

Dungeons & Daddies

Dungeon Master: Anthony Burch

Taylor Swift: Freddie Wong

Lincoln Link Li-Wilson: Matt Arnold

Normal Oak: Will Campos

Scary Marlowe: Beth May

Season 2 Ep.21 - Finding Forest Her

Anthony: Dungeons and Daddies is a rowdy, horny, violent podcast for grownups. Content warnings can be found in the episode description.

[the following is a parody of "Welcome to the Black Parade" by My Chemical Romance, sung by Scary Marlowe]

Scary: When I was, a cool girl, some asshole, took me some place real shitty, to see a marching band.

Scary: He said "I think I'm dying, would you be, the leader of these losers in a pussywagon van?"

Scary: I said, "No way! Fuck those guys! I'm a loner! A poet and a goth girl, not the other girls."

Scary: But I think, to beat them, this stupid parade of fucking try-hards, and save this Doodlered world.

[guitar riff]

Scary: When I was! A cool girl! Some asshole! Took me some place real shitty! To see a marching band!

Scary: He said, "I think I'm dying! Would you be the leader of these losers in a pussywagon van!"

[music finishes, intro music plays]

Freddie: Welcome to Dungeons and Daddies, not a BDSM podcast. It's not that, it's a Dungeons and Dragons podcast!

Beth: Oh...!

Freddie: This is a story of four teens from our world—

Matt: I need to go get changed. I'll be right back.

[laughter]

Freddie: Just the sound of leather.

Matt: Sorry, I didn't get the memo.

Beth: Take the ball gag out of your mouth, Matt!

Matt: *[laughs]*

Freddie: Yeah, it's a podcast, people need to hear you clearly.

Matt: How am I still talking, though?

Freddie: Good question.

Beth: Practice.

Matt: This is your imagination.

[laughter]

Freddie: This is the story of—

Will: We didn't say what the ball was gagging.

Freddie: Uuah! This is the story of four teens from our world who have been transported back to our world to save it from an eldritch monster that was unleashed by their grandparents. Welcome back, Will. The last four episodes, I think, were all batch recorded, and now we are back!

Will: Yes, now there's— not to bury the lead, but there's two daddies on the podcast now.

Matt: That's right.

Beth: Wow!

Freddie: It is now a 40% dad podcast.

Matt: We'll get there. We'll get to a hundred percent someday.

Beth: What do you mean, 40%?

Anthony: Over my cast—

Beth: Am I a woman and not worth a percent to you?

Matt: *[laughs]* Wait, what—

Freddie: What are you talking about?

Beth: Smells like Mom Beth here. That's what it smells like.

Matt: No, there's two daddies...

Anthony: 20, 20, 20-20-20.

Freddie: Damn, women bad at math? Holy shit!

[laughter]

Freddie: We're cutting all of that, of course.

Beth: No! It's my Mom Beth joke!

Anthony: No, keep it in, that's great!

Freddie: Two out of five, Matt? Beth?

Beth: What?

Matt: *[laughs]* Matt-Beth?

Freddie: Two out of five people?

Anthony: That's 20%.

Matt: Know what? No, no- there's now—

Freddie: Two out of five is not 20.

Matt: No, no. It's 60%, because Freddie's just said—

Anthony: No, I'm saying each person is 20%.

Will: It's not 60%, it's 40%! Matt was just—

Matt: No, it's 60% now, because Freddie is an honorary dad, because he just called Beth, Matt.

[laughter]

Matt: Like all good dads do. He couldn't even remember the name of his children. So Freddie's now an honorary dad.

Freddie: 50% maybe.

Beth: I just want to say this to all my gals out there. It's fine to be mad— bad at math.

Freddie: And to be mad at Beth.

Beth: And to be mad at Matt.

[group laughter]

Will: Be mad at bath?

Freddie: My name is Freddie Wong. I play Taylor Swift, the Ice Cold cool ranger teen of the group.

Will: Ice cold! That's new!

Matt: Ice cold, that's new, yeah.

Freddie: I'm just trying adjectives, seeing what sticks.

Matt: I'm thirsty.

Freddie: Real spaghetti methodology for my characters. Taylor's rad fact this week, Taylor's favorite sushi... is salmon sushi. He just can't get enough of it.

Will: Mm, y'know, I respect that.

Matt: Yeah! It's good.

Will: Because you know what? It's the best sushi.

Beth: Yeah.

Freddie: I mean look. Freddie has a different sushi taste, but salmon is good. Y'know? Partly because, here's the thing, I think about this a lot with sushi. I'm like, yes, I feel bad about eating tuna, but at the same time, it's just like, last chance! You know what I'm saying?

Anthony: Why do you feel bad about eating tuna?

Freddie: Because it's like, y'know, contributing to... the depletion of tuna. And I feel like in 50 years we won't have tuna anymore.

Beth: That's true.

Anthony: Oh, I didn't know that.

Freddie: Yeah...

Anthony: You're an asshole.

Freddie: I know...

Matt: I like this fact. I was going to do something serious, but I think I'm just going to go on that.

Will: I'm loving this NPR-ass energy we've got this morning.

Matt: Yeah. Hey everybody, my name's—

Beth: I have a question, really quick.

Matt: Oh, okay.

Beth: Just for Taylor. What's Taylor's favorite hour? Is it midnight? Hmm! Is it? Is it?!

Freddie: I don't get it.

Matt: Taylor Swift, the new album, *Midnights*!

Will: Uh, excuse me?! It's a whole album!

Freddie: I don't get it.

Will: Called— came out!

Freddie: I don't get it.

Will: Mm, that's bait. That's bait.

Beth: He does—

Will: Don't give him an inch.

Freddie: *[laughs]*

Will: Don't give Freddie an inch. He knows what *Midnights* is.

Freddie: Alright, really quick, just what'd you think? What'd you think?

Beth: I like it.

Matt: Yeah, it's good.

Beth: I know a lot of people don't, but I don't care about those people.

Matt: What?

Freddie: A lot of people don't like that album?

Matt: A lot of people love it!

Beth: A lot. Yeah. I don't know.

Freddie: It's a return to form!

Beth: I'm just going off of what I hear on Twitter.

Matt: A return to form from Folklore?

Freddie: I'll tell you a little bit about Taylor Swift's midnights. It's spent in front of his computer in his room with the mood lighting on, and he's chowing down on some late night nigiri and watching animes.

Beth: Nice.

Matt: Taylor Swift can't return to form when she's been perfect every single album. Anyways, my name is Matthew Arnold.

Freddie: *[laughs]*

Matt: And I play Lincoln Li-Wilson, a schooled at home soccer kid who's a protective paladin of the group. And you know what? Freddie, I had another fact, but I think I'm just going to do your fact. And Lincoln's favorite sushi is a vegetable roll. That's...

[laughter]

Will: You chose violence this morning, Matthew.

Freddie: A vegetable role, huh?

Matt: Vegetable roll.

Freddie: Yeah.

Matt: The fish is icky!

[laughter]

Matt: It's not cooked! It's not cooked, what are you doing? Doesn't like it.

Will: Some cukes in there. Just some cucumbers?

Matt: Yeah, just some cucumbers and a little avocado—

Anthony: Avocado's good, yeah.

Matt: —if he's feeling spicy.

Beth: Yeah.

Matt: Yeah, vegetable roll. That's it.

Will: Alright. I respect it.

Freddie: What's funny is that I have a reason for this dad fact, and it's going to come to play here in this episode very shortly.

Matt: No mine, nope. I figure, I think things might get serious with Grant, anyways. So keepin' it loose.

Will: Keep it light.

Freddie: Keep it light touch, got it.

Matt: Vegetable roll.

Freddie: Got it, veggie rolls.

Will: Hey everyone, I'm Will Campos. I play Normal Oak, a mixed up mascot kid who doesn't know who he is anymore. Teen fact this week about Normal. This one's for you Freddie.

Freddie: Yay!

Will: That raccoon that Normal found, that he befriended a couple of teen facts ago, it's actually not a raccoon, it's a going on dog.

Freddie: What's a going on dog?

Beth: Oh...!

Will: Not much, dog!

Freddie: [*wordless yell*]

Matt: Oh!

Will: [*yelling*] What's a going on with you, bitch?! Haha!

Matt: Are you serious?

Beth: I can't—!

Freddie: [*screams*]

Anthony: Did you seriously fall for that?

Matt: Did you seriously fall for that?

Beth: I can't believe you walked right into that!

Anthony: You can actually fell for that?

Will: [*supervillain victory laughter*]

Matt: Are you serious?!

Anthony: Oh my god, Freddie is full on doing... the Evangelion Shinji, like—

Beth: Oh, no...!

Anthony: —doubled over in his chair, clutching his head.

Will: [*laughs*]

Freddie: [*off-mic yelling*]

Anthony: He literally looks like he has to go pilot the Eva right now.

Freddie: [*yells*]

Will: [*yelling*] Yes!

Anthony: I can't believe that!

Freddie: [*yelling, off-mic*] What!?

Matt: Will, you found his perfect weakness. You found like the moment...

Anthony: Oh my God.

Matt: ...his defenses were down!

Will: All right. So here's the real story. I became—

Freddie: *[yelling from off-mic]* God damn it!

Will: *[laughs]*

Anthony: How did you fall for it?

Matt: How did you fall for that?

Freddie: *[yelling from off-mic]* I don't know! I don't know! It was a moment of weakness!

[laughter]

Anthony: Oh, man...

Freddie: Jesus Christ!

Will: So, um. Here's the story of that dad fact. Last month I became a father. My wife and I had our beautiful baby boy, Andy. He's doing well. Everyone's doing great. I have been thinking about what my dad fact was going to be for a month straight while sleep deprived and pacing around back and forth. And I was like, "I feel like I got one chance here to really pull something over on somebody." And I thought of this going on dog thing. I was like, "Wait a sec," 'cause Freddie up dogged...

Matt: Mhm.

Will: ...me two decades ago, I swear to God, 10, 12 years ago.

Matt: Oh my God.

Beth: Damn.

Will: He got me with just straight up updog and I was like, I will have my revenge one day.

Freddie: Wait, do you remember that? I don't remember that.

Will: I'd never heard updog before. And then you just up dogged me, and then everyone laughed at me, and I've been holding a grudge—

Anthony: The day Freddie updogged you, it was the most important day of your life.

[group laughter]

Anthony: To him, it was Tuesday.

Freddie: [laughing] For me it was a Tuesday.

Will: And I was like, "I bet my first fact back, everyone's going to be wondering what it is. He's going to say something about having a kid." And I'm like, "Oh wait, I'll call Freddie out specifically. I'll reel—

Freddie: Oh...! That's what— That's the mo—!

Will: "I'll reel him in!"

Freddie: That was the move.

Beth: Damn.

Freddie: That's what got me, dude.

Will: Anyway. I can die now. I'm quitting the podcast now.

Matt: Wow.

Freddie: Fuck bro, just like James Earl Jones used to say, dude. [*James Earl Jones impression*] "The circle is now complete."

Matt: I just watched an assassination. You know those videos that nobody moves? Like we all just sat here and watched Freddie get murdered.

Will: Those three seconds before a disaster happened videos.

Matt: Yeah.

Freddie: Holy shit.

Will: Anyway.

Freddie: Do I need to turn back in my podcaster card?

