

FORGOTTEN REALMS

Baldur's Gate™

DARK ALLIANCE™

MINI
HINT
GUIDE

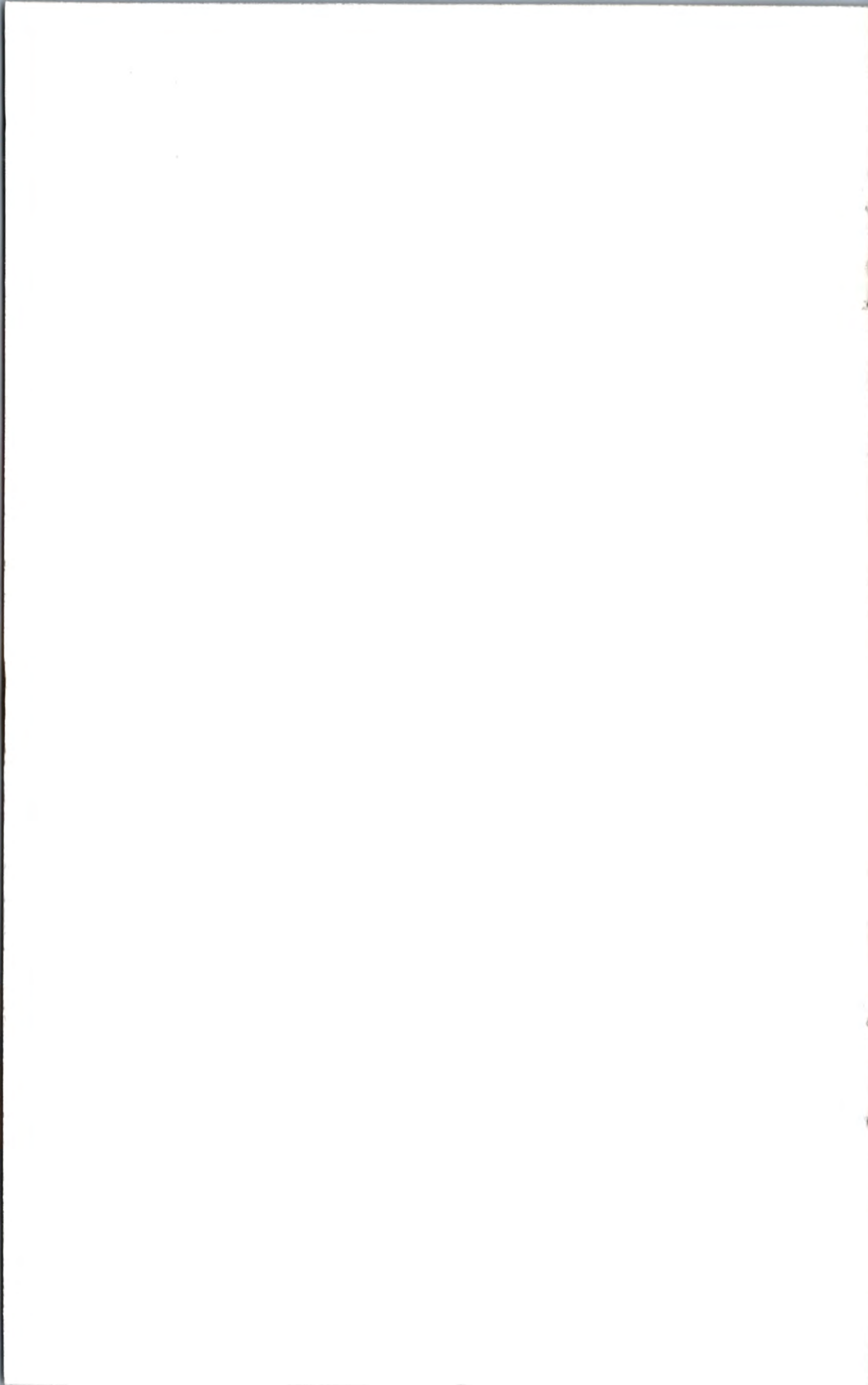
by
Doug Radcliffe



PlayStation®2

featuring Walkthroughs of the Elfsong Tavern & Cellar





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Welcome to the Baldur's Gate™: Dark Alliance™ Mini Hint Guide. In the next few pages you'll find a brief walkthrough of the Elfsong Tavern and Elfsong Tavern Cellar from this unique action role-playing game. If you are looking for more, be sure to pick up Baldur's Gate™: Dark Alliance™: Sybex Official Strategies & Secrets™. This exclusive, official strategy guide provides you with comprehensive walkthroughs, detailed maps and hardcore strategies.

ACT I WALKTHROUGH

When you arrive, you automatically move through Baldur's Gate, walking along the strangely silent city streets. Thieves soon approach from behind, rendering you unconscious with a blow to the back of your head. A shadowy, menacing figure referred to as Karne then emerges and orders the thieves to loot your body for rewards the ambush may have brought.

Before your body can be searched, the local watchmen approach to investigate the ruckus. Karne orders the two thieves to strip you of gold, and then the three men scurry into the night. The watchmen revive you and recommend finding shelter, especially during the night. The watchmen point the way to the Elfsong Tavern, which houses its own share of cutthroats and thugs—but may hold the answer to finding the thieves that attacked you.



Elfsong Tavern

You return to the Elfsong Tavern throughout the first act, as it is where you obtain most of Act I's quests and receive many of the rewards for completing them. Further, the tavern also contains Bartley, a merchant who deals in weapons, armor, and potions. Use him to sell treasure discovered during your quests or to purchase new items using gold recovered during your adventuring.

