

The Adventure Zone: Steeplechase - Episode 29

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Krystal: This one is honestly a little sad, gang! Remember the security guard who single-handedly stopped a robbery at the It's All Greek To Me snack cart? That selfless member of the customer satisfaction team not only drenched his uniform in the process, but he also took a bullet to the leg, earning himself the nickname of the Euro Hero. Well, that hero has a name and it's Guy Meanswell. Shockingly, our sources tell us that Meanswell was just fired for losing his keycard during a routine visit to Ustaben. Whew! Dentonic takes this stuff seriously, y'all! Especially with those that are charged with keeping us all safe. So, if you're hoping to lose their property and keep your job, we hope you never know when to stop dreaming!

[Steeplechase theme song plays]

Weaver: No, no, no, that is... the cilantro...

Travis: [chuckles]

Weaver: Yes, in the UK, they... they called the leaves coriander and the seeds... I don't know why we... I don't know we do it the way we do it... I always thought I'd learn with age...

Justin: Hello and welcome to Steeplechase, a thrilling adventure.

Travis: You accidentally read a portion of your biography there. Did you mean to read like a script or something?

Justin: Yes, thank you.

Griffin: I think that's actually from his autobiographical cookbook, The Spice of Life, a Justin McElroy Story.

Travis: Yeah, yeah.

Justin: A Justin McElroy recipe.

Clint: And now we know that Creaky Man went to the University of Kentucky 'cause he mentioned UK.

Justin: Okay, very smart!

Griffin: All right!

Justin: You're a wild— this— there's no getting one over on this wild cat.

Clint: [chuckles]

Justin: Hi! This is The Adventure Zone: Steeplechase. The continuing investigation into the death of Paul Pantry and the general whatevering is happening to you three. [chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: At the end of the last episode, you stole a guard's keycard.

Griffin: I felt bad about that for a whole week.

Justin: That's good 'cause I still don't know why you did it. And Darla Davis is—

Travis: You don't know why he did it?!

Justin: ... Has been cut off from you.

Travis: I mean, at this point...

Justin: Not necessarily by force, using sort of soft power, Darla Davis has been kept from you. Go ahead, Trav.

Beef: All right, fellas... just to go over—

Montrose: I'm gonna go give this back real quick. Is that—

Beef: No, no, no, hold on to that, hold on to that, we're gonna use that. We're gonna—

Montrose: Oh, okay?

Beef: We need that, that was a good impulse.

Montrose: It felt intrusive... but I appreciate the compliment.

Guy: Fuck! God damn it!

Emerich: But here's the thing—

Beef: Oh, God.

Emerich: ... It was attached to a very long one of those extending lanyard things. So...

Montrose: [chuckles] Okay— oh! You're right! Zoop!

Beef: No, don't let go!

Griffin: [chuckles]

Clint: [chuckles]

Griffin: No, no, that's not— that's not real.

Beef: Listen, at this point, I... and God help me if it's not true, but at this point, I'm working off the feeling that Kenchal Denton for some reason is orchestrating cutting us off from our support network. Sticky Fingers Paul Pantry is dead. We lost Gravel to the you know, prison system.

Emerich: Mm-hm, mm-hm.

Beef: And now Darla has more or less been professionally blackmailed into cutting off contact with us. Now, we have other contacts, but I would say none as connected as those three. So like, those are the people we've gotten jobs from so far.

Emerich: They're all alone.

Beef: No—

Emerich: It's just us three...

Beef: Well, no.

Montrose: No, not—

Emerich: The entire world is coming down on us!

Beef: Emerich, did you hear— I said we— we know other people. What I said, Emerich, what I said was, we know other people.

Montrose: Yeah!

Beef: Those are just the three people who have given us jobs.

Montrose: There's always Shroog.

Emerich: Right...

Beef: And my best friend, James DeBarge.

Montrose: And James, J-man. Jimmy Deebes, I call him.

Emerich: I don't feel any better because of that, but...

Montrose: No—

Beef: Oh. Okay, cool?

Montrose: So, you're suggesting that Darla Davis' life is not in danger? You're saying that she's already been severed from us as a contact?

Beef: I don't— yeah, I don't think it's about like murdering people who have helped us. I think it's about separating us from people who we've gotten work from.

Montrose: Well just gosh dang, could they not have reassigned Paul Pantry? [chuckles] Could they not have... you know, shipped him off somewhere?

Beef: Oh, perhaps you're forgetting Paul Pantry's... inherent blackmailing nature?

Montrose: Oh yes, that's a good point.

Beef: That he is... So basically, the two criminal people have been arrested and murdered.

Montrose: Yes.

Beef: And the person who is... seemingly an upstanding cast member...

Montrose: Yes.

Beef: Has been given a promotion.

Montrose: All right. So, we are at war, then. Which, I don't know if you can call it that when one of the sides just has three people on it. But I—

Emerich: Just three, only three!

Montrose: The drama of it is good for me, psychologically.

Justin: [chuckles]

Montrose: It seems like we have come to an inflection point in this operation. One that will require us to really figure out where Kenchal Denton's... interests lie.

Beef: Well, at this point, I've given him two opportunities. One at Gravel's arrest, and then trying to pass the information up through Guy Meanswell to be like, "Hey, tell Kenchal to come talk to us."

Montrose: Yes...

Beef: So, he has an opportunity now to be like, "I don't know what going on either."

Griffin: So, we haven't had— we haven't had any contact with him, right, Juice?

Justin: No. No, he has not in any way gotten in contact.

Emerich: Since... Gentlemen, we are thieves, correct? I mean, we are—

Montrose: Smugglers, according to the RAP sheet.

Emerich: I know. But what we do is we go in and we steal things. Correct? Why don't we steal a meeting with Kenchal Denton? Let's confront him! Find out why he's doing this to us! We're just three all-alone little lambs, out there in the cold, wide—!

Beef: Okay. That's not— we're not— Emerich, deep breath. Deep breath, bud. I think the problem with the stealing of the thing... it's a little more confrontational than... because then we have to get past security and then back past security?

Emerich: Mm-hm...

Beef: You know what I mean? At this point, I'm more willing to just like... I don't know, ruin him... if we could.

Montrose: Ooh boy.

Beef: Listen, let's give him until nightfall to respond. If we don't get that, we find him. Sound good?

Emerich: Yes... yes. All right. I trust you, Beef. I trust you, Montrose... for now.

Beef: After all, Emerich, we're all you have.

Montrose: Now don't— come on— don't do— now, don't play that card.

Emerich: Oh, you're all I have! It's just us three! Oh!

Justin: [chuckles]

Beef: No, Emerich, Emerich, I was just— no, Emerich, I was joking, it's fine, it's fine. Everything's fine, it's gonna be okay.

Emerich: [weak chuckle]

Griffin: I don't know how to resolve this, Justin.

