

## **Crampus and his Invincible Army of Goblins**

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Crampus had an army of goblin riders, goblin guards, goblin archers and a few just plain old goblins. All were kind of greenish color but dirty, like they'd rolled around in the mud. Since Crampus controlled so many goblins, he needed a general to teach the guards how to guard and the riders how to ride, the archers how to arch but the plain old goblins knew how to just hang out like plain old goblins do without anyone needing to teach them.

**Goblin Archer**



**Goblin Guard**



**Goblin Rider**



**Plain old Goblin**



**Crampus**



So, Crampus hired a general. Now this general was a pretty big goblin, but not as big as Crampus, and what made him special was his awesome armor fashioned from goblin steel and his two really big, extremely serrated machete swords, one of which glowed with green magik. Both were sharp enough to kill three guys with one swing. That's why they named him General Two Swords.

### **General Two Swords**



Crampus had a nemesis, Sir Anderson, whose really close friends called him Bluefish for no apparent reason. They met way back when the sun was a different color and Sir Anderson who was the king of Phoenix City, arrested Crampus for trying to conquer the world and threw him in jail, where Crampus overheard Sir Anderson whispering to some unsavory looking henchmen with bad teeth. This didn't make Crampus very happy, so he escaped by first hiding his strength and then, when Sir Anderson wasn't looking, bending the bars and hightailing it out of there, all the way to the caves behind the giant purple sunflowers.

That's when Crampus met General Two Swords. The General, though he wasn't a General then, was in the caves with some goblins, but Two Swords wasn't much of a leader. When the General and his mob of goblins saw Crampus and how big and scary and very gobliny he

appeared – you know the type, big, hairy, and green and ears pointed in different directions - they just knew that Crampus would make a great leader. Afterwards, Crampus named Two Swords to be his general. Now, Two Swords thought that Crampus had three ears, not two, until he realized noticed that the funny looking ear in the middle was really Campus's extremely, extra-specially large nose with long, curly hairs growing out of it.

Crampus and General Two Swords made a secret handshake to form a team. Together, they vowed to defeat Sir Anderson and with all the goblins living in the cave, they had a real shot of pulling it off. They went into the biggest room in the cave and gathered all the goblins.

"Goblinsssss, hear me," Crampus shouted. His dark, ominous voice echoed off the roof of the cave, sounding like bears roaring, except for his esses, which were more hissy and snakelike.

"Now is the time of the goblinssss. Follow me to Phoenix City, where we will defeat Sssir Andersssson and claim the city as our own. Wah hahahah !!!!!" It was a very evil sounding laugh. Crampus couldn't help himself seeing as he was, after all, a goblin. All goblins sound like that.

The goblins were excited to go into battle. The goblin guards were equipped with double axes, very sharp straight-edged weapons with pointed tops. They wore breast plates and armor leggings made of hardened goblin steel and gauntlets on their hands. Goblin riders joined the fray. They leapt onto the backs of the goblin wolf hounds, which looked like big hairy, ferocious wolves. The goblin riders used big serrated swords that could cut down trees as fast as a chainsaw. Of course there were plain goblins too. These were the foot soldiers that went first into every battle. No one really wants to go first into battle, the people who go first tend to end up dead, but every army needs someone to go first and in Crampus's army, the plain goblins drew this short straw.

Crampus had the best sword. It was really long and extremely sharp. No ordinary goblin could have wielded this sword, because ordinary goblins were much smaller than Crampus who was tall enough to dunk basketball. Crampus was also one tough dude, with skin so thick that even three arrows couldn't kill him.

To get ready for the upcoming battle, the goblin army worked day and night to build siege weapons. They made tall towers that archers could shoot from. They made battering rams to bash down the gates of Phoenix city. They made big harpoons to put on top of the tall archery towers. Best of all, they made tanks mostly out of wood but held together by bands of metal and painted camo colors to help them hide. . The tanks were pretty small but big enough to hold three goblins, except for the tank Crampus and General Two Swords rode in. That tank was much bigger and had a gun that could shoot giant missiles really far.

The goblin archers, goblin riders, and goblin guards and the plain old goblins headed towards Phoenix city. To reach the city, the army had to travel through a forest first, then cross a meadow, and then march over the bridge that crossed the moat protecting the walled city. The riders atop the goblin wolf hounds screamed war cries while getting ready until Crampus said for them to be quiet because they were wasting all their energy shouting. General Two Swords agreed with his boss, which was smart because Crampus sometimes cut off the head of people who didn't agree with him. The General told the army that they were going to be very very quiet and sneak up on Sir Anderson and the sleeping people in Phoenix City.

Under the cover of moonlight, the goblin army crept through the forest until they came to edge of the meadow. In the distance, they could see the city beyond. Even though it was night, there were lots of lights coming from the city because Sir Anderson had a spy in the goblin army and knew that they were coming. By the time the goblins arrived, every person in Phoenix City was already out of bed and standing on top the wall, ready to face them. Some were knights and some were citizens, but the citizens were just unarmed spectators. Sir Anderson was standing on top of the city wall watching the goblin army approach.

Now it was time for Crampus to reveal his big secret. He wasn't a true villain any more, he was a reformed villain. During his stint in Sir Anderson's jail, he'd realized that conquering the world really wasn't an admirable ambition. This time, instead of trying to conquer the world, he would save it.

