

## The Adventure Zone Balance: The Crystal Kingdom, Chapter Eight

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**Griffin:** Previously on *The Adventure Zone*:

This robot— there's a window in the center of its central frame. You can see what appears to be a pretty large glass cylindrical fuse, which illuminates whenever this thing talks.

**Noelle:** My name is Noelle.

**Griffin:** The shards form almost a perfect dwarf shape, as if they were all targeting Merle when they flew in your direction.

**Clint:** Well, that's just ridiculous!

**Travis:** These— these gemstones, they done hate Merle.

**Griffin:** Lucas says, uh...

**Lucas:** Gang, listen. We don't have time for this.

**Griffin:** These purple volts of electricity surround you, emanating from that panel and paralyzing you. And as the doors shut behind him, he says...

**Lucas:** I am so, so sorry.

**Griffin:** And those loose pieces of crystal shards start to self-form. Merle, you see your arm, your poor, poor crystallized arm sort of float into this mass. Uh, and come together to form another crystal golem.

**Announcer:** Are you ready for the greatest adventure of all? By which I mean donating to Max Fun Drive? Make it rain on... *The Adventure Zone*!

[theme music plays]

**Griffin:** Folks, you've been coming to our inn for a long time. You've been gathering around the ol' fireplace as us— us four bards spin you a yarn of treasure, and excitement, and adventure, and danger, and peril, and... sexuality.

And you just left the inn without— you storied and dashed. And the buck stops... here— well, here. This is where the buck stops. It's Max Fun Drive time.

**Travis:** The doubloon stops here. Is it a buck like a deer? Or is a buck like a dollar?

**Clint:** Dollar.

**Travis:** Are you sure? Oh yeah, you were there when he said it.

**Clint:** Yeah. Yeah.

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** 'Cause you're old, see?

**Griffin:** Justin, what is the Max Fun Drive? Tell me all about it please,

**Justin:** Maximum Fun is a podcast network full of great shows and great people. Uh, a lot of podcasts are utter garbage, but not ours!

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Justin:** Mostly. And you can support us making more of them, and continuing to make them, and making the ones we make better, uh, by donating to the network. Anything you can donate helps. We have levels from 5 bucks a month all the way up to, um, 200 bucks a month, although they apparently let you donate more, if you wanted to.

**Griffin:** Yeah, I would— the top limit is infinity. [laughs] If you wanna dump a—

**Justin:** The top limit is you buy that shit out from underneath Jesse Thorn and you rename it the Maximum Dave Network, and you just, like... do it.

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** You just do the damn thing. You cancel all the shows.

**Griffin:** All the Dave you can handle. We're gonna be talking all about that, um, throughout this episode. Let's— I think we should start doing adventure, though. First, Justin, I just want to ask, are you lonely? 'Cause I got your dad.

**Justin:** Are you kidding me? This is the very first time that I have recorded *The Adventure Zone* without Dad in eyesight so it's, like, only—

**Griffin:** Yeahhh, I stole your dad!

**Justin:** So it's, like, only fourth or fifth time I've been able to record this show in the nude, in the buff.

**Travis:** Is it also nice to do it without fear of Dad spilling drinks all over your setup?

**Griffin:** This motherfucker— he's got a fuckin' full glass of Cheerwine right next to my brand new midi keyboard.

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** That shit is— that shit is precarious.

**Justin:** He actually hired a— a itinerant man, young man, to sit in— in my chair, across from me, with a 64-ounce Coke Zero that he bought at the Speedway.

**Travis:** That's what I like about Dad. He's a job creator.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** Dad's a job creator. He's... being paid a very fair wage. He's just kind of a journeyman who goes from podcast to podcast...

**Griffin:** Ruining midi keyboards.

**Justin:** Ruining keyboards, and just dumping out shit on things.

**Griffin:** We gotta be done, by the way, in the next hour and 40 minutes, because— this is not a joke— Dad and I are going to get a couples' nose wax over at Finley's Barber Shop.

**Clint:** Yeah-ha!

**Griffin:** At 2 PM local time.

**Justin:** Ugh. Thanks for returning my dad to me in a much better state.

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Uh, Daddy, I've got all my notes on my computer, so don't look over here and cheat.

**Clint:** Oh, I won't.

**Griffin:** So when last we left you guys off, you had been paralyzed by Lucas's trap set in your null suits. Merle, you are just legs paralyzed. The rest of your body's good to go. Magnus, you have control of, like, your head, you can talk and do stuff, and you have control of your hands, but you can't really move your arms or legs. You're supine. Taako, you are just totally down for the count, and it looks like Carey and Killian are as well. Um, and the crystal golem, seeing you in the sad state, has said, uh...

**Crystal Golem:** [British accent] Well, this is gonna be a lot easier than I thought!

**Griffin:** Man, it's gonna be weird doin' these accents with you right in my grill.

**Clint:** Wait a minute! Those voices have all been you?! Oh-ho-ho, wow! I'm really lookin' past the kimono.

**Travis:** Ew.

**Griffin:** That's not what we— you don't look past the— you appreciate the kimono. You don't ignore it.

**Clint:** Listen, it's better than Justin sitting there in the nude. You look good in that.

**Griffin:** So yes, that was were we left you last time. You're lying [singing] naked on the floor. [speaking] You're not naked. You're in null suits. Um... and the Crystal Golem is, uh— he hasn't just, like, outright attacked you since finding you in this vulnerable position. He actually walks over to Carey and Killian and kind of

eyes them over. And as he looks them over he waves one of his long, crystalline, spear-like arms, and what looks like a book, a large tome made of light, appears in front of him. And he—

**Magnus:** Hey! You— you leave them alone, you big stone bully!

**Griffin:** Uh, he pays you no mind.

**Travis:** Oh.

**Griffin:** To your shitty George McFly impression.

**Clint:** [wheezes]

**Travis:** Thank you. Thank you for catching that. You know, a lesser DM wouldn't have gotten the reference.

**Griffin:** Uh, and he is flipping through this tome.

**Travis:** No, Biff! You leave her alone!

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** And, uh—

**Justin:** Just keep workshopping it. We got all the time in the world.

**Griffin:** Yeah, we got— yeah. This is— this is a— this is a safe space for you to— I mean, god, like, god knows that I have spent the past two years just sort of mastering my shit. I don't wanna bust out my George McFly, 'cause now I'd just embarrass you, but...

**Clint:** You want me to bust out my Doc Brown?

**Griffin:** Um, actually yes, I would like that very much.

**Justin:** [simultaneously] Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes.

**Clint:** [old man voice] Okay, Marty!

**Griffin:** Well, do it— yeah, make sure you, like—

**Travis:** No, that's your Bernie Sanders. Do your Doc Brown.

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** [laughs] Gettin' political.

**Justin:** Can you do your, uh— can you do your Reverend Jim now, Dad?

**Clint:** Uh, [old man voice] What does a yellow light mean?

**Griffin:** That actually was a badass Bernie Sanders. If you had just, like, done 'em one to the left...

**Clint:** Oh, wow.

**Justin:** Now can you do your Drew Blank from *Toonstruck*, the FMV game?

**Griffin:** [wheezes]

**Clint:** Yep. [old man voice] Boy, I sure like bein' in *Toonstruck*!

**Justin:** [laughs loudly and snorts]

**Travis:** Really good.

**Griffin:** Give me the lead angel in *Angels in the Outfield*, please.

**Clint:** [old man voice] A little bit more to the left, 'cause he pulls to right field!

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Is he getting younger as you go forward?

**Griffin:** He is, yeah. Um, yeah. Everyone knows Christopher Lloyd has Benjamin Button's but it's, like, real slow. Oh boy. Going at a snail's pace.

**Justin:** Just super quick aside, I was gonna google more Christopher, uh... Walk— whoever that fuck is. Lloyd—

**Griffin:** Lloyd?

**Clint:** [simultaneously] Lloyd.

**Griffin:** I just said his name.

**Justin:** But when I type Chris, my google autocompleted to Chris Gaines. That's the kind of life I'm living.

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Alright. So, this Crystal Golem is looking through some sort of book made out of light, and it's flipping through it and sort of looking at Carey and Killian as it goes, and then it slams the book shut and it disappears just as quickly as it appeared, and he says, uh...

**Crystal Golem:** [replace with Crystal Golem] Well, it looks like you two aren't on the naughty list, so it looks like it's just the three of you on a one-way trip back to the astral plane.

**Magnus:** What?

**Taako:** What?

**Griffin:** And this golem actually looks at Noelle, the robot, and goes...

**Crystal Golem:** Oh! Hold on.

**Griffin:** And the book reappears and he flips through it and he goes...

**Crystal Golem:** Oh! Make that, uh— make that the four of you.

**Clint:** Ohh...

**Magnus:** [in Travis's voice] Uh, Mister— Mr. Cockney Golem? I feel like... maybe you have us mistake for somebody else?

**Travis:** Let me do my voice.

**Magnus:** Maybe you have us mistaken for— we're from *this* plane. Um...

**Crystal Golem:** Oh— oh, is that— is that right? Have I got it twisted?

**Magnus:** Uhh, yeah.

**Crystal Golem:** This— I mean, this is the first time that one of my bounties has told me something like this, so I— I trust you. I believe you. You guys are free to go! Don't even worry about it.

**Magnus:** I feel you're being insincere.

**Crystal Golem:** No, no, no! You— oh, if you say so! I tr— I— there's no way, uh— there's no way you'd be fibbin' about this.

**Magnus:** Wait, you said bou— like, what's the bounty? Who are you looking for?

**Crystal Golem:** Uh, [scoffs] in this particular laboratory, I am looking for... a number of people. There's a lot of action to be had here tonight.

**Magnus:** Okay?

**Justin:** Hey, Griffin? Am I probably unable to talk, or...

**Griffin:** You can talk but it's, like, strained and hilarious.

**Justin:** Okay, great. Oh, no presh, though. Hilarious.

**Griffin:** You can talk, just— you can talk, just don't move your mouth or your face muscles or your tongue.

**Justin:** Okay, sounds good. I don't have anything to say, I just...

**Clint:** So— no, I got it, I know. "[strained voice] I say we let him go."

**Griffin:** Um, he says...



**Crystal Golem:** Alright. We don't have to drag this out. Let's not make this any worse than it needs to be. Let's roll initiative.

