The Adventure Zone: Abnimals Ep. 8: Security Measures!

Published November 21, 2024 Listen here on mcelroy.family

[Abminals theme music plays]

Travis: You approach the Amphibofortress. It is a, you know—oh my god, I almost said bog-standard.

Griffin: That would be good.

Travis: Which is very appropriate.

Clint: Yeah, that would be!

Travis: Yeah, think of like a modern Pentagon government building kind of fortress. Except for the swampy marsh moat and drawbridge.

Griffin: Is the building—is the building fun look—I don't know if you've ever seen the Pentagon. It's the most boring building to look at in the whole world. Unless I guess you're looking at it from up top where you could really appreciate the novel shape of the building.

Travis: Yeah.

Griffin: But from the outside, it's just like a four-story tall beige nothing.

Travis: Well, this is more of a two-story shade of green nothing.

Griffin: Okay?

Travis: It does have a couple of turrets.

Griffin: Gun turrets or castle turrets?

Justin: That's so important.

Travis: Castle turrets.

Griffin: Can there be turrets in the turrets?

Travis: Turrets in the turrets? No... Maybe mud—yeah, there's mud guns. How about that? There's mud guns in the turrets.

Griffin: Mud guns. Yeah, sure, man. I love it.

Travis: So as you approach the Amphibofortress, tell me, Lyle, what are you feeling?

Justin: It's been a long time, I think 13 months, since-

Travis: That is what you said, yes, 13 months.

Justin: Since they've had need of me. I think I'm noticing that it does seem a little bit smaller. You know what I mean? Than the last time I was here. And then I start thinking about what was last time I was physically in the building? Hm... no... no, I don't know that I have been here actually. [titters] But I don't think I want to let on to that.

Griffin: You've never been to the Amphibofortress?

Justin: I don't think they've actually ever had me come by.

Griffin: Wow?

Justin: I don't know why they would need me to.

Griffin: So you were in sort of a contractor part time position?

Justin: This has been—yes, this is—so as an extreme firefighter, Ax-o-Lyle was only called when it was an extreme fire related scenario. So he was—

Griffin: Which doesn't happen, I imagine, with these wet heroes?

Justin: Yeah, he's more of an auxiliary player.

Griffin: Okay.

Justin: And they haven't had need—so like, why would he—it's not like they invite him back for beers or pizza after the crime fighting. You know what I mean? Although, he would really like that. [titters]

Travis: It is important to note that there's actually also a basement here. The top floor though, that you can see, is like the housing quarters where everyone else on the Amphiboforce lives.

Justin: And remind me of those beloved friends again?

Travis: Of course. The leader is Sergeant Salamander, and then there's Cecily Ann, who is an amphibious worm woman. Trey Frog, who is a, you know, poisonous tree frog man. And the Newt Brute, who's a big, hulking, strong newt man.

Clint: [titters]

Griffin: How much of your day—

Clint: Love his cereal. Love his cereal.

Griffin: How much of your day, Trav, do you spend just thinking of animal heroes?

Clint: [chuckles] I asked the same thing.

Travis: Here's the problem, Griffin, I wish I could do it during the day. It's when I close my eyes to try to sleep, that's when my brain's like—

Griffin: Oh, god, tell me about it.

Travis: "Let's think about this, man."

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: You approach, the drawbridge is down. And as you approach, Sargeant Salamander throws up the doors.

Salamander: Ah, Ax-o-Lyle, so good to see you! Come in. How long has it been, man? Hurry, hurry, hurry, come on!

Lyle: 13 months.

Salamander: No, that can't be right. I was gonna say like two weeks?

Lyle: No, it's been 13 months, man.

Salamander: Well, thank you for hurrying right over.

Lyle: Yeah, it's good to hear from you, though. You got some extreme firefighting action?

Salamander: Well, come in. I'll brief you guys all on it. And hey, welcome back, man. You know, I was gonna—I'll give the other two or two or at some point, but you know, you make yourself at home.

Lyle: Oh, thanks. I appreciate it.

Salamander: Okay, so here's the lowdown. Here's the problem I'm running into, man. Come in. Come in. Come in. Wipe your feet, please. If you guys wouldn't mind wiping your feet.

Justin: To get 'em like more slimy or—[chuckles] These guys are big on dry feet?

Salamander: Well, no, it's clean in here.

Justin: I'm asking Travis.

Travis: This level? Very clean.

Justin: [titters] Okay.

Travis: Though also, very warm and muggy. Important to note.

Griffin: Great.

Justin: [chuckles] Okay.

Travis: They keep the Amphibofortress very humid.

Justin: I just don't know why the surfaces of the buildings would not adapt to like the—

Griffin: If there are slimy gentlemen inside the building, eventually it's gonna—like how do you keep—

Travis: Eh, they're slimy people.

Griffin: Slimy people. Then it seems like there would be just a sheen of constant slime.

Travis: There's a bit of a Michael Sheen all over the place.

Griffin: Okay, great.

Travis: More of a Rainforest Cafe vibe?

Griffin: Well, dad, if you look at-

Travis: Well, that's in the basement, yeah.

Griffin: If you look at the map, dad, you'll see that there is a Rainforest Cafe in the building.

Clint: Ah...

Travis: Yeah.

Clint: Oh, okay. Yeah.

Salamander: Okay, all right, here's the problem. All right—oh, hi. By the way, Sergeant Salamander. What's your name, son?

Navy: Navy Seal, not in the military.

Salamander: Thank you for clarifying. And what about you, handsome? What's your name?

Roger: Mooer, Roger Mooer.

Salamander: Oh, I get it! Okay.

Navy: So, are we doing this briefing in here, in the entryway? Because I think there is a briefing room.