Justin: Mm-hm?

Griffin: But is waiting an option? I would like to confirm, I guess before we— I'm totally ready to go to war with Kenchal, I don't give a fuck, I'll burn that dude's house down. But is waiting to see if this summons is actually accepted an option?

Justin: Let me think for a second...

Travis: Griffin, I've found in life that like waiting and doing nothing, and seeing if the problem resolves itself, is always an option. Not always a good option...

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: But it's always there! All right, Justin, so, does he come hang out at Poppy's Place? You know what I mean? Do some Skee-Ball, trade in some tickets... explain his master plan?

Justin: Um, no.

Griffin: Fuck! Man, that would've been great for us. All right, let's get this creep.

Clint: Could we have a downtime— a mini-downtime? You said there would be a downtime?

Justin: Oh! You should be able to have a little downtime. Yeah, you know what?

Travis: Thanks! We've earned it!

Justin: He's not gonna reach out to you but let's talk about what... He is not going to appear before you, let's say that.

Griffin: Okay?

Justin: But why don't you all— you all have some needs before you move on from this... this little— your home away from home. What does everybody wanna get up to? We'll do some— we'll do some downtime as this— as you wait for Kenchal to respond, or not.

Griffin: I feel like I had a long-term project but I don't see a clock anywhere.

Justin: Yeah, it's right there, Griff. It's your gambling thing. You wanted to do gambling at The Future is You.

Griffin: Oh yeah! Are you... are we doing usual two activity downtime situation?

Justin: I think that would be kind, yeah. You all have been through some stress and violence. It's been a stressful time, you know what I mean?

Griffin: Yeah, that's fair, that's true.

Travis: When a friend is murdered, that's bad. But when Sticky Fingers Paul Pantry is murdered? Oh boy...

Griffin: That's not as bad.

Travis: It's okay.

Justin: It's less bad, yeah, agreed. It's still bad, it can be bad, it just doesn't have to be—

Travis: It's still bad, yeah.

Justin: ... Super-duper bad. [chuckles]

Griffin: I am... Hm, it would be smart to acquire an asset. We never do that. Let me pray on that while you guys do other stuff.

Travis: We've acquired— I've acquired two assets!

Griffin: I'm gonna pray on it.

Travis: We've got Bensen and we've got James DeBarge!

Griffin: You're right.

Justin: Is Bensen an asset? 'Cause Bensen feels— Bensen feels like a liability to me.

Travis: Well, you know, one man's asset, Justin, is another man's liability.

Justin: That's interesting. That's what it says at the bottom of the poster for Taken 4.

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: So, that's actually a pretty cool line you came up with.

Travis: [in silly voice] 'This is my friend, Bensen. He does not have a particular set of skills. If anything, he really is holding me back. It's... he's kind of my albatross. But you know what? I promised his mom that he could hang out with me today. Come on, Bensen! Ah, no, Bensen, your foot is stuck in a bucket!'

Griffin: [chuckles] Oh no...

Justin: Bensen— okay, Bensen— when you hired Bensen, Bensen had one line the day you hired Bensen. Does anybody remember what that single line was? It was, "I'm gonna let you down!"

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: So, I don't know if he's the most trustworthy asset.

Travis: But I believe in him, maybe I should train him? Can you train an asset?

Justin: Yeah— yes, I think that's part of the— among the things you can do, actually!

Travis: Okay.

Justin: If you wanna make Bensen better.

Travis: Griffin, you work on your thing. I'm gonna... raise him up.

Justin: That's beautiful, Trav.

Griffin: Okay. I would like to acquire an asset.

Justin: Okay, Griffin.

Griffin: I want to leverage the Butter Cream connections that we have utilized so far, to try and source a... a hacker. Or someone who can... crack into Kenchal Denton's like, schedule... maybe that's— maybe that's more... maybe it's his assistant's schedule or something like that. But something that can help us know where he is going to be.

Justin: Okay...

Travis: I would point out that James is a techno wizard. So, if you wanna like acquire James for that?

Griffin: I don't wanna take James from you.

Travis: You could never. Our bond is—

Justin: You have two different ways of doing this, Griffin, one is technical and one is social. So, that is what I would say to you. You could go either way.

Griffin: We'll do social.

Justin: Social, okay.

Griffin: 'Cause then if we do social then just I could do it, right?

Justin: Well, I— what I mean is like... Kenchal is a notable person, right?

Griffin: Right,

Justin: There is— there is a physical way— social is probably not the right word. There are different people for different reasons who would know where he is from time to time... Whether people watchers or people on his staff, et cetera. Or there's you know, hacking into his date book. What I would say is that the technical thing would narratively give you a lot more access.

Griffin: Yeah, but that could be too much access, right?

Justin: Yeah, it would be a lot—

Griffin: If I can just hack his fuckin' email account, like I could probably ruin him without us having to do anything else.

Justin: Yeah, man. You could see all of the different plans that he definitely has written down and everything that he is doing.

Griffin: In his email, yeah.

Justin: You could read the whole story of this game. [chuckles]

Griffin: Do you know what I would actually like to find?

Justin: What?

Griffin: I would like to find a vlogger... not Krystal with a K.

Justin: Okay?

Griffin: Someone with like extreme boundary issues who has gotten verbal and written warnings in the past. Someone who is gonna know where Kenchal Denton's gonna be, because that's information that is... relevant to their dark interests.

Justin: So, you want somebody— you want somebody who...

Griffin: I want, I guess, the vlogger equivalent of like a paparazzi.

Travis: Do you mean Steeplechasin' Jason?

Griffin: What?

Justin: No...

Travis: That's his name that I came up with.

Griffin: Steeplechasin' Jason?

Justin: Steeplechasin' Jason?

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: Ah, Travis... yeah... actually... dang it.

Clint: [chuckles]

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: I was sitting here looking for some evidence to the contrary and I don't... I don't think I could disprove what you've just said, legal—

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: From a legal perspective. So, yes. Okay—[chuckles]

Griffin: I can do two things with Steeplechasin' Jason, I can do both my downtime activities with him.

Justin: Great. So, you are in... [chuckles] You're in Poppy's Place, killing some time. What are you doing, Montrose? How are you filling your hours?

Griffin: I mean, my duties as an employee of Poppy's Place are so perfunctory at this point, I think it's literally just like... giving people— You know at Dave and Buster's, when you go in, there's people like, "You wanna recharge your fucking game card, man?" It's literally— it's that, at this point.

Justin: So, you're at the... you're at...

Griffin: I'm at the— I'm at the prize exchange booth.

Justin: Sure, okay, all right. And then you hear like the door kind of swing open and you hear a click, click, click on a pad, a holo-pad. And you see a man standing in front of you, weirdly handsome in like a squished face kind of way. And he's wearing a pair of ratty jeans and he's got a baja on. And he's got... some... some of those... feet sock, feet shoes, you know the ones?