**Griffin:** He says.

**Travis:** Oh...

[multiple dice rolls]

**Travis:** Uh, I rolled a 10, Griffin.

**Griffin:** What's your initiative modifier?

**Travis:** No, that— I rolled an 8 with a plus 2 initiative.

**Griffin:** Okay. Daddy?

**Clint:** Hold on.

**Griffin:** You have plus 2, and you can roll twice.

**Clint:** 17.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Justin:** 14, but I can't do shit.

**Griffin:** First in the order is actually the golem. Uh, who... thank you. Uh, who reaches over with his left arm. He's got these two long, crystalline spear arms. Uh, he's actually gonna reach over with his right arm, and he hits it against his left arm to break a little piece of it off, and then suddenly that piece is floating in the air, sort of right next to him. So he has this little shard of himself floating next to himself.

**Travis:** He sharded!

**Clint:** [laughs] I'm gonna get sharded! [laughs]

**Travis:** Gross!

**Griffin:** Some— sometimes I would think that Dad, like, fake-laughed at jokes like this, but now that we're, like, face-to-face, I can really...

**Travis:** Listen, I know my audience, Griffin. I know what I'm doing.

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** I can't believe you record like this— this is so intimate. I can't believe you guys record like this every... every fortnight.

**Travis:** With Dad sitting in your lap?

**Griffin:** [singing] Two mics, one heart.

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Alright. So he's going to, after breaking a piece of himself off, he looks down and says...

**Crystal Golem:** Oh, which one of you's Merle... oh, yeah, you! Short one!

**Griffin:** And he's going to attack you with his spear arm.

[dice roll]

And he rolls a 5... plus 7 is a 12. He misses.

**Crystal Golem:** Oh, man! [chuckling] That was— that's embarrassing. You're lying— you're laying perfectly still! I— I'm usually better than this, I apologize. I've got performance anxiety. You know how it is.

**Merle:** Don't worry about it. I'm sure you did the best you could!

**Griffin:** Uh, it is your turn, Merle. Um, you have— basically you have control of your top half of your body. Because your hand was not paralyzed, you have— you didn't drop any of your stuff, so you still have access to your warhammer, battle wrench, Lil Choppy, and the Extreme Teen Bible.

**Clint:** Does he, uh... is he the one that has my arm attached to him?

**Griffin:** Uh, it's, like, inside of him somewhere. He's not using your arm as his arm, because it would be, like, little, like a baby's arm. But yeah, it's definitely in there somewhere.

**Clint:** What if there be any chance I could... still control it from where I am? Probably not.

[pause]

**Griffin:** No, I don't—

**Travis:** [simultaneously] Based on what?

**Griffin:** I really want to make that work for you, narratively speaking, but it is now just a big— it's a piece of crystal in the shape of your arm.

**Clint:** 'Cause if I could make him give the finger with my arm? I don't know.

**Griffin:** I mean, would can retcon it and say you were giving the finger as your arm was being crystallized, so it's permanently blast— flip— giving you a cold one between the shoulder blades.

**Travis:** Griffin, we're already halfway through the illustrations on that episode for our cartoon series. I don't know if it's— I think it's too late to change it.

**Clint:** I think I might cast Dispel Magic?

**Travis:** Yes, please.

**Griffin:** Is that something you can cast?

**Clint:** Yeah, I have Dispel Magic. Now, is what is holding us in place magic?

**Griffin:** Yes. Yeah, it was a— it stemmed from magic. It was a magical electrical trap set in the null suits.

**Clint:** Well, then I might try to cast Dispel Magic on Taako.

**Griffin:** Okay, yeah.

**Clint:** To see if I can free him up.

**Griffin:** 'Cause you can only target one— one magical effect in range, or one magical creature or effect.

**Clint:** Okay. Um...

**Griffin:** Roll it, and then, uh, we'll say the DC is 13.

[dice roll]

**Clint:** Alright, that's 7.

**Griffin:** Plus your spellcasting modifier... is 6.

**Clint:** Is 13.

**Griffin:** 13, yeah. So, uh, yeah. Okay, Taako, you are— you feel this paralysis— a bolt of purple energy sort of darts away from your body and shoots of some—

**Clint:** Shouldn't I— shouldn't I yell something out?

**Griffin:** Well, don't yell something, 'cause this is an audio medium. But if you want to say something neat...

**Clint:** Uhhh...

**Merle:** Shabadoo!

[pause]

**Clint:** Shabadoo. That's what I'm gonna go with.

**Griffin:** 'Kay.

**Justin:** Hey, can you— Griffin, I'm not there. Can you glower at Dad?

**Griffin:** Oh, I'm— oh, you know that's exactly what I'm doing.

**Clint:** Oh, he already did! Oh, genetics is such an incredible thing.

**Griffin:** Okay. Everybody fuckin'... Adam Sandler Highchurch, everybody.

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** But yeah, Taako, you feel yourself able to move once again, as a purple streak of energy shoots off your bod and hits a wall and shoots some sparks off. And it is your turn. Um, you did drop your stuff as you fell down, 'cause you had that full paralysis. But you notice, actually, while you were down, your umbrastaff, your umbrella was actually, like, moving with a mind of its own? Like, opening and closing in a way to, like— very subtly to scoot it back towards yourself.

**Justin:** Great.

**Travis:** Cool.

**Griffin:** So it is your—

**Justin:** So I don't have my— I'm, like, empty-handed right now?

**Griffin:** I mean, it's now right next to you. Like, all your stuff is. You can move again, so, um, you can sort of collect your belongings. You can't move if you decide to stand up, 'cause standing up is a move action, but...

**Justin:** I don't need to stand.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Justin:** I'll just— I'm good. I'll just scoop my crap up.

**Griffin:** Okay. You scoop your crap up.

**Justin:** [nasally voice] I need the material components for all my spells!

[all laugh]

**Travis:** [nasally voice] You're out of time reversal cubes!

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Can you dispel *my* magic?

**Griffin:** Wait, hold on. Is Dad the fuckin' wind beneath your wings? Is he the magic that lets you know how to play D&D this whole time? Maybe we've just been using him as a point of comparison for you. And it makes you seem like you're actually way better and more confident—

**Justin:** I use Dad— I use Dad's long lapses to, like, plan my own things.

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Justin:** I don't— I can't seem as quick on the draw. You know what? I'm gonna... [clears throat] I'm gonna cast a spell at this guy. [chuckles]

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Justin:** See he deal with a little magic. I'm gonna cast... Evard's Black Tentacles.

**Griffin:** Fuck— what?!

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** I'm gonna ask you a Dad question. Is that a spell you can cast?

**Justin:** For sure. And it's conjuration, which is right in my wheelhouse.

**Griffin:** Well, transmutation's your wheelhouse.

**Justin:** No, that's my— my other wheelhouse behind the bigger wheelhouse.

**Travis:** He's got two— he's a bicycle wheelhouse.

**Clint:** It's like the wheelshed.

**Griffin:** It's like I minored in sociology in college and, like, why the fuck did I do that? That's not something I use.

**Travis:** Did you?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Griffin!

**Justin:** That's what led him to be so good at DM'ing. Uh, squirming bl— so I cast a spell and, like, black tentacles emerge in a 20 foot square all around this cat. What's this fool's name?

**Griffin:** Uh, you don't know.

**Clint:** Golem.

**Taako:** Hey, thug! What's your name? I'm about to tentacle your dick!

[pause]

**Griffin:** [wheeze-laughs]

**Taako:** Hey, hey, hey! I'm gonna get you into some tent porn! Let me get that name real quick so I know how to credit you, in my *tentacle porn* I'm about to make with your body!

**Griffin:** [through laughter] Okay, you want— you want me to look somebody's name on Twitter to name this person after so you can wrap them in sex tentacles?

**Taako:** Hey, you heard me! I didn't stutter! You froze me, Bocephus! I hated it!

**Clint:** Just find somebody who likes hentai...

**Griffin:** Oh, god. Dad just said the word hentai out loud.

**Clint:** How about Crystal Gale.

**Griffin:** No. It's gonna be, uh...

**Clint:** Some lucky tweeter! [laughs]

**Kravitz:** My name's Kravitz!

[pause]

**Justin:** [snorts]

**Griffin:** And it's... named after Mac Kravitz on Twitter. Thank you, Mack. You've just been—[wheezes] you just got tentacled.

**Travis:** Mac Kravitz is a great golem name.

**Griffin:** Yeah, thank you.

**Justin:** Is it Matt— Matt, or Max?

**Griffin:** Mac, M-A-C.

**Justin:** Mac Kravitz, okay.

**Travis:** Son of Kravitz is what that means.

**Justin:** So, I'll let you know what is up when his turn begins. But for right now there's, like, black tentacles.

**Griffin:** Okay. Uh, next in the order is Magnus?

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Um... yeah.

**Travis:** I'm not sure what to do, here. 'Cause I'm... my head can move and my hands can move. Okay, let me ask you this, Griffin. Is it the suit is locking me in place, or is it a magic— like, could I fight against the suit's, like, lockdown, or am I just frozen?

**Griffin:** Um, well, you did already fail sort of the contest, and that's how you ended up paralyzed.

**Travis:** Yeah.



**Griffin:** If you wanted to spend your turn trying to, like, conjure up the willpower, trying to do, like, a constitution save as your turn, I would allow that, but, um, otherwise you're stuck as— stuck as hell.

**Travis:** I wanna— uh, okay. I'm still wearing the necklace that lets me talk to Lucas, right?

**Griffin:** Uh-huh.

**Clint:** Don't you have ranged weapons?

**Travis:** Yeah, but I, like— my hand— like, my hands are the only thing that's free. I can't reach shit.

**Clint:** Oh, I see what you mean.

**Travis:** I'm playing in fiction, baby.

**Clint:** I thought you meant the arms were free, I'm sorry.

**Travis:** No, just my hands.

**Magnus:** Lucas, you son of a bitch! If you can hear me, when this guy gets done with us, he's coming for you! Do you really want that to happen? Dispel the damn magic and let me fight him!

[pause]

**Clint:** Wow.

**Griffin:** There's no response. Um, you—

**Magnus:** Lucas, you son of a bitch! If we get out of this, I'm coming for you, too.

**Griffin:** You actually hear the sound of shattering glass. And then nothing.

**Travis:** What does that mean?

**Clint:** He dropped a glass of Cheerwine on his console.

**Griffin:** On his fuckin' midi keyboard.

**Magnus:** Lucas!

**Griffin:** Yeah, he is— it sounded like he actually destroyed whatever instrument he was using to talk to you.

**Magnus:** Noelle, are you locked down?

**Noelle:** No, I'm doing just— I'm doing just fine. I'm a little worried! I'm actually kind of floating away from this guy, just 'cause—

**Magnus:** Do you know how to undo whatever Lucas did to the suits?

**Noelle:** I can try.

**Griffin:** She floats over to you and, like, with her long hose arm— she's being very delicate and trying not to touch the crystallized floor. But she's, like, touchin'— touchin' all around the suit. Um... she says...