Salamander: No, no, come to the war room. Come to the—let's do this offish.

Lyle: Oh, man, I've always wanted to see this!

Navy: Wait, what?

Salamander: What's that? What'd you say?

Lyle: I've always wanted to see the war room?

Justin: And then I kind of like let a few steps back so I catch more up with Navy Seal.

Lyle: Again. I mean, again. To see it again.

Navy: Okay...

Salamander: Yeah. Okay-

Navy: It sounded like you'd never been here before-

Salamander: All right!

Navy: For like a second.

Lyle: Oh, yeah. Wouldn't that be wild, if they had never... invited me?

Navy: I mean, yes, that would be hugely, I think, sort of toxic behavior from an organization such as this.

Lyle: Yeah.

Clint: Roger's looking around to see if he sees any pictures of Ax-o-Lyle.

Griffin: [laughs] Just posters of all of them on the wall.

Clint: On shelves, or you know, on the walls.

Travis: There are so many posters, so many pictures of Amphiboforce. You maybe catch like one or two where you can see like Lyle half in the frame.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: You know? Like... And let's be clear, it was the way it was matted and framed—

Griffin: He was in the picture, but they included a mat that—

Justin: Yeah.

Griffin: Okay, interesting.

Clint: Yeah.

Travis: Yeah. I mean, sometimes that just happens. So you do your best, right?

Salamander: All right, come here! Sit around the table here, boys.

Lyle: Yeah. Okay.

Salamander: So, here's the problem. Right now, Trey Frog, well, he's at his semi-finals for his bowling league, so he's not available. Cecily Ann is taking something called a Nebraskan cuisine cooking class, and then she's got drinks with friends. So she's not available.

Lyle: That is a euphemism.

Clint: [chuckles]

Navy: I'm pretty-

Salamander: But for what?

Lyle: Exactly.

Clint: [titters] If you're in Nebraskan cuisine, you're-

Lyle: Let me just say this. If you know, you know.

Clint: [chuckles]

Salamander: I don't know!

Lyle: But if you know, you know.

Salamander: Do you know?

Lyle: [slurring] If you know, you know.

Salamander: Are you okay?

Lyle: [barely audible] If you know, you know.

Clint: [chuckles]

Salamander: Do you need a drink of water?

Lyle: Eeh!

Griffin: [guffaws]

Clint: [laughs]

Salamander: The Newt Brute is on a week-long meditation retreat, so he's unavailable. And here's the problem... the oven's on the fritz, and the repair guy's coming tomorrow. And we're getting parts delivered sometime between four and midnight today. And we're pretty sure someone needs to be here to sign. And I just got invited to see Madam Actual Butterfly with Dragon Rider Galaxia.

Navy: Okay...

Lyle: So you want us to take your tickets?

Salamander: No, I'm gonna need you to stay here and just kind of wait for the delivery and sign for it if they need it. You're a real hero, Ax-o-Lyle.

Navy: I'm... May I?

Lyle: Yeah.

Navy: No, thank you. We're not house sitters. We're a team of like heroes, such as yourself. And—

Lyle: Yeah, I emailed you. Remember the logo I made? I sent it to you... Did you get it, Sal?

Salamander: Yeah! I got it. We've had our design team working on some different versions of it. Just working on color schemes and stuff like that.

Lyle: Oh? Okay, yeah. Yeah, a little polish, that's cool.

Salamander: And before you get confused, I'm not asking you to house-sit. I'm asking you to house-sit and pet-sit. Because someone's gonna need to

feed Mud Puppy and take him out. Take him out to go potty, you know, that kind of thing.

Lyle: Yeah, see... I've actually never cared for a—what is Mud Puppy again?

Salamander: Mud Puppy! Well, it's our team pet!

Griffin: I don't even know what I'm looking at here, Trav.

Clint: [chuckles]

Travis: Well, Mud Puppy is a ... well, actually-

Griffin: He's a mistake.

Travis: Very similar—they're very similar to axolotls, except for a few key differences of where they live, how long they live. A mud puppy has four toes where an axolotl has five. But this axolotl that you're looking at, this is like a dachshund sized mud puppy who comes sliming up and rubbing against your guys' ankles.

Justin: Sliming up...

Travis: Sliming up!

Justin: What a gerund. [laughing]

Clint: [chuckles]

Griffin: I immediately look over at Ax-o-Lyle, extremely concerned about the psychic load he must be feeling in this place he's never been invited—

Lyle: I—this is actually—

Griffin: To babysit an unmutated version of himself.

Lyle: So, this is the thing. I'm much bigger. That's the main difference, so...

Travis: Yeah, we're looking at a goofy and—a Goofy, Pluto situation here.

Griffin: [titters] Okay, great.

Justin: A Goofy, Pluto situation...

Lyle: I don't—oh... I mean, I think this is really rad. I'm feeling so cool about this, actually. Just to get to hang out here and sort of maybe like find us a place. I wonder if there's like a place in here... you guys have said for a long time there was no place to sort of set me up in the HQ, and now that I'm here... And as I'm passing like the lazy river and the screening room and all the different—

Salamander: Mm-hm, yeah.

Lyle: Different facilities.

Navy: And an actual functioning Rainforest Cafe.

Lyle: Yeah, I do wonder if you-

Salamander: Not full scale! Important to note, it's a scale down.

Navy: But you have employees?

Lyle: We have to find a place to crash in here sort of while we're poking around.

Salamander: Yeah, if you need to take a nap or something while you're here, I totally understand.

Lyle: Something a little more—

Salamander: And feel free to make yourselves at home-

Lyle: Something a little more—

Salamander: Down in the lower level.

Lyle: You know, something a little more Kaiser Permanente.