Will: [laughs]

Beth: I think so.

Matt: I think so.

Freddie: I need to go back to the Podcasters Guild and tell them that I've been forcibly ejected by an updog joke?

Anthony: *[laughs]*

Beth: Hi.

Freddie: *[agonized scream]*

Beth: ...Hi.

Freddie: Fuck you, Will!

Will: *[laughs]* Hi Beth, how are you?

Matt: Hi Beth.

Beth: Hi, I'm Beth, May, and I play *[intensely]* Scary Marlowe.

[gasps]

Matt: *[straight-up Halloween witch screams]*

Beth: *[laughs]* That's right, 'tis the season.

Matt: That was my scream scween. Queen.

Beth: It's Halloween.

Anthony: Bw— *[laughs]*

Beth: I know that this is coming out—

Freddie: *[laughing]* What Matt?

Matt: *[laughing]* That was my scream queen.

Beth: Matt is the scream queen. Yes. Go Matt. Okay.

Matt: Sorry.

Beth: I know this is coming out after Halloween—

Matt: Oh, no.

Beth: —but it's before Halloween for us. So *[wibbly]* ooh...!

Freddie: Ah!

Matt: Oh!

Anthony: Have a [*wibbly*] spooky Thanksgiving!

Beth: Yes...! Oh my gosh. Such a scary holiday! Anyways. I—

Freddie: Make sure the turkey hits an internal temperature—!

Beth: —play a goth punk seeker of darkness who's not like other warlocks.

Freddie: Huh!

Beth: Fun fact about Scary this week, actually a twofer. A twofer...

Freddie: Oh...!

Beth: ...is that Scary still plays the Wordle. Yep. It's still going on.

Will: Wow!

Matt: It's still around.

Will: Are they out of words by now?

Beth: Nope. They've done a lot of words, but not every word.

Matt: They keep making new ones.

Will: What's her go-to starter word?

Freddie: Scary.

Beth: Yeah, she loses every time.

Freddie: What?!

Beth: Because her six guesses are always the same. Awful, angry, annoying, cruel, gross, inane. She has gotten it right six times.

[*group laughter*]

Anthony: That day she got it in one, she must have felt pretty good.

Beth: Yup.

Freddie: All over the socials on that one.

Anthony: I'm Anthony Burch. I'm your dad.

Freddie: Hey dad!

Anthony: Today's dad fact is that in order to help everybody remember the fact that Hermie the Unworthy is technically part of the party, I bought a The Joker standee. And-

Will: *[giggles]*

Freddie: Yes. And you've been keeping it at my place.

Anthony: I've been keeping it at Freddie's place.

Freddie: Much to the consternation of anybody who comes to visit.

Matt: And we had to move him so he's easier for me to see.

Anthony: Next to Freddie's beautiful pottery that Freddie has slaved over for hours... I have a little joker standee that he's is just a little freaky guy.

Beth: He's just a lil' guy!

Anthony: He's just a little freak of the week.

Somebody way off-mic: Taylor?

Anthony: Yeah. He loves Taylor the most. I take him off of Freddie's beautiful shelf of pottery every time we record—this is the first time—so that everyone will know that Hermie's around. If people... mention Hermie more, that's why. Because we now have visual aid.

Matt: This joker's pose is very like, aggre— He's leaning forward.

Will: He's doing that Michael Jackson lean forward. Do you know what I mean? The one where we had to nail his shoes to the ground or whatever?

Beth: No, it looks like his mama is like, just holding him up, and he's got like got baby legs.

Freddie: We'll take a picture. We'll post it on our social media account.

Anthony: This was just the pose that was easiest to fit him into the thingy, because he falls over a lot.

Matt: Love it.

Anthony: Because he's just a little guy...!

Matt: He's Hermie.

Beth: He's just a little guy.

Matt: He's just a little guy. Hermie, don't fall over. Now I like him.

Beth: We need a Joker movie where the Joker's just a little guy!

[chuckles]

Anthony: I think the movie you're thinking of is Ted.

[laughter]

[intro music plays]

Anthony: So the last time we left you Ding Dongs, you were headed to the Undergrove with Grant. He had a parcel with him. He picked the lock on a door made out of meat that was down a long flight of stairs. You seem to know more about his plans regarding the sun and killing the Doodler than he would've liked. He opened the door to do something. He told you to close your eyes, and right before I could explain what it was, Beth said something about a fleshlight and I decided I didn't want to do the show anymore.

[laughter]

Beth: Damn.

Anthony: That week. So I-

Matt: That's actually why we took a month break. It wasn't for Will's kid.

Anthony: Yeah, I needed time.

Matt: We really had to convince Anthony to come back after that.

Anthony: Yeup. They had—

Will: We had Brennan Lee Mulligan on the line and everything.

[laughter]

Anthony: Yeah, he was on speed dial. Your eyes are closed, and immediately overwhelmed with this bright orange color. You feel a warmth on your face that is unusual, and you feel a nostalgia for, not a memory that really even happened, but a memory of you seeing a future memory inside of Tilt Toblarona brain.

Scary: Damn. Do you ever have nostalgia for a thing you didn't even experience?

Link: Yeah.

Taylor: Le wrong generation. Am I right?

Scary: Yeah.

Link: It's like when you remember what an N64 game looks like, and then you look back at what it actually looked like, but it's like you're still nostal— It's not what it was.

Normal: All I'm thinking about is the happiness and warmth I get from watching the Annoying Orange on YouTube.

[laughter]

Normal: My favorite classic film series on Turner Classic movies, the YouTube channel.

Taylor: Oh, you got the Criterion box set?

Anthony: Wow...

Taylor: In the shape of an orange?

Anthony: It's really hard to keep on a shelf. So eventually Grant says—

Grant: I think you can open your eyes now.

Anthony: And when you do, for the first time in your lives, you're getting vitamin D.

Freddie: Ah! But that's where my dad fact trap card comes into play! Nothing is affected by Taylor, because vitamin D is abundant in sushi, and salmon specifically. That's right, Anthony! That is the exact reason why I picked the sushi dad fact for salmon. Taylor will be unaffected by the presence of the sun! Matt, on the other hand! Who contribu— who only has vegetable sushi rolls, is suffering!

Beth: Damn.

Anthony: Alright.

Matt: We all take vitamins.

[*all laughing*]

Anthony: Yeah, you all were raised on Flintstone's gummies.

Beth: Aw!

Anthony: You see the sun! You can't look directly at it, obviously.

Taylor: Ehh!

Anthony: It is smaller than you saw in the memory of the future. And it is hovering at the top of a very, very tall cavern. It immediately grabs your attention, because it is obviously the brightest and warmest thing in the room. But as your eyes acclimate, you look down and you see that the floor is glistening and wet and red and seems to be made primarily of meat. You see long tendrils...

Freddie: Guh!

Matt: Uh!

Anthony: ...long veins, almost tentacles, throbbing and pulsating along the ground.

Normal: It's so beautiful, and so weird and disgusting. Just like the annoying orange!

Freddie: [*laughs*]

Anthony: And once you look away from the sun, you realize you were inside a massive—

Freddie: Which you shouldn't be looking at, by the way.

Anthony: Which you shouldn't be looking directly at. Grant immediately goes—

Grant: Don't look at it. Don't look at it. Look away from it.

Matt: Link's just staring straight at it.

Anthony: He goes—

Link: Oh my god...

Grant: No, Link, no!

Link: It's a—

Anthony: And he tries to push your head down and block the sun with his hand.

Freddie: Can we roll to see how much eye damage Link just did to himse— like if he has a—

Anthony: Yeah, roll Constitution.

Matt: [*dice roll*] I got a 5.

Anthony: You got a 5? Okay. So yeah. You look way too hard. And for the entire rest of the episode, when you blink, you get a big old white circle in the center of your vision, and anything that's going to require you to do something long distance, you're going to do with some disadvantage.

Matt: Okay.

Anthony: Grant's not quick enough to make you look away from it, but yeah, you look around, you see that this is a massive cavern. It's a studio apartment style, real open office plan, kind of a cavern.

[*laughter*]

Beth: Wow!

Anthony: Just one big huge cavernous room with this sun at the top beaming sunlight down on everything beneath it. And what is beneath it, you ask?

Matt: So the sun is small.

Anthony: Yes. Yes. As I was saying before—

Matt: Oh...

Freddie: Oh...!

Anthony: —it's not the size of the sun you saw in your memory. It is a small— From where you are, it looks like it might be the size of a basketball or something.

Matt: Oh, but if I use a ruler...!

Freddie: But it is as bright as the sun, though, right?

Anthony: It is the same brightness as if you were outside and the sun was at it's normal human...

Freddie: Got it, got it, got it...

Matt: Nice.

Anthony: You're not getting burned up, you're not in danger or anything like that.

Matt: Yeah. OKay.

Freddie: Are we getting a little tan?

Anthony: I guess if you stayed here for long enough, yeah.

Link: I feel so powerful!

Anthony: You're all pretty pale comparatively. So I think yeah, you're probably—

Scary: Yeah. Get this thing away from me.

Taylor: Yeah, I don't like it.

Anthony: As Grant tries to lead you forward across the slick, meaty, wet ground, you also see some trees idling every few steps along the ground. And Grant puts his fingers to his lips and he says—

Grant: [*whispers*] They're sleeping.

Anthony: And he tries—

Normal: [*whispers*] They're sleeping? The trees are sleeping?

Link: [*quietly*] What?

Scary: [*quietly*] Trees?

Normal: [*whispers*] Mr... What's your last name, again, Link? [*speaking*] Mr. Wilson?

Grant: [*whispers*] Wilson.

Link: Wilson.

Grant: [*whispers*] Yes. The trees are sleeping. Don't—

Link: Dad, what's that big bright thing?

Normal: Yeah, what's going on?

Link: It's like a super light! My eyes hurt now.

Grant: Yeah, don't look at it.

Normal: What is that thing?

Grant: Uh, y'know, it's a star? It's a sun... Not like a you...

Taylor: Like a Hatsune Miku?

Link: When I close my eyes I still see it.

Grant: Yeah, no, that's okay. That's okay. It'll pass—

Taylor: It's haunted your eyeballs!

Link: I can't— Wherever—

Grant: [*whispering*] Quiet!

Taylor: It's a ghost!

Link: Wherever I look...

Anthony: Roll a Stealth with disadvantage, Taylor.

Freddie: Taylor's just so pumped at the idea that there was a ghost.

Will: Taylor Swift really wondering if, uh, we're, uh, out of the woods yet.

Beth: Mm...!

Matt: Mm...

Freddie: Sh... Mm. Will.

Will: Did you hear her new song, Hey, What's Up Dog?

Freddie: Go fuck yourself.

Will: [*laughs*]

Beth: Freddie says it smells like wrong dog in here.

[*giggles*]

Anthony: Freddie, you want to roll the Bofa?

[chuckles]

Freddie: [dice roll] 1+4, 16.

Anthony: Okay. So yeah, you managed to stay quiet as you continued forward.

Freddie: Ehehehehe.

Anthony: So Grant is holding this parcel to his stomach, and he is basically saying like—

Grant: [quietly] Okay, so we're going to meet somebody. And I just need you to just be chill, be cool, don't freak out.

Scary: [quietly] Waoh, are they like, a celebrity?

Grant: [quietly] Yeah, kind of, I guess? I don't know.

