

Condi

Hey guys, I just wanted to quickly remind you guys that this is the last episode of the Suckening that is going up publicly. If you haven't been keeping up with us, we are going on a little bit of a public hiatus for Riptide. So there won't be any uploads on the main channel for a bit while we're working on a new campaign to start uploading in the place of Riptide. But I promise it'll be worth it. I mean, the hiatus itself will be worth it because Riptide is going to come back and Grizzly will actually have had time to think about stuff and write. But in the meantime, if you want more, Just Roll With It content while we aren't uploading publicly, there's always the Patreon, where you can get all of our campaigns: Prime Defenders, the rest of the Suckening, Apotheosis, Blood In The Bayou, some oneshots, all of that. I mean, there's probably like 125 episodes on there, so I think it's well worth the money to go check it out. So, if you haven't checked it out, I'd highly recommend it and if you're really interested in the Suckening, then y'know... There's that. Anyway, here's the episode, I hope you enjoy it.

Charlie

'Velcome back, everyone, to the Suckening!

(Intense slurping sounds)

Charlie

Slurp, please. Slurp, please. Slurp, please. Slurp, please.

(Slurping sounds)

Charlie

Yeees. 'Velcome, everyone. Everyone has suuucked, everyone has sluuurped, everyone has glorped.

Grizzly

Ahh, yeahh...

Charlie

Another recording in the Slompound. How we all feeling today?

Condi

Can you actually update us what the - the sleaderboards - are looking like?

Charlie

Oh, the sleeterboards?

Condi

Yeah.

Charlie

Number slun is... I actually think you've got the most points right now, Bizley. Because last time, didn't you get a couple points?

Condi

I don't know...

Bizly

I did get a couple of points, yes.

Charlie

I think you lost points, Condi.

Condi

I lost points once, but I gained them a few times too.

Bizly

When?

Charlie

Cite them all right now or they go away forever.

Condi

Yeah, so, the first episode, I lost points for questioning our slimy lords.

Charlie

You shouldn't have done that.

Bizly

That's not his title. What's his title? Say it out loud.

Charlie

What's my title? Say it. Say it. Say. It.

Condi

Um-

Charlie

Say it. Say it.

Condi

Uh-

Charlie

M-You-

Grizzly

I never lost points.

Charlie

You lose one point.

Grizzly

Fuck off. No, no, fuck off! Go suck yourself.

Bizly

That-

Charlie

[Edward Twilight voice] ...what, bro?

Charlie

If everyone's ready for a little recap, I can do a little recap.

Bizly

[posh accent] I don't think I'm ready for a little recap. [normal voice] Sorry.

Charlie

That's a point for that voice.

Bizly

Really?

Charlie

Yeah, I liked that voice. Does anyone else-?

Condi

Dude, you're so biased.

Charlie

Minus one point. Last-

Bizly

[posh accent] You know what? Either you have it or you don't. Ahaha ho ho haw!

Grizzly

Ahaw haw haw!

Charlie

I don't really like that.

Grizzly

[posh accent] You either have it or you don't~

Charlie

I don't really like that, what is that?

Grizzly

[posh accent] You either have it or you don't~

Charlie

Minus points.

Bizly

Me neither.

Grizzly

Dude, I'm stopping the recording and I'm going to delete all of it.

[awesome intro and music by Nathan Hanover] [transcribed by Gabethiene]

Charlie

Last time we sucked, Arthur and Emizel had lost Shilo and headed back to the BnB to rest. Inside, Arthur found a note from a friend, Magnus Fox, and a burner phone with which to call him. Arthur called Magnus and after a bit of catching up, found that the Grimslayers were planning to attack Club Crepuscule. The next night, after the two had a mostly successful hunt, they went on a shopping montage where Arthur barely managed to convince Emizel not to wear the hardest SpongeBob-core hot topic fit of all time before heading to club Crepuscule. Meanwhile, Deacon made Shilo the honorary deputy of Los Angeles, and they went for a night on the town that culminated in Shilo accidentally eating a tremendous amount of garlic dogs and almost dying.

Condi

(Laughs) What??

Charlie

The two groups reconvened at Elysium, where they met a colorful cast of vampires, including Renwick the Ravenous, the keeper of Elysium, and Edward Twilight, one of the five Primogen. You guys loved him so much. Shilo drew a ton of attention as the most important figure at the party, Arthur sat at the bar and had an awful man-to-man with Edward, and Amasel stole the microphone and announced that he was the secret second vampire prince and Shilo's twin brother.

Charlie

Shilo was also socially pressured into drinking from a drugged human body by Edward. And as Arthur tried to usher him to the exit, you were met with a locked door at the beginning of the Grimslayer raid. The Grimslayers lit the building on fire and sent Daybringer Solomon down to obliterate the mayor Thorne, the mayor of Los Angeles. After a frenzied chaos, Arthur was able to springboard off of shadows through the skylight, where Magnus held the Grimslayers back from firing. Shilo and Grefgore dived into the sewers to escape, while Emizel stayed back to prove his metal. He did a very respectable one point of damage to Solomon, then died. Shilo and Arthur were able to reconvene just in time to see club Crepuscule exploding into an inferno behind you, with some vampires still inside, including Arthur's old flame, Mary Davis. And that's where we are now.

Condi

She could still be, like, alive.

Charlie

Maybe she made it. So, Shilo-

Grizzly

If she died, Edward should be dead- (wheezes) I'm just sayin' bro, I'm just sayin'.

Charlie

Wouldn't that be fair? You guys-

Grizzly

The way he looked at me.

Charlie

You guys are there out on the street watching this fire kind of pollute the night sky with this light in the distance. As you're out of the chaos now, what do you do?

Bizly

Shilo would be standing there just completely still, watching the burning.

Grizzly

Say where we are again, please.

Charlie

Oh, shit-

Bizly

We're on the street outside watching it burn.

Charlie

You guys just got out of the sewers, yeah. You guys went a little ways down the sewer.

Grizzly

Okay.

Charlie

A couple streets over or something.

Grizzly

Arthur... Doesn't miss a beat before he begins to head in a direction. Now, would I have any chance of being able to get closer to get to our car again? Or is that off limits because of its proximity?

Charlie

Oh fuck, where did you park-? You parked across the street?

Condi

I think-

Grizzly

I don't remember what we said, but it was probably in the same spot as-

Condi

Emizel probably would have parked in the Gutter. Not like the actual gutter, but like, the-

Grizzly

The Gutter.

Condi

That bar.

Charlie

Yeah, I mean, you could try to. Honestly, I'm going to say, even as you approach it, you notice pretty much immediately that the street is basically cop cars and police tape. So there's not really a safe way back, no.

Grizzly

Okay, I'm going to start looking around the sidewalks for a little telephone booth, little telephone pole. But before I do that, I am just sort of walking in a soccer mom speed away from Shilo in this direction, but I'm going to look around and see if I - both either smell any familiar vampires from the party or see any sort of running away entered in the shadows of the alleyways of the street. I'm just going to keep an eye out for survivors that are in this area as well.

Charlie

Sounds good. What was that part about a telephone booth? Do you want to do that yet or is that later?

Grizzly

I'm going to do this first. I'm looking for them first, but I'm just going to go on my way for a telephone booth at the same time.

Charlie

All right, so here's what I will say. If you're looking from here, you're in a pretty specific direction. A little ways away, it's going to be more difficult, but if you get closer, it's going to be riskier and easier.

Grizzly

I'll get in a better position, actually, I could probably climb the side of a building fire escape.

Charlie

That'll work so much better, yeah, I love that. Okay, go ahead and roll me... Perception plus Awareness.

Grizzly

Two successes.

Charlie

Strolling away down an alley as he drops the head of a Grimslayer, like with the visor on, looking relatively unscathed is Edward Twilight.

Condi

Fuck my life. Fuck my life!

Charlie

I will say if you let him go, I'll let you roll again.

Grizzly

Okay, just, can I have a minute to think here?

Charlie

Yep. Nothing - not a better feeling than saying you have to let him go to roll again.

Condi

You are a fiend.

Grizzly

Okay, okay, man if only... If only you were alive, we could split up, fuck. Imma let him go. I'll let him go and roll again.

Bizly

Ahh...

Charlie

All right, sounds good.

Condi

I have him in my s- I'm going to ghost him.

Grizzly

We'll have a chance, we'll have another chance.

Charlie

You watch him sort of walk into a nearby sort of alley and he's gone. Go ahead and give me another roll here to look for someone.

Grizzly

It's valuable that we know he's alive. I'll just say that.

Charlie

Y'know, he is alive. I'm going to say the difficulty on this roll has not increased. It's going to be the same roll.

Bizly

One thing you would also see is Shilo on the ground, like, waving his arms up at you and trying to get your attention.

Grizzly

Me and my slow, my slow- I know Shilo is doing that, yes. You just see Arthur is just kind of looking around intently focused on the surroundings but not too focused on you at the moment. Fucking another two successes.

Charlie

Another two successes?

Grizzly

'Cause of my - wait, wait. Yeah, yeah yeah, you're good.

Charlie

You see at first a blur going down like a quieter street that quickly kind of shimmers and it looks like it almost trips and someone falls to the ground, clearly bloodied and injured. And you can tell, you see the back of a bloodstained cowboy hat.

Grizzly

Another hard decision. He looks like he's hurt?

Charlie

He looks like he's very hurt.

Bizly

What-? That is Deacon. That is my boy right there. He took me to get hot dogs.

Grizzly

I get down from this roof. When I walk past Shilo, I just say,

Arthur

Stay here.

Shilo

Wait, where are you going?

Grizzly

And then I go and head to wherever he is crawling.

Charlie

Okay.

Shilo

Come back!

Charlie

What are you doing, Shilo?

Bizly

I'm following him.

Charlie

Okay.

Grizzly

That's totally fine.

Bizly

Fucking freak.

Charlie

Cool.

Grizzly

(Laughs) Did you just call me freak?

Arthur

Stay here.

Charlie

Yeah. You guys turn the corner. You see the police tapes in the distance, so it looks like you're away from that a little. And you see it's just kind of with a trail of blood behind him, it looks like he's like whistling for something for a second. And then he clocks you.

Deacon Keller

Well well- (coughs up blood) -well. What have we got here?

Grizzly

I don't kneel down or anything, I just assess his condition.

Arthur

Deacon.

Deacon Keller

Arthur.

Arthur

Are you not able to heal yourself?

Deacon Keller

Used it all up. Don't suppose you got any t' spare?

Arthur

I could consider. The usual risk with drinking - my blood.

Deacon Keller

I don't really care, man. I could stand to like ya a little more, I guess.

Grizzly

Shilo's nearby?

Charlie

Mmhm.

Grizzly

What's he look like?

Bizly

Would they have gotten there, like, faster?

Grizzly

Probably with me.

Grizzly

You get there at the same time.

Bizly

All right, um... Does this break the masquerade in any way? Drinking the blood? Him drinking the blood? I don't remember.

Charlie

No.

Bizly

Okay, cool.

Charlie

Nope.

Grizzly

It's like...

Charlie

Masquerade is if someone sees you doing this, you guys would notice, like, the streets are really empty. Almost like they were emptied beforehand.

Bizly

All right, I would probably run up the Deacon and get down.

Charlie

Yeah.

Shilo

What happened to you? Why are you so hurt?

Grizzly

I have Void bite my wrist to open it. I'll offer it to Deacon.

Charlie

Okay, cool.

Arthur

I don't have much.

Charlie

All right.

Shilo

They got you, too?

Deacon Keller

Thanks, stranger. Yep. Fire'll get any of us.

Charlie

He goes to take a drink real quick.

Shilo

Well, we can probably go and arrest them, right?

Bizly

Hold up my little badge.

Deacon Keller

It's goin' to be a little more from this beatin', is that all right?

Arthur

We'll see.

Charlie

He takes three at first, y'know it takes a little more to heal aggravated.

Grizzly

I'll pull away.

Charlie

Go ahead and roll me Strength plus Brawl.

Grizzly

Well, this is how I die.

Condi

He just sucks you dry.

Grizzly

Three successes.

Charlie

He also got three successes.

Grizzly

Do we roll again?

Charlie

I'm going to say what this means is Shilo. You see, as Arthur is trying to pull away and it looks like Deacon leans in closer and grabs onto Arthur. And you see as he's going to take another three blood points. If you want to try and push him off, you need to roll again.

Bizly

I'll try to pull Arthur away.

Charlie

Okay.

Grizzly

Yeah, I say-

Arthur

Anymore and you'll be in trouble.

Charlie

Yeah. He just looks up at you and you see an anger in his eyes. Go ahead and roll me another-

Condi

All Deacon does is take and take and take.

Charlie

Another Brawl plus Strength.

Grizzly

Yeah, yeah. Yeah yeah yeah.

Bizly

Can I help in any way?

Charlie

Yeah, give me a Brawl plus Strength. I don't really know how to resolve this, but we'll figure it out based on successes.

Bizly

That's okay, I only get a d10, like a single one.

Charlie

Oh! Okay, awesome.

Condi

You are very not strong or brawl.

Grizzly

Okay, so that blood, when I drink it from that human, that blood drugged me. Does that mean I got any blood points from it?

Charlie

You only took a taste, so you probably wouldn't have gotten the whole blood point.

Grizzly

Damn, I got no benefits at all.

Charlie

How many successes?

Grizzly

I'm going to use a Willpower. Fuck me...

Charlie

Automatic success.

Bizly

I'll use a Willpower too, 'cause I got nothing.

Charlie

He only got two successes. You manage to wrench him off, and you see his wounds, like, already beginning to close, basically.

Shilo

Deacon, what is wrong with you?

Deacon Keller

What's wrong with me? What's wrong with me is that he knew they were comin'.

Charlie

And you see as he whips his coat back and pulls out his gun.

Condi

Yuh yo-

Bizly

I'd like to jump in.

Charlie

Uh, okay. I need everyone to roll Initiative at this point. Up first is unfortunately Deacon. You see, as he is going to with alarming speed, spend a blood point, and he moves back in, like, a flash about halfway down the street, farther than you could get unless you sprint, pulls out his gun, and is going to take a shot right into your head, Arthur.

Bizly

I can't, like, block it? I was standing in front. I'm trying to, like-

Charlie

Oh, how would we do this?

Bizly

You're short, man.

Charlie

Okay, here's what I'll do. Go ahead and give me - give me Dex plus Brawl, and we'll see how well you can jump in the way.

Bizly

Dex plus Brawl... Ah, that is one success.

Charlie

He only gets one success to hit. I'll say if you're trying to get in the way, you can.

Bizly

Oh, all right, cool. Yes, I'm, like, standing in the way.

Charlie

Okay. All right. He takes a shot, you manage to jump in front. He goes,

Deacon Keller

[gritted teeth] No!

Charlie

And this shot immediately collides in your gut. It's just going to be...you take six lethal damage.

Condi

What the fuck?

Bizly

Oh, my Christ. That is the 'X's, yeah?

Charlie

Yeah, that's the 'X's. This won't- this can't, like, kill you, but it can hurt. Immediately, you get shot in the side and Shilo, the last thing you see is his hands, like, shaking and him looking at you with just this expression of horror as you fall to the ground and your eyes shut.

Bizly

All right.

Charlie

Holy fuck. Okay, up next-

Condi

He's not down-down, is he, he's just-?

Bizly

No, I'm crippled. I've been crippled.

Charlie

Oh, you're crippled?

Bizly

Yeah, with six.

Charlie

Oh, I read it wrong, okay. Yeah. You just fall to the ground and you are-

Bizly

I still probably, like, cry out in pain.

Charlie

Absolutely. Yeah.

Deacon Keller

Aw, son, you shouldn't've done that. You don't know who you're protectin'.

Shilo

I feel like I got stung by a - very big bee!

Deacon Keller

Yeah, yep, big 44 calibre magnum bee.

Shilo

(high-pitched) Ow...

Deacon Keller

That's gotta hurt.

Bizly

Shilo's, like, on the ground, like, rolling around.

Deacon Keller

That'll heal up fine, son!

Charlie

Up next is Arthur.

Grizzly

What happens when you run out of blood points?

Charlie

You're going to have a lot of trouble waking up the next morning.

Grizzly

Oh...

Charlie

AKA., you won't wake up.

Grizzly

I look down at Shilo. Now I'm pissed off. So, immediately, like, four black, inky, almost like snakes.

Charlie

Okay.

Grizzly

Come from - we're in an alley?

Charlie

Yeah, he's at, like, the other end of the alley now.

Grizzly

So I can do it anywhere I can see.

Charlie

Awesome.

Grizzly

His left, his right, behind him, and in front of him - fwsh! - they just come up.

Charlie

Fucking sick.

Grizzly

And they even start to, like, almost like the whispers of the damned just sort of hiss right next to him.

Deacon Keller

Well, you got some surprises after all, kid.

Arthur

(heavy breathing)

Grizzly

I don't say anything. Just looking at-

Bizly

Guys- please stop fighting-!

Grizzly

Looking at the bleeding out Shilo.

Charlie

All right, up next is Shilo.

Bizly

All right, I'm going... I can only use one blood per turn. It'll let me heal one.

Charlie

One level of lethal, yeah.

Bizly

Alright. Okay.

Charlie

And he looks still bloodied, yeah, he's beat up.

Bizly

All right.

Charlie

His coat is singed, his skin is charred. He's got blood running down from his head.

Bizly

All right, I'm going to just spend one blood point and I will...

Charlie

Heal up.

Bizly

Heal up just a little bit. It also said I could heal right when I take the attack, is that true?

Charlie

Yeah, don't sweat it. You still have your action. You still have your action if you use your blood point for that, yeah.

Bizly

Okay, cool.

Charlie

But just mark a blood point.

Bizly

I have marked a blood point and now everything is minus 2, not minus 5. Good gracious. I'm going to heal up that one little bit. And I'm going to try and put my hand on the wall, pull myself up. I'll say,

Shilo

Deacon, I order you to put your weapons down.

Charlie

Are you using a Discipline, or-?

Bizly

No.

(Laughter)

Grizzly

Oh, fuck.

Deacon Keller

I'm sorry, son, I can't do that, he's workin' with the enemy, and you know that as well as I. Why are you still with him?

Shilo

All I know is that he protected me. Where were you?

Deacon Keller

What about all my friends? How'd he protect them? What about my city? How'd he protect that, prince?

Shilo

What about the queen, when she knows you left me?

Deacon Keller

What about the queen when she knows I finished him?

Bizly

That is all I really can do.

Charlie

Yeah, go ahead and give me - just to see if this shakes him. Go ahead and give me Charisma plus Leadership, and I'll let this shake him if you roll successes here, I'll let it take away from his dice pool.

Bizly

That's two success.

Charlie

Two successes. Okay. In that case, I'll let that take two away from his dice pool.

Bizly

Out of nine dice.

Charlie

Holy shit. You see, as he says this back to you with a vengeance, but he definitely is visibly shaken by it.

Bizly

Right.

Charlie

Okay, up next is...

Bizly

Could I actually just - 'Cause all I'm doing for my turn is really talking.

Charlie

Sure.

Shilo

[pained] Arthur, please. I'm not going to survive if he shoots me again-

Charlie

(Laughing)

Deacon Keller

I'm not gonna to shoot you again unless you get in the way, son!

Shilo

How do I know that?

Deacon Keller

'Cause you got in the way the first time!

Shilo

Well, I'll get in the way again.

Deacon Keller

Why? I'm going to shoot ya then!

Shilo

Arthur, please-

Deacon Keller

Listen, I'm gonna to shoot this way, and if you get in the way, it's your fault!

Shilo

Please, just get us out of here.

Arthur

(Inhales) (Prolonged growl)

Shilo

[tearful] No one has to die anymore. Everyone is already dead.

Deacon Keller

And how many more are gonna go if he stays?

Shilo

This is really not about you right now!

Deacon Keller

Oh, I'm in it now!

Charlie

Flicks his coat back.

Shilo

You're such a wiener boy.

Deacon Keller

I gave you wieners, boy.

Grizzly

[Arthur voice] Inappropriate.

Deacon Keller

You remember those dogs?

Shilo

I remember the garlic.

Deacon Keller

You ordered that!

Shilo

Crap, you're right about that. No, you're actually really nice to me, but you're being really weird right now. Sorry, the emotional tension completely broke when we started talking about-

Deacon Keller

I'm bein' weird right now??

Shilo

No, this is, like, almost out of character right now, don't worry.

Deacon Keller

My brother in Christ. (Heaves)

Grizzly

Arthur looks a little dry, (chuckles)

Charlie

Uh oh.

Grizzly

So he kind of looks a little monstrous at the moment, but he says, like, the shadows all around this alley are almost kind of wisping like black flame, especially around his feet. And he just tries to say something, but it's very short. He says.

Arthur

[deep growls through panting] I told you to stay back, prince. This is what they do.

Shilo

You protected me, so I'm here.

Deacon Keller

Just lie there and he won't get out again.

Bizly

I want to stumble over if I can and just hold my ground in front of him.

Arthur

Fuck.

Deacon Keller

Oh, son, what are you doin'?

Shilo

If you go, I will go too.

Grizzly

It's not my turn. I can't make him do anything but...

Charlie

All right. Up next, Initiative would go back around, but Deacon used Celerity.

Bizly

What a little crap boy.

Charlie

Deacon's got Celerity.

Bizly

Crappy little wiener.

Deacon Keller

Best shot in the west for a reason.

Charlie

You see, as he immediately is going to - how long are the tentacles?

Grizzly

They are all 6ft long.

Charlie

They're 6ft.

Grizzly

It's like blocking him almost on all sides.

Charlie

Yeah, it's blocking him on all sides. He immediately is going to just try and burst forward. As he gets closer to you again, he's going to take two more shots at you.

Grizzly

Three.

Charlie

Okay, he rolled real shit. He only gets one, you see, as he takes another shot at your head. Curves it around Shilo, but it just like - how do you just-? I guess you just fucking tank it. It just like, ricochets off your head, knocks your head back as you just look down at him. Again, takes a shot at you would ordinarily just collide in your head. You get out of the way just in time. Just skids by you.

Grizzly

I want to keep tanking these bullets like Superman.

Charlie

Okay. Yeah. It just fucking bounces off you. You see this one just, like, flattens against your head. It just falls to the ground.

Grizzly

Could I get a free Intimidation check.

Deacon Keller

Bro, what the fuck?

Charlie

No. I'm going to say no, unfortunately. Up next, top of the round is Deacon.

Bizly

You little prick!

Charlie

He sees his bullets just, like, ping off of you, like nothing, looks down at his wound, you see, as it looks like maybe he's going to heal, which you can do in combat if you guys want to, because he just did as well. It looks like he's going to heal, but instead, you see as his breathing starts to get heavier and heavier and it's almost like this red mist is coming out of his mouth. And you see as he tips down this hat, as this fog of breath is coming out from both sides and his eyes just like, illuminate this shimmering yellow. And you can tell that Deacon is going into a Frenzy as he draws this gun one more time.