Clint: [titters]

Salamander: Well, yeah, I think that's something we could definitely... discuss. Yeah, man, take a look around and feel free to make yourselves at home down in the lower levels. You know, we've got all the spa stuff down there and we've got training stuff down here. You can watch a movie over in the screening room. You know, any leftovers or anything you guys want to eat over in the kitchen, go for it.

Lyle: They actually have a really good leftover chef here.

Salamander: Yeah, I mean, just remember, the oven is on the frit. So, it'll mostly be, you know, microwave stuff or ready-made stuff. You're not gonna be able to like cook anything.

Roger: But we will have-we will have... run of the place, correct?

Salamander: Yeah, don't go all—

Roger: Free rein.

Salamander: Don't go up in the living quarters. That would be weird. But otherwise, yeah, make yourselves at a home. Clean up afterwards, you know, be cool.

Travis: And you hear outside a monstrous roar. And he opens the door and he's like:

Salamander: Oh, my ride's here.

Travis: And you can see a dragon-like woman riding a dragon lands on the street. And he's like:

Salamander: Yeah, that's Galaxia, the Dragon Rider. She's taking me to the opera tonight. So, you guys are all set, right?

Navy: Is there a crime happening here that we are being tasked with like stopping or preventing?

Lyle: We're just—it's an ounce of prevention. Man, I don't know what you're having such a hard time understanding. We're just here to scare off any crime that would happen. Isn't that better than having to fight crime? To stop it in the bud?

Navy: If that's how you feel, then let's do it, bro. Let's—sure. Let's house sit.

Lyle: Nice.

Roger: Yes, bro, I agree.

Travis: He hands you the keys, Ax-o-Lyle, and he's like:

Salamander: All right, don't do anything I wouldn't do! [chuckles] And watch it on those stairs. Remember, take that last step seriously. You could end up breaking an ankle. Ankles!

Travis: And he heads out and hops on the dragon.

Griffin: What?

Travis: Waves goodbye. And Galaxia the Dragon Rider and the dragon and Sergeant Salamander take off into the air.

Griffin: I, Griffin, know—

Justin: I know he doesn't have ankles.

Griffin: [titters] I, Griffin, know that sometimes characters in this world do involuntary PSAs. Ankles feels like a stretch to me. Ankles feels like a—

Travis: Well, it's about how keeping your 10 toes on the stair the whole time. A lot of kids want to jump off that last stair.

Griffin: And hurt their ankles.

Travis: And hurt their ankles. And Sergeant Salamander takes that very seriously.

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: As anyone who listened to the PSA at the end of the first episode of Abnimals knows.

Griffin: Okay, sure.

Travis: He's also legally required, because of an incident that happened in his youth, that he does have to really push ankle safety at least 12 times a year.

Griffin: He ate a kid's ankle.

Lyle: Just promise me-

Travis: Well, we can't discuss it.

Lyle: Promise we, guys, you gotta use coasters. Promise me that if you leave a room, please switch the light off. They're really big about, you know, conserving energy.

Roger: Absolutely.

Lyle: Use a-don't-I mean, take your shoes off, you know, in the house. And try to clean up after yourselves. And if you wouldn't sit right on the furniture, maybe just kind of hover above it.

Navy: So, we can't sit down?

Lyle: So, just sort of—if you just do a kind of a hover above? I'm worried about some of your staining potential, guys. We'll just... it would be better if we stood. Let's stand in the middle right here and just wait.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Navy: I would actually love to have a little poke around. I come from a-

Travis: A butcher's?

Navy: I'll have a quick butcher's.

Lyle: What is that?

Nav: Like a look around. You know-

Justin: I know what it is, Griffin.

Griffin: Oh, yeah.

Lyle: What's a butcher's?

Navy: It's like a look around.

Lyle: Oh.

Roger: I'd like to stretch the old fetlocks myself.

Travis: The what?

Lyle: Just promise me you're not gonna go in the living areas, right? Because they definitely said not to.

Navy: No. No, no, no. Just sort of a—you know, I come from a wet headquarters myself. And you know, I think it would be cool to see how they go about doing things.

Lyle: Yeah, keeping it moist without getting it moldy?

Navy: Yeah.

Lyle: It's a constant—that balance is so croosh in a place like.

Travis: Yeah, I should ask, the other two are kind of more suited to this. But Roger, you're here in this like warm—it's like 85 degrees and humid. How are you doing, bud?

Clint: Not good. I think Roger is already unbuttoned his tuxedo suit. Which he hated doing, but it is a little close.

Justin: Oh?

Travis: Mm-hm.

Navy: Going all natural, huh, Roger? Very Far Side, very cool.

Justin: [chortles]

Clint: And I think while the two of them are in discussion, I think Roger has just—

Justin: No, absolutely not. No. My—no, my absolute top pride is to keep an eye on these two and don't let 'em mess it up.

Travis: We're gonna do a contest roll.

Justin: Yeah, if Roger's trying to slip away that I at least want a shot at it.

Clint: Okay.

Travis: Roger, are you using any special skills to try to slip away?

Clint: Hm... No, I don't think so.

Travis: Okay.

Clint: I don't think so. I think just... kind of... kind of just slipping out, so to speak.

Travis: Okay, yeah, both of you just roll two D8, and we're gonna see how it goes.

Justin: I should get three, because this is a native environment to me.

Travis: It is not a native environment. You said yourself you've never been here before.

Griffin: [laughs]

Justin: I meant—no—now, Travis, an environment and a location are two different things. I'm more adept in this.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: You—okay, you know what? Because he's sweating, right? And hot. And maybe not at the top of his game, I'm gonna say you can have three D8s, Justin. And also you are, as you said, on high alert of keeping an eye on these two.