Scary: [quietly] Oh, cool.

Link: [quietly] Hey, as like, another family of yours, or is that another big lie that you have?

Normal: [quietly] Oh, damn.

Link: Just like, y'know.

Taylor: [quietly] Oh shit.

Link: What is it?

Taylor: [quietly] Oh shit.

Grant: [quietly] What are you t—? I don't have another family. You're my only family. You and Marco are only family. What are you talking about?

Link: Oh, I don't know. Just, the floodgates are open, sir! So I just, once you lied, who knows what— you told me— Yeah, I mean this sun hurts my eyes! You didn't tell me about that. Oh you did. But you know...

Grant: [quietly] I did tell you that. And sometimes little white lies can protect the people that we care about from the...

Link: [affronted gasp] [quietly] You never said that! That's the opposite of what you would tell me. Anytime I would try to take a cookie or eat something, you'd be like, "You got to tell the truth!"

Grant: Y-yes.

Link: [*quietly*] No essentially is a white lie!

Normal: [*quietly*] Every time you tried to eat something?

Link: Any, well, when I wasn't—

Taylor: Any time?

Link: In between—

Grant: [*quietly*] No, not any ti— I let him— I feed him!

Link: Yeah!

Grant: He gets to eat.

Link: In between meal times, because I get a little hungry. Between meal times.

Taylor: Hermie, start taking notes. There may be a case building here.

Hermie: Mm, mm, mm!

Normal: Oh that's right, Hermies here. I forgot, he's such a lil' guy!

Hermie: You thought I was a tree, didn't you? Let me make like a tree and take some notes on this horrible father situation.

Link: Alright let's go meet the stranger.

Scary: What trees take notes? ...So there.

Link: Is that a riddle?

Hermie: No.

Scary: No. I was just like, why?

Link: What trees take notes?

Anthony: Matt, what? Were you going to say?

Matt: I don't know. I like the "what trees take notes?"

Will: [*laughs*]

Anthony: No!

Freddie: You got Matt with a riddle! I hate to break it to you...

Anthony: It's not a riddle! I was trying to come up with a joke, and it wasn't a joke!

Freddie: Ah... yet riddles upon riddles!

Anthony: Okay. At the far end of this cavern, you can see an old decrepit woman sitting on a throne of what looks to be glistening, uncooked, steak. And she is asleep.

Link: Who's that, dad?

Grant: That's an old friend of dad's.

Link: Mhm.

Taylor: What kind of friend?

Link: Never mentioned her.

Taylor: Hm...

Grant: I mean, do you tell me about all your friends— Yeah, you do.

Link: Yeah! I tell you everything.

[laughter]

Grant: Yeah, you do. You absolutely do.

Link: Yeah, I tell you everything. We're supposed to tell each other everything.

Grant: I know everything about your day when you come home.

Scary: Well, ma—

Normal: Mr. Wilson, what has he said about me?

Freddie: [laughs]

Grant: Uh...

Link: Go ahead, Dad. Tell him.

Grant: Yeah. He's—

Link: I don't care anymore. Actually, no, don't tell him.

Grant: Okay! I won't tell him.

Link: Only good things.

Normal: Wha—? But— does— but—

Taylor: There are—

Grant: See? Now we're talking about—

Scary: That's...

Grant: Now you understand the white lies.

Scary: White lies, yeah.

Link: [*gasps*]

Normal: [*horrified gasp*]

Grant: Sometimes it's good to spare people's feelings.

Link: Look what you've done. Look what you've done, Dad. I've already breaking my— I can't even, I've said so many bad things about you.

Normal: You have?!

Link: Well, I didn't like you at first. I didn't like anybody.

Anthony: Okay—

Link: He told me that all you all, you all dangerous.

Anthony: Now you stealth.

Will: Uu—!

Freddie: [*laughs*]

Anthony: Normal.

Scary: Maybe this is somebody in his journal.

Anthony: With disadvantage.

Will: [*two dice rolls*] I got a... 6!

Anthony: Okay! So with a 6: Next to you, the trees rustle, their leaves shake back and forth, and you hear a creaking noise, and the tree starts to rise up, and you see that its roots sort of form legs.

Will: [*gasps*]

Anthony: And they stand up on either side of you.

Scary: Woah...

Anthony: And they lean down, and one pulls an arm back as if to swing at you, grab at you, maybe... Who knows.

Freddie: High five you.

Anthony: What are you going to do?

Will: I'm going to be like—

Normal: Don't do that! Hey, wait, tree, no, don't hit me!

Anthony: So Grant is going to... pop the top of the gift box. And if anybody wants to roll Perception, maybe you can sneak a look at what's inside the parcel.

Beth: Sure.

Matt: Yes.

Freddie: [*dice roll*] Ah, it's a 9.

Anthony: You don't see shit.

Will: [*dice roll*] 16.

Beth: [*dice roll*] I got a 12.

Matt: [*dice roll*] 17.

Anthony: Half of you see that inside there are two items. One of them looks kind of like Batman's grapnel gun. It's like a little gun with a three claw hook on the end. And the other is what looks to be a small flamethrower. Like a really handheld, just like it looks like a super soaker, but with a lighter on the end. And he holds it up and points it at the tree. And he goes—

Grant: Everybody be cool. Be cool. We just want to talk to Erin. Don't—fuck—

Scary: Erin...

Grant: Keep your fuckin' distance.

Anthony: So he is going to roll Intimidation to see if he can get them to not fuck wi'chou.

Scary: Maybe we should make a tree and leave. *[laughs]*

Taylor: Ha. Nice.

Scary: *[quietly]* Fuck.

Link: Is there like, any trees that are named after teachers, or anybody who takes notes?

[dice roll]

Will: *[wheezy laugh]*

Anthony: So he got a... Shut up!

[group laughter]

Anthony: So he got a 10. Which is not enough. So the tree reaches down and grabs Grant around his stomach and squeezes. And he's going to roll Constitution to see if he can wriggle free.

Freddie: See if he poops a little bit.

Anthony: *[dice roll]* He gets a 2. He drops the flame thrower.

Scary: Oh no.

Anthony: He drops the parcel as well. And he says—

Grant: Shit, guys, get out of here. Get out of—

Anthony: He looks at you Link, and he goes—

Grant: Go. Go, go, go, go, go, go.

Matt: I'll grab the flame thrower.

Anthony: Okay.

Matt: I go—

Link: [*stutters*] Put down my dad! He's been— he's been bad, but this isn't how we punish— loo— I'm going to burn you!

Anthony: The tree looks at you, and then just turns and starts—with your dad in hand—starts walking towards Erin.

Taylor: Fire warning shot!

Scary: Hey lady, help!

Erin: Huuh?

Anthony: So in the far distance you see this woman like—

Erin: Uh, uh?

Anthony: And looks around. But the tree ignores your warning, and starts walking in the opposite direction towards this woman on the meat throne. What are you going to do?

Matt: I'm just following and being like—

Link: I'm- I'm gonna do it!

Matt: And I'm looking back at all of you, it's like—

Link: [*quietly*] I don't want to do this. [*speaking*] I'm going to— just keep walking!

Freddie: Taylor's like—

Taylor: Do it!

Link: Keep walking, sir or missus!

Taylor: Do it! You've got to show that you mean business in a hostage situation.

Link: [*pathetic sound*]

Matt: I look for the most overreaching branch, like the last leaf. That's like so far away from everything else. Like—

Anthony: Oh, Henry's famous short story.

Matt: And I just do a little like—

[laughter]

Matt: I just do a little like... *pshh!* Y'know, when you're trying to get the gasoline to exactly \$4, the tiniest little trigger squeeze? It's like— *ptoooh!*

Anthony: Alright.

Matt: Just trying to do a little bit of a flame on one leaf.

Anthony: Roll Dexterity. See if you have the trigger discipline.

Matt: [dice roll] Ooh. A 16.

Anthony: 16! Okay. So with a 16, you light that entire branch on fire. It's a smaller branch it's like a couple twigs and stuff associated. And the tree stops what it's doing, and with its other hand, swats at the fire, grabs it, breaks it off and throws it on the ground, then stamps it out. But it stops and it looks at you with a little bit more of a wary kind of posture.

Link: Yeah!

Anthony: And it cocks its head at you as if to ask y'know... what?

Matt: What up?

Freddie: What gives, bro?

Link: Well, yeah! Just, y'know, hey, there's more where that— I don't want to use it, but I will! Just put down my dad and we can talk it out. I'm mad at him too, so maybe we'll— maybe we'll have some common ground, and we can talk about what he did wrong.

Anthony: So the tree arches its back. You hear the sound of creaking wood, and several trees behind you also get to their feet. And they start approaching you, and you find yourself about to be surrounded.

[ad break]

Normal: Uh...! Uh!

Taylor: Back to back! Back To back!

Scary: Okay.

Link: Hey!

[laughter]

Link: Dad, what should we do?

Freddie: Could you imagine the Avengers...

Link: We're surrounded, Dad!

Grant: I told you to run— Oh, kill one of them and then run through the corpse to get out of here.

Link: But how about you?

Grant: Don't worry about me. I- I'll be fine.

Scary: Well, okay. Who's in charge of these trees?

Grant: Her!

Anthony: He says—

Scary: Yo, lady, get your trees to stop messing with us!

Anthony: Why don't you roll a Persuasion.

Beth: [dice roll] 16.

Anthony: 16?

[appreciative 'ooh']

Beth: +5.

[appreciative 'oooh!'s]

Anthony: Geez Louise. Okay. So even from this distance, your voice booms out—maybe a little bit reminiscent of when Ron would use thaumaturgy to make his voice louder generations ago, not that you would know that. Your voice booms out, and this small woman in the other end of the chamber slams a staff against the ground and the trees turn to all look towards her. And she puts her hands out and does a 'come hither' gesture with her hands. And the tree puts Grant down and starts walking towards the throne while still sort of... It's hard to tell because they don't have faces, but you get the feeling that they're all still looking at you, even as they walk and they're surrounding you as one escorts towards the throne.

Link: Scary, you're such a leader. Look at that.

Scary: *[sighs]*

Anthony: As you approach the throne you see that this woman has grayish, reddish hair. She is hunched over, She has dead dried flowers all over her dress. She's still very pretty, despite the fact that she seemingly has been living underground for a very long time. And she says—

Erin: *[Erin now has Anthony's 'creaky old woman' voice]* Oh... look who it is, Mr... Shit, f— Oh God, I've had so long to fucking think of a thing to say when you came back.

[group laughter]

Erin: Oh! I fucked it up. No! You're the worst. You're the worst! You suck! I hate you. Give me a good reason not to kill you, Mr. Wilson.

Anthony: And Grant goes—

Grant: I've got a deal! I got a deal! I- *[stutters]* I have an idea that everything can all— Everything can be fine! It'll all be good.

Anthony: She says—

Erin: Oh... I don't think so.

Anthony: And she casts a spell with her fingers. She twiddles her fingers in the air. She looks into his mind and she sees that he is lying. And she says—

Erin: No, no, no, I don't think I'll be making any deals with you today. Who are these adorable little ones!

Anthony: And she starts approaching you with her arms outstretched, like a granny who wants to go in for some hugs, or pinch some cheeks. And she goes—

Erin: Which one is yours? Oh, oh...

