The Realm of Mortana

# Characters

## Armstig Gorsum

Player: Shield

Class: Monk, Way of the Open Hand

Race: Worgen (Wolf Person)

White fur, yellow eyes, wears shorts. Got sunflower from Miyu, wears it on shoulder

## Johnny Horshot

Player: Centaurus

Class: Swashbuckler Rogue

Race: Worgen (Wolf Person)

Bluish black fur, lawful good

## Miyu Juinkama

Player: Valgard

Class: Cleric

Race: Spider Lady

7’4” spider centaur lady. Owns a flower shop on the island. Long black hair, pig tails. Glasses, two red eyes, red clothes

## Roth Harkaj

Player: Trent

Class: Barbarian

Race: Kobold

Small kobold, 50 lbs

## Selena Barus

Player: Tora

Class: Paladin

Race: Fish Lady

Buff fish lady, piercing, tattoo on anchor on right eye, scantily clad

Beat Armstig at arm wrestling

## Titus

Player: Azul

Class: Fighter

Race: Human

Red hair anime character. Likes to get drunk and start bar fights

# Chapter 1

“Hurry up!” A Worgen with bluish-black fur ran on all fours through the plain towards town. “We’re going to be late!”

“I’m running as fast as I can!” A white-furred Worgen ran on all fours behind him.

“I knew we shouldn’t have let that strange scent sidetrack us.”

“You and I both know that scent, Johnny!”

Johnny rolled his eyes. “There’s not going to be pancakes in the middle of a forest, Armpit.”

“Armpit” laughed. “Well you’ll never know if you never look!”

“And we didn’t. Probably an illusion or something.”

“A very nice smelling illusion.”

They ran into town and went to the town hall. They turned a corner and almost ran into a giant blue fish lady.

“Hey!”

“Oops! Sorry!” Armpit ran past without giving her a second glance.

“Excuse us.” Johnny ran after.

They got to the town hall and stood up like normal civilized members of society.

Johnny looked at the time. “We’re late.”

“No worries.” Armpit shrugged. “They probably haven’t started yet.”

“It’s a whole half hour since the meeting was supposed to start.”

“We’ll just ask what we missed.”

Johnny rolled his eyes and opened the door. The meeting had indeed not started yet. In fact, there was no one there! Just the gnome elder that was holding the meeting.

“Great! We missed the meeting!” Johnny threw his arms in the air.

“Finally! About time!” The gnome elder set his papers down in a huff. “Are you two ready for the meeting?”

“Wait? The meeting hasn’t started yet?” Armpit took a seat.

“No one showed up!” The gnome huffed. “It’s just you two.”

“Ok, so what are we here for?”

The gnome handed them a map. “It is time. You need to go here and retrieve the tablet from this cave. When you’re done, we’ll arrange transport for you to the mainland.”

“That sounds good.” Johnny nodded.

Then the doors opened, and the fish lady they saw earlier came in. “Sorry I’m late.”

The gnome handed her a map. “Go retrieve the tablet from this cave.”

“Ok.” She looked at the map. “Hey I know you too! You almost ran me over earlier.”

“Heh heh, sorry. That corner was really tight, not much visibility. Are you alright?”

“Yeah, I’m fine. Just miffed.”

“Understandable.”

“I’m Armstig Gorsum.” Armpit held out his hand.

“Selena Barus.” She shook his hand.

“Man that’s a strong grip.”

“Thank you.” She turned to the bluish-black wolf. “Hello.”

“Johnny Horshot.”

“He really likes the brothel.” Armstig jabbed him.

“Nice to meet you Johnny.”

“There’s more of you I assigned to this mission, but they never showed up.” The gnome packed his papers up.

“Don’t worry, we’ll go find them.” Johnny offered.

The gnome directed them to the flower shop in town. The shop was open when they got there.

“Miyu? Is Miyu here?”

“How can I help you?” A giant spider centaur appeared from behind a flower stand.