[sound of dice thrown]

Justin: Okay, well, what happened there is I got a two and then a seven and then a two.

Travis: All right, Roger, two D8s.

Clint: Hm... I'm going to use one of my TTS dice.

Justin: Time to shine.

Griffin: Are we in a mission right—is this a mission?

Justin: You're burning—

Travis: Yes, this is a mission. You've been hired to do this.

Clint: Yup, I'm going to use one of my TTS dice.

Justin: Okay, great.

Travis: To sneak away from your son.

[sound of dice thrown]

Justin: I will say this.

Clint: Six, four, three.

Justin: You did—I mean, I rolled not knowing that you're gonna do that. In fact, thinking that you're gonna do the opposite, because you said that. So, I think that is cheating, but okay, we both got a mixed success.

Travis: With two mixed successes, Roger has left the room. But as soon as he's out the door, you notice he's not there.

Navy: Hey, Rog! Hey, Rog! Please, use a coaster, man!

Roger: I will!

Navy: And please put some garbage bags on your hoofs!

Travis: Roger wears shoes. We can't keep litigating what kind of feet people have. [titters]

Justin: [laughs]

Clint: Are they saddle oxfords?

Justin: Everyone has human feet. [titters]

Travis: Everyone has human feet!

Justin: No, we can't say that.

Travis: Beautiful and gorgeous human feet.

Griffin: Size nine.

Justin: [chuckles] The perfect...

Griffin: Perfect toe.

Justin: The perfect pinkies. [chuckles]

Griffin: Perfect toe length.

Travis: Just perfect piggies!

Justin: Perfect piggies, size nine-

Griffin: The piggies are in a flawless Fibonacci sequence of length.

Justin: Just as plump as you could like.

Griffin: The golden ratio is satisfied.

Justin: A fine dusting of hair.

Navy: You should probably go-

Justin: Nigh on invisible. [titters]

Navy: You should go keep an eye on him. I'm actually the—the wetness in here? I'm ba-da-pa-pa loving it. It is a little warm. I might go just take a quick dip in the cold tub, and then I'll come right back down.

Lyle: Just use a coaster.

Navy: It's a cold bath tub, but I'll do-I'll put a-I'll bring a coaster in with me.

Travis: Where you heading to, Rog?

Clint: Sergeant Salamander's security center.

Travis: Perfect.

Justin: Just for no reason though?

Griffin: Well, he's curious.

Clint: As far as you know.

Griffin: He's a curious little fella!

Justin: Okay.

Travis: We'll resolve you going downstairs in just a second. But when you get to the door, Roger, you see a keypad that is both numeric and alphabetical. Alphanumeric, one might say. And it is a sealed security door asking for a password.

Justin: While he's doing—once Roger leaves and once what's his other face leaves—

Griffin: All right.

Justin: I'm gonna go to the main—

Travis: [chortles] There's only three of you?

Griffin: And to be clear, Trav, there's actually only two of us that Justin is playing with.

Travis: Yeah, outside of Justin, that's fair.

Justin: And then I'm gonna go down the main entry and just keep and eye on the front door. [chuckles]

Travis: Excellent. Okay.

Justin: I'm sitting in an armchair, just staring at the front door. [chuckles]

Griffin: Sitting or hovering above an armchair?

Justin: Hovering above an armchair.

Griffin: If I come downstairs and you're sitting in an armchair, I'm gonna **lose** my mind.

Travis: Navy Seal, as soon as you go down the steps to the lower level, it somehow feels even warmer or more humid, or both, down here. And you find yourself in a combination of spa and kind of training area.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: To your right, you can see the lazy river, with a swim up kind of lounge bar in the middle. And on the far side of that are a set of mud baths. The cold tub and the hot tub are directly across from you.

Griffin: Yeah... I-

Travis: To your left is the meditation center. There is a pool with a large floating platform in the middle that is a like balance training that you would have two people stand on it and have a fight to maintain their balances. Or you would stand in the middle while people try to throw off your balance. And on the far side of that, you see the combination Rainforest Cafe and rainforest steam room. You can see like a small kitchen and a you know, table with menus and place settings and everything. From here, you can see one person kind of working it.

Griffin: [chuckles] I gotta just real quick, can I just-

Navy: Hey. So, you are an employee here?

Batt Mercer: Skree! That's right, man. I'm Batt Mercer. Nice to meet you.

Griffin: I turn and walk away immediately. I say nothing else and—

Batt Mercer: It's short for Batthew!

Griffin: I say nothing else to this person. I walk away as quickly as I possibly can.

Batt Mercer: Skree!

Griffin: Okay.

Travis: That's his bat skree.

Griffin: Okay, I'm now looking at the orientation of this room. The cold tub is right next to the Rainforest Cafe, so I no longer want to go in that.

Travis: No, no, no, you have the hot tub between you and the Rainforest Cafe, you'd be safe there. But if you want to do something else, you can.

Griffin: You know what? I read on Goop that seal coats-

Travis: What?

Griffin: Goop. I read on it.

Justin: Goople.

Griffin: Huh?

Justin: [titters] You searched it on Goople.

Griffin: I searched, I went on Goople and I found a Goop article by—

Travis: You gooped it?

Griffin: By Gwyneth—

Justin: No, he Goopled it.

Griffin: By Gwyneth—

Travis: He Goopled it. Yeah, he-

Griffin: Let me do my joke!

Travis: Okay.

Griffin: By Gwyneth Palcrow, who is a ...

Justin: [titters]

Clint: [laughs]

Griffin: A crow woman. And she said that if you get muddy, it helps the coat, no matter what type of animal you are. I head for the mud bath. I'm too curious.

Travis: Ah, yeah. You soak in a mud bath?

