

The Adventure Zone: Live in New Orleans!

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[theme music plays]

Travis: Hey everybody, let's give it up for the Marty Griddler!

Audience: [applause]

Griffin: Did you say... did you say Marty Griddler?

Travis: I did.

Griffin: That sounds... that sounds like a Denny's menu item.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: And he's dressed like a Denny's menu item!

Griffin: I think he looks amazing.

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: Oh, yeah, it was Dad. It was Clint the whole time.

Clint: It was me the whole time!

Travis: Now, you're probably wondering, what is this new direction that Clint is taking Merle? Well...

Clint: Well, my costume didn't arrive.

Griffin: Yes.

Travis: Didn't it?

Griffin: And we don't want to throw any shade at the organization responsible for this... US postal service...

Justin: But not, I should be clear, Stamps.com, which is a fantastic provider of all your postal needs.

Clint: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: It's like the post office without all the late packages.

Griffin: Yes. Y'all ready?

Justin: Hell yes.

Griffin: Are y'all ready? Let's do it.

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: Fuckin' crank that. So, catch us up.

Griffin: Uh, no. So...

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: It's the apocalypse. Awww, man.

Justin: Awww. We already beat it.

Griffin: Well, it's a different one.

Travis: Aw, man.

Justin: Must be Saturday.

Griffin: There were a few insistent soothsayers that nobody was really taking seriously for that exact reason – we just beat the apocalypse. What are the odds that it's gonna happen again? As fate would have it, the odds are quite good.

Travis: There have to be some hipsters, though, who are like, "I've seen an apocalypse."

Griffin: I was here for the OG apocalypse. Over the course of an evening, the laws of nature that sustained your world were seemingly revoked one by one. The seas stood still, then retreated. Every tree in the forest and flower in the field simply leaned over to the ground as if settling in for a long nap.

Travis: Where did the seas go?

Griffin: Just somewhere. It went home.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, the moon, the real one, began shifting through its phases faster and faster like a strobe light, which was hell for all the werewolves in the realm. And in the morning, when you saw the sun plummeting out of the sky, hurdling in your hapless planet's direction, that's when you knew those soothsayers were correct. The apocalypse is at your doorstep. What do you do?

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Uh, I'm gonna roll to stop... it.

Griffin: Okay.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: That's a seven, plus... um...

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Charm?

Justin: Charm?

Griffin: It came... you came pretty close. The sun saw you and went, "Ahh, I don't... I'm still gonna keep..." So uh, unfortunately, Taako has failed.

Travis: I say we hop on the Starblaster and get the fuck out.

Griffin: [laughs] We'll try again. We'll try again on the next one.

Justin: Been here before. We out!

Audience: [laughs]

Clint: And I say we party!

Griffin: Alright.

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: Y'know what, I was about to give him shit, but that is would Merle would do.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Like, alright, I've been saving this extra powerful boost...

Clint: Five thousand party points.

Justin: Time to burn all those spell slots on pyrotechnics.

Clint: [laughs]

Justin: What are we doing when we notice this happening?

Travis: So, I would probably like, call for Istus?

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: What were we doing when we noticed this happened?

Griffin: Magnus is calling for Istus.

Magnus: [yells] Istus! Istus!!

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: He is hollering up for Istus, the goddess of fate, for the people on stage who don't remember who Istus is.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: And just as the heat and the light of the oncoming sun become too horrible to bear, there is a long strand of yarn that entwines all of you, and then uh, the light just takes over everything that you can see. And when the light fades, you are not wherever you were when you were watching the apocalypse come. You are standing in front of a large but still pretty quaint cottage in the middle of a large, beautiful field. The sun is high in the sky, just floating in this gorgeous, blue sky. And if you didn't know any better, you would swear... you would swear this is heaven.

The door to the cottage swings open, and out steps Istus, goddess of fate. And she says...

Istus: What's up?

Audience: [laughs]

Magnus: The apocalypse?

Istus: Right, yeah. Yeah, yeah, yeah. That's, uh... yeah, you were hollering for me, that's—yes. I'm caught up now. Uh, so, how's it hanging?

Merle: Uh...

Taako: Well... pretty bad. I mean, um... apocalypse.

Istus: Yeah. Yeah, sorry. I literally forgot from the three seconds ago.

Taako: Yeah, sure. No worries.

Istus: That... I'll be straight with you all. That one's on us. Yuh-oh, spaghetti-Os.

Audience: [laughs]

Istus: The whole fabric of reality coming undone, think that's um, not a big prob. It's just that the uh, gods have abandoned you all? Um, just like—

Magnus: I knew it.

Istus: Temporarily. Not intentionally. That's why I said 'yuh-oh.'

Merle: Spaghetti-Os.

Istus: Spaghetti-Os, yeah.

Merle: Yeah.

Griffin: And she takes a moment to wince and kind of like, rub her temples. She says...

Istus: Okay, so, I was having a casual party over here. Um, it was more like a chill hang sesh between a few buds here in the celestial plane. Wine

and cheese, that sort of deal. And then, at some point in the night, it did get a little out of hand.

Magnus: Uh-huh.

Griffin: And that's when you look around the yard that you're standing in, and you realize that it's a fucking mess. Uh...

Travis: Just Solo cups everywhere.

Griffin: Solo cups... uh, Solo chalices are laying everywhere.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: There's empty bottles, some discarded clothes here and there. In the bushes outside her house, you see what appears to be just like, a dude passed out in the bushes. Uh, and she explains...

Istus: Okay, so, we had an uninvited guest show up. And uh, the hang sesh got way rowdier than uh, is responsible. Yeah, so that's... again, the whole... guys, whoopsie. Yuh-oh. I can't say it enough. Yuh-oh, yuh-oh, yuh-oh, yuh-oh, yuh-oh.

Audience: [laughs]

Istus: Please, yuh-oh.

Magnus: Okay, well... get back to work?

Istus: Here's the problem. It's tough. [makes explosion sounds] It's tough.

Justin: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Istus: Okay, so the god who showed up, and it got kind of tazey. There was uh... okay, so there's gods for everything up here, right? God of fate, god of weather, god of—

Magnus: God of dogs?!

Istus: God of dogs. Sun god, moon god... There's a dairy god. Um, the one who showed up and turned the heat up, if you will, was the god of parties.

Audience: [cheers]

Magnus: I don't want to tell you how to do your job, but... how did you not expect him to show up?

Taako: Yeah.

Istus: Uh, he didn't RSVP on, um... on the G-Cal invite. G-Cal stands for God Calendar.

Audience: [laughs]

Istus: It's what we use up here. Merle, you're a man of the faith. Surely, you know about the god of parties.

Merle: Oh, yeah.

Magnus: He's cosplaying as him.

Audience: [laughs and cheers]

Clint: It's either Larry...

Justin: Wait, wait, wait. Who's this? No, who's this that's talking?

Travis: Who is this voice?

Clint: Well that was me talking.

Justin: Okay, so Clint is in the celestial plane.

Griffin: Why does this keep happening?

Justin: In this plane, there is a guy. So Clint McElroy...

Travis: Clint is a god-walker.

Justin: Clint is a god, and he's walking past—

Clint: I think we've established that I walk the planes.

Justin: No. You have not established your celestial nature, and now, I have to give you a god hood, and it's the god...

Clint: No, that's too complicated. 'Cause that would make you the son of a god.

Griffin: Well...

Justin: Not far off.

Travis: Well, it's time we reveal ourselves...

.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Let's retcon. Clint gives us a hardy wave, and then Merle toddles up next to us, and we realize we've never seen Dad and Merle in the same place.

Travis: And then Merle says...

Merle: It's either Larry...

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: Do not applaud him for doing the base level of effort!

Justin: You people paid a lot of money to be here, and this is the least he could do for the no money that we give him to be here!

Merle: ... Or Bacchus. Is it Bacchus? Did I get that?

Audience: [cheers]

Merle: Jim Bacchus.

Istus: It was. But then the position was recently given to Reggie Fitzpatrick.

Audience: [cheers]

Magnus: Never heard of him.

Taako: Yeah, that's a new one on me.

Merle: Reggie Fitzpatrick.

Istus: God of parties, Reggie Fitzpatrick. You didn't learn about this in god school?

Merle: I'm uh... I missed the last semester.

Istus: Legend goes, Reggie threw a shindig so badass that when he regained consciousness the next day, he found himself here in the celestial plane, and was granted a realm of his own to govern as the divine champion of all parties.

Taako: Excuse me.

Istus: Yes?

Taako: Side bar.

Istus: Mmm.

Taako: Does that go for pretty much anything? Like, if I do yo-yo so good, could I black out and wake up as the yo-yo god?

Istus: I'd like to see you do tricks better than Jo-Yo, the current—

Audience: [laughs]

Taako: That's a good pull. Nice.

Istus: It's his name, I don't...

Taako: No, it's nice. Good Jo-Yo. Nice.

Magnus: What about the frozen yogurt god?

Merle: Fro-Yo-Jo.

Taako: Fro-Yo-Jo.

Audience: [laughs]

Istus: So anyway—

Taako: What about the god of low flow toilets, Lo-Flo-Jo?

Audience: [laughs]

Istus: Legend says Reggie Fitzpatrick threw such a righteous party, that he, himself, became righteousness. Anyway, Reggie showed up last night. The whole thing got a little too wild, and uh, everyone here is more hung

over than any being immortal or otherwise has ever been anywhere, ever, in all of existence.

Thing is... gods can't get hang overs. Technically speaking, we can't get drunk. There was some sort of ritual or curse that Reggie did on us that just got us totally shadracked. So I need you all to go up to Reggie's realm, find out what happened at the party last night that has left the whole pantheon in such a sorry state.

Merle: Did you...

Magnus: You urp?

Merle: A little urp, there?

Istus: I would go to Reggie's realm myself and make inquiries, but first off, I need to go barf forever.

Audience: [laughs]

Istus: And second off, gods aren't allowed to confront other gods here in the celestial plane. It's forbidden.

Justin: Um, before—

Magnus: Okay. You should try a little hair of the Cerberus.

Griffin: I don't—okay.

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: Before, uh... before she goes, I'm going to make an arcana check.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: To see if I can pick up any other sort of like, I don't know... I have a plus six, so...

Griffin: Yeah, hit it.

Justin: Eh, it's two. Nope. Don't see nothin'.

Taako: Hey, y'all. She sick.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: I'm gonna uh, roll a carpentry check real quick. I'm just real quick gonna carve her a wastebasket to throw up in.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: It's a 19.

Griffin: That's pretty good.

Audience: [cheers]

Magnus: If you're gonna spew, spew into this.

Justin: Nice. Nice, nice, nice.

Clint: And I'm going to investigate a mystery.

Griffin: Wrong game, Mack.

Justin: Nope, wrong game. Wrong game.