**Noelle:** I'm sorry, I can't figure it out! I'm sorry! I can— I can, like, point you at what you wanna hit, but I don't know how much help I can be.

**Magnus:** Huh. Interesting.

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Magnus:** Yes, please. Stand me up.

**Griffin:** Okay, yeah. She sort of wraps herself around your arms, and then it's like you're wearing a jet pack, uh, a Noelle-shaped jet pack. And she kind of floats you and stands you up.

**Magnus:** Now swing me at him!

**Griffin:** [laughs quietly] Okay. Are we going to make a— okay. Are we gonna make a—

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Alright. We're taking a lot of liberties with what can be considered an action and Dungeons & Dragons 5th Edition, but I'm very much into it. Um... yeah. Let's say this is a melee attack... [wheeze-laughs] here's what we'll do. I'll roll for Noelle, you roll for Magnus, and we'll take the lower result. So it'll be like disadvantage, except coming from two different attackers.

[dice rattling]

**Travis:** Okay.

**Griffin:** Does that make sense?

**Travis:** Yep!

**Griffin:** We'll put your same modifier on it, though.

[two dice rolls]

**Griffin:** I rolled a 14 plus whatever your modifier is.

**Travis:** Okay. I rolled a 12 plus my modifier, which is plus 7, so 19?

**Griffin:** Okay, either of those is gonna be a hit. Okay. [laughs quietly] So, like fuckin' *Weekend at Bernie's*, she, uh...

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Just sort of flails your arm towards him as you hold on to railsplitter.

**Magnus:** Launch me!

**Travis:** So then I do that. Um... I can't remember what I do, it's been so long since I hit with an attack! Uh... okay. So we're gonna say that that's one-handed. One, two...

**Griffin:** Well, yeah.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** And one tube arm, so I... we're not gonna call that two-handed, but...

**Clint:** Maybe she put a little spin on ya. When she let you go.

**Travis:** I would not let her do that.

[dice roll]

**Travis:** That's a 6 plus 6, so 12.

**Griffin:** Okay. Next in the order is the golem. Is he about to get—

**Travis:** Hold on!

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** Hold on. And I'm gonna use Goading Attack. When attack lands, superiority dice plus damage equals a wisdom saving throw. On fail, target has disadvantage on attack not against you.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** So that's, um... 5 plus 12— a 17.

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

**Travis:** No, you have to do a wisdom saving throw.

**Griffin:** Oh! And I have to beat a 17?

[dice roll]

Uh, I rolled an 18. Um, so before modifier, yeah.

**Travis:** Well, tits!

**Griffin:** Yeah. Uh, alright. It is the golem's turn. Is he about to get...

[pause]

**Justin:** He needs to make a dexterity saving throw, and you're gonna need to beat 18 is the DC on this one.

**Griffin:** Okay.

[dice roll]

**Griffin:** Uh, 17.

**Justin:** That's not quite gonna do it. So he's gonna take 3d6 bludgeoning damage.

**Travis:** Ooh!

**Griffin:** From these tents?

**Justin:** From the tentacles.

**Griffin:** Do you want to roll that, or should I? That's a d4. Do you see how it has four numbers on it? A d6 is like a dice-ass dice! That's like some Monopoly shit!

[multiple dice rolls]

**Justin:** 6, 6...

**Griffin:** Oh, God.

**Justin:** ... 5. So that's gonna be 17. Uh... and he's also restrained. He can use his action to make a strength or dexterity check against my spell save DC. On a success, you free yourself.

**Griffin:** Okay, Jesus, that is brutal! Okay.

**Justin:** So he's restrained by beautiful ebony tentacles.

**Griffin:** [wheezes]

**Clint:** They're stroking the length of his body.

**Griffin:** Oh, that's somebody's something, isn't it?

**Clint:** Ha!

**Griffin:** That's somebody's baby.

**Justin:** Everything is somebody's something.

**Griffin:** That is a big— that is a big, big hit. You actually—a s those tentacles just sort of, like, whap into him, some— some chunks of him kind of fall off. Yeah, please, go ahead. Before he does anything, that crystal that he broke off of his body earlier starts to shimmy and shake, and glow bright white, and then it explodes. And I need everybody to make a dexterity saving throw, and everybody who is still even a little bit paralyzed has disadvantage on the roll.

**Justin:** Wait, what? He did this?

[multiple dice rolls]

**Griffin:** The crystal that he broke off his body.

**Travis:** Not great!

**Justin:** Wait— oh, oh, okay.

[dice roll]

**Justin:** 10.

**Travis:** 8.

**Griffin:** Daddy, did you roll?

**Clint:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** What'd you get?

**Justin:** Wait, wait, wait. Sorry. Uh, what was the— it was a dexterity, you said?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Clint:** Oh, dexterity. Uh, 4.

**Justin:** 14, actually.

[two dice rolls]

**Griffin:** Literally everybody failed. Uh, everybody is going to take... a lot of damage from this crystal bomb.

[dice roll]

That's 5.

[dice roll]

That's 13.

[dice roll]

That is... 18.

[dice roll]

That is 21 points of damage, everybody.

**Travis:** I take 21 points of damage for breakfast!

**Griffin:** And— and you— it's, like, noon now, so that was a lunchtime crystal bomb.

**Travis:** Well, and that's the problem is I missed my breakfast damage, and that's why I'm not doing so— it's an important lesson, kids. Breakfast damage is the most important damage of the day.

**Griffin:** How are you doing on damage? 'Cause you got your... you have a screenshot of your whiteboard.

**Clint:** I'm down to 10.

**Griffin:** Okay. So everybody's not doing great. And then—

**Travis:** I mean, I'm still at 46. I got lots of hit points.

**Justin:** I'm at negative 8, so...

**Travis:** Whoa!

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Justin:** We're doing our best out here.

**Griffin:** So he has to spend his turn trying to escape from you, right?

**Justin:** Yes.

**Griffin:** And what are his options? Strength or what?

**Justin:** Strength or dex, I think.

**Griffin:** He's very strong. We'll do strength.

**Justin:** Strength. Okay, yeah.

[dice roll]

**Griffin:** Uh, that is a 21.

**Justin:** Yep.

**Griffin:** Okay. Yeah, he breaks free from these tentacles. Are the tentacles gone, now?

**Justin:** They are, yes. He's free.

**Griffin:** Okay. They fall off of him, giving him one last final soft graze, and he blushes? And that's his turn.

[pause]

**Griffin:** Big M.



**Clint:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Your turn.

**Clint:** I'm casting Prayer of Healing.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** That's a good call.

**Clint:** Up to six creatures of your choice that you can see within range each regain hit points equal to 2d8 plus your spellcasting modifier.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Clint:** So the d8 is the one that fell on the floor.

**Griffin:** No, it's the one I have in my hand.

**Justin:** I should mention, Griffin, just to clarify.

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Justin:** He is no longer restrained by the tentacles, but the tentacles are still surrounding him.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Justin:** They're in that area for a minute, so.

**Griffin:** Okay. Then he moves out of the way of them.

**Justin:** Yes, okay.

**Griffin:** Okay. Yes, he floats backwards a few feet.

**Clint:** Alright. I rolled a 6 and a 7.

**Griffin:** Mmkay.

**Clint:** And my spellcast modifier is 6, right?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Clint:** So 19. We get 19 points back, each.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Yeah!

**Griffin:** Uh, and Killian and Carey get that too. They also took that—

**Clint:** [simultaneously] Yeah, I see them too.

**Griffin:** Yep. Uh, okay. Uh, Taako, it is your turn.

**Justin:** Um... well, I mean, I got—

**Travis:** Do you have any magic dispelling stuff?

**Justin:** I'm, like, blacked out, right?

**Griffin:** What?

**Justin:** I went negative—

**Travis:** No, he just healed you.

**Justin:** Oh, okay. How ma— for how many points?

**Clint:** 19?

**Griffin:** Oh, were you below zero?

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Oh shit, son!

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Yeah, with that heal, Dad saved your goose. Have we done any death rolls before?

**Justin:** Nah.

**Griffin:** I don't think so.

**Justin:** Not a— no, we might've done— I feel like we might've done one at one point.

**Griffin:** We did one, yeah, when you got— when Black Spider... Magic Brian.

**Justin:** Yeah, I—

**Clint:** Yeah, we didn't do it right though, probably.

**Griffin:** Yeah, probably. Uh, okay. Yeah, Taako, you're back. You, uh— you— it's a good thing you didn't stand up, 'cause you would've fallen right back down when your health went below zero. But yep, you have regained consciousness. This is a very turbulent roller coaster of a fight for you. Your heals, by the way, Juice? They start from zero, so don't include the negatives in it. You are at— you should be at 19 right now. Does that make sense?

**Justin:** Ye— I should be at what?

**Griffin:** You should be at 19 right now, yeah. When you get healed when you're below zero, then you... um, hey. You're— when you took that big hit from the crystal bomb, you didn't go to half of your health underneath— half your max health underneath it, right? Like, if your max health is 40, you didn't go to negative 20?

**Justin:** No.

**Griffin:** Okay, good. 'Cause that's an instant death.

**Justin:** No, yeah, no. That didn't happen to me. I was at negative 11 and my max is 50, so we're good on that front.

**Griffin:** That's probably closer than you should do in the future.

**Justin:** Yeah, I mean, ideally I won't fall below zero!

**Travis:** Yeah, I don't think he was planning on getting hit by 21 points of damage from a fucking crystal bomb, Griffin!

**Justin:** Yeah, next time we go on a fuckin' undersea adventure, I'll be sure to bring a cleric.

**Clint:** [wheezes]

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Clint:** Uh, you're welcome.

**Griffin:** What you gonna do?

**Travis:** Taako, do you have any dispelling magic?

**Justin:** No, I don't, actually. I don't have that in my, uh— my old repertoire.

[all giggle]

**Griffin:** Just—just—j—[wheezes] just sex tentacle-based— just sort of *Fifty Shades of Grey*, like...

**Magnus:** Do the thing you did with the— with the motorcycle, but make him tiny!

**Justin:** Umm... hey, wait a minute! [pause] I do have a spell that could help Travis, who can't move his legs.

**Griffin:** Okay?

**Justin:** If Travis can't move his legs, then I shall create his legs!

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** I raise my hand into the air, and I summon Garyl, Phantom Steed!

**Clint:** Garyl!

**Travis:** Yeah!

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Clint:** Yes!

[horse whinny]

[music plays in the background]

**Justin:** Arising from below Travis are four beautiful magical, uh, purple legs that seem to shimmer with a rainbow, and out of nowhere, materializing in air, are two beautiful horns, and like the voice of God echoing through the room and sending trickles of urine down the leg of this crystal golem are the words...