Griffin: I get down to my shorts, and I get in that bath. I hang up my gear, and I get—I soak. And I get one point of armor.

Travis: Give me three D8s to see how well you relax.

Griffin: Wow, I've never had to roll to relax before.

[sound of dice thrown]

Travis: You don't-you've never had to try to relax, Griffin?

Griffin: Two success—yeah, actually, that's not true. That's all I do when I relax. So, two successes on that. I think I'm chilling like a [villain??].

Travis: You're chilling very well. You're gonna pick up two practice makes perfect points.

Griffin: Oh my god. This game is so easy—

Travis: As you relax.

Griffin: This is the easiest—this is a game for babies.

Travis: Easy game for babies.

Griffin: All right.

Travis: Roger, you find yourself at a security door that is currently sealed with a password. Sealed with a kiss.

Clint: Okay, describe these—you said it was a numerical touchpad?

Travis: It's an alpha numerical. So look down, Clint, where you're sitting, and you might see in front of your keyboard. It's like that.

Griffin: The tone. That's your father.

Travis: Hey, dad, I love you so much. It's like a keyboard.

Clint: Okay.

Griffin: He changed your diapers.

Travis: Is that better?

Griffin: He changed you freaking diapers, dude.

Clint: Yes.

Travis: I don't think he changed my diapers as much as mom did.

Clint: You might be surprised.

Griffin: Dad loves them. Dad loves that stuff.

Travis: Or I might not. That's what that implies.

Justin: You might be surprised to hear it was actually never.

[group chuckle]

Travis: I became very self-sufficient at a young age.

Clint: We just called you ol' soggy bottom.

Travis: Yeah. Oh, that's where that came from.

Clint: Okay... I want to really—no, I'll tell you what. First, I'm going to... I'm going to breathe a little cloud of methane onto the keyboard.

Griffin: Hold on. Just to clarify. I think that particular element is produced by the butt. I don't know if—

Travis: No, it's both. They burp it and fart it.

Clint: They burp it and fart it, yeah.

Griffin: Okay, so you're just burping on their keyboard?

Clint: But I know what you're going for.

Griffin: No, I mean, I just wanted to know if you—"Hey, will you house it for me?"

"Sure. I'm gonna fart on all your keyboards." Is kind of—

Travis: "I'm gonna give you pink eye." [titters]

Justin: Yeah, sounds—yeah. I've actually seen this with people on My Strange Addiction before. So, this can happen.

Griffin: Yeah.

Justin: Sulfur burps, they call them.

Clint: So I guess I'm gonna use my CH4U and breathe a little cloud of methane on the keyboard to see if any of the keys have been used more than the other.

Justin: With the power of methane...

Griffin: [chuckles]

Clint: With the power of methane, which has high carbon content.

Griffin: [guffaws]

Travis: Uh-huh?

Justin: Absolute mad lad. What are you—so you're burping on the keys to get the code?

Griffin: What I love is if the idea is that you're trying to do like a 'let me see which keys they've touched recently.' These are slimy folks. They've left a residue almost certainly.

Clint: Well, the methane will really make it stand out.

Griffin: Activate the residue, sure.

Clint: And if this keyboard is just for this door, then they wouldn't be using all of the keys, just the ones—

Griffin: Exactly.

Clint: And maybe from there, I can narrow it down and try to figure out-

Griffin: Trav, I'm sorry he gotcha. Man, this is scientifically so sound.

Travis: Yeah, okay, no, I was just looking at the difference between methane and the air that we breathe. And methane is lighter and traps heat better. So, I don't know what that means here, but I'm gonna say that it will

have an effect. So, give me a three D8 roll, and we're gonna see how you do.

Clint: Okay.

[sound of dice thrown]

Griffin: Oh yeah.

Clint: Three, six, five.

Travis: Two successes. Nicely done. You're going to be able to see four numbers and two letters, but not obviously the order of those.

Clint: Right.

Travis: So the four numbers you're going to see are six, five, eight and two.

Griffin: I got it. I already solved it.

Travis: Oh, you did?

Griffin: I don't even need the letters, yeah.

Justin: They were numbers—[titters] is one thing.

Travis: Six, five, eight and two. And then you see R and P.

Griffin: I know what you can spell with that.

Travis: Your assumption is that it's spells something?

Griffin: Mm-hm.

Travis: Okay, with numbers?

Griffin: Mm-hm. Like the way a three can be an E.

Travis: Oh, I guess that's true.

Griffin: I use that stuff in all my passwords.

Travis: Well, you're 100% pure gamer.

Griffin: That's true. That's true.

Travis: You don't have time to type letters. You're too busy leveling up in Fortnite.

Griffin: Okay. Well... okay.

[theme music plays]

[ad reads]

Narrator: Somewhere in an alternate universe, where Hollywood is smarter...

Presenter 1: And the Emmy nominees for Outstanding Comedy Series are...

Presenter 2: Jetpackula.

Presenter 1: Airport Marriott.

Presenter 2: Thrapple.

Presenter 1: Dear America, We've Seen You Naked.

Presenter 2: And Allah in the Family.

Narrator: In our stupid universe, you can't see any of these shows. But you can listen to them on Dead Pilots Society. The podcast that brings you hilarious comedy pilots that the networks and streamers bought, but never made. Journey to the ultimate television universe of Dead Pilots Society on maximumfun.org.

[break]

Mallory: Oh darling, why don't you accept my love?

Brea: My dear, even though you are a Duke, I could never love you. You... you... borrowed a book for me and never returned it!

Mallory: [gasps] Hah! Save yourself from this terrible fate by listening to Reading Glasses.

Brea: We'll help you get those borrowed books back and solve all your other reader problems.

Mallory: Reading Glasses, every Thursday on Maximum Fun.