Link: Oh, I'm Mr. Wilson... I'm his kid!

Erin: Oh! Hello, hello! A pleasure to meet you! I may have to kill your father.

Link: W-what? Uhm...

Erin: But! But, you're welcome to stay here if you like!

Link: After you kill him?

Erin: I mean forever!

Link: No, I mean, we're here because we're trying to save— So it sounds like we know that my dad and all the other dads did some bad stuff, but we're in charge now, and he just stepped out of line, and we're here to try to fix things, so like—

Erin: Ah, so it sounds like it should be you I should be negotiating with. Is that correct?

Link: Oh y-yeah! Uh, me...

Scary: He's our leader.

Link: Yeah. Me, and my co-leader Scary.

Scary: [*pained groan*]

Freddie: [*laughs*]

Erin: Ah! Ah!

Link: We're kind of a dynamic duo. And then we got our three followers here.

Taylor: Followers?

Link: Yeah.

Taylor: I'm your right hand man, the trigger man if you will. The hatchet man!

Anthony: Hermie says—

Hermie: I am definitely a follower. Yes. Thank you.

Normal: And me, I'm just sort of following my own path right now. I'm trying to figure myself out. But I guess I'd sort of like, would you guys consider me a hype man, or like a... sort of a strategy development person? I don't know, but I'm involved!

Hermie: I think you're the heart of the group.

Normal: Interesting...

Link: Hm...

Hermie: That's what I, Hermie, would say.

Freddie: Taylor leans in and whispers—

Taylor: He's the ideas guy.

Anthony: So Erin says—

Erin: Ah! Well. Let me explain the landscape you find yourself on for this upcoming negotiation. Please sit.

Taylor: Eugh...

Anthony: And as she says that, a bunch of little cubes of meat rise out of the ground at roughly butt height. And she goes—

Erin: Please sit!

Anthony: And the trees put their branches on you and force you down into the seat.

Freddie: Oh, like a roller coaster? Like a dune buggy...

Beth: Damn.

Freddie: ...at fuckin, you know what I'm saying, the lap bar that comes out?

Anthony: Yeah. Kind of like that.

Freddie: It's like, "Don't lower. The ghosts will do it for you!"

Anthony: Yeah.

Beth: [*wibbly*] Oh...!

Anthony: So she says—

Erin: I'm presuming that you know that father and his friends decided to put the Doodler into our world to save their own world. And what they maybe did not—or maybe they did consider—is the fact that doing so would blot out our sun, which my children, my family—

Anthony: She says gesturing at the trees.

Erin: —need for light. So it took a great deal of effort, it took a great deal of magic, but I managed to somehow reach beyond the veil of the Doodler's butt, grab the sun, and bring it back here down to size. Though in so doing, I lost my love, or whatever relationship that Erin O'Neil and Vince have in real life, that's what this is. I don't want to like... say it's one thing and then it changes—

Matt: That's right they're named after people!

Erin: —and then the podcast is awkward for you guys forever. I should have never named you after real people. But whatever your relationship currently is, that's what your relationship is here.

Freddie: *[laughs]*

Erin: We have to live down here subsisting only on the light from this miniaturized sun, and from all of the moisture we can gather from the meat. From all of the people...

Link: Whu—?

Erin: ...that we meatify.

Scary: Oh...

Taylor: Meatify?

Link: Wait, what?

Normal: You— now, you had me up until that last part.

Scary: Yeah, until the meatify part.

Link: What, yeah, why do you need the meat—

Erin: Well, have to eat. We need water. Water is sorely lacking in this world. And so sometimes we go out and we collect the meat.

Link: But—

Scary: I thought you would've been like a vegetarian or something, because of all these—

Erin: Why would I be a vegetarian? My children are plants!

Scary: Oh, yeah...!

Erin: I don't eat my children. Would you?

Scary: Yeah. No, I don't know—

Erin: Meat only.

Scary: —it depends. I don't know. How tasty are my children?

Erin: Ew!

Taylor: Ew.

Scary: No, I mean like, if my children were like... nerds ropes, I would eat them.

Erin: Ew!

Link: You would eat your kids, Scary?

Scary: Well, I didn't know that they weren't like nerds ropes.

Normal: Ew, Scary. You like nerds ropes?

Freddie: *[laughs]*

Link: Yeah.

Normal: Disgusting.

Link: That's the worst of all candies.

Normal: Even I don't eat nerds ropes, come on.

Scary: Whatever. Stop bullying me.

Erin: So.

Scary: Oh my gosh.

Erin: Your father came back to—

Scary: This is so cruel. Did you see the way that they were just talking to me? Like, like—

Link: You were going to eat your kids.

Erin: You were talking about eating your kids.

Scary: They were talking about me like, less than them.

Erin: Don't look at me because I'm the only other woman in this situation, like I'm going to be on your side.

[laughter]

Scary: Fuck! God! Oh, my gosh. Women are so mean to other women. It's really hard to catch a break, it's like we're always trying to compare each other or something.

Erin: No, there's no comparison. We're pretty different. You just said you eat kids.

Scary: Yeah, whatever. I'm prettier than you, so shut the fuck up.

Erin: Wow! Wow!

Link: Okay. So I get what you've done. It's a nice, y'know, for you. This seems like a nice place. Good job. But—

Erin: Thank you.

Link: Yeah, I guess.

Normal: Hit her with the compliment sandwich. Get her, Link.

Taylor: Get her with the sandwich, dude!

Link: And Dad, this seems like you've been on a quest, and you've gone here. So that's a good job for you, too.

Grant: Not really a compliment. Just sort of said what I was just— yep.

Link: Well, you- not everybody makes it to the end of their journey. And now you're both here. And we... need to know what both of you are trying to do—

Erin: Of course.

Link: so that we can do the better thing.

Erin: Of course, of course, of course.

Link: Because that's why we're here, because you both have done a lot of... You're murdering people! I'm on people it seems like. So that's fucked up.

Erin: We don't murder people. We eat 'em.

Link: I'm trying to hang that together.

Erin: It's not murder if you eat them.

Link: I still see a sun in my eye- -

Normal: Did you just say it's not murder if you eat them?

Erin: Yeah!

Link: What?

Erin: You ever eat a hamburger? Do you say you've murdered the cow? No.

Normal: I mean, but the cow—

Scary: It's the same thing with nerds ropes.

Link: The cows aren't people.

Erin: You know what? Now we're on the same page.

[laughter]

Erin: Now I like you.

Scary: Yes!

Erin: Girls stick together, back to backs.

Scary: Yes we do. Hell yeah.

Erin: Cross our- cross our arms. Foot back to back.

Scary: Yes, bestie.

Erin: Bestie! I can tell you exactly what your father wants, and Father, please feel free to tell me if I'm wrong at any point. Yeah, I got a British accent in the intervening years. I thought it would be a fun thing to do.

[group laughter]

Anthony: And Grant looks at her nervously, and she says—

Erin: Grant Wilson was here to pretend to do some sort of deal to help my people find a new home for themselves. But in reality he was, let's see, let's see...

Anthony: And she looks through his little parcel, and she goes—

Erin: Ah!

Anthony: And she opens and closes the claws on the little grapnel gun thing. And she goes—

Erin: This seems like it's made for...

Anthony: And she taps the end of it.

Erin: Ah, heat seeking. Yes. You were going to take our sun, weren't you? You're going to take our globe, our light, our giving energy.

Taylor: Wait, you were?

Anthony: And Grant averts his eyes when she says that.

Taylor: Your dad was going to kidnap another kid?

Erin: No— S.U.N.

Taylor: Oh...! All right! I'm back up to speed. Go on.

Erin: Yes. He was coming here to take our sun from us for some nefarious purposes I can only guess at. Whereas I, all I've ever wanted was one of two things. I wanted either a path open to hell, where my children could live in eternity, because the hell fire is not dissimilar from the fire of the sun, incidentally. Or for a portal to be opened back to where we came from initially, from our original world. I miss... that.

Link: So you're saying if we could get you... Just, if we're trying to get you both what you want, Dad, you want the sun. ...Right? That's what you're here for?

Grant: Yeah.

Link: Okay. Not going to lie? That's what you're here for, right?

Grant: Yeah.

Link: Okay. The sun. Okay, cool. And you want to go to hell, right? That's what you just said? Ma'am?

Scary: Or go back to the other place.

Erin: Yes.

Link: Yeah, but I don't want her where I live. Look at—

Normal: Woah!

Link: She makes meat people.

Taylor: Woah!

Link: She makes meat people! What, oh, you want to live here? Literally we're sitting on, people! Norm!

Normal: Yeah, but she's only eating people because she doesn't have a... She got to! Right?

Taylor: Never thought Lincoln—

Erin: He gets it! This one gets it, too. Back to back bestie?

Link: Oh so if you're...

Normal: Yeah!

Link: Not my backyard! I don't want anybody eating meat—

[group laughter]

Link: I don't want people who eat me in my backyard.

Freddie: Literally, I was trying to make the NIMBY joke at the same time.

Link: Look, okay, so you're saying if you came back to our world, you wouldn't eat people.

Erin: If we went back to your world, I don't know if we would need to.

Link: Oh, oaky.

Erin: Because our world already had a lot of inherent magics in it.

Anthony: And Grant says—

Erin: No you can't. I've told you a million times that you can't. If you tried to go through, that's too many people. That's too much at once. It could break the barrier between the realms. The realms could combine, and then the Doodler would see everything. It's the thing that-that Terry, that your, Scary, sorry, that your dad said.

Link: Okay, Dad, ground yourself, Dad. Ground yourself. Okay?

Scary: He's not my dad!

Grant: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. 6—

Link: Okay. So—

Anthony: He starts counting his fingers. He starts counting things he can see.

Link: It sounds like you got two things you want, and one of them is bad for Grant here. So it sounds like if you went to hell, we could get the sun? Is that what we're talking about?

Erin: Yes! If you could help us get into hell and establish a new civilization for ourselves. But I don't know if you'd be able to.

Normal: It should be pretty easy. None of you guys have been baptized, right?

Freddie: Ha!

Erin: Uh.

Scary: I mean...

Erin: I don't know what that is!

Normal: Is that how it works?

Link: I don't know.

Normal: I don't know! I mean...

Link: Dad, did you do baptize me?

Normal: Oh, I was talking about the trees!

Link: Oh! Well, I'm curious, though. I want to know.

Anthony: Grant says—

Grant: Yeah, your grandfather suggested I— as a just in case kind of thing.

Link: Okay. Because yeah...

Freddie: Just in case...!

Link: I don't even think we have a Bible in the house. So...

Grant: Yeah, no I'm not that, again—

Link: It's kinda weird, I've been baptized.

Grant: I kind of just did it to make your grandad happy.

Link: Oh, okay.

Normal: Well, you're saying if we bring all these trees and this nice cannibal lady to our world, it's going to collapse... whatever thing we're doing to keep the world separate. Right? But what if we took them through just one at a time? You know what I mean?

Grant: We can, but every time any of us go through the barrier between the worlds, it's like your stepdad said, Scary, the "what do you do when your arm is itching?" We're just itching the Doodler a little bit every single time we go through this portal, because it's connected to them. If we keep doing it, if we keep doing with a lot of people that it's not familiar with like big old trees, and Erin O'Niell, and all of her friends, and wherever Walter is, then, yeah. It could notice. And it could start actually trying to attack us, rather than just sort of passively observing us. It could cut off the arm.