**Garyl:** Yo, what's up?

**Travis:** [laughs loudly]

**Clint:** [chanting] Go Garyl! Go Garyl!

**Griffin:** Okay. Noelle was kind of— yeah, Noelle was starting to give up the ghost a little bit holding up your full weight, Magnus, so this comes as a relief to her, and she sort of releases you from her grasp and floats off a little bit. And you are now mounted in combat, full brown Bran style.

**Clint:** This is gonna make the cover of the paperback right here.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** But I must— I gotta— again, I do have to drive this point home. You are slumped over this horse. He can move you around, but you are very much kind of dead weight on it. You have a little—

**Travis:** I'll take it.

**Griffin:** Okay. Uh, is that all for your turn, Taako?

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Magnus, it is your turn.

**Travis:** Okay... I see.

**Griffin:** This attack is going to be possibly the funniest melee attack ever performed in a Dungeons & Dragons game.

**Magnus:** Garyl!

**Garyl:** What's up?

**Magnus:** I want you to leap over him!

**Garyl:** Yeah, no problem, dog. Just leap over him?

**Magnus:** Yes!

**Garyl:** You know I'm just a regular— I mean, I'm beautiful, and powerful. I do have the qualities of a regular horse.

**Clint:** [wheezes loudly]

**Travis:** How tall is the golem, Griffin?

**Griffin:** Uh, this golem is about eight feet tall.

**Garyl:** Yeah, yeah, naw, naw, naw.

**Magnus:** You could do that!

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Merle:** Yeah! Steeplechase that bastard!

**Garyl:** Yeah, I see where you're going with this and I love it, but naw, naw, naw, naw. Naw, I'm good. You want me to run you past him or whatever?

**Magnus:** Yeah, do that!

**Garyl:** Try to just freak him out or something? Yeah, that's no problem. Here we go.

**Clint:** [wheezes]

**Griffin:** Uh, okay. If we're doing this, and you're going to be doing a moving attack past him, then I'm gonna call that an opportunity attack that he gets on you if you're moving past him—

**Travis:** No, no, no. Here's what I'm gonna do in actuality. Um, since I'm on Garyl now, I'm gonna delay my turn till after— um, till after Merle. Can I do that?

**Clint:** I got— I know where you're going.

**Griffin:** You're gonna delay your turn after— okay, but the horse can't move you if you're delaying your turn, 'cause I was counting his movement as your movement.

**Travis:** I mean, cool. I'm mounted and I can move around.

**Griffin:** Okay. You're delaying your turn until after Merle.

**Travis:** Yes.

**Griffin:** Okay. It is the golem's turn, then. The golem, uh, picks up— he's sort of standing on one leg. He lifts his left leg into the air and he brings one of his arms down on that leg, and two pieces of him come off this time that are now sort of flanking him left and right, and they are both glowing white. Uh, and for his attack, uh, is gonna take another stab at Merle.

**Kravitz:** Sorry about this. I know this probably seems a little bit unfair, but, uh... you know, work's work.

[dice roll]

**Griffin:** Uh, that's a crit! Yeah, you can scope that out if you want.

**Clint:** I see it.

[dice roll]

**Griffin:** Merle, you take... oh my god.

[dice roll]

**Travis:** Wait, hold on.

[paper rustling]

**Travis:** Can I... force to reroll with my protection shit?

**Griffin:** Uh... I... maybe?

**Travis:** Yeah, let me look. Hold on.

**Griffin:** You guys are pretty close together, and this is a melee attack.

**Travis:** Yeah. When a creature you can see attacks a target other than you, you can use your reaction to impose disadvantage on the attack roll, you must—

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Alright, we will say that you fuckin', like... slump your dead left arm over and throw the Shield of Memories to, like, sort of block the first attack. Uh, as the second one comes in...

[dice roll]

And is a fuckin' 2, which is not gonna hit, with modifier. So yes, his first attack looked incredibly powerful, but the shield as you sort of dropped it to the floor deflects it away, and his second one misses heartily.

**Travis:** [laughs quietly]

**Griffin:** And he goes, uh...

**Kravitz:** I— I don't even know how that worked out, like, with physics.



**Magnus:** Me neither!

**Kravitz:** I'm, like, trying to figure out how that worked, and I can't seem to make sense of it.

**Griffin:** But that is his turn.

**Magnus:** Training.

**Griffin:** Uh, Merle.

**Clint:** I'm gonna— I can do Dispel Magic again, right?

**Griffin:** Yeah, sure.

**Clint:** I'm dispelling that magic on Magnus.

**Griffin:** Okay. You still gotta roll to contest it, to beat a 13. Oh, I got it in my hands.

[dice roll]

**Griffin:** Oh, that's not good!

**Clint:** It's a 2, Trav.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Justin:** Does that do it?

**Clint:** With my— with my modifier, though...

**Griffin:** With your modifier of 11...

**Clint:** It's an 8.

**Griffin:** No, it's not. It is an 8, but it's still not good enough. Uh, yeah. Taak— uh, yeah. Magnus, you still wanna take your turn now?

**Clint:** Maybe it freed him up a little bit? Couldn't it have just, like... a couple of degrees? Maybe, like, one arm. One arm! Maybe he had one arm free.

**Griffin:** Um... you have wrist— you have wrist control now.

**Clint:** Wrist! Wrist control!

**Travis:** Um... cool.

**Clint:** It's all in the wrist, Travis.

**Travis:** I can be smarter about it. I have a skill called Commanding Strike.

**Griffin:** Oh, okay.

**Travis:** Use one attack to command an ally to make a weapon attack, add superiority die to damage. So, which one of you— it's probably Merle, right?

**Griffin:** Yeah, Merle's got the— the battle wrench.

**Clint:** Yeah.

**Magnus:** Yeah, Merle! Attack!

**Justin:** Can we— this is just a request to people... who are Merle. Can we just, like, fuck— maybe we should attack that crystal?

**Clint:** That's what I was gonna say. Should we— well, there are two of 'em now!

**Justin:** Yeah, it seems like those are—

**Clint:** Could I take one big swing at both crystals?

**Travis:** Wait, holy shit.

**Griffin:** Uh, no, they're—

**Travis:** Hold on, hold on—

**Griffin:** They're flanking him.

**Travis:** How big are the crystals?

**Griffin:** Uh, there pr— they're not that big, actually. They're about, uh— they're about the size of, like, your fist, kind of jagged.

**Travis:** Cool cool, cool.

**Magnus:** Merle!

**Merle:** Yes!

**Travis:** Uh, wait. Who's next? Taako's next?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Magnus:** Taako! In my pouch, get the glutton's fork!

**Taako:** [through laughter] Okay? When I get a chance to, for sure.

**Magnus:** Okay.

**Travis:** That's my turn.

**Griffin:** [uncertainly] Okay. [holding back laughter] Uh, you're just sitting on this horse who's like— I imagine at this point Garyl would be like, "Did you need me for something, or...?"

**Travis:** Oh, okay. Well, hold on. And then also, you know, Merle, attack one of the crystals.

**Justin:** I was halfway through Season Two of *Daredevil*, guys. Come on.

**Clint:** [laughs] Alright. So...

[dice roll]

**Clint:** 17.

**Griffin:** Yeah, that's gonna be a hit. On the left one or the right one?

**Clint:** Could I knock one into the other?

**Griffin:** No, 'cause he's standing in between 'em.

**Clint:** Shit. Okay. I'll use my plant side, so that will be the—

**Griffin:** Yes, yes, yes, yes. Your dominant hand, your right hand.

**Clint:** I hit the one on the right...

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Clint:** ... with the battle wrench.

**Griffin:** Okay. Go ahead and roll damage.

[dice roll]

**Griffin:** Plus your strength modifier. That's, uh— yeah. It's not very much damage, but it's enough to shatter this thing, and it falls harmlessly to the floor. Uh, next in the order is Taako.

**Justin:** Uh, how close am I to Travis's bag?

**Griffin:** Uh, I mean, you guys were literally standing right next to each other when you went down and you haven't really moved much. Um, he is up in the air with— he's up on Garyl, but you can easily stand up and reach him.

**Justin:** Okay. I'll grab the fork out of the bag.

**Griffin:** [holding back laughter] Okay? I don't know what this thing is.

**Justin:** I don't remember either.

**Travis:** So, I bought it at the Fantasy Costco. Once a day, the fork will allow the user to eat any non-magical item they can fit in their mouth and gain 2d6 points of damage, just tap the fork on the item and it will turn edible.

**Justin:** But isn't that magical?

**Travis:** Well, poop.

**Justin:** Griff? I mean, it's a floating crystal. If that's not magic I don't know what—

**Travis:** I think—

**Clint:** We made up.

**Travis:** I thought what he meant by non-magical item was, like, an enchanted sword or shield or something.

**Griffin:** Yeah, no, that's the— non-magical— magical items are things that can't be, des— like, can't traditionally be destroyed. Like a magic sword can't be destroyed. Um, but I'm— yes. This— yes. Yes, yes, yes to all of this. Now, Magnus, say what you just said, but in character.

**Magnus:** Use the fork! Eat the crystal! You'll feel better.

**Justin:** Luke!

**Clint:** Use the fork!

**Justin:** Use the fork!

**Clint:** [laughs loudly] The fork will be with you! Always...

**Magnus:** No, I do want it back. It won't be wi— I will want the fork back.

**Griffin:** Okay. Are you doing this, Taako? Are you doing this thing?

**Justin:** Hell— hell yes I am!

**Griffin:** [laughs] Okay. Uh... I... hmm. Yeah, I don't think you're gonna need— I was trying to think, is this a fork-based attack? No, you can just kind of plug that bad boy in. And you're doing this into the crystal piece that's floating, not the golem himself, right?

**Justin:** Yes. Yes.

**Griffin:** Alright, yeah, you plug it into this fist-sized floating crystal in the air, uh, and as you do, it... it— your fork slides in, as though you are piercing a bread roll. As you do, actually you realize [wheezes] this particular piece of crystal is actually part of Merle's former arm.

**Clint:** Oh, crap!

**Justin:** Oh, grody.

**Griffin:** As it turns— but it turns into, like, one of those fuckin' awesome Red Lobster cheddar— cheddar rolls.

**Justin:** Okay. So, I take a— a big bite, and what's it taste like?

**Griffin:** It tastes fuckin' incredible! It tastes—

**Justin:** What— what— describe the taste of Merle.

**Griffin:** Um, there is a—

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** So there's a light—

**Travis:** Would you say picante?

**Griffin:** It's ve— it's super buttery, super buttery. Super, super soft. Super buttery, super flaky. It's like— there's a sweetness to it, like there's some sort of sweet element, like a brown sugar, maybe, in the butter? Um, but it feels— it actually— it's weird, because, like, it wasn't cooked. You magically transformed it into, like, some sort of edible material, so it should be like a meal ready to eat, but actually it's, like, soft like a— like it just came out of the oven.

