you have your faithful crossbow which you call VAMPIRE SLAYER. You must kill all the enemies in each room before you can access another room. Your enemies will defend the doors with their lives so that you do not succeed.

In addition, you will have relics that you have been accumulating and with which you can find on your way: blessed pieces of crosses, holy water, etc... They are bombs capable of destroying all the enemies that are in the same room. The bosses of each level can take a lot of damage, but they will not kill them.

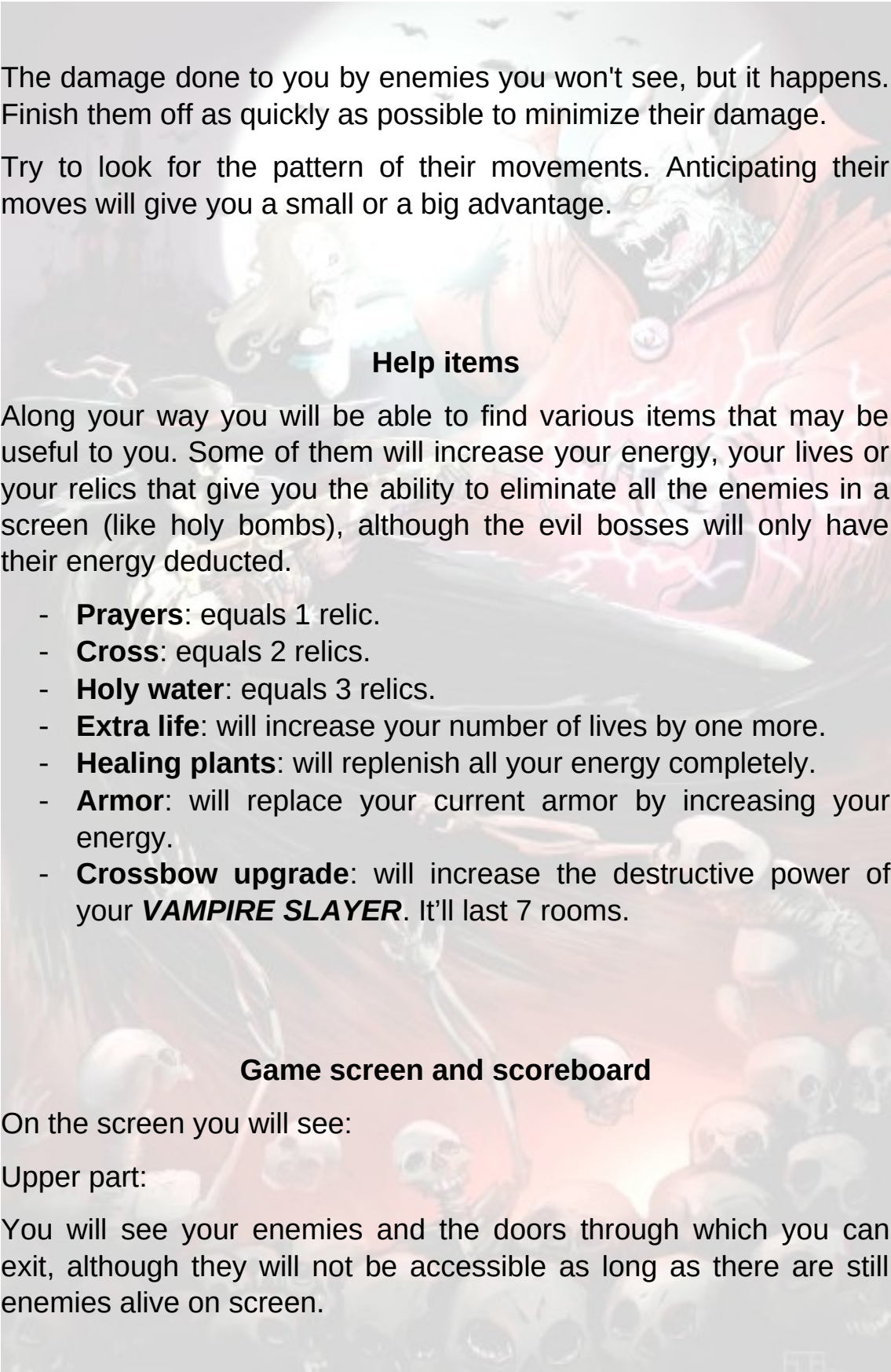
You will also find aids in the form of armor and plants that will improve your physical condition and upgrades for your crossbow, which will help you in some rooms.

Enemies

Many others have tried to enter the duke's castle. They have only gotten information. Too cowardly to enter or simply, they did not survive long after fleeing. They have provided us with valuable information about the enemies inside the castle:

- Poisonous millipedes
- Snakes
- Bats
- Wolves
- Zombies
- Skeletons
- Animated armor
- Ghosts
- Magical fires
- Resident magics

Aside from many others that you will have to see for yourself and of which there are only rumors.



The damage done to you by enemies you won't see, but it happens. Finish them off as quickly as possible to minimize their damage.

Try to look for the pattern of their movements. Anticipating their moves will give you a small or a big advantage.