Upon arriving at the tavern, you soon discover that the inspiration for its name is a ghostly female elven voice that can be heard from time to time. It's a quiet, beautiful, but quite haunting song.



You begin inside the Elfsong Tavern speaking with the half-elven bar maid Lady Alyth Elendara, the current owner of the establishment. She speaks about the haunting voice, which belongs to the spirit of an elven woman who sings every couple of nights, and provides some theories on its origins.



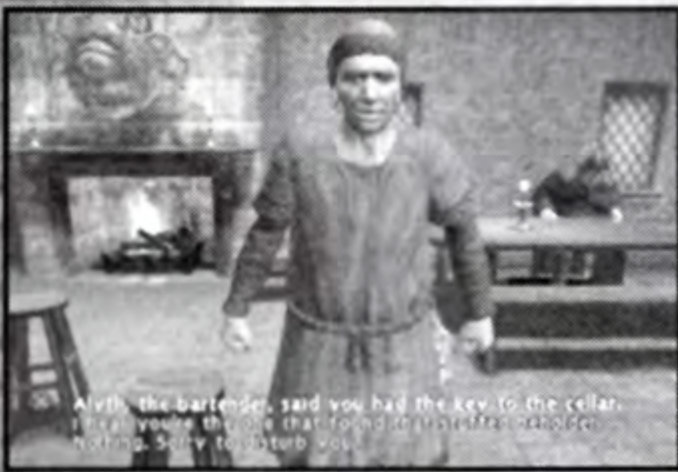
Alyth discusses the appearance of a new thieves guild—likely responsible for your recent mugging on the city streets—that has gone to war with the old guild. She says you may find these thieves inside the Sewers. Inquire about the Sewers and you'll learn of the locked sewer entrance gate in the Elfsong Tavern Cellar, currently infested with rats. Alyth offers a deal—clear the cellar of the rats and she'll provide the key to the Sewers.



Quest: Rat Exterminator

Exterminate all of the rats in the tavern's cellar and then return to Alyth for a reward.

- ◆ Location: Elfsong Tavern Cellar
- ◆ Solution: Kill all of the rats in the Elfsong Tavern Cellar, and then return to the tavern and speak with Alyth.
- ◆ Rewards: Sewer door key, 75 gold pieces, 200 experience points



Alyth directs you over to Ethon, who holds the key that unlocks the door to the cellar. Ask him about the stuffed beholder that hangs over the fireplace; this information comes in handy later when Ethon reveals the location of a secret door. Tell Ethon about your quest to exterminate the rats and request the key to the cellar door. He will hand over the key as well as a rusty dagger for use against the rats.