[theme music plays]

Travis: Now, as you sit there by the door, Lyle, Mud Puppy comes and starts rubbing against you and whining in a slimy way—[spoofs a dog whining]. And looking at its leash and the door.

Lyle: Oh, man, I really can't. I gotta keep an eye on the place. Can you give yourself walkies?

Travis: [spoofs whining dog sounds]

Lyle: Oh, wow. You're cute and kind of upsetting. Oh, man, it's like looking in a small, bad mirror.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Lucy: All right, come on.

Justin: I'll leash him up.

Travis: You hook up his harness.

Justin: I hook up his harness, and I take him... I guess out front.

Travis: Make sure you grab the bags.

Justin: Yeah, I do. I sling them.

Travis: Because his droppings are upsetting.

Griffin: I was just-

Travis: You can't.

Griffin: I was just thinking how wild it would be to have like a little human come up to you and try to get you to do stuff for it. And then I remembered, that's kids.

Justin: That's kids.

Travis: That's kids, man!

Justin: Yup. It's just like that.

Travis: Actually, harder to say no to those.

Griffin: Yeah, true.

Travis: So you hook him up, you take him out for a little night time stroll. A little afternoon or evening stroll, I should say. How long a walk do you think you're taking him on? Is this just a quick go out and potty or—

Justin: I think he's—we're staying in the immediate area. I don't want to get out of eyesight of the door, so I think I'm just trying to find whatever his sweet spots are within where I still have an eyeline to the entrance.

Travis: Okay, great, yeah. While he's taking them out, what are the other two of you working on?

Griffin: Nice try. You're trying to trick me into not relaxing anymore. I sink even deeper into the mud, gaining even more practice makes perfect dude points.

Travis: You begin to choke as the mud fills your lungs.

Griffin: Oh, no. Oh, god. Wait!

Travis: No. [titters] Do you want to keep relaxing in the mud?

Griffin: I think I do.

Justin: Great.

Griffin: It'll take me a while to de-mud myself, right?

Travis: Yeah, that's true. Okay, give me-

Griffin: I don't want to talk to Batt Mercer anymore, like for sure, for sure. And I can't get into any other body of water until I have de-mudded, because I'm not trying to like wreck their whole place.

Travis: Okay, yeah, give me another three D8 roll.

[sound of dice thrown]

Griffin: Double success again. God, I'm good at this game.

Travis: Man, yeah, you're relaxed as heck, man. You're feeling like melted butter. You know what I mean? You feel all the aches and pains of the day, every stress, every worry melting away. You're just having a grand old time.

Griffin: I have an issue of Goop with me that I brought, like always. And I'm reading about like jackfruit.

Travis: What are you learning about jackfruit?

Griffin: You can make anything out of it; steaks, curds, spaghetti-

Clint: Whey.

Griffin: Whey—no, probably not whey. But spaghetti, definitely.

Justin: Here's something about jackfruit, it's super stinky too. But durian is more stinky, so that's all anybody talks about.

Griffin: Yeah.

Travis: Oh, man...

Griffin: Do I gain more practice makes perfect points for my-

Travis: Yeah, man, you get two more points. Yeah.

Griffin: Great.

Travis: Roger, you find yourself knowing that there's some order or combination of these six letters and numbers. What are you working on now?

Clint: Okay, can you remind me of the names of the people—of the characters in Amphiboforce?

Travis: I'll go ahead and give this you, because I'm a kind and benevolent game runner. There is not—this is not a word or—this is just the numbers that he has picked for this—

Justin: For the record, Sergeant Salamander, Cecily Ann, Trey Frog, Newt Brute... and me.

Travis: Correct.

Griffin: [titters]

Travis: I don't want you sitting there boggling your mind trying to find the what these random numbers and letters make an anagram of.

Griffin: You need to find this password, it sounds like, if you are going to learn this password.

Travis: Or, I mean, you could brute force it. Newt Brute force it. But it might take you a couple tries to enter them in different combinations.

Clint: Roger's going to look around a little bit. Look around and... he's currently in the study, correct?

Travis: He is right now—yes, you are, I mean, in a little walkway betwixt the study and the security center. But yeah, you can be at the study.

Clint: Can I—

Travis: Look out for Colonel Mustard.

Clint: Can I do a deep dive, just really look around the study and see what I can see?

Griffin: Maybe he's the type that writes his passwords on a post it note, and like sticks it nearby.

Travis: You absolutely can. Do you have anything that helps you in your looking around?

Clint: No, but I think that needs to be the next thing I do when I get some kind of upgrade.

Griffin: [chuckles]

Travis: Mm-hm, excellent.

Clint: Well...

Travis: You know what? You know what? I'm gonna say, with counterfeit, right—

Clint: Yeah, that's what I was gonna say; counterfeit.

Travis: Yeah, this is—I mean, you're basically in—there's like shelves of books in the study and things laid out. So, I'm gonna say that this is as

related to like languages and stuff like that. If you want to use three D8 in this circumstance, you can.

Clint: Okay... All right, I will use three D8.

[sound of dice thrown]

Clint: Six, seven, two.

Griffin: Two success.

Travis: Excellent, two successes. As you look around in this library, you notice that the books are all—it doesn't seem to quite be a Dewey Decimal System. But each book does have some kind of code down the side to remind where to shelve it away. And each one is two letters followed by four numbers.

Clint: All right, then I'm going to look for 6582-RP.

Travis: I think with two successes, you're not able to find that exact set of numbers in that order. You can see that there's like H-I for history. You can see that there is I-N for instructional. You do find an area that is P-R for poetry.

Clint: And is there a 6582? Or any combination of those four numbers?

Travis: Give me another three D8 roll, now that you found the section.

