

SQAP's Showcase Quest For Tamriel Rebuilt

Winning their Hearts

Decide the winner of an all too literal struggle for hearts

- PC finds an alchemist and assistant camped by the side of the road near a daedric shrine
- Alchemist tasks PC with obtaining the heart of a unique dremora from the nearby ruins, claiming he needs it to create a powerful potion
- PC fights through the shrine and meets the dremora, who claims that the alchemist took an oath of servitude to the dremora's lord in return for alchemical knowledge, which the alchemist is trying futilely to escape
- The dremora asks PC to return with the alchemist's heart as punishment
- PC can accept this offer or kill the dremora to obtain his heart
- If PC accepts, the alchemist pleads for his life, insisting the PC kill his assistant and take their heart to the dremora instead
- PC can accept this offer or kill the alchemist
- Rewards from surviving NPCs

Journal

- (10) [Alchemist] has tasked me with obtaining the heart of [Dremora], who resides in the nearby shrine of Bapatipi
- (30) [Dremora] claims that [Alchemist] has broken his oath of service. [Dremora] has asked me to bring him [Alchemist's] heart as punishment for his insubordination
- (50) [Alchemist] wants me to spare him and take [Assistant's] heart to [Dremora] in place of his.
- (70) [Alchemist] has given me several powerful potions in thanks for bringing him [Dremora's] heart.
- (75) [Dremora] has rewarded me for bringing him [Assistant's] heart. He did not appear to know the difference. Dathrus may have something for me.
- (80) [Alchemist] has given me several powerful potions in thanks for bringing [Dremora] [Assistant's] heart.
- (90) [Dremora] has rewarded me for bringing him [Alchemist's] heart.
- (95) I met Nirasa in Avud and she gave me a few potions in thanks.

Latest Rumor

- An alchemist and his assistant passed through here a while back. They said they were headed to some Daedric shrine out west, Bapatipi, I think it was. (Arvud)

Greetings

- Dremora
 - $J \leq 10$: You trespass where you should not, mortal. I will be sporting and allow you the first strike. You will land no others.
 - $J 30-50$: Do not speak to me until you have brought me that insolent **alchemist's heart**.
 - $J \geq 80$: Your service to me has been most helpful. I don't suppose you would be willing to make a more permanent arrangement?

- Alchemist
 - J<10: Ah! You look like a %PCRace who can handle yourself. Unlike my assistant here. Would you be interested in a little job concerning a **dremora's heart**?
 - J10-30: Have you killed that fiend yet? I need that **dremora's heart**.
 - J50: I'll be waiting.
 - J70: Thank you for dealing with Rathmeer, %PCName. I'll be back in town making a profit in no time.
 - J80: Thank you for your help with that unfortunate business. Best not to think about it. I find that a little gold is the most effective sleep aid.
- Assistant
 - J=30, (Dathrus dead) He wanted you to kill me? That's it. I'm packing up and heading back to Arvud. Thank you for not listening to that madman.
 - J<=50: Dathrus dragged me out here in search of some stupid **dremora's heart**. If he thinks I'm risking my life for an ingredient, then he should really take one of those intelligence potions he's always selling.
 - J=70: Good. He's got that heart he wanted. Maybe now we can leave this wretched place.
 - J=90: Good to see you %PCName! Sorry I couldn't stick around a little longer, but I saw a very hungry looking daedra and I had to get out of there. I did manage to grab a few of Dathrus' potions though. Here, you can have them, as my thanks. I'm going to have to find a new trainer who isn't willing to sacrifice me to a dremora.
 - J=95: I can't believe that s'wit was going to have me killed. I'm glad he's dead. Thank you.

Topic - dremora's heart

- Dremora
 - J=10 That fool. Do not believe this is about some reagent. He thinks to escape the oath he swore to me. Ridiculous. I cannot be challenged so simply. **Dathrus' oath** will persist beyond my "death". Strike me, and you will see. Or perhaps you are not so foolish. Perhaps you will listen to a little proposal concerning **Dathrus's heart**?
 - J=50 As I said, if you wish to help that mortal, you have merely to take it from me. Go ahead.
- Alchemist
 - J=0 Yes, you see, I am in need of a very particular alchemical ingredient. Within the shrine beside us lives a dremora lord called Rathmeer. Kill him, extract his heart, and bring it to me. No other daedra heart will do. Only Rathmeer's heart is powerful enough for the potion I am preparing. I have a particular... connection to it, and will know it when I see it. Now, no further questions. Don't return until you have it! J10
 - J10-30 Do you have it?
 - Yes, here it is
 - Excellent! I'm free - to make that potion, of course. I would love to give it to you, but alas, it was for a very important client. Take these instead, they're some of the finest I have in stock. We should be packing up camp

now. I can't wait to leave this place. May your travels be safe and profitable. J70