Deacon Keller

I should've never let you come into my city-!

Charlie

He's ignoring wound penalties now 'cause he's frenzied.

Condi

Oh.

Charlie

Gonna go for another shot on Arthur. This time not in the head, just in the body. He's just trying to hit you, now, at this point. You do get hit by this one, but since he's not aiming for your head, it's just bashing damage. You have it so you only take one bashing damage as you feel this collide with your rib cage. It doesn't pierce the flesh. You're too fucking hearty for that, but you think it cracks and breaks a rib as he pops you there.

Grizzly

Marked it.

Charlie

And you see as - yeah, it looks like whatever thoughts he was having, have left his head. Up next is Arthur.

Grizzly

Just got to tackle them within 6ft of their range, honestly.

Charlie

Okay.

Grizzly

Strength plus Brawl?

Charlie

Strength plus Brawl.

Grizzly

Five successes.

Charlie

Ooh.

Bizly

Wow.

Charlie

Nice! He only gets one, which makes it four. I'm going to say with this, you go barrelling towards him, grab him like fucking Kratos and just start running down the alleyway, but before slamming him to the ground, I'm going to say you can just get to the edge of the reach of these tentacles. I'm going to say two of these tentacles can get to him.

Grizzly

Okay, two of them go for him.

Charlie

And he's going to take - how many successes did you get again?

Grizzly

Five.

Charlie

Five? Nice. He takes two bashing damage. You actually slam him into the ground and he stops moving.

Grizzly

Are you for real?

Grizzly

He drank so much of my blood!

Condi

He was all fucking aggravated though, 'cause of this fire.

Charlie

Okay, yeah, no, you're right. He will use a blood point to heal. So he stops moving for a second, you see as the blood kind of soaks into him a little bit.

Grizzly

Is that reflexive? The heal?

Charlie

Yeah, yeah.

Grizzly

Okay.

Charlie

I'm not done - what the fuck?

(Laughter)

Charlie

These shadows descend upon him.

Grizzly

Two snakes. (hissing)

Charlie

Two snakes.

Grizzly

In his boots, they're coming for him.

Condi

Two snakes.

Deacon Keller

Not the rattlers, not the rattlers! I won't go back.

(Laughter)

Grizzly

Oh, my God.

Deacon Keller

I don't want another snake in my boot!

Charlie

He manages to just barely roll out of the way, you see as he is... Actually, wait, wait wait wait, wait wait wait...

Grizzly

He's pinned, right?

Charlie

Yeah, he's like on the ground. You see, he rolls out of the way. But you know that basically next turn he has to spend it getting back up to his feet. You slammed him down pretty hard. So, he's looking bloodied, barely rolls out of the way of these, is just looking at you with this hatred still in this Frenzy. Shilo.

Bizly

All right, um...

Grizzly

Frenzied vampire cannot be reasoned with. Man that's very hungry.

Bizly

Should I roll-?

Charlie

He's just pissed.

Bizly

Kind of like Frenzy or anything like that? Is there anything I would need to roll here?

Charlie

You're not at risk of frenzying.

Bizly

Just wondering, just wondering.

Charlie

Yeah.

Bizly

Okay.

Charlie

He heard Arthur and then all his friends died. That's why he frenzied.

Grizzly

He jumped very many - well, not very many conclusions. He didn't think it through, he's already - he's just mad.

Charlie

No, yeah. He maybe could have thought it through, but if he - yeah, he failed the...

Grizzly

We'll see how it goes.

Bizly

I'd like to look around this alley. Is there anything sharp like a weapon? Like a sword?

Charlie

Like a sword?

Bizly

Well, that's what Shilo knows. He knows sword, is there a sword?

Charlie

There's not a sword.

Shilo

Like a plank of wood that is like, broken off?

Charlie

There's absolutely-

Bizly

A stake.

(Laughter)

Condi

Probably just like a piece of wood that - from the explosion.

Charlie

I would say that you could just grab a-

Bizly

They shot a lot of stakes around, also.

Charlie

I would say you could fucking grab like a piece of wood or a piece of metal from like a nearby dumpster, yeah.

Bizly

All right.

Charlie

Up to you.

Bizly

Was this like near the place where they were shooting all the stakes?

Charlie

No.

Bizly

Aw, crap.

Charlie

No, you guys are not close to that.

Bizly

All right, I'd like to like- pick up-

Charlie

But you could find a plank of wood to use as a stake.

Bizly

A piece of splintered plywood - or not plywood - like a 2 x 4. Can I on the same turn, run up and try to stab him?

Charlie

Absolutely. (Laughter)

Charlie

This is going to be hard, just so you know.

Bizly

That's all right. He's on the ground, though.

Charlie

He's on the ground. He just like kind of swats you out of the way as this stake goes crashing into the cement, fracturing. This piece of wood.

Bizly

I'm definitely like, stumbling around.

Charlie

Yeah, you absolutely are.

Bizly

Flung to the ground.

Charlie

Up next is Deacon. He's gotta use his turn to stand up. You see as blood is coursing through him that he is going to. You see, as he tenses up to move again, he can't yet, you see as his wounds slightly close up even more.

Condi

He's got to be, like, out.

Shilo

Arthur, please, there's got to be another way out of this.

Charlie

That's all he can do. Arthur, you're up next. He's in range of two of your tentacles right now.

Grizzly

He's not in range of the other two? I mean, they were all like...

Condi

What's another tackle?

Charlie

If you tackled him again, he would be.

Condi

What's another tackle, amiright?

Grizzly

There's something else that I think I'd rather do.

Charlie

Okay. Yeah, go for it.

Grizzly

He's still in range of two, right?

Charlie

He's still in range of two.

Grizzly

That might be enough. What I'm going to do here.

Bizly

Well this is crappy.

Grizzly

Sorry.

Condi

He shot the sheriff.

Bizly

Yeah, he shot the deputy. The sheriff shot the deputy.

Condi

The sheriff shot the deputy.

Grizzly

I'm not going to even address him unless I see that he's not frenzied for any.

Charlie

Yeah, he's still frenzied.

Grizzly

I know there's no point talking to him at the moment. So... Here's what I'm going to do. I'm going to do Shroud of Night. My tentacles are going to try and restrain him.

Charlie

Okay.

Grizzly

Okay?

Charlie

Okay.

Grizzly

Okay, so that's the plan. Shroud of Night, Manipulation plus Occult difficulty seven.

Charlie

Unfortunately, again, it's just able to step out of the way of this next one. Shilo.

Bizly

Shilo will kind of, like, stumble up to his feet and look at both of them.

Shilo

Please, I- why does anyone have to die still?

Deacon Keller

(rabid noises)

Shilo

After everyone has already died?

Arthur

[Growling] Prince.

Deacon Keller

Growl with a twang.

Arthur

Prince,

Grizzly

As loudly as I can say it.

Arthur

You're never going to reason... With a monster.

Deacon Keller

You killed 'em, you killed 'em all!

Arthur

[Growling] You should know that.

Bizly

He's not the monster!

Arthur

[Growling] We're all monsters right now, he's frenzied. If you want to live, you should run.

Deacon Keller

I'm gonna eat ya.

(Laughter)

Charlie

You see that that is directed towards Arthur, though. Seems like Arthur is the sub - is where his eyes are locked on right now.

Bizly

And it looks like Arthur will not stop until he's dead, and...

Charlie

I guess that's up to Arthur.

Bizly

I'm asking you.

Grizzly

Yeah, it kind of looks like Arthur is going to... he won't run because he'll get chased as he's frenzied. So he has to stand here and fight it until he's no longer frenzied or until he wins. So one of those.

Charlie

Yeah.

Bizly

So Dominate entirely does not work.

Charlie

Not going to work on him.

Charlie

No. He's older than you and he's frenzied.

Charlie

You can still try social rolls, they're gonna be at a minus two.

Bizly

I'll try one more time. I'll stop looking at Arthur.

Charlie

What do you say?

Shilo

[pained] Deacon? Deacon, your friends are already dead!

(Laughter)

Shilo

You don't have to die too.

Grizzly

This should - I hate him. (Laughs) This should make him more mad.

Charlie

'Your friends are already dead'.

Condi

That's fair, it's something like that.

Charlie

Okay, give me Manipulation plus Subterfuge. Or I guess it's kind of Intimidation, isn't it?

Bizly

I'm not trying to intimidate him.

Charlie

What are you trying to do?

Bizly

I'm trying to convince him that there's already been enough death and that we don't have to kill each other.

Charlie

'Friends are already dead.' All righ.

Bizly

Your friends are already dead, you don't have to die too. That was the ending of that. That wasn't just trying to throw it in his face that his fucking friends are dead.

Charlie

No, I got you. I mean, I would say that this is actually Charisma plus Expression. If you're just trying to plea with him, basically.

Bizly

5 and a 4, that's literally not shit. Fuck this world.

Charlie

He did botch the roll.

Condi

Oh.

Grizzly

Oh shit! That's bad!

Charlie

So that is bad. You got no successes, but he botched. So he's like,

Bizly

You're kidding me.

Deacon Keller

Son, is that supposed to make me feel fuckin' better?

Charlie

And you see, he almost comes to the surface for that.

Grizzly

(Laughing) Just to say that.

Charlie

Just to say that. So now you can tell that he's on the surface now, you got through to him in some capacity.

Shilo

All I'm trying to say is there's been enough bloodshed. Why more, Deacon? You're the sheriff. You're a hero.

Deacon Keller

I'm not a hero, son, I failed.

Deacon Keller

There's still time to succeed.

Charlie

Looks back at the fucking huge burning inferno.

Deacon Keller

How do you reckon' that?

Shilo

We... Figure out how to make sure it doesn't happen again?

(Laughter)

Deacon Keller

I got an idea.

Charlie

Looks at Arthur.

Shilo

Without killing anyone else!

Charlie

I'm going to say at this point, unless you guys want to continue the fight, you guys are pretty clearly at kind of a standstill here. Just based on the rounds so far. Unless you want to keep fighting him, it can essentially end here and turn into a social encounter.

Grizzly

I want him restrained before I talk to him.

Charlie

Okay. In that case...

Grizzly

You said he's ruling - he's rolling - fuck. He looks like he's having a harder time dodging?

Charlie

The more times you hit him in a turn, the harder a time he has to dodge. And now that his Frenzy has dropped, he looks like he's reacting to his wounds more, yeah.

Grizzly

I don't think it's a standstill, I think he's losing. But I can't say something on my turn.

Bizly

I'm pleading with both of you assholes, not just him.

Deacon Keller

What do you say, Arthur?

Grizzly

To what?

Charlie

To his basically request to stop. He has his gun still out, is looking between you and the shadow tentacles.

Bizly

I bat my little eyelashes at him.

Grizzly

I won't drop them at all.

Charlie

Okay.

Grizzly

But I will say, if I have a chance to speak.

Arthur

Why am I not surprised that the one power of this town has literally no self control? What do you think is more valuable to the queen? A sheriff that attacks at first sight or someone in the bed with the enemy? Have you never been at war? Spies are the most valuable. I warned the Primogen. It was his duty to warn everyone else. Taking your anger out on me is a child's way of acting.

Charlie

Charisma plus Expression.

Bizly

I agree with what he said, I agree with that.

Grizzly

Yeah, I don't have very much for any of those, honestly.

(Laughter)

Charlie

(Laughing) I just saw you toss one single rock.

Grizzly

I got one success.

Charlie

When you compare it to being in bed with the enemy, when you compare it to that, his narrowed gaze kind of softens a little. Almost as if what you said earlier was right, he made a lot of assumptions and it softens a little. He doesn't put his gun away yet.

Deacon Keller

So what are you tryin' to say?

Arthur

I'm trying to say the queen would be very disappointed if you botched this opportunity to be this close to the ones hunting all the vampires. (exasperated breath)

Deacon Keller

So you're sayin' you'll help now?

Arthur

I came here for one simple thing. To find someone and get answers from them. What the Grimslayers do, I have no control over. But I did bring the knowledge to that club, put myself in danger just to save that prince. And you kill me, you'll be the one making the mistake.

Deacon Keller

I wanna' like you, Arthur. But wherever you go, trouble follows.

Arthur

I'm fucking aware.

Condi

(Laughs)

Shilo

Well, perhaps we can stop the trouble for right now.

Deacon Keller

For the prince, I'll put my gun down if you drop whatever the fuck those noodles are.

Grizzly

The snakeeeeeeee.

Deacon Keller

I don't like 'em. And I don't like that they're doing that.

Shilo

They're very scary, I've told them a couple of times.

Deacon Keller

You're right, Shilo. We've already lost enough.

Shilo

Okay, so-?

Deacon Keller

Unless you try me, and then I will go for it.

Shilo

This pissing contest is really stupid.

Deacon Keller

Yeah, especially 'cause of how hard I can piss.

Shilo

I...

Deacon Keller

No other reason.

Arthur

That depends, Deacon. If this information were to ever leave your lips, all of my work for the last 130 years would be for nothing.

Deacon Keller

And what are you workin' towards exactly?

Arthur

Peace.

Deacon Keller

Okay.

Arthur

I just want peace, Deacon.

Charlie

Give me one last Charisma plus, I will say Expression or Empathy roll.

Grizzly

I can do Empathy.

Charlie

Okay, do Empathy.

Grizzly

Two successes.

Charlie

Shilo, can you also roll Charisma plus Empathy.

Bizly

Get one success.

Charlie

All right, that brings it up to three. I'm going to say with a three. He says,

Deacon Keller

All right, I believe you.

Charlie

And he puts his gun away first.

Shilo

Oh, thank God.

Grizzly

I kill him!

Condi

I strangle him!

Deacon Keller

You motherfucker! Shit, I believe you! NoOoOOo!

Charlie

Gets dragged down to hell, dies forever, goodbye. I mean, you can. If you tried, it would work.

Bizly

We're not in combat, can I use blood points to heal myself?

Charlie

Yeah, absolutely, man.

Bizly

All right, cool.

Condi

What time is it now?

Charlie

Oh, fuck.

Condi

How long did that take us?

Charlie

Yeah, the light is starting to... Like, the sky is starting to change color, for sure.

Grizzly

Yeah, okay, I drop the tentacles.

Deacon Keller

All right.

Grizzly

We don't really have time to kill him.

(Laughter)

Deacon Keller

Sorry, what was that last part-? We don't have much time, and I can't-

Grizzly

Bye bye, snakies~

Deacon Keller

I can't promise after what happened tonight, I don't know when I'll see you again. What'd you even come here looking for?

Arthur

Sorry, I'm... Completely out of blood. So I don't speak.

Deacon Keller

All right, you motherfucker.

Charlie

Offers you his arm. (Laughs)

Condi

Oh, that's funny.

Grizzly

Okay, I take it.

Condi

This is just, like, weird, now.

Grizzly

Ha ha ha ha, we're in love!

Deacon Keller

Yeah, yeah.

Grizzly

Okay.

Charlie

Anyways,

Deacon Keller

Whatever, you cutie-patoo- shit.

Grizzly

Still better than Twilight.

Charlie

Better than Twilight.

Deacon Keller

Let's just say on a scale of one to ten of- two.

Charlie

So how much blood do you want to take from him?

Grizzly

I think if I took two, he'd be dead tomorrow.

Charlie

If you took two, he'd have no blood. He'd go (chokes and dies)

Grizzly

Would Shilo offer?

Bizly

I have three.

Condi

Oh, we're low blood vampires.

Bizly

You would look over at Shilo and he's like fallen to the ground and he's like just looking up, wheezing.

Grizzly

[exasperated] Oh, my God. Well, I'll just take-

Deacon Keller

Sorry, little prince.

Grizzly

What do you mean? Can I roll for it? Because I wouldn't know that he only has two.

Charlie

He just said on a scale of one to ten, I'm rolling it at a two right now.

Grizzly

Oh, he said it like, okay, I'll take one just so I can wake up tomorrow.

Charlie

Okay, cool cool cool cool cool. Yep, you both take one.

Grizzly

We'll be fucking hungry.

Deacon Keller

All right, welp.

Shilo

Deacon-

Deacon Keller

The sun sets again.

Shilo

Why do bullets hurt so bad?

Deacon Keller

I don't know.

Charlie

He just looks up.

Deacon Keller

Fast?

Shilo

Yeah, that probably makes sense. Where is Grefgore?

Bizly

I look around.

Grizzly

Where was Grefgore?

Charlie

(Laughing) Grefgore. Grefgore, you see-

Grizzly

Where is that little rascal?

Charlie

He finally finishes climbing to the top of a nearby fire escape and says

Grefgore

From the top rope, my prince!

Charlie

Immediately, like, dives off and goes for a-

(Laughter)

Grizzly

Oh my God.

Charlie

Goes for Deacon.

Condi

Oh my God.

Bizly

(Laughing) If Grefgore accidentally kills him, that will be the funniest thing ever-

Charlie

I had Grefgore roll, Grefgore had three successes. Grefgore is going to roll damage.

(Hysterical laughter)

Bizly

Please let that happen-!

Grizzly

(Laughing) Oh my fucking God, dude. Is he gonna fucking die-?

Charlie

Grefgore just rolled six successes on damage.

(Even more hysterical laughter)

Charlie

Deacon's gonna try and soak.

Condi

[hysterical] What the fuck-? What??

Grizzly

Oh no-

Charlie

Deacon - Deacon looks at you with kindness in his eyes and immediately with the force of a single queen's guard gets elbow dropped into the cement where his head cracks against it and he no longer moves.

[The most hysterical laughter imaginable]

Grizzly

That is the fucking - funniest thing I've ever fucking seen-!

Charlie

Oh my God...

Grizzly

Oh, shit!

Bizly

I'm gonna throw up! I'm gonna throw up!

Grefgore

Look, my prince. I exploded his head with my mind.

Bizly

I stand there staring at him.

Grizzly

Holy shit. Holy fucking shit.

Charlie

He just gets up, puts his fucking hands in the air.

Shilo

De- Deacon-?

Grizzly

And then I say,

Arthur

What a pain.

Shilo

Deacon?

Charlie

At this point, the sun is rising as you start to see the first faint cracks of dawn, what do you guys do?

Grizzly

Would I know that he's dead-dead or does he have a chance?

Charlie

He's not dead-dead. You would know that to kill a vampire you would have to decapitate them or light them on fire or some shit.

Grizzly

If he got left in the sun, he's dead?

Charlie

He's dead if you leave him in the sun, yeah.

Grizzly

Fuck me, dude.

Charlie

Yeah.

Grizzly

Well...

Condi

What a pain, literally.

Shilo

Is he dead?

Grizzly

He honestly seems like-

Grefgore

Yes, my prince.

Grizzly

Okay, okay okay - I'm gonna-

Grefgore

Gone forever, my prince. No one survives Grefgore's elbow.

Grizzly

I'll pick him up and we will - fuck, do I - shit, I don't even know where-

Grefgore

Good idea. Hide the body, my prince.

Shilo

Grefgore, we were just getting along.

Grizzly

I'm going to start picking up Deacon and putting him on my shoulder.

Grefgore

Already mid jump, my prince.

Grizzly

At this point as well, I will take off the-

Bizly

No, that's all right.

Grizzly

The uniform.

Shilo

The situation was very hard to read.

Charlie

The visor? Sounds good.

Grizzly

And leave it all in the alleyway.

Shilo

I understand.

Charlie

Okay.

Condi

That's funny. You approached him in the uniform, too.

Grizzly

I actually thought about taking it off and then I forgot because I have fucking - I have problems remembering.

Charlie

Yeah, that probably didn't help.

Grizzly

The thing is, when I was looking on the roof, I was like, okay, I got to remember to take off this uniform before I go up to someone, and then I didn't do it.

Charlie

That's so - so you did just walk. Whoa there, buddy! 'All your friends are dead!' In the fucking uniform.

Grizzly

Yeah, well...

Charlie

It worked out, it worked out.

Grizzly

It's okay, Arthur is a bit of a fucking idiot.

Charlie

What are you guys doing? Limited time.

Grizzly

I just want to look for a nearest hotel, specifically like, one of those motels that all the rooms are accessible from the outside. And I'm going to try and listen for a room that is silent.

Charlie

Oh, nice. Yeah, okay.

Grizzly

And find that.

Charlie

Okay, go ahead and roll me Perception plus Alertness.

Grizzly

3,4,5 success.

Charlie

You find an unlocked, completely empty, also cleaned room with a key card on the bed.

Grizzly

Hehehe!

Condi

Yeah.

Grizzly

This is someone's reservation.

Charlie

Yep.

Condi

Yeah, I'll be honest, it's probably right next to the Gutter.

Grizzly

No, we can't go back to that building, it's on fire.

Charlie

(Laughs) Okay. That's what you get.

Grizzly

We head in there. I make sure all the - I like the hang sheets in front of the blinds if they're not blackout curtains already. Don't know what kind of motel it is, you know what I mean?

Charlie

They're blackout curtains.

Grizzly

Oh, yeah. Lucky!

Condi

Wow.

Grizzly

Wow. For the first time in my life.

Charlie

You guys all go to the sex hotel.

Condi

Yeah, that's why-

Charlie

It's poggers.

Grizzly

I just put Deacon in the bathtub since he's probably a mess.

Shilo

Wait, why are you putting him in there?

Charlie

Put him in the bathtub.

Arthur

So that all of his-

Shilo

But that's where I'm going to sleep.

Arthur

But he's leaking and it will go down the drain.

Shilo

Well then, where can I- okay.

Arthur

Just sleep in a bed or under it. Or in the closet like I do.

Shilo

Right, right! He told me about the beds.

Bizly

I run over to the bed and I try and lay on it. I wait to sink in.

Charlie

Okay, this one. You just feel these, like hard metal pricks into your back basically.

Bizly

I get up and I run and I hug against the wall.

Shilo

That is a demon in there! There are demons in that box!

Arthur

It's a springboard.

Shilo

They're squeaking at me!

Charlie

You see, as the springboard gets up and starts running at you because you're still on drugs. And where do you guys want to sleep for tonight?

Shilo

Turn and I run into the wall like roadrunner and I hit my head and I fall asleep.

Charlie

(Laughs) Okay, great. What about you, Arthur?

Grizzly

I just open up the closet, hang upside down, get ready for the next day.

Charlie

Fuck yeah. All right.

Grizzly

Oh shit, dude, that was a night.

Charlie

All right everyone, go ahead. And at the end of the story, you get all your Willpower back and spend a blood as we are going to wake up the next night. Emizel?

Condi

Yeah?

Charlie

You open your eyes. And you are... The last thing you saw was just fire as it burned away your eyes and then black for a bit as you were running around and still fighting. And then... Nothing. And then you woke up here and you're floating on your back again in this wide pool of blood.

Grizzly

Zagreus?

Condi

Yeah, that's real as hell.