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: Take that back to Chicago.

Clint: Back to Chicago.

Griffin: Shit.

Audience: [cheers]

Clint: Sorry.

Griffin: She says...

Istus: Oh, god, before you go... one problem.

Merle: No, you're the god.

Istus: Yeah, me. Uh, oh, me.

Justin: Oh, me. [laughs]

Istus: One problem. Merle... all your powers are inherited from your devotion to your chosen diety, and he's having himself a rough morning, too.

Griffin: And with that, the figure that was laying in the bushes pops up, and you see it's Pan.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: And he uh, he rubs his eyes, and he stumbles over in your direction with some twigs and some uh, some leaves sticking out of his hair.

Travis: How do you tell the difference between twigs that are supposed to be there and twigs that aren't?

Griffin: Uh, that's a good point. Merle, you would know. He's got extra twigs.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: And he walks up to the three of you, and he gives you a solemn nod, and he says...

Pan: I believe I have thrown up on the tapestry of fate...

Travis: [laughs] That explains a lot.

Justin: From about 2016 on.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: [laughs] And uh, Istus looks—

Travis: You got there!

Griffin: It's good.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Istus looks very disappointed for a moment, and she says...

Istus: Uh, Merle, if you want to use any of your cleric abilities, your link with Pan is going to have to be a bit more tangible than usual. Keep him close. Find out what Reggie did to make us party so hard that all of our bones hurt, and find a way to fix it.

Merle: [sighs] Okay. That's... Pan, come on.

Travis: And he hops on your back.

Merle: Come on. Come on, little buddy.

Pan: Merle Chighurch, my man.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: We have spent the last couple days in New Orleans, so Griffin is cosplaying as himself at this point.

Audience: [laughs and cheers]

Griffin: Travis is doing what we like to call 'kidding on the square' a little bit. Um, so the three of you follow a very groggy Pan, who leads you out of Istus' realm—

Travis: But it takes like, three tries. No, no, no, wait... wait, wait... ahh... come this way.

Griffin: [mumbles] The magic words. Uh, and out into the celestial nexus, which connects all the different domains that each god calls home. You see dozens of these bridges all stemming out from a central cloud platform at the end of each one. You see disparate biomes. At the end of one, a world of fire and lava. At the end of another, an undersea castle. At another, a blood-soaked battlefield. At another, a mighty forge. And despite the size and infrastructural complexity of this place, it is completely empty.

This space, this plane of the gods, is completely silent... save for one domain at the end of a bridge you are currently crossing. At the end of this bridge, you see an enormous golden fence that stretches upward into eternity. At its center, in front of where the bridge terminates, you see a diamond-encrusted gate flanked by two flood lights, shining upward into it.

Immediately adjacent to that is a booth staffed by an enormous minotaur. And extending far, far into the distance is a line of deities and demigods and other celestial beings, all waiting for entry beyond the gate. And as you approach, you hear the sound of muffled, distant, pulsating, powerful electronic music, and shouts in unison alongside it.

Travis: Could you make some of that music for us?

Griffin: [imitates electronic music] Well, it's muffled, so... [imitates electronic music more quietly]

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: And the minotaur looks up from a book he was reading, and he says...

Minotaur: Line starts back there, fellas. I'd bring a magazine, because it's gonna be a bit.

Travis: I hand him infinite money that we earn from saving all the universes.

Audience: [cheers]

Minotaur: Nope.

Travis: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Minotaur: Got no need for money. Got the sweetest job in the world. Just me and my stories.

Taako: What, um... what's your gig?

Minotaur: Well, I watch the gate.

Taako: Watch the gate to keep out gods?

Minotaur: Yeah, and if they are uh, get a little rowdy, I do this cool thing where I throw them at the ground so hard, they bounce. So I just went ahead and started calling myself a bouncer. What do you think of that?

Audience: [cheers]

Magnus: I'm cool with it.

Taako: Yeah, it's good. Um, so, you just beat up the gods?

Minotaur: Yup.

Justin: [laughs]

Taako: You must be like, so wicked strong, eh? [laughs]

Justin: That's a good... that's a good audio one. That's good. [laughs]

Griffin: Sorry, sorry. I reference my pecs.

Justin: Also, our dad is wearing a purple and yellow suit, just to call back, so you know.

Clint: There's green in it, too.

Justin: There's green in it, too.

Clint: Green is the predominant...

Justin: And diamonds. It's kind of a harlequin...

Travis: It really makes his eyes pop.

Griffin: Sure, his purple and yellow eyes.

Audience: [cheers]

Magnus: Well, what if uh... I out-stronged you?

Minotaur: Oh, come on.

Magnus: I'm pretty strong.

Minotaur: I bounce... I throw gods at the ground, and then it's so hard that they bounce from—

Magnus: Yeah, but... I'm pretty strong.

Justin: [laughs]

Minotaur: Why don't you just line up like everyone else? It's just gonna be a couple eons.

Magnus: Whoops.

Griffin: Whoa, whoa, what was that roll?

Travis: That was a nine.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: But!

Griffin: No, that's a 26 on my end.

Travis: Plus an eight.

Griffin: Okay, you are bounced to the ground.

Travis: Then I try again!

Griffin: Okay. You were actually bounced all the way across the bridge, and the rest of you stand there uncomfortably while Magnus walks all the way back.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, you bounced off a cloud, so take 18 points of bludgeoning cloud damage.

Travis: Fine. That's fine. That's fine.

Griffin: It's a cumulonimbus, the thickest cloud there is.

Justin: The most dangerous of clouds.

Magnus: Again!

Taako: No, no, stop—

Magnus: Two!

Griffin: I got a 31 that time.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: You—fuckin' Istus is like, scrubbing the tapestry of fate, and you come smashing through her window, like...

Audience: [laughs]

Istus: How's it going?

Magnus: Not great!

Istus: Cool.

Merle: So what if we were to give you a god that you could play with all the time? To bounce around, and smack around, and do whatever you wanted to do. Like this one.

Magnus: Are you gonna kill Pan?!

Merle: He's a god!

Magnus: You were just—no joke, 30 seconds ago, explicitly told to keep him near you, so that your powers worked.

Justin: Yeah, I don't know what we'd do without Dad's spellcasting abilities.

Griffin: [laughs]

Clint: Yeah!

Audience: [laughs and cheers]

Justin: Thank you. Griffin, I do want to thank you for that, which I assumed was intentional, just to set me up for that joke I've been waiting to deploy until that exact moment.

Griffin: Yeah. Yeah, and with that, Pan disappears, now that Justin's joke has been—no, Pan's still there.

Magnus: Hey, I'll tell you what.

Griffin: The minotaur says...

Minotaur: I'm not one of them all-stars. I don't want to just dribble a dude around all day. It's my job.

Magnus: Here's—let me try this.

Minotaur: Yep.

Magnus: You like bouncing gods, right?

Minotaur: It... again, it's the—I like reading books, and I like uh, the sound of rain against the roof of my booth.

Magnus: But you like your job?

Minotaur: Yeah.

Magnus: What if all the gods went away, and you didn't have your job anymore?

Minotaur: Yeah.

Magnus: That'd be a bummer, right?

Minotaur: It'd be pretty bad.

Magnus: Well, if you don't let us through, there will be an apocalypse, and all the gods will die, and you won't have a job anymore.

Taako: Well, there will be other, worse things than that. Uh, if the apocalypse occurs. Like, you'll be dead also, 'cause it's like, the apocalypse.

Magnus: Okay, that's a fair point as well.

Merle: And no more books.

Taako: All your favorite shows will be cancelled.

Minotaur: Yeah.

Taako: All your house plants will die. The banks will be closed all the time, and you'll be dead.

Minotaur: Yeah.

Taako: So, four terrible things.

Minotaur: I mean, we've ridden out a couple of apocalis... copacolises... what is it?

Audience: [laughs]

Magnus: Bad times.

Minotaur: We've ridden out some bad times up here.

Magnus: Yeah, we stopped most of them.

Minotaur: That was you guys?

Magnus: That was us. This is Taako, from TV.

Audience: [cheers]

Merle: This is Magnus Sideburns.

Minotaur: Nope.

Taako: No?

Magnus: So close.

Minotaur: Listen, I'll be honest. I vaguely remember hearing about that. It's so loud.

Travis: I attack him again.

Justin: No, come on. It's not gonna work.

Travis: No, I don't.

Minotaur: It's so loud here, I only... I caught bits and pieces. Something about a magic jellyfish.

Magnus: Yeah, that's the only thing that matters.

Taako: So can I go past you?

Griffin: Roll a persuasion check, Taako. And Magnus. You all were both sort of making the case together.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Oh, Justin's dice is flashing.

Justin: Yeah, if the die flashes, it's a 20.

Travis: Thank God.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Uh, he says...

Minotaur: Y'know what? As much as I would like more time to read my special books, um...

Travis: There would've been time now.

Minotaur: If they all get blown up in the apocalypse, well, that's not great. So uh, go on through.

Griffin: And he presses a button underneath his booth, and the diamond gate swings open.

Taako: Nice.

Minotaur: Be safe. Be smart. Hey, look at me. Be safe, be smart.

Clint: So we solved your literate minotaur puzzle.

Griffin: Oh, most minotaurs are literate! That's hateful!

Justin: Why is everyone saying mine-o-tour?

Travis: What's—'cause otherwise, it's your-a-tour.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: That wasn't—don't laugh at that.

Griffin: Yeah. You all—

Travis: I didn't deserve that. I know when a joke is good.

Audience: [laughs]

Clint: Apparently not.

Travis: No, I don't.

Clint: No, you don't.

Griffin: As you all walk through, the minotaur looks at Pan and says...

Minotaur: Hey, Pan.

Griffin: And Pan says...

Pan: What's up, Jerry?

Griffin: And you all walk through the gate. And as you do, this enormous crystalline column extends down from a cloud platform above you. It hits the

ground with a quiet poof, and then uh, the side of the column facing you slides open. It's a heaven crystal elevator, my greatest creation to date.

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: Now, Griffin, because this is a party kingdom, I assume there's been some drink service between getting through the gate and getting to the elevator?

Griffin: Not yet. Which makes you think something's gone terribly wrong in the heaven party kingdom.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: Uh, you all rise far above the nexus, and then pass for a minute through this cloud platform. The whole time, this techno music is just getting louder. [imitates electronic music]

Travis: [imitates electronic music]

Griffin: Is that the Girl From Ipanema, but techno? That's a good—

Travis: Yeah, but like an EDM version.

Griffin: Yeah, it's good, it's good, it's good.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: And then, there it is – a massive, neon-streaked, spotlit, towering complex, bearing the name of Reggie's sacred domain: Reggietown.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: So what time last night did you write that one?

Travis: [laughs] And then the story gets weird.

