

HEROES' FEAST VARIANTS

Heroes' Feast (*Basic Rules*, pg. 250) is a pretty cool 6th level spell in D&D 5e, granting a variety of buffs to large groups of allies for a full day of adventuring. Casters can only conjure one kind of feast, though, with food that is only described as "magnificent", which leaves so much room for more interesting feasts. To remedy this situation, I have prepared 10 variants of the Heroes' Feast spell below, all of which take an hour to consume, have a duration of 24 hours, and can have up to 12 creatures partake in them.

ARCANE REFRESHMENTS

Set on the white tablecloth of this table are dozens of glasses in all shapes and sizes, all empty. Bottles of fruit liqueurs of all kinds, sparkling wine, ciders, and a variety of liquors line the back of the table. Simply waving a glass at the array causes whatever drinks you wish to stream through the air into the glass. Orderly trays at the front of the table are filled with fruit tarts, small custard morsels, candies, glittering cookies, and tiny cucumber sandwiches.

Spellcasters who partake in the feast recover up to 5 levels of expended spell slots and gain advantage on spell attack rolls for the duration of the spell. Feasters also gain advantage on wisdom, intelligence, and charisma saves for the duration of the spell.

BAYOU BARBEQUE

The sweet and tangy sauce of this barbeque coats a large cut of grilled lizard in the center of the table. Smaller cuts of lizards and snakes are barbequed in spicy or sour variants of the sauce and sit among trays of cornbread. Some of

the large, bubbling pots on the table contain boiled crawdads; others contain a spicy, earthy sassafras gumbo filled with spicy sausage, chopped vegetables, and a variety of seafood. Jugs of sarsaparilla to drink hang at the sides of the table.

Those who partake in the feast gain resistance to acid and immunity to poison and fear for the duration of the spell. Feasters also gain the effects of Water Breathing and a swim speed of 30 ft. for the duration of the spell.

BRAWLERS' BANQUET

A long, narrow banquet table appears, bowing in the middle with the weight of all the cooked meats on top of it. The aroma of a honeyed roast drifts from the middle of stacks of steaks piled in walls around it. At the edges of the table, skewers of beef, tomato, and zucchini sizzle on long knives. Feasters quaff from tankards of stout overflowing with foam, and finish the meal with sweetmeats and egg custard.

Those who partake in the feast gain advantage on strength saves and strength ability checks, and their unarmed attacks deal an additional 1d6 bonus radiant damage. Nonmagical weapons laid directly on the banquet table become magic weapons with a +1 bonus to attack and damage rolls. All these effects last for the duration of the spell.

DINNER OF THE DEAD

This table is festooned with colorful decorations and covered in candies and skulls made of sugar and marzipan. Sweet rolls with sticky sugar decorations are organized to hem in pyramids of

tamales in the center while roasted pumpkins rest to the side with stuffings of bread crust and fine cheese oozing from faces carved upon them. Small flasks of tequila and corn liquor are placed here and there around the table, standing as if sentinels over this dinner of the dead.

Those who partake in the feast have their hit point maximum reduced by 2d10 (down to a minimum of 1 hit point) and gain resistance to necrotic damage and immunity to fear. Feasters also gain the ability to conduct funeral rites according to the caster's tradition and the ability to cast each of the following spells once at no cost: *Animate Dead*, *Speak with Dead*, *Gentle Repose*, *Spare the Dying*. All these effects last for the duration of the spell.



Dragons' Delight as rendered by Midjourney

DJINN'S MEZZE

Pillars of pita are placed strategically around the table so that one is always adjacent to the honeycomb of dishes that surround them: shallow bowls of hummus and baba ganoush, plates of falafel, sambousek, and stuffed grape

leaves, pickled olives, turnips, and cucumbers. Lined up on one side of the table are alternating buckets of salad and buckets of ice containing bottles of wine and anise liquor, while the other side of the table is lined with hot kofta kebabs. For dessert, the mezze offers some baklava, followed by a little more baklava.