“You’ve been assigned to come on a mission with us.”

“Oh! Right! When’s the town hall meeting?”

“It’s over. We’re going on this mission.” Johnny hands her a map.

“Ok, hold on. I gotta close up my shop. Give me half an hour.”

“Ok.”

Johnny and Armstig browse the shop while she cleans up.

“What kind of flower is this?” Armstig points to a yellow circular flower with a brown center.

“That’s a sunflower. 3 copper.”

“I’ll take one.” Armstig paid for it and wrapped it around him, setting the blossom on his shoulder. “How does it look?”

“Like you’ve been frolicking in a field of flowers.”

“Nice.”

“What’s this?” Selena points to a blob with tentacles sitting in a pot.

Miyu dropped some flies into its beak. “Oh this? This is Gary.”

“I see.” Selena watched “Gary” eat the flies.

Miyu the Spider Lady cleaned up her shop and met them outside. Then she notices a red-haired human getting kicked out of a bar across the street. “Titus!”

“Huh?” He takes a sip out of his bottle and leans drunkenly against a post.

“Titus did you get yourself kicked out of another bar?”

“Miyu? Oh that? No… no, no.” He stuttered. “The bartender just got angry at me. Nothing permanent. \*hic\* I’m sure of it…”

Miyu rejoins the party. “This is Titus. He’s a bit drunk, but he’s coming with us.”

The party went to the cave on the map. Miyu helped Titus travel. Armstig and Johnny got there first and scouted it a bit.

“There’s this door here, but we don’t know what’s behind it.” Johnny said. “I’ve already unlocked it.”

“Alright, stand behind me!” Selena took the lead and opened the door. “It could be dangerous.”

“I can’t see.” Titus complained.

“I got you.” Miyu poured magic into a sunflower on her person, and it glowed bright like its namesake. It lit up the dark cave.

“That’s better.”

The party followed Selena the Fish Lady down the hallway. She took in a deep breath and smiled. “It smells like salt water in here.”

The hallway led to a square constructed room with a table in the middle. The door closed behind them.

“Shoot.” Johnny goes to pick the lock open, but there is no lock. They’re trapped in the room.

“There’s writing on the wall here.” Selena noticed. She squinted at it. “It appears to be a… recipe for… pancakes?”

“Pancakes? Ew.” Titus leaned up against a wall.

“Johnny, I dare you to dance on that table.” Armstig teased.

“I challenge you to a dancing competition.”

“You’re on!” Armstig jumped onto the table and did a little jig. There was a saw on the table. Armstig gracefully dodged it as he danced. He made it look real easy. “Ok, your turn!”

“Watch how it’s done.” Johnny hopped onto the table, but real soon into his dance, he slipped on the saw and landed on his back.

“Never seen that one before! Good one!”

The saw landed next to Selena. Miyu saw and confiscated it. “It’s not safe to play around such a sharp weapon.”

“Eggs? No bacon…” Selena tried to decipher the “pancake recipe” on the wall.

“A pancake recipe?” Miyu asked.

“Yeah, do we have the ingredients?”

Miyu looked at the wall. “I don’t think this is a recipe, hun.” She read it out loud. The riddle talked about putting two halves into one.

“Do we have to chop the table in two and then combine it back together?”

“That I can do.” Selena thrust her greatsword down into the middle of the table, splintering it in half. She examines it now. “Did that do it?”

“One more step.” Miyu puts a hand on each side of the table. “Can you lift them up for me?”

Selena holds the two halves of the table up so that they touch. Miyu’s hands lit up and a white light formed in the crack. When the light faded, the table was whole again.

*Click!*

The door opened and the party went to the next room.

There, the room was half flooded. Three platforms stood up out of the deep water.