Taylor: Mm...!

Scary: Yeah...

Link: Okay, but is it okay to bring the sun back?

Grant: Well, it's not going to matter once I bring the sun around, because it's going to be dead. We're going to expand the size of the sun so big using that tape measure, that it'll basically destroy the entire realm and everything in it.

Anthony: And when he says that, Erin goes—

Erin: Oh! That's the plan?

Link: Yeah, so, no, yeah—

Erin: You're going to kill all of us without letting us go back. Cool. Dick move! Dick move, dick!

Link: Yeah, no, we agree. We're not letting them do... Yeah. So Dad, we met the other dads and I'm... *[grunts]* Yeah, you're— mm! I got bad things to say to you. But we're not letting— we're not doing that. Right, guys? We're not killing this whole world.

Taylor: Yeah that plan sucks!

Scary: Yeah.

Link: So we're trying to find another way.

Taylor: We agree with you. That plan is terrible. And it's stupid.

Anthony: Grant's like,

Grant: Oh, if you got a better one, I'd love to hear it.

Link: Uh, we're figuring that—

Taylor: We're working on it.

Link: Yeah, we're working on that.

Scary: Yeah.

Grant: Okay.

Taylor: W I P.

Anthony: Erin says—

Erin: Ah! you know what we need? Because we could go around and around all day. What we need is a nice little time box. We're going to time box this conversation. So, if you two wouldn't mind... these trees, each one of you go ahead and grab one of Grant's arms. And then, uh, just slowly apply a little bit of pressure. Just pull a little bit harder and harder.

Link: What?

Erin: And eventually this conversation will be over once your father has been ripped in twain for betraying my trust, and the trust of my friends, and sending us all to hell. So if we don't come to a—

Taylor: Figurative hell, not literal hell.

Erin: Not the literal— oh if only. If we don't come to a conclusion that we are both happy with. If we don't come to a deal that could be made, then I am afraid your father is going to be the price paid for this little conversation.

Link: I think we had— we had one, right? We'll help you get to hell, and then you can give us a sun and then—

Erin: Sure. How?

Link: Oh— Uh—

Taylor: Oh, I want that quick teen huddle.

Link: Can you just pause killing my dad for a second while we teen huddle?

Erin: Uh, no... go ahead though.

Link: Okay, go fast. Well what, Taylor?

Taylor: I might have some uh... I might an inside...

Link: Oh yeah!

Taylor: ...connection or two into, ahem, hell. Just like, not something I like to brag about. But it just might be... Just letting you know. Just letting you know that I have some connections.

Link: Yeah we— uhm.

Scary: Why, did you kill somebody?

Taylor: No, no, no. Way cooler than that, Scary. I might have some...

Link: Well, tell her. Yeah, tell. Yeah, you have...

Taylor: Well... Link and I had a little side adventure while you guys were doing the group project. And I met my dad. And he's a hell demon, of some import as I've gathered in the time since. Really cool guy. Y'know, don't want to burn any favors I have with him, but he's down there. And I'm sure he could probably hook us up. Just throwing that out that.

Link: Yeah, we got a direct connect to hell.

Taylor: With a little bit, of uh... grease in the palm, so to speak. That's right. I'm monetizing my relationship with my dad.

Scary: Well there. There we have it.

Erin: Okay, go ahead and call him, then. How do you summon your dad?

Taylor: Ah, one second here while I speak to my friends!

Link: Okay well pause— pause killing my dad.

Erin: No!

Link: We just gave you a solution.

Erin: There's no pausing, that's how time boxing works.

Link: We just gave you a solution!

Will: Okay. Where is the tape measure?

Anthony: Scary has it, right?

Normal: Scary.

Scary: Yeah.

Normal: Can I have the tape measure real quick?

Scary: Yeah, here you go.

Will: I take the tape measure and I pop it open and I aim it at the sun. And I look at Erin O'Neill.

Anthony: Ooh! Okay.

Freddie: Oh!

Anthony: Roll Intimidation.

Will: Okay.

Anthony: I say with advantage, too.

Will: Okay. [*two dice rolls*] Oh, that's a natural 20. All right.

Anthony: Whew!

Freddie: Oh...!!

Matt: Oh!

Anthony: Alright. What do you say.

Will: I say—

Normal: All right, lady, listen up. I don't know this guy that well, but I like his son quite a bit. He's a sweet boy, and I realize that a lot of bad stuff is going on, but here's the deal. Every little inch you tug on him, I tug on this.

And that sun gets a little bit bigger. You kill him, I pull this thing, and we all go up, okay?

Anthony: And she goes—

Scary: Geeze!

Erin: Whoa, whoa, whoa! He's crazy enough to do it! Everyone stop!

Scary: Yeah...

Erin: Everyone be cool!

Anthony: And they immediately let—

Scary: Cause like. Normal just wants Link to Like him again.

[chuckles]

Normal: Do you like me now, Link?

Link: Man... he's pretty cool.

Anthony: So immediately the trees drop your dad. And she goes—

Erin: Ooh, okay. So... boy's willing to play with fire, uh? You're willing for all of us to go up. I like the cut of your jib. You must be Lark's son, huh? That's a Lark move.

Normal: Uh— I'm not clear on that. I'm pretty sure that I'm his nephew, though.

Erin: Oh, okay. Okay.

Taylor: Same bloodline.

Erin: Same bloodline. Sure, sure, sure. Okay, so what's your move, kid? You sort of got us at the end of a gun, but we've also got you at the end of several wooden guns.

Anthony: And the trees all flex.

Freddie: [laughs]

Normal: Now, it's—

Freddie: A bunch of acorns like fall out on the ground and stuff.

Beth: *[laughs]*

Normal: This is all I had.

Link: Well, yeah, so let's call-

Normal: Well, call your dad!

Taylor: Yeah, one—

Normal: Do you know your dad's cell phone number? Call him!

Taylor: Yeah, yeah, yeah. One second. One second here.

Freddie: And then I'm gonna—

Link: Just ask if Hell needs some trees.

Freddie: I'm just going to pull my boys aside— my friends aside for a second.

Taylor: Hey, so just really quick. *[grumble]* I don't know how to fucking contact my dad.

Link: Oh. Uhm—

Scary: Well, you could have mentioned that before Norm went all hardcore.

Taylor: Yeah, you—

Normal: What's going on over there guys? I feel like I'm losing the momentum here.

Scary: Or, like—

Normal: I feel like they're going to realize that I'm not going to make good on this bluff. What's going on?

Scary: Norm-core I guess.

Link: Oh yeah. You don't have a phone number or anything, do you?

Taylor: No, I don't really have a means of-

Normal: Taylor, maybe if you whisper his name on the wind—

Link: Yeah.

Normal: —he'll show up.

Scary: Well—

Normal: Have you tried that?

Scary: Like, this Erin chick, if she knows all our dads, how come she can't get your...

Taylor: Oh, yeah. Wait a minute. That's a good point. Hey, lady.

Erin: What?

Taylor: What happened to Nick Foster?

Erin: He went back to hell.

Normal: What- what are you doing, dude?

Erin: Can you convince him to come back?

Taylor: Yes...

Erin: Oh. Oh...! I see. You're allowing me to kidnap and-or threaten to kill you...

Taylor: What? Wait. What?

Erin: Because then Nick will show up to save you.

Taylor: Wait, hold on. I seem to have missed a couple of plot points.

Normal: [*whispering*] Wait, did kinda make— that is what happened last time, isn't it?

Taylor: Ah, yes.

Link: Yeah. If you're in danger, then your dad comes.

Erin: Grab him!

Taylor: Yah!

Anthony: And two of the trees are going to move to grab you. What do you do?

Freddie: Ooh, I'm going to take my hand down to my mall steel katana, and be like—

Taylor: Not another step forward, lest you taste my steel.

Anthony: Roll Intimidation.

Freddie: And the only thing I've practiced on is tree branches, too. So you know he... [*dice roll*]

Anthony: [laughs]

Beth: Oh my God.

Freddie: That's a natural 1.

Anthony: Ooh! Okay. So they grab you, and the mall steel sword snaps in your hands.

Taylor: [*yelling*] No!!

Beth: Oh, no.

Anthony: It falls to the ground like the piece of fucking Sharp Image garbage that it is.

Normal: Oh, no!

Beth: Aw...!

Normal: I just realized Taylor's been in danger the whole time we've been here! He got captured by Papa John, and his dad didn't do shit! Oh no!

Freddie: Oh no! [*laughs*]

Anthony: Yeah totally.

Beth: That's because he knew that we could handle it, maybe.

Will: I panic and I pull the tape measure an inch closer to me to make the sun bigger.

Anthony: Oh God. Okay. So it gets about 10 degrees hotter. Very suddenly.

Taylor: Woah, woah, woah!

Scary: Jesus!

Taylor: Can we— put that back— like—

Normal: I'll do it, I'll do it, I'm crazy!

Taylor: Wait, wait, wait, just split the difference. Too hot.

Matt: I grab the flame thrower... and I point it at Taylor.

Taylor: Woah! Woah!

Matt: I gave him like the wink, that's like—

Link: [*breathing nervously*] That's right, Nick! I'm going to kill— I'm gonna burn your son, oh boy! He's gonna— he's gonna smell worse than this meat on the floor. He's going to be dead! I'm gonna push—

Taylor: What the hell, dude? I thought we were homies!

Link: I'm going to push this trigger if you don't save him.

Anthony: Roll Deception.

Matt: [*dice roll*] 13?

Anthony: 13. All right. I'm going to have...

Freddie: And also, to be clear, where is the uhm... grappling hook?

Anthony: The grappling hook is in a box that Erin has put down on a slab of meat that is basically acting like a little table. But she is not holding the box right now.

Freddie: Got it, got it.

Anthony: It's next to her. If you tried to go for it, she would probably get a moment to try to react and knock it out of your hands.

Freddie: Got it. Got it. It's close enough that she can react to it.

Anthony: Yeah. I rolled for Nick— Nicky, sort of observing from a distance. And as you yell that, nothing seems to happen.

Matt: I'm going—

Link: Oh! Oh, boy, this is gonna— Oh, boy! This is gonna suck! This sure is going to suck for Nick when his- his kid burns!

Matt: And I'm backing—

Freddie: I rolled a 17.

Taylor: It is not working.

Matt: I'm backing, and I go to Grant.

Link: Dad, you- you got to do something. You did something to Nick. Don't you know where he is, or...

Freddie: How to contact him?

Grant: Yeah. I know how to contact him, and he doesn't want to talk to me. It's like having your ex's number and they don't-

Scary: Well, give the phone over or something!

Grant: There's only one way I know that he would show up, and it's exactly what we're doing now. But you guys don't mean it. I could try to...

Scary: Fine! Okay. Give me the flame thrower.

Link: Oh, you've asked for it now. My co-leader's really... She's the mean one.

Matt: And I toss it.

Freddie: *[laughs]* It's good cop bad cop.

Matt: I toss it to Scary.

Link: But you're not going to really kill him, huh, Scary?

Scary: I don't know what I'll do.

Link: Oh!

Scary: So there.

Normal: Yeah, me neither!

Scary: Huh... Okay. And I—

Normal: Do you want to not do the thing I'm not doing? What are you going to not do?