Emizel

Ugh...

Charlie

Say anything? Do anything?

Condi

He kind of like wipes his face a little bit, like just to feel a sensation of something.

Charlie

Yeah.

Emizel

That was... (exhales) Cool.

Condi

Can he stand up in this pool of blood or...?

Charlie

No, you go to stand up and it's like such thick water. Like you don't need to tread, and even when you do, the contents of it, you kind of like end up floating back up to the surface. So what do you do in this pool of blood for the next 8 hours?

Condi

What do I do in this pool of blood for the next 8 hours?

Charlie

What do you do?

Condi

I don't know, what are my options? Like, swim around?

Charlie

Just swim in the blood?

Condi

Yeah, just swim in the blood.

Charlie

Do you swim in the blood?

Condi

Be very angry, just be very angry in my thoughts.

Charlie

Yep, what do you think about it?

Condi

Think about what I could have done to not (Laughs) be dead.

Charlie

Yep.

Condi

Yeah, he's like, 'oh, man, what if, I don't know, cut his leg off or cut his fingers off and then he can do those funny finger things.'

Charlie

And you think about that for a long time, just angrily treading here.

Emizel

I wish I killed my fucking sire.

Charlie

And you think to yourself too, like, is this what death is? Is death just a giant red infinity pool?

Grizzly

Of self reflection?

Charlie

Of self reflection forever?

Condi

Kinda hoped for like, at least a movie of my life or something, like...

Charlie

No...

Condi

A book that has all my stats in it.

Charlie

No there's only lake.

Charlie

It's only the movie Click.

Condi

No, he watches Click on repeat.

Charlie

No, there's no-

Grizzly

Oh yeah, you're in hell alright.

Charlie

Yeah, you just see - you look in the distance when you think of Click and you just see so far in the distance like a TV set playing Click, but you can't get to it? You try swimming to it it doesn't get any closer, but you can always just kind of hear it when you think about it.

Emizel

No, he said the really funny joke. He beat up those children!

Adam Sandler

Hehe, Click!

Emizel

No!

Charlie

And eventually you start to feel a warmth on the top of your head as like there's this faint yellow light from above you.

Emizel

No, wait, don't take me, he's almost at the scene where he gets really fat! I think it's just really funny for some reason.

Adam Sandler

Click.

Emizel

It's not because I'm an awful person.

Adam Sandler

I'm going to get really fat.

Emizel

No! NO! This God, is a cruel one.

Charlie

Nothing happens with the light yet.

Condi

Oh, okay.

Charlie

There's just a light coming down, looks like - there feels like there's something above you. You look up.

Condi

I give up on Click.

Charlie

You give up on Click. Click sinks back into the blood and it'll never come back again.

Emizel

No!

Charlie

And you look up, as you float up on your back, up at the sky, gigantic floating yellow orbs with these black slits in them.

Condi

Like... Like Eyes?

Charlie

Like cat eyes.

Condi

Like cat eyes?

Charlie

Yep.

Condi

Like the cat? Oh, that's funny.

Charlie

And you see them kind of blink curiously at you.

Emizel

Pepper, is that you?

Charlie

Move around.

Emizel

Why are you everywhere?

Charlie

And then you just hear,

Voice

Eight.

Condi

(Laughs)

Charlie

And... Your eyes shoot open.

Emizel

(Gasps)

Charlie

And you crawl out of this ashy wreckage towards the night sky and reach your hands and fingers out to feel the cold air. As you crawl into this claustrophobic wreck and you are covered in ash, you are completely naked, and you are in the wreckage of Club Crepuscule.

Emizel

Holy fuck!

Charlie

And just up there, like, looking at you, just when you get up to the wreckage, licking your hand, is the cat you know as Pepper.

Condi

I pet her.

Grizzly

Holy fuck...

Condi

I mean, I give her a little pet.

Charlie

You give her a little pet.

Emizel

Hey, I'm naked right now this is, like, much more uncomfortable than it needs to be.

Charlie

She just looks at you.

Pepper

Meow.

Charlie

And kind of like, flicks her tail playfully.

Grizzly

Shit, am I also an assumptuous vampire?

(Laughter)

Charlie

Flicks her tail playfully and-

Emizel

It's okay.

Charlie

Starts to walk in a direction.

Emizel

I know exactly where to go, I hid that SpongeBob shirt somewhere around here.

Charlie

Oh God! Yeah. You say that you look down and you see just the faintest scrap of just SpongeBob's face left of the shirt. He's like, still got the grill on, but that's all that's left.

Condi

He picks up the ashes and they start pouring through his fingers, like, in between the webbing.

Charlie

It just Incinerates, yeah.

Emizel

No... Ah, that's okay. I have a squidward shirt now-

Charlie

Dear God.

Condi

He's a big fan of SpongeBob, okay? It's just - It's really funny. He connects with it.

Charlie

And then you hear from down below you.

Officer

Hey, what are you doing up there?

Charlie

And there's just like a police officer, like pointing up at you as you're basically in the wreckage of this building. Like a fucking rafter just covered in ashes.

Emizel

Uh...

Condi

I run. I sprint. On like, all fours run.

Charlie

You just dive into the street on all fours into the night and just start prowling off.

Condi

This would be like described, like a cryptid, y'know?

Charlie

(Laughs) Jesus Christ!

Condi

Like one of those shitty cryptid videos.

Charlie

I'll never unsee that! You go sprinting off, where are you going?

Condi

Uh, good question. Night just started?

Charlie

The night just started.

Condi

Yeah. Well, I guess first things first is I'm going to find something to cover myself up with.

Charlie

Okay. Where do you go for that?

Grizzly

Oh, he nakey.

Condi

I nakey, I nakey.

Charlie

Oh, you're straight up naked.

Grizzly

I must've missed that.

Condi

I straight up nakey.

Charlie

You're straight up naked, yeah.

Condi

I am full on nakey-nakey.

Charlie

Your clothes got fucking incinerated, yes.

Condi

Yeah... Yeah, I mean, surely... God, what would have-? He was across the- Is the bar open across the street? The Gutter?

Charlie

Yeah, the Gutter is open.

Condi

Yeah, they'd know me there.

Charlie

Yeah, you walk into the Gutter, you see a sign that says 'Shirts, Shoes, no service'.

Condi

Well, I've got nada of those.

Charlie

Okay. You walk into the fucking Gutter, you see there's some Demons like hanging out there and stuff. And you actually see, coincidentally there, looks like he's on probably drink number you don't even know what, there's a lot of glasses next to him, is your friend Theo.

Emizel

Oh, Theo. Theo! What's up, man?

Condi

I go and dap him up.

Theo

Oh, hey, man, how's it going? I'm just, uh... I've turned to the bottle.

(Laughter)

Grizzly

You fucked his life up, dude. You fucked it all up.

Theo

Y'know, it's sort of spicy in a different way, man.

Emizel

Dude, it's not-

Theo

Oh shit, where's your clothes, man? What happened?

Emizel

Uh, got caught in a fire. Uh, burned away.

Theo

Just the clothes, man?

Emizel

Just the clothes.

Theo

Makes sense. Bartender, another round - of clothes.

Charlie

You see some Demons come up to you and give you some spare, just like fucking Demon attire. It's very street wear.

Condi

It's the exact same shit I always wear probably.

Charlie

Yeah.

Demon

Keep this around just in case a fire burns all my clothes off.

Charlie

Just hands it to you.

Emizel

Yeah, it happens all the time.

Theo

Happens all the time! You said it.

Emizel

Yeah. Theo, man, I mean like alcohol. You sure, man?

Theo

Um, yeah, man, I mean, uh- (shaky laugh)

Emizel

There's water, you could try water? Have you tried it?

Theo

Shut up about water, man. Don't talk to me about water.

Emizel

I'm just worried about you because things have changed, obviously. You're going down a bad route.

Theo

Things have changed.

Charlie

Takes another fucking swig of this bottle just pounds it down.

Theo

(sighs) There was someone that looked like you, man. And that's when I stopped likin' it.

(Laughter)

Theo

That's when I stopped likin' soda. Every time I think about soda? The next thing I think about is him and he looked just like you.

Emizel

I'm going to fix you, Theo. I swear it on my life, I'm going to fix you.

Theo

(sighs) Only soda can fix me, man. And he took that.

Emizel

Oh no. Hey, man... I mean, like... uh...

(Laughter)

Emizel

I don't know, I don't know what to say to you anymore. It's like - it's like you're a different person, okay?

Theo

I've been getting that a lot. None of the guys are looking at me the same. You're probably the only one I can even call a friend anymore.

Emizel

Yeah.

Theo

So, uh... Anything I can help with?

Emizel

Uh... I mean, you've seen, like, a guy anywhere that looks just like me, but is not?

Theo

Yeah, have you?

Emizel

Well, I mean, I just saw him, but he might have ran away from the building fire across the street.

Theo

Well, we got to find him. Oh, yeah, I heard about that. Gas leak or something, right?

Emizel

Yeah, gas... More like gas - gas - intentional arson, insurance fraud kind of deal, y'know?

Theo

Oh, yeah, man, of course. Happens all the time. Club Crepuscule, though. Weird.

Emizel

Yeah. Never took 'em for the type.

Theo

Yeah, not the only big fire today, too, apparently.

Emizel

What?

Charlie

You see as he points at the TV and the lower third is, like, 'famous', in quotes. Like 'Dracula's castle, no more.'

Grizzly

[emphasized] Whaaat? Dracula?

Charlie

And you see what looks like-

Condi

Is this like overseas?

Charlie

Yeah, it looks like national news cover. It's kind of like when the Notre Dame caught on fire.

Condi

Yeah, yeah.

Charlie

You see that, it just looks like a wreck. I mean, it's just like rubble, essentially. It's, like, kind of scattered around. And it says something about natural gas explosion, just stuff was left unchecked. Like historic monument lost.

Grizzly

In Romania?

Charlie

[audible smile] It's in Romania.

Bizly

Oh, crap.

Emizel

I've never heard of that place before in my life, but it must've been fuckin'...

Theo

No, man, I don't fucking read.

Emizel

Yeah, but I mean, clearly it's some kind of big deal because it's on Fox News.

(Laughter)

Charlie

Yeah, you see as it swoops us over to this man.

Fox News Man

Now back to racism!

Theo

Whoa, that's a lot to unpack. Jesus, change the channel, bartender. Jeez Louise, I don't know what's going on there.

Emizel

Jeez, yeah. What the fuck's up with that?

Theo

Whoa.

(Laughter)

Theo

Change the channel. Family guy!

Emizel

I love family guy!

Theo

Yeah.

Stewie

Ehehehehe...

Emizel

Oh, man. Common Stewie W.

Brian

Stewie, Stewie. I'm a dog, Stewie. I'm a dog, Stewie.

Stewie

What are you talking about?

Brian

Stewie, Stewie I'm a dog.

Stewie

Brian...

Emizel

Oh, regular Brian L, here.

Theo

This is good stuff.

Stewie

Brian, Brian. I'm a baby Brian.

Brian

Oh, Stewie. Stewie.

Stewie

Yes, Brian? Brian look. Brian look.

Brian

What is it? Stewie. What is it, Stewie?

Stewie

What are - what are those pills?

Theo

Emizel, we got to go.

Stewie

What are those pills called that make your dick bigger?

Emizel

Listen, I mean-

Brian

It's Viagra, Stewie. It's called Viagra.

Stewie

I have taken Viagra.

Brian

Stewie, you're a baby, Stewie. Don't take Viagra, Stewie.

Stewie

My dick is bigger than I am stood, Brian.

Brian

Stewie, you're a little football baby, Stewie.

Stewie

I have to drag it behind me like a snake, Brian. Like a snake. Sssss. Like a snake, Brian.

Brian

Remember that episode when I died?

(Laughter)

Emizel

Bartender turn off the tv.

Stewie

If you die right now, Brian, you won't get to see my massive cock.

Charlie

Bartender turns off the TV.

Theo

Dude, what the hell?

(Laughter)

Emizel

Yeah, sorry about that. I just figure, like, hey, do you have a car or something, man?

Charlie

Does he?? Does Soda have a car?

Grizzly

He could, it's up to you.

Charlie

You would know. Does Soda have a car? Would it make sense?

Condi

Soda's like... I mean, maybe. He would like-

Bizly

Just say yes.

Condi

Yeah.

Bizly

It's good for you, he does.

Grizzly

He drives a Ford f150. Ford f150.

Condi

We would have stolen one together probably.

Charlie

He does not drive a Ford f150.

Grizzly

Fuck.

Condi

He does not, no. This is like a really run down.

Bizly

You're right, he drives a Toyota tundra.

Grizzly

Corolla, oh, that works too.

Charlie

He drives like a beat up Corolla, yeah.

Grizzly

Corolla~

Theo

Yeah, bet! Where are we going, man?

Emizel

Yeah, I don't know. I mean, I'm just kind of looking for this guy that looks like me.

Theo

All right, sounds good.

Emizel

Apparently he's my brother.

Charlie

Puts down, like, the twelfth bottle, looks at you.

Theo

Okay, bartender, time for me to go drive.

Emizel

You got this. I've had a long night. I could really use some time in the passenger seat.

Theo

Don't worry, man. I got you.

Charlie

Fully just like falls out of the doorway.

Theo

Where am I taking you?

Charlie

Gets in the car.

Emizel

I know, I'm just trying to think, like, where would people like them stay after a long night in fire?

Charlie

Yeah, you see-

Grizzly

(giggles) Bartender...

Charlie

Pepper kind of like-

Bartender

Yes! Come again!

Charlie

At the end of the street, looking at you, kind of like, back over her shoulder.

Pepper

Meow.

Condi

Can I-

Charlie

Flicks her tail playfully.

Condi

Can I roll to read what she is trying to tell me?

Charlie

Yeah, I'll say you don't have to roll to see that she's trying to get you to kind of follow.

Emizel

Oh, hey! It looks like it's just around the corner.

Theo

Uh, what man? Yeah, gas?

Charlie

Fucking floors it.

Emizel

Just follow that cat. They seem - they kind of go everywhere.

Charlie

Yeah, okay. Somehow he doesn't crash the car. He's just like, swerving you through the streets. You guys are following this cat, and eventually you end up at the sex motel and just looks at you.

Grizzly

Where you fuck. Where you fuck. It's one of those motels.

Condi

I mean, Theo, we're close, man, but...

Theo

Hey, I don't know what just happened man-

Grizzly

The bed is shaped like a heart. There are rose petals on the hallways.

Theo

I was just following the cat, I swear, but now it's gone.

Emizel

(sighs) Let me get out, one second.

Charlie

Yeah, you hop out.

Condi

I slammed the door.

Grizzly

The bath is picking up for two.

Condi

Can I use senses? Can I try to smell, sniff sniffy? (sniffs)

Charlie

Yeah, absolutely. Give me Perception plus Alertness.

Condi

Three.

Charlie

You smell blood and you see like a Slight blood trail leading into a particular door.

Emizel

Wow, that - that's - just there.

Condi

(Laughs)

Charlie

It's kind of hard to make out, but it's like some drops.

Condi

Okay. I mean, the police don't really come to these buildings that often anyways.

Charlie

And at this point you would definitely be awake for at least first fi-

(aggressive knocking)

Charlie

You wake up to knocking.

Emizel

Hello? Anybody in there?

Grizzly

Okay, immediately I'm going to probably-

Emizel

I don't know, Theo. Just doesn't seem like they're in here.

Grizzly

-Frenzy. I'm so hungry.

Charlie

Oh, yeah. You have to use blood point to wake up.

Grizzly

I wake up with zero blood points. And so would Deacon.

Charlie

So does Deacon.

Grizzly

So, these two old men open the door who still don't look old, but they're old in spirit-

Bizly

I'm hiding under the bed.

Grizzly

-and they're going to eat you. You better run.

Charlie

Yeah. Veins in both their eyes.

Deacon Keller

...what?

Arthur

What?

Emizel

Oh, Arthur, Deacon, good to see ya.

Deacon Keller

I mean, what?

Grizzly

We opened the door at love hotel? Fuck!

(Laughter)

Charlie

You guys both same time, open it.

Emizel

What are you two doing here? You're like, together.

Deacon Keller

Maybe that level one blood bond is more serious than we thought.

Arthur

I don't remember anything from last night.

Deacon Keller

Me neither. What happened?

Arthur

Good. Good that you don't.

Shilo

Who is out there? Are they trying to kill us?

Emizel

Oh. Oh-kay.

(Laughter)

Emizel

The three of you. All right, I mean...

Grefgore

My prince! Do you need anything?

Shilo

No, that will be all right. Actually, I'm getting pretty hungry, can you press the blood button?

Grefgore

Yes, my prince, I'll start looking right away.

Charlie

Just starts tearing down the wallpaper.

Shilo

I'm sure it's there somewhere.

Charlie

And you guys are reunited once more.

Emizel

Cool, cool cool cool. Yeah, uh...

Grizzly

I do that thing that dads do.

Emizel

I mean, I can give you guys a minute.

Grizzly

You know those maybe like uncles or dads grab the back of your head and shove you into a place.

Charlie

Yeah, you shove him in, shut the door.

Grizzly

I do that and shut the door.

Charlie

Love it.

Emizel

Hey. No, okay, I see - you guys probably have some stuff going on here - you. You.

Bizly

I'm like crawling under the bed.

Emizel

We got to talk about my friend Theo - or Soda, man.

Shilo

You're talking about Theo? You know Theo!

Emizel

Yeah, he's like my best friend and you've ruined him. You've ruined his life.

Shilo

What are you talking about?

Condi

I don't know. Like you made him stop-

Shilo

No, please, not the - you want to kill me too! Everyone wants to kill me!

Bizly

I pull the blanket down.

Charlie

You hear a knocking on the door.

(Knocking)

Theo

Hey, man, everything okay in there?

Grizzly

This is bad. We're going to fucking kill him!

Theo

Just saw some random guy pull you into a hotel room.

Grizzly

Oh my God. You brought a human to two hungry vampires!

Theo

Just wanna make sure everything is okay!

Emizel

Hey Theo! Theo? Not now!

Deacon Keller

Is that one up for grabs?

Grizzly

I open the door.

Emizel

No, no, his blood tastes like - alcohol, and - and-

Charlie

You open the door.

Emizel

Carbonation.

Theo

Oh, hey, man!

Shilo

Oh, crap.

Theo

What's up? My name's Theo.

Emizel

Hey, listen. Hey hey hey hey hey-

Charlie

He's going to roll a check.

Condi

I close the door, I close the door.

Charlie

You close the door?

Condi

Yeah.

Charlie

Before you do, he locks eyes with Shilo.

Bizly

I'm hiding under the bed, I put the blanket-

Charlie

You're hiding under the bed?

Bizly

Yeah, yeah yeah yeah.

Charlie

Okay, okay okay. Yeah, he just sees a lump back there. Okay, yeah sure, the door just shuts in his face.

Emizel

Listen, if you guys are hungry right now - I saw you fucking drooling, okay?

Grizzly

Drooling blood, probably.

Emizel

This is a love hotel, I'm sure there's a lot of people in here that are really into that shit, okay?

Arthur

We really worked up an appitite last night.

Emizel

They probably left the door open.

Shilo

What are you talking about? Love hotel?

Emizel

Yeah, this is where people fuck.

Shilo

They wHAT?

Condi

Where they fuck. It's where they fuck.

Shilo

Why??

Grizzly

Do you even - what kind of books you reading to know what that means?

Emizel

Not for purposes of reproduction, that's for sure.

Shilo

I've read a couple of books. I got the talk Uncle Lazarus talked about bird and bee.

Emizel

'kay listen, but like that man out there? You took him from soda to alcohol. You know how much he's drank today and how badly he drove afterwards?

Shilo

I can - I can probably like - convince him not to drink alcohol either.

Emizel

No, no, no, just let him drink soda again.

Shilo

I can't do that, it's so bad for him.

Emizel

No!

Shilo

Have you tried it?

Emizel

This isn't a mor- I have!

Theo

Everything okay in there?

Shilo

Wait a minute.

Emizel

This is the morality thing, okay? That's his entire life! Like, he's gonna-!

Bizly

At this point Shilo gets up and out from under the bed and comes over and looks at you and starts to have, like, a weird look on his face. And he like... Pokes at your face and lurches back.

Condi

I grab your hand.

Bizly

He pulls back with all of his might, he's trying to run away from you.

Condi

I'm just holding your hand, I'm holding your hand.

Bizly

No, I run, I run, I run.

Condi

No, you don't get away.

Bizly

I do, I do run. I do run.

Arthur

Boy.

Bizly

I do.

Arthur

Boy. Boy.

Emizel

Which one are you talking to?

Arthur

Get that human out of here.

Emizel

Listen, he needs to undo what he did to Soda first! I mean-

Deacon Keller

Listen, Arthur, you got to get that human out of here.

Shilo

Why would you-?

Emizel

Listen, he needs soda, he needs his soda.

Shilo

...I thought you were dead.

Emizel

No, why would I be dead?

Shilo

You were in a building and it exploded.

Emizel

That's fucking awesome. No, you're going to turn Theo back into Soda, okay? And maybe get him to stop-

Shilo

Look, alright, alright - I'll turn him into whatever you want me to, alright?

Emizel

Just Soda. Just Soda. Make him - let him have his soda back, man. He's not the same person. He's so sad.

Shilo

Will you forget about the soda?

Emizel

No!

Theo

What did you say in there? (knocks) Something about soda?

Bizly

I walk over, open the door.

Charlie

He tackles you.

Bizly

I look at him, he's tackled on top of me.

Charlie

Immediately, as soon as he sees you, he fucking jumps.

Theo

It's you!

Bizly

He's on top of me, I say,

Shilo

You love soda and you want to run away towards it right now.

(Laughter)

Bizly

And I cast - I do thing on him, I get one fucking billion points, he goes and does it.

Charlie

You don't even need to roll. You've Dominated him so many times. He says,

Theo

Oh, fuck, thank you!

Charlie

Just runs out, gets in his car, immediately hits the gas.

Grizzly

Oh, my God!

Charlie

Forgets to put it in reverse.

Grizzly

He's gonna die!

Charlie

(Laughing) Slams into the motel. You see, the engine explodes. He gets out of the car, starts sprinting away.

Bizly

I go over to the door, I slam it shut. I look at Deacon. I look at-

Emizel

Oh, thank God.

Bizly

-Arthur. I say,

Shilo

You two, sit down. You.

Emizel

Hey, Deacon, did you see that thing I did to that guy?

Shilo

Will you please- I'm trying to like, talk or - Jesus Christ.

Emizel

What? Oh, my bad. Yeah, what's up?

Shilo

I just want to get one thing straight.

Emizel

Uh huh.

Shilo

Are you... Really...?

Deacon Keller

Bro, really just said 'Jesus Christ'.

Arthur

I'm surprised he didn't go up in flames.