Locate the locked cellar door to the left of Alyth and the tavern bar. Before you proceed into the cellar to tackle the rats, speak with the other patrons, including Bartley the local merchant and Nebbish, a man in search of a bottle of wine. Equip your new rusty dagger, proceed through the cellar door, and descend into the cellar to begin your first quest.

Elfsong Tavern Cellar

The Elfsong Tavern Cellar serves as an extended training level offering a fast-paced, though still dangerous, labyrinth filled with low-level rats and a high number of breakable boxes and barrels. The cellar connects the bar to the sewers below and is liberally stocked with both the vermin that need to be slain to complete Alyth's rat exterminator quest and the wine bottle that will finish Nebbish's wine bottle quest.





Upon descending into the cellar, move to the pedestal and save your game progress. Search the barrels and urns in the room for items before exiting through the door across the room. Open the door and proceed into the next chamber.



You'll face the first batch of rats in this room. Attempt to battle them one at a time, as they are mostly harmless in single numbers but can quickly cause damage when encountered in groups. Cross the room and walk through the doorway on the left side.



There are no rats in the next room, but there is a chest containing potential loot. Break the barrels and urns around the room in search of gold, potions, or additional items. Locate the door on the other side of the shallow pool.



Traverse the tight hallway and battle a trio of rats. Some barrels and crates line the hall. Don't neglect to search them—by smashing them apart with your weapon—before approaching the door at the far end of the hall. A quick glance into the next room reveals quite an infestation of vermin!



This chamber contains four rats, which can be fought either near the entrance or around the objects in the room's center. Comb the vicinity for loot before moving to the door in the far corner.

Monitor your health bar and use any collected health potions should you need refreshment while battling the cellar's extensive rat population.





Open the door into the next room, which looks quite similar to the previous chamber. Clear it of the scurrying rats and search the nearby chest, boxes, barrels, and crates for some gold or loot. Leave through the exit door to the right of the room's entrance.



A group of four rats occupy this chamber. You can take them on in the room's center, or lure them one at a time through the doorway. Search the room before locating the door to the left of the entrance. Open it and move on into a narrow hallway.



You're close to clearing out all of the rats. If you have killed all of the filthy creatures thus far, you receive a message that only 15 rats remain after this hallway has been cleared. Continue down the hall into the far room.



This hallway leads directly into the next chamber, which contains a concentration of five rats along with scattered barrels, boxes, and a closed chest. Exterminate the group of rats and search all of the objects.



Exit through the door left of the entrance into this hallway and a couple of rats will charge you. Kill them and then search the breakable objects that line the hall before opening the door at the far end of the hall.



You're nearly done! Open the door into this chamber and exterminate the rats found within. Lure them into the doorway to battle them one at a time, or just tackle them all at once in the room's center. Just three rats remain after this room has been cleared.





The final three rats occupy the cellar room accessed through a door to the left of the entrance. Exterminate the rats here and you will receive a message notifying you that the rat quest has been completed.



Search the left side of the room to locate a closed chest and a save game pedestal. Take the time to save your game before continuing with your adventure. You should also search the room for precious gold and other items.

