

Reservedly, you yell, “I have no knowledge of this ‘Dextrus of Tempus.’ What is it?” You hear footsteps approaching, and suddenly the door swings open, revealing a man with a wild white beard.

“The Dextrus of Tempus is only one of the most powerful magical artifacts in existence! It manifests itself in the form of a ring, like one would wear on one’s hand, except that its magic is so strong that wearing it would have completely unpredictable effects! However, it protects against evil magic, and enhances my own. There is a dwarf named Grouchy, who has stolen it from me. You must recover it! I cannot leave this house without it. Do you know how much evil magic is out there? Too much! Much too much! Just a moment, I’ll send you right to Grouchy!”

You just nod. This wizard could be crazy. If he is, he might just get you killed if you try to track down his ring. On the other hand, if the ring really does protect against evil magic, it might have its uses.

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*If you are mesmerized  
by the wizard’s beard,  
turn to page 27.*

*If you accept the  
mission to find the  
Dextrus of Tempus,  
turn to page 5.*