He rolled his tank forward till he came to the edge of the moat. Then he opened the hatch, stood up and shouted so loud that all the goblins and all the people in Phoenix City could hear

him. "People of Phoenix city, lisssten to me. I am Crampussss. I am not your conqueror, I am your sssavior. You have been deceived. Ssssir Anderssson has been sssstealing your artifactssss, your money and worssst of all, your children. He'ssss not ssssending your children to sssschool like he ssssaid, he'ssss ssssending them to the minessss to work as sssslavessss. My goblinssss and I have come to free you!"

Sir Anderson turned red, from anger and also maybe embarrassment because everything Crampus said was true. "Crampus lies," he lied.

"I sssspeak the truth," said Crampus. "I heard him talking to hissss henchmen. I heard every word. If you don't believe me, jussst ask Deputy Oleg." Oleg was a man, with a tattoo of a mermaid on his arm and the henchman Sir Anderson had been talking to when Crampus was eavesdropping in prison so long ago. Oleg wasn't a very good villain though, because he always told the truth, which is not a good habit for an evil henchman.

Oleg stepped forward to the top of the wall. "Crampus is telling the truth," he yelled as loud as he could. "I'm sorry. He made me take all those kids to the mines to work as slaves."

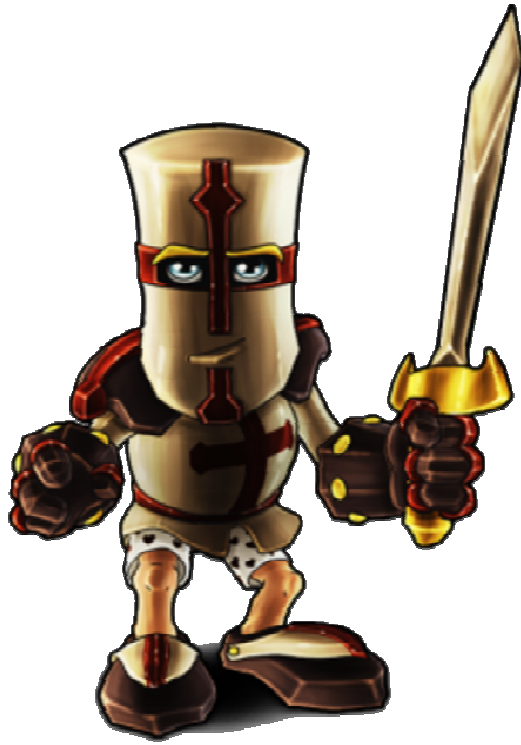
The people of Phoenix City were so mad that they threw Sir Anderson off the wall. He fell and landed in the middle of the moat. Hungry alligators went after Sir Anderson and he swam to the edge as fast as he could. When he reached the far side of the moat, he climbed out of the water and found himself in the middle of Crampus's goblin army. The goblins swarmed him and started to rip off his armor until Crampus said, "Wait. He'ssss mine."

Crampus drew his big sword and Sir Anderson knew fear. He was especially afraid because when the people had thrown him off the wall, they hadn't thrown his big wrecking ball mace down with him. All Sir Anderson had to defend himself was a puny dagger.

But, Crampus wanted a fair fight. "Give Ssssir Anderssson a sword," he ordered one of the goblin guards.

Once armed, Sir Anderson and Crampus circled each other, each hoping to land the winning blow. Their swords clashed and sparks flew. Finally, Crampus snuck past Sir Anderson's guard

and got his sword in close. Swish. Swish. Two quick strokes of the sword and just like that, Crampus cut the suspenders holding up the bottom half of Sir Anderson's armor, which fell to the ground in a clatter. Sir Anderson was wearing only his underwear (cute ones with little red hearts) and let me tell you, a knight wearing only underwear and carrying a large sword is a strange sight indeed.



Sir Anderson tried to fend off Crampus's assault, but Sir Anderson had to use one hand to keep his underwear from falling down and it's really hard to fight when one of your hands is holding up your underwear.

"Go on, get out of here," yelled Crampus. "The people of Phoenix City don't want you here any longer Sssir Anderssson. Your reign of terror issss over. We're going to free the kidsss from the minesss."

"Never," Sir Anderson screamed back. He was so angry his eyes turned red and stuck out of his face like a bug's. He charged and forgot to hold his underwear. His shorts fell partway down and got tangled around his knees. He fell on the ground in such a way that his butt was sticking

up in the air. Crampus paddled that bare butt with the flat of his sword and everyone laughed – the goblins and the people from Phoenix City watching from the city's wall.

Sir Anderson turned red as a beet. He could not stand up to Crampus, the goblin overlord was too strong, so he ran away, as fast as he could to hide in the forest. Oleg the deputy, Sir Anderson's only remaining friend ran after him and the two of them found a dusty cave to live in.

Everybody cheered and the people in Phoenix City opened up the gates and invited the goblins to come inside and live with them. Crampus and his goblins marched into the city where they lived happily ever after with Crampus as the new leader and General Two Swords was his right hand men. Sir Anderson was never seen again and in all the realm, Phoenix City was the only place where humans and goblins lived together peacefully.

The end