

A DIP WITH DESTINY

Rise to Royalty, Part 8 (Optional), Rec. Lvl 3-5.

Terrain

The pond is 10ft deep, the pillars are 10ft tall, the Vorana Regnus begin 5ft tall.

Setup: Coronation without a Crown

Representatives of the Court impress upon the party that the only way to restore order with the revelation of King Mimic is for the royal rituals to be observed to crown a new sovereign. They are instructed to take a set of Royal jewels to the gardens for a ritual.

Groundskeeper Florentus escorts them there.

(Optional) If playing the **Rise to Royalty** adventure, PCs are bringing their own Royal objects from the prior encounter.

Keepers in the Garden: K'Gara

Radical druids hoping to depose the kingdom have altered the growth of the Vorana Regnus to have them retract their Royal Pollen stores.

Groundskeeper Florentus (as **Druid**) leads a clutch of 5 **Gardeners** (as **Acolyte** with shears, 1d4 slashing melee with finesse).

The Royal Flowers: Vorana Regnus

The Royal Flowers, or Vorana Regnus, contain the Royal Pollen deep within their stems. They release a **Gas Spore** any turn they take damage or are within 5ft of fire. Creatures standing over their gaping mouths must make a DC 14 **Athletics** or **Acrobatics** test or fall in, becoming Prone and suffering 3d6 Poison damage. Escaping takes an action to perform a DC 14 Athletics or Acrobatics test, suffering 2d6 piercing from their teeth on a failure. The Royal Pollen is 15ft down from their mouths.

Phase 1: A Dip in the Pool

Florentus guides the party to the pool.

- **Florentus** guides the party to the southern pool and insists they dip the objects to release the pollen.
- DC 14 **Insight** check indicates he's telling half the truth, as **Gardeners** hang suspiciously close by.
- DC 14 **Nature** or **Arcana** check indicates the flowers are oversized and showing signs of mutation.
- Once the objects are dipped, phase advances +1 at the end of every round.
- **Florentus** tries to neutralize the party and steal the Royal Pollen.

Phase 2-3 : the Battle of the Pollen

Chaos and bloodshed erupts.

- Vorana Regnus stand 15ft tall on Phase 2, then 25ft tall on Phase 3.
- **Gardeners** attempt to stand on the flowers and ride them up.

Phase 4+ : the Teeth Unveiled

The tainted Vorana Regnus fully emerge.

- any creature standing atop the Vorana Regnus when they open up makes a DC 14 **Dexterity save**. On failure standing at the edge they fall 25ft and land prone; failure standing over the teeth, they suffer 2d6 piercing damage and fall into the Vorana Regnus as per "The Royal Flowers."
- the K'Gara have smeared themselves in a balm that renders the Vorana Regnus mollified against them, and leaves them immune to their acid. They will slide down and try to steal the Royal Pollen, which the Vorana Regnus won't resist.

Garden of Secrets : Florentus's Lair

Actions

Florentus has spent years preparing this garden.

- **Killer Weeds**: any patch of greenery becomes an Assassin Vine (maximum one alive at a time by this ability).
- **Grasping Growth**: **Florentus** casts **Entangle** on every green space in the garden, DC 15.
- **Nature's Bounty**: up to four creatures **Florentus** can see gain 2d4 Temp HP.
- (Phase 4+ Only) **Vorana Bites**: a Vorana Regnus makes a d20+8 attack roll against a creature within 5ft of its petals at or below their highest point. The plant bends over, flinging anyone standing atop it who does not hold on with a DC 11 **Strength save**, and bites at the target. On a hit they are swallowed as the "The Royal Flowers."