**Clint:** Damn, I'm delicious!

**Griffin:** It's fucking incredible. It's really, really tasty, and it goes down real smooth.

**Justin:** Mm-hmm. Okay. I, uh... I pop the whole thing in my mouth.

**Taako:** [mouth full] I'm lovin' it! [wheezes] Ba-da-ba-ba-ba!

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Taako:** Hey, guys! Is it— it's a good time for the great taste of Merle!

**Merle:** It's a Happy Merle!

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Dad, I like that a lot. Proud of you.

**Clint:** Thank you.

**Griffin:** The golem takes a—

**Travis:** Wait, hold on. He gets 2d6 health back.

**Griffin:** Huh?

**Travis:** The glutton's fork, when you eat it you get 2d6 points of health back.

**Griffin:** [wheeze-laughs] I thought you were saying Merle— eating Merle in particular— take this bread! It is his body! It has some sort of healing, like, transubstantiation quality to it.

**Justin:** Alright. 4 and 3, so it's 7 points of healing.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Justin:** Delicious, delicious Merle healed me for 7 points.

**Clint:** [giggles]

**Griffin:** The golem, who looks— he looks pretty worse for wear after the last round of combat, and now having sort of taken— braken— broke— braken? Have braken broken parts of himself off, uh, he's actually looking really worse for wear.

Uh, and he also takes, like, a step back from you, like kind of staggered. And he's like...

**Kravitz:** What the fuck is wrong with the three of you? You guys are fucked up! That's the— that's some— that's some sick shit! I'm— ugh, God. I've gotta regroup. You— you all— I promise you, the next time we meet, you're coming with me. I'm taking you in.

**Magnus:** Why?

**Griffin:** He says...

**Kravitz:** You know why!

**Magnus:** I don't, actually! I really don't!

**Griffin:** And the golem form falls apart, collapses on the floor, and you watch the white fire portion of him, uh, pass through a rift behind him and disappear.

**Merle:** We won!

**Magnus:** I think we actually just legitimately won a battle, you guys.

**Merle:** I think we did!

**Griffin:** He was a— he definitely did an expedient retreat, but he was, uh— I mean, between the parts of him that he broke off and crystallized and that the tentacles ripped off, he was falling apart.

**Travis:** So now can Merle just, like, Dispel Magic willy nilly?

**Justin:** He's still got to burn a slot.

**Griffin:** Uh, yeah. Let's— I mean, you guys can take a short rest to recover some— some stuff.

**Justin:** Oh hey, let's get in the pocket spa. That sounds fun.

**Travis:** Yeah!



**Clint:** Ohh...

**Justin:** That should help.

**Griffin:** You drag the still paralyzed members of your party into the pocket spa, and luxuriate and relax and recover some health in a post battle debriefing.

**Clint:** Are there monogrammed bathrobes?

**Griffin:** This is important. [pause]

**Justin:** In the pocket spa? No. They're more like—

**Griffin:** I mean, it all just— they'd all just say the letter "T" right?

**Justin:** They're more just like loincloths, really. Yeah, more like... more like loincloths you just drape around your crotch.

**Clint:** Can I stole those like I stole the rope from the Sofitel in LA to get charged to Griffin's room? [laughs]

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Justin:** That's fine.

**Clint:** I'm sorry you had to find out this way.

**Griffin:** Uh, I'm sorry about a lot of things. But you know what I'm not sorry about is all that money we're about to get.

[music plays]

**Justin:** Alright. When— what— while we're in the pocket spa and just kind of sitting and relaxing for a bit, [holding back laughter] Griffin appears to us. And we start talking out of character.

**Griffin:** Um, I want to tell you all about the Max Fun Drive. We've talked about it. We talked about it last week. We talk about it on all of the other shows that we do.

Certainly you know about it. But if you don't, we are a part of the Maximum Fun organization. We are a pledge-funded organization. Um, I know we also do ads on the show. I've seen a lot of people be kind of curious about that. The amount of money that we get from ads and the support that we get from ads is, like, a quarter of how we fund the stuff that we do. Most of the money that we get from shows comes from donors, and that money allows us to...

Yesterday I went to, uh, a local reputable store in town and bought a whole second recording setup so that I can—

**Clint:** Because I'm here.

**Griffin:** 'Cause Dad's here. Um, and for—

**Travis:** And when we were preparing for the bonus episode, I bought all kinds of D&D books and, like, did a shit ton of research and work that was funded by donations from listeners like you.

**Griffin:** We've spent tons of money—[holding back laughter] I know it doesn't seem like it sometimes on episodes where we goof-em-up, but we've spent a bunch of money on new recording equipment, we have hosting fees—

**Clint:** That's how we're paying to have our nose hairs removed in a few minutes.

**Griffin:** I'm so excited about that.

**Travis:** And that's really gonna improve the audio quality on future episodes.

**Clint:** Well, yeah. Everything's a write-off.

**Griffin:** Yeah, Dad's gonna sound like fuckin' McConaughey once we get the network of—

**Clint:** [Matthew McConaughey impression?] Alright, alright, alright, alright.

**Griffin:** And if you donate 5— if we get 5,000 new and upgrading donors, we will send you the sticks that they used to rip out Dad's...

**Clint:** [laughs loudly]

**Griffin:** It's gonna be some fuckin' Lovecraftian, like, nightmare stuff happening on that stick. Anyway, we do stuff like live shows. We fund those live shows with the money that we get from the podcast. We've expanded and done more podcasts. *The Adventure Zone* is a, like, experimental podcast we did that we are able to spend as much on making it, and I'm able to spend as much time on, like, doing the music and all that stuff, because of the, you know, the financial support that we get from you guys. So there's definitely, like, a— your money goes to us, and some of it helps support the network, but whenever you donate you get to pick your favorite shows, and by picking those shows, like, you are directly sending your support to those shows. Um, so somebody, anybody, start walking me through what these different donations levels are, and what they'll get our sweet listeners.

**Travis:** Alright. So, you mentioned the \$5 a month, Ditto.

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Travis:** If you do \$5 a month, you will get access to bonus content that will blow your mind out of your face. You will be sitting there and you'll think, "Oh, a couple episodes to listen to." And then you'll click on the link you get sent, and you'll be like, "Oh, goodness. What am I going to do with all this bonus content?"

You'll feel like a bonus content hoarder. You'll worry about stacks of bonus content falling over and crushing your cats. That's how much bonus content will become available to you for \$5 a month.

**Griffin:** You get bonus content for every podcast on the network, in perpetuity. So all the bonus episodes we've ever done across all the different podcasts. We've got three bonus episodes for *The Adventure Zone*. We have one prequel episode, um, where our heroes meet and square off against a team of heroes. A lot of people are, like, new donors this year, and I've been tweeting about a particular character from that episode named Hambone that I forgot about that I love—

**Travis:** Shit! I forgot about Hambone!

**Griffin:** I love Hambone so much. Um, we also have our LA Podfest episode, which was a side story where they go on a beach vacation, and then this year we have *The Adventure Zone: Nights*, a whole new universe, new characters, new adventure, new everything, that was DM'd by Travis. Um, so you get all that just for being a \$5 a month donor. Justin, what can we get for \$10 a month.

**Travis:** Well, and not only that— as long as we're talking about the bonus content, one, *The Adventure Zone: Nights* is N-I-G-H-T-S, just in case anyone was wondering.

**Griffin:** That's important.

**Travis:** Lot of people were asking. Um, and two, if we hit that 5,000 new upgrading and donors, we're gonna put out more of those donors' bonus content throughout the course of the year, so you'll get more episodes of *The Adventure Zone: Nights* if we hit that 5,000 goal.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Clint:** And thank you for saying bonus donor and not donus boner, 'cause that would not have been good.

**Travis:** Well, I've been saying donors' bonus a lot, and now I just want to say boners.

**Justin:** At \$10 a month, you're of course gonna get the bonus content for five bucks that you get at the \$5 level, but you're also gonna get a bandana featuring art from your favorite Maximum Fun show. You could get *The Adventure Zone*, it's really cool with lots of, like, in-joke references to the show. Uh, or you could get, you know, any show you want. Our feelings won't be hurt. We're not— you know. You know us, come on!

**Clint:** Yes they will!

**Griffin:** Dad's will be hurt, but that's just him.

**Clint:** Yeah, mine'll be hurt.

**Griffin:** Um, at \$20 a month—

**Justin:** Those are by Megan Lynn Kott. by the way. They're very cool designs.

**Griffin:** Yeah, they're sick.

**Justin:** You can check 'em all out. You know what? Just go to [Maximumfun.org/donate](http://Maximumfun.org/donate), and you'll find a link there to look at all of the bandanas.

**Griffin:** All the bananas.

**Justin:** All the bananas.

**Griffin:** We got a \$20 a month level. At \$20 a month you will get, of course, the bandanas, the bonus episode content. You'll also get the Max Fun Adventure Necessity Collection. This is a package of I guess camping gear? Or, like, wasteland survival gear. Talking about a multi-tool—

**Travis:** Or, like, boring party gear too. I mean, there's some fun stuff on there for everyone.

**Griffin:** Yeah, if there's, like, a shitty boring party that doesn't have toilet paper. [laughs quietly] Uh, good news. There's toilet paper, uh, portable toilet tissue in this pack. There's a hot chocolate packet. There's a paracord bracelet that I think turns into rope, and you can use that to, like, hog-tie a cattle or something. And there's a multi-tool what Max Fun rocket logo on it. A lot of, uh, outdoor necessities.

