

# DAVID

A two-player game about  
myth, sacrifice, and  
otherness.



# ES

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# GOL

# IATH



STORYBREWERS ROLEPLAYING

# DAVID KILLS GOLIATH

*“I will strike you down; and I will give your dead body this day to the birds of the air and to the wild beasts of the earth.”*

—THE BOOK OF SAMUEL

*“We view things not only from different sides, but with different eyes; we have no wish to find them alike.”*

—BLAISE PASCAL

## THE PEOPLE

*David must slay them—that monster! That giant beast as old as myth who crushes our fields afoot and haunts our nightmares. Who will be the one to strike the blow? It must be David.*

*My child, had you dreamed to face a creature so large? And yet it can be done. Climb, from the tips of his feet that crush the dusty rocks, to the crown, the crown that sways as the creature lumbers. Therein plunge your spear, David, and listen for the dying gasp.*

## THE STORYTELLER

## THE CLIMB

*David arrives. The dust swirls beneath their feet, their spear glints firm by their side, their face is tilted to the sky. A shadow, as long and black as the jagged cliffs. This colossus, so tall its face cannot be seen. This Goliath.*

*A deep breath thick with the creature’s smell.*

*The climb begins.*

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**Read all the text in this game out loud. When you reach an instruction, follow it.**

Choose a player to begin the game as **DAVID**.

**DAVID**, you have reached the creature’s feet. Describe what they are like, to touch, to smell, to see. What do they remind you of? And how do you scale them and begin your long climb upward?

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Once you are done, it is the second player’s turn. They shall be our first **STORYTELLER**.

*The Storyteller is a wrinkled old soul puffing on a pipe and staring into the flickering candlelight. They have a job to do. They must tell us about Goliath.*

**STORYTELLER**, find the question listed next to Goliath’s feet, and answer it by telling us a tale. Tell it as a tale told so often, that as it starts, you feel you must already know how it ends.

The first player sheds the role of **DAVID**, and becomes a listener to this story.

*A small wide-eyed child clutching a tiny wooden sword, or a traveller shovelling spiced rice into their mouth.*

Be a good listener—gasp and snort and smile—and ask questions, if you have any, about this titan.

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Once the **STORYTELLER** is done, it is **DAVID**’s turn again.

*David is a hero, a warrior. But so too are they one of the common people like you and me. David has a home and a family and a story all of their very own.*

The Storyteller’s tale reminds David of a story from their own life. One that echoes the themes, morals, or meanings of the Storyteller’s words.

**DAVID**, tell us this story now. It may be gleeful or mournful, thrilling or mundane, but it must be a tale close to your heart.

Once **DAVID** is done, both forget who you were.

DAVID becomes the **STORYTELLER**.  
The **STORYTELLER** becomes DAVID.

*David moves forward, upwards, onwards, towards the top of the colossus.*

DAVID, move to the next part of Goliath's towering form, choosing your path if you can. Then, tell us of this new, shuddering aspect of the titan's body.

**Thus, the circle of tales begins again.**

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## TURN SUMMARY

- 1 DAVID, choose the next part of Goliath's body to climb to (or follow the path where no choice exists).
- 2 DAVID, describe what it is like here, and your journey through.
- 3 STORYTELLER, tell a story of Goliath that answers the question at this location.
- 4 DAVID, tell a story from your own life that echoes and reflects the Storyteller's tale.
- 5 DAVID becomes the **STORYTELLER**.  
The **STORYTELLER** becomes DAVID.
- 6 Repeat like an endless story that has been told through all of time. But it is not endless.
- 7 When you reach the forehead go to the next section entitled "Slaying Goliath."

## SLAYING GOLIATH

*Can you believe that you have come this far? The journey you have taken, the things you have seen, remembered. And now is the moment. When myth becomes reality. And reality becomes the myth.*

DAVID, tell us, what is it like up here upon the thinking, feeling crown of a monster?

DAVID, tell us, how you kill Goliath.

Then **STORYTELLER**, for this moment only, you are not a wrinkled orator in a room thick with eager listeners. No, for this moment, you are **GOLIATH**.

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*Goliath's mighty form begins to sway, and swirl and fall, like a thousand-year-old statue loosed from its foundations, or a tree sliced in two before its time.*

**GOLIATH**, tell us a story. From your own life. Just one. You choose.

*Now, there is a warm and lifeless husk upon the ground. And there is just one more story to be told.*

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DAVID, you are not David anymore. You are the memory of David, the legend of David, and then, the myth of David.

