

The Adventures of Redbridge Stanton

Redbridge Stanton  
and  
The Kingdom of t  
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The Kingdom of the  
Dustland Skull

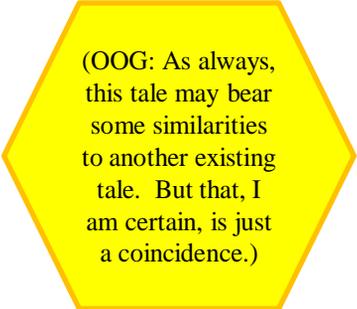
## Redbridge Stanton and the Coffe of the Lost Codi

This book contains the fictional saga of Redbridge Stanton, famous adventurer, and his quest to obtain the Coffe of the Lost Codi.

This is an abridged version of that tale.



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(OOG: As always,  
this tale may bear  
some similarities  
to another existing  
tale. But that, I  
am certain, is just  
a coincidence.)

## Redbridge Stanton and the Coffers of the Lost Codi

In 1976, adventurer Redbridge Stanton braves an ancient temple in the Barumbi Basin and retrieves a golden idol. He is confronted by his rival adventurer Remy Bellock and a tribe of the indigenous Basinlanders. Surrounded and outnumbered, Redbridge is forced to surrender the idol to Bellock and escapes aboard a waiting riverboat.

Shortly after returning to the bardic college in Briardown where he teaches history, Redbridge is interviewed by two Jacks in service to the King of Faraway. They inform him that that agents of the old and secret Illuminated Mind, in their quest for power, are looking for his old mentor Abner Crowley, who is the leading expert on the ancient Dustland city of Giringazi and possesses the headpiece of the Staff of the Sun. Redbridge deduces that the Illuminated Mind are searching Giringazi because it believed to be location of the Coffers of the Lost Codi; the Illuminated Mind believe that if they acquire it, the knowledge within will make their armies invincible. The Staff of the Sun is the key to finding the Well of Souls, a secret chamber in which the Coffers are buried.

The Jacks authorize Redbridge to recover the Coffers before the Illuminated Mind. Redbridge travels to Giringazi, only to find that Abner Crowley has died and that the headpiece is in the possession of his daughter, Muriel, Redbridge's embittered former lover. Muriel's tavern is suddenly raided by a group of thugs commanded by Illuminated Mind agent Todd. The tavern is burned down in the ensuing fight, during which Todd burns his hand on the searing hot headpiece as he tries to grab it. Redbridge and Muriel escape with the headpiece, with Muriel declaring she will accompany Redbridge in his search for the Coffers so he can repay his debt.

They travel to the Kingdom of Gold, where they learn from Jones's friend Sully, a skilled excavator, that Bellock and the Illuminated Mind, led by Lord Dietrich, is digging for the Well of Souls with a replica of the headpiece modeled after the scar on Todd's hand. In a bazaar, Illuminated Mind operatives attempt to kidnap Muriel; as Redbridge pursues, it appears that she dies in an explosion. While deciphering the markings on the headpiece, Redbridge and Sully realize that the Illuminated Mind has miscalculated the location of the Well of Souls. Using this to their advantage, they infiltrate the Illuminated Mind's dig and use the Staff of the Sun to uncover the Well of Souls, which is filled with snakes. Redbridge fends off the snakes despite his fear of them and acquires the Coffers of the Lost Codi, but Bellock, Dietrich, and the Illuminated Mind arrive to take it. The Illuminated Mind toss Muriel into the well with Redbridge and seal them in, but they manage to escape. After a fistfight with an Illuminated Mind Man of Science, blowing up a boat loaded with gadgets on the

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river, and chasing down a wagon on camel back, Redbridge takes back the Coffers before it can be shipped to destinations unknown.

Redbridge and Muriel leave the Kingdom of Gold to escort the Coffers to Faraway aboard a ship. The next morning, their boat is boarded by Bellock, Dietrich, and the Illuminated Mind, who once again steal the Coffers and kidnap Muriel. Redbridge stows away on their vessel and follows them to an isolated island in the Central Wikapapuji, where Bellock plans to inspect the contents of the Coffers before presenting it to the secret Illuminated Leader. Redbridge reveals himself and threatens to destroy the Coffers with a stolen Staff of Fire, but Bellock calls his bluff, knowing Redbridge cannot bear to destroy such an important historical artifact. Redbridge surrenders and is tied to a post with Muriel as Bellock performs a ceremonial opening of the Coffers, which appears to contain nothing but sand. Suddenly, the spirits of Lost Patrons who wrote the Lost Codi emerge from the Coffers, floating chaotically about the assembly. Aware of the supernatural danger of looking at the opened Coffers, Redbridge warns Muriel to keep her eyes shut. As Bellock and the others look on in astonishment, one of the Lost Patrons suddenly transforms into an Anathema Demon, terrifying the three leaders gathered around the Coffers. A vortex of pure doubt forms above the opened Coffers, which proceeds to shoot blasts of dark energy at each of the Illuminated Mind, killing them all. The power of doubt causes Dietrich's head to implode, Todd's head to melt, and Bellock's head to explode in a pillar of flame. The power then engulfs the remains of the doomed assembly, save for Redbridge and Muriel, blasting the Coffers' lid high into the air before dropping back down onto the Coffers. Redbridge and Muriel, having been freed from their bonds by the chaotic swirls of energy, embrace as they gaze bewildered at the now-closed Coffers.

Back in Faraway City, the Jacks tell a suspicious Redbridge that the Coffers "is someplace safe" to be studied by "the wisest of scholars". The Coffers are permanently stored in a giant facility among countless similar crates in the Laketower.