[sound of dice thrown]

Clint: Seven, one and eight.

Travis: Another two successes. You are rolling very well. You find a poetry book that is a collection of poetry about the glory of the salamander. And it is PR-8526.

Justin: Okay... I see where this—dad?

Travis: Now ...

Justin: Dad?

Clint: Yes?

Justin: Are you thinking what I'm thinking?

Griffin: [chuckles]

Clint: Sometimes, I hope so.

Justin: Seems a little too easy, doesn't it?

Clint: Yeah, it does.

Griffin: It does. It seems actually quite convoluted to me. I think you've-

Clint: Which is why somebody would say that...

Justin: They want you to think it's 8526.

Clint: Can I open the book?

Travis: Yeah. Can you open a book? Yeah. I think Roger can open a book without rolling.

Justin: [titters]

Griffin: There's a gun in here!

Travis: [laughs] It's all here, the passports, the secret identities!

Clint: I'm just gonna open it up and read the first passage I see.

Griffin: [titters]

Travis: "Oh, to the salamander. It's beautiful, slimy nature. Oh, how it moves through the water and the land. 'Tis truly God's favorite, the

salamander. Let us all give thanks to the salamander. And give hugs and kisses, if the salamander consents."

Clint: Roger holes the book to his chest and closes his eyes, and kind of basks in that sentiment. That moving ode. And then he goes out in the hallway and he... punches numbers into the keypad.

Travis: Well, before you punch the numbers into the keypad, let's jump back real quick to Ax-o-Lyle and Mud Puppy, as they return from their walk. How did the walk go? Was he a good listener?

Justin: Really good.

Travis: Was he a good boy, Mud Puppy?

Justin: Great boy. Well leash trained-

Travis: Yeah, leash trained?

Justin: Very obedient. Stopped a robbery, just like on his own. [titters] Just like, I didn't even have to do anything.

Travis: Whoa?

Justin: It was great. Yeah.

Travis: That's incredible.

Justin: He actually gave me the like raised eyebrows when it was time to put the bag underneath his... holes. So, it wasn't even a problem.

Griffin: [laughs]

Travis: Oh, you just caught it? You caught it as it happened?

Griffin: I know you don't—you are not a dog owner. You're not a dog haver. That's not how anyone does it. No one walks around—

Travis: You don't just catch it as it comes out. It's not soft serve, my dude.

Griffin: Looking for facial cues for your dogs to be like, "Go ahead. Assume the position. Bag me up, bro."

Travis: You've returned to the Amphibofortress carrying with you a just fresh bag of Mud Puppy leavings. And you approach the door and begin to unlock it, when you hear behind you a loud... like an industrial like air blower kind of sound.

Justin: Behind me like on the street or inside the house?

Travis: Yes, on the street.

Justin: Okay.

Travis: On the street. Do you turn?

Justin: Obviously, yes. Assume, yeah. Just assume.

Travis: Okay.

Justin: If I hear a sound, like, I'm gonna look at it.

Travis: If you are on Roll20, make sure you're zoomed out.

Justin: Holy crap.

Travis: Yes, you turn, and behind you, you see the Amphiboforce's greatest enemy. He's got a suit made of like hair dryers and dryer hoses, and he's hovering above the ground. And behind him is his army of henchmen, known as the hot boys.

Griffin: So it's herr, H-E-R-R-

Travis: Correct.

Griffin: Dryer, and the hot boys.

Travis: And the hot boys.

Griffin: I have never felt so insecure about our lack of a team name. Because Herr Dryer and the hot boys is—

Justin: Herr and the hot boys is like-

Griffin: Shew... I want to join them, even though like the name of herr dryer is maybe a little problematic. But who am I—my name's Navy Seal, who am I to—

Justin: I don't think it's problematic to just be German. [chuckles]

Griffin: [guffaws]

Justin: [chuckles]

Griffin: Yeah... that's a good point. I guess I didn't think of herr as being just basically mister. I've only heard it coming out of the mouths of bad Indiana Jones guys.

Justin: [laughs]

Griffin: I've never really thought of the word as being just mister.

Justin: They've gotta come up with a name for those villains—

Travis: Yeah! They need some branding.

Griffin: Well, I mean, it's not as threatening if you just—like, this is Mr. Mueller. Like, it's not as like...

Lyle: Ah, man, please don't do this!

Herr Dryer: [spoofing German accent] Why? You are amphibious scum. It is I, Herr Dryer.

Lyle: Ah crap, man...

Herr Dryer: I have come to destroy my nemisis.

Lyle: No, man! Just listen, man. Don't—ah... listen.

Herr Dryer: Yeah?

Lyle: Can you not? Hey...

Herr Dryer: Sorry, who are you?

Lyle: Hey, it's me, man, it's Ax-o-Lyle. I'm an auxiliary member of the Amphiboforce.

Herr Dryer: Oh, you are new?

Lyle: No, I'm old. I'm old. They just don't have need of me a lot. I'm an extreme firefighter. I have arrested you twice?

Herr Dryer: Oh? Okay?

Lyle: I used to have a mullet.

Herr Dryer: Ah, yes!

Lyle: Yeah...

Herr Dryer: Yes! Yes.

Lyle: Listen, can you not do this? Because they are not here. You can't defeat 'em.

Herr Dryer: But you have to understand, I have brought my hot boys.

Lyle: Yeah, and it's great. It's great. But this is their pad, and they kind of let me—this is the first time I've been here, and they kind of gave me a big responsibility of like looking after—

Herr Dryer: [spoofing French accent] Wait, you have arrested—I am doing the wrong accent!

Clint: [chuckles]

Herr Dryer: I'm from all over Europe. So, you have arrested me twice, but you've never been in the building?