Justin: [laughs] It was a weird night, and all kinds of weird things...

Travis: And there were bad monsters, like loud neighbors.

Griffin: Ten skeletons come out... time to get `em.

Justin: [laughing] Is that anything?

Travis: [laughing]

Griffin: You're joking. [laughing] Here's the next sentence. You're awestruck by the gaudiness of this building, and then you realize that before you are two gigantic, velvet-covered doors, guarded by an even bigger minotaur with an even bigger line of people waiting to get in.

Audience: [laughs and cheers]

Justin: [clapping slowly]

Travis: I'm so tired. I need to eat more king cake for fuel.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Pause. Pause the adventure. Everybody, picture a number in your mind, and that number represents how many king cakes you think we have backstage. Because we're fuck ups. It's five.

Audience: [cheers]

Clint: Not anymore...

Griffin: Uh oh!

Travis: Dad pooped a king cake, and now it's six.

Justin: Dad gave birth to a king cake.

Audience: [laughing]

Justin: So tell me more about the gaudiness of this building?

Travis: And the second exact same puzzle we need to solve?

Griffin: Hey, hey! Cool it!

Justin: Mine was a joke.

Griffin: The minotaur's way bigger this time!

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: We just walk under it.

Justin: See, 'cause god-iness.

Griffin: Oh, I get ya.

Justin: That's nothing.

Griffin: No.

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: Shut up, Paul.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: Don't make me come up stage! [laughing] He doesn't need to bellow his laughter at me when I'm on the fuckin' whiff!

Clint: [yelling] Oh, that's a good one, Justin!

Griffin: This even bigger minotaur says...

Bigger Minotaur: Back of the line!

Merle: What?

Magnus: What?

Bigger Minotaur: Back of the line!!

Taako: Okay. Where are you trying... where are we... where are you keeping us from?

Bigger Minotaur: Reggietown!

Taako: I bet. So, it's so cool, I bet you couldn't even go in if you wanted to.

Bigger Minotaur: Too big!

Taako: Why don't you—show—show—

Magnus: It's probably hard to get in.

Merle: Yeah.

Taako: Yeah, are you too lame that you couldn't walk—

Magnus: It's fine, listen. Some people are too lame. It's alright.

Griffin: One of the people in line says...

Person: Leave him alone! Get in the back of the line!

Travis: I push that person off the bridge.

Audience: [cheers]

Taako: No. If this guy is so cool, I want to see him go through the gate if he's so cool.

Griffin: Roll a mean check.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: That's a 17 plus... persua—17.

Griffin: Okay. Yeah. He tries to get through the door. He just can't do it. He's such a big minotaur.

Travis: We walk under his legs through the door.

Griffin: Okay. Roll a stealth check, everyone.

Travis: Oh, okay. I rolled a 12 plus uh... let me check my good...

Griffin: The only half-rogue in the group.

Travis: 22.

Griffin: You're good.

Taako: Let me... you can get through there. Try again. Here, let me, um... I can transmute some of the gate into like, water or something so you get through.

Magnus: Or you can make him smaller. Do you have an ensmallening spell?

Merle: Yeah, make him smallified.

Taako: Hold on, I have some magic powers. One sec.

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: I open—

Travis: I'm already on the other side. I rolled a 22 stealth.

Justin: --a comically large spell book and sit on the ground.

Griffin: [laughs]

Taako: One sec. Hold on, I have magic powers. One sec.

Clint: Merle is going to uh, sneak in as well.

Griffin: Okay. Let's get that roll.

Travis: I bet he won't.

Clint: I bet he's stealthy. Um... 13 plus stealth...

Travis: Also packed in that box is his knowledge of D&D.

Clint: 16.

Griffin: Yeah, 16 works.

Clint: Really?!

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: He's a big—he's the biggest boy.

Travis: All Dad was missing this whole time was my dice.

Griffin: He's the biggest boy, and you are a little...

Clint: I'm a little tiny little guy.

Griffin: And you get right in there. Taako?

Justin: Uh, I'm going to cast *enlarge/reduce*, but the reduce part.

Griffin: Oh, okay.

Justin: To try and shrink him.

Griffin: He's got the—

Travis: He's gonna cast *reduce/reuse/recycle*.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Uhh... 14 plus my spellcasting modifier, which is five.

Griffin: Uh, yeah. That hits big boy. Any stat.

Taako: Alright, now you can go through. Go, enjoy your party!

Griffin: How little did you make him? What's the... what are the parameters of this?

Justin: You only shrink him down one size.

Clint: So he's now a junior petite.

Travis: Instead of being big, he's... mmm, okay.

Justin: Its size is halved in all dimensions.

Griffin: Okay. He is now about the size of the first minotaur that you came across. And uh, he makes it through the door, and he says...

Bigger Minotaur: I never thought I'd see the day!

Justin: And I pull out the wand of switcheroo, and I uh...

Audience: [laughs and cheers]

Justin: I use it on him.

Clint: Aww.

Justin: My thing was gonna be so good.

Clint: Give it up.

Justin: I don't know why I couldn't get through the gate. I had a whole thing, and then he couldn't get through the gate. Anyway, wand of switcheroo. It's a 16. And—oh, no, sorry. It is a uh, DC 17. Constitution saving roll.

Griffin: I rolled a critical failure.

Justin: Okay.

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: He switches places back to earth.

Justin: That undramatic... I could've just like, pushed him out of the way at that point.

Griffin: Yeah. With a critical failure, you all switch places. Now you're inside the club, and he says...

Bigger Minotaur: Hey, wait a minute!

Griffin: And then the doors, I think, automatically swing shut. But as they do, you see him fall through the clouds.

Audience: [sounds of horror]

Griffin: But then, that concerned party in line grabs his hand at the last second. A new friendship is forged.

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: It's Elvis. He's been dead the whole time?!

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: You step foot into Reggietown, and boys... it has everything. It's unlike any party you've ever attended, which might have certain hospitalities or fun activity centers all built around a certain cause or theme. In Reggietown, there doesn't appear to be much cohesion – or perhaps, the design is far more complex than your minds can possibly conceive of. There's a dance floor, of course; although, it's more like a dance pit, surrounded by speakers, a Technicolor LED floor pulsating below.

Travis: That sounds terrible.

Griffin: There's a booth with two robot masked DJs, mixing music using this giant golden boom box above. It's basically Daft Punk. There is—

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: There is every food. All food imaginable. Fondues, chocolates, champagne, and various other edible and potable liquids.

Travis: Sandwiches?

Griffin: Liquid sandwiches are emitted from a massive fountain around a dining station.

Travis: What?!

Griffin: Just one fountain, all with different flavors branching off in discreet streams. I got so excited when I thought of that.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Liquid sandwich. [laughs]

Griffin: As you're distracted by that, a Pegasus rides by with two cheering party-goers on its back. It's actually—it actually—retcon. It's Garyl, and he's like...

Garyl: Heyyy!

Audience: [cheers]

Garyl: You made it.

Griffin: And then he takes off. Uh, there are private booths suspended on platinum chains from the ceiling. Inside them, you see people playing Twister. One where people are hookah-ing it up. One where there's people doing karaoke. And all around the perimeter of the room, there's little satellite parties, splintering off the main one, and even those satellite parties are bigger and cooler than any party you've ever attended.

There's a 4th of July pool party. There's a kid birthday party, complete with clown. There's even a wake, and it's popping off, too!

Audience: [laughs and cheers]

Travis: That's the best line Griffin has ever written in The Adventure Zone, hands down.

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: But it's sad, too, because you can tell this show has become the tortured fantasies of dads. Because it's like, "And I bet other parties are happening at other places!"

Travis: And everyone's having a great time, and they wish you were there!

Justin: Everyone's having a great time, and they're like, "Where's my friend, Griffin? I sure miss him, ever since he had a kid!"

Travis: I just would love to see a wake where someone's like, "Listen, it's really sad about Jim, but... This is a fucking great party. I'm kind of glad Jim died."

Griffin: Yeah.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: The Black Eyed Peas are here.

Justin: [gasps]

Griffin: Um, and suddenly, inches away from you, uh, a circular bar just appears. And the bartender, who is handsome, just a handsome, rugged angel, wipes the counter with a rag and then eyes the four of you over. And he says...

Angel: You four look like you've had a hard day. Fancy a drink?

Taako: Yes!

Magnus: No.

Merle: Ehh.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: He goes over to this golden keg, and uh, taps it, and uh, pours a beverage. He says...

Angel: It's Reggie's favorite. He uh, he calls it Brosia.

Justin: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Angel: It's uh, one part god nectar, one part grenadine, two parts Michelob Ultra.

Audience: [cheers]

Taako: Mmm.

Merle: It is the apocalypse.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: He puts it on the bar and slides it towards you, Taako.

Taako: Yes.

Griffin: Okay.

Taako: Good. Yes. Drunked.

Griffin: It tastes about how you think it would taste.

Taako: Hell yeah. Good as hell, right?

Griffin: Good as hell, and pretty low cal. Thanks, Michelob Ultra.

Taako: Nice.

Travis: Magnus doesn't drink.

Griffin: Okay. That's Magnus' choice.

Travis: Yeah.

Audience: [cheers]

Angel: So uh, what brings you all to Reggietown? You all looking for anything in particular? You need any glow sticks? Any lobster tails? What do you need?

Magnus: Yes.

Angel: Okay.

Griffin: He hands you—

Magnus: I would like a glowing lobster tail, please.

Griffin: Boom! He has it.

Clint: And suddenly, out of the back of Magnus comes a glowing lobster tail.

Griffin: Whoa! That's how I do it.

Taako: What's the uh... first off, what's your handle, partner?

Angel: Stavin.

Taako: Stavin?

Stavin: Yep.

Merle: Wow.

Taako: Hey, Stavin, what do you think about the new boss?

Stavin: You talking about Reggie Fitzpatrick?

Taako: Hell yeah I am, fool.

Stavin: To be honest?

Taako: Yeah?

Stavin: Between friends?

Taako: Uh-huh?

Magnus: Yeah?

Stavin: He doesn't come around very much.

Taako: Yeah?

Merle: That can be a good thing.

Taako: Absentee boss. Good.

Stavin: Uh, yeah, but he'll know if something goes—

Magnus: Have you ever met him?

Stavin: A couple times. Listen, what you gotta understand about Reggie... he only shows up when the party is wild enough. If you want to see him tonight, this party's really gotta pop off. Right now, it's about a five. But I'm afraid I'm not... I don't think it's gonna hit a ten if you wanted to see Reggie tonight.

Magnus: We need to party.

Taako: Well, I hope it gets better. Can we just sit here?

Stavin: Sure.

Taako: Alright.

Audience: [cheers and laughs]

Taako: Is it getting... what's this?

Stavin: It's about a 4.5 now.