Those who partake in the feast gain resistance to thunder and lightning damage, immunity to fear, and their speed increases by 10 ft., which is equivalent to 1 mile per hour overland travel speed. Feasters' movement is unaffected by difficult terrain. All these effects last for the duration of the spell.

DRAGONS' DELIGHT

This feast serves several whole, charred chickens with apple chutney and bowls of chopped dragon fruit and mango. Pitchers of fiery rum and red wine sit near the chickens to keep feasters from becoming too parched. Several soft flans on the table have continuous magical flambés on their caramel tops, which are used by feasters to cook thin strips of pork, peppers, mushrooms, and onions. Once the last morsel is cooked, the fires die down so that the flan can be eaten.

Those who partake in the feast gain resistance to fire and immunity to fear for the duration of the spell. Feasters also gain a single use of a breath weapon that deals 6d6 fire damage to creatures in a 15 ft. cone. A successful DC 15 dexterity saving throw reduces the damage to half.

FEAST OF FORTITUDE

A hearty feast with heaps of warm, buttery dinner rolls and piles of rustic sourdough loaves accompanying a peppery beef roast with rosemary and horseradish in the center of the table and

rich beef and vegetable stew in deep tureens packed with potatoes and carrots. The feast ends with a soft but dense pound cake and small cups of espresso and cream.

Those who partake in the feast are cured of all poison and disease and gain immunity to poison and disease and advantage on constitution saves for the duration of the spell. Feasters also have their hit point maximum increased by 2d10 for the duration of the spell, and gain the same number of hit points.

SLAYERS' REPAST

When casting this variant of Heroes' Feast, choose a creature type, such as turkeys. At the center of this feast table is a large, well-seasoned roast of the creature type specified along with a bread stuffing. The roast is surrounded by a wide variety of vegetables and condiments including roasted squashes and cabbages, wild rice, green beans, and sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce, applesauce, and blood gravy. Accompanied by blood red wine and pies minced with meat from the chosen creature, this feast is best enjoyed by those intent on murder.

Those who partake in the feast gain advantage on attack rolls against the creature type chosen for this spell, such as turkeys, and deal an additional 3d6 radiant damage on successful attacks until the feasters slay their first turkey, or other chosen creature. All these effects vanish on the first successful slaying by any participant in the feast or at the end of the spell's duration, whichever comes first.

SLIPPERY CLAMBAKE

Steam rises from the clams and lobsters piled high on the bare table. Surrounding the central pile are smaller

piles of grilled corn on the cob and baked potatoes. Buttermilk biscuits separate the piles from dishes of savory unaju eel, pots of okra and bean soup, and plates of slippery seaweed salad. A box at one end of the table with jugs of sweetened rice and oat milk on top of it contains a jumbled "salad" of gelatin and fruit for dessert.

Those who partake in the feast gain immunity to the grappled, restrained, stunned, and paralyzed conditions and advantage on dexterity saves for the duration of the spell. Feasters also cannot have their speed reduced by spells or other magical effects for the duration of the spell.

YULETIDE WASSAIL

The many candles on this feast table cast a warm glow over a honeyed roast ham and a rack of lamb ribs dripping with mint sauce. Alongside the roasts are mashed parsnips, roast potatoes, brussel sprouts, and creamed spinach. Huge kettles of drink magically suspended around the table are filled with mulled cider, buttered rum, wine, and eggnog with nutmeg. Upon ringing the sleigh bells laying on the table, the remains of the feast are whisked away to be replaced with an entire second feast of desserts with a large figgy pudding in the center flanked by fruitcakes and pecan pies. Smaller assorted cakes and pies mingle with trays of gingerbread and snickerdoodle cookies across the table.

Those who partake in the feast gain resistance to cold damage, immunity to fear, and advantage on all wisdom saves for the duration of the spell. Feasters also benefit from the effects of the Death Ward spell for the duration of Heroes' Feast or until the death ward is triggered, whichever comes first.