Help items

Along your way you will be able to find various items that may be useful to you. Some of them will increase your energy, your lives or your relics that give you the ability to eliminate all the enemies in a screen (like holy bombs), although the evil bosses will only have their energy deducted.

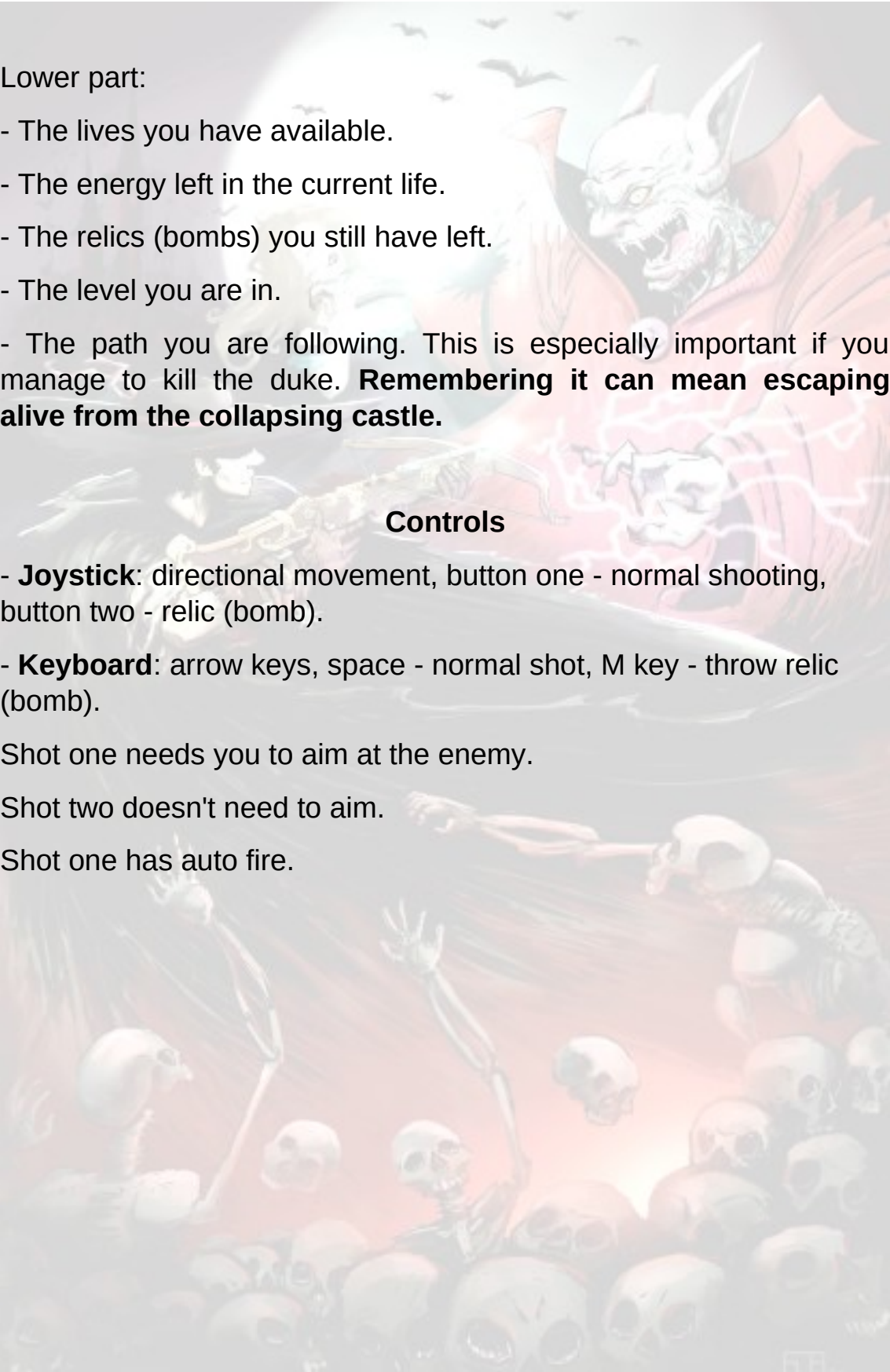
- **Prayers:** equals 1 relic.
- **Cross:** equals 2 relics.
- **Holy water:** equals 3 relics.
- **Extra life:** will increase your number of lives by one more.
- **Healing plants:** will replenish all your energy completely.
- **Armor:** will replace your current armor by increasing your energy.
- **Crossbow upgrade:** will increase the destructive power of your **VAMPIRE SLAYER**. It'll last 7 rooms.

Game screen and scoreboard

On the screen you will see:

Upper part:

You will see your enemies and the doors through which you can exit, although they will not be accessible as long as there are still enemies alive on screen.

The background of the entire page is a faded, artistic illustration. At the top, a vampire-like creature with pale skin, large pointed ears, and a red cape is shown in a dynamic pose, possibly attacking or being attacked. Below it, a large pile of human skulls is visible, with several skeletal figures rising from the pile, their arms outstretched. The overall color palette is dark and moody, with a lot of reds, greys, and blacks.