Griffin: Ah, fuck...

Justin: He's wearing toe shoes. [chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: And he's got like a hydration backpack. [chuckles]

Griffin: Jesus Christ.

Travis: This guy rules!

Griffin: This is the coolest dude I've ever heard of!

Jason: Okay, yeah! This is— guys, if you're seeing this, this is primo stuff I'm showing you live. We're taking a look at Poppy's Place, we've been here and they've been doing a lot of renovations in here. So, I wanted to bring you in live to check it out. Hi, welcome! You're on— you're here with Steeplechasin' Jason, live. Say, hi—

Montrose: You are kidding me! The Steeplechasin' Jason?

Jason: It's always cool to meet a fan. Yeah, man, it's me, Steeplechasin' Jason. I was hoping you could tell us about some of the—

Justin: And he's still got his phone and he's kind of like holding it in your face and it's got a rig on it that limits movement and also has a microphone popping out the top of it.

Griffin: Can I see how many viewers he has?

Justin: What?

Griffin: Can I see how many viewers he has?

Justin: 63, currently.

Griffin: [chuckles] Okay.

Jason: Don't laugh. 63's a great— that's a lot of— that's— if you— if you— okay, this is what irritates me about social media. May I have a second?

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah, please.

Jason: May I have a second?

Griffin: Please.

Travis: Yeah.

Jason: If you entertain 63 people, you're a failure. If you murder 63 people, you're the world's greatest killer.

Travis: Right.

Jason: You tell me!

Griffin: You tell me why.

Jason: You tell me, right? You tell me.

Clint: Yeah!

Justin: That was all Steeplechasin' Jason, by the way, he said all that.

Griffin: Yeah, sure.

Montrose: Oh, sorry, sorry, I did not mean to insult you. I'm a great fan of your work. I love how you just get in there and then people are like, "Get out!" And you're like, "No."

Jason: In there like swimwear, the Jason way. That's what I always say at the end of every stream.

Montrose: [chuckles] Yes. Yes, that's fantastic.

Jason: So, what was your— do you—

Justin: And he's still like shoving this camera in your face and he starts heading towards the Darkade.

Jason: Can I take a look back around here? I hear that you're all getting some new attractions in?

Montrose: Oh, I'm afraid that it is... very dangerous back there. There is live electricity wires just sort of zip zapping around—

Emerich: Ow! Ooh! Ah!

Montrose: Yup, see? Got another one. Anyways... Hey, you seem like someone who's plugged in, in the know, so to speak?

Jason: You hear that, chat? Sounds like somebody's trying to snuggle up to Steeplechasin' Jason! Yeah, we get this about four or five times a stream. Sorry, but my heart is already taken by the internet.

Montrose: Can you pause that stream for a moment, please?

Jason: I don't pause the stream.

Griffin: I say:

Montrose: Okay...

Griffin: And I go over to my computer that I use to track all of our fuckin' prize rewards, and I start playing The Beatles with the volume turned all the way up.

Justin: Okay.

Jason: Ah, shit! Okay, hold on. Gonna get me fuckin' dis... demonetized, hold on.

Montrose: Sorry, sorry.

Clint: I'll do a— I'll do a—

Jason: Chat? Hey, chat, I got a shoot to do. I'm gonna be right back! Stay— keep it locked! And as always, in there like swimwear with Jason.

Justin: Okay. [chuckles]

Clint: [sings] Bang, bang, bang, Maxwell's Silver Hammer came down upon his head!

Justin: No, now see, you're gonna get us demonetized, dad!

Clint: Oh, okay.

Griffin: Yeah, 'cause that sounds so much—

Jason: [spoofing UK accent] All right, go on. You've got just a few minutes to win me over.

Montrose: You have to be kidding me.

Jason: [chuckles] Yeah, I am. That's kind of a gag I do for the mega fans.

Montrose: That's fun.

Jason: 'Cause like wow, wouldn't that be a mind-blower? No, no, no, just me, Steeplecash'n Jason! So, what's up? What's your name again, man?

Montrose: My name is Montrose Pretty. You...

Jason: Pound it!

Montrose: All right, yes, a little bit of... a little pound.

Justin: A little bit of dap! You did not leave him hanging, okay, good.

Montrose: So—

Justin: That means a lot to Jason, by the way.

Travis: That was a test!

Griffin: Good! I say:

Montrose: I... I am actually in need of the services of someone like you. Someone who knows how all the movers and shakers move and shake here in Steeplechase. If I were to, say, want to know where... one of the execs might be at a given time, is that some sort of— it seems to be some sort information that you have access to.

Jason: Yeah, I mean, for sure. We have people on nearly every layer. Not every layer, but nearly every layer. So, I could totally like— yeah, for sure! For sure, for sure! We wanna bring everything to everybody, you know what I mean? Like the streams are really just kind of a way to start. But like, beyond this, I feel like it's maybe a podcast... is like the next thing. And then... after that, I don't know. I mean, the dream's a TV show. I would love to get to that point. So...

Montrose: Sure, sure, that's where all of us are hoping to end up.

Jason: But you know, the tech component is really... you know, we're still getting a lot of eyeballs there, so I wouldn't wanna sort of stop doing that when all the other stuff is like just kind of getting going. I haven't thought too much into merch, but that's definitely—

Beef: Oh! Ah, the merch!

Montrose: I'm bored of this relationship. Listen... I can show you what's happening in the Darkade, and it... I'll tell you, friend, it's gonna blow up. It's the next big thing. But... what I— I need you to scratch my back and help me... find out where Kenchal Denton is gonna be tonight.

Jason: Tonight?

Montrose: Tonight.

Jason: Yeah, I mean, that should be... Yeah, that's no problem, actually. I will talk to some of the other dudes and dudettes, right? And—

Beef: An ally!

Montrose: That's it.

Jason: Right? I mean, I know kind of... 20—

Montrose: That's— you're so— you're—

Jason: Whatever.

Montrose: You're close—

Jason: 20XX, I know.

Montrose: ... But not really close entirely. There's... Listen... can you do this?

Jason: Yeah, yeah!

Montrose: Okay—

Jason: Yeah, yeah, yeah! I can do it.

Montrose: Well, great!

Justin: That's what he says.

Griffin: Yeah, should I roll—

Justin: But what do the dice say? [chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah. So, I roll the crew's tier.

Travis: Currently 1, I believe.

[sound of dice thrown]

Griffin: 3! Not good.

Justin: What?

Griffin: I got a 3.

Justin: You can spend coin to raise the result of this roll. Or no, you can only raise it beyond critical, with a coin.

Travis: I think— okay, you— I think that's you can spend coin to raise it. You can raise it beyond critical by spending two coin.

