

THE PROFESSIONAL



UNLIKELY
HEROES



PlotDevice

Lucient was at the construction site before all the workers arrived at dawn, and long after they all left at dusk. It had become a joke among them that he was as much a fixture of the castle firmament as the masonry or the stone blocks. In truth he often slept with his head laid down on his parchments, and woke with the impression of his straight edge on his face. He ate, drank and breathed the construction site. This castle, when finished, would have more than a little of his soul in it.

This morning he was distracted. Something in the arc of the latest bastion wall had bothered him, and he was standing fifty feet from it, trying to figure what. It wouldn't hold, not as it was. A person ran past him. He, lost in his musings, did not pay attention. Then another. Then a noise intruded on his thoughts, and he finally looked away from the wall.

Bursting up out of the disturbed earth in the middle distance was some kind of terrifying monstrosity. It was horny and cartilaginous, large, smooth and muscular, the carapace rose from its back into a crest. It was, without exception the most awful thing that Lucient had ever seen.

Workers fled from it in all directions, but one poor soul had fallen, clearly unable to gain purchase in the rent earth. The man struggled to his feet, and his movements

attracted the attention of the monster. Lucient felt a sick weight in the pit of his stomach as the monster loomed.

Unlikely Heroes Overview

This is a gaming supplement that requires the use of the Dungeons & Dragons Players Handbook, Third Edition, published by Wizards of the Coast, Inc. It uses material from the updated v3.5 revision.

Unlikely Heroes consists of seven character classes developed from the standard NPC classes in the DMG. They are designed to upgrade the NPC classes, making them comparable to the adventurer classes, but with a different focus. The Professional is one of the two classes developed from the Expert concept, this one focusing on practical abilities.

"Stay still!" he called, as ran towards the man and the horror, passing everyone running the other way, "Oi! You overgrown cockroach! Over here!" He waved at the thing. Maybe he could get it to chase him. And that bastion wall was not sturdy enough to survive the presence of this thing. If he could get it to fall at just the right time...

Mastery of skills in the pursuit of prosperity is the goal of Professionals. Representatives are mostly drawn from the middle class, where to advance in life, expertise in a profession is a pre-requisite. They form strong social associations such as guilds, corporations or unions, in order to share their skills and support one another. They exist in every culture where occupations have become specialized. Some say that the skill of the professional can achieve levels that are almost supernatural.