Griffin: You have never heard a German person speak in your life.

Clint: [titters]

Travis: No, that's correct.

Lyle: Well, one time it was a citizen's arrest. And but yeah, I mean, I don't get a big opportunity to hang together with them very often. And they—I'm trying to change that, man, trying to get in good with them. And they wanted me to sort of protect this spot. So don't... just whatever you're doing, just don't do it. Is I guess what I'm saying.

Herr Dryer: Let me talk to the hot boys real quick.

Griffin: There's 30 of them, by the way. People at home, there's 30 hot boys on this Roll20 map.

Justin: Identical hot boys.

Travis: Yeah. And he turns to them and says-

Justin: I mean, to me. You could probably tell each of them apart, they're like kids.

Travis: He turns them and he says:

Herr Dryer: [In Travis' regular voice] Okay, guys, so it turns out Amphiboforce isn't even here. What do you guys—

Justin: Is this what he talks like to the hot boys?

Travis: Yeah.

Justin: [chuckles]

Herr Dryer: What do you guys—what do you guys think?

Hot Boy: Yeah, sir, I don't so much—I—but are we settled on hot boys? Is that what...

Herr Dryer: Well, we took a vote, man? And you guys picked hot boys.

Hot Boy: Yeah, but the only other option was warm men, and it just doesn't—

Herr Dryer: Well, okay, yeah, we can talk about it back-but right now-

Griffin: "I liked warm men."

Herr Dryer: You liked warm men?

Griffin: "Because it sounds like—it sounds like war men. And that's pretty intimidating."

Herr Dryer: But that's confusing. Can't you see that, Derek? Because that doesn't fit in with like the theme.

Clint: "And what happened to your accent? Wait, why are you not speaking with an accent, boss?"

Herr Dryer: Oh, I'm—okay, for the last time. I'm not really German, right? But Mr. Dryer doesn't sound good. Herr Dryer sounds good. I'm from Nebraska, man.

Clint: "Another Nebraskan. Hm..."

Herr Dryer: I think we should still attack though, right?

Clint: "Oh, yeah."

Herr Dryer: Yeah? Hot boys, raise your hand-

Derek: Yeah, let's get-

Herr Dryer: Yeah, raise your hand if we should still attack.

Griffin: Derek raises his hand.

Travis: Okay. 25 of them raise their hands.

Herr Dryer: Now raise your hand if we shouldn't attack.

Clint: Kurt raises up his hand.

Herr Dryer: Kurt? Kurt...

Kurt: You asked for honest input.

Herr Dryer: You're right. You're right, Kurt. And I respect that. You'll still attack though if we all attack though, right?

Kurt: Oh, yeah. I mean-

Herr Dryer: Okay, cool.

Clint: That's the way Kurt operates.

Justin: Okay, while they're taking this—while they're doing this, I run back into the house and I scream:

Lyle: Everybody, Amphiboforce HQ maximum security engage!

Griffin: [titters]

Lyle: Lock it down!

Herr Dryer: Sorry, was something supposed to happen?

Clint: [laughs]

Lyle: Computer, identify voice!

Computer: Voice unidentified.

Lyle: Computer, identify Ax-o-Lyle?

Computer: Ax-o-Lyle... Ax-o-Lyle...

Lyle: Computer, identify Ax-o-Lyle, auxiliary member of Amphiboforce.

Computer: Oh... ah... we—um... um... calculating... uh, analyzing. Uh, boop-boop.

Lyle: Read all files beginning with A.

Clint: [chuckles]

Computer: Amphibian...

Clint: Aardvark...

Computer: Yeah, okay. Oh, here it is! Ax-o-Lyle, junior auxiliary member, third rank.

Lyle: I've actually been pushing it—yeah, but I have clearance to activate maximum security lockdown. Engage!

Travis: Derek, the hot boy, runs and goes:

Derek: Hey, Herr Dryer, I just wanted to let you know, you got 30 minutes to like clean all your stuff out and get out of here, and then we're gonna take the fortress. Okay?

Lyle: Engage?

Travis: Oh, the door slam shut. And Derek's like:

Derek: Okay, I just wanted to make sure!

Lyle: Lock it down!

[Abnimals theme music plays]

[dial tone]

Krillium: Hello, Mr. The Walrus. It's Krillium from work. I'm your henchman. Not that I'm wild about that title. Maybe Lieutenant? I mean, you would say Lieutenant—I'm getting distracted. Look, news. I followed Carver from Barker Industries, and I'm quite sure I have tracked him down to his hideout. So, well done me. Yeah, it's some kind of warehouse. Won't lie, quite disappointing. So... I was wondering what you wanted to do next. Should we capture him? I could get some help and capture Carver. And you're always saying I should take more initiative, so—okay, no, that's what I'm going to do. That's the plan.

I'm going to call Kravigail, see who's free, get everybody together, and then I'm going to capture Carver. Good, good! No, good. I will let you know how that goes. And don't you worry, sir, that video is as good as ours. As good as yours. It's your video, you've been very clear about that. So... well, I'll just sort of crack on. And if you get like five minutes, maybe just have a little think about my title? I don't know, captain? Captain Krillium sounds kind of—I don't want to give you the idea. It should be yours.

Right, I'll get on with that. Good. Okay. Love you. Bye, bye. Not love, I didn't mean to say love. Not love. Like, not love-love, I mean like work love. Respect, sort of. Just bye, really. I should have just said bye. Imagine I just said bye. I should just hang up. Okay, hanging up! That didn't work... Nope, you'd think this would just time out? I'm just gonna destroy this phone. I'll call you from another one. I can't stop this recording... so this is coming into the sea!

[break]

Maximum Fun. A work-owned network... Of artists-owned shows... Supported directly by you.