



Hey everyone! Welcome back to Wacky Wednesday, the article series where I just write whatever I want! Every other Wednesday, there will be a Year In Film Article up, but on the intervening Wednesdays, there's really no telling what will happen. Like today!

Who's ever heard of Dungeons and Dragons? Me! I have! I'm so cool and funny! Dungeons and Dragons is a really great tabletop RPG, and also the oldest of its kind. It allows normal, real people to take the role of interesting, cool, fictional people and fight monsters, kill baddies, commit crimes. It was created in 1974, which means that it's been about 50 years since its inception. In that time, so much has been created for the game, whether by fans, by the actual companies that have peddled the game, or by the original designers. These 5 monsters all come from the most recent edition of Dungeons and Dragons: D&D 5e.

Okay, here we go.

Beholder



Ok. Straight up, what the heck is that. No, don't run away from me, it's a simple question. What is that? And who... hold on. So, one year after the base game came out, in 1975, a supplement was released. And within it was this thing. I have no idea who came up with it, but whoever it was needs to be checked into a mental asylum.

Powerfully xenophobic and magically murderous, the Beholder hates all other Beholders, and wants to see them all dead. Those eyestalks? They aren't just for show. Each one has a specified magic beam or ray that can be fired from it, including an anti-magic ray and a petrification beam.

Beauty sure is in the eye(s) of the Beholder.

Stirge



Fleshy bat-mosquito? Sign me up! Just looking at this thing makes me want to puke. Thankfully, it's really easy to get rid of in the game. Nice bonus, but the mental trauma of having to make contact with this thing will stay with you for way longer than the physical wounds it can cause.

Sporting a way too big wingspan of 2 feet, or about 0.6 metres, they aren't dangerous alone, but a group of them can make you regret ever being born. Their main method of attack is to suck your blood. Just like actual mosquitos! Finally, something familiar.

Speaking of familiars, if you are playing a wizard, you can actually have one of these lil' fellas as a pet! I wouldn't recommend leaving it alone with any of your other pets, though. Stirges get thirsty after a while.

Flail Snail



I love him, where can I get more. This is a Flail Snail. And I mean, just look at him. This is in the opposite tone from the Beholder's 'look at him,' just in case you couldn't tell. The properties of the Flail Snail include: an antimagic shell that gives a random disadvantage to any spells cast with the Snail as a target (when the Snail succeeds its saving throw), or if a spell simply misses the Snail, the disadvantage also kicks in.

Another thing that the Flail Snail can do is smack you really hard with the Flails that it Snails. That was a really awful pun. I deeply apologize.

The great thing about the Flail Snail is that it's not inherently hostile, meaning that it just kinda hangs out until you attack it. So you can make Snail friends with the Flail Snail! You can be pen pals in the Snmail! (like snail and mail, get it?)

Grell



Aight back to more nightmare fuel. I wonder if some guy was walking home late from work one night and was thinking real hard about birds, beaks, tentacles, and other assorted things that make people very very uncomfortable and come up with this... thing. That's probably exactly what happened.

He either got a raise, or got fired. Maybe both. 10 tentacles, hollow barbs, can see you even if it doesn't have eyes, paralytic venom within those barbs, a strong desire to consume everything but your brain.

Did I mention it looks like a brain? A bird brain! That's a great joke! It almost distracted me from the fact that I'm never going to sleep again!

Whoever came up with this...

I just wanna talk.

Intellect Devourer



I realize that you didn't sign up for "Brains and Brain-Related Creatures In A Tabletop Roleplaying Game That I've Never Played And Don't Think I Ever Want To," but can I just say: "brain with feet."

That's really it, actually. Brain, but also feet. And those feet can crawl up into you and take you over. This thing will pilot you like an exoskeleton in search of more victims and more hosts.

Created by Mind Flayers, which will definitely be on the part two of this article if there ends up being one, these are abominations that are both weird to look at and weird to think about.

I feel inadequate in the presence of such a free mind.

Hey! Thanks for reading whatever this was! If you're looking for more Years In Film, do not fret, that will be out next week. Thanks for reading through this strange, strange article.

DMN Writer,

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