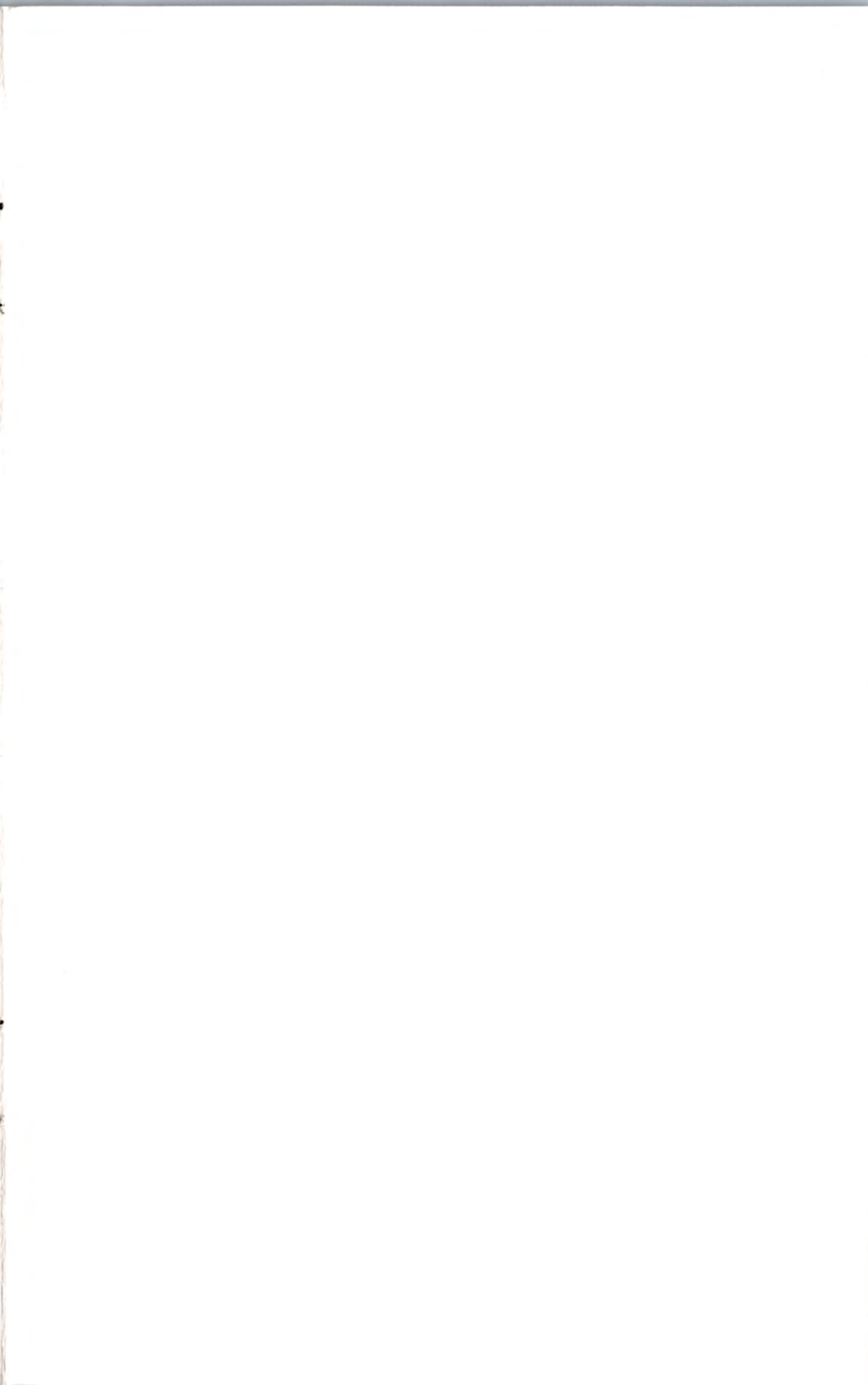
Before proceeding further into the cellar, retrace your steps back to the ladder leading up into the Elfsong Tavern or, to get there in hurry, drink a Recall potion if you've found one. It's time to collect your first quest reward! Speak with Alyth and she will reward you for exterminating all of the rats and give you the key to the Sewers. She also mentions something ominous about Ethon—he followed you into the cellar and has yet to return...