Griffin: Yes, at the top of this page, "After the roll— You may spend coin after the roll to improve the result level. Increase the result level by one for each coin spent. So, 1 to 3 becomes a 4 or 5." Yeah, I'll do that.

Justin: Okay. So, that will bring you to a tier one. A level one quality of asset. Which sounds about right for Steeplechasin' Jason.

Griffin: Actually, I think it would be tier zero. A 6 is—

Justin: Well, you're—

Griffin: Oh, tier plus one, I gotcha, I gotcha.

Justin: Right, right, right. So, one. So, not bad. You know, pretty good level of... of asset there.

Griffin: Okay! Cool.

Justin: And yeah, Steeplechasin' Jason will be able to supply this information to you, it seems like. Pretty fairly dependably.

Montrose: I got something else for you, Jason. Just as a— just to show that I... follow through on my promises. Do you remember The Future is You?

Jason: [chuckles] Yeah! Absolutely! My grandpa told me about it. He said it used to be pretty fire. But I mean like, I have not gone to see it 'cause there's a lot of other stuff to check out, you know. But...

Montrose: Right.

Jason: Yeah, for sure.

Montrose: Well, it's... it is no longer in official operation. But let me just say this, start teasing it a little bit... a revival coming.

Jason: No kidding?

Montrose: No kidding at all, my friend.

Jason: No, I'm gonna— I gotta tell. I gotta tell everybody.

Montrose: Okay.

Jason: And can I see back in the Darkade, too? Like, that was part of the deal, right?

Montrose: After the information pays off, you can see.

Jason: Oh! Okay, yeah, yeah, yeah. That makes perfect sense. But like when I do see it, I need to know... I need you to know that I cannot ever keep anything from my fans.

Montrose: Yes, for sure. Absolutely. I understand.

Jason: Unless you ask me not to.

Montrose: Yes.

Jason: In which case, I will just not tell them what you tell me.

Montrose: Oh, okay?

Jason: But if you— but otherwise...

Montrose: Yeah?

Jason: I would never keep anything from my fans.

Montrose: And I appreciate— it's that dedication to the craft that I appreciate.

Griffin: Can I roll long-term project? This is me doing a little bit of buzz marketing for The Future is You.

Justin: Sure, yeah.

Griffin: Cool. I'm gonna roll... consort, probably?

Justin: The project is getting gambling there, turning it into gambling den. So, you're probably mentioning to Jason about the—

Travis: Are you starting a new one?

Griffin: What?

Travis: Are you starting a new long-term project to get the word out? Or is this—

Griffin: Yeah, no, no, this is The Future is You gambling. I was thinking it would be the same clock.

Travis: Oh, okay.

Griffin: I'm, you know, in increasing the awareness of it, I think it is enhancing the solvency of the eventual gambling business.

Justin: Okay, cool. Let's see, what did you— did you roll?

Griffin: I'll do that now.

[sound of dice thrown]

Griffin: It's a 6!

Justin: It's a 6... that's wonderful.

Clint: Very good, son. Very good.

Griffin: Three more segments, please. Yumma-yumma, that's six out of eight.

Justin: So what, you rolled a consort, right?

Griffin: Yes.

Justin: And then that's a 6. Okay, three more segments.

Griffin: Okay, I'm done with Steeplechasin' Jason.

Justin: Okay. Is that what you say to his face? Or...

Griffin: No, I don't wanna be rude.

Justin: Oh, okay. Nice.

Travis: My downtimes activity's also going to be two for one. So, let's go ahead and knock `em out.

Justin: Ooh! We love it!

Travis: While hanging out at The Future is You, I've befriended one of the gamblers that hangs out there named Smudge. And I'm gonna make a bet with Smudge that I can `She's All That' Bensen into an amazing criminal. So, I wanna indulge my vice and start a long-term project!

Justin: Okay?

Travis: To train Bensen up.

Justin: You know we gotta talk about this.

Travis: Yeah?

Justin: No, I mean in the show.

Griffin: In the game.

Justin: In the world of fantasy.

Travis: Yeah, okay.

Smudge: Okay, so you're telling me that you're gonna turn him into some kind of super criminal?

Beef: Yeah, that's right.

Smudge: I don't believe it, the guy's useless!

Beef: Ah, you just don't see what I see! Don't let his paint-stained overalls and thick glasses fool you.

Smudge: He's a trash man, I hate him! He don't do any crime good at all!

Beef: Whoa! Hey... hey, Smudge?

Smudge: Yeah?

Beef: Smudge, I know that we're— this is just hanging out, friends. That's a little too harsh, all right? Bensen is still a— he's still a person.

Smudge: But he's a bad guy, so—

Beef: He is not a bad guy!

Smudge: Yeah.

Beef: He is not!

Smudge: He's bad, he's a busted—

Beef: You just don't—

Smudge: He stole from me. He stole eight dollars.

Beef: He did not. You just said he's never done any crime.

Justin: [chuckles]

Smudge: I noticed, though! I saw, I said, "Stop taking the money!" He just kept doing it!

Beef: Ah! So, your problem isn't that he attempted to steal, it's that you caught him.

Smudge: He's bad at crime! He can't do any crime good! And he— and I don't think he's that much of a help. What are you gonna do that's gonna fix him? You can't fix bad? He's just a trash boy. And you can't fix him!

Beef: I will bet you one waffle cone that I can.

Smudge: Beef? Beef?

Beef: Yeah?

Smudge: Sorry, I'm gonna use your first name, Beefward?

Beef: Yes?

Smudge: If you're lying to me right now, we're done sky.

Beef: I would never lie about a waffle cone bet, you know that.

Smudge: What can I give you? I don't have any waffle cones.

Beef: You could steal a waffle cone?

Smudge: From you?

Beef: No! From like a concession stand! Like I would buy you a waffle cone at a concession stand, you would buy me a waffle cone.

Smudge: Do you have a waffle cone that you're holding out on me, Beefward?!

Beef: No, if I had a waffle cone, bud, we'd share it. We would lick from opposite sides though, so that it would be sanitary.

Smudge: All right, I'll bet you one waffle cone that Bensen is gonna be a little trash disaster forever until he dies and no one will miss him.

Beef: Oh, wow! Okay, Smudge?

Smudge: Yeah?

Beef: We talked about this!

Smudge: Sorry, Beef.

Beef: Okay...

Travis: Okay so, first let me roll—[chuckles] let me roll my... vice. Indulge vice... Submit.

[sound of dice thrown]

Travis: 2! Okay. So, that takes it down to three. That's great, I'm glad I didn't overindulge. And then, Justin... how many— how many times will it take me to fix Bensen?

Justin: As the long-term project of fixing Bensen?

Travis: Yeah! Training Bensen.

Justin: I mean, it's an eight. He sucks.