Deacon Keller

Open a window, let that air out.

Shilo

Are you really my brother?

Emizel

No, I would never be brothers with a sickly Victorian child.

Grizzly

He said it.

Condi

I've been holding on to that one for five, six days now.

Shilo

All right, fine. Whatever.

Bizly

Shilo walks away.

Emizel

I mean, I don't know, I just bullshitted that. Arthur's one who's been saying that we're related.

Shilo

Great.

Arthur

Yes, anyone with a brain cell can say you are twins.

Deacon Keller

Yeah, now that you mention it, you guys do kind of look related.

Arthur

He screamed it at the party last night.

Emizel

I did scream it at the party, that was more like a power play. Y'know, I kind of did a few of those.

Charlie

You see, Grefgore walks up and gets on one knee.

Bizly

I go to Grefgore, I grab him.

Shilo

Grefgore, we are going to sulk in the closet.

Grefgore

Yes, my prince. But first I must pledge allegiance to my other prince as well.

Shilo

He said he's not a prince.

Emizel

This is nice, actually. I think I am a prince.

Grefgore

Okay, yeah, he says he is a prince, my prince.

Charlie

He gets on his knee.

Grefgore

I'm yours to command, my prince.

Emizel

I mean, I don't know what's your story, huh?

Bizly

From behind the closet door.

Shilo

Why do you care?

Emizel

I don't know, I - I don't know how we could possibly be brothers when I grew up, born and raised in LA, and you are - where are you from?

Shilo

Look, I don't know, okay. I heard someone was (gags) That my mother (Gags)

Charlie

Yeah, every time you try, you just can't, you just cough up ash.

Shilo

I don't know! Just leave me alone.

Emizel

Okay.

Charlie

Oh, you know what? The first time you try to say it, you cough up ash and the second time you go to say it, you stop yourself instinctively... But you find that you can talk.

Bizly

I don't feel any ash like coming up?

Charlie

Not this time. And you think maybe you can say it.

Shilo

Wait.

Bizly

I open the closet door.

Charlie

Okay.

Shilo

My mother was keeping tabs on someone. I came to find out who. I'm pretty sure it was you.

Emizel

And your mother was...?

Shilo

The queen.

Emizel

Yeah, okay, how do you know it was me? I mean, I'm just some fucking guy from Bumfuck nowhere who works in a mechanic shop.

Shilo

That mechanic shop... Was where she was keeping tabs.

Emizel

Oh.

Shilo

Perhaps that cat that never ages mysteriously?

Arthur

The one I told you was magical.

Emizel

Ohhh... Yeah, that's funny because I saw him in my dreams last night and he said 'eight'.

(Laughter)

Shilo

What?

Emizel

Yeah, I mean, I don't know, I'm just telling you what I saw. It's just my dreams. I don't know, they're - they're kind of like - strange sometimes.

Shilo

Why can I talk about this?

Arthur

I'm sure you two will be safe and learn a lot from Deacon.

Shilo

This is all so strange.

Charlie

Okay, yeah, you leave.

Bizly

I run out the door.

Shilo

Wait, where are you going?

Arthur

To keep looking.

Shilo

For who? What are you looking for? You found me, I'm right here! I thought you were... Coming to protect me.

Arthur

Deacon will be way better at that. Plus, he's already closer to the queen than I will ever be.

Deacon Keller

Well, hang on, pal. You still haven't even said who you're lookin' for.

Grizzly

Is everybody outside of the room now? Which is all in the hallway, like, little balcony?

Charlie

Yeah, I mean, it's again like that roadside hotel. So you guys are kind of like almost on the-

Bizly

Like, parking lot?

Charlie

Yeah yeah, parking lot.

Grizzly

Okay, I'll stop.

Deacon Keller

Just give me a name. I'm sure I've heard of them. Keep tabs on everyone.

Arthur

Over a hundred years ago in London. Her name was Anya. Anya Vimlock.

Charlie

He kind of thinks for a second.

Emizel

And what, you think she'd be in LA?

Arthur

I was told that she was seen here.

Deacon Keller

Huh. Can't say the name is ringing any bells, which is odd.

Arthur

Naturally red hair.

Deacon Keller

If I can't tell ya, I can at least tell you who can tell you. How does that sound?

Arthur

That would be helpful, yes.

Deacon Keller

What do you have of her? Just the name or anything else? Odd question. Do you have the memory?

Arthur

Of course I do.

Deacon Keller

Do you remember what she looked like?

Deacon Keller

Well, all right.

Arthur

I see it every night and it's burned into my memory.

Deacon Keller

Anya must be important to ya... So, there's two people I know that can maybe be of assistance here. Can't say I'm in great standin' with either. And they operate a little out of my jurisdiction, but... They've got their ways.

Charlie

He looks at you.

Deacon Keller

You know about the Tremere, right, son?

Arthur

Of course I do.

Deacon Keller

Freaky warlock, witch, wizard types. Not even really sure they're Kindred, but...

Arthur

So they say.

Deacon Keller

So they say. There's a coven of them here in Los Angeles, call themselves the Midnight Circle. As far as I know and what I've heard, they meet every full moon, Griffith Observatory park.

Emizel

Ah...

Deacon Keller

So, not sure you'll be able to go there right away.

Arthur

How long into the next full moon?

Deacon Keller

'Bout a week from now.

Arthur

About a week? We have a week? That's good.

Emizel

Deacon, you said you keep tabs on everybody in LA, right?

Deacon Keller

Yeah, I try my best. I like to be hands on.

Emizel

Yeah, well, there's somebody I'm looking for as well.

Deacon Keller

Oh shit.

Shilo

Oh crap, everybody is looking for someone.

Deacon Keller

Shoot away. You lookin' for anyone?

Emizel

The person who sired me.

Deacon Keller

All right.

Emizel

Short brown hair...

Deacon Keller

Not all of us are lucky enough to meet ours.

Emizel

Kind of shitty, ragged looking hoodie and jeans-

Deacon Keller

Yeah, got a name?

Emizel

Nope.

Deacon Keller

Okay, great. Got the memory?

Emizel

Yes.

Deacon Keller

Wonderful.

Emizel

It's burned into my brain.

Deacon Keller

All right, seems to be a theme. What about you, Shilo? You looking for anyone?

Shilo

Would these people who... Can tell your memory be able to tell if memory in your head is real or not?

Deacon Keller

I have... No idea, son, but...

Shilo

All right. Just wondering. But no, there's no one I'm...

Deacon Keller

It's freaky when you start thinking thoughts like that. Now I'm thinking, oh, shit, what's real?

Emizel

I mean, probably everything, right?

Deacon Keller

Probably. Unless it's not.

Emizel

But what if this is like a simulation? What if we're not real at all?

Deacon Keller

What if this is the playback of the false memory?

Emizel

Oh, my God.

Deacon Keller

And something else happened.

Emizel

That's crazy.

Shilo

That is very possible.

Emizel

I can't do that so, I mean, it's not me. I'm not the one doing it.

Deacon Keller

Yeah.

Shilo

Anyone powerful enough would be able to rewrite your whole life if they really wanted to.

Deacon Keller

I think maybe I could do that. If I tried real hard.

Shilo

I mean...

Emizel

Coulld you try it on me?

Deacon Keller

Yeah.

(Laughter)

Charlie

Do you just let him do it?

Condi

I don't fucking - wait, how much of my memory is he trying to rewrite?

Charlie

He'll just, like, do something as a bit.

Condi

Okay, yeah, as a bit, absolutely, yeah. I'd let him do it 'cause I'm totally like-

Deacon Keller

Hey, Emizel, remember for ten years when you were an actual weasel?

(Laughter)

Emizel

Yeah. That was weird.

Deacon Keller

Yeah. So, for instance, that one is probably not real, but who can say anymore?

Emizel

What?? No that was... that...

Charlie

You remember it so vividly, just, like, scouring through gutters and looking-

Condi

I had a wife and kid, and then I became a human one day.

Deacon Keller

As a weasel, yeah, that makes sense.

Condi

Yeah.

Deacon Keller

Seven days, full moon. That's option one if you're looking for somethin' a little quicker - and from what I hear, an itsy bitsy teensy weenie more dangerous. You can always seek an audience with the Unseen One.

Shilo

That is the scariest name anyone has ever said.

Arthur

This is not really a good option.

Deacon Keller

Yeah, well, no one's really had a chance to ask him his name because he's unseen.

Emizel

I could find him.

Shilo

How does one even see the Unseen One?

Arthur

You don't want to find him. That's why he's unseen.

Deacon Keller

Well, um... Rumors are you just got to look for him at this place. Not where you'd think. Big old buildin', kind of centre of town. Obscura Systems, Inc.

Shilo

Well, those directions are a little Obscura.

Deacon Keller

You were also a weasel.

Shilo

No I wasn't.

Deacon Keller

I'm just kiddin'. I just said it.

Emizel

I was a weasel.

Deacon Keller

He was a weasel.

Emizel

Ha ha, that sounds like Emizel!

Charlie

Weird coincidence, man. Weird coincidence. Unfortunately-

Grizzly

Emizel the weasel. (wheezes)

Charlie

Arthur, that's the funniest thing I've ever heard. When you said it, for some reason, it was way funnier. Can't explain why.

Grizzly

How did he know I thought that in my head? Is he reading my mind?

Deacon Keller

And you're looking good. And you're looking real good. I feel like we have some sort of unspoken connection.

Emizel

I vote we go see the Unseen One. Sounds funner than, y'know, some witches or whatever.

Shilo

Funner is not actually a word. I don't know if you know that.

Emizel

What do you mean? More fun. It sounds more fun.

Arthur

'We' are not doing anything.

Emizel

...What?

Arthur

You two should stay with Deacon, and we should go our separate ways.

Deacon Keller

All right, I know I dumped these two on you, but you can't just dump 'em on back because I got to clean the fuck up this city. More than these two.

Arthur

What happened, Deacon? I thought you wanted to be with the princes.

Deacon Keller

What happened is I listened to ya and I had a long, long time to think about it after that fuckin' elbow, Grefgore.

(Laughter)

Grizzly

Grefgore should be, like, hiding.

Charlie

Grefgore's just, yeah, just cowering.

Condi

He's still in the closet.

Charlie

Yeah, he's climbing again.

Grefgore

Don't fucking try it, man.

Deacon Keller

First I thought it was a mistake, last night, lettin' you in here. Maybe you're just some sort of chaotic blessin' in disguise, but... I got to set my priorities elsewhere. The city's my number one.

Emizel

Yeah, I mean, I'm going to be honest. I'm not sticking with you, Deacon. I don't want to be deputy.

Deacon Keller

No, that's chill.

Emizel

I like, uh... chaos seems to kind of follow this guy, and I'm a big fan.

Arthur

(Sighs) Fucking tell me about it.

Shilo

Arthur, please. Deacon, no offense, but...

Deacon Keller

It's cool, I shot ya, and I'd like to apologize for it.

Shilo

She'll hear about it.

(Laughter)

Shilo

Arthur... I mean, Deacon only really saved me because I am a prince. And everyone here, they only looked at me because I am a prince, but... You came to save me. Twice, even. And I don't really trust anyone else. I don't know, I... I've just never been so scared, and I... Just please don't leave. Let me come with you, I can help you! You're trying to go see these people, and you're not so very good with words, I could... I mean, I could talk to them for you. Just please. Just for awhile, at least.

Grizzly

I'll walk over to these twins.

Arthur

(deep sigh)

Emizel

Y'know, if this guy doesn't take us, I mean, we could just stick together, that'd be cool, too. I'm starting to actually kind of believe there's validity to the whole 'we're related' thing.

Shilo

Yes, but even together, we'll die without Arthur.

Emizel

That's a defeatist attitude.

Shilo

Look, maybe you can come back or do whatever, but I can't do that.

Emizel

No, I just - I don't know what you mean by 'come back'. I just didn't die.

Arthur

Prince. Boy.

Emizel

You are such an asshole.

Grizzly

This world is not a storybook. It is brutal and unfair and chaotic.

Emizel

Cool.

Bizly

You would definitely see tears, like, welling up.

Arthur

You do not know. Neither of you know a single thing about me.

Shilo

I don't have to.

Arthur

You have no idea if I'm better at it than they are. Better at being manipulative and selfish.

Shilo

I know you came back for me. That's all I need to know. You're the only one who's been kind to me, just... Be kind to me. Even if your heart is still, there is still kindness within it. Please, at least help us navigate the chaos.

Grizzly

You can see that Arthur, though, as emotionless he tries to stay, as far as expression goes, there is like a sense of... Almost fear with having you two around.

Arthur

If you two insist on following me, just know I make no promises to keep you alive. I cannot take that responsibility. Just as I told Emizel, I'm telling you now, prince. I don't know how he lives. But you can bet you might not be as lucky as he is.

Condi

Emizel's like, picking his nose.

Charlie

(Laughs) Jesus.

Bizly

You're such a little rat.

Arthur

I can tell you have been untouched by the evil in this world, in this life, and in the unlife. If you're not careful, it will corrupt you.

Grizzly

And I look at Emizel.

Arthur

Maybe it already has.

Grizzly

I'll get Deacon now.

Charlie

Okay.

Arthur

We should get as far away from each other as possible so that-

Deacon Keller

What? Sorry. I kind of spaced out for a second.

(Laughter)

Arthur

We should put as much distance between each other as possible. Do not have to deal with these artificial feelings.

Charlie

Just for me. What color is your aura right now? As you're talking to these princes?

Grizzly

Oh, I can tell you. How much do you get?

Charlie

Just the main color.

Grizzly

Just the main color?

Charlie

Yep.

Grizzly

No patterns?

Charlie

Nope, just main color.

Grizzly

All right. Well, it's definitely pale.

(Laughter)

Deacon Keller

Huh, you're a vampire, look at that.

Bizly

What is pale?

Charlie

Pale means a vampire.

Condi

Yeah.

Bizly

Oh. (Snorts)

Grizzly

It is both light blue for calm. It is... Also halfway silver for sad, and it's a bit orange for afraid.

Charlie

Okay.

Grizzly

And at the bottom... Is red for angry. Those are the main colors he'd see. Afraid, sad, calm, angry.

Deacon Keller

Welp, if you're scared of losing 'em, that's how I know you'll do the best job protecting 'em. Don't be a stranger, stranger.

Arthur

Deacon, if you wouldn't mind, one last piece of advice. Someone who runs a city in this state, I am looking for peace. But this Anya I seek, it feels her mere existence will eternally hold me back from it should things go the absolute worst way. And with me, they always do... What am I looking at?

Deacon Keller

No sentence from me, but just one from what's in you, what's in all of us. When you find her, make sure that you're the one deciding what to do, not the beast, all right? Now I got to go check in with the mayor. Oh, he exploded, um... Yeah. No, he's been the mayor for as long as I can remember, so if anyone has any electoral suggestions, uh...

Shilo

Well, whose blood is the purest?

Emizel

What?

Shilo

That would probably be the one in charge, right?

Deacon Keller

Yeah, shit, uh... I guess.

Bizly

I smell him. Does he smell pure?

Charlie

Um... What?

Bizly

Does he smell like - good of blood?

Grizzly

While he's talking to Shiloh, may I read his aura as well?

Charlie

Yeah, sure, sure sure.

Charlie

So you can't really smell that, but from what you've gathered and what he's told you already, he's - he's a Ventrue. He's like, got it in his blood, right? The purest person you've met, bloodlin-wise is... I mean, obviously, your mom, the Primogen. If Edward Twilight wanted to run for mayor or whatever, you'd know he'd get it in a heartbeat.

Grizzly

One success of main color.

Charlie

Since you guys are bloodbound, I'll give you the color anyway. You see that his aura is very much scrambled. It's like white noise, yeah.

Grizzly

Understandable, dude.

Charlie

Yeah.

Grizzly

Good look.

Deacon Keller

Well, if Edward Twilight runs based on what you said, we're all fucked, so hopefully that doesn't happen.

Shilo

Edward Twilight? Oh, God.

Grizzly

I'm going to start heading away from the scene, and I guess we'll look for yeah.

Emizel

Yeah, hey, I figured maybe a good bonding exercise, we go feed together. It's probably like...

Grizzly

Oh, you know what? That's probably really heavy on my mind, so.

Emizel

I figured maybe there's at least one threesome happening in this building right now.

Deacon Keller

Catch you on the flip side. Sunshine!

Charlie

You see this fucking horse just comes out of nowhere. He just hops on the horse and rides off into the distance.

Shilo

Sweet, yeah, we can feed. Do you have like a chalice or something?

Emizel

I have like... A flask.

Arthur

Just find a house with a kitchen.

Shilo

That will work.

Arthur

And use their glasses.

Shilo

Oh, sure!

Arthur

That's my preferred method. I told you, I teach.

Emizel

Ohh.

Charlie

All right. What are you guys doing to hunt?

Grizzly

Okay.

Arthur

Boy, take us to a house. Quickly, I'm hungry.

Emizel

Yeah, here let me...

Condi

Can I roll?

Condi

See if I know any in the neighborhood.

Charlie

This is not your neighborhood, so probably not. Unless you want to go all the way back.

Condi

Can I just scout one out?

Charlie

Yeah. I mean, you're at this hotel. You could probably...

Condi

They probably have like, glasses in here. And again, I guarantee at least one threesome happening in here.

Charlie

So where are you looking? What are you trying to do?

Condi

(Laughing) Feed in the hotel area.

Charlie

Okay, in the hotel? Alright.

Grizzly

Mm, I don't want to go up against people who are awake.

Condi

They might not be.

Grizzly

I don't actually know how we could...

Shilo

I could probably just convince them to let us do it.

Emizel

That's fair, yeah. Listen, adversity builds character, okay?

Charlie

We're going to do Wits and Subterfuge, and that's going to determine how good of a one you're able to get into.

Condi

That's 8, 6...

Shilo

You keep talking about these people getting three of some, what are they getting three of?

Emizel

People.

Shilo

They're eating three people? That's a lot.

Emizel

No no no...

Condi

It's two total, I got... Wait. Yeah. I got three successes. One 1.

Shilo

That's horrible.

Charlie

Okay, three successes. Three successes, one 1.

Condi

So that's two, yeah.

Charlie

Okay, so three successes and a botch, right?

Condi

Yes.

Charlie

Okay, you get three successes and a botch and you walk in on three people having sex with one person watching.

Bizly

Oh, great.

Grizzly

Um... I don't want to see this. I don't want them to see this.

(Laughter)

Grizzly

I'm going to immediately do the Shroud of Veil thing where it fills the room with-

Charlie

Okay, immediately- yeah, immediately, it just goes completely black. Yeah, it's pretty dim light before.

Grizzly

I usually have to roll for it, but...

Charlie

You don't have to in this case. With those successes, I'll say that you guys can take an amount of blood points split between these four people, whatever you'd like.

Condi

Three is a safe amount, right?

Charlie

Three is a safe amount. But there are four people in here, so...

Grizzly

From two people I'm going to take six, that's my goal.

Charlie

Okay. You can also take more than that. It's just they will be like anaemic.

Grizzly

Who's cuckholding at the moment?

Charlie

Who botched, you ask? It's just a guy in the corner in just fully clothed in like khakis and a polo.

Condi

Cargo shorts.

Charlie

Cargo shorts.

Condi

Nice.

Grizzly

Actually - fuck dude, I don't even want to describe this.

Charlie

You see he has a name tag on that says Gregfour. And Grefgore says,

Grefgore

That is weird, my prince.

Grizzly

Okay.

Shilo

Don't worry, Grefgore. We're just going to drink and leave.

Grefgore

Not sure what to make of that. Can you - please be quick, my prince.

Grizzly

Three from him and then three from someone else. They probably - as soon as the darkness fills the room, they immediately start to - they have trouble breathing.

Charlie

Yeah, they're really into it.

Grizzly

No no no, they can't breathe.

Charlie

Yeah, it's super into it. You take-

Grizzly

Dude.

Charlie

You take six points.

Bizly

I'd like to take five total.

Charlie

Five total. Okay, how about this? How about this?

Grizzly

One of you is going to accidentally kill somebody. As long as it's not me, that's all that matters.

Charlie

Everyone cover your ears. We'll go one by one and you'll each tell me how much you want.

Grizzly

Oh, okay.

Bizly

Well, I can't really take it myself. He has to give it to me, so I wouldn't-

Grizzly

That's why I looked for a glass.

Charlie

That's true.

Grizzly

I also filled the room with darkness, so only I can see. You guys are blind.

Charlie

Okay, sounds good. So you're taking six. Are you giving five to him?

Bizly

He wouldn't have to. How many would you give me? I can't really make this choice for myself.

Charlie

You pick how much you give him. How much blood you give him.

Grizzly

Are we doing the headphones thing and going around?

Charlie

Just for Condi. Just for Condi.

Grizzly

I'm going to take six. I will pour four for you.

Condi

I'm looking in my answer of three from before.

Charlie

You take three? Okay.

Grizzly

Three, I think. Okay, so that's six, four, three?

Condi

That's two people anaemic.

Charlie

Go ahead and mark that on your sheet. Don't worry, I'll track it.

Condi

They just had so much sex they became anaemic, man. I don't know. That's crazy.

Charlie

All of that happens and you all feel a little closer after that situation.

Grizzly

Hopefully you guys didn't have to look at anything, that was my-

Charlie

And then you step out back onto the street all kind of slightly more scarred than you were.

Bizly

How could we expedite-

Grizzly

We better get more experience for that.

Charlie

How can you expedite what?

Bizly

How could we expedite a little while so we can just enter a new scene?

Charlie

Just tell me where you're going.

Bizly

What could we do?

Charlie

Just say you're going somewhere.

Grizzly

This is now going into a new scene, we're just ending it.

Bizly

I'm wondering like - where would we go.

Condi

Let's just go to like a safe house. Like a BnB.

Charlie

You guys make your way back to the BnB, shut the door, walk inside, and you're all there, safe.

Condi

Cool.

Shilo

Okay. This is an alright closet, we can probably put like the-

Emizel

Oh, this is actually the whole house.

Shilo

-the what?

Emizel

This is the whole house, this is the BnB. The whole thing.

Shilo

B and B?

Emizel

BnB, Yeah.

Bizly

What is BnB? Is there something I'm missing?

Condi

He raises his eyebrow a little bit.

Emizel

Bed and breakfast.

Shilo

All right, so there is a bed,

Emizel

Uh huh.

Shilo

And there is breakfast.

Emizel

No, they don't provide that usually.

Shilo

Well, that is just - why do they call it that?

Emizel

I - don't know. They should just call it a bed.

Shilo

It's just strange. Just call it bed.

Emizel

Yeah.

Shilo

You get it.

Emizel

Exactly.

Shilo

Is this like a brothers thing that we are doing?

Emizel

Maybe we're doing like-

Shilo

It feels like a brothers thing.

Emizel

It feels like a little bit of a brothers thing.