And so you must tell us one final story. Tell us the story of how **David killed Goliath**.

## CREDITS

**STORYBREWERS ROLEPLAYING**

**DESIGN:** Hayley Gordon & Vee Hendro

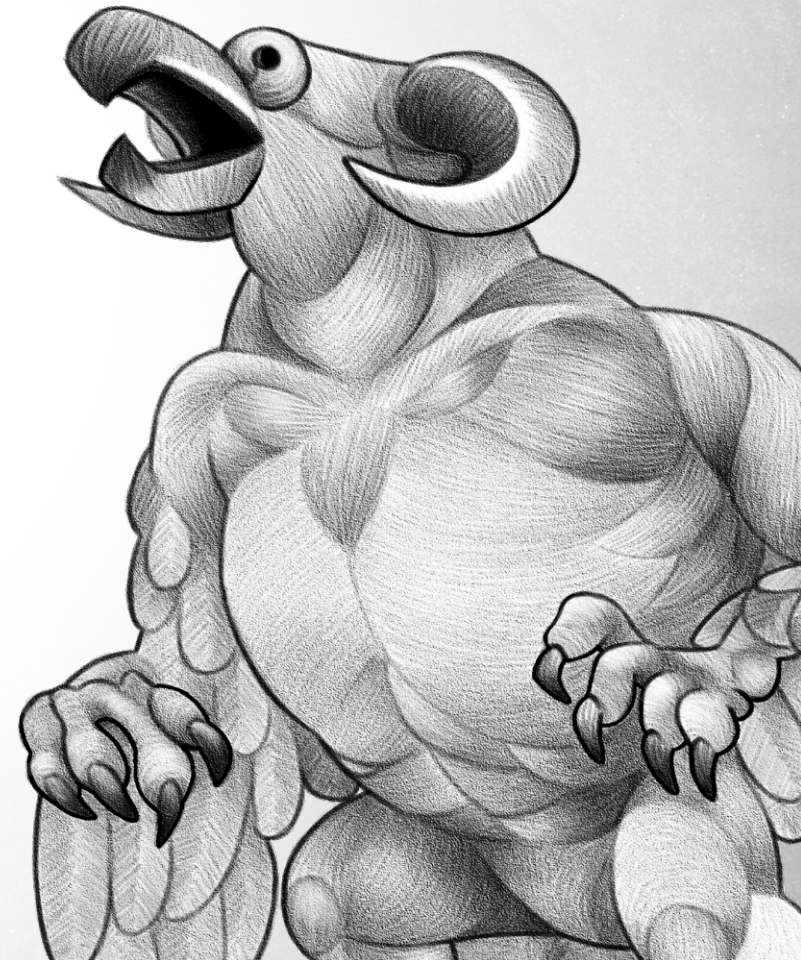
**WRITING:** Hayley Gordon

**LAYOUT:** Vee Hendro

**ART:** Helen Graham

**WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO PATRONS:** Haley Kottman, Mathew Sforcina, William Raillon.

This game comes with two versions of Goliath. Choose which you would like to use.



# CLIMBING GOLIATH

David climbs the titan's form.  
Hours fly by, or has it been days or weeks?

Starting from the feet, make your way up Goliath. Where the paths diverge, David can choose which path to take.

Mark your path as you go.