Travis: Ah man. Okay! Well, let's do it.

Justin: Sorry! He sucks.

Travis: You think command? I'm training him.

Justin: Yeah, I can see that. I think that's fair.

[sound of dice thrown]

Travis: A 3 is the best...

Justin: 3?

Travis: I got a 1 and a 3.

Justin: Wow, okay...

Travis: Wait, can I spend a coin?

Justin: You can spend a coin.

Travis: Is it spend a coin to go again?

Griffin: No. To increase the result by one level.

Travis: Okay. Then take to a 4.

Justin: So, wait, you were rolling to...

Travis: For a long-term project.

Justin: For a long-term project. Okay, I need to—

Travis: Well, I rolled a 1 and a 3, but I'm gonna pay a coin to pump it up to a mixed success, so that I can fill in two segments.

Justin: Two big segments, okay! And now, a brief display of what that scene might've been like. I think it might've gone something like this:

Beef: All right, Bensen?

Bensen: Yeah?

Beef: Okay, I want you to try to take this coin out of my hand.

Bensen: What are you gonna do if I try to grab it?

Beef: Well, I'm gonna—

Bensen: You're gonna try to snatch it away from me!

Beef: I'm just gonna close my hand. It's about dexterity. Okay... [slap]
Okay, you missed it and I stole your wallet.

Bensen: Wow! You really are the best in the business!

Beef: No, I'm not, you just like really weren't focused at all. Bensen, are—

Justin: He tries to grab it again.

Beef: My hand is closed, Bensen. Bensen, the hand's closed. You gotta wait until I open my hand back up.

Bensen: That's why you're the boss! I guess I—

Beef: I'm not... okay...

Bensen: I didn't know you could close your hand!

Beef: I'm gonna lose a waffle cone...

Justin: Okay so, you got— you're trying to train Bensen into something that's worth a damn. Um... Mac, Clint, what do you wanna do?

Clint: I'm going to... I thought I started a new— no, no, I'm going to start a new long-term project.

Justin: You and your projects, I swear...

Clint: Well, this is something we talked about a couple of episodes ago and I think that it's a good idea. I think Emerich is going to begin working on an extremely lifelike, believable Kenchal Denton Hard Light.

Justin: Okay.

Clint: And I think to make it... that lifelike and believable, that's gonna take a long-term project. I don't think that's something he can just whip up.

Justin: Yeah, you are... you are 100% correct, dad. That's actually gonna be our first ever 12 clock.

Griffin: Ooh, yowza.

Travis: Are you sure, Justin? That doesn't sound right.

Justin: I mean, I hear you. I hear— well, okay, eight clock.

Clint: Yeah.

Justin: You're the boss.

Travis: Well, it's just that he has— he has like practice now, you know?

Justin: Oh, that's true, that's true, that's true. Okay.

Clint: So, I need to roll, correct? Roll tinker, oh yes?

Justin: Yeah.

Clint: A D20, correct? [chuckles]

Griffin: Clint...

Clint: I know.

Justin: Just click tinker.

Clint: I did.

Justin: You didn't. If you had clicked tinker—

[sound of dice thrown]

Justin: There, thank you.

Clint: 6, 2, 2.

Justin: 6, 2, 2. [chuckles] You did get a 6. I don't know why you rolled a D6. I should penalize you for that. But here, 6, 2, 2 will count as a 6. So, with a 6, what is that, three segments?

Travis: Correct.

Justin: All right.

Clint: Okay. Are you filling them in for me?

Justin: Yeah, I'll fill 'em in for you.

Clint: And since he— and that's a lot of work, don't you think? I mean, for a first day of working on something, getting those three segments.

Justin: Yeah, you're making great— you're making great progress.

Clint: So, that—

Justin: I think some of the work you've already done in this field—

Clint: Especially since we consider the fact that his new vice is the pleasure he gets from hard work.

Justin: Yeah.

Clint: And working on his thing. So, that— with doing that, he's also indulging his vice.

Justin: What does your— what does your— I'm gonna do the vice roll in a second. Dad, what does your like work place look like? When you're doing this work, what does it look like?

Clint: He has—

Justin: You know, in your mind's eye.

Clint: It's like one of those artist tables that angles up and down.

Travis: It's a drafting table, yeah.

Clint: Yeah, like a drafting table, but it rolls. And he's got like four of these things and he can change the configuration around and like he can roll it up so high that he can do like magnets on it to put documents and diagrams and stuff.

Travis: Documents too?

Clint: Documents too. And diagrams.

Travis: Holy shit.

Clint: And dioramas, he's got dioramas. And D'yer Mak'ers. He's got all kinds of dire stuff. And—

Travis: Dire wolves.

Justin: Diarrhea?

Clint: He's got diarrhea.

Griffin: Come on, guys.

Clint: He does actually have diarrhea. Well—

Griffin: You didn't have to make that be true?

Clint: No, it's Emerich, he has... Come on, it fits— it fits the profile.

Griffin: I know, it makes sense. I just... it's gross.

Clint: Everybody's family has diarrhea, Griffin?

Travis: I do not.

Justin: Everybody on Earth has diarrhea. [chuckles] That's the embarrassing secret is it's always coming out like that for everyone. All right? Don't feel bad.

Travis: Yeah. Don't feel bad, but never talk about it. Please.

Justin: Yeah, it's our— it's our human secret.

Clint: And when it's not on his wrist, he puts the Give a Ghost Projector—

Travis: The diarrhea?

Clint: No, no, no, his Give a Ghost Projector.

Travis: Oh.

Griffin: This is a gross... this is gross.

Clint: He kind of angles it and— so that it projects up into the air. You know, like Tony Stark's you know, projections in the air and the [mouths motion sounds] they move stuff around real cool It's my favorite part of those movies—

Travis: Hey, Justin, can I just announce that my equipment does— my knife talks to me and flips around cool. You know like that knife in the shadow with Alec Baldwin? My knife does that.

Clint: You know what I notice? When you guys are doing your bits, nobody talks but you.

Justin: Isn't that interesting.

Clint: Yeah, very interesting.

Justin: You're right. Can I say—

Clint: And everybody kibitzes in mine!

Justin: Is it maybe time to start saying the word ageist a little bit more on this podcast, right?

Clint: Yeah! You guys are ageists.

Justin: The older half of this podcast is tired of getting bullied by you young folks.

Clint: Yeah!

Travis: Well...

Clint: Yeah. If I didn't—

Griffin: Juice, sorry—

Travis: Justin—

Clint: If I didn't have to sit down right now and drink a Metamucil, I would be giving you what for right now.

Griffin: Listen. Juice, you're on our team.

Travis: No, Justin is actually technically a Boomer.

Justin: No, I'm not. [chuckles] I'm not technically.

Travis: You are. Yeah, Justin.