Lower part:

- The lives you have available.
- The energy left in the current life.
- The relics (bombs) you still have left.
- The level you are in.
- The path you are following. This is especially important if you manage to kill the duke. **Remembering it can mean escaping alive from the collapsing castle.**

Controls

- **Joystick:** directional movement, button one - normal shooting, button two - relic (bomb).
- **Keyboard:** arrow keys, space - normal shot, M key - throw relic (bomb).

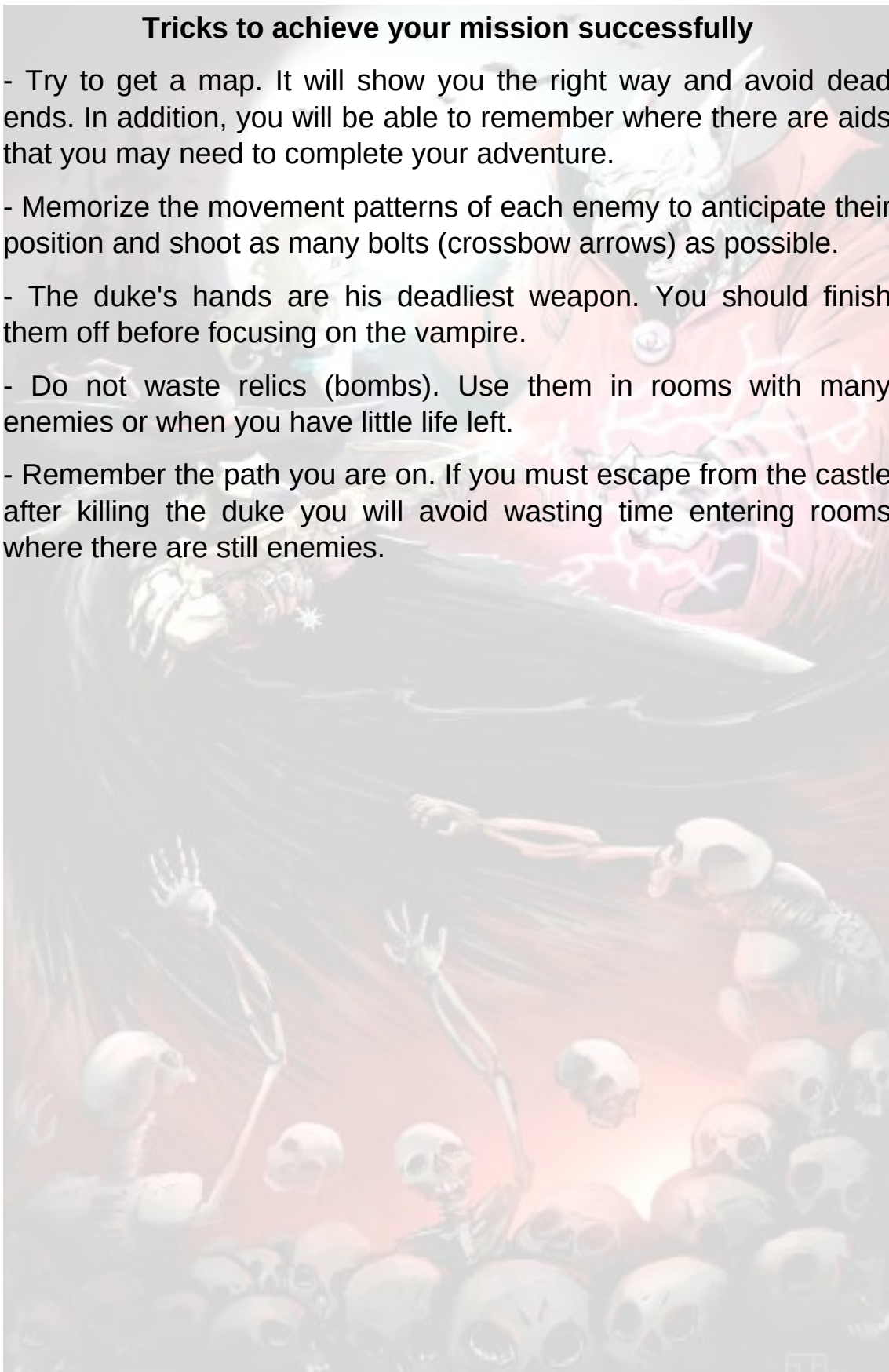
Shot one needs you to aim at the enemy.

Shot two doesn't need to aim.

Shot one has auto fire.

Tricks to achieve your mission successfully

- Try to get a map. It will show you the right way and avoid dead ends. In addition, you will be able to remember where there are aids that you may need to complete your adventure.
- Memorize the movement patterns of each enemy to anticipate their position and shoot as many bolts (crossbow arrows) as possible.
- The duke's hands are his deadliest weapon. You should finish them off before focusing on the vampire.
- Do not waste relics (bombs). Use them in rooms with many enemies or when you have little life left.
- Remember the path you are on. If you must escape from the castle after killing the duke you will avoid wasting time entering rooms where there are still enemies.



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- Lifetime thanks to Fernando García who inoculated me with the MSX assembler poison.