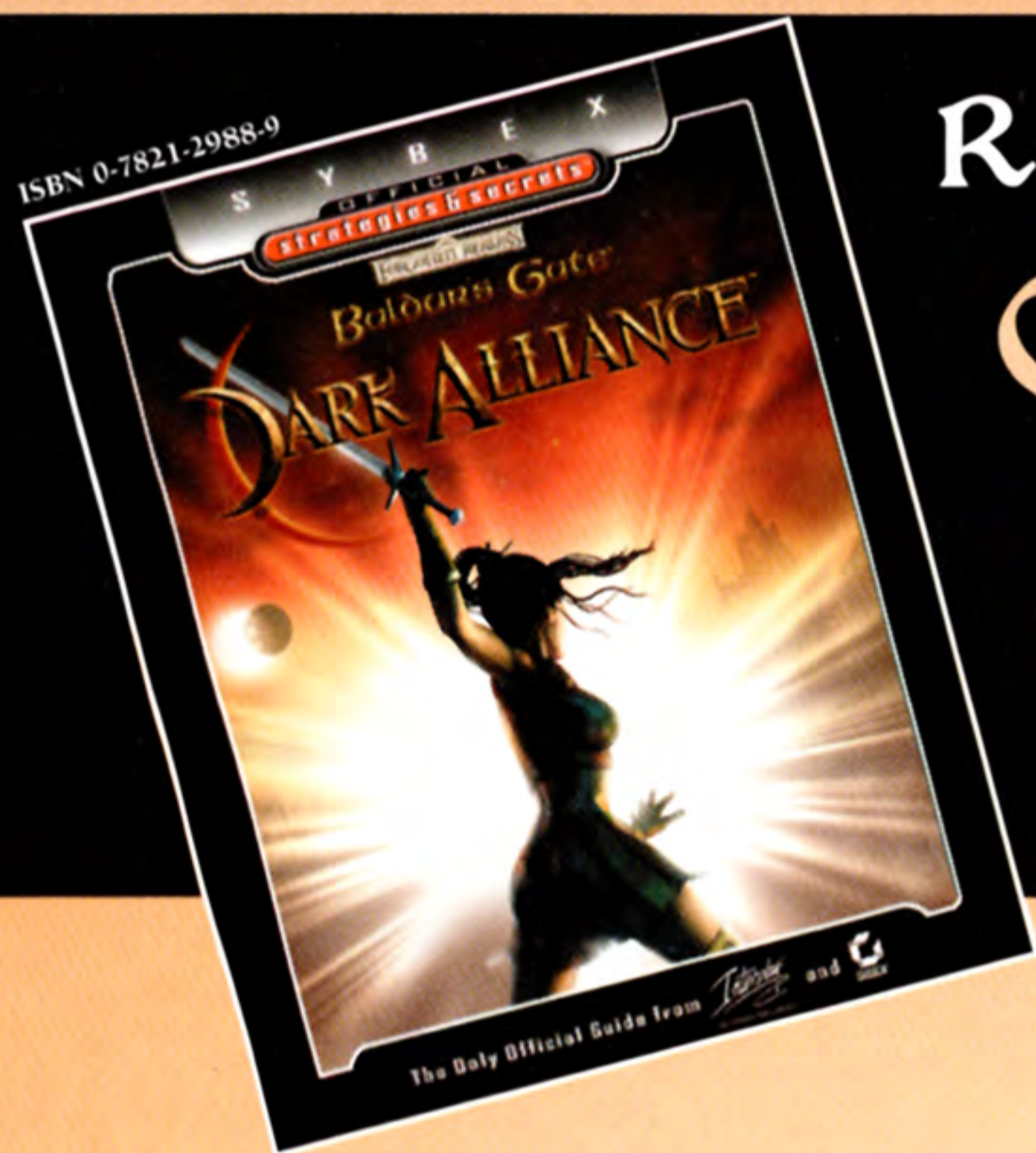


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Even the most skilled adventurer will be challenged in this epic tale of adventure and intrigue developed for the PlayStation®2 computer entertainment system. The exclusive, full-color Sybex Official Strategies & Secrets™ guide, written with full cooperation of the game's developers, gives you the valuable inside info you need to develop your character, find every secret area, complete each quest, and defeat every boss so that vengeance may be yours!

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