Griffin: Legally...

Travis: It's 81 is the cutoff for—

Justin: I believe I'm a Zillennial, I think is where we settled.

Travis: No... no, I don't think that's it. Griffin and I—

Clint: So, by doing this, you're fulfilling exactly what I talked about!

Griffin: You're right.

Clint: Anyway, I'm rolling for stress now. I'm indulging my vice of hard work and—

Justin: I don't need to roll for stress, you give me plenty... these kids these days...

Clint: Here we go, indulging vice! Indulging my vice—

Justin: Taxes have given me stress.

Clint: Here we go!

Justin: Like all adults.

Clint: Indulging my vice!

[sound of dice thrown]

Clint: And it's... a 3 and a 1.

Justin: All right, clear three stress. You have six stress currently, that clears three of the stress away.

Clint: So... that's it, that's all I got. I don't think there's anything else I can do.

[theme music plays]

[ad break]

[theme music plays]

Justin: You get a text, Montrose, 'cause I forget how steeple— in the interim, I forgot how Steeplechasin' Jason sounds.

Travis: It's been six weeks, I understand.

Clint: [chuckles]

Justin: And Rachel hasn't added it to my voices spreadsheet because Rachel obviously hasn't edited the episode 'cause it's only half of an episode. So, I don't know— I don't remember what Steeplechasin' Jason sounds— but you get a text. So, you get a text from Steeplechasin' Jason.

Griffin: Okay?

Justin: And its says, "Hey, I got a fix on him. I got a fix on your guy. He's having a secret birthday party inside Gutter City. Way down in the depths."

Travis: Now, Justin, I assume he used voice to text. So, which of those words are like misspelled and what's like—

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: What's it really say?

Justin: It has a lot of like random capitalization and exclamation points.
[chuckles]

Travis: Yeah, yeah.

Griffin: I look, I read it on my BlackBerry. And I leave him on read. And put it right back in pocket.

Justin: Oh, nice. That's so cool. Yeah, it's in the— this party is apparently inside the abandoned Gutter City First Episcopal. Which is the most beautiful, elegant church in all of Gutter City but it has been shuttered because people have forgotten the face of god. And... so, you arrive in Gutter City and it is... it's a lot different than how you remember it. There is— what was sort of a noir romance kind of thing is still dark and sooty, but you can see there's like trashcan fires... There's shacks that have been just like sort of assembled along the sides of the streets, so many more than your remember there being. You actually— as you're like sneaking in, trying to keep a low profile, I assume, you actually witness like somebody getting mugged from a distance.

Travis: What?

Justin: I know, it's wild.

Travis: So wait, so this isn't like a redesign or like, "We've added—" This is like, hmm, things like have actually—

Justin: Something, yeah— something, yeah— something... something has changed here. And you start to suspect maybe it had something to do with Darla.

Griffin: Okay. Darla was holding things together.

Justin: Yeah, perhaps.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: But you make your way to Gutter City First Episcopal. There are large windows that have been painted over long, long ago, before this function. But you can definitely hear music from inside. You see some lights peeking out through the cracks of the black paint on the windows where it's begun to peel away. And inside, you hear voices and some music and you see the lights. How do you wanna play it?

Clint: We should send in our frontman.

Griffin: Yeah... but if— hmm... Let's sidebar, in fiction.

Clint: Yes.

Montrose: I'm concerned that our usual ploy of pretending to belong at a function, a social function, will not necessarily play well here, given the small and intimate nature of the gathering. Also, if Kenchal Denton sees anyone of the three of us, that's it. So, I believe that stealth may be the order of the day rather than deception. Are you two comfortable with that?

Beef: Yeah, I would say I'm comfortable with it. I don't know—

Montrose: You've got a huge— but you've got a huge and beautiful, powerful body?

Beef: Thank you, yes.

Montrose: But it is— it is difficult to hide it behind a coat rack or pillar, or something.

Emerich: Mm-hmm.

Beef: Well, I mean, in a building this scale, it does make it a little bit easier. I might see if I can find maybe not like a main entrance. I doubt a building on this— of this size has just like one way in and out. And see if I can maybe cover you know, let's say a fleeing path.

Montrose: Sure.

Justin: Mm-hmm, okay.

Griffin: What's... what is security like here?

Justin: So, there's no security on the outside.

Griffin: Okay, that's great for us.

Justin: You're certain there's security on the inside but this is like— you got the impression off Steeplechasin' Jason, this is like an exclusive hush-hush thing, right? You gotta be in the inside to know about it. So, a bunch of security would draw attention, they don't want people to know. So, none on the outside.

Griffin: Do we see anybody else heading towards the building that we could perhaps intercept? Any other partygoers?

Clint: I believe we should make a survey roll.

Justin: Oh, that's a good idea. Make a survey roll.

Griffin: Okay. Controlled?

Travis: Gottem, dad, good job.

Clint: I have none in survey. I have none in survey.

Griffin: That's great. Dad's like, "I got a plan. I'm bad at it, but—"

Justin: "Somebody else do my plan."

Clint: I have a plan, somebody else do it.

Travis: To be fair, I do that with my friends a lot.

Justin: Yeah, that's true, actually.

Clint: [chuckles]

[sound of dice thrown]

Griffin: That's a 3. That's a failure.

Justin: Oh...

Griffin: At surveying.

Travis: If my character sheet would load, I'd let you know.

Justin: There's definitely a front entrance that has been bolted shut.

Griffin: Oh?

Justin: I mean, nobody's going in our out. This place looks abandoned. That's the whole idea. Like, the front entrance, no one is going in and out. There is... a back way that you can get in. A back-alley side door. And then you assume there must be some other entrances and exits to this place that everyone else is using, right.

Clint: Because Episcopalians love their fellowship halls.

Justin: Yeah.

Clint: So, there has to be a fellowship hall.

Justin: There has to be a fellowship hall. That's not an entrance to a building, dad, it's a hall within a building. But yeah, I mean, absolutely, dad. Great... it's a true point. [chuckles] They love fellowship. They love fellowship. They're episcopalian.

Travis: I'm gonna look for that back-alley side entrance.

Justin: You find it.

Travis: Yeah, we did it!

Griffin: Cool!

Justin: There's one door in the alley, that's the one.

Griffin: Is it guarded?

Justin: No, not from the outside, it's not.

Griffin: Okay.

Clint: Is it locked?

Justin: Is it locked... check it out.

Clint: Okay.

Travis: I'm gonna— I'm gonna try the door, but I'm gonna do the thing... I'm gonna like pull it towards me as I slowly turn the handle, right. So, it stays closed and I'm trying to open it as quietly as possible.

Clint: Mm-hm.

Emerich: Oh...

