



Rivalry of the Duck Clans

This story starts with the Great Darrell, the wizard of the Blue Clan. The Red and Blue clans are rivals, but they are peaceful. They both want extra bread crumbs to last the moon, and use short, mostly peaceful battles to earn them. A moon is roughly a month. Like a game, but both clans take it very seriously. The clans use wooden discuses that float on

the water to represent the bread crumbs that they earn in the end. I am The Great Darrel, wizard for the Blue Clan. I will be your narrator, and good one at that, if I do say so myself. That is me in the picture above.

To start, our battle field is a crystal clear pond, with a pebble bottom a couple feet deep. Our respective high goals give us each fifty bread crumbs. They are constructed with metal cattails, vines intertwined to make a net. The low goals give us each ten bread crumbs, but lie under the high goal of the other clan. So if our clan misses a high goal, the red clan receives 10 bread crumbs. They are made of lily pads arranged in a corner of the field. If we score a roller, we get a full baguette, roughly a hundred crumbs. The rollers are colored baguettes, and are spun between two cattails to show a clan color. Each clan sends out two champions at a time, to battle for extra food. This story is about one of the battles that took place.

I was one of the ducks sent out to battle. Like I said, I am a wizard. The other warrior in my clan was Shela, the fierce female warrior. She is a pale yellow duck, with a small white circle on her forehead. The opposing team composed of Digon, the Red Clan wizard, and Rufus, a strong but dim

warrior. Digon is a pitch black duck with a gray stomach, while Rufus is plain white like me.

We start with a wizard bonus, where a team's wizard can use their magic for bonus crumbs. Digon and I both use our magic in a face off, but mine gets the upper hand and wins. The battle starts and Shela immediately gains Blue Clan a baguette. Rufus and I circle each other, and I cast a spell, trapping him for no more than 5 seconds. He struggles, but jumps right back into the action as soon as my magic times out. I realize Digon is scoring baguettes while Shela scores high goals, so I swim to cut him off and change them back. Rufus, now trying to score low goals, is faced with Shela. With thirty seconds left, I use my magic to quickly change all the rollers to our color. Shela scores 3 more high goals with some of the discuses Rufus put in the low goal.

We have entered the last 10 seconds, and **FWOOSH**, my webs of magic twine released and covered 2/3rd of the clear glassy water. Shela swims to cover an area I didn't cover. Digon matches my magic, covering some area for his team, but it is less effective than mine. Rufus rams Shela in an attempt to prevent her from covering more area, but he is ineffective, and pushes her to a different uncovered area. The timer ends, and we exit the field. The High Duck Council enters the field, to count points. They are in charge of judging all matches between the clans, and remain neutral. They each pluck a feather from their tail, and write in our scores on wax tablets. In the end, Shela and I scored eighty five points, including ten square feet of the pond, two baguettes, six high goals, and five low goals. Rufus and Digon scored seventy three points with seven square feet of the pond, seven low goals, five high goals, and the other two baguettes.

After regrouping and lots of "good games" shared, we settle down in the conference hall of the High Duck Council for the winner ceremony. There is still not a lot of bread, and the Red Clan will have to ration their shares carefully, but will be ok. Whereas the Blue Clan wins the extra bread for the next moon. After the ceremony, both clans celebrate the new moon

with a feast, as is customary. That is all for this story, and I, the Great Darrel, bid adieu.