Shilo

It's like we're doing a brother's thing.

Arthur

Boys. Both of you stay in here for now. When I get back, we will find out where - we will decide where we are going.

Emizel

Cool.

Shilo

Oh, alright. Are you going to be gone for very-

Grizzly

I just leave.

Shilo

-long?

Emizel

I think we should go to the Unseen One, personally, I think that it just sounds exciting.

Shilo

Okay, well, here are just my thoughts. I have a couple of them. First one, he is unseen, or she. We don't know, they are unseen. There's probably a reason for that.

Emizel

Well, just imagine we're seeing something that is relatively unseen.

Shilo

Right, right, right.

Grefgore

I can see them for you, my princes.

Condi

Thanks. Yeah, that's awesome.

Grizzly

Princes? Aw...

Charlie

That's actually real.

Shilo

Okay, Grefgore, how on the scale of like, one to 45-

Grefgore

Grefgore.

Shilo

Is- Just let me get through this. I love you very much.

Grefgore

I love you as well, my prince.

Shilo

I just need to get through it. On the scale of 1 to 45, how scary is this Unseen One? Do you know?

Grefgore

I have not heard of the Unseen One, my prince but, from the name 'Unseen One', scale 1 to 45.

Shilo

Like in concept alone, yeah, sure.

Grefgore

In concept alone, name something scarier, my prince.

(Laughter)

Grefgore

That's where I'm falling.

Shilo

Probably like, God.

Emizel

God is pretty scary.

Grefgore

Alright 44. 45 is God, my prince.

Shilo

45 is God?

Grefgore

45 is God.

Shilo

Unseen One is...

Grefgore

If we say it one more time, we might be smited as well. Unseen, 44, unless, my prince, do you have anything scarier?

Condi

Well, actually, yeah, I want to roll and see if I know about Obscura.

Shilo

Any rats, any kind of rodent of any kind.

Grefgore

Okay. Unseen one. Number 43. Number 44 on the scale is rats.

Condi

Okay, what about like-

Grefgore

So God, rats, the Unseen One, my prince.

Shilo

God, rats, Unseen One, and...

Emizel

What about the common cold?

Grefgore

Arthur.

Grefgore

Arthur comes below as well.

Shilo

Arthur is pretty scary.

Grefgore

The Unseen One, Arthur, rats, God.

Emizel

Yeah, yeah yeah.

Grizzly

That means a lot to me, guys. Thanks.

Shilo

It's more like the big tentacle things he's got, right? Like, it's a...

Emizel

It's like the shadows, but like, that's technically him.

Shilo

That's four total.

Grefgore

That's four slots.

Shilo

That's four slots.

Grefgore

That's four different slots.

Shilo

That's four total. Each one is very scary.

Grefgore

Tentacle one, two, three, f- shall we name them, my prince?

Shilo

Arthur on top. Okay, let's call one-

Emizel

Have you guys seen pigeons? Have you guys seen pigeons? Those things are-

Shilo

I have seen pigeons! They're the greatest thing I've ever seen!

Grefgore

No, but let's put them up there.

Shilo

Have you ever seen a pheasant?

Emizel

No.

Grefgore

Shall we add pheasants to the list as well, my prince?

Emizel

I still actually don't know what a pheasant.

Shilo

It's like a bird, but it doesn't like - always fly they like- We should-

Emizel

Why wouldn't a bird fly?

Shilo

I don't know, I'd like to go find out, though. Well, it's more, actually - they like to graze through and look through small shrubbery-

Emizel

Listen, I think - like, what kind of bird?

Grefgore

Sounds kind of scary, my prince.

Emizel

This is a bird? What kind of like - where would we find this?

Shilo

No, they're not scary, they're very cute.

Grefgore

Sounds unnatural, my prince.

Shilo

I saw one in a light box, I think.

Emizel

A light box?

Shilo

They showed me in the light box.

Emizel

Oh.

Grefgore

Number 40 is light boxes, Grefgore don't like.

Emizel

Yeah.

Shilo

I also don't like the light boxes.

Emizel

I actually-

Grefgore

Too much light, my princes.

Shilo

They hurt my eyes.

Emizel

Hey, so you uh... you lived in, like, a palace or something? Like, with the queen? What's the deal there?

Shilo

It was more like a... Palace slash castle slash boardroom for vampires and stuff slash prison slash cellar slash, like... Hole slash ballroom slash-

Emizel

Yeah, that's cool.

Shilo

It's a lot of things, I only really-

Emizel

But like - how was it?

Shilo

-has the one room. It was-

Emizel

Like, what, you get to do cool stuff like command people?

Shilo

It was pretty cool - like what?

Emizel

Command people around, y'know, be a prince, maybe?

Shilo

Command people?

Emizel

Yeah, like, I mean maybe...

Shilo

I mean like, Grefgore here, sure.

Grefgore

Would you like to command me, my princes?

Emizel

Yeah, I'm just like...

Shilo

Go look for a light box, I'd like to see another pheasant.

Grefgore

Yes, my prince.

Charlie

He leaves.

Shilo

Yeah, like that. Pretty much-

Emizel

Oh, that's cool.

Shilo

But all day and like... Okay, so here's the thing. I wake up and my coffin opens up and I rise up straight from the ground. And then there's a little trap door, they give me a chalice, and I drink the blood and I hang out with our uncle Lazarus. He's really cool. I don't know much about-

Emizel

That sounds like a really despicable name. Like somebody who would do crimes, like truly awful things.

Shilo

He's a sweetheart, he's a sweetheart.

Emizel

Yeah, okay.

Shilo

He's like - dead heart of gold.

Emizel

Okay, I'll take your word for it.

Shilo

It's not beating because it's so heavy and made of gold. And then our mother, she is... she's not very nice. And I guess she lied to me about... y'know, you.

Emizel

Uh huh. I mean, like, was she, like, big, scary, all powerful kind of being? Or...?

Shilo

Something like that.

Emizel

Huh. I mean, like - where are you from exactly? I mean, you're not from America.

Shilo

It is called Umbra Castle, I don't know where it might be though.

Emizel

Speaking of castles, actually, I saw in the news today, they called it 'Dracula's castle' apparently blew up - somewhere. Ro- Rom-Roma- It's like, somewhere in Eastern-

Shilo

Like the lettuce.

Emizel

Yeah.

Bizly

Would I know anything about the Dracula's Castle?

Charlie

You know the fuck about Dracula, yeah. You would know that she only told you about this once, I think. But your mother's sire was Dracula.

Condi

Ooh.

Bizly

Oh.

Charlie

And you would know that, I don't think you - he disappeared. (laughs) But I think hearing these things together, you would know that Umbra Castle was spoken in whispers of belonging to Dracula at one point, yes.

Emizel

Yeah, I mean, it looks like maybe the vampire hunters kind of - strikin' all over the place, I don't - natural gasses in an old ass castle, you know?

Shilo

You - You said Dracula Castle?

Emizel

Yeah, uh - Romania! That's the place.

Shilo

Is - Is there a place I can see this news?

Emizel

I don't know. I mean, I saw it on Fox News, let's turn it on, check it out.

Condi

I turn on the light box to look for Fox News.

Charlie

You turn on the light box.

Condi

Can I roll Luck?

Charlie

Yeah, I mean...

Bizly

I'm sure if something like that was blown up, it would be on the news.

Charlie

It would be a big deal. Yeah, I mean.... First, there is some Family Guy.

Emizel

Yeah, oh this show's so funny man-

Brian

Oh Stewie, Stewie, Stewie-

Stewie

Yes, Brian?

Emizel

You're going to love this, Shilo.

Bizly

Lois so hot, Stewie. Lois is so hot, Stewie. Your mom's so hot, Stewie. I love her. I hate cats, but I love your mom.

Emizel

Wow, this is highbrow.

Charlie

I kinda wanna try and do a Family Guy voice. Okay, there's Joe. [Joe voice attempt] Hey every- [normal]
Uh, no.

Joe Swanson

Hey, Peter, hey, Peter. Hey, Stewie.

Brian

Uh, hey Joe.

Peter Griffin

(laughs) Hey guys, it's me, Peter Griffin.

Joe Swanson

Hey, Peter.

Peter Griffin

Hey, Joe.

Stewie

Oh, hello, Joe.

(Laughter)

Condi

You're too good at it.

Charlie

Okay, now I'm going to be the-

Grizzly

I'm getting better by the second.

Brian

Joe. Joe, I'm glad you're here Joe.

Lois

I'm Lois.

Joe Swanson

Hey, Lois.

Brian

This is where the football baby tries to kill her.

Lois

Ahh!

Stewie

Die, you stupid bitch!

Grizzly

I - I fucking lost it, bro.

Joe Swanson

This reminds me of when I went for the 100 yard pass touchdown at the 57th annual Super Bowl.

(family guy cutaway music)

Stewie

Brian? How do you feel about vampires, Brian?

Bizly

I feel like all of my brain is melting, like, as I watch it. Like, I feel like the whole thing-

Emizel

Okay, well, change channel-

Charlie

Yeah, you change the channel and you see just like, the basically ruins of this castle, looks like a drone shot. Same lower third kind of green screen reporter, someone talking about this-

Emizel

Oh, it's back on, it's ruining it.

Charlie

-This like, monument of culture, essentially, that has been destroyed.

Reporter

Looks like Dracula's castle is in complete rubble.

Charlie

And just for sake of too, like, real life comparison, because I did look up what this castle looks like. It definitely doesn't - like the real life dracula's castle doesn't do this thing justice. The place you lived and what Dracula's castle is in this world is just like, a huge, fucking awesome stone castle, sort of top of a hilltop sort of thing. And, I mean, it's not like rubble, but it's, like, decimated.

Bizly

And this is the one.

Charlie

You'd know it immediately. You'd know it immediately, yeah. You'd recognize the surrounding area.

Bizly

You would see Shilo, like... Immediately start - tears streaming down...

Grizzly

Ohhh... that was the hook.

Condi

Uh... That's funny.

Charlie

Hooks boyio.

Emizel

Yeah. So, I mean, it looks like they just kind of blew up- Were, like, vampires staying in there?

Condi

And I kind of look over and I stop speaking when I see your face.

Emizel

Oh. Wait, is that, like...?

Shilo

[tearful] That was where I lived. That is where... That is where my mother lives.

Emizel

Oh, shit.

Shilo

(Sniffs)

Emizel

Oh shit, how do you, uh... Hey, check out this thing I can do.

Condi

(Laughs) I don't know. This is like one of your little brothers, like, crying, right? Like...

Charlie

What do you do? What do you do?

Condi

He looks at his hands and slaps himself once.

Emizel

Really funny! Uh... Fuck. Okay, listen, I'm so sorry. I didn't know - that...

Bizly

He'd probably just look over to you and start hugging you and crying into you.

Condi

Yeah. There's probably, like, a moment of pause or he's unsure what he would normally do, but probably after, like, a couple of seconds, he would hug you back a little bit.

Shilo

I just don't understand how this could happen. What happened, like, they blew up the whole thing!

Charlie

Not all of it. From the images, it just looks like...

Bizly

Looks fucked up.

Charlie

Yeah, it looks really fucked up, yeah.

Shilo

[tearful] How did they even find it? I... I don't understand.

Emizel

It probably doesn't help it was named 'Dracula's Castle'.

(Laughter)

Grizzly

Queen is a bit of an egoist, huh?

Shilo

[tearful] Yeah, probably not. (sniffs)

Emizel

Yeah, um...

Shilo

[tearful] I was so mean to her, Emizel.

Emizel

Hey, I mean, I-

Shilo

I did everything she told me not to do, and...

Emizel

I mean, it's okay, that's like- every kid does that.

Shilo

The last thing she said to me was not to... Talk about what I saw. And now I can.

Condi

What... What does that mean? I mean... Could you not before?

Shilo

She... She can command me not to speak about, and command people not to speak.

Emizel

Like, magical command? Like you telling Soda not to drink soda?

Shilo

Something like that.

Emizel

Okay.

Shilo

And that is gone now. So that means... It is safe to assume that would mean she's gone, yes.

Condi

Yeah, I think. Yeah, Emizel would draw that conclusion.

Emizel

I mean, maybe she just released the command on you or something.

Charlie

You don't know, but you have a sinking feeling in your gut, yeah.

Shilo

I was really hoping maybe she had an explanation for all of this. Like, maybe why - she could tell me... That you were there and why she hid it.

Emizel

Honestly? I was kind of hoping... To learn the same, um...

Bizly

You'd see, at this point, he would stop crying and has gone into complete shock. Just kind of stares down at the floor and sits for a while.

Emizel

I mean, I'm not good at this shit, man. (Nervous laugh) Fuck. I just thought it was like a cool explosion in another country.

Condi

I sit down and look at a different wall than you.

Charlie

And then we'll cut over to Arthur.

Grizzly

Okay, Goddamn, alright, well, I look for a phone booth. Hope- okay, so a little specific here, because I'm paranoid. Before I leave the BnB, I double check all around it, underneath the steps, in the bushes, whatnot, to make sure that nobody is surrounding it, looking, hiding from us, whatever. Me just making sure there are no enemies in the place.

Charlie

Totally, totally, totally. Go ahead and give me Perception plus Alertness.

Grizzly

Four successes. He rolled, audience, which means somebody is near.

Charlie

You see a pair of electric blue eyes in the sewer, and then they sink down.

Grizzly

Watching?

Charlie

Mmhm.

Grizzly

Does that ring any bells to me? And my long history.

Charlie

You would know in your long history that the sewers, and often underground and things like that, are typically the domain of the Nosferatu.

Grizzly

Yeah, makes sense.

Charlie

But as far as the bushes and everything around, nah.

Grizzly

Okay, I'm going to look for a telephone booth. Hopefully one that is closed all around it. Y'know the ones that blocks sound.

Charlie

Are there telephone booths in Los Angeles?

Bizly

No.

Grizzly

I've seen them! Hold on.

Charlie

Really? Okay, I'm Googling it, I'm Googling it.

Grizzly

I'll Google, I'll Google, I'll Google.

Charlie

I'm going to roll a d10, on a 10, there's one. I rolled a fucking ten.

(Laughter)

Charlie

You walk down the street, and there is a-

Grizzly

Chinatown dude, you can always find what you're looking for.

Charlie

Yeah, you're walking through Chinatown, and there's a fucking - screening of the new doctor who movie, and outside there's a working phone booth police box.

Grizzly

Oh my fucking god, that's perfect dude.

Charlie

There's no possible reason that this would be here. It just is and also, it's hooked up and works perfectly. What do you do?

Grizzly

Oh a 10, I'm so glad. I'm so glad. Okay.

Charlie

I did not expect that to come up. I didn't know. There's no way.

Grizzly

How are the streets? Are there a lot of people outside? Is this a phone booth underneath a light, or is it in shadow? Like, what am I looking at?

Charlie

Yeah, I mean, it's pretty well lit. There's some cars going by. There's people walking by for sure. But you have no reason to think that anyone would pay you any particular mind.

Grizzly

I walk into it, and I pull out the note. I start dialling. Five, seven-

Charlie

Don't say my phone number - all right. Alright, before he reads my phone number out loud again on the podcast, you type it all in. You hear it ring.

(phone ringing noises)

Magnus

Y'ello?

Arthur

Magnus, what time is it?

Magnus

3am.

Arthur

Apologies again, then.

Magnus

Oh, gosh. Is it you, Arthur?

Arthur

First, thank you... For saving my life.

Magnus

Yeah, no thanks to you for being right in the fucking line of fire, man. But I got you as always. Hope you got what you were looking for. Not now, Jerome.

Jerome

Is it him again?

Magnus

Jerome, we can't keep doing this.

Jerome

Just make it quick.

Charlie

(Laughing)

Grizzly

It's a little awkward.

Arthur

How did it go for you and the rest of them? May I have a status report of sorts?

Magnus

Status report, I'll give you what they told me. Our operation went well enough. Goal was to take out the mayor and destabilize and... Me and the team found out shortly after, this was not an isolated strike. There's a reason we hit at night. I got good news, Arthur! Good, good news. The bitch is dead! Yeah, the fucking bitch is dead!!!

Grizzly

Condi just laughed out loud from the bathroom.

Magnus

They got her. I didn't even know they were doin' it, but apparently. Apparently it worked. They were just holdin' off till they had enough information or somethin'.

Arthur

And the bitch you are referring to is...?

Magnus

The fucking queen! The big bitch!

Arthur

Right.

Magnus

She dead! Dead as hell, Arthur. Fuckin' dust, man. Yeah!!

Arthur

And you're sure?

Magnus

Um...

Arthur

You have something of proof? Ash?

Magnus

Well-

Arthur

A head, a heart?

Magnus

Not me, but... Grimslayers don't really just announce somethin' like that for the shits.

Arthur

Vampires are fickle, we've beaten death once. You need to be absolutely sure before you are-

Magnus

Ugh, don't jinx it, man.

Arthur

I'm sorry.

Magnus

Just- Let's- let's just. Let's simmer in it, all right? Magnus needs a dubsky. Been going through this thing with Jerome.

Arthur

You're right. I apologize.

Magnus

You wanted this, right?

Arthur

I have...

Magnus

Can I just hear a, like 'Yeah. That's awesome, Magnus'

Arthur

That is... Excellent that you have succeeded in your goals. Do you know my goal, Magnus?

Magnus

Seems like we're one step closer.

Arthur

Anyways... I called for another reason. Magnus, I-

Magnus

Is it the Wi-Fi? It's on the back of the router.

Arthur

No, it is not this - Wi fi you speak of. I need weapons, Magnus. Subtle. Hidden. I need weapons fit for hunting a vampire.

Magnus

Well, shit. You're asking the right guy. We talking stakes? We got a weird one, we can use garlic.

Arthur

Um, no.

Magnus

Some of the real freaks, running water will stop 'em.

Arthur

Can you - um, no. Please.

Magnus

Some silver?

Arthur

That'll do. Whatever you use that I can hide on my person.

Magnus

Well, I don't think I'm going to give you any fire.

Bizly

Give him an assassin's grade hidden blade, please.

Arthur

As long as it is fire that I can-

Magnus

But I did go to Comic Con this year.

(Laughter)

Magnus

I do have this cool Assassin's Creed hidden blade.

Arthur

I am not aware of either of these things, can you please elaborate?

Magnus

Yeah, uh-

Charlie

Hang on. What is he going to say? He's going to say-

Magnus

Shoot a mofo' in the throat with a bow, tomahawk chop, that's my-

Magnus and Jerome

Death blow!

Jerome

That's my shit!

Magnus

Fucking know it, Jerome. We love Smosh. I'm like the Ian to his Anthony.

(Laughter)

Arthur

It, um... It appears you and Jerome are working out whatever you are going through.

Magnus

Yeah, I think so and Smosh is really helping. I hope nothing happens.

Arthur

You are- Shut up.

Magnus

Okay. Dude, what the fuck, man?

Arthur

Sorry.

Magnus

Yeah, I know that maybe works with vampires, but we're tight. Hey, so - no, seriously, stakes. I don't know how well they can be concealed, but we can do wooden stakes. Always do the fucking job. I mean, blades

will do okay. You know, best as me, fire is the best thing, but... Last time we went camping, you got a little freaky.

Arthur

Magnus. First, what about wooden bullets?

Magnus

Have you ever shot a gun before? And do you know how bullets work?

Arthur

You know damn well I've shot many guns.

Magnus

Yeah, okay, well, I don't know how bullets work, but... Hey, Jerome, can you Google something for me?

Jerome

Yeah, what's up?

Arthur

It just needs to be a wooden tip.

Magnus

Can you look up 'do wooden - are there wooden bullets?'

Jerome

Are there... wooden... bullets...

Magnus

Arthur, we've never thought of this, this is going to the top I hope you know. Things are going to get a whole lot more serious, it-

Jerome

Yeah, kind of.

Magnus

What the fuck? Are you fucking kidding me?

Arthur

It just needs to be tip. The casing is still metal and the tip is wood.

Magnus

Okay, well, I'm not sure if it'll work because we haven't tried it. If this fuckin' works, I'm gonna be so fucking pissed at you. And we don't have that, but... If you want, I can get you a gun and uh... A bunch of wood. We don't really have wood tipped- I mean I gue- Jerome, can you just buy, like, wood tip bullets?

Jerome

Looks like...

Grizzly

Wooden bullets are real. (Laughs)

Charlie

They're real?

Grizzly

They're real. Wooden projectiles designed to be fired from a gun.

Jerome

Yeah. You can just buy 'em.

Magnus

Yep, alright. Actually, I lied. You can really just buy 'em.

Grizzly

They are crowd control... Less lethal weapons. But for vampires...

Magnus

I mean, I can't promise you this will work, but... Yeah, I can get you some of these. Are you gonna pay me back this time?

Arthur

I have been told I am a Gold American Express member. Whatever the fuck that means.

Magnus

I've seen the card flake, Arthur. You don't need to lie to me.

Arthur

Anyways.

Charlie

(Wheezes)

Arthur

Magnus... could my glove-

(Smosh 'SHUT UP' sound effect)

(Laughter)

Magnus

Jerome.

Jerome

Sorry.

Magnus

Who do you think is going to win this year's food battle? Pink frosted sprinkled donut. What were you saying?

Arthur

All right, a gun. Silver-wooden bullets. That would be very helpful, Magnus.

Magnus

Okay.

Arthur

And stakes that I can hide in my jacket pocket.

Magnus

Alright, alright, yes. Making you a grocery list for this at 3a.m. All right, and when do you want this by?

Arthur

Now.

Magnus

Oh my God.

Arthur

Can you put it somewhere that is on the way?

Magnus

Hey Jerome, I gotta - I gotta drop something off.

Jerome

Are we watching lunchtime with Smosh or not?

Magnus

Oh, you know how I feel about lunchtime with Smosh. That's got those new members on it, doesn't it?

Jerome

Whatever. Just go.

(Laughter)

Grizzly

Thank you, Jerome.

Magnus

Hey, Jerome.

Jerome

What?

Magnus

It's pronounced Gabe-Buscus.

Grizzly

No, no no... Oh, fuck, um...

Magnus

Jerome, I feel like this will age well.

Jerome

Yeah, totally.

Grizzly

Okay, so our campaign must be set, like, 2012.

(Laughter)

Charlie

Magnus is in his forties.

Grizzly

(Laughs) Holy shit!

Jerome

You gotta see this, he's building a house in Minecraft.

Magnus

No fucking way.

Jerome

It's called Fort-Buscus. It's so cool.

Magnus

No fucking way, he's building a house. Holy shit. This is even better than the last literal trailer.

Grizzly

Um...

Bizly

(Laughs) Am I invading on this scene?

Magnus

No, Jerome, it's cool, go back to bed. All right, I'll get you these as soon as I can. Where do you want them?

Arthur

Bring it to the Airbnb, please. Magnus. I have something to tell you once you get here that I do not wish to discuss over the phone.