Griffin: This feels like a—

Montrose: This feels like a—

Justin: The moment it opens, you hear the sort of like vague muffle. You hear, much clearer, a loud, amplified voice speaking over the speakers. And you don't know who this person is, you don't recognize the voice. You just hear:

Speaker: And I've known him since he was... gosh... But younger than— younger than his dad when I met him. It's been— it's been a long road for this kid and... I think he's fine— you know, we all know that he's had his troubles. But... [spoofs muffled garbling]

Justin: And it's like him talking, you know. He's just like talking about somebody. Presumably Kenchal.

Griffin: Is it Kenchal's birthday? Would we know that? I get on fuckin' Wikipedia on my BlackBerry and google Kenchal Denton.

Justin: Oh shit, it's May 30th.

Griffin: Is that— so, that's today in IRL.

Justin: Yeah, but we don't know what date it is in the game. So, it might as well be May 30th. [chuckles]

Griffin: Okay. So, today is Kenchal's birthday?

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Fantastic.

Travis: The magnolias are in bloom. So, that's a hint.

Justin: Yeah, that's a big hint. That's a big, juicy hint.

Griffin: Is there a coat check in this entrance?

Justin: Not this entrance. You get this— the— when you look around at what you can peer through, it's... You have entered into sort of like a vestibule. There's nobody immediately around. There's... you've got like a red tile floor below you. There's a single like bench to the side and there's a bunch of shoes, like muddy shoes underneath it. And you see a door to like a locker room type thing that you can sense this is where like people are coming to change and get ready for the event. But the— you... you have— you have gathered from this that this is a— this is like the service entrance. This is where people who are working the event have been entering. And you assume people who are attending are entering from, presumably, below. I mean, you have to imagine. But...

Travis: Oh, like they came up through like service tunnels, like—

Justin: Exactly, yeah.

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: We've gotta figure those out. It seems like our job would be much easier if we could just take these fuckin'—

Justin: I don't know if it would be easier for you to get in through the main entrance than it is through the staff entrance, but sure! [chuckles]

Griffin: That's fair.

Travis: I wanna walk into the locker room.

Justin: Okay. You walk into the locker room... You don't see anything that immediately jumps out at you as—

Travis: Oh, that's good.

Justin: Yeah! There's no spooky clowns.

Travis: Oh, good.

Clint: [chuckles]

Justin: There are like two wooden benches—

Clint: [in silly voice] 'They all float down here, Georgie!'

Travis: Hey, hey, contractually, I said no scary— no referencing Pennywise.

Clint: Oh, right, sorry.

Justin: Pennywise is scary, dad. Don't— yeah, you don't wanna upset the fiction.

Travis: I need to sleep tonight, my man.

Justin: So, there's a couple of long benches. There's cubbies for shoes. There's lockers and a rack that has some like hangers on it. Empty hangers that you assume— you actually see three empty hangers that look like they would've had perfectly sized... uniforms.

Travis: Argh...

Justin: Staff uniforms. [chuckles] For each of you.

Griffin: Damn it.

Justin: But they are gone, there's just three hangers.

Travis: Well, that's luck sometimes, you know what I mean? Like, that was completely unavoidable.

Justin: There's nothing you could've done. [chuckles]

Travis: Ah...

Griffin: [chuckles]

Clint: No, no.

Travis: Damn it.

Clint: No amount of prep would've helped with that.

Travis: No, no, no, listen, it was always gonna be that way. I just feel it in my bones.

Beef: You know what? I know we said stealth, right, but... I... I feel like at this point, all we're doing is wasting opportunities. We have to get in there.

Montrose: It... we don't... yeah, okay. You know what? I was gonna fight you on this, but I find that possibility very exciting. I find your enthusiasm for it even more exciting.

Emerich: Oh yes, it's very encouraging. I think you two should just take the bull by the horns and go out there and confront these people! And just lay it on the line!

Montrose: We're not— that's not the goal. You know that, right?

Emerich: I... Now I do, yes. I thought that was the goal. Sorry.

Justin: At that point, you hear the voice— there's huge round of applause. Whatever discussion, like whatever speech was happening in there has wrapped up in there and you hear the tones of Kenchal Denton speaking. It's... it's just— there's not— I... I mean, I could talk over you but it doesn't matter—

Travis: It's his voice and it's obvious.

Justin: It's a bunch of palaver, right. It's a bunch of you know, "Thanks for... thanks for having me." It's not interesting enough to make you wait for me to say—

Clint: [chuckles]

Travis: He's not roasting them, right?

Justin: Yes, it's nothing good. You just hear Kenchal up on stage.

Clint: [spoofs muffled garbling]

Travis: Okay, I wanna like quietly but purposefully advance towards— to see if we can get like line of sight on anything, without necessarily like fully revealing ourselves.

Justin: Yeah, there's actually— it works out well. There is— well, I'll tell you what, let's get a survey roll.

Griffin: From all of us?

Justin: From one of you.

Clint: All seriousness, are they— is this—

Travis: Let us be serious.

Clint: Is this party going on in like the church worship area? Or is it in a...

Justin: They're in— you are adjacent to the main sanctuary. You are— that is where this like— he is up on stage, there's people sitting in pews that have been refinished. It's like—

Travis: So, now they're actually comfortable?

Justin: Yeah, right.

Clint: There are— okay, so there are pews—

Travis: They have cup holders.

Emerich: You know, we could probably... we could probably sneak up close because if we stay low to the ground, you know how pews are, they block the sides.

Beef: Yeah, but— yeah, but the DM asked for a roll. So, let's do that first.

Emerich: Yes, that's true.

Montrose: Yeah.

Justin: Just to survey it.

Emerich: Okay.

Griffin: Posish?

Travis: So, I... I'll do it— oh...

Justin: This is— I would say—

Travis: What's your survey, Griffin? You got one or zero?

Griffin: One. One.

Justin: Risky, standard.

Travis: Okay, you go ahead.

Justin: 'Cause they're—

Griffin: We can all do it, right? It's survey.

Travis: Well, I will help.

Justin: I don't know, I feel like that's weird.

Travis: I will help. How about that?

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: That's what the mechanic is.

Griffin: I'll take a bonus dice.

Justin: If all three of you survey and then you— one of you will probably get a decent roll and then you'll all have the information. So, it does seem like it makes a lot of sense.

[sound of dice thrown]

Griffin: 3, 5. Mixed success.

Justin: 5.

Travis: I help by picking him up a little bit and like turning him around like a periscope so he can see better.

Justin: Okay. You see, there is a— like a hall that is surrounding the sanctuary. A sort of like side hallway that has several large archways that open up into the sanctuary. And there are doors on the other side the you are sure go to like classrooms or something like that. But this hallway is... could give you some like discretion to— if you want to get a better viewpoint.

Griffin: Yeah. I'll... I look at the other two, I say:

Montrose: For real, last chance, I'm... I am sort of sneaky...