- Don't play games with me. Go get it. And be quick about it! Remember, no normal daedra heart will do.
 - No
 - Well what are you waiting for? Go get it!
 - J=50 Nevermind that! As long as Rathmeer thinks I'm dead I couldn't care less.
- Assistant
 - J<50 I don't see why we can't use any old daedra heart. But no - he insists we need the heart of one specific very powerful dremora.

Topic - Dathrus's oath

- Rathmeer
 - J10-75 Dathrus Rilyn approached me some years ago seeking knowledge of alchemy. That mortal was pathetic when it came to the alchemical arts, but I humored him. In exchange for the most trifling of daedric techniques he took an oath of servitude to myself. This little game of his will not release him from this service, but the intention to break an oath must not go unpunished. That is why you must bring me **Dathrus' heart**.
 - J75 Dathrus will serve me even in death. It is strange, I have not yet felt his soul return to me. It is no matter. His spirit cannot hide for long.
 - J90 Dathrus will serve me even in death. What to do with his soul? No rush. We have all the time in Oblivion now.
- Dathrus
 - J<70 Alright. I confess. I sought his aid in learning the art of alchemy. I thought it would give me an edge. And it did. For years I traveled from town to town, selling potions and poisons the likes of which few had seen. Of course, making a tidy profit all the while. Recently though, I've had this terrible feeling, as if my life doesn't belong to me. I had to make this stop before we left the province. It's all I've been able to think about.
 - J>70 He won't still be looking for me, will he?
- Nirasa
 - J<=70 Well that explains a lot. I always wondered why he was so terrible at actually explaining alchemy. In any case, it's his business. He won't drag me into any of his dealings with the daedra.
 - J=95 What a fool. I suppose he's fulfilling his oath now after all.

Topic - Dathrus' heart

- Rathmeer
 - J=10 If Dathrus plots to separate me from my heart, it is only fitting that my retribution be the same. Kill him and return his heart to me. Simple, cruel, and poetic. I imagine my dremora brethren would appreciate that. J30
 - J30-50
 - Condition:Assistant heart Perfect, give it here. It is most definitely a human heart. I suppose you've fulfilled your end of the bargain. Take this. I hope this is just

the beginning of your heart extracting journey. Go forth and kill some other mortals. J75

- Condition: Assistant heart Perfect, give it here. A fitting end for that oathbreaker. I suppose you've fulfilled your end of the bargain. Take this. I hope this is just the beginning of your heart extracting journey. Go forth and kill some other mortals. J90

- J>=75 Wonderful job with that. Go on now.

- Dathrus

- J30 What? You didn't actually listen to that fiend, did you? He wasn't supposed to know I was after him! Listen, before you kill me, I think there's a way both of us can come out on top. Once I visited Rathmeer with an associate of mine, and he could scarcely tell the two of us apart! Surely it follows that he wouldn't be able to tell two human hearts apart. So, we would just need a substitute heart. Say my assistant's, for example. And of course, if one were to bring him such a substitute, I would have to reward them. Generously. In addition to whatever Rathmeer might have already given them. So what do you say?

- Choice 1 I'll find him a replacement then.

- I knew you would see reason. J50

- Choice 2 No

- Then I have no choice but to defend myself. Pity.

- J50-70 Go ahead and deliver Rathmeer the heart. You'll be well rewarded.

- 75 Excellent. You've chosen well. These potions are among my finest stock, and there's a little bonus for your discretion. I'll deal with the cleanup. You have my thanks. J80

- Nirasa

- J50 He wants you to kill me? That s'wit! It's his bargain, it should be his heart. That's what happens when you make deals with daedra! If you're going to kill me, then do it. Either way I won't have to see his traitorous face again.

- J95 Thank you for killing Dathrus. I'll make my way without him. Maybe I'll take some of his gold and hire a real trainer.