Taako: Oh, it's gone down. Oof.

Stavin: Havin' five just sort of uh, strangers standing around a bar and not saying anything...

Taako: It's yucking everybody out, yeah.

Stavin: It's of reduced the ambiance a little bit.

Taako: It's a bad vibe.

Travis: Okay, Magnus pulls out a magical Stone of Farspeech that he has that he's never used.

Justin: Oh, come on.

Travis: And he calls LMFAO.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: They're broken up. They can't come.

Travis: Oh, no.

Griffin: They say that. "We broke up, stop calling! It's not gonna happen, Magnus!"

Justin: But you do have a two-way line, so you can get the two of them talking, apparently.

Travis: Wait, yeah, no, no, hey. Have you guys just tried talking about it?

Justin: I've got one for Andre 3000 and Big Boi.

Griffin: Okay.

Taako: Hey, I don't need you two to come stop the apocalypse, but I would like you to work it out.

Audience: [laughs]

Clint: Merle takes off his shirt...

Audience: [cheers]

Clint: ...to show his California tattoo over his belly.

Griffin: Fantastic.

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: Topical! Some topical humor from Clint McElroy!

Griffin: Roll just sort of a charisma check, Merle. I'll give you advantage on this one, 'cause it's you.

Clint: A charisma check. Okay. [laughs] That's a three...

Audience: [laughs]

Clint: Plus one...

Griffin: Yeah.

Clint: So that tattoo looks really nasty.

Griffin: All these angels on the dance floor that are all just kind of like bumping to the music, they all just like turn and look at you while still kind of bumping, and then they like, get off rhythm a little bit. And then those two DJs like, do something behind this golden boom box, and it gets a little bit loud and more powerful, and everybody gets going again.

So it dropped down to like a three...

Clint: Yeah?

Griffin: But it got brought up sort of to a neutral five.

Clint: Okay.

Travis: I would like to call...

Griffin: Yes?

Travis: On my jellyfish friends.

Griffin: Who is in like, another... Okay.

Travis: But they know all the music.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: We're on the astral plane.

Griffin: No. Celestial plane. Listen, it's complicated. There's a lot of planes. Then that one's on me. I'll own that.

Travis: Listen. I would like to call up my jellyfish friends who know that uh, intermission is coming up.

Griffin: Okay, sure.

Travis: That's a nat 20.

Griffin: Okay.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Floating through space, the two Voidfishes are flying around. By the way, sorry if this is your first episode. Alright, listen, there are these things called Voidfish... uh, and they can sing to everyone. And they do so. What song is played that kind of overrides what's going—

Travis: Party Rock Anthem.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Okay, so it is... Here's what happens. Everybody on the dance floor like, suddenly like, starts to go even wilder. And you see the two DJs look at each other like, "Huh?" And they're dancing to a different rhythm, a different beat, this music that's flooding everybody's minds. And in response, the DJs crank it up even more—

Justin: Hell yeah.

Griffin: Going amp for amp against the Voidfishes, turning the party up to a seven.

Justin: I go over to uh, I stand over where they're all partying.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And I pull out my... anti-gravity sphere.

Griffin: Oh shit!

Justin: And I throw it down at the dance floor.

Audience: [cheers]

Taako: Let's fuckin' party!

Griffin: Uh, yeah. with that, I think people get scared when you hover above them, and then just sort of throw a big ball down at them. There's not much space for a ball to land safely. It definitely hits a couple angels. But listen – it's necessary losses. You can't have a float party without killing a couple—

Justin: It has to shatter for the party to kick off.

Griffin: And it does. You hear some protest against the stricken angels. Perhaps struck was the word I should've gone with there. but then, following that, all the angels are just floating around in this cool orb.

Taako: Loving it.

Griffin: And the two DJs are cranking it. They just like, pump the music to that. And then, each like, reverberation coming from these speakers sends like, shockwaves through this dancing sphere of angels. It's the coolest shit you've ever seen. And with that, a beam of light shoots down from the ceiling. And a figure begins to descend. It's a large, spray-tanned man.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: His sunglasses are pushed up to rest on his forehead, and he's wearing a windbreaker suit of the most fantastical colors. He finds his way down in a T-pose, making a perfect, gentle landing on the heels of his

sneakers. And uh, the crowd in this floating orb looks down, I guess, at him with reverence, and he shouts...

Reggie: Peace be with you! Ayy, let's get it goin'!

Audience: [cheers]

Reggie: Oh shit, is that Pan?! That guy's a fucking animal!!

Audience: [laughs]

Reggie: The shit he does down there? The trees and dirt and all that shit? It's so good. But last night, this god proved he's an awesome god, if you know what I'm talking about!

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: [laughs]

Taako: Hi Reggie.

Reggie: Hey!

Taako: Time to go to the chill out tent.

Reggie: Those don't exist up here! It's Reggietown! We got a, uh... a hot up tent.

Griffin: And then a hot up tent appears. And he's like...

Reggie: What you think about that?!

Audience: [laughs and cheers]

Taako: Hey, um... bad news, fellas. I'm staying here.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Then Reggie's best friend, Ja Rule, shows up.

Merle: Let me ask you this. Why—

Griffin: We're looking for investors for Reggietown!

Merle: Why do we want to go back to the real world?

Magnus: No, wait, what?!

Merle: This is so awesome!

Reggie: Yes!!

Magnus: The real world is where all my stuff is!

Reggie: What's uh, what's goin' on? You don't look like you're here to party, so like...

Magnus: We need a hangover cure?

Reggie: A what?

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: No, I want to leave Griffin frozen in this gargoyle-esque...

Reggie: Uhh... what?

Travis: No, one more.

Reggie: What did you just say?

Audience: [laughs]

Taako: We want you to fix the gods so they'll uh, get back to work.

Reggie: I don't know what you're talking about.

Magnus: They're all real hung over.

Reggie: That's not possible. Gods can't get drunk. They're not gonna be... I don't understand.

Magnus: You... you showed up to a party at Istus'. Remember that?

Reggie: Yeah.

Magnus: Alright.

Taako: Check.

Magnus: And you got gods—

Reggie: And my entourage.

Audience: [cheers]

Taako: Okay. So Turtle got all the gods sick, I guess. I don't know. But the gods are hung over, Reggie. You partied... too hard.

Reggie: The fuck did you just say to me?

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: As Griffin pinches his glasses.

Griffin: As you say that, there's like a dubstep drop in the music. And with that, all of the angels in this like, dance orb suddenly turn towards you, almost in like, response to the drop. And now, all their eyes like, glow red.

Travis: Magnus steps back from Taako.

Griffin: And they're staring in your direction. Their faces actually look like...

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Their faces look like they're cracking with this red light behind them. And now, they're all sort of like, dancing in formation to this music.

Magnus: Gonna stand over here.

Travis: I almost leaned back, but...

Griffin: It's all coming from this music that's just pulsating out of this golden boom box, and uh, the orb starts undulating towards you. Reggie says...

Reggie: Did you just say...

Merle: Undulate?

Audience: [laughs]

Reggie: Did you just say I... over-partied?

Taako: Reggie, I got one question for you.

Reggie: Yeah?

Taako: Are you taking applications? 'Cause I think that I could fit in with your org pretty nicely.

Reggie: I'm having a hard time getting a beat on ya.

Griffin: And as he says that, the angels consume him and pull him into like, the mass of floating dance angels. And then you see Reggie just get flung backwards and into like, the bottles up against the bar that Stavin was working at. And you hear him go...

Reggie: What the fuuuck!

Griffin: As he goes smashing through. And then you can tell like, the music is almost like... the beats of the music, the angels are turning towards you with each beat of the music and moving towards you.

Taako: Huh.

Merle: Don't blink.

Taako: Turns out he was...

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: Wait, hold on, let's go for the second joke.

Taako: Turns out he was just a slob like one of us.

Audience: [laughs and cheers]

Clint: [laughs]

Travis: And can I try one now?

Griffin: Yeah, sure.

Magnus: Oh, looks like the rhythm was gonna get him.

Griffin: Okay.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Let's fuckin' roll for initiative.

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: 19 plus two. 21.

Griffin: Okay.

Clint: 13 plus two. That's 15, but I get—

Griffin: Yes.

Clint: Yeah, let's just stick with the 15.

Griffin: Justin?

Justin: 16.

Griffin: Okay. First in the order is Magnus. Magnus, you have these two robot DJs.

Travis: Did you forget about intermission? 'Cause that's when I'm gonna eat dinner.

Griffin: We're good.

Justin: I'm so hungry.

Travis: I'm a hungie boy.

Justin: I rolled a 'my pizza's getting cold backstage.'

Griffin: [laughs] The music is pulsating out of this golden jukebox. Not golden jukebox, that'd be wild. It's a golden boom box that these DJs are controlling.

Travis: That's much more timely.

Griffin: To the beats of the music. The angel orb, which is gonna be weird for this whole fight.

Magnus: Looks like we got ourselves a dance-off!

Griffin: Is coming towards you. Magnus, you are up. What do you do?

Travis: I dance.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Harder than I have ever danced before.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: I rolled a 36.

Griffin: Oh boy.

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: Nope. Uh, would that be a—

Griffin: You rolled a five.

Travis: Plus strength...

Griffin: For dancing?

Justin: For dancing?

Travis: I am dancing really hard.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, the... you don't seem to be dancing to the beat of the music, and that seems to piss the angels off, and it has no other effect. Uh, next in the order is Taako.

Justin: Are we fighting them?

Griffin: It seems that they want to fight you.

Taako: I don't want to fight them. I'm good. I'm looking for like... I wish I had dressed a little nicer. I want to impress a little bit.

Griffin: Okay. Taako skips his turn. Merle.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Merle, does a 24 beat your AC?

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: Yes, almost certainly it does.

Clint: Yeah?

Griffin: The dance orb moves toward you, and uh, grasping hands pull you inside, and now you're inside this just mass, this floating mosh pit of angels.

Clint: I bet that looks pretty damn good with this suit on.

Griffin: Uh, if they could see you, it would.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: You take 28—

Clint: Huh?!

Griffin: You take 28 bludgeoning damage as you are moshed against by these angels.

Justin: Son of a bitch.

Griffin: And with that, uh—

Clint: Oh, now we stop?

Griffin: No, not yet.

Clint: Oh, okay.

Griffin: The uh, the boom box gets pumped up even louder as it sees Merle sort of consumed by this orb. And with that, the angels look towards the other two people not consumed yet, and they look so bad, guys.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Taako, you're back up. Or no, Magnus is back up.

Travis: Uh, I use the grappling hook.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: To pull Merle out.

Griffin: Okay. You succeed. I don't know how we would roll to satisfy that.

Travis: No, it just—it happens.

Griffin: Okay. Yeah. You pull Merle out. Merle, how was it in there?