“I take it we have to stand on each of those platforms?” Selena dived into the water and breached the surface, jumping into the air to reach the first one. *Click!*

Miyu climbed up the wall, across the ceiling, and let herself down gently with her webs onto the second platform. *Click!*

Armstig cracked his knuckles and dove into the water. He swam to the far wall, climbed up it, and jumped off. He barely missed the platform, grabbing onto the edge with his wet paws and pulling himself up. *Click!*

The door opened, and the party followed Selena down the hallway to another closed door.

Johnny pricked his ears. “It sounds like there’s gas of some kind in there.”

*TOOT!* Someone farted.

“Ew! Now there’s gas in here!”

Selena bursts through the door and the party follows her. Except for Titus, who kind of lags behind. (it was probably him)

Inside the room, there’s a misty fog obscuring the whole area except for a tiny sliver where the party walks freely.

Selena inhaled a big breath and let it all out in one powerful blow. The fog swirled around in the air and moved about chaotically. It all vacated its position and was forced into the hallway where Titus stood.

As the mist swept over the party, they all had visions of their worst nightmare flash briefly before their eyes

“My booze! No!” Titus screamed. He thrashed about wildly on the floor. “Where has it all gone? That can’t have been the last bottle! In the whole world! No!” We wept on the floor.

“Titus, titus.” Miyu picked him up. “It’s ok. It’s just a nightmare.”

Titus calmed down.

The room was now free of mist and the tablet was clearly visible on the other side. Johnny went over and picked it up. It was a stone disk about the size of a large dinner plate. It had some kind of writing on it. It looked like Sylvan, but none of the words were right.

“Armpit, you know what this is?”

Armstig glanced at it. “Not a clue. That’s what we came here for, right?”

“Yes it is.” Selena took it and examined it. “I don’t believe it!”

“What?” Johnny gasped. “What does it say?”

“It’s another recipe for pancakes!”

Miyu face palmed.

KRAAAAAG. The altar stand the tablet was on descended into the floor. The room shook.

“Is that… bad?” Armstig gulped.

Miyu shown her sunflower light on the wall behind the altar. A crack appeared. “It’s a tunnel!”

The crack widened up, revealing a secret back exit.

“That’s convenient.”

The party takes the secret passage out to a beach. Selena held the tablet up to the sun to shield her eyes.

On the beach were two wooden statues. Miyu approached one and examined the moss. It was a dangerous kind of moss that spread rather quickly. She got to work quarantining it.

“Hey Johnny!” Armstig raced to the statue where Miyu was. “First to the top of the statue wins!”

“Sure!”

“No! Don’t disturb the moss!” Contested Miyu.

“You heard her.” Selena grabbed Armstig as he climbed the side. She set him down on the ground next to the statue.

*RATTLE RATTLE.* The statues shook. They were coming to life. Miyu backed away. Armstig readied himself for battle.

Johnny lept into action. He pierced it with his rapier, but hit the statue’s hammer instead. Then he went in with his dagger and scraped a whole in the moss and the wood. Then he runs out of melee range of the statue.

“Don’t hurt the moss!” Miyu complained. She shrugged. “But I can’t have these statues harming them.” She whispered words of discouragement at the statues. The words floated through the air and latched onto the statues’ helmets. The statues shivered.

Titus went wide eyed and jumped on a statue, punching it through the chest. “I can’t wait to make a boat out of you!”

Selena plunged her greatsword into the same statue, splintering the wood that Titus punched. Her sword lit up, exploding the wood and causing wood chips to fly everywhere.

The damaged statue gains consciousness and grabs at Titus. Titus hops off and lands on the ground. It then goes for Selena, whose sword was still in its chest.

“My god protect me!” She yelled.

The statue’s hammer came down on her, but at the last moment, it veered off course and hit the ground. A blue sphere flashed over Selena.

The second statue wakes up and sneaks up behind Armstig and Selena. It swings its hammer down onto Armstig, crushing him. But mid-swing, discouraging words echoed and caused it lost its grip on its hammer, missing Armstig by a hair. Then it uppercuts Selena with the hammer, knocking Selena away, who pulls her sword with her. Her shield flashes back up as she lands against the cliff wall.