**Justin:** Can Dad talk about a level? He's really good at it.

**Griffin:** Yeah, Dad. Tell us what you get at \$35 a month. Be careful, though. Be very careful.

**Clint:** Well, at \$35 a month you get a vacu-um thermos. Now, this is vacu-um with two U's in it. Uh, and it—

**Griffin:** [snorts quietly]

**Travis:** That is how you spell vacuum.

**Clint:** Vacu-um. And that's with a travel—

**Griffin:** It would be va-cum otherwise.

**Clint:** With a travel tumbler, or a tavel trumbler, since we're really going all Norm Crosby on this stuff. Uh, also—

**Justin:** Yeah, when did this turn into the fuckin' *Flop House*, by-the-by?

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Clint:** And all the stuff-[laughs]

**Justin:** Words that sound like other words. Here it is.

**Clint:** Hey, I like those guys! I didn't used to. Um, \$5— and you still get the stuff from \$5, you still get the stuff from \$10, you still get the stuff from \$20. Um, but with \$35 you get the vacu-um thermos, with the travel tumbler. So if you're traveling somewhere and you want to take a tumble, boom, there it is. You get up to \$100 a month— get this, now—

**Travis:** Well, hold on.

**Griffin:** This yelling— so, you've been doing—

**Travis:** I want to tell you a secret.

**Griffin:** Oh, please do.

**Travis:** There's a secret \$50 a month for upgrading donors. So if you're not ready to make that jump from 35 to 100, I get it. That's a pretty big jump. You could go from 35 to 50.

**Clint:** Ohh. And what do you get for that?

**Justin:** You get all that stuff, plus Jesse Thorn'll make you blondies and send 'em to your house.

**Clint:** That's something to think about.

**Justin:** I upgraded to that level just so my pod boss would have to make me dessert.

**Travis:** I did that, too. Take that, Jesse! Feed me blondies!

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** Dance for me.

**Clint:** [wheezes]

**Justin:** Patisserie me, chief!

**Clint:** Dance, tinhorn!

**Justin:** Bake for me.

**Travis:** [simultaneously] It's a good bake.

**Clint:** Now, do you get the blondies at the \$100 level, too?

**Justin:** No— I— no.

**Griffin:** [simultaneously] I assume so.

**Justin:** Maybe? I don't know. Listen, I think if you're throwing Jesse 100 bucks a month, he'll bake you whatever you want.

**Griffin:** At \$100 a month, though, you can get membership in the Inner Circle, which is our monthly culture club. That means every month, one host of one Maximum Fun show, or three hosts, 'cause—

**Clint:** We'll show up at your house and sing "Karma Chameleon." [laughs]

**Griffin:** That's... exactly it. Uh, no. We pick, like, a movie or a book or an album or something that we really like, and then you will get— you will get it. Usually just, like, a digital version of it. The only time that we got picked, um— because, I mean, I think they know that we're relatively uncultured, um, people, we picked the album *Music Evolution* by the band Buckshot LeFonque. It's a terrific album. If you missed out on that recommendation, just go Amazon that shit. I guarantee it's good, you're gonna enjoy it. That's at \$100 a month. If you wanna go, like— if you really want to support us, uh, and you have a lot of money to throw around, how about \$200 a month? That gets you a free registration for Max Fun Con 2017, which is the annual sort of convention that the Max Fun community does where we do a bunch of fun podcasts up in the mountains somewhere. Um, it's a real hoot.

**Travis:** Have you ever— have you guys ever put together that, like, brownies are brown and blondies are blond?

[pause]

**Justin:** Wh—

**Griffin:** Yeah, homie!

**Travis:** Yeah, like, think about. Right? And that— that kind of insight you can only get at [through laughter] Maximum Fun— from Maximum Fun shows.

**Griffin:** Holy shit. We know that a lot of people aren't— like, most folks aren't gonna be able to do \$100, \$200 a month. We get that. Definitely we get that. Any amount of money that you can chip into us helps. It really, really does.

**Travis:** And if you're unable to do any amount, I get that, too. We've all been in a place where money was tight and, you know, we just weren't able to make a donation. If that's the case, go on Twitter, tweet out the link, [Maximumfun.org/donate](https://Maximumfun.org/donate). Use the hashtag #maxfundrive and tell your friends, like, "Hey, do you like these shows? Go support them."

Like, we appreciate that. That means a lot to us.

**Griffin:** Um, so help spread the word. Help donate if you can, if you like our shows and you can kick in a few bucks a month, we really appreciate it. It's at [Maximumfun.org/donate](https://Maximumfun.org/donate). Um, and yeah, let's get back to the show.

[music plays]

**Griffin:** Alright. You guys are in the pocket spa. You're all loinclothed out. You're having yourselves a good time. Um, despite the fact that—

**Travis:** And it's not weird at all.

**Griffin:** It's up to you guys whether or not it is.

**Clint:** Are we naked? We're not naked.



**Griffin:** You're loinclothed up. Um, but yeah, you have recovered from the paralysis, um, and are— you can take a short rest, by the way, if you want to recover some hit points. I know we don't usually do that. I know that's kind of an—

**Travis:** Well, how much time do we have, Ditto? Are we on the clock for the crystallization of the thing, still?

**Griffin:** Uh, you've got about 30 minutes left, so you do have some time still.

**Clint:** I believe that the pocket spa is outside of the normal time-space continuum.

**Griffin:** Yeah, no, you had 40 minutes, and then when you pocket spa'd— I don't actually remember how much time I said you had, but why don't you take a short rest, because you guys need some health.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Clint:** Okay. [cartoon snoring noises]

**Griffin:** So you roll your hit dice.

**Clint:** Oh.

[thump]

**Griffin:** Are you looking at your phone while we're recording? What are you doing?

**Clint:** Yeah! This is what I've got me whiteboard on.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Clint:** Mr. Fancypants.

**Justin:** That's horse— that's horseapples. He does it to me all the time. He's checking sports scores.

**Travis:** I'm back up to full, baby.

**Clint:** Alright. So, which one is the d10?

**Griffin:** Uh, you rolled d8s.

**Clint:** Oh.

**Griffin:** I mean, you roll as many as you want, as long as you have hit dice.

[dice roll]

**Clint:** A 6 and a 5. Keep going?

**Griffin:** Yeah.

[dice roll]

**Justin:** Yeah, I roll a d6. A lot of people are wondering how many times. I know you at home are wondering, how many times? Well, here's Griffin to explain it for you.

[dice roll]

I got 12! That sounds good, doesn't it? [snorts]

**Clint:** 12's good!

**Justin:** About 12. 12 feels about right, doesn't it?

**Griffin:** Alright. You have, per your level, you can roll that many times.

**Justin:** Eight?

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Justin:** Okay— wow, okay!

**Griffin:** You can roll one of those per wizard— per— per level.

**Justin:** Per wizard level.

[multiple dice rolls]

**Griffin:** So you can keep rolling too, Dad.

**Clint:** Oh.

**Griffin:** You can roll up to eight times, 'cause you guys haven't taken a short rest this chunk.

**Justin:** I'm back up to 45 hit points.

**Clint:** So I roll two more times, right?

**Griffin:** Mm-hmm.

[dice roll]

**Griffin:** Okay, yeah. You guys take your rests. Uh, you are having a good chill out time. Uh, and—

**Travis:** I assume, like, Carey and Killian are, like, also recovered from the paralysis. That's what I'm trying to establish.

**Griffin:** Yeah, yeah.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Griffin:** Everybody's good to go. Everybody's, like— everybody's rockin' in the free world. Um, and you step out of the pocket spa back into the main elevator lobby. And as you approach the central elevator that Lucas went down after paralyzing all of you, you hear Carey gasp, and she points at Killian's helmet, and on the back of Killian's helmet you see a small crack that started forming after she fell to the ground from the paralysis.

**Travis:** Oh no!

**Griffin:** And she says, uh... she says, uh—

**Carey:** Oh, Killian, oh no! Killian, no, you can't go on like that! You could get some crystal in there! That's super dangerous!

**Griffin:** And Killian feels the back of her helmet and says...

**Killian:** Oh my God. This is— I'm— I— oh my God. This is the most frustrating thing that's ever happened. All I've wanted in life up to this point is to find Lucas and destroy him, and I don't think it's safe for me to go on much further with this here crack in my helmet.

**Magnus:** Do you want to swap helmets?

**Killian:** Well, that seems like— your sweet head can't get crystallized either. Dumb-dumb.

**Magnus:** It's already pretty thick.

**Clint:** I cast Duct Tape of Dormammu and seal up her helmet.

**Griffin:** [snorts] That doesn't exist yet.

**Clint:** Oh.

**Griffin:** She says...

**Killian:** That's a really sweet offer, Magnus. But— and it is technically your fault. Because, like, we were just about to bust this perp when you—

**Magnus:** Oh yeah!

**Killian:** —when you started kibitzing. Um, but I—[sighs] I gotta be honest with you guys. I don't think it's that smart for me to get close to the relic to begin with.

**Magnus:** Oh, that's not your job, right? That's, like, our job.

**Killian:** Yeah. I mean, it's up to you guys to recover that stuff, and I, um... I haven't really told you guys this, but you remember when we met and we— we recovered that gauntlet together?

**Taako:** Yeah?

**Magnus:** Yeah?

**Merle:** Yeah?

**Killian:** I really wanted to grab it, and take it and put it on, and get fire— fire powers. Like, I really—

**Magnus:** I gotcha.

**Killian:** I don't know how to describe this. I was like— when you guys ran up and grabbed that thing I was like, "Ooh—" I kinda wanted to, like, kill you? And have it... for me?

**Taako:** Yeah...

**Killian:** Does that make sense?

**Taako:** No, we all—

**Magnus:** Totally.

**Taako:** We all wanted that. We just didn't. We rose above, and that's the important thing. You've proven yourself.

**Killian:** No, but I was about to definitely not rise above. Does that make sense? Like, I was like—

**Taako:** You just ran out of time?

**Killian:** [simultaneously] I was like, I have my—

**Taako:** You got distracted or something? I've been there.

**Magnus:** [snorts]

**Killian:** Yeah. So, I really... I don't think it's that good of a call for me to get in there and grab it.

**Magnus:** How about this? How about a new job for you?

**Killian:** Yeah.

**Magnus:** You and Noelle get the bugbears out of here to safety.

**Killian:** Uh... jeez. Okay. Noelle?

**Noelle:** If it's okay, I'd— I'd kinda like to... I'd kinda like to see this through. I can tell you how to get 'em out, though. We should be able to, um, figure out a path through the lab to extract you that's not crystallized. Um, but I need to... there's something I need to figure out. So if it's okay—

**Magnus:** Is it math?

**Noelle:** No, I know all math. I'm a robot, so I can just, like—

**Magnus:** [simultaneously] Oh, okay.

**Noelle:** —punch that into my Windows— sort of my MS-DOS calculator brain. But yeah, I'd like to stick with you guys, if that's alright.

**Magnus:** Okay.

**Griffin:** Okay, Noelle floats over to Killian and, uh... uh, [holding back laughter] prints out, like, Conky's secret word of the day.

**Travis:** [machine noises]

**Griffin:** A little map of the lab. And then she pops out a little highlighter attachment from her frame and doodles on it for a bit. And Killian takes it and says, uh...