Clint: It was kind of cool. No, no, wait a minute, wait a minute. I know how you young people talk. It was rad!

Travis: [laughs] It was yolo!

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Uh, and then...

Griffin: Sure. That can be a bonus action.

Travis: Well, I get like 18 attacks.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Then I uh, reach behind the bar and grab like, the nozzle that sprays water.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: And I'm just gonna try to hose them down.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Just try to—like, and then say something like—

Magnus: Hey. Cool out.

Griffin: Alright, cool. Hit it.

Travis: Nat 20.

Griffin: Oh shit. Okay.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Okay. With that, you spray some of the angels down, and it's way more powerful. I think the power of Brosia is just so much more potent than you even assumed it would be, and this angel orb gets sprayed down, and like half of them just kind of like, fall to the ground, and just shake and come to their senses.

And the two DJs behind the booth, even though they're wearing these robot masks, you can just tell from their body language, they're super pissed off. And they pump these just sliders behind the boom box to maximum, and the music gets louder and louder, and then smoke starts coming out of it. And when that happens, all the remaining like, floating, dancing angels fall to the ground, and you can see them kind of like, shake their heads and start to come to.

And uh, as the boom box goes up in smoke, just all the energy shifts here in Reggietown. Pan also shakes his head and kind of like, rubs his temples, and also seems to regain consciousness. And uh—

Travis: And then Merle gives him a back rub, yes.

Griffin: Yes, and he's... and the two uh, robot DJs look at each other, and then they shrug, and uh, one of them says from behind their mask, um...

DJ: Looks like Pandora's boom box bit the big one, brother.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: And... And the other DJ says...

DJ 2: Well, uh... it's a good thing we're not that easy to get rid of.

Griffin: And...

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: And the second DJ reaches into their pocket and retrieves what appears to be a first generation iPod, and uh, presses some buttons on it, and you hear a click.

[beeping sound]

Griffin: And the music starts up again.

[music plays]

Griffin: And the blast of fog envelops the DJs from on top of their booth.

Audience: [cheering loudly]

Griffin: Their helmets fly toward you from within the fog and crash to the floor, and when the smoke clears, you see the faces they previously concealed. The dance floor participants snap back into formation, now mimicking the movements of their puppet masters. The kind of sharp, stylish voguing you've come to expect from the Wonderland twins, Edward and Lydia.

We'll be right back!

Audience: [cheers]

[music plays]

Griffin: Hey everybody, this is Griffin McElroy, your dungeon master, your best friend, and your accomplice in the big heist that we're doing tomorrow. I got the stink bombs. You get the... money. From the bank. Thanks for listening to episode something of The Adventure Zone. Uh, sorry if I'm a little bit out of it. We are prepping to uh, get things ready for the MaxFunDrive, which starts in two weeks. We'll be back with a new episode of TAZ: Amnesty then. And also, we're about to leave for the JoCo Cruise, so a lot of things happening right now.

But I want to take a moment with you. Take a deep breath. Center ourselves, and talk about our sponsors. Our first sponsor this week is Squarespace. Squarespace is a fantastic way to make all the websites that you crave deep down in your soul. They help you turn your cool idea into a new website in a very easy, just, way, because they got all kinds of customizable templates created by world-class designers, and they help you buy domains and choose from over 200 extensions like it's not even a problem at all.

And when you want to know how your website's growing? Analytics, we got them. And by we, I mean they. I am not at Squarespace, but I wish I was, 'cause they seem great. And they have 24/7 award-winning customer support. So make it stand out. Stand out with a beautiful website from Squarespace.

So uh, go to [Squarespace.com/adventure](https://www.squarespace.com/adventure) for a free trial. And when you're ready to launch, go ahead and use the offer code 'Adventure', and you're gonna save 10% off your first purchase of a website, or even a domain.

Also want to tell y'all about Blue Apron. Blue Apron is the great box that comes with food. It comes with things... it comes with ingredients, and it comes with recipes, and uh, you put those two together, and we're gonna have some meals, baby.

They've got a variety of recipes, including vegetarian meals. They got the new WW Freestyle menu. They have an entire menu of wholesome meals offered in partnership with WW. That's Weight Watchers, reimagined.

And so, yeah, I've used Blue Apron and taught myself a few valuable cooking skills with it. The recipes are super easy, and uh, I've made countless tasty, tasty dinners with it. So I'm a big... I mean, I'm a big fan, and I have good taste sometimes.

So anyway, learn all about that chef that lives inside you like Ratatouille. I don't think that's actually what happens in that movie. And do it by doing Blue Apron. Uh, you can make delicious, brag-worthy meals at home without the hassle. Just try out Blue Apron.

If you want to try out this week's menu and get \$60 off when you visit BlueApron.com/adventure, then do it. Then do just that. Go to BlueApron.com/adventure. Check out this week's menu. Get the \$60 off. That's BlueApron.com/adventure. Blue Apron: A better way to cook.

Like I mentioned, we have the MaxFunDrive coming up next episode. That's gonna be in two weeks. And if you are not familiar, if you're new to the show, we are a pledge supported network. Well, Max Fun is. We're a part of it, though, and uh, we've been doing it for... gosh, a very long time now. We've been part of the network for almost eight years. Is this our eighth MaxFunDrive? Holy shit.

Anyway, it's because of uh, the support from listeners like you that we have been able to turn this into our full-time careers. Dad was able to quit his job last year and just do The Adventure Zone full time. It has changed our lives in a material way. So if you appreciate the stuff we do, if it means anything to you, uh, and you have the means, this is a great time of year to show your support.

It kicks off, again, in two weeks. It's gonna be going on. We're gonna have a bunch of bonus content. We recorded an episode of Honey Heist, that uh, is a bear-themed heist game that we played that was very, very fun and good. That's our bonus for this year. We have all kinds of stuff in the previous years, too. So, uh, go check that out.

Thanks for tweeting about the show using the #TheZoneCast hash tag. It really means a lot. Thanks everybody who came out to this New Orleans live show, and uh, yeah. I think that's it. McElroy.family is our website if you want to check out uh, upcoming shows and merch. We got new merch, and all that stuff's at McElroy.family, and uh, I'm gonna let you get back to it.

Thanks for listening. We'll be back in two weeks, which is gonna be on the 21st, I think. The 21st. So, see you then. Bye.

[theme music plays]

Griffin: Edward and Lydia are voguing with flawless precision to the music coming out of the wall of speakers behind them.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: As the music started back up again, the angel dance crew lifted itself off the floor like a single organism, and begins dancing in place, awaiting their chance to strike. And Lydia says...

Lydia: Long time no kill, boys!

Audience: [cheers]

Lydia: Congrats out of making it out of Wonderland, uh, mostly intact. Weren't you a mannequin?

Magnus: Who are you?

Audience: [laughs]

Merle: No, wait, I'm the one that's not supposed to remember anything.

Magnus: We've fought and killed a lot of people since Wonderland.

Griffin: Uh, they look insulted.

Travis: Yeah. Fuck yeah they are.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Uh, they say...

Lydia: We were... we did... the whole Wonderland... the whole Wonderland thing. It was really, really, really nasty.

Taako: Oh, you kept fucking up time and making it reset and...

Merle: Yeah.

Lydia: No...

Magnus: Oh, you were the one that was the giant like, swarm of eyeballs that was eating everything.

Taako: The eyeball swarm that was eating everything.

Merle: And the worm? The big worm. The giant worm?

Taako: Were you big worms?

Lydia: I thought what we had was special.

Audience: [laughs]

Magnus: You were the scary train?

Merle: Oh, the one with the spider!

Lydia: We had the big wheel, and you spun it, and then you had to do the prisoners dilemma, and it was really psychological and spooky?

Merle: Hmmm...

Magnus: You were the cat that had the shop?

Audience: [laughs and cheers]

Lydia: We turned you into a mannequin, and then you all vaporized us?

Magnus: Yeah!

Taako: Yeahhh.

Merle: Ohh, okay.

Magnus: Yeah.

Lydia: Honestly, for you all to forget after all the work we've put into making the fun games for you. To vaporize us and then forget about us?

Merle: We suck. We really suck.

Magnus: Yeah. Anyways, we're gonna go.

Lydia: Oh. See ya. We can keep doing what we're doing here if you all want to take off and enjoy—

Taako: No, hey—

Lydia: Yeah.

Taako: While I've got you...

Lydia: Yes?

Taako: What did you do to the gods?

Edward: I'm so glad you asked.

Griffin: Edward says.

Edward: So you zapped us good. You and your... umbrella sister, if I'm remembering correctly.

Audience: [cheers]

Taako: Yeah.

Edward: We ended up in the—

Travis: Some Lup fans in the house.

Audience: [cheers loudly]

Griffin: Lydia says...

Lydia: So, we came to in the astral plane, which was pretty yucky at the time, because of the hungry that was happening.

Magnus: Hunger. Hunger.

Lydia: It was a blur, kind of.

Merle: Hangry.

Lydia: It was the hangry. We had a chance to sneak out, find ourselves in the realm of the gods, and boys, we liked what we saw.

Griffin: And Edward says...

Edward: We figured if we could incapacitate the gods for a bit, planet... [blows raspberry] Blows up. That sounded like a toot noise, but it was an explosion.

Audience: [laughs]

Magnus: Okay.

Edward: Nobody will have to worship the gods. They disappear. We become the gods.

Magnus: Make money.

Audience: [laughs]

Taako: Can I just say... that's good.

Edward: Thank you!

Taako: It's good.

Edward: It's way better than 'trap strangers in a torture prison of noise.'

Taako: That was very elaborate.

Edward: And it was sort of... it was mean, and it accomplished very little.

Magnus: Yeah. Listen, I'm not gonna tell you how to do your job...

Edward: Yeah.

Magnus: But it didn't seem to have any kind of end goal.

Edward: Yeah, yeah, sure. This one totally does.

Lydia: And luckily...

Griffin: Lydia says...

Lydia: We had just the right rube to help us with our genius ploy.

Griffin: And at this point, you see Reggie stand up behind the bar, and he's like, rubbing his head. When he hears the twins talking about him, he just looks downcast. He says...

Reggie: I uh... I thought y'all loved to party.

Griffin: And Edward says...

Edward: Sweet Reginald, we do. But we love doing evil even more, bud.

Magnus: Oh, if that isn't nature's greatest struggle. The fight between one's desire to party, and one's desire to do evil.

Griffin: And Lydia says...

Lydia: Now—

Magnus: Oh, I've found myself in many a night.

Griffin: [laughs] Lydia says...

Lydia: Now, I know the three of you – four, I guess, including Pan, but I'm pretty sure—

Magnus: Don't include Pan.

Lydia: Yeah, he's uh, sort of a non-factor. I know you're gonna want to fight, just knowing you. But, I have a compromise. Hear me out.