Beth: I lock- I lock eyes with Normal and I'm just like—

Scary: Uhm... N-no, I'm going to do it! If you're—

Normal: You're going to do it?

Scary: If you're going to do it.

Normal: Yeah, on the count of three!

Scary: Okay.

Scary & Normal: One...

Scary: Tw—

Normal: What are we doing?

Scary: Okay—

[group laugh]

Link: No!

Matt: I jump in front of Taylor.

[group laughter]

Beth: I- I hit the—

Link: Don't do it, Scary!

Beth: I hit the flame thrower.

Link: Agh—!

Anthony: Okay.

[group laughter]

Anthony: So the flames lick direct— They slam into your chest, Link. You successfully jump in front of the flame thrower when nobody was pulling the trigger.

Scary: You... You scared me, man!

[laughter]

Link: Oh God!

Anthony: You're on fire.

Link: You scared me, I thought you were going to do it. Ow!

Anthony: Go ahead and take a d12 of damage.

Matt: I drop and roll.

Anthony: Yeah, drop and roll as you take a d12 of damage.

Scary: See, that's going to be your son if you don't come out here, Nicky!

Matt: [*dice roll*] I got a 1.

Anthony: You got a 1?

Freddie: A 1?

Anthony: Okay so not bad.

Freddie: I love that the section that you're standing over now has now become medium rare.

[*chuckles*]

Will: I panic and drop the tape measure, and go to swat the flames out on Lincoln.

Freddie: Taylor does a diving roll to try and pick up the tape measure.

Anthony: All right. We're going to roll a pose Dexterity, because Erin's going to point at that, and tell her trees to do the same damn thing. [*dice roll*] And she got a 19.

Will: Ooh!

Beth: Damn.

Freddie: [*dice roll*] I got an 11.

Will: Wait! As... Oh nevermind. I'm not going to pull a Matt and be like "I did at the thing in the middle of the thing."

Matt: How dare you say...!

Freddie: Oh...!

Beth: Oh my God!

Matt: ..."pull a Matt!"

Freddie: Ooh, spicy, spicy, spicy, everybody!

Beth: Dman!

Matt: You can say you're doing something!

Anthony: You can go ahead and do it.

Matt: Yeah!

Anthony: Everybody's doing a thing in this moment. So yeah, one of the nearest trees leans down and snatches up the tape measure just out of your grasp.

Will: No, I was just— it doesn't matter.

Freddie: The tree does that, and then like a full one Mississippi, two Mississippi later, you hear—

Taylor: Huh!

[laughter]

Freddie: And then Taylor does a roll, over where it wa—

Anthony: Yeah. It's nowhere near the ground anymore.

Anthony: Erin says—

Freddie: Not even close!

Erin: Oh, you kids don't actually know... You're bluffing, aren't you? You don't know how to get to hell. Well, then, we can always— I can tell you this, I know exactly how we can get the worlds to merge, and maybe it's not going to be so bad. Things are crazy here. Things are crazy there.

Anthony: Grant's like—

Grant: It'll be a lot worse! It'll be like war between the people of this world and this— It could be fucking crazy!

Anthony: And she's like—

Erin: Yeah, yeah. Shut up, shut up, shut up. Here's the thing, though. I know how to do it. All it takes is a combined sacrifice—not of death! Nobody's going to have to die. We just have to feed 300 human years of a lifespan into my spell, and then we can sort of smoosh the two planes together, and everything's Gucci!

[ad break]

Scary: That sounds so complicated and awful.

Will: [*chuckles*]

Taylor: Wait, hold on. I have a question.

Link: W— Okay.

Freddie: And Taylor's panting over all the exertion that he's just gone through.

Anthony: Yeah.

Taylor: Smooshing the planes... I heard there was more than one plane. There's more than just like our world and this world, right?

Erin: Correct.

Taylor: What else is there? Maybe we could find purchase in another plane. Maybe we could just- just skip out on these realities entirely. Because they're all kind of jacked up.

Erin: I guess. But I don't have a connection to those other ones. It's only because of your family that I understand the plane that you're from at all.

Taylor: Well what are the other ones?

Erin: So the other ones are the infernal, there's the goofs plane, there is the uhm... spirit plane.

Taylor: Spirit planes! I hear that one they don't give you any amenities.

Will: Boo!

Erin: It's pretty affordable. Pretty affordable, though.

Beth: Damn.

Erin: Don't knock it til you try it.

Erin: The only one that I know how to get to with a spell. I've actually got all the components ready just for... I just needed 300 hoo-human years of existence—

Freddie: [*chuckling*] Hoo-yu?

Erin: —to pour into there. So if you want to take some years off the end of your life, we could use that to power the spell. I don't know how many other—

Link: And you'll go into our plane.

Erin: Yes.

Normal: Which—

Link: And then Dad, what do you think will happen?

Grant: I assume that basically all of the kinds of people that you've met here, all the kooks and Papa Johns and, and uh, flesh—

Taylor: Oh, you're right. There's the Papa Johns in our world, too! It's going to have a conflict with the I P.

Grant: Yeah. They'll basically get transposed back onto our world. And maybe some of the more psychically relevant landmarks will show up, too. It'll kind of be like, y'know, if you took two different jigsaw puzzles, mixed up half the pieces from one with the other, but they fit together still.

Link: It does seem like there'd be a lot of death. Okay, then just to clarify, you would be okay to go to hell, Erin?

Erin: Of course!

Link: Okay. Well I don't like— I feel uncomfortable calling you... Miss, what? What should I call you?

Erin: O'Neil.

Link: Miss O'Neil.

Beth: Oh...!

Link: Okay. Look—

Freddie: Oh...!

Link: Look— Look—

Beth: I'm just kidding.

Freddie: [*chuckles*]

Link: Hey. We— hey!

Taylor: What.

Link: Adults, you look at me!

Erin: Wh—

Link: You got all the—

Erin: I've been looking at you!

Link: We got all the leverage, okay? I'm talkin—

Normal: [*stage whisper*] We don't have any leverage anymore.

Taylor: We lost all our—

Link: We have all the leverage!

Erin: You have all the leverage.

Link: Oh really? Really?

Erin: We have the measuring tape. You can't do that anymore.

Link: Oh, you got the measuring tape. Well! I'm a kid and you are supposed to care about us, because we're kids.

Will: [*laughs*]

Link: So- So you listen! You listen here!

Erin: So your leverage is guilt?

Link: You listen here. We know a way to get to hell. Do we know it right now? No. But we'll go figure it out. So look, tell you what, all you got to do, you got the easiest job in the world. Just don't kill my dad. Why don't you two just sit here and work out like adults. If that's too hard for you, maybe you shouldn't be adults, huh? How about that? Maybe you should be dumb kids or dead.

Taylor: Oh, shit.

Link: How about you guys work it out, and we'll go off, and we'll do all the stuff that you can't do, and we'll go find a way to hell. And then you can go to hell where you belong. And Dad, you can go back home. And you apologize. You apologize to Dad, and you apologize to me. And we're going to talk— You're going to be in your own hell, Mr. Yeah, I'll tell you what. And then we'll all be good. So how about that? How about you let us figure it out. His dad's in hell. We'll figure out a way into hell.

Anthony: Roll Persuasion.

Freddie: [*quietly*] It's pretty persuasive, I got to say.

[*dice roll*]

[*group laughter*]

Freddie: Matt has returned to looking at Anthony quietly. He is twiddling his thumbs a little bit.

Matt: ...I got a 4.

Anthony: Okay. So she goes—

Erin: You're so cute!

Anthony: And she pinches your cheeks, and she goes—

Erin: You would think that you have anything to offer this conversation. No! Honey? We are doing what adults do. Adults try to kill each other. Adults don't sit around and make funny little pretend promises that we know are not going to be kept. Grant, you knew you weren't going to keep your promise.

Anthony: And Grant's like—

Grant: [*grumbly*] No, I wasn't going to.

Anthony: She's like—

Erin: Yeah, I know, you know. We know.

Normal: Wait. There's one more thing we could do. We heard there's a place called the Church of the Doodler. And... we think there could be an answer there to solving all of this! To setting this right, to defeating the Doodler, to making all the worlds better. Like, we think there could be answers there. If you give us time to look, we'll uh, leave his dad as collateral, and if we don't deliver on the goods! You can kill him!

Taylor: Do whatever you want with this loser.

Scary: Yeah!

Erin: Hm...

Link: ...Yeah.

Anthony: Go ahead and roll a Persuasion. Assuming you're telling the truth, you're not just trying to buy time so you can steal them.

Will: Yes.

Anthony: Okay. Yeah. Then go ahead and, Persuasion.

Normal: See, there's a concept called anti-fragility—

Freddie: God!

Normal: —and this is kind like optionality. You have an option that you can exercise without any downside. There's no downside for you. You just let us try to go do something.

Erin: Mhm.

Normal: And then you get what you want if we don't get it, which is, you'll probably revenge on him, because he was bad, right?

[dice roll]

Erin: Yes! That's—

Will: I got a 15.

Anthony: [*quiet, soft, whisper*] She got a 17.

Will: [*angry grunts*]

Freddie: Can I- Can I help? Can I help with this one?

Anthony: [*quiet, soft, whisper*] I'm so sorry.

Freddie: Can I help with this one?

Anthony: Uh... Can you?

Freddie: Yeah, I'm going to be like—

Taylor: I know my dad! And I can get him any here anytime I want. I just—

Erin: Then do it!

Taylor: No!

Erin: Do it right now.

Will: I can't believe you—

Taylor: No.

Normal: Are you really going back to that right now?!

Erin: You said any time you want? Do it right now. You have five seconds. 5, 4, 3—

Normal: I'm sorry your dad doesn't love you and he you won't show up to save you, Taylor!

Link: Woah, hey!

Scary: Fuck!

Normal: How many chances are we going to give him?!

Taylor: I can put myself in actual danger. Mm...

Scary: Mm...

Link: I mean, we're in it.

Erin: I'm waiting!

Scary: Yeah.

[laughter]

Erin: I'm waiting...!

Freddie: I'm going to be like—

Taylor: You know what'd be really cool, is if dad showed up right— now!

Freddie: And I snap my fingers.

Will: [laughing] God, damnit!

Anthony: You snap your fingers?!

Freddie: Yeah.

Normal: [Will laughing] Is there a really high thing around here you could jump off of? And then he'd come in and save you?

Scary: Like a tree, you mean?

Normal: Yeah, like climb a really tall tree!

Taylor: Wait, wait, wait! Huddle. What if I shoot myself into the air with my fingernail, and it looks like it's a naked me screaming and crying...

Normal: *[gasps]*

Taylor: *[Freddie laughing]*...and maybe that'll be enough.

Link: Sure, you can give it a shot. I think uhm... Yeah, go ahead. Shoot—here.

Anthony: *[laughing]* Fuck!

Freddie: And so I bite my fingernail...

Link: Do it.

Matt: As I'm unloading, as I'm like disarming the gun and taking out all my fingernails—

Link: I'm just pretty sure he's been... if he's watching us!

Taylor: Well hide this, don't show me—!

Link: Then there's been a lot of times you've been in danger.

Normal: Don't show him the gun!

Link: But just, here you go. Here!

Will: I cast that spell of Darkness again over this as it's happening, so that Nick can't see it. *[laughing]* Wherever he is.