Armstig claws the first statue, but it blocks his fist with its hammer. He swings his other fist, and gauges its knee. The statue falls to the ground. Armstig turns around and hits the second statue, but his attack was blocked by expert placement of the hammer handle.

Johnny goes in and slices the statue’s back as it laid on the ground on all fours. He jumps away before the statue can hit him back.

Miyu escapes the situation by climbing up the cliff wall. She points at the statue prone on the ground and spits on it, with deadly accurate spit. “Pain of a Thousand Wounds.” Magical energy fills the spit as it travels. When it lands on the statue, its whole neck and head dissolve and it collapses onto the ground.

Titus picks up the disembodied statue arm and yells “Your gonna be my boat too!” at the second statue. He swings at the statue and dents its side with the statue arm.

Selena whispers, “You who have angered my god shall pay!” She lept into the air and slashed the second statue straight down the middle.

The statue blocked her sword with the handle of his warhammer, but her sword lit up and slahed right through it, striking its body behind it. The statue swings its hammer wildly, but it falls apart and it flies away in two pieces. One piece hits Titus, but he blocked it with the statue arm.

Armstig jumped into the air and kicked the statue in the face. The statue toppled over backward. Armstig landed on its leg and slashed its hand to bits with two quick claw strikes. “It’s all you!”

Johnny stood still, waiting for his opportunity to strike. Then, in a flash, he dashed across the statue’s neck. He stuck his rapier in the exact spot on the statue’s neck. When he pulled out his rapier, the statue’s neck exploded into a bunch of tiny pieces. Its head rolled down the beach.

“Nice stab!” Armstig high fived Johnny.

“Nice kick!” Johnny high fived him.

Miyu approached Selena. “Are you hurt?”

“I’m fine thanks.” Selena’s hands glowed, and the scrapes on her midriff disappeared.

“That’s good to know. Say, why did you do what you did back there?”

“Because the statues were attacking us?”

“No I mean about the mist. Why did you blow it all in our faces?”

“Well, it got the mist out of the room, didn’t it?” Selena grumbled away.

Titus swung the statue arm wildly, banging it against the already dead statues.

“Titus, dear, stop that. You’re hurting the moss.”

“Oh, sorry.” Titus threw the arm away across the beach.

Miyu crawled over the statues and began quarantining the moss. “Can’t have this spreading all over the place.”

Johnny went over to the head that rolled away and picked it up. It was quite heavy and had a displeased look on it.

“Yeah if I were a statue on a beach, I’d be pissed too.” Armstig joked.

“Yeah.” Johnny kicked something. “Say, what’s this?” He pulled it out. It was a bottle of wine! “Wine! Score!” Johnny uncorked it with a claw and took a swig.

“Booze?” Titus turned to him. “Let me have some.” Titus took the bottle and gulped it down.

“Hey, save some for us.” Johnny grabbed it back and took a big swig.

Armstig sighed. Then he yelled, “Johnny! I challenge you…” He knelt in front of the detached statue arm. “An *arm* wrestling competition.”

“You’re on!” He tossed the wine bottle to Titus, who greedily grabbed it.

“You’re going down this time!” Johnny said. He braced arms with Armstig.

“Nah, I got this one. I knocked down the statues,” Amrstig’s arm pushed hard into Johnny’s. “I’ll knock down your arm too.” Armstig’s arm touched all the way down. He won.

“Ok, best two out of three.”

They went again. Armstig won again.

“It’s out of three. Again!”

Armstig pushed hard, but Johnny pushed harder. He won this time. “Hah! Take that!”

“Good game, Johnny.” Armstig smiled.

“What’s going on over here boys?” Selena approached.

“I just won the daily arm wrestling competition.”

“Oh yeah? Congratulations.”

“Thanks!” Armstig held out his hand. “Wanna face the winner?”