Taako: Okay.

Griffin: Roll a wisdom saving throw.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: Nope. Uh, I got a 13 total.

Griffin: Bad.

Justin: Mmm... 12.

Griffin: That one's good! Bad.

Clint: 13 plus three. 16.

Griffin: Good.

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: Oh wait, hold on. Indomitable.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: That is 18 plus one. 19.

Griffin: You're good. Taako... You two just see Taako start fucking grooving. Just right there.

Travis: And nothing seems weird.

Griffin: Specifically, the target begins a comic dance in place, shuffling, tapping its feet, and capering for the duration. Caper, damn it!

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: Now, uh, what spell did they cast?

Griffin: They cast *irresistible dance*.

Justin: When—now, when will that take effect?

Griffin: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, you uh, you can't move. You're dancing, and uh...

Justin: Okay. Pick one.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: You have no movement points. You're spending all of them on your dancing.

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: And you have disadvantage on dexterity saving throws and attack rolls.

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: And you can roll to save. Where were we at in the order? The last thing that happened was, somebody sprayed water up on the—

Travis: I sprayed water. Taako's up.

Griffin: Next in the order is Taako.

Justin: Oh, great. Okay.

Griffin: At this point, the dance crew has gone sort of uh, evil again, and is also a threat. It's not just the uh—

Travis: [imitates the bass line from 'Thriller'] Like Thriller?

Griffin: They are thrillin' it pretty hard, yes.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Y'know what? I'm just gonna do one of the ones that hurt people with fire.

Griffin: [laughs]

Clint: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Sometimes.

Travis: He's doing a keyword search, 'fire.'

Clint: Hurt people.

Justin: Okay, so, I'm gonna go with *fireball*.

Griffin: Oh, a classic.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: I can't believe you needed to look for five minutes for *fireball*.

Justin: Uh, well, the first four minutes and 45 seconds were trying to look for something better.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: And then the last 15 seconds were purely *fireball*.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: But I'm just gonna cast a *fireball*...

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Wait. No, wait. There's a twist.

Griffin: Alright.

Justin: At them.

Griffin: Yeah.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: To set them... on fire.

Griffin: Okay.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, what—

Justin: Dexterity saving throw.

Griffin: Okay. Uh, Lydia rolls a six. Edward rolls a 13.

Justin: No.

Griffin: These are shit rolls. Okay.

Justin: That's both uh... so you're gonna take 8d6 fire damage on a failed save. Are there any flammable objects in the area that aren't being worn or carried? Because that is also—

Travis: You did say there was some curtains.

Griffin: I don't think I did.

Justin: Didn't remember the curtains. Uh...

Travis: Didn't he describe the bars having curtains?

Audience: [yelling] Yes!

Griffin: Okay, yeah, there's curtains.

Justin: Woo!

Griffin: Alright! There's fuckin' curtains! They're badass party curtains!

Travis: So they're uh, not flammable.

Justin: 24... 27... 28... 34... 34.

Griffin: Whoa, okay. They...

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Uh, you throw a fireball at them, and it blasts them, and the fuckin' kickass curtains behind them. And uh, Edward says...

Edward: Ooh! I remember this feeling being not so good. Maybe this was a bad idea?

Griffin: And Lydia says...

Lydia: No, no, no, go with it. We got them this time. We know all their tricks.

Griffin: Uh, next in the order is Merle. Oh, roll a wisdom saving throw, Taako, to see if you are still dancing. [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Six.

Griffin: Still dancing.

Clint: Merle casts *guardian of faith*.

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: Yes!

Clint: You got all these angels around. Why not use some angels for their own good?

Justin: Yes.

Clint: So... shit.

Griffin: What's wrong, bud?

Travis: It's a 35!

Griffin: What'd he roll? Do you have to—I don't think you have to roll anything. Why did you say shit?

Clint: Oh, I don't have to roll anything!

Griffin: Why'd you say shit?

Clint: 'Cause I... I...

Justin: The language is just like, out of control.

Clint: I'm so...

Travis: Dookie! Dookie.

Griffin: You see... you see your uh, Della Reese warrior angel, and—

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: She actually pops up out of the crowd of dancing angels and she's got like a... [laughs] She's got like some beads—she has like one of those raver, like, Ring Pops that she kinda... and she pops up and she's like...

Della Reese: What do you need?

Audience: [laughs]

Della Reese: I'm busy, Merle!

Merle: I need you to—

Audience: [cheers]

Merle: You know what? I don't want you to stop doing that.

Della Reese: Alright! Bye!

Griffin: And she disappears back into the crowd of angels.

Clint: Wow. [laughing] I suck at this game.

Travis: Like she does attack the angels around her.

Griffin: With a mosh.

Travis: Yes.

Justin: Yes.

Griffin: With her irresponsible dancing. She picks up on what you need. What do I roll against the angel dance squad? You got this.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: What's the damage?

Clint: 20 radiant damage on a failed save.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: What save?

Justin: Dexterity.

Griffin: Okay, it's a dexterity saving throw. Uh, I rolled an 11, which is not going to save against your spellcasting modifier.

Clint: No, it's not.

Griffin: Uh, yeah you just see her—

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: You just see her now, like, her dance that she was doing, now becomes like...

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Like, I've never been in a mosh pit, but I think when you get in it you're supposed to be like—

Travis: You've never been in— Let's get some people up here!

Griffin: [laughing] No.

Clint: No!

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: The fire marshal will shut us down.

Travis: You've never lived!

Griffin: We've done enough live shows for you to know better than to say "rush the stage."

Justin: [laughs]

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, as she is moshing, you see these like, splashes of light every time she elbows another angel in the face, and they take 20 radiant damage. Uh, next in the order—

Clint: So I did good, right?

Griffin: Well, I mean, they're— Yes, sure.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Next in the order is, uh, Edward. Edward is just like, standing perfectly still, and then he like, just like, flexes this powerful turbo vogue. Uh, and it sort of just like, commands the entire angel dance crew to take a dive at... uh, we'll say Merle. Uh, Merle. That is a 21 versus AC.

Travis: You have disadvantage because I'm a protection fighter.

Griffin: Awww!

Audience: [cheers]

Merle: Thank you, Magnus.

Griffin: That's a 17 versus AC.

Travis: No.

Clint: No.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Let me speak for Dad! No.

Griffin: The angel dance crew all vogues in the exact same way as Edward did, and then lunges towards you, trying to grab you and pull you back into the mosh pit. Uh, but Magnus uses his shield somehow to stop that from happening.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, next in the order is Lydia, who... Lydia casts *blight* on Magnus. Uh, it sounds a lot worse than it is. Make a constitution saving throw, my friend.

Travis: That's one of my good ones. That's a 16 plus nine, a 25.

Griffin: Jesus Christ!

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Okay, well—

Travis: Don't go against a fighter in strength or constitution.

Griffin: Yeah, sure. On a failure, that would have been 38 necrotic damage, but because you saved against it, it's only 19.

Travis: Sick.

Justin: Nice!

Griffin: And you feel your—you feel your, quote, "moisture and vitality drained.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: D&D is nasty!

Audience: [laughs and cheers]

Griffin: Uh, next in the order is Reggie. Uh, Reggie stands up from behind the bar, and he jumps over it in one smooth party motion, uh—

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: And uh, he looks pissed off.

Travis: It's just a good line. "A smooth party motion."

Griffin: He looks pissed off, and he stomps his foot. And as he does, a hole in the ground opens up, and a hose pops out, and he just starts spraying foam everywhere into this battle that's happening in the middle of the floor.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: And noth—nothing else really happens.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: But he's trying to get this shit going with a sick foam party.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Next in the order is Magnus.

Travis: Cool. Now, do I remember you saying that the twins were in robot bodies?

Griffin: Wh—What? No.

Travis: You said they were robot DJs like Daft Punk.

Griffin: They had masks on to conceal their identities so I could take them off at some point and surprise the audience. They didn't turn into friendly robots.

Clint: Now, Griffin, you know what he was wanting to do.

Griffin: I know what he was wanting but what if—what if--

Travis: Um, I'm going to say, Magnus is going to take advantage of the foam.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: And slide on his shield like a wrecking ball.

Griffin: Okay.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Okay. I don't know what that looks like.

Travis: I'm going to like, do a sick knee-slide.

Griffin: And smash— just smash, you're just bowling?

Travis: Yeah!

Griffin: Bowling for twins?

Travis: Bowling for angels!

Griffin: Okay, cool. Oh, you're going for the angels, okay.

Travis: 17, plus, I assume, seven, which is my—

Griffin: Sure, sure, sure. I like it.

Travis: Yeah, 25.

Griffin: A 17 would have hit on its own. Uh, yeah, why don't you roll... Uhh... Why don't you just roll your regular weapon damage... twice.

Travis: Oooh.

Griffin: You're gonna kill some angels. You feel big, big man?

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: So, uh, that would be 25 total.

Griffin: Okay! Yeah, that's a good, solid hit. You smash into the angels, and I think Merle and Taako, who is still just like, fucking grinding it out. Uh, you see just angels go flying up in the air like cartoon bowling pins. Uh, are you taking another action or are—

Travis: Yeah, I am.

Griffin: Okay. Figured.

Travis: Am I at the twins now, or am I still—

Griffin: Oh, yeah, yeah, you're upon.

Travis: Okay. I attack... which one turned me into a mannequin?

Audience: Edward!

Griffin: Edward, I guess.

Travis: Edward, right?

Griffin: Yeah, yeah.

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: I attack Edward with the Flaming, Raging, Poisoning Sword of Doom.

Griffin: Yuh-oh.

Justin: Oh nooooo.

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: Seven plus ten, 17?

Griffin: Uhh... yes, that's a hit.

Travis: Um, and it's all... let me see. All of it is the damage I do, I believe. All of it.

Griffin: All damage, ever.

Travis: Nine, so that's 12, uh... plus five. 17 damage. Oh no, sorry—

Griffin: I was about to say, what the fuck? Is it broken?

Travis: It's twenty— 36 damage, thank you very much.

Griffin: Yeah, okay. [laughs] He says...

Edward: Did you have that last time?

Magnus: I didn't, but I do now. Fuck you.

Edward: Okay.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: He turns back towards Lydia, he's like...

Edward: Are you 100% certain—

Griffin: She says...

Lydia: We've got this! We've got this! This time, for sure! He's got a huge sword this time, but we've got each other.

Clint: Each other.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: And I— [laughs] I don't think we've ever run into it before, but I'm pretty sure it does ongoing damage. Usually I just kill people in one swipe, but I think the poisoning part of it goes on and on.

Griffin: He says...

Edward: I feel like, wicked poisoned. Are you 100—

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Next in the order is Taako.