Magnus

Alright, okay. This better be good, man, because I was really countin' on a good night's sleep after that. I'll see you as soon as I can. Go get fucking wooden bullets at 3a.m, just-

(Laughter)

Magnus

There's Magnus, buying his wooden bullets again from the-

Arthur

Magnus-

Magnus

-wooden bullet store.

Arthur

...I really appreciate your help.

Magnus

Yeah man, tell you what, I'll get you everything else. Can you just go get the wooden bullets? 'Cause it's-honestly, it's embarrassing.

Arthur

Yes.

Magnus

Thanks. All right, I'll see you soon. And, uh-

Grizzly

I just hang up.

Magnus

Okay.

(Laughter)

Grizzly

All right. (Laughs) Introvert.

Magnus

Jerome-

(Laughter)

Grizzly

You can't go over to a scene with Jerome and Magnus!

Charlie

Wait, wait, it's like a split frame, and you hang up and you fully slide out of frame. And now we follow Magnus for the next 3 hours as he goes with Jerome and drives in complete fucking silence to the gardening center where he buys you a massive bag of wooden stakes and then in complete silence as he drops them off at the Airbnb. Cool. Is that what you wanted to do?

Grizzly

Yeah, I guess I'll just - is it expeditable to buy a glock and a wooden bullets?

Condi

Do you have an ID?

Charlie

Yeah.

Condi

Actually, no, you don't need one, this is America.

Grizzly

This is also LA.

Charlie

This is America. This is LA. Glock and wooden bullets. Fucking - sure.

Grizzly

Looking for wooden and silver bullets, what do I roll? And a Glock. And I have money.

Charlie

You've got the silver card, right but it's painted gold?

Grizzly

It's painted gold, I mean, I should still have some money it is like-

Charlie

No no no, you have money, you have money. But I think what we're going to do is - you want to get a glock and silver bullets, right?

Grizzly

Yeah and wooden bullets.

Charlie

And wooden bullets, okay. I'm going to roll a d10 on a 1 or 2. You hit your credit limit. Sound good?

Grizzly

Yeah.

Charlie

Cool. (dice rolls) I got an eight, you're fine.

Grizzly

Cool.

Charlie

Yeah, you can easily charge this stuff. Easy peasy. You buy it, head back to the BnB.

Grizzly

Head back to the BnB.

Charlie

You see Grefgore walking by, sees a Best Buy, smashes the window, grabs a TV.

Grefgore

Lightbox!

Charlie

Just starts running.

(Laughter)

Bizly

I love Grefgore, with all of my heart and soul.

Grizzly

I'll walk into the BnB, wait for Magnus to get here. What's going on inside the BnB?

Condi

Oh, yeah. I mean, it's really just-

Charlie

So fucking awkward.

Condi

It's tense, a very tense situation.

Charlie

It's the most awkward situation.

Bizly

Here's the thing is, at some point, I probably would have got up and walked to a nearby closet and shut it.

Grizzly

This was - yeah this was happening-

Charlie

You open the door, and the amount of sheer, uncomfortable aura that flies out immediately, it blasts your hair back.

Grizzly

I walk in and say,

Arthur

(sniffs) Who died?

Emizel

The queen.

Arthur

Except for us- Oh.

Emizel

Yeah.

Arthur

Congrats on your new position.

Emizel

Is that how that works?

Arthur

No.

Emizel

I don't think that's going to make it up to Shilo, he seems pretty upset by this-

Grizzly

Do I know what happens-?

Charlie

She's been around so long that no one knows how it works.

Grizzly

Chaos, of course.

Condi

Yeah.

Arthur

I highly doubt that the queen is actually dead.

Emizel

I don't know, I mean, her command on Shilo apparently isn't working anymore.

Arthur

The queen is smart enough to release anything like that. It is very likely that, in my opinion, this is all a part of her game.

Emizel

I mean, it sounds to me like your buddies went and blew up Dracula's castle.

Arthur

Blowing up her place of living is not enough to kill the queen.

Emizel

I mean, how do you know that? Not to like, question your infinite intelligence or anything, but it seems pretty-

Arthur

You're alive, aren't you?

Emizel

Yeah.

Arthur

Why wouldn't she be?

Emizel

I don't know, I just, like, walked out of-

Arthur

Do you think you're special?

Emizel

Yeah, maybe.

Arthur

If she is your mother, it's likely she has the same luck. Or maybe it's not luck at all. Maybe you're alive because of her. Perhaps Shilo would be very hard to kill as well.

Emizel

I mean, maybe. I dunno.

Arthur

This is just my opinion. It is irrelevant. Now, about where we are heading. I have someone coming to meet me here, and then we can leave.

Emizel

Okay.

Arthur

Where is the prince?

Emizel

Uhh... Closet.

Grizzly

I open the closet.

Bizly

Open the closet

Grizzly

Looking at you with the squinted eyes.

Bizly

Shilo is holding a journal, and just, like, head down into his lap, kind of covering it. He wouldn't even look up to see you really.

Emizel

Yeah, uh... He's kind of been like this since he found out the news.

Bizly

You can hear him like, loudly crying.

Emizel

Not sure what to do about that.

Grefgore

(panting) My princes! A light box. It's here, my princes.

Condi

Oh, cool! Where's the-? Cord?

Grefgore

Ngh- It was making light just a second ago, my princes!

Charlie

And then he sees Shilo and he takes a knee by you and just quietly kind of puts an arm around you.

Arthur

Why are you crying, boy?

Shilo

[tearful] Can I please just be alone right now?

Arthur

No.

Shilo

[tearful] Okay.

Grefgore

There there, my prince.

Condi

Well, listen, I mean... If we really wanted to find out whether the queen was alive or dead, like right now, um... It sounds like maybe either of these people could help us, y'know. The uh... The Midnight Circle or the Unseen One? Seems like maybe they have some kind of insight into that kind of stuff.

Grizzly

Arthur acknowledges what you've said with a nod and then addresses Shilo.

Arthur

Being alone while feeling pain... Is the fastest track to being insane. Why are you crying? Do you hurt because your mother is said to be dead? Do you believe everything you hear and see immediately?

Bizly

He just looks up at you and you can see like blood going down his face.

Charlie

Arthur's expression doesn't change.

Charlie

Grefgore, yeah, takes like a little handkerchief and it's like helping you clean it.

Bizly

You can see in this journal he's got like a drawing of his mother that he's been clutching. Just looks up at you and you can tell that he's not really... He can't even get a word down.

Charlie

You would know that she was at times very strict, badly so on you, obviously. But there were also moments of genuine kindness and humanity with her and she was a mother and she really did try.

Arthur

Is this the first time you've lost somebody you care for?

Shilo

[voice cracking] She's all I have- Ever had-

Bizly

It's pretty clear he's not going anywhere right now or for awhile. So anything you guys do, he's just probably out of the scene. But feel free to do...

Condi

I think Emizel will probably go outside, honestly.

Charlie

Okay.

Condi

Just kind of get away from the situation.

Grizzly

I'll join in one second.

Condi

Sounds good.

Arthur

Prince...

Shilo

(sniffles)

Arthur

If this is too much for you... I can take it away temporarily.

Shilo

How?

Arthur

The same way you do to others. Or... You can force yourself to find the strength to process it. We've all had to do it... And we all will again.

Bizly

Coulc I make - probably like, a Courage roll?

Shilo

Would I forget her if you did it?

Arthur

No. You would just be compelled to feel less pain.

Bizly

He's just kind of nods.

Grizzly

Grefgore in here?

Charlie

Yep.

Arthur

We'll need you outside. Grefgore.

Grefgore

Is that what you would like, my prince?

Bizly

He gives Grefgore a hug and then sends him off.

Charlie

Grefgore hugs you back rigidly, gets up, walks out.

Grizzly

You can still sit in the closet, I'll kneel down.

Arthur

Being what we are is a curse. The only way a life has meaning... Is because it always has death at the end. For us, that death is never near. I don't really believe your mother is dead, but if she is... I'd say she's finally free. I think she'd finally find peace.

Grizzly

I'm going to use Dominate and Mesmerize.

Charlie

If you allow this to happen, it just happens.

Bizly

Yep.

Arthur

I suggest you stop thinking about this for a little while.

Charlie

Shilo, I'm gonna need you to give me a Self Control roll.

Bizly

Ooh.

Charlie

Difficulty would be six-

Condi

Uh oh.

Charlie

But you just lost everything you've ever known. Difficulty nine.

Bizly

I have a five, a two, a seven, a nine, and a one.

Grizzly

So just no successes?

Bizly

No.

Charlie

Shilo, you feel similar to how you did when you first stormed out. You feel betrayed. You feel betrayed by your mother that she would leave you, and you feel guilty that you'd try and take these feelings away. And you start to go into - not like an anger, but like, an anguish kind of Frenzy.

Bizly

What am I compelled to do?

Charlie

What would Shilo be compelled to do?

Bizly

Nothing.

Charlie

Okay.

Charlie

You go to do this, and Arthur, you see something flashes behind his eyes, and he pushes you away and just turns inward on himself and is just, like, almost silently shrieking. Like he can't bear to forget.

Bizly

There's no, like, tears anymore or anything. It's just-

Charlie

Yep.

Bizly

Yeah.

Grizzly

I look at him, and... Arthur would see himself. On the floor of his own house a hundred years ago in London. I think he'd just leave him there.

Bizly

I like to imagine a shot of Arthur walking away and Shilo getting smaller and smaller and smaller.

Charlie

Emizel, what are you up to out there?

Condi

Kicking dumpsters.

Charlie

Kicking dumpsters?

Condi

Yeah, garbage cans on people's driveways.

Charlie

Roll a soak roll for me.

Condi

Soak roll.

Bizly

Oh my God.

Condi

Okay, that's a Stamina plus Fortitude, right?

Charlie

Yeah.

Condi

One, two, three.

Charlie

You feel a sharp pain as a wooden stake goes through your heart.

Condi

Oh, man.

Charlie

And you hear,

Magnus

What the fuck?

Charlie

And a hand on sort of the scruff of your collar, and you can't do anything. You're kind of just paralyzed. You're not dead because staking doesn't kill vampires, it paralyzes them. You feel just a dragging, and then you hear a knocking at the door. Oh, wait, you left, didn't you?

Grizzly

This would be, like, coincidentally, like, perfect timing.

Charlie

Okay, cool. Yeah. He knocks as you open the door. And in front of you, you see standing at a little shorter than you. His hair has more gray in it now. Sort of longish, kind of dirty brown hair.

Grizzly

That was so badass.

Charlie

Pretty sharp features. He's a handsome guy dressed in this sort of-

Condi

He really just took a shot at me. I'm sitting out there in the rain with my hood up, probably.

Grizzly

No chances, bro.

Condi

And he took a shot at me in the heart. Wow.

Charlie

He did, he did. I had him roll to tell if you were a vampire. 'Cause he was coming up on this. He's pretty tense. Walks up, he's sort of got this dirty brown, like, leather almost trenchcoat.

Condi

What about Grefgore? He went outside with me.

Grizzly

That'd be so funny if he also gets staked.

Bizly

Grefgore is on the roof right now, waiting.

Condi

(Laughs) He's ready for that fucking-

(Laughter)

Charlie

You hear,

Grefgore

From the top rope, my prince!

(More laughter)

Charlie

And you see as Grefgore comes plummeting down as if an angel in disguise from the sky. And Magnus twirls a wooden stake, holds it up, and Grefgore fully impales himself on it.

(They lose it)

Condi

(Laughing) Jesus Christ!

Grizzly

(Laughing) Dude!

Charlie

Drops limply to the ground. Magnus looks up at you.

Magnus

I think you gotta call someone.

Arthur

No, these are mine, thank you Magnus. Just - throw them in here.

Charlie

He just tosses them inside.

Condi

I just limply, kind of flail around.

Charlie

Yeah, just completely - it's just like a pov, like, GoPro shot of you just fucking flying around.

Arthur

Gonna leave the stakes in them.

Condi

He was kind of, like, a little angry before, now he's reeling, just laying on the floor.

Charlie

Your eyebrows are just, like, slowly furrowing into this fucking angry expression. He just drops a duffel bag at the door.

Magnus

Anything else?

Grizzly

Yeah, I shut the door.

Magnus

My prince.

Grizzly

Gives you a little bow.

Arthur

That is what I wanted to talk to you about. So, Magnus, regardless of where we are... I want to share something with you and fully believe that you would never tell another soul. Can you keep a secret, Magnus?

Magnus

Mmm...

Arthur

Just for now?

Magnus

What kind of secret are we talkin'?

Arthur

Two important ones. Can you, Magnus?

Magnus

I'm going to read his aura too.

Arthur

I need to believe that I can trust you wholeheartedly as I have for many years.

Magnus

I trust you, Arthur, but... (Sighs) You know what our goals are.

Grizzly

Two successes, main color. Which am I looking at?

Charlie

There's not really one for curious, is there?

Grizzly

No, but you could just make one up.

Charlie

He's curious.

Grizzly

Okay.

Charlie

He's intrigued by it. You see also a little bit... There's always a little red in Magnus Fox's aura.

Grizzly

Fucking me too, dude. That's why we get along.

Charlie

And I would just say you would also know this, just so I don't have to have him say,

Magnus

Hey, remember my thing?

Grizzly

Yeah, yeah, go ahead, go ahead.

Charlie

You would know he wants the same thing as you do, because his - not his whole family or anything, but his sister in particular, was basically ghouled by a vampire, and he had to watch her just kind of decline, and that didn't end well, and kind of since then, you know, that he has a vendetta against them. He doesn't really view them as - as people anymore.

Grizzly

But he has the capacity to, just because of Arthur.

Charlie

He does with you. He does with you, but... Who knows how he sees you.

Condi

It's a shame that everybody else in this house is incapacitated in some form. There's no way to resist staking paralysis.

Charlie

Staking is just a really fucking hard thing to do, but he has like, a specialty in it, and it's kind of his whole thing. It's more like it has- so it has to get a certain number of successes past your toughness and with a high difficulty, and then you're staked. It's not easy to do at all. It is easy to do if you're not expecting it, but that's about it. Yeah. If anyone was ever going to stake you by surprise and succeed, it's pretty much this guy, and even then, not guaranteed. So what do you say to him with that knowledge? I'm going to say, knowing Magnus... You probably know that it's not riskless.

Arthur

The first one...

Magnus

Yeah.

Arthur

It is very likely that I can... Luckily, things are chaotic right now, but it is likely I will find, you know who I'm looking for, and...

Magnus

I hope so.

Arthur

If I get caught, Magnus... Now, or in the future, with whatever I do, when I find her... The entire society in the state would be after me.

Magnus

We got your back. And I got your back even more.

Arthur

I'm going to be potentially seeing probably the scariest sounding Kindred in the world.

Magnus

Ooo, can I come? I just have some notes.

Arthur

It would be better if your attention was elsewhere.

Magnus

Fair enough. Jerome and I have a big backlog.

Arthur

The second thing... I will tell you... I mean, I will tell you my experience with this dangerous. But the second thing is... The slayers are aware of the sheriff?

Magnus

We take info where we can get it. I mean, we know there's a sheriff. Well, but the mayor was really where we had our eye on. There's always some kind of secondhand. Someone in command.

Arthur

The sheriff, Deacon Keller, only of downtown LA. He believes I am a spy, but I have earned his secrecy and respect. Do with that what we will.

Magnus

Uhh... You better be sure, man.

Arthur

I'm quite positive as I have earned a little more than just respect on... Accident.

Magnus

Well, that seems like a whole thing.

Arthur

I just wanted to share this with you.

Magnus

If you trust him. I mean. I still don't, but I trust you.

Arthur

I trust no one, Magnus.

Magnus

You don't really mean that anymore, though, do you Arthur?

Arthur

I am trusting you now, so, don't let me down. Thank you for the stakes, Magnus.

Magnus

Anytime. Well, except this time. Again. Ever. It's so fucking early, man. Please stop.

Arthur

I don't have a way to know... Is there particular time that works best for you?

Magnus

Day, yeah. Yeah, day.

Arthur

You make progress on how I can just-

Magnus

Just leave a note, man. Just leave a note. I left you a note. It's just a nice thing to do. Jerome and I have been leavin' notes. Works for us. And, hey, for what it's worth, I don't know you always look kind of sad? But... I think you look a little less sad today. I don't know if that's the fire or something else, but good for you, man. I hope you find her.

Arthur

I am only focused, nothing more.

Magnus

Sure, I'm going to leave those stakes in your pals, because that one is, like, turning red in the face.

(Laughter)

Condi

There's like steam coming out of his ears at this point.

Magnus

And... I don't know if the blood's poolin' or what, but um...

Arthur

These are just... Fledglings. They do not know how the world works. This one was human a mere four days ago.

Magnus

Clearly, well... Teach 'em quick, before they get staked in the back by someone that isn't going to let them live. All right, anyway...

Arthur

When I was on the phone with you, telling you that if the Grimslayers ever are more open to having Kindred firepower... These are the prospects. Potential.

Magnus

Yeah. Well, thanks, I think if the day ever comes, we're probably in more shit than we can get out of.

Arthur

Before you go, Magnus, do you know your next goal?

Magnus

Yeah. To see if the pink frosted sprinkled donut clears. After that, probably get 8 hours for the first time in a bit.

Arthur

I mean with the org.

Magnus

Yeah. I take orders, I don't give 'em. But... Here in Los Angeles, I don't know. Maybe things are going to heat up now that power's changed. Maybe some vampires will get a little more bold, and maybe I'll be able to do a little rogue work. We'll see.

Arthur

Please tell me if you need help with anything.

Magnus

Will do. If you have any more kindred friends, maybe keep them off the street so I don't accidentally put a wooden fence post through 'em.

Arthur

I do not have friends.

Magnus

Whatever you say, sucker. Magnus out.

Charlie

Does an assassin's creed dive off the balcony.

(Laughter)

Grizzly

All right. I just walk in, I remove the one from Grefgore and from Emizel.

Emizel

What. The fuck?

Grizzly

Once he's a safe distance away.

Magnus

Hey, at least wait until I fucking pull out, man! Shit!

Grizzly

Yeah, I do I do I do I do.

Charlie

Great. And with that, Magnus drives off back home. You guys are left here in the BnB to do as you will.

Emizel

No, seriously, what the fuck?

Arthur

I told you I would not be responsible for your actions.

Emizel

I would- you didn't tell me you had a f-! Ugh-!

Charlie

Yeah, the stake comes out, and there's just sharpie on it that says 'Get fucked'.

Grizzly

Breathe, boy.

Emizel

(Deep breath)

Condi

He's, like, shaking.

Arthur

That lack of self control is likely why you got killed the first time. You did die, right?

Emizel

No, I just crawled out of ashes in a building. And also, like, swam in blood for 8 hours.

Arthur

Sounds to me like-

Grizzly

Would I know anything like that?

Charlie

What the fuck? No. You've never heard of that shit in your life, that's the most insane thing you've ever heard.

Arthur

It sounds like you went to hell and came back, so...

Emizel

That's fuckin' dope.

Charlie

So what do you guys want to do?

Grizzly

Let's see. I don't think we need to...

Charlie

You don't have to play it out. You can just tell me.

Grizzly

I'd like to fucking feed again on the next night, the very beginning.

Charlie

Great. All right, sounds good.

Grizzly

And... that's about it. And I'm just going to wait until Shilo is, like, talkable, too.

Bizly

You can bring me some blood, and I might talk because I get a little thirsty.

Grizzly

I will bring him some blood after I get some, and I'll even let him drink from my family's fucking flask.

Condi

Wow, so kind.

Charlie

Okay. Are you going to feed as well, Emizel?

Condi

Yeah, I'll feed, I need a few more.

Charlie

All right, we're going to resolve this pretty fast and swift. Just tell me what you're doing to feed.

Grizzly

I'm going to go into someone's house, wrap them in shadow, take them down the steps, sit at the dining room table, pour their blood into a glass, drink the glass, read through my book of names, and then let them pass out unconscious, not remember anything, and then go back to the Airbnb and meet up with Emizel.

Charlie

Okay. Dexterity plus Larceny from you. What do you do?

Condi

Yeah, I think I'm a little pissed off today, so I'm going to go beat up a bunch of Fangs and maybe suck the blood out of one of them.

Charlie

Okay, Strength-

Condi

Not like fully, but just like, enough until I'm full. I only need three.

Charlie

Sounds good. Strength plus Brawl from you.

Condi

Okay. Four successes.

Charlie

Four successes?

Condi

Yeah. So just beat up a bunch of people.

Charlie

Okay. How many did you get?

Grizzly

Two.

Charlie

Two? I'm going to say, you have a little bit of trouble, you maybe accidentally break something again.

Grizzly

'Who's there?' The fucking bat again.

Charlie

It's literally the same guy.

NPC

Holy shit, it's you again. I thought it was a dream!

Arthur

It was.

Charlie

Easily put 'em under after that, no problems. You guys basically take between one and ten, blood.

Condi

I take three, yeah.

Charlie

Take three. Okay.

Condi

Yeah. Then I'm full, I don't need to kill somebody over this.

Charlie

Cool.

Condi

But I do beat 'em up.

Charlie

Cool.

Condi

Pretty bad.

Charlie

Okay.

Grizzly

Three as well, yeah.

Charlie

Interesting, you're not killing people anymore.

Condi

It's just like, I don't know-

Charlie

It's almost like it affected you.

Condi

Yeah. I didn't like that, didn't like that.

Charlie

No, it was freaky, wasn't it?

Condi

Yeah.

Charlie

Great. Are you grabbing any for Shilo?

Grizzly

Yeah, is that a different house? Maybe because of how that went. Can I try a different method?

Charlie

Yes. What would you like to try?

Grizzly

Can I just find someone fucking - drunk in an alley?

(Laughter)

Grizzly

Maybe not drunk.

Charlie

Yeah, what do you do to them?

Bizly

Dude, give me some liquored up ass blood.

Charlie

That's fucked up, bro.

Grizzly

Okay, I'm going to find someone drunk in alley.

Condi

You find Theo.

Charlie

All right. You are already on my level.

(Laughter)

Bizly

He already got hooked on the bottle, it's too late.

Charlie

You're already on my level.

Grizzly

Um, yeah, so I look for someone drunk in an alley-

Charlie

This is like the saddest character arc of all fucking-

Bizly

Dude, soda doesn't have that same kick, even though he can drink it now. That liquor just got a hold on him.

Grizzly

I haven't even met Theo, so I don't know what he looks like, so it makes no difference.

Charlie

That's so true.

Grizzly

Yeah. Do I have to roll or do I actually just find Theo? It's going to be Perception plus fucking Alertness or whatever. Plus - fucking four difficulty. Because of Auspex.

Charlie

You can - you can find him easy. But how are you feeding? Like, what do you do?

Grizzly

Oh, the cat. My cat opens him.

