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As you climb down the long and windy path to the misty valley, you see a few scattered farmhouses intermixed with barns. Standing at the doorway of a small farmhouse are two middle-aged farmers, who eye you curiously as you approach.

You strike up a conversation with them. They talk at length about the castle atop the mountains. They tell you about the princess in the castle, and about the fearsome dragon that plagues the kingdom, and how the princess is searching for a hero who will slay the dragon. They talk about a giant, who has another castle ruling over a neighboring kingdom that is next to the large forest. After the exposition they return to their work and you continue west along the road.

The road eventually fades away into a large sandy section of the valley.

The bottom of the valley is eerily quiet, with no signs of human inhabitation. You cautiously make your way between numerous huge boulders, wondering where you are, when you are taken aback by an exceedingly loud grunting noise. You're not sure what it is, but it sounds like it's coming from behind some large rocks to the southeast.

If you continue to head west along the path, turn to page 17.

If you investigate the sounds coming from the southeast, turn to page 28.