Justin: Okay. I'm gonna try, uh... I'm gonna cast a spell on the mosh pit.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Uh, and the spell that I am going to cast is *silence*.

Griffin: Oooh.

Justin: I'm gonna create a sphere of silence, uh, centered on the, uh, centered on the sphere.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Bad news... immune to thunder damage.

Griffin: `Kay.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: But they are deafened while inside it.

Griffin: Yeah. Okay, how big is this sphere?

Justin: This is a 20 foot radius sphere.

Griffin: Okay, that's definitely big enough to capture like, the dance pit, as it is. And as you do that, you just see, like, uh, y'know, a mosquito getting sprayed by mosquito spray. All the angels just sort of fall to the ground, just sort of like, clutching their ears and looking around very confused.

Taako: Hey, gang. Don't forget to hydrate.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: [laughs] Uh, and the angel dance crew has been neutralized. I think one of them steps out of this sphere just to like, leave, and they go

like, demon again. And one of their friends like, grabs them and pulls them back into this sphere like...

Justin: [laughs]

Travis: Once again, another good audio cue.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, next in the order is Merle. The dance crew has been neutralized, uh, and... yeah.

Clint: [laughing] My, uh... believe it or not, my facial recognition thing won't recognize me on my phone.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Is it a clothing recognition thing?

Travis: It's like, "I'm not giving this to you, Clint, take off the fucking hat."

Audience: [laughs]

Clint: If Merle had his Extreme Teen Bible, and it wasn't zooming across the United States, somewhere in the United States' postal system... He opens up his Extreme Teen Bible and casts *banishment* on Leana.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Leana is not a person.

Travis: Wait, on who?

Griffin: Stop. Stop. Leana is not a person present in the room.

Travis: It's not a person who's been present *ever*.

Clint: Lydia.

Audience: [laughs]

Clint: Cast *banishment* on Lydia, and attempts to send her to the western place that was caught in the time loop—

Griffin: Alright, sure, why the fuck not.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: What's that look like? What am I doing?

Justin: That's uh, that's a charisma saving throw for that one.

Clint: Yeah.

Travis: It's not like they're gonna be charismatic at all, these voguing twins.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, I got a 22 save on that.

Travis: That saves.

Griffin: Is that enough to save?

Clint: Allow me to speak for for myself on my turn.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Did it save, Mac?

Clint: Yeah.

Audience: [laughs]

Clint: [laughing] It saved.

Griffin: You see her actually—what you get out of her is like the uh, Back to the Future Part 1, where like, her hands start to turn invisible. And she's like...

Lydia: Oh shit, maybe we should—

Griffin: But then it like pops back into place, and she's like...

Lydia: Okay, nevermind.

Clint: Damn.

Griffin: Uh, next in the order is Edward and Lydia. Uh, I think Lydia is pissed off about what you just tried to do to her. And uh, she grabs the iPod and presses like, a button on it, and the music changes. And as it does... Pan turns in your direction, and his eyes have gone blood red, and his face is cracked, and... uh, I need everyone to make a dexterity saving throow.

Justin: Aw, dunk.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Gonna get fucked up by Pan.

Travis: Yep. That's a nine for old Magnus.

Justin: Yeah, your boy got a nine as well.

Griffin: Merle?

Clint: Read it.

Travis: That's a nat 20 for Merle.

Griffin: Aw yeah.

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: Merle does 18 unnecessary flips.

Griffin: Yeah, I think the--

Clint: Wait, let me—let me do a Caruso. Well... naturally, it's a 20.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: That's not—

Clint: Ahhhhhh!

Griffin: That's something, I guess. What I lo— Merle, like, knowing Pan, like, you see his face, and instantly know something's wrong, and that's why you have these cat-like reflexes as you flip backwards, avoiding a wall of thorns, uh, that Taako and Magnus aren't... [laughing] Now, Taako is in the wall of thorns, still fucking bumping it.

Justin: Dancing.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Uh, Magnus and Taako take 30 piercing damage.

Justin: Daaang.

Travis: Alright. I'm bloodied.

Griffin: You all fall backwards as you are pierced by the thorns, and now you are all trapped inside of a dome of razor-sharp thorns that Pan has conjured up, trapping you inside.

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: And um, as you all take this damage, the thorns start sort of wrapping around themselves, constricting tighter and tighter and tighter around you. Uh... next, you hear Reggie, and he yells...

Reggie: Oh no!

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: Magnus, it's your turn.

Audience: [laughs]

Travis: I'm going to flex so hard, the wall of thorns breaks.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: This is— Okay. You're gonna flex so hard... stop. Talk about the science of why that works, and I'll let you—

Travis: You said they were constricting.

Griffin: They're not—

Travis: Hrrrgh!

Griffin: So you wait until they're wrapped—

Travis: Hrrrrrgh!!

Griffin: Yeah. Yeah, I heard it. I heard it. I heard it, for sure. The problem wasn't me not—

Travis: That's a one! [laughs]

Audience: [laughs and cheers]

Clint: [laughing]

Justin: [laughing]

Griffin: Jesus. Uh, Magnus, you take 24 points of piercing damage as you—

Travis: Yep! Magnus is almost dead!

Justin: Put that on your canon, motherfuckers!

Clint: [laughing]

Griffin: laughing] Uh, next in the order is Taako.

Justin: Again?

Griffin: Yeah bud, we're moving fast.

Justin: Dang, we're just cranking, huh?

Griffin: Yeah. I mean, it doesn't—

Magnus: Hey guys, if you want to help out, I gotta open a school for dogs or whatever the fuck later.

Griffin: It doesn't take much time for Magnus to walk up to a wall of thorns, flex, and be devoured.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Alright, well, let's recap again.

Griffin: You're trapped in a dome of thorns that is getting smaller and smaller, Magnus walked into the thorns again to flex and try and explode it...

Travis: Okay, now, I did misunderstand. I thought I was already in the thorns.

Griffin: Yeah. Uh, Taako.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Uhh...

Clint: And Merle's fine.

Justin: And Merle is fine.

Griffin: You're also in the dome of thorns, but you are not hit by it.

Justin: Against all odds.

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: Um... I can't move, can I?

Griffin: You're still da— oh you didn't roll to save, I think, at the end of your last turn.

Justin: Oh yeah, yeah.

Griffin: Roll that uh...

Justin: Ohhh, that beautiful bean footage.

Griffin: Wisdom saving throw.

Justin: That's a 18!

Griffin: That's good!

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: Yes!

Griffin: You stopped dancing.

Justin: I am, uh... I will pull out the... hole-thrower.

Griffin: Okay.

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: And use it on this sphere of thorns. And I'll look at my two compatriots and say...

Taako: Let's get the hell out of here!

Griffin: Roll a uh, roll a 1d10, I think, to determine the uh, the size of this hole that you're punching in the thorns.

Justin: Ooh boy.

Griffin: Do you need a 10-sided dice?

Justin: No, I got one.

Griffin: Okay.

Griffin: Oh man. Oh man, oh man.

Travis: How—wait, how thick is the wall?

Griffin: Huh?

Travis: How thick is the wall? And it's a trick question.

Justin: No, it's cir—it's circumference.

Griffin: It's not a thi—it's not a thickness question, it's a circumference question. How big are we talking here, bud?

Justin: One foot.

Audience: [laughs and cheers]

Griffin: I'll give you this. I'll give you this. I'll give you this. It's big enough for one of you guys to get through... and Merle, it's your turn.

Clint: Aw, man. Merle casts *flame strike* on the thorn wall.

Griffin: While you're all inside of it?

Travis: Remember when I said I'm almost dead, and we have like, a whole canon about how I die?

Griffin: Just so we follow the scene - Taako punches a hole in the wall, big enough for Merle to get through and Merle says, "Ah, good! I'm gonna blow us all up with holy fire!"

Justin: [laughs]

Clint: All right, Merle casts *mass heal*. A flood of healing energy—

Griffin: Okay, just so I'm clear - Taako punches a hole in the side of the thorns, and you say, "Ah, good! I'm just gonna heal us while the thorns continue to circle in!"

Travis: Yes!

Griffin: Okay, do it.

Clint: Yes, exactly. You restore up to 700 points. Look at that shit!

Travis: Yup.

Justin: What's the casting?

Clint: *Mass heal*.

Justin: That's a 9th level spell, my man.

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: Do not have it. Do not have it. Let's try again.

Travis: Damn it!

Clint: You just sat there waiting for me to commit to that.

Travis: What about *healing word*?

Griffin: What about *kind-of-mass-heal*?

Clint: Oh, I don't need your—

Travis: *Medium heal!*

Clint: I don't need your pity!

Justin: [laughs]

Clint: How about, uh... Okay, *regenerate*.

Justin: Okay?

Griffin: Okay?

Clint: Where you touch a creature and stimulate its— why is the font so small?

Audience: [cheers]

Clint: Its natural healing ability.

Justin: Okay.

Griffin: Okay. Who are you doing this to?

Clint: To--to—Beefy O'Burly over here.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: *Beefy O'Burly*.

Travis: Please, sir, that's my father!

Audience: [laughs]

Justin: That's 4d8 plus 15.

Griffin: Cool. Uh, next in the order is Edward and Lydia again. Here's what happens. The vines start closing in closer and closer around you, and just as

they are about to envelop you, uh... the room just kind of disappears. All of the vines just like, vanish, and you are standing in this like, just black void.

Reggie's gone. All the angels standing in the dome of silence are just gone. It's just you standing in this black void. And then, a shape appears - a blue, triangular wedge. And then adjacent to it, two more wedges; one green, one yellow. Then more and more appear, all different colors, all branded with these different symbols—

Travis: It's the Triforce.

Griffin: All forming the Wheel of Sacrifice, and that's when you realize you're back in Wonderland.

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: Fuck!

Griffin: And you all actually recognize each other's outfits as the clothes you were wearing while you were in Wonderland. Taako is like, heavily wounded from when that piece of heavy machinery fell on him some time ago.

Travis: Who's clapping for that?!

Justin: One person clapping, I saw that!

Travis: You monster! Oh, I loved it!

Justin: Monstrous!

Griffin: A catwalk raises up from the floor, and Edward and Lydia step down it, and Lydia says...

Lydia: Oh, brother, do you think it's time that we told them?

Griffin: And Edward says...

Edward: I, uh... I guess the act is up. I imagine it must be quite shocking to return to our stylish little torture complex. Funny thing is...you never actually left.

Audience: [cheers loudly]

Justin: [groaning] Oh, God.

Griffin: And Lydia says...

Lydia: We warned you there was no escape! Everything you've experienced since "leaving" has been but a waking dream we've implanted in your minds. We've just been draining you of your suffering the entire time.

Travis: I attack 'em.

Griffin: It is your turn.

Magnus: No, here's the thing.

Griffin: Okay.