Charlie

Cat bites it. Okay, so you're just going to, like - what are you going to do, though? Sneak up on him or intrigue him or, like-?

Grizzly

He's drunk? Oh, shit.

Charlie

What are you gonna do? You see what I'm saying.

Grizzly

I am a shadow person. I will just sneak up on him and my cat will hop onto him. My cat might even be able to distract him. And then, yeah, we'll subdue him and do the whole-

Charlie

That's fun, Manipulation plus Stealth.

Condi

Charlie, I just- the next few times over the campaign, when Theo comes up, I just need him to be on the up and up. I feel like this is his rock bottom.

Charlie

I really need that for him. I really need that for him. I really really need that for him 'cause-

Condi

I just want him to become Soda again.

Charlie

This is too much.

Condi

This poor man.

Charlie

Poor man Theo.

Bizly

I got him to stop drinking soda. That should have been a good thing.

Charlie

Wasn't.

Condi

No, no, you took away his life energy.

Grizzly

Two successes?

Theo

Oh, hey, cool. A cat!

Void

Meow.

Charlie

Walks over.

Theo

Hey, kitty.

Void

(Hisses)

Theo

Oh no! Hey, why is your shadow doing that? What-? (heaves)

Charlie

Just gets consumed by you, how much blood do you want to take from him?

Grizzly

Oh my God. Does he look okay? Can I take three?

Charlie

You take three of the- it is the worst blood. It is carbonated and it is full of alcohol.

Condi

He's been mixing lately.

Charlie

He's been mixing fully cross faded blood.

Grizzly

Well, it is going in a flask for alcohol.

Charlie

It's going in a flask for alcohol. You put it in, take three. Yeah. He kind of stumbles over once you're done.

Theo

That was crazy.

Charlie

Gets in his car. Crashes. Crashes it.

Grizzly

His brand new car that he got like 5 seconds ago.

Condi

Oh, Theo, no...

Charlie

Yeah. Just obliterates it.

Grizzly

The rental. He got the rental car.

Charlie

Gets pulled over by the police.

Grizzly

Goes back to jail.

Charlie

Goes back to jail.

Condi

I think next time we see him, he's going to be like a salesman for a company and he's going to be doing better.

Charlie

Poor fucking Theo dude. All you got to do is grab him and take him with you at some point. Otherwise his life's just going to keep getting worse because of you guys.

Condi

I need to take him, I need to take him.

Charlie

All right, you feed those three points on Theo. Give 'em to Shilo. Another night passes. Go ahead and take one blood away. Everyone add one Willpower as you sleep and wake up. Another night.

Grizzly

Just walk in, open the closet, toss in my flask.

Arthur

Here. This will make you feel better.

Bizly

I don't think he'd have been sitting in the closet all day. Like for that long. But when you walk in, you would see him and Grefgore just like sitting on the floor watching the tv. And it's just like, what would we even be able to get?

Grefgore

Family guy again, my prince?

Condi

God, no.

Shilo

Sure.

Grizzly

Okay. So I'd come in, I'd toss it onto your lap and say,

Arthur

Bottoms up.

Shilo

Is this blood?

Arthur

Yes.

Bizly

Sniff it. What does it smell like?

Grizzly

Blood.

Charlie

Sadness.

Condi

No. I'm going to take him with us next time. Oh, man.

Charlie

It smells like an impossible future.

Bizly

I drink it.

Charlie

Yeah. You know it's Soda's.

Grizzly

How?

Charlie

Because it tastes like soda, but also like alcohol and also like regret.

Shilo

This tastes like regret. Where did you go for this? Do I even want to know? Was it Soda?

Arthur

I do not know who that is. I found someone in an alley.

Emizel

No...

Arthur

He was wearing a leather jacket with some gang affiliation on the back.

Emizel

Oh, no...

Charlie

Yeah, he has a bandana on.

Emizel

Was he surrounded by soda cans and or a call?

Arthur

He was stumbling.

Emizel

Oh, no.

Shilo

That is totally Theo.

Emizel

I'm gonna... I'll be right back, okay?

(Laughter)

Charlie

Is this how you felt when you put Felipe in the plot? All right.

Condi

Yeah, Emizel goes and checks Soda into therapy, man. Not even therapy. He's in rehab.

Grizzly

Give him more of your blood so you get second level.

Charlie

Roll me Charisma plus Empathy.

Condi

Okay, I have no empathy.

Charlie

We're going to see if he goes into rehab or gets worse.

Condi

I have one Charis- Can I Willpower? Can I just Willpower it?

Charlie

Yeah, you can Willpower.

Condi

Yeah, sure. Fuck it.

Grizzly

Oh, my God, okay.

Condi

I feel like he needs this.

Charlie

Okay.

Bizly

Is there anywhere Arthur might go to brood?

Condi

Aw, I got a fucking botch.

Grizzly

Where Arthur goes to brood?

Charlie

You botch it?

Condi

Yeah, but I also Willpowered it, so I don't know what that means. It's one die.

Theo

No, Em, I don't need help!

Emizel

Soda, no. Soda, no come back here!

Theo

It's not Soda anymore. Actually, I have a new nickname.

Emizel

No.

Theo

...Alcohol?

Grizzly

This is not okay, guys.

Theo

Alright, this is nothing. All right, yeah, no-

Bizly

They call him Bud.

Theo

Alright. You're right, you're right.

Bizly

Bud Light.

Theo

They call me Bud Light. Bud wouldn't let me have his nickname, anyway, you're right. And I'll go to... Yeah, you can check me in.

Emizel

Awesome.

Condi

Okay, he goes to rehab.

Charlie

Okay.

Condi

He's gonna to be fine now.

(Laughter)

Grizzly

Yeah, I guess that's how rehab works.

Bizly

At least someone is on the up and up.

Charlie

You sent him to rehab. I'm going to roll for him real quick.

Condi

God, please!

Charlie

Just a background plot, guys. Alright.

Bizly

I hope he finds God. I hope he finds the Lord in there.

Charlie

I know how he does in rehab.

Emizel

I hope he finds religion.

Charlie

We cut back over to - oh, my God, he's going to join the Grimslayers. We cut back over to - not this. Back at the house. You guys hear the knock at the door.

Bizly

I wish this guy were here with me.

Grizzly

Okay, so he was asking where Arthur goes to brood. I'd say, probably would - if this is another night we're kind of waiting on Shilo to be conversable, then he would just sit on the roof and keep an eye out for anything that comes near this BnB, if it has a roof. If not, then balcony is fine. Listening to all the sounds very intently. Very heightened senses. Taking in the experience of living in the... Shady parts of Chinatown, I guess.

Charlie

Something does come near the BnB. A car pulls up, and you see as someone gets out, looks like the sort of older woman. She sort of walks up the stairs to the BnB, puts a key in the door because I rolled for it. And you guys had three days at the BnB.

Bizly

Could we do this first?

Charlie

Sure.

Grizzly

I think you wanted to...

Bizly

Sorry. I just wanted to be able to talk before we get kicked out.

Charlie

Go for it.

Grizzly

If we talk, is she going to walk in?

Charlie

No.

Grizzly

Okay. Because I was going to meet her at the door, but I would like to do this with him first.

Charlie

That's okay. I didn't realize you guys had a scene planned. I was kind just - this is also my way to - please go.

Bizly

We're gonna go, we're gonna go. If you're up on the roof, Shilo, you would hear him very loudly, like climbing his way up. And he wouldn't say anything. He'd just come up and sit down next to you.

Condi

Emizel's already up there, he's on the chimney. It's very awesome. He climbed.

Shilo

It's so loud.

Emizel

Yeah, but they got like, really good noodles here.

Shilo

Noodles?

Emizel

Yeah, like... Ramen, pho, stuff like that.

Arthur

Not that we can eat it anymore.

Emizel

What?

Arthur

Vampires cannot eat food.

Emizel

[voice breaks] What?

Arthur

Yes. It is part of the curse.

Emizel

This completely ruined my enjoyment of this.

Arthur

It will not be at the last.

Shilo

So we're looking for the Unseen One?

Arthur

That was one of our options, yes.

Emizel

I just thought I stopped getting hungry.

Arthur

Are you prepared to talk about our next move, prince?

Shilo

You can just call me Shilo.

Arthur

I will consider.

Shilo

Obscura Systems Inc. right?

Emizel

I think... That that's the play, personally. If the queen is dead, answers sooner is better.

Arthur

The two of you make decisions with little information.

Emizel

Yeah, I mean, we go off what we have. You got anything you want to chime in maybe? Y'know, add to the pool?

Arthur

I mean, you would order me to decision before I had the chance.

Emizel

Yeah, I mean-

Arthur

Impulsiveness is dangerous, boy.

Shilo

Anything is better than sitting here.

Arthur

The Unseen One supposedly leads to Nosferatu. One of the 13 clans of vampire society.

Bizly

What would I know of Nosferatu?

Charlie

Nosferatu... Have never had any place in the castle. You would know that Nosferatu - every clan has a curse. And the Nosferatu's curse is basically they are like their appearance. It's very hideous. And when you think scary, scary vampire - them. Renwick was a Nosferatu, you notice his features were visibly different. They can't go out and blend in among people. Like, if one of you guys was playing a Nosferatu, you couldn't just go out on the street and do the shit you've been doing basically. So that's - you would know about them. Maybe you've seen one or two working around the castle. But for the most part, they are not super well regarded.

Bizly

Cool.

Charlie

And you would know that they are very good at dealing in information.

Shilo

If anyone would know, perhaps they will know if my mother is truly dead.

Arthur

Your mother was in a completely different country, but... Because this is the leader, he may know for sure. Or it. Anyways, it will not be an experience for the weak of heart. And there is no guarantee... That we will leave without injury. So I have prepared the other option. Because it is a week, we have a lot of time to prepare. But we can also find them after the Unseen One, if you really want to meet the absolute most terrifying part of this society. But I am no stranger to darkness, so it makes no difference to me.

Shilo

Emizel?

Emizel

I personally am still leaning for the Nosferatu.

Shilo

Any reason or just...?

Emizel

Uh... Just sounds interesting.

Shilo

I figured as much.

Emizel

Yeah. And also it's the quickest way to get answers. I'm not really one to sit on my laurels and wait for a full moon or anything, you know. More of an action, kind of 'do things now' sort of guy. Good way to get your mind off of things too.

Shilo

What is there to lose now, anyway?

Arthur

Humanity, prince. There is always something to lose. You do not know true darkness until you have become nothing but a beast.

Shilo

Then show me. Show me what it looks like.

Arthur

Then the Unseen One we go. Do not blame me if you regret this.

Charlie

Okay, you guys go in there?

Condi

Yep.

Grizzly

Believe so. Can I feed from her? From the woman that is?

Charlie

Can you what?

Grizzly

Can I feed from the woman that is [mumbles]

Charlie

Yeah. She knocks on the door.

Woman

(Knocks) Hey, anyone in there?

Grizzly

I open up. Does she get dazzled by my 5 appearance?

Charlie

Oh, hey, sexy - ass.

(Laughter)

Condi

What?

Grizzly

(Laughing) Oh, my God. Oh my God.

Arthur

But first... Breakfast.

Grizzly

And then I just.

Woman

Oh, I actually didn't bring- aah-!

Charlie

Um, yeah, and you just take one through ten, I don't care.

Grizzly

Thanks, man.

Condi

You can just - yeah.

Charlie

You can just feed.

Condi

That's cool.

Grizzly

I gotta be prepared for the Unseen One, all right, let's get going to the Unseen One.

Charlie

All right, do you guys walk by or anyone want to drink?

Condi

I'm good. I'm full, actually. Yeah, no, I'm good.

Woman

Okay, have a nice day.

Grizzly

Oh my God, vampires are awesome, we just fucking-

Charlie

It's fucked. All right. Let's go.

Grizzly

Actually, I will do something nice after I feed from this random lady. I'll tuck her into bed and then we leave.

Woman

Aw, thank you!

Charlie

All right, you guys make your way to - I would - does it matter? Do you just walk? What do you have to be scared of?

Bizly

I'd like to take the bus.

Grizzly

Yeah, we'll take - bruh, fuck, we don't look like we can just-

Charlie

You take public transit and it's so fucking funny.

Shilo

I'd like to see the bus.

Grizzly

Let's take public transit because we look like - we fuckin' look silly.

Bizly

Like I ask very awkwardly, I like-

Emizel

Yeah, we lost the Civvy, so uh... I've got bus passes.

Shilo

I've always wanted to see a bus.

Emizel

Yeah.

Shilo

And they're really big.

Emizel

Well, you see...

Condi

And we smash cut onto to a bus.

Charlie

Smash cut onto a bus. You're fully crammed in against all these people.

Condi

There's somebody throwing up in the corner.

Charlie

Someone's barfing in the corner. There's, like, a big sports team for some reason, there's no game going on. There's just, like, a huge dude that's grabbing onto a pole, but it's really far away from him, but it's, like, directly where you are. And he's just kind of like, stretching over fully in your space.

Emizel

Oh, hey, there's the Hollywood sign, you seen that yet?

Charlie

There's, like, a child running around just, like, kicking your leg.

Shilo

I've seen that.

Emizel

Oh, okay.

Charlie

There's just, like, a kid running around just. There's a dog. Dog starts, like, eating your shoe.

Bizly

We sit there in silence for a couple of seconds, and I go.

Shilo

This is pretty cool.

Grizzly

I was expecting him to say LA sucks.

Charlie

And then the bus moves by and the scene transitions and you guys are standing in front.

Condi

What do I know about this corporation?

Charlie

Nothing.

Condi

Nothing, okay.

Charlie

You guys are standing in front-

Bizly

Is it like a tall building? Like really big?

Charlie

Yes, it is. You guys are standing in front of Obscura Systems Inc. Pretty indescript, discreet, sort of silver building. Just looks pretty normal aside from that, you see that it's logo, is almost like a lens and an eye combined, sort of illuminated in this blue light as you guys step inside to this just grey marble interior with these big old pillars and what looks like a receptionist.

Emizel

Let me handle a receptionist.

Bizly

Why would you do that? You're, like, the last person.

Emizel

I've done this all the time. Hi! How's it going?

Shilo

Listen, brother-!

Emizel

We're just looking for... the uh... What's his name?

Receptionist

Do you have an appointment with anyone here?

Emizel

I think it's the CEO. Yeah, I think he's like the top of Obscura. Y'know, he's kind of big deal.

Receptionist

No, he's not in right now 'cause it's pretty late. Are you sure that's who you're looking for?

Emizel

Does anybody go by the Unseen One by chance here?

Charlie

As soon as you say that, you see, a single tear falls down from her eye and her hand reaches down and hits a button, and you just see as, like, the elevator. You see what floor it's on, right? And it just gets close to you and then just opens up and she just stares blankly ahead.

Emizel

Thanks.

Condi

And I go, I walk.

Emizel

God, I fucking hate talking to people. That sucked.

Shilo

Did she tell you anything?

Emizel

No, we're just going into this elevator. She started crying.

Grizzly

Can I read her aura?

Charlie

Yeah, go for it.

Grizzly

Sorry, I don't want to keep breaking the pace of this, but it is one of my abilities and I enjoy it.

Bizly

I do want to walk by her, and if she's crying, I want to take one of her tears onto my finger and look at it for a while. It's really weird and creepy and like something that not a normal person would do. But I look at it longingly and I have a little blood tear that falls as well.

Charlie

That's cute. Yeah.

Condi

I hope you guys liked my white person voice.

Grizzly

Three successes, oscillating pattern. And if she's pale, ghoulish or human or a ghost.

Charlie

She is human. You can see that it is orange, which means afraid. And you can see that when she watches you all walk into the elevator it flickers silver because you're gonna die. So the doors close, which means sad. She's sad that you're going to die.

Grizzly

Yeah, I can read. I can read.

Charlie

The doors close and immediately the lights inside the elevator turn red and you all feel a sickening feeling as it begins to drop.

Bizly

I'm hollow inside, I feel nothing.

Emizel

This is just like the hotel of horror. You ever been to Disneyland?

Shilo

What is that?

Emizel

Oh, man.

Arthur

The two of you will take the lead. I do not have good luck with Nosferatu because of my appearance.

Shilo

What are we asking?

Grizzly

I'm looking for someone, their name used to be Anya.

Shilo

Could you write it down? I'll just pass a piece of paper. Any details, anything you've got, just write it down.

Grizzly

Yeah, rip a little page out of my small notebook.

Emizel

So do you think it's, like bad etiquette to try to see the Unseen One?

Shilo

Just follow my lead.

Emizel

Okay, yeah, sure. You got this, man.

Charlie

The door opens at the bottom. Ding!

Condi

He's, like, doing Airdrums. As we go down.

Charlie

There is a corridor where these lights turn on. And at the end of it, you see that there is a frosted glass door with two metal sort of doorknobs on it. You see that there are two guards that are obviously Nosferatu. They look, by all means, pretty hideous. One of them is kind of short, and the other one's kind of tall and a bit bigger.

Bizly

All right.

Emizel

It's really nice we could come down here without an appointment.

Bizly

You would see that Shilo kind of stiffens up like a board and puts his hands behind his back.

Grizzly

I keep my sunglasses fully covering my eyes.

Charlie

Cool.

Shilo

Walk slowly.

Condi

I walk with swigger.

Bizly

He looks to Arthur.

Shilo

Try and listen closely, see if you can count how many are in here.

Grizzly

I do what the prince tells me.

Charlie

You try to listen to see how many are in here?

Grizzly

I will heighten my hearing, but I will not heighten anything else. Hearing and taste.

Charlie

Okay. Go ahead and give me Perception plus Alertness.

Grizzly

Three! Three successes.

Charlie

Three successes?

Grizzly

So probably fine.

Charlie

You hear just these Nosferatu kind of conversating over there, very quietly and further in, you hear what sounds like... Whirring, like hard drive whirring. Almost. You hear some beeping.

Grizzly

No no no no no no no no, no no no no no no no-

Charlie

And-

Grizzly

Oh my God, oh my God, oh my God-

Charlie

You hear-

Grizzly

Oh no no no no-

Bizly

They're robots.

Charlie

What sounds like the sound of someone.

Grizzly

It's worse.

Charlie

Someone, like, playing with ground beef.

Grizzly

It's worse.

Condi

No.

Charlie

Just like (beef churning sounds)

Grizzly

It's worse.

Charlie

And then you hear.

Magnus

Arthur.

Grizzly

From where?

Charlie

Inside. So faint.

Grizzly

I actually stop them.

Arthur

I have bad news. The Unseen One is a Redditor.

(Laughter)

Grizzly

Anyways, I do stop them.

Arthur

Boys.

Charlie

You actually, when you say that, that he's a Redditor, you see that the Nosferatu look at each other.

Nosferatu Guards

How'd he know?

Bizly

Did we get a count, by the way? Anything? How many there may be?

Charlie

Just these two and those sounds in the back.

Bizly

Okay.

Charlie

Of course, if you're listening, you would know that vampires don't have a heartbeat, anything like that. But...

Bizly

Do they breathe?

Charlie

No.

Bizly

Okay.

Charlie

That's the typical way you can discern if someone's mortal or vampire without aura is if they have a heartbeat or breathing. What do you guys do?

Grizzly

I stop them first, and then I whisper and I say,

Arthur

Boys.

Emizel

What's up?

Arthur

You need to be prepared to see things that are unseeable.

Emizel

I don't... I don't get it. How bad could it be?

Arthur

I guess you'll find out.

Grizzly

Then I push them along.

Charlie

Okay, great.

Grizzly

I'm cool as a cucumber.

Charlie

Awesome. You guys pushing up, you get on up to the door.

Bizly

Shilo steps very slowly and clicking the heels of his dress shoes along the floor.

Charlie

When you guys get to the final door, they both open it up.

Bizly

Yeah, I don't dare to touch the door. I just nod to them.

Charlie

Yep. One of them says,

Nosferatu Guard 1

If it sees you...

Charlie

And the other one says,

Nosferatu Guard 2

...it will take you.

Emizel

So do I just close my eyes, or...?

Charlie

They don't say anything else.

Emizel

Okay.

Bizly

Would I know anything about this?

Charlie

No.

Emizel

So basically, we just need to not get seen. Easy enough.

Bizly

You would see that Shilo closes his eyes, and I would like to try and listen and kind of gauge where I'm walking.

Charlie

Okay. Go ahead. And give me Perception plus Alertness.

Grizzly

I'm going to stealth. I'm, like, behind him.

Charlie

Dex plus Stealth, go ahead.

Condi

I'm also kind of with the stealth.

Charlie

Give me Dex plus Stealth as well.

Bizly

I don't stealth, I'm right there.

Charlie

All right.

Condi

Three successes, two blunders. So one success total.

Charlie

One success.

Grizzly

I got three successes. Let's fucking gooo~

Bizly

All right. And I would also like to try and be as cordial as possible.

Charlie

Ohh, be my guest, yeah.

Bizly

Shilo, still with his hands behind his back, will walk forward slowly, listening for any kind of cues on what to do.

Emizel

Hey, Arthur, you know how to deal with a bear, right? You know how it's like-

Grizzly

I should be hidden. Am I hidden from him?

Shilo

Please be quiet.

Charlie

From him?

Grizzly

Yeah.

Charlie

How many successes did you get on stealth? Three? How many did you get? One. Yeah. You both, once you're looking for each other.

Emizel

Arthur's- Gone-

Charlie

You both lose sight of each other, as...

Emizel

Hey, Grefgore.

Charlie

So you two see.

Grefgore

My prince, we are going to die.

Charlie

You see as this room opens up into what looks like a server room that never ends. You can't see the end of it from where you are. It's illuminated in sort of these blue fluorescent flickering lights. And you see as the green, red and blue LEDs of each kind of server box flicker as you creep sort of around them. They are all these different cubes. You do the same as well the other way. And Shilo, you walk straight down the middle.

Condi

I'd actually, like- Can I hop on top of the server boxes? Or are they like attached to roof?

Charlie

You can hop on top of them.

Bizly

Wait, did you say if you see it or...?

Condi

No, if it sees us.

Bizly

Oh, Jesus, then I'm just doing the wrong thing.

Charlie

No no no no, I said if you see it.

Condi

Oh.

Charlie

Yeah.

Condi

Oh, you did?

Charlie

Yes, I did.

Bizly

Okay, because I thought so. But they both stealthed and I felt crazy.

Condi

Okay, I thought. See, I made it a joke-

Charlie

I said if you see it, yeah.

Condi

-about the opposite thing.

Charlie

I know you did. I mean, it's funny if you think the opposite.

Bizly

That is really funny.

Charlie

That's really funny.

Condi

That is really funny.

Charlie

Yeah. You hop on top of the thing. You see, as it looks like from deeper inside, there is like a pulsating red light that is slightly moving around. And the server boxes deeper in look like they're shifting and almost like sort of slightly moving up and down to a rhythm.