**Killian:** Okay. I'm gonna— I guess I'm gonna head out. Um, Carey, be careful. Just get these guys to the finish line. Don't, you know— don't be a hero. And I'll see you guys back—

**Taako:** Hey, Carey, if you want to be a hero, I mean, we could use at least one. Right?

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Magnus:** Wouldn't say no.

**Merle:** [singing] Carey, don't be a hero.

**Griffin:** Killian walks back out through the door, back towards the bugbear encampment. Uh, and is gone. And, uh... Carey walks over and presses the button to summon the elevator, back in the middle of the room. And she says, uh...

**Carey:** Ugh. I feel, um— I feel considerably less good about our chances now. If I'm being completely honest. But, uh, let's— let's do our best out there, guys. Huh?

**Magnus:** I mean, we didn't ask, but tha— thanks, Debbie Downer.

**Griffin:** Um... when the elevator that Lucas went down shows up and the doors part, there is a metal grate, a heavy metal grate now covering the door as it opens, and there doesn't seem to be any sort of discernible clasp on it. There doesn't seem to be any discernible, like, handle to open it up. There's just this heavy metal grate now covering the elevator down to the lower levels.

**Travis:** I open it.

**Griffin:** And you do. And wow, shit— damn, I should've thought of that! Uh, no. It doesn't seem to— it doesn't even, like, rattle or move.

**Travis:** I rolled a 17 for opening.

**Griffin:** Mmkay. It's not— you needed a DC 70,000 in order to open this metal grate. It's, like, solid. It's, like, not—

**Justin:** Could I try?

**Griffin:** Yeah, yeah, yeah.

**Justin:** Nah, I didn't get it.

**Clint:** I heal both of their hernias.

**Griffin:** Okay. Yeah, it doesn't seem to be going anywhere. And Carey says, uh...

**Carey:** Well, I guess we should just turn back and go home. Mission failed. Right, guys?

[pause]

**Magnus:** No!

**Carey:** Hey, we did our best! Hey, we did our best. No harm in that. All you can do is your best.

**Taako:** I think somebody's been listening to too much *Adventure Zone*.

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Taako:** You don't wanna— you don't wanna be like those guys.

**Griffin:** Um... you hear a sound come from the elevator, though. Uh, from above you, actually. Um, and then you hear, uh... and you see the elevator sort of shake violently, as you hear what I can only describe as a smashing sound come from above. And then there's a— a quiet passes after this smashing sound comes from on top of this elevator.

**Merle:** Carey, go check that out.

**Griffin:** [laughs quietly] Um, and there's a second smash... and then a third smash. And—

**Travis:** I take this opportunity to get my glutton's fork back from Taako. [laughs quietly]

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Clint:** Priorities.



**Griffin:** Uh, yeah. This elevator's getting, like, destroyed. This elevator car, I should say, is getting destroyed. The one with the heavy metal grate over it is getting destroyed. Uh, and as more smashes happen, you see that the source of this violent elevator car, uh, assault, is coming from a bright yellow— what looks like another elevator car. And it is smashing it down and crushing it like a tin can. Uh, and pretty soon this locked-off elevator car just falls, and replacing it you see, now appearing in front of you, a bright yeller e— yellow elevator car with a big, bright red nose, and two big white eyes on either doors. And he says, uh...

**Upsy:** Hey, kid! Did somebody need to go down?!

**Magnus:** It's Mr. Bucket, or whatever his name was.

**Upsy:** It's me, Mr. Upsy, your lifting friend!

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Magnus:** Oh yeah!

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Upsy:** I heard a rumor that you— you kids needed to go to a different floor than the one you're on now!

**Magnus:** You— you heard correct.

**Upsy:** Well, climb on inside my tum-tum, you goose!

**Justin:** People have been asking for guest stars for so long, and who would've thought we would get long-dead Fred Gwynne here to play a role.

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Upsy:** I don't know who that is! I'm just an elevator! Climb on in my belly!

**Justin:** This is for Dad. Yeah.

**Upsy:** Press my buttons from inside o' me!

**Travis:** I get in him!

**Justin:** [wheezes]

**Upsy:** Mmmm! [eating noises]

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Clint:** I... get in him.

**Magnus:** Why is it so wet in here?

**Upsy:** Mmm, why, indeed!

**Justin:** [wheeze-laughs]

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Upsy:** I might be metal on the outside, but inside, I'm a real living boy! I'm Upsy, your lifting friend!

**Magnus:** Upsetting my lifting friend.

**Upsy:** That's a good joke.

**Justin:** Uh... [extended wheeze]

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Upsy:** Which way we goin', kids?

**Taako:** Oh...

**Magnus:** Down!

**Merle:** Up?

**Magnus:** Let's go down.

**Taako:** Down.

**Upsy:** Aww, down's my least favorite!

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Uh, you find a— in lieu of a proper elevator panel, there's just sort of a fleshy series of nodes next to this door.

**Justin:** Ugh. That's the worst.

**Griffin:** And you press the one underneath. And he goes...

**Upsy:** Hoo-hoo-hoo! That tickles!

**Justin:** [shudders]

**Griffin:** Uh, and you begin to descend.

**Upsy:** How's your day goin'?

**Justin:** He was an invention. Why would someone invent him to be this?

**Travis:** He's a genetically engineered elevator.

**Clint:** And who'd've thought we'd ever miss "Girl From Ipanema" playing on the sound system?

**Upsy:** I can do that for you, if you want it to! Happen!

**Magnus:** Yeah!

[pause]

**Clint:** [singing] Tall, and tan, and young, and lovely.

**Travis:** No, no, no. Make Griffin do it.

**Upsy:** [singing tonelessly] The girl from Ipanema's coming to take your stuff inside your house. Here she comes! [speaking] I haven't heard the song before.

**Magnus:** You're doing great.

**Justin:** [wheezes]

**Griffin:** Magnus, are you still riding Garyl at this point?

**Travis:** Yes.

**Clint:** [laughs loudly]

**Travis:** As far as anyone's concerned, I hadn't forgotten I was doing that.

**Upsy:** I've never had a horse before!

**Garyl:** You still don't, my little man. I'm just riding inside you. Possession does not figure into it. Yo, are we there? I don't know where we're going but, like, I would like to be of use at some point.

**Magnus:** You're doing great. I'm very proud of you.

**Garyl:** Yeah. My favorite part was the hour we spent in that spa.

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Justin:** Oh, wait a minute. How long was it? An hour, did I say?

**Griffin:** No.

**Justin:** How long was it, actually?

**Griffin:** It wasn't that long. It was not an hour.

**Justin:** Okay.

**Griffin:** Um... he says, uh...

**Upsy:** So, what are you going downstairs for?

**Magnus:** Just general downstairs-y stuff.

**Taako:** Yeah, just stuff not up here.

**Merle:** It's stuff down there. Just going down there.

**Upsy:** Are you gonna need a return trip any time soon? 'Cause I've got my soaps to catch up on!

**Magnus:** Um... we'll call you.

**Upsy:** Okay. Not for— not between the hours of 4 and 5:30, though!

**Magnus:** 'Cause of your afternoon soaps?

**Upsy:** Yeah, my elevator stories!

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Justin:** What I— so what I—

**Magnus:** Are they any good? Wait! Are they any good?

**Clint:** Uh, they have their ups and downs. Go on, say it.

**Travis:** Thank you, Dad! Thank you, Dad.

**Upsy:** I don't understand!

**Justin:** So what— so I ba— I guess what Griffin's trying to say is we killed that crystal thing a lot faster than we thought.

**Clint:** [laughs loudly]

**Griffin:** Uh, his fleshy interior doors open up, and you are let out. Uh, he makes a barfing sound as you leave his tummy and he goes...

**Upsy:** That's another joke I do. Anyway, bye! I love you!

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Uh, and his— the doors shut and he disappears. You have exited out into another sort of lobby area. Uh, although this one is although this one is a lot

smaller than the one that you were just in. Um, the lab, you noticed when you were outside of it, has kind of a conical shape to it, so it's bigger on top than it is down below, kind of a Cloud City Bespun kind of thing going on.

Uh, so there's not as much sort of area down here. Um, but you are now in a much smaller, darker lobby. And, uh as far as you can tell, there's only two doors in this lobby. This room, by the way, is not crystallized. There is a... what are you looking for, Dad?

**Clint:** I don't know. Just looking.

**Griffin:** Pay attention. Don't read.

**Clint:** I'm listening!

**Griffin:** Okay. Uh, there is a very large, heavy looking, like, vault door that is all sealed up, and it has one of those hand scanners on it that is lit up bright red. And then there is an even bigger sort of industrial door, sort of like you would find in a warehouse that trucks would drive into. Uh, and this one is actually sealed up with one of those hand scanners that is green.

**Travis:** Okay.

**Griffin:** There doesn't seem to be any kind of labeling going on. Noelle says, uh...

**Noelle:** Okay. So, um, if Lucas is anywhere, he's gonna be in the main experiment chamber. Uh, and that's through that circular vault door. Um, if y'all want to get a move on and get him.

**Magnus:** What's the big door?

**Noelle:** Um, well, that leads to the robotics manufacturing center.

**Magnus:** That one, please.

**Noelle:** All of the— oh. Are you sure? All the rooms on this floor are sort of networked by this robot delivery system, so robots, as Lucas and anybody in the lab needs 'em, those robots are gonna be put together in the manufacturing center, and then we have, like, a conveyor networking system that delivers those bespoke bots to wherever you need 'em.

**Magnus:** That sounds like a fun room.

**Noelle:** Yeah, I mean, it's pretty cool. It's, like, my— for me it was like my nursery, you know?

**Magnus:** What do you think, Garyl?

**Garyl:** I'll be honest. I don't know what you're trying to achieve. I mean, the robot room sounds cool to me. But the other thing— who's the Lucas? Do you hate him and want to kill him? What's the story there? I legitimately don't know what you're trying to achieve.

**Magnus:** Uh, you know, it would take too long to explain it. 'Cause I don't remember.

**Garyl:** Um, about seven episodes too long, my dude.

**Magnus:** [laughs] What do you think, Taako?

**Merle:** If the conveyors connect everything, then we could go in the robot room and it would probably take us to Lucas's room. Do you think?

**Justin:** It's right— but it's right there, she's saying. Saying it's through the circular door, right?

**Griffin:** Mm-hmm.

**Justin:** That's where she's saying Lucas probably is.

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Travis:** Alright. Open Lucas's room.