Freddie: Okay, so here's what's going to happen. Here's what's gonna—

Matt: So I go ahead and I unload the gun, and I hand it to you with the magazine open. I go—

Link: Go ahead, take a shot.

Taylor: Alright. Here's what's— 'kay.

Link: I don't think your dad's an idiot, though. I don't think it's going to work.

[laughter]

Taylor: All right, all right. Here's what's going to happen.

Freddie: So I take the gun with my fingernail in it. I look around. Is there a tree nearby?

Anthony: Yes.

Taylor: I need the tallest tree here.

Anthony: Okay.

Link: Okay now remember, first thing you do is you...

Matt: —it's like Robin Hood prince of thieves where he is teaching Maid Marion to shoot the bow. [laughing] Like I'm leaning...

Freddie: [laughs]

Matt: I'm putting my arm around. It's like—

Link: Look, you just gotta... you squeeze, okay? You know? Yeah.

[laughter]

Freddie: Okay.

Anthony: All right. Okay, so the tallest tree comes lum bum, bum, bum, bum.

Will: Who's this hot tree?

Beth: And he's like, "I'm the tall tree!"

Link: Just shoot it straight up. You just have to shoot it straight up.

Beth: That's what I, in my head, that's what he said.

Freddie: What'd you say?

Beth: I'm the tall tree!

Anthony: Yeah, [laughs] he goes—

The Tallest Tree: I'm the tallest one!

Matt: "I'm the tall one."

Taylor: What's your name?

Beth: Tall!

Anthony: ...Yep. It's voiced by Beth, now.

[laughter]

Will: Beth's the character.

Matt: Beth's the tree.

Anthony: You can't hear any of this, but that's what it's thinking.

[laughter]

Freddie: Okay. Yeah, yeah.

Taylor: Bring me right to the top of your.. tree...!

Sad Tree: Oh, Im the sad tree. I never get picked.

Matt: Can I be a character?

[laughter]

Anthony: There's a weeping willow over there.

Scary: Hey, oh my God, that tree is so cool.

[group laugh]

Freddie: So dramatic.

Taylor: Bring me to the top, good sir, or ma'am or whatever...

Anthony: So the tree—

Link: Why do I need a gun for this? I thought you can just shoot yourself in the air!

Will: [laughs]

Taylor: You—!

Link: What are you doing?

Taylor: [*loudly*] I need to get the—! [*quietly*] Shh. Ixnay on the gun. Just trust me.

Link: Oh! O-oh—

Taylor: [*quietly*] Just trust me on this one.

Anthony: So—

Taylor: [*loudly*] Bring me to the top, good tree!

Anthony: So the tree leans over and puts its hand out, and an orb of darkness steps into it, that has your weight and feel and voice coming out of it, I guess.

Freddie: Yup.

Anthony: It stands up, and then raises its arm up as high as it will go.

Freddie: Okay so now no one can see me from down there, right?

Anthony: Correct.

Freddie: And so you hear from all the way up at the top of the tree, you hear—

Taylor: [*echoing from a distance*] All right! Just taking off my clothes real quick!

[*laughter*]

Taylor: [*echoing*] Woo! Kind of cold up here! Wow, look at the pines! All right! Anyway! Wow! So scared!

Link: Oh...

Taylor: [*echoing*] So scared! Boy oh boy!

Freddie: And then like, as you're hearing that, you're also hearing just like the—

[*fumbling metal*]

Freddie: —fumbling of metallic sounds as I'm fumbling with the gun.

Taylor: [*echoing*] Okay! Here I go! Jumping off— again, without clothes!

Link: Oh, no, he's going to do it!

Normal: Wait! Taylor don't!

Freddie: And I lean back, and then I hide in the branches, and I point the gun down, and I shoot my naked body down towards the ground.

Anthony: Roll—

Matt: And you fall at 500 miles per hour.

[laughter]

Anthony: Yeah. Like a rocket!

[group laughter]

Beth: Oh my god.

Anthony: A naked Taylor ran— an anime rocket.

[claps in the laughter]

Will: Like the shot of The Rock in Black Atom... *[laughs]*

Anthony: You fire a weeb missile at the ground.

Beth: Oh no.

Anthony: Go ahead and roll a Deception.

Freddie: ...With advantage?

[dice roll]

Anthony: I mean, he al— I wou—

Freddie: 16+3, 19!

Beth: Wow!

Anthony: Oh...! He rolled 16... and you beat him. So ye— as your naked, aerodynamic, weeby form...

Will: *[giggles]*

Anthony: ...hurdles towards the ground, it's last thoughts before disappearing into unconsciousness is being like—

Naked Taylor: Oh, I got to watch Mob Psycho 1000... season four.

[distant grind of electric guitar]

Anthony: Suddenly there's a flash of fire—

[low burst of air and the metal music kicks in]

Anthony: —and the familiar form of Nicky Foster, it just appears with a puff of smoke and a puff of fire. He reaches out his arms, and he grabs this weeb bullet right before it hits the ground, and—*eehr*—all of a sudden it's momentum stops.

[music fades out]

Matt: You just goes straight back to hell.

[all laughing, with claps]

Matt: Sorry....

[laughing]

Anthony: Yeah. Yeah.

[more laughter]

Anthony: He grabs the weeb form of Taylor, and then looks at you guys and goes—

Nicky: Nothing personal.

Anthony: And then disappears and goes—

[loud group laughing]

Anthony: And just disappears back to hell.

Beth: Fuck! Okay...

[several seconds of laughter trying to die down]

Freddie: And then from the—

Anthony: And then Erin goes—

Erin: What was that?!

[laughter]

Freddie: From the top of the tree, y—

Erin: What was tha— literally, what was any part of that?

Freddie: From the top of the trees you hear,

Taylor: *[echoing]* Did it- did it work? Guys?

Link: Yes!

Scary: Yeah.

Normal: Uh, it actually did!

Scary: Yeah...

Link: Look—

Taylor: *[echoing]* Can I put my clothes back on?

Link: Look, that's like a—

Scary: Yeah, please do.

Erin: Why did you take your clothes on?

Normal: *[Will perhaps teary with laughter]* Why did you take your clothes off?

Taylor: *[echoing]* Look, as Hermie taught me, it's important that the method reflects in your performance.

Anthony: Hermie's like—

Hermie: No, no, no. He's got the right idea. That's very Kuleshov. Very well done! Very well done!

Taylor: *[echoing]* Thank you Hermie! I knew you were the best and you continue to be my best friend out of all of these losers!

Hermie: Same!

Scary: Oh, fuck off.

Link: What that did, Miss O'Neill, is prove that we indeed do have a connection to hell.

Scary: Yes!

[group laughter]

Link: That was just a taste, as you will, of what we can offer you.

[group laughing]

Erin: If that's a taste, what is the meal?

Scary: I've got it!

Link: A full visit.

Normal: What is this? Scary, please help us, we're dyin' here.

Scary: I've got a spell that's Contact Other Plane.

Anthony: Oh!

Freddie: What?

Matt: Oh!

Will: *[yelling]* What!? This whole time?!

Taylor: *[practically screaming]* You had that the whole time, Scary?!

Scary: Well, it's only supposed to be for emergencies!

Taylor: *[yelling]* I brought my dick out for that?!

[group laughter]

Erin: *[yelling]* Again! Why did you take your clothes off?

Will: *[slowly dying off mic]*

Matt: Can we get a quick scene of Nick with uh... *[laughs]* ...naked son?

Anthony: Sure, sure, sure. So none of you know about this, but like, we smash cut to hell.

[sound effect like a quick rush of air, a quiet background effect like the crackling of fire starts]

Anthony: And Nick's like—

Nicky: So how did you lose your clothes?

Anthony: And uh... dummy Taylor is like—

Dummy Taylor: Anime...

Freddie: No I got it, I got it, I got it. E-he-hem.

Dummy Taylor: Nani? Nani?

Anthony: And he go—

Nicky: Oh God, you've gone full weeb, haven't you? Here look me in the e—
Look. Hey, hey, hey.

Dummy Taylor: Hatsune Miku?

Nicky: No, don't- don't say that.

[group laughter]

Nicky: Please don't say that.

Will: Cut back.

[all laughing, background crackle fades out]

Erin: Well, if you've got a spell that can contact the other plane, then yeah,
then- then that's something.

Scary: Okay.

Normal: Let's go for it.

Scary: All right.

Freddie: Beep boop boop boop.

[laughter]

Beth: Beep boop beep boop beep. It's a spell and a cell phone. Okay, wait.

Will: A spell phone, if you will.

Matt: *[chuckles]* Nice.

Beth: I have to make a DC... 15 Intelligence saving throw.

Anthony: Okay.

Beth: And so I will do that.

Anthony: Go for it.

Will: Oh, I'm going to finally do something useful. And I give you Guidance.

Beth: [*dice roll*] Fuck, I fail.

Will: What'd you g— what'd you...

Beth: I got a 10.

Will: Okay, well what- how much does Guidance give you...? 1d4. Oh, that won't cut it.

Anthony: Ooh...!

Will: "On a fail, you take 6d6 psychic damage and are insane until you finish a long rest."

Anthony: Oh, no...

Freddie: What?!

Matt: [*chuckles over the awkward pause*]

Anthony: O-ooh, no-ooh...

Will: Uh...

Beth: But that's problematic.

Will: You can't take actions—

Anthony: It is problematic.

Will: —can't understand what other creatures say, can't read, can't speak, and speak only in gibberish. A greater restoration spell on you ends this effect."

Anthony: Uh, yeah, I don't want to do that. Because that's weird.

Beth: I just turn into a valley girl?

[*chuckles*]

Freddie: Oh, you just get put on hold. Which means that you're just frozen in place, because your mind is connecting to the other plane.

Will: Oh, I like that.

Anthony: Oh, that's fun. Yeah. You attempt to contact the other plane.

Beth: That'll be fun to play, Freddie.

[*laughter*]

Anthony: Yeah, you know what? Let's not do that. Let's not do that. Let's just say...

Matt: It fails.

Anthony: Let's just say that it fails.

Freddie: I'm just trying to come up with some cool color—

Anthony: No hey, I agree! I agree!

Freddie: —for this D&D...!

Anthony: It was a good idea if this were a novel. So it fails, and it fails in such a way that your spell slots are all expelled—

Beth: Okay.

Anthony: —for the rest of the... until you long rest.

Will: You used up all your minutes.

Freddie: You used all of your minutes.

Anthony: Yeah, all of your minutes are gone. So, uh—

Scary: It's still ringing! [*clears throat*]

Anthony: [*laughs*] Erin sees that going and she goes—

Erin: So, sounds like operations Smoosh the Planes Together—

Scary: No, it works!

Erin: —is looking better and better by the moment, is it not?

Scary: Excuse me, I'm making a phone call.

[*laughter*]

Scary: Hey, Nick? It's Scary. Uhm, no, you have no reason to know me. It's just— I mean, a lot of people do know me. I'm pretty knowable. Pretty fearsome... Anyways... What's that? You can't come? But you're still powerful? Oh... okay! I mean, I don't know. I think everybody's going to be pretty disappointed. But, they'll know that you could come and fuck things up at any time.

Taylor: Kinda, a weird phrasing, overall.

Erin: So you're—

Scary: And you're opening a portal to hell? Yeah? Okay? In a few hours? After we leave? That's... great!