Condi

I don't like that.

Grizzly

Is it worth making my eyes indiscernible completely? Like if someone can see them or not?

Charlie

Sure, if you think that matters.

Grizzly

I don't know. I don't know.

Bizly

As I am walking, by the way.

Grizzly

I don't wanna do something that's useless.

Bizly

It would almost be like I'm using my step to kind of gauge where the ground is. And if I don't feel I can step fully, I won't step. My main focus is to look as presentable as possible without tripping or showing any sign of weakness.

Charlie

Love it. How long do you want to walk for?

Bizly

Until I... Feel I have reached anything.

Charlie

Okay. And you two, are you sticking with Shilo. Or what are you doing?

Grizzly

I'll stick with Shilo.

Charlie

Okay, following.

Grizzly

I will...

Condi

I just feel like splitting up is a bad idea, y'know?

Grizzly

I still have my heightened senses except for my vision. I think I may close my eyes and rely on my hearing.

Charlie

Okay.

Charlie

Yeah, okay. I'm going to stick with Shilo. I'm not going to be on top of the server boxes, but I'm just going to hands around the back of the head. Kind of casually strolling around.

Emizel

This place is kind of creepy.

Shilo

Please. Emizel?

Grizzly

I'll keep my shoulder on - my hand on his shoulder.

Charlie

Great.

Emizel

I mean, what am I supposed to be doing?

Shilo

You must be very respectful of another. This is not our domain.

Emizel

So what do I do exactly?

Shilo

Stand up straight.

Emizel

Uh huh.

Charlie

You three keep walking until the next time you turn around, Emizel, because you don't have your eyes closed, right?

Condi

No.

Charlie

Next time you turn around, it looks the same as it did when you came in. In the direction you came from. Where it is just...

Condi

Going up and down?

Charlie

As far as you can see. It's just these server boxes not going up and down. You turn back around, you keep moving towards this red light. And eventually, Shilo, you step into something wet.

Bizly

I would, like, tap it with my foot and then step back.

Charlie

Okay.

Grizzly

What does it smell like with my heightened smell?

Condi

Yeah, what does it look like with my sight? (wheezes)

Grizzly

It's dark in here, right?

Charlie

With your sight- it is illuminated by these, essentially, server boxes. So now you're starting to lose this kind of fluorescent light. But these, like, LEDs and things still illuminate just very flashes of it. And this red light that's growing in the distance. Emizel, you look down,

Emizel

Ew.

Charlie

And you see it looks like a chunk of flesh with, like, a CPU chip, like, embedded in it. And these wires, like, frayed coming off of it.

Emizel

Oh, my God. Hey, guys, it's like this flesh on the ground.

Shilo

Emizel, close your eyes.

Emizel

What?

Bizly

Close your eyes.

Emizel

How am I supposed to see where I go?

Shilo

Put your hand on one of us. And follow.

Condi

Uhhh... Okay.

Condi

I, like, close my eyes, but I keep one-

Shilo

Emizel!

Condi

(Laughing) A tiny bit open.

Charlie

You keep one open.

Arthur

Prince.

Shilo

There is a reason this one is called the Unseen One, I have a feeling.

Arthur

Just let him do whatever he wants.

Condi

You wouldn't know that my eye's, like, slightly.

Charlie

It's slightly open?

Condi

It's like slightly.

Grizzly

I just say.

Arthur

Boys, both of you stay focused.

Emizel

Okay.

Charlie

You have an eye slightly open.

Grizzly

It's fucking open. He can see!

Condi

This is like, what it looks like, right? Like this.

Charlie

Okay.

Grizzly

Doesn't matter.

Bizly

It's not about that.

Charlie

You guys, keep.

Grizzly

No, do it. I want to see it. I want you to fucking-

Condi

No, I really want to see, yeah.

Grizzly

I want you to die- (Laughs)

Charlie

You see, as this place begins to be less of this contained, organized server room. And more, as these wires start intersecting beneath them, you find yourself almost having to like-

Condi

If something happens that truly, truly shakes me, then I will close my eyes fully. But... Until then, I'm totally going to keep my eyes slightly open.

Charlie

Yeah, sure. No, you see these wires starting to look more and more, just like a spider web almost. And as you go in, you see as like what you saw earlier, that odd material starts to appear more and more on things until these server boxes, you notice that you just were slowly becoming accustomed to it. But it's like they're all kind of breathing in unison, like the floor and the space below it is almost, like, fleshy in a way. And you hear it just slowly inhaling and exhaling.

Condi

Dude, this will be the point where I close my eyes fully.

Charlie

Behind you, you hear.

Theo

Oh, hey, bro.

Condi

(Panicked breathing) I closed my eyes.

Condi

Do you guys hear that?

Arthur

No, boy.

Bizly

Did we actually hear that?

Charlie

No, you didn't.

Emizel

I heard - I heard Th-Theo. I checked him into - rehab this morning. Why is he here?

Emizel... Please...

Emizel

No, seriously, guys.

Shilo

Please.

Emizel

Why are you doing this to me? Are you gaslighting me? That's really fucked up.

Shilo

We are not gaslighting you. You must stay focused. Please.

Charlie

All right, you guys keep stepping forward. It's getting harder with your eyes closed now just because you keep running into all these wires moving across.

Bizly

We'll move as slowly as it takes.

Charlie

Slowly as it takes, these odd, wet sensations.

Bizly

No matter the fear, we remain to walking confidently.

Charlie

At one point, all of you see as through your eyelids, there's this red light that moves kind of back from the right to the left and just stops sort of in the middle, almost like, you know, when you can see the sun through your eyes? When you close them before it keeps moving and is cut off by some sort of sharp shape as you keep moving. Do you guys do anything else?

Grizzly

I think we would probably stop.

Bizly

I would like to bump Emizel.

Emizel

Argh, dude!

Shilo

Respectfully. We have come for the Unseen One. Do you accept us in your domain?

Charlie

You immediately feel two arms wrap around you. And at first it's frightening, and then it's oddly comforting.

The Queen

I thought you'd never come back.

Bizly

Who the fuck is that? Tell me right now. Who the fuck is that?

Charlie

You'd recognize that. It's your mother's voice. You don't say anything?

Bizly

No. Shiloh would freeze completely.

The Queen

At least... Let me look at you.

Shilo

We come with pure intentions, looking only for answers.

The Queen

And what are you looking for?

Bizly

I seek knowledge. I would like to know if my mother is alive. Queen of the Ventre. And my companions also have inquiries.

The Queen

You are always the best of us. Weren't you, Shilo?

Charlie

And you feel as something else wraps around you, your arms and your legs and pulls you away from your companions.

Bizly

I'm completely at the mercy of this. Totally letting it happen.

Grizzly

Cool. Cool cool cool.

Grizzly

I feel him start to drift away?

Charlie

Just feel him start to drift away.

Grizzly

I open my eyes.

Charlie

Are you serious?

Grizzly

Yeah.

Bizly

If I'm being pulled away, I would probably reassure you and say.

Shilo

It is okay.

Grizzly

Mm. I already said it.

Bizly

Shit.

Charlie

Are you serious?

Bizly

Because this could have, like, terrible consequences.

Grizzly

If this is how I die, I'll be pretty pissed, but I open my eyes anyways.

Charlie

Okay.

Bizly

Dude...

Charlie

Well, didn't think this was going to happen so quick.

Bizly

Why why why?

Condi

What, the opening the eye thing?

Charlie

Yep. That didn't take much.

Condi

I was going to do it too maybe, still...

Bizly

Crap on the cracker.

Charlie

I'm going to need you two to leave the room.

Bizly

Okay.

Charlie

You open your eyes.

Grizzly

Halfway, my narrow eyes.

Charlie

Narrow your eyes.

Grizzly

Behind the sunglasses.

Charlie

And you see that you guys are in this web of cable and flesh, mortal and vampire alike. And you see that there is something in front of you. It has these parts to it that you see ooze out. And it looks like they connect to the data boards around you in the various server rooms. And it stands at easily 12-13ft tall with these spindly legs, that knob and gnarl that look like maybe they were once flesh and bone and now just hook into the rest of it. And you see as this red light that is emanating from this centre of it is just shining on Shilo currently. And there are these cables basically coming out and, like, wrapping around him and pulling him in. And I am going to need you to - are you trying to stealthily open your eyes?

Grizzly

Yeah, I've been stealth the whole time, but I can reroll if that's what it takes.

Charlie

You got three successes, right?

Grizzly

I'm also stealthing behind the sunglasses. That's the point of the sunglasses. It is so that no vampire can see my eyes.

Charlie

I'm going to add one to the difficulty of this thing noticing. This is going to be fun, Arthur. You feel as this red light in a flash moves over to you and red consumes your vision and you feel a sharp pain in the back of your head. For the rest of this encounter, I want you to try to get them to open their eyes.

Grizzly

What, do I have no defence against whatever just happened?

Charlie

No.

Grizzly

Would a Willpower help?

Charlie

No. You're counting on them now.

Grizzly

Okay. You are the DM.

Charlie

Shilo. This thing is still pulling you in.

Grizzly

When I open my eyes.

Charlie

Yeah.

Arthur

Shilo, where are you going? Open your eyes. Boys.

Shilo

I will be back, don't-

Bizly

As soon as he says that.

Shilo

Emizel, don't listen.

Emizel

What-?

Shilo

Whatever you do, whatever you do, keep your eyes closed, please.

Emizel

Where are you going, anyways? Don't really feel like it's productive to go backwards.

Shilo

Emizel.

Arthur

There's nothing that we would lie to.

Shilo

I will lose no more family today.

Arthur

Prince.

Shilo

Don't listen to him.

Bizly

You fucking dick. You fucking dick. What are you rolling for right now?

Charlie

What is he doing?

Bizly

I hate you. I hate you.

Charlie

What do you do?

Condi

(Laughing) I just rolled a 50-50 chance on who I listened to.

Charlie

What did you pick?

Bizly

Totally picked Arthur. What do you think he picked?

Charlie

Did you pick Arthur?

Bizly

He's gonna fucking open his eyes and die-

Charlie

Do you open your eyes?

Condi

Oh, I open my eyes.

Charlie

Okay, Bizley, I'm going to need you to leave the room.

(Laughing)

Bizly

[distant] You fucking suck, you know that? You guys fucking suck!

(Laughing)

Bizly

I'm trying so hard to do this for real, fuck you. (shuts door)

Grizzly

We are doing this for real, you fucking asshole. Problem character.

Charlie

Do you try and open your eyes stealthily?

Condi

It's probably like one eye.

Charlie

Okay. Emizel.

Condi

Yeah.

Charlie

The second you open your eyes.

Emizel

I knew this was some bullshit, man.

Charlie

Yeah. You see Shilo being lifted into the air by these wires curled around his arms and legs, just, like, lifting him up towards this creature that you don't even get the chance to discern because as you look up towards the red light that is pulling him in, it flicks over towards you and you feel a sharp pain in the back of your head. And as something physically pierces into your brain.

Grizzly

Sorry, how many dots do you have in intelligence?

Condi

One.

Grizzly

I have two. I think this makes the most sense. How many dots does he have?

Charlie

Hopefully more. For the rest of this. Guys, seriously, whatever angle you can do, try and get him to open his eyes.

Grizzly

It's not going to work, dude. He is running off the knowledge of, like...

Condi

No, he's-

Grizzly

Metafield, bro. It's not going to happen.

Charlie

You hear sounds off to your right and left. And as this red light grows brighter, Shilo, you hear,

Emizel

Hey, Shilo, man, I'd look at where you're g- it's gonna, like, eat you, man.

Arthur

Who are you going to trust, boy?

Emizel

I mean, I'm your brother, right? Like, that's gotta mean something.

Grizzly

Can I use my Discipline in here?

Charlie

Which one?

Grizzly

The one that creates darkness everywhere.

Charlie

Yes.

Grizzly

It's one success. 10ft in diameter of darkness appears.

Charlie

Okay. The darkness appears. Absolutely.

The Queen

Oh, Shilo, don't listen to them. Come closer.

Emizel

This place is fucking ugly.

Shilo

Where in the fuck is Grefgore?

Condi

That's such a good question.

Grizzly

[Grefgore voice] From the top rope, my prince!

(Laughter)

Charlie

Oh, my fucking. God. Yeah, you hear - no, you hear,

Grefgore

Arthur, drop the darkness. I want him to see me come from the top rope.

Arthur

I can't do that, Grefgore. I'm trying to save him, but he won't fucking listen.

Grefgore

I'll defeat it from the top rope.

Emizel

I guess there's - that's-

Grefgore

So I can sort of use this as a top rope.

Emizel

That's a high one. Are you sure you can-?

Grizzly

I just moved the darkness to reveal Shilo for Grefgore.

Charlie

All right.

Grefgore

Watch me, my prince. From the top rope!

Bizly

No.

Charlie

Nothing?

Condi

Oh, man.

Charlie

Okay, you.

Emizel

Holy fuck. Holy fuck! Grefgore killed it!

Grefgore

I did it, my prince. It lies defeated!

Charlie

Just not phasing you? Okay. Cool. You keep getting pulled closer and closer.

Arthur

Prince, I am looking at it. That is not your mother.

Shilo

It will be all right.

The Queen

Yes. Don't listen to him, Shilo. I super am your mother.

Condi

(Laughs) What?

The Queen

Come here, my boy.

Shilo

Then tell me what it is.

The Queen

Oh, yes. Just a little closer. Then I super will.

Arthur

A machine of both vampire - and you have to look.

The Queen

No, I'm your mom.

Arthur

Or it will take you.

Uncle Lazarus

I have a pheasant in me. Come get my pheasant. Come come get my pheasant.

Emizel

That is - Wow.

Arthur

Won't you listen to me, boy?

Emizel

I finally know what a pheasant is.

Uncle Lazarus

You love pheasants.

Arthur

It will take you and control you.

Uncle Lazarus

There's literally one in my mouth.

Arthur

Be my guest. I'm not responsible for you two anyways.

Emizel

Sometimes you got to make mistakes, I guess, you know?

Arthur

We're leaving.

Emizel

Okay.

Arthur

And don't look back.

Emizel

What if I want to look? I just don't do well with authority.

Arthur

It's not like he will anyways.

Bizly

God, you know what? If I die for this. Whatever.

Bizly

At this fucking point.

Grizzly

I'm going to leave.

Charlie

Okay.

Condi

Yeah, we walk away.

Grizzly

I'm going to leave Shilo.

Charlie

You hear them walk away. Last chance. What do you do?

Bizly

I'd like to be able to discern whether the Arthur I was hearing just now is fully the Arthur I know and under no influence.

Charlie

Sure. Go ahead and give me... I would say this would be Intelligence and Empathy.

Bizly

I'm going to use... A Willpower to get one success on this. Five total successes.

Charlie

Ooo...

Condi

Not bad.

Charlie

Nice. The Arthur you are hearing... Something was wrong. Something was wrong with the way he sounded.

Condi

Emizel was normal though.

(Laughter)

Bizly

What? Is that true?

Charlie

Won't give you time to figure it out. You can do one thing.

Grizzly

If he just said a lie, that's like, not fair.

Charlie

I'm not weighing in on whatever that is. No comment on that.

Bizly

Okay, I'll keep my eyes shut and I'll trust and I'll go.

Charlie

All right. As you guys walk away, leaving Shilo here, you can say one final thing, yeah, before he's gone.

Arthur

Well... I hope he'll be happy alone.

Emizel

Probably less painful this way.

Charlie

And you guys leave.

Bizly

So describe how I die. Just let's hear it. Right? Like, whatever. I don't know. They put fucking electrodes in my brain. I get turned to soup. Put me in soup, I guess. Fuck me.

Charlie

Shilo, even though your eyes are closed, you start to see a light that grows brighter and brighter and brighter until it's like your eyes aren't closed at all. Almost as if it's projecting on the back of your eyelids. And you are in this just fully white space where the sky is almost a static. And you see your mother in the distance, just, like, clapping. (Claps) Very slowly. And then you blink, and she's right in front of you, and she says,

The Queen

You did it.

Shilo

All right. Are you who I believe you to be? The Unseen one.

The Unseen One

Would be to see.

Bizly

I know that game. No, I'm good. I'm all right.

The Unseen One

I am what I am.

Shilo

Well...

Charlie

Figure kind of shifts.

The Unseen One

But you are what you are.

Shilo

Well, I... I am gracious to be in your presence. I am Prince Shiloh Bathroy of the Ventru clan.

Bizly

And without opening my eyes, I give a bow.

Charlie

Okay, cool. You bow.

The Unseen One

There is no need for that here, prince. You have given me more courtesy already than most.

Shilo

I have great respect for your culture, and I wish to honor that in all of my actions.

The Unseen One

But what do you seek?

Shilo

I would like to know if my mother is alive. Crap, what did Emizel want?

(Laughter)

Charlie

It's all on you, buddy.

Shilo

I would also like to know if the other boy who came with me is truly my brother. And lastly.

Soda

Yep, that's my boy, Emizel.

Shilo

Holy crap, they got Soda.

Grizzly

They have this DLC downloaded too?

Bizly

Me in the break room.

Grizzly

Oh, God, this is cool.

Shilo

And lastly, I would like your help, if you would grant me it. Finding a woman with naturally red hair.

Bizly

Would I know that? Crap, I wouldn't - would you have told me that?

Grizzly

I said it out loud to Deacon.

Bizly

I was totally in the closet like at that moment.

Grizzly

No no no, that was outside of the hotel, you were there.

Condi

No, that was outside hotel. You heard it.

Bizly

You said,

The Unseen One

I'm afraid romance is out of my expertise.

Shilo

She is... Someone my friend is looking for a specific person who wronged him 100 years ago in London.

The Unseen One

Name?

Shilo

Holy crap.

Condi

Oh, no. This is when you take note. Uh oh.

Bizly

[whispering] Uhhh, crap, what is the name? What is the name? Oh, my God. I'm really bad at this. Can you just tell me really quickly?

Grizzly

Can I?

Bizly

DM?

Charlie

You don't even have to. The thing says.

Grizzly

They probably know just based off that, right?

Bizly

Oh, I have the paper!

Grizzly

I guess I did write a little note for him.

Bizly

He wrote a note.

Grizzly

I just didn't do it in the real life.

Charlie

Oh, cool. Wait, what was the little note?

Bizly

It would have been all the details he had about the woman.

Charlie

Oh, sick. Yeah, absolutely. You have that. And you see this figure that is still shifting.

Bizly

I see this with my eyes closed.

Charlie

Yeah.

Bizly

That's freaky.

Charlie

All your eyes closed. All your - yeah, your eyes are fully closed. Every single one of your eyes.

Bizly

All of my eyes. And my holes.

Grizzly

The only problem is you can't really read the note without opening your eyes.

Bizly

Well, no, won't do it.

The Unseen One

Nice man. Want to read me that note real quick?

(Laughter)

Bizly

I just hold out the note and lean down.

The Unseen One

Worth a shot.

Bizly

Hand it out.

The Unseen One

No need. Please take cover.

Charlie

And you see as a picture starts to form in front of your face, of a building. The building is called Riverside Senior Living. And the image kind of shifts, crackling static, to a woman with black hair, but a description that matches otherwise. And you see she's in pretty plain clothes with a name tag and jeans. Just helping someone down the hall.

Bizly

What does the name tag say?

Charlie

The name tag says Vanya.

Shilo

Yes, thank you. That is very kind.

The Unseen One

So, what else'll it be?

Shilo

Just the status of my mother and the confirmation on my brother.

The Unseen One

Are you sure? There's no going back once you know these things.

Shilo

Could you just tell me - do I want to know?

The Unseen One

[shifting voices] That's for you to decide. But - I should warn you, the longer you stay in here, the more fucked your head gets, yo. Soda!

The Unseen One

You see Soda just like flickers off into the distance and turns into soda.

Shilo

Thank you for your time. If you would please grant my companions a pardon. They are not familiar with your ways and... Are great people.

The Unseen One

They played the game, my prince, but they lost.

Shilo

Is there anything I could offer you in return? A favor from a prince?

The Unseen One

I do like my favors, yo. But also I like knowledge.

Shilo

I can tell you about the pheasants, I know a great deal.

Condi

(Laughing)

Grizzly

Oh, my God, I hope they got-

The Unseen One

Not to tell, but to give... And then to keep.

Shilo

What knowledge do you seek from me?

The Unseen One

What of yours is most precious? If your memories are even real, dog.

Shilo

I think I would remember a moment with my mother, standing, looking out at the area around the castle and her telling me it was all mine.

Charlie

All right.

Shilo

And feeling so powerful in that moment.

Charlie

Yeah.

Shilo

That would be my strongest memory.

Bizly

It would bring many tears to his eyes.

The Unseen One

Very good. We deal in facts, but feelings, the fleeting, we will treasure.

Charlie

And you feel as that kingdom you both look over starts to become more and more featureless. Almost like a computer render. Just a smooth kind of ground.

Bizly

And for a fact, I can give them one more. It would just be a memory of me listening in on one of the council meetings, talking about the territories.

Grizzly

Okay.

Bizly

Giving them more insight on the Ventrule and their intentions.

Grizzly

All right.

Bizly

This would be one memory per pardon.

The Unseen One

Very good. An excellent trade. Thanks for playing, yo.

Charlie

And go ahead, take away one dot in Etiquette.

Bizly

All right.

Charlie

And one dot in Leadership.

Bizly

Oh, crap cracker.

Charlie

And...

Condi

That's crazy.

The Unseen One

You can open your eyes now, I promise.

Shilo

I don't think I will. Well, thank you for your time and hospitality.

The Unseen One

Well, for real, the way it works is you got to open your eyes now, yo. You got what you came for.

Condi

This was fucking-

Bizly

Like, I really don't want to be taken thought, like, the whole thing.

The Unseen One

Well, we already took what we're going to take. Yes, don't you understand? Brah brah, brah brah brah.

Bizly

I'm going to turn around and walk away.

The Unseen One

Just using all the sound effects we got in the library now.

Bizly

Turning around and walking away.

The Unseen One

My favorite is the Taco Bell 'dong' sound.

(Grizzly bell sound)

Charlie

You try to turn around and you feel like your body doesn't even exist. Like you're just this presence behind the eyelids.

Shilo

You're not going to get me. I know what you're doing right now.

The Unseen One

No for real, it's not even a bit.

Grizzly

Just do the roll again.

Bizly

Okay, I'll do the roll. I'll do the roll. I'll do the roll.

The Unseen One

Literally just open your eyes. Your brain is going to turn to slush. Your brain's going to be Soda, yo.

Bizly

I'll use one more Willpower.

Charlie

Soda melts in front of you.

Bizly

That is three total success.

Charlie

What are you looking for here?

Bizly

Is this bullshit?

Charlie

No, it's real.

Bizly

Oh. Oh, say less.

Shilo

Bet, bro.

Bizly

And I open my mother fucking eyes and