**KNEES** }  
*How does Goliath bring their enemies to their knees?*

**FEET** }  
*How did Goliath come to be?*

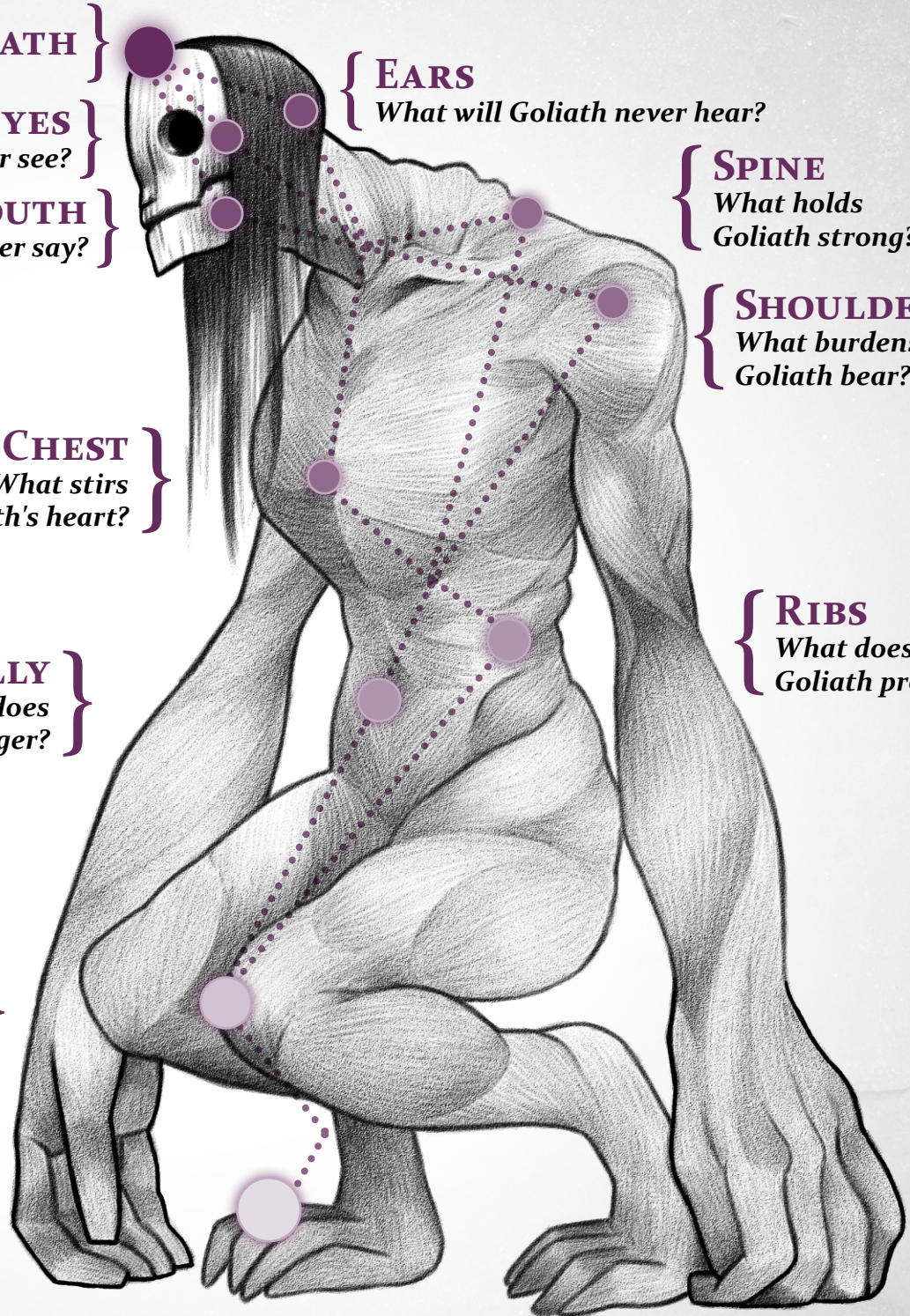
**BELLY** }  
*For what does Goliath hunger?*

**CHEST** }  
*What stirs Goliath's heart?*

**MOUTH** }  
*What will Goliath never say?*

**EYES** }  
*What will Goliath never see?*

**SLAY GOLIATH** }



**EARS** }  
*What will Goliath never hear?*

**SPINE** }  
*What holds Goliath strong?*

**SHOULDERS** }  
*What burdens does Goliath bear?*

**RIBS** }  
*What does Goliath protect?*

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**SLAY GOLIATH** }

**EYES** }  
*What will Goliath never see?*

**HORNS** }  
*What will Goliath never overcome?*

**BEAK** }  
*What will Goliath never cry for?*

**ARMS** }  
*What does Goliath reach for?*

**THROAT** }  
*What is the yoke around Goliath's neck?*

**CLAWS** }  
*What has Goliath destroyed?*

**WINGS** }  
*What does Goliath fly from?*

**GUT** }  
*What sickens Goliath?*

**HIND** }  
*What does Goliath tread upon?*

**HOOVES** }  
*How did Goliath come to be?*