**Justin:** Are we try— can I— so we're still trying to catch Lucas, right? Like—

**Griffin:** Yep.

**Justin:** That's our MO.

**Clint:** Okay, so the hand scanner to Lucas's room, what color is it?

**Griffin:** It's red.

**Clint:** And the hand scanner to the robot room is—

**Griffin:** It's green.

**Justin:** Okay, well—

**Clint:** It's green. Seems to me that we can't get through the one with the red hand print. We might be able to get through the one with the green hand print.

**Justin:** Are they close enough together that I can get both hands on them at the same time?

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Justin:** Okay. I do that.

**Griffin:** You look really cool. [laughs quietly]

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Like *Flight of the Navigator* cool.

**Justin:** And I'm like...

**Taako:** Hey guys, look! Taako stepped into the *Quantum Leap* accelerator and vanished!

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Taako:** Remember? From the intro! Guys!

**Justin:** I cast Gust of Wind to make my hair blow up.

**Clint:** [laughs loudly]



**Griffin:** [laughs loudly]

**Taako:** Is it— does this help? Guys, remember?

**Magnus:** Oh yeah!

**Taako:** Yeah.

**Merle:** Oh boy.

**Taako:** *Quantum Leap*. Oh boy, indeed.

**Griffin:** Uh, Noelle takes a stab at the red hand scanner and can't seem to do anything with it.

**Magnus:** Now to the robot room!

**Noelle:** Uh, okay, okay, okay.

**Griffin:** She puts one of her appendages on the green hand scanner, and cracks it, and that large, large, large door slides open, and a— a gust of smoke and fog pours out of this cavernous robotics workshop. It is a humongous room with a number of really just gigantic pieces of fabrication machinery all around it, and it's all feeding onto this assembly line that connects all these different pieces of machinery onto a central conveyor belt that is running into a tunnel at the end of the room. And there are tons of these scrapped robots lying all over the place. Um, this room is, like—

**Travis:** Magnus goes crazy. Just pulling arms left and right.

**Clint:** Pops an arm boner!

**Griffin:** Yeah, this would be a good place for you to do that, 'cause there's hundreds and hundreds of robots. But they're just, like, laying all hither and yon. This place is messy. It's as messy as Lucas's private quarters. Uh, yeah.

So there's a bunch of these scrapped robots all over, just piled up. What you notice about some of the robots, some of the more sophisticated looking ones, is they have little windows in their torsos. And inside those little windows you can

see what looks like a big glass fuse kind of similar to the one that Noelle has in the middle of her chassis behind another window. Um, and Noelle's just kind of, like, looking at these— these robots with these fuses in their chest and is kind of like, moving 'em around with her arm and just kind of looking over.

**Clint:** [stage whisper] They're her brothers and sisters!

**Magnus:** Hey, Noelle? Any, um... thoughts you'd like to share with us in this moment?

**Noelle:** No, I haven't, um... I haven't actually been in here in a while. I don't know what most of these are— I don't know what's going on with most of these.

**Magnus:** Uh-huh.

**Noelle:** Um, but we should— we should— let's get a move on. Let's go through— that tunnel is the robot delivery system, so we can go through there and that should be able to get us into the main experiment chamber.

**Magnus:** You sound sad.

**Justin:** I'm gonna roll a perception check to see if any of these robots stick out to me in particular.

[dice roll]

**Travis:** And I'm gonna roll an insight check on Noelle.

**Justin:** Uh, 16 for me.

**Travis:** Oh, not too great.

**Griffin:** Um, yeah. The only thing you can kind of put together, Taako, is that not all these robots have these little fuses built into 'em, and the ones that do, um, have more sort of vaguely humanoid appearances. Um, to sort of compare them, the ones that you see all laying around with the fuses as compared to Noelle, Noelle, like I said earlier, is kind of roughshod. She's kind of put together of all these different component parts, constituent parts. Um, a lot of these robots are kind of approaching sort of a human look to them. Um, and you can kind of put together that if anything, Noelle was sort of a prototype to whatever these are.

**Justin:** Hm.

**Travis:** I rolled a two.

**Griffin:** Okay. You— Noelle is a robot.

**Travis:** Got it.

**Clint:** [wheeze-laughs] Can we maybe take some of those fuses?

**Griffin:** Uh, they're actually, like, embedded in the torsos of most of these things, so you'd have to take, like, the whole thing, and it would be pretty, um... uh, cumbersome.

**Taako:** Hey, Noelle. I noticed that you have a sort of fuse looking thing, similar to some of these other robots.

**Noelle:** Yeah.

**Taako:** What's that all about?

**Noelle:** I mean, it's just one of my power units. I— it— I don't— I don't actually know that much about my own sort of, you know— my own sort of machinery. But yeah, Lucas has always just told me that it's just another power source inside of me, so. Um, guys, we should really get a move on. We don't have that long.

**Merle:** No, wait, wait. Noelle. Noelle? Look at me. Look at me, Noelle.

**Noelle:** Yeah. I'm looking.

**Merle:** You're better than any of these damn junky robots.

**Noelle:** Well, I'm the only one floating, I guess.

**Merle:** That's right!

**Noelle:** Yeah, alright.

**Merle:** So don't be looking at them and getting sad.

**Noelle:** Okay. Well—

**Merle:** You are my special angel.

**Noelle:** Well—

**Travis:** Magnus goes through the door on Garyl.

**Magnus:** Garyl, onward!

**Griffin:** Okay, yeah. You move into the tunnel. It's actually dark as fuck in here. There's, like, no lighting whatsoever. And this conveyor belt is not running. There's, like, nothing running in this room. It's just— it's quiet. As you go through, Noelle actually powers on a little flashlight in her body. Um, and is helping you all look around.

**Clint:** What color is it?

**Griffin:** Uh, lavender. You really caught me off guard with that.

**Clint:** I know.

**Griffin:** Uh—

**Clint:** But you recovered nicely.

**Griffin:** And yeah, she's walking you through this tunnel. Um, and it's still quiet, although you hear what sounds like sort of a low pitched wind, um, coming from in front of you as you move down this tunnel. She says...

**Noelle:** Alright, I should be able to get us— there is a few twists and turns we need to make, but it shouldn't be too complicated.

**Griffin:** Um, and almost as soon as she says that, you see a light in front of you, what looks like a floating ball of light in front of you that appears from around a corner. Uh, and then you see a second and then a third ball of light. You see three floating balls of light. Um, and they fly at you fast. Um, but they don't collide with you. They just kind of pass over and around you, and as they do you hear what

sounds like the sound of men, like, moaning sadly as they fly by you and move through the tunnel back into the robot factory.

**Travis:** Oh, snap! I might've just figured out what those fuses are for.

**Griffin:** From behind you where the lights went, you see three shapes appear in the tunnel behind you. Uh, and they are three humanoid robots. One is sort of massive, massively built, kind of gorilla-like. Another is much more slender, with what looks like a cannon for an arm. And another one is very short, and has what appears to be, like, a bunch of wires sticking out of it. Um, and they all run at you. And once they get within sort of spitting distance, they stop. And you hear all three kind of laugh. Um... and one of 'em goes...

**Robot:** Oh my God, I can't believe it's you guys! Oh my God, I can't believe I get a second stab at this!

**Griffin:** Uh, that's the one— the big gorilla-looking one says that. And, um... the one with the cannon for an arm goes...

**Cannon-Arm Robot:** [in Magic Brian's voice] Oh, yes! This is going to be a lovely little rematch, isn't it!

**Travis:** Oh snap, Magic Brian!

**Griffin:** And the short one with the wires sticking out of it says, uh...

**Short Robot:** That's right, motherfuckers. It's time for round two.

**Magnus:** I said I'd smell you later.

**Short Robot:** The time—

**Justin:** Consider yourself smelled!

**Clint:** [simultaneously] Smelled! [laughs]

[music plays]

**Justin:** Hey! Uh, thank you so much for listening to this episode, and we just want to make one more plea. There's only a couple more days left in the Max Fun

Drive as you're listening to this, and it would really, really help us out. The Max Fun Drive is literally the only reason that we are able to do *The Adventure Zone*. It's the reason that we started doing it, is because we knew that you kind people would support us in doing it, and it made it make sense for us to make room in our lives for it.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Justin:** It is a huge undertaking, specifically by Griffin.

**Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:** But also, also to a lesser extent us. Uh, but we're able to do it because you all have our backs every time. Uh, and thank you for that, first off, 'cause it's a lot of fun to make and a lot of people seem to enjoy it.

**Griffin:** We could use your support, no matter how much you are able to give. Just go to [Maximumfun.org/donate](https://Maximumfun.org/donate). You can find out all about all the different rewards you can get, and gifts you can get for the different donation levels. Again, \$5 a month will get you all the bonus content. You'll get three bonus episodes of *The Adventure Zone*. They're all really super great, I'm really proud of 'em, but there's also bonus episodes of *My Brother, My Brother, and Me* and *Sawbones* and *Bunker Buddies* and all our shows in there. \$10, you get the bandana. \$20, you get the survival kit. \$35, you get the vacuum thermos.

**Clint:** Vacu-um.

**Griffin:** The vacu-um thermos. Thank you, Daddy. Um, yeah. Lots of stuff in there, but really the important thing is that you— just give whatever you can, and support us, and allow us to do more dumb shit like this.

**Travis:** There's a couple other important things we want to mention before we let you go. One, if we hit that 5,000 new and upgrading donors, Dad and I are gonna get tattoos.

**Clint:** Oh.

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Travis:** *Adventure Zone* tattoos, so keep an eye out on that. Two, there are challenge donors, so no matter what level you give at, there are people who have committed to giving, you know, a little bit extra. Anywhere I think from, like, a penny to, like, a dollar per new and upgrading donor. So every little bit helps. Every time you upgrade or donate, we're gonna see a little bit of extra money from them.

Also, there's a livestreaming *Jordan, Jesse, Go!* Episode on Friday the 25th, so you can tune in and watch that. I think I'm gonna be on it, so don't miss that. And you can tweet with the hashtag #toasttomaxfun, the reason people should support Max Fun, and the link [Maximumfun.org/donate](http://Maximumfun.org/donate) to be entered into a drawing to win one of John Hodgman's favorite Breville products, and I'm betting it's a toaster, but don't quote me on that.

**Clint:** And also, I am rapidly approaching retirement age, and I have no savings—

**Griffin:** Nothing at all.

**Clint:** Any kind of pension. I mean, I'm gonna be living on the street eating cat food, so please, please.

**Griffin:** Make it good cat food.

**Clint:** Make it good cat food. I like the chunky. I like the salmon-based.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Clint:** So please, only you can make this happen.

**Travis:** Well, la-di-da!

**Griffin:** Um, that's it. We will see you in two weeks. Next episode is up on April 7th, so we'll talk to you then. Bye!

[theme music plays]

[chord]

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