Emerich: Mm-hm, mm-hm.

Montrose: I can scout ahead, if you would like, if you two are comfortable with that because—

Emerich: I think that is... yes, I think that's a fine idea. I think you should and we'll stay right here where no one will find us.

Beef: Yes, how about this, you go ahead, right. If you need backup, give us a signal. I'm a little sneaky.

Montrose: Yes.

Beef: So, you give the signal if you need, right?

Montrose: Okay.

Beef: And then you, Emerich...

Emerich: Yes, what?

Beef: You're gonna be like the hang-back and if someone tries to get by you, let me— no, let me rephrase that. If Kenchal tries to get by you, you need to stop him.

Emerich: Stop him?

Beef: Yeah, you can like— you have—

Emerich: Harm him?

Beef: You have— okay, Emerich, you have like tech magic where you can like shock people and make like—

Montrose: You can shoot lightning out of your butt.

Beef: Distractions and shit.

Emerich: I know.

Beef: So like, why are you acting like this is the first time you've ever had to do something?

Emerich: Because when I try to do— lately, I'm on— I'm kind of in a slump. I kind of have the yips a little bit. But no, no, I'll— I'm sure I'll rise to the

occasion. Or fail miserably. So, you all go ahead, I will do the hang-back. And if Kenchal tries to leave, I will do something to make him stay.

Montrose: Fantastic.

Beef: I love that confidence, let's do this.

Montrose: Me too.

Griffin: As we start making our way there, is there... do I see like a vestry or any other kind of... priestly ready-room, where we might be able to grab a robe or two?

Clint: [chuckles]

Justin: Probably in one of those— probably in one those classrooms to the side. But they— I would guess they would all be locked. But you can go try them, bud.

Clint: [chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah, I mean, I'll try— I guess I'll try one.

Justin: They're locked. Shit.

Travis: Hey, papa? I love how tickled you are by just the idea of us wearing priest robes.

Justin: You three goof balls and your Marx Brothers antics.

Clint: I just— yeah, I just—

Justin: Are you— but you are sneaking— okay, Montrose, can I just see, are you— are you sneaking out into that hallway to try to get a better view of things?

Griffin: Yeah, I'll—

Justin: 'Cause if you trying doors, you gotta be out a little bit.

Griffin: Fine, I will be— I will sneak.

Justin: Other two, you're hanging back and seeing what Montrose can find out. Is that correct?

Travis: I'm hanging—

Justin: I'm not trying to trap you, just trying to get a sense of the situation.

Travis: Yeah, I'm hanging back and I'm ready to move. So, I'm like... I'm poised.

Griffin: Cool.

Travis: And I'm ready to go.

Griffin: Coiled. Like a snake.

Travis: And oiled.

Clint: And Emerich is— Emerich is hanging back and poised to not move.

Griffin: Great.

Travis: I love that.

Justin: Okay.

Clint: So, I guess he's just poised.

Justin: Montrose, you're watching.

Griffin: Am I prowling?

Justin: What?

Griffin: Do you need me to prowl?

Justin: Yeah, you're prowling. Take a prowl roll.

Griffin: Okay. Posish?

Justin: This is risky, standard.

Griffin: Okay. I'm gonna push myself.

Justin: The noise is very loud and the lights are dimmed in the crowd and focused on the stage. So, it is not a big— it's not very challenging.

Griffin: Cool. I'm gonna push myself, still.

Justin: I would say risky, great, actually. This is definitely gonna work.

Griffin: Okay.

[sound of dice thrown]

Griffin: 5, 1, 1, so—

Justin: Wow, okay. Mixed success.

Travis: I know that it's not this way, but man, it always feels good when you push yourself and it's like one of the die—

Griffin: And you get one good roll, yeah. That's not really how, I think—

Justin: Probability and all that shit works.

Griffin: [chuckles] Yeah, or causality.

Travis: Yeah, but God, it feels good.

Griffin: Yeah, sure.

Justin: You sneak a little forward. With a 5, you don't get like a perfect viewpoint, but you can definitely get the lay of the land. You just can't see everything that's happening.

Griffin: Okay?

Justin: From your— from the vantage point here that you'll make it to safely. And you see Kenchal Denton on stage, this is like a very gothic sort

of episcopalian church. I mean, as far as episcopalian churches go, this is about as gothic as they get. And you see—

Griffin: I've been to some pretty episcopalian, gothic churches, Juice.

Justin: Yeah, that's... that's cool, Griff.

Travis: Tell me more!

Justin: Yeah, tell me about those later. [chuckles] You see Kenchal Denton, he's in a tuxedo, a black tux. And he's, as always, thin, perfectly manicured—

Travis: He's got his dark, black hair swooped over his face. He's got some dark eyeliner on.

Griffin: Don't emo him.

Justin: No, he's got like short— no, don't emo—

Travis: No, you said it was a gothic church, so...

Justin: No, okay, yeah, that's very good. That's very, very good.

Griffin: Oh, okay, that's fun. We're having a lot of fun with words today.

Justin: And you see Kenchal. This is the scene, I'm gonna tell you the scene that you see play out in front you while you are prowling around. You see Kenchal up on the stage and he's been talking for a while about his position within the company and all the big things that Dentonic is doing. And he's:

Kenchal: I... I would like to think that if Karmine Denton were alive today and he could see the work that we are doing as a company, not just the parks, but the good that we're able to do for this community... this country, through Steeplechase and through the Dentonic Corporation. I think he'd be touched because it's about people before anything else. The first thing is our people and taking care of people within our family, within Dentonic, and outside, and making for safer communities. I know that Gutter City has had some tough times, but I feel like a new day is just ahead for Gutter City and for Dentonic.

Justin: And then you see a waiter drop a tray on the ground. [mouths clattering sound] There's a loud clatter. And this waiter starts talking. And then weird thing is you notice his face isn't moving very much as he speaks. And he says:

Funny Man: Oh, really? Taking care of each other, very important to you, 'ey Kenchal? There's something about that—

Justin: And he grabs Kenchal around his waist before the security guards can even get up to the dais. This waiter has sprung up and wrapped his arm around his waist. And he grabs at his neck and pulls back.

Funny Man: There's something really funny about that!

Justin: It's Funny Man. He rips off the back of his coat and he has a jetpack.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: He is careening, smashing through the windows of the church and Funny Man has just kidnapped Kenchal Denton!

Griffin: [laughs]

Clint: [laughs] I love this show.

Travis: I knew it!

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Listen, I knew it. I knew it!

Griffin: If you'll all open your envelopes that I sent you, your sealed envelopes, open them now. You'll see, I wrote down Funny Man kidnaps Kenchal Denton at the church! I fucking called it, guys!

Clint: Oh, I said Jack of Clubs. Oh...

[Steeplechase theme song plays]

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