“Nah, I’m good. I don’t want to intrude.”

“What? Afraid you’ll lose?”

“Huh, ok.” Selena knelt down at the arm and gripped Armstig’s hand. He winced.

“Ok ready? Go!” Armstig quickly slammed her arm down on the table. “I win.”

“No fair. I wasn’t ready.”

“Too bad, I won.”

“Best out of 3!”

“Ok.”

They went again, and Selena quite handily slammed his arm into the ground.

“Hmm… lucky. Well now to round 3.”

“Here we go.”

They arm wrestled the third and final time. Armstig gave it his all, but Selena pushed his hand all the way down. It wasn’t even a contest.

Armstig wrang his arm out. “Wow… you’re strong.”

“Thank you.” She smiled.

“Ok, move please.” Miyu came over and started quarantining the moss on the arm they were using as a table. “Ok, now that that’s done. Can I see the tablet, please?”

“Whatever.” Selena tosses it onto the arm.

Miyu rolls her eyes, but says, “Thank you,” anyway.

Titus drank the wine all the way to the last sip.

“Ok, that’s mine.” Johnny declares.

“No, I want it!” Titus says.

“Let’s arm wrestle for it!”

“You’re on!”

Titus and Johnny lock arms. They start and it’s an even contest. Johnny pushes to his end, and then Titus pushes back. Finally Titus makes it to the table.

“Ha!” Titus exclaims. “It’s mine!”

“No, best two out of three!”

“Ok.”

They go again. It takes a little while, but Titus eeks out a victory. He gulps down the last sip of wine. Johnny smacks his lips in disappointment.

The party walks back to town. Along the way, they pass the forest where Selena lives.

“Bye everyone!”

“Be safe now getting home.” Miyu says.

“Wait you live here?” Armstig asks, following behind Selena.

“Follow me home and get a punch.”

“Is that a good thing?”

Selena presents a fist. “What do you think?”

“Ok. That’s a no. See you later, fish lady.”

“Bye!” She waves happily back.

She goes to her forest house and stares at a picture of her father. She gives it a big hug before starting chores.

The party walks across the plains and reaches town.

“Race you to the town hall!” Armstig gets down on all fours and dashes ahead of the group.

“Hey! Wait up!” Johnny also gets down on all fours and sprints after Armstig.

When they get there, a little kobold is walking up the front steps to the town hall. Before he opens the doors, he turns around and sees them getting closer.

“What are you… what are you doing here?” He almost drops his spear.

“Not to worry little lizard.” Armstig pats the kobold on the head. “We’re hear to talk to the elder gnome, not you.”

“Oh you’re here for the meeting!”

“The meeting?” Johnny and Armstig exchanged glances. They both burst out laughing.

“What’s so funny? This meeting is very important and I…”

“My guy…” Johnny took a deep breath. “The meeting is over. Hours ago.”

“What? That can’t be.” The kobold gasped. “It’s at 3:30, right?”

“No, it was at *8*:30. This morning.”

“Oh…” He went pale. “Crap! It happened again.”

“Don’t sweat it. We were late too.” Armstig opened the town hall doors. They all three walked in.

“Ah, Roth Harkaj, pleasure to finally see you.” The gnome elder greeted the kobold.

“Sorry, elder.” Roth blushed. “I’ll try to be on time next time.”

“You’re here with Johnny and Armstig, I see. I take it you helped on the adventure to the cave?”

“The cave? Yeah, sure did. We cleared the goblins out of the cave, just like you asked.”

The elder gave him a look with his eye.

Armstig laughed. “Well, there sure aren’t any goblins in that cave.”

“A quite unexpected surprise. But anyway, I assume you have the tablet?” He held out his hand.

“Yep! Sure do!” Armstig searched his person, and looked in his shorts. “I don’t got it. Do you?”

Johnny pointed behind him. “I think spider lady has it.”

“And where are they?”

“Here!” Miyu and Titus walked into the town hall. “Here you go.” She handed it to him.