Anthony: [*chuckles*]

Scary: That's actually great news! So this entire conversation has really changed around. And now it's good news.

Anthony: Roll Deception with—

Will: Also, Nick, I'm sorry, but the old Taylor can't come to the phone right now.

Freddie: [*yelling*] God!

Will: Why? Because he's dead. [*laughs*]

Anthony: Roll... Roll Deception with disadvantage.

Freddie: God! Love it.

Beth: [*dice roll*] That's a 5.

Anthony: So she goes—

Erin: So, in your fake phone call to someone, you started it off by saying, 'Oh, you are not making a portal'?

Scary: Can you believe she thinks this is a fake phone call?

[*group laughter*]

Link: All right.

Scary: Yeah.

Link: Miss O'Neill? Okay, look here. This is it. Okay, you're right. You got the leverage. We don't have any leverage.

Matt: And I pick up the flame thrower, and I turn around and I give it to her. I was like—

Link: Go ahead. If you want to kill us, then that's what you got to do. But I got to tell you something. We're just kids. It's not our fault that this happened. We're doing our best to try to stop all this. And we read what the dads did, and like, I know that my dad did a lot of bad stuff, and so did our dads. And you have every right to be ticked off. But what I read, what I saw in that story, you seemed like a good person. You helped them, and- and you

gave them a chance. And- and I hope you find it in your heart to give us a chance, too. Because we're going to do our best to help everybody. And I promise, if we go and try to find a way to get you to where you need to go, then we are, because we don't want to repeat what our dads did. So just...

Will: Uh. While he's doing this, Normal is scooching his way towards the grappling gun.

Anthony: Okay? Why don't you give me Persuasion, Matt? And if you do decently well, then that'll give you advantage for your Stealth check towards the grappling gun.

Matt: [*dice roll*] I got a 5.

Freddie: God!

Matt: Not even advantage?

Anthony: No! If you've been trying to convince somebody five times over, and you try it a sixth time? That doesn't mean the sixth time is magical. So just give me a normal Stealth roll trying to get the grapple gun.

Will: [*dice roll*] I got a...

Beth: But the six six sixth time...

Will: I got a 15.

Anthony: Okay! Great. So you successfully sneak towards the grapple gun. You can basically grab it without a check at this point.

Will: Okay.

Anthony: You're close enough to it. As you're saying all that, Lincoln. Erin puts a hand on your shoulder and says—

Erin: If I may, it was never my intention to hurt any of you. You're small stinky children. You all have your lives ahead of you. And it's like you said, you're not to blame for what happened. Your daddy's to blame. Your father is to blame. And I'm sure you have a lot of really lovely solutions percolating in that little, that little brain of yours there. But sometimes...! The only thing that'll quench the anger and the sadness and the fear that you've had for a long time, is to sort of, y'know, lash out at other people.

Scary: Yes!

Erin: So that's what I'm going to do to your dad.

Scary: Okay.

Erin: Because he killed everyone on this planet, sort of, in a sense. And that's okay, you'll get over it! Big boy! Who's my special boy?

[laughter]

Erin: Who's my brave boy? Is it you?

Anthony: She's pointing at you.

Erin: Is it, though?

Matt: What's happening with the grappling hook?

Will: I grab the grappling gun and fire it at the sun.

Anthony: Wow...!

Freddie: Woah...!

Anthony: Okay. Roll Dexterity with advantage, because nobody's looking at you.

Will: [*bracing breaths*]

Matt: And while he is doing that, I want to kick her in the—

Will: Right before I do it, I give a cool guy nod to Link, and I like bulge my eyes like in Heroes Shed So Tears, that Jamu movie where the guy and his kid communicate but blinking at each other.

Freddie: Aw!

Matt: I'm going to kick her in the shin.

Anthony: You're going to kick her in the shin?

Matt: I'm going to try and grab the...

Will: The flamethrower?

Matt: ...flamethrower back.

Will: I got an 18.

Anthony: Woah! Okay.

Freddie: Woah!

Anthony: So with an 18, with the dexterity of the caped crusader himself, your grapnel gun—

[a high pitch burst of air as the wip of the cord moving]

Anthony: —extends out on a really, really, really, really long chain, longer than should be able to fit in a gun this size. The talons clasp around the sun—

[clamp, a burst of fire, and the clicky reel of the cable retracting, like a fishing line]

Anthony: —and then vv-vv-vv-v! It gets reeled back in, and you see the shadows all growing taller and moving very suddenly. And all the trees immediately get up and sort of look and try to see what's going on with the sun.

Freddie: There's one sunflower that's so fucking confused right now.

[laughter]

Beth: Aw!

Anthony: It just goes—

Sunflower: *[screams]*

Will: It just snaps its own neck.

Freddie: Snaps its own neck!

Anthony: *[laughs]* And suddenly the sun is at the end of the grapnel gun, and the grapnel gun is completely retracted. So it's near your hand. You can feel the heat radiating off it. It's really intense heat. Roll, uh, Constitution.

Matt: It's kind of like the gravity gun in the end of Half Life Two?

[dice roll]

Anthony: Oh, I guess it kind of is, yeah.

Matt: A big glowing—

Will: 15.

Anthony: Okay, so with the 15, you're only going to take 1d10 damage.

Will: 1d10, Mama Mio!

Anthony: Yes. Grant sees all this happen, and he goes—

Grant: The box! Get the box! He tries to struggle, but two trees are holding him, but he's nodding at the box that he brought the parcels in.

Matt: Oh, I was going to say, did I successfully get the flame thrower?

Anthony: Why don't you roll...

Matt: I would assume that grabbing the sun's a good disadvantage, or me advantage, for...

Anthony: Y...eah...

Matt: It's like, she's probably turning to look at the sun.

Anthony: Yes, I would agree. Go ahead and give me a Slight of Hand, or a Dexterity with advantage, to try to snatch out of her hand.

Freddie: You're gonna kick someone in the shins?

Matt: Well, I would kick her or pull the gun. I was trying to kick her so she—

Anthony: I think- I think pulling— I think it's like one action. So pulling a gun from her hand makes sense.

Freddie: Oh, you know what it is?

[dice roll]

Freddie: It's like when you steal a basketball—

Matt: There you go, 22.

Freddie: —and it's just a big slap.

Anthony: 22? Wow!

Matt: Without advantage, even.

Anthony: Yeah, you basketball slap it the fuck out of her hands, and then catch it before it hits the ground.

Matt: I catch it on my foot, then flip it up and back into my hand.

Freddie: Oh...!

Anthony: Perfect.

Beth: Oh nice!

Anthony: All right, so you've got the sun, you've got the flame thrower...

Beth: I'm going to try to slide tackle in and sweep the box.

Anthony: Okay. Go ahead and give me an Athletics roll.

Beth: [*dice roll*] 18.

Anthony: All right. So you effortlessly, with muscle memory that your heart has been trying so hard to kick out of your brain, you use your expert soccer skills to slide tackle and grab the box. You now possess it.

Freddie: And Taylor flips his hair in a cool ass way, and goes like—

Taylor: Well done, team. I think—

[*group laughter*]

Taylor: Miss O'Neil, I think it's time we renegotiate this deal.

Scary: I think it's time we make like a tree and leave!

Taylor: Hey, that's good too!

Normal: Oh, I get it now!

Taylor: [*screaming*] Run!

Normal: Cheese it!

Will: And I run.

Freddie: Everyone runs.

Anthony: Great. You all start sprinting toward the way that you came in, and the ground—

Matt: The meat gap? The big hole of meat?

Anthony: Yeah, you try to head back towards the meat sphincter from whence you entered the cavern, the Undergrove. And your hearts are beating hard enough, and you're scared enough, that for the first couple of seconds you don't realize that the ground is shaking. And you think that, "oh, maybe something's chasing us from

behind. It's best not to look around." But then in front of you, you see the ground is still beginning to shake and—

Freddie: Jiggle?

Anthony: Jiggle. And the— not the Tallest Tree, but certainly the Widest Tree that you have ever seen...

Matt: The what tree?

Anthony: ...claws out the way out of the ground. What?

Matt: The what tree?

Freddie: A thick tree.

Beth: Widest tree.

Anthony: Widest.

Matt: Oh, I thought you said whitest.

Beth: A verified General Sherman.

Anthony: The stoutest—

Will: *[laughs]*

Matt: The Stoutest.

Anthony: The stoutest boy tree that you have ever seen. The stoutest tree you've ever seen claws its way out of the ground. And the center of its trunk opens—

[crackling like the moving of bark, the drag of wood that sounds more like an animalistic growl, something that is definitely harsh breath, and the rustle of leaves]

Anthony: —and you see fangs with sap dripping from them.

Will: Eeh!

Beth: Oh, no...

Anthony: And inside, moist, pulpy, kind of papery like wood substance inside. And it belches at you—

[the tree roars]

Anthony: —and it raises its hands down to slam all of you.

Normal: Hey Link.

Link: What's up?

Normal: Guess what kind of tree takes notes?

Link: Uh, oh, I've been thinking of this one—

Normal: A note-meg tree!

Link: A what tree?

Scary: A what?

Normal: Like nutmeg.

Scary: Oh.

Normal: We're going to die.

Anthony: Hermie's like—

Hermie: That's so good!

[laughter]

Freddie: That's so good!

Hermie: That's so good, that's what I was going for!

[outro music plays]

Freddie: Dungeons and Daddies is Matt Arnold as Lincoln Li-Wilson. Anthony Burch is our DM. Will Campos as Normal Oak. Beth May as Scary Marlowe. And myself, Freddie Long as Taylor Swift. Our theme song is *On My Way* by Maxton Waller. Brian Fernandes is our content producer. Ashley Nicolette is our community manager. Esther Ellis is our lead editor. Travis Reeves provides additional editing. And Robin Rapp is our transcriber. Shout out this week to some of our fine Patreon supporters, people such as Amanda Egbert, Jake Coltrane, Eamonn O'Donovan, Theo R, Bryce T, quince, Kyler Geesink, Justin Headley, RandomStuffStudio, Kyle Kochanek, Ben McD, Billy Chambers, Joshua Call, Diana Raphael Cameron, Lady drakonus, Charles, Kyle, The One Who Asked Why, Pat W, and Adam Åkerberg

Freddie: Hey, are you all caught up in looking for other D&D podcasts like this one? You might try Not Another D&D podcast, or The Adventure Zone, or Root Tales of

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Freddie: Go check that out, especially if you're hankering for more content. We get that a lot on our Twitter and our subreddits. People ask about that. Well, give our Patreon a shot! You can check out our website at dungeonsanddaddies.com/patreon to see all the bonus content that we've put out so far. A lot of hours... on hours on there. So just fill it up with, y'know, the stuff that was too funny for the main feed. Our Twitter is DungeonsandDads. Our website, [sungeonsanddaddies.com](https://dungeonsanddaddies.com), our store, store.dungeonsdaddies.com. Subreddit is DungeonsandDaddies, and our next episode comes at you November 15th. We will see you then.

[outro music finishes]

Freddie: Will, you missed an incredible pun there. You could have said, "I don't know this sky that well, and I don't know this guy that well either."

Will: Ooh, pretty good.

Anthony: Jesus.

Beth: Man.

Will: Oh, well, too bad.

Anthony: Oh well.