Magnus: The last time we fought you, you took my body.

Edward: Yup.

Magnus: And you pissed us off.

Edward: Yeah?

Magnus: And if I remember correctly, my sister from another mister fuckin' ate you up.

Edward: Yeah.

Audience: [cheers]

Magnus: We're not there.

Edward: 'Kay.

Magnus: Fuck right off.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: And I attack with the Flaming, Raging, Poisoning Sword of Doom.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: And that's a 22 versus AC.

Griffin: Okay. You— Taako and Merle, you see Magnus wield this massive god-killing weapon, and you see him jump forward, and then suddenly, you see him encased within the wall of vines, which reappear all around you as the Hallucinatory Terrain disappears. Magnus, you take 30 points of piercing damage as you are consumed by the vines again.

Travis: Then I'm attacking the vines! That was a solid—

Justin: No, no, no.

Griffin: No, there's no way you saw it. Edward says...

Edward: You fucking yokle! Got you again, you dumb dumb!

Audience: [laughs and cheers]

Travis: Okay, wait, how much do I lose?

Griffin: 30 points of piercing damage.

Travis: Okay. And then I attack again.

Griffin: Okay. This time, actually looking at the vines?

Travis: No, shooting through the hole with the cross—no, with the Chance Lance.

Griffin: Okay.

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: That's a 19.

Griffin: Okay, who are you throwing that at?

Travis: You know what, I'm going at Edward again. Fuck that dude.

Griffin: Okay. Yeah, that's a hit.

Travis: That's 12.

Griffin: Okay, that's cute. Uh, no, it's sweet. It's like... it's a sweet... it's a sweet hit. Uh...

Travis: And I do it again.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: Uh, no, this time, I'm going to attack the vines with the Flaming, Raging, Poisoning Sword of Doom.

Griffin: Okay.

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: That's a nat 20.

Griffin: Oh shit, okay.

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: You really got those vines.

Griffin: No need to roll damage on that one, my friend. I think with that, you uh—you describe it. What's it look like? How are you attacking them?

Travis: I think one solid slice, and it just, like, split— the whole dome just goes, "Creeeak..." [blows raspberry] And splits open.

Griffin: Okay, yeah. The vines fall away. As they do, you all see Pan standing in front of you, and he looks real bad. His face is—

Travis: And I'm going to use my Second Wind. [laughs]

Griffin: His face— his face is all craggy and messed up. He has these blood red eyes, and he roars as he sees you. And then, actually, it's Reggie's turn, if you'll allow it. He, um... you all hear this loud boom, and then see Pan just disappear in this burst of confetti, and you look over, and Reggie is holding a confetti cannon that he's just fired in Pan's direction.

And the concussive force of that has knocked—rendered your deity unconscious, and on the ground.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: Uh, next in the order is Taako. Taako. And at this point, now, I think uh, Edward and Lydia realize their bag of tricks has been nearly emptied out, and they look a little nervous.

Justin: I am going to— I'm going to cast *circle of death*.

Griffin: [laughs]

Audience: [cheers]

Justin: 'Cause when nothing else will do, you cast a *circle of death*. That's a sphere of negative energy radiating out of a 60 foot radius. You gotta make a constitution saving throw.

Griffin: Yeah, alright.

Clint: That's a level 9 spell.

Justin: No, it's level 6, Mac. Good try.

Clint: Dang.

Griffin: I rolled a three for Edward, plus whatever is not going to get me there. And then I rolled six plus four is a 10? Still probably no.

Justin: No.

Griffin: So what happens?

Justin: That's gonna be 8d6 necrotic damage.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: Hold on— man. Ok, here we go. Three. One. You all add it up, okay?

Travis: Four.

Justin: One.

Travis: Five.

Audience: Five.

Justin: Five.

Travis: Ten.

Audience: Ten.

Justin: Six.

Travis: 16.

Audience: 16.

Justin: Four.

Travis: 20.

Audience: 20.

Justin: Six.

Travis: 26.

Audience: 26.

Justin: Six.

Travis: 32.

Audience: 32.

Justin: Is that eight?

Travis: One more!

Justin: One more?

Travis: One to grow on.

Justin: Six!

Travis: 38!

Clint: [impersonating The Count] 38! 38 hit points!

Taako: I—can I say, I’m going to be so stoked to tell my sister she did not kill you... and I did.

Griffin: [laughs] Edward says...

Edward: We’ll see about that. We practically invented necrotic—

Griffin: And then he just explodes in a puff of black smoke.

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: And then—

Travis: And Magnus catches the iPod and realizes it's just full of U2.

Griffin: It's just full of free U2, he didn't even pay for it.

Magnus: There's so much U2 on here! This is all— U2, U2, it's just all U2!

Griffin: And Lydia—Lydia—

Travis: That's the real curse!

Griffin: Lydia looks over at her brother, who is now a puff of smoke, and just says...

Lydia: Looks like Team Wonderland is blasting off agaaaiiin!

Audience: [cheers]

Griffin: And um, she explodes, too.

Travis: [laughs]

Griffin: And instantly, the music just disappears. You see Pan start like, rubbing his head and regaining his senses. The cone of silence disappears. You hear one of the angel dance crew just yell...

Angel Dancer: No more phat beats, please!

Magnus: Only juicy beats!

Angel Dancer: Juicy's Calm Beats! Some calm house music to do homework to!

Magnus: Play some— just some Enya, please!

Angel Dancer: Please!

Clint: [singing] Sail away, sail away, sail away...

Griffin: Jump cut to Istus' cottage. You see half a pantheon's worth of deities now sheepishly exiting the place, dark circles under their eyes, carrying their belongings over their shoulders. Pan is one such deity after returning with you. As he stops and prepares to leave, he turns towards you, Merle, and he says...

Pan: If you don't want to follow me anymore after what you saw today, I will—

Travis: "I'm sorry about all of those things I DMed you." That's a 'Deity Message.'

Pan: I would totally, totally, totally understand.

Merle: No, listen. It's all about forgiveness, buddy. You did okay.

Pan: Which one of us is the loving god, right?

Merle: Exactly!

Travis: Wait, at what point did he do okay? He attacked us!

Clint: Look, you have your gods, and I've got mine.

Griffin: The rhythm took him over, Travis! The three of you also see Reggie. He's got a push broom, and he's trying to use it to clean up all of the trash scattered across Istus' yard, and he's failing, because that's not the right tool to use for that job. But he's giving it some effort. And when he sees the three of you, he approaches humbly and he says...

Reggie: So, uh, listen. Listen. I goofed. I goofed it. I goofed up bad. Look. The whole divine charge thing? It's all about getting the party going, but today, I—I did over-party, and I did not think that was possible. [sobs]

Audience: [cheers]

Taako: Does this make me the new god of partying? Because you're cleaning up—

Audience: [cheers]

Magnus: I'm happy to just be, like, the under-god of partying.

Taako: Yeah, or is there something more specific than partying, now that I think about it? Like, if I could be the god of organizing my sock drawer—

Magnus: Yeeaahh!

Griffin: He says...

Reggie: I owe you big time. I promise, from now on, I'm gonna keep things real conservative around here. Just three foam parties a week, sandwiched between nightly turbo raves, but... I'm gonna cut those off at five AM so folks can get a nice morning sleep before heading out for the aforementioned foam party.

Taako: I want a—

Clint: Griffin, you have the longest arms.

Travis: Yeah! Look at this fuckin' wingspan!

Clint: You're like an orangutan!

Griffin: Thank you.

Taako: I want a boon.

Reggie: Okay?

Taako: I want a boon where if I'm throwing a party and I yawn, everyone leaves instantly. Can we do that?

Audience: [cheers]

Taako: Can you grant me this one wish, this one party wish?

Griffin: He says...

Reggie: I'll do you one better.

Taako: There's literally nothing better than what I just described.

Reggie: If you're at a party where you don't know anybody, but there's a cat, you'll be able to talk to the cat using language.

Taako: I love this! Yes!

Audience: [cheers]

Travis: And at that point, Merle and Magnus and Taako just fall into each other's arms, crying, 'cause they're so fucking happy.

Griffin: And with a snap of his fingers, the three of you are transported back to the prime material plane. You're just standing in a field outside of Neverwinter, and from there, you see the world setting itself right. The sun shoots back up into the sky, the trees are all bending to stand up straight.

Travis: Can we get dramatic lights, please?

Justin: No lights, just let him read!

Griffin: A dramatic light I would accept. I don't know if we have access to those. But in the distance—

Justin: It's one slider, just "Dramatic." Bring it up.

Travis: Oh no, I hit Whimsical!

Audience: [laughs]

Griffin: But in the di— [sings] In the distance... We see an object plummet from the sky.

Magnus: Oh, look, look, look.

Griffin: A golden trail of light following behind it. It crashes to the ground somewhere in the Felicity Wilds, and then we see it close up in a small, smoking crater. Pandora's Boom Box sits, half-submerged in the soft loam of the forest floor - but not for long. A gloved hand reaches down and removes it from the crater, and as this figure holds their new treasure aloft, we see an ominous grin flash across the face of Garfield, the Deals Warlock.

Audience: [cheers loudly]

Justin: Shit!

Griffin: And then I wrote, "The End?" That's it everybody, thank you so much for coming out!

Justin: Thanks y'all! Thank you, thank you!

Audience: [cheers]

[theme music plays]

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Elliott: Have you ever watched a movie so bad, you just needed to talk to somebody about it?

Dan: Well, here at The Flop House, we watch a mad movie, and then talk about it.

Stuart: Yeah, you don't have to do anything. We'll watch it, and we'll talk it. We do the hard work.

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Elliott: And me, America's rascal, Elliott Kalan.

Stuart: New episodes every other Saturday at MaximumFun.org, or wherever you get your podcasts, dude. Bye bye.

Elliott: Bye bye.

[music plays]

Speaker 1: Welcome back, and thank you, Dan, for that scathing report. As you know, MaxFunDrive is coming up, March 18th to March 29th, which has some folks pretty excited. But as families around the world get ready to celebrate this season of giving, community, and quality podcasts, some are wondering if it's just too much.

Speaker 2: Are they, though?

Speaker 1: They are. Some people are all for comedy and culture, but with 45 shows offering hundreds of hours of bonus content, plus all the Max Fun meet ups taking place around the world, some people think it's too much.

Speaker 2: While other people think it sounds totally awesome.

Speaker 1: I took my granddaughter to the mall to get her picture taken, and the mall pod fairy was short. And I, y'know, I'm just gonna say it – I'm sorry, but everyone knows the pod fairy is tall!

Speaker 2: Well, I think we should just leave it there. [laughs] Until next time, here's the news you need to know. MaxFunDrive runs from March 18th through 29th. Be sure to listen to all of your favorite podcasts. I know I will.

[music plays]