“Thank you very much.” The gnome elder examined the tablet. “Let me tell you about this here artifact. It was made by the very elder who brought us to this island, many years ago…”

Titus snored.

“Well, I see I’m boring you…” He grumbled.

“Titus!” Miyu pinched his cheek and shook it. “Wake up!”

“So about your reward: boats have already been arranged to take you to the mainland.”

“Thank you.” Johnny smiled.

“Anything else you wanted?”

“Yeah, how about a good pancake recipe?” Armstig asked.

Johnny looked at him.

“What? All that talk about pancakes made me hungry.”

“I do indeed know of a pancake recipe. I’m quite famous for it, if I do say so myself.”

The gnome makes pancakes that look absolutely delicious.

Miyu blocks Armstig from them and sniffs.

“They smell so good!” Armstig tries to get past her, but she webs his feet and he trips.

“They smell funny.” Miyu tastes one and gags. She swallows, but then immediately drowns it in water. “These are nasty!”

Armstig looks up, wide eyed.

The gnome elder sweats. “No they’re not *nasty*… more like, an acquired taste.”

“I dare you to eat one.” Armstig looks up at Johnny.

“They can’t be that bad.” Johnny picks one up and puts it in his mouth. He recoils and spits it out. He throws the pancake away, and it lands on the wall and sticks to it. “What is this?”

“A pancake.” The gnome looks dejected.

“Oh honey, let me help.” Miyu enters the kitchen and puts together some absolutely delicious pancakes. “Try these.” She lets Armstig out the web cocoon.

He tries one and howls. “These are amazing!” He gobbles two down.

The gnome elder takes a bite. “Oh my…” He sits down and start welling up with tears. “These are divine! I can’t believe… I’ve never had anything as good as this. My whole life has been a lie!”

“You’re welcome, honey.” Miyu stacks the last of the pancakes on the table. “I’m glad you enjoy them.”

The party down the whole stack.

“Titus, do you want a pancake?”

Titus roll his head around to her. “Nah, miss. I want \*hic\* booze.”

“Are you sure? They’re delicious.”

“Sorry, I have a… history with pan \*hic\* cakes. I don’t like them.”

“Ok. Do you need some sleep?”

Titus nods. Miyu picks him up and takes him out. She takes him to a tavern and pay for a room for him. She tell him not to get into any trouble, and he doesn’t. He instead instigates a fight between two other guys, and then joins in when he’s ready. Clever trouble maker.

Back at town hall, the worgens are still there.

“I don’t know about you, but I’m still hungry.” Armstig rubs his tummy.

The gnome lights up. “I could make more…”

“I could make more pancakes.” Johnny interjects. He gets right to work, making a full stack. “Don’t eat any until I’m done.”

“Ok.”

He finishes, and they dig in. But the pancakes were horrible. “Bleh! These are bad!”

So Johnny makes a second batch, and these ones are actually ok. “These will do.”

They had lots of leftovers. “Hey, maybe we should take these to fish lady?”

“No, she said not to follow her home, remember?”

“You’re right.”

So they go to the blacksmith instead, right before he closed shop. Johnny buy a cutlass and Armstig buys nothing because he has his natural wolf claws.

“Wanna pancake?” Armstig holds out a pancake to him.

Bofur the dwarf blacksmith ignores that one and takes a random pancake from the stack, nearly toppling it. “Hmm! Thank you!” He takes one bite and immediately starts vomiting. “That’ so gross! Reminds me of the time the elder gnome made pancakes for our spring get together. And everyone got sick. I got diarrhea that lasted days.”

“Well hopefully you don’t get sick that long this time.”

“Anything else I can help you with?”

“Nope, see ya!”

The worgens go to a tavern and sleep in the attic.

“That was a fun day!” Armstig gets comfy. “I wonder what’ll happen tomorrow?”

“It sure was.” Johnny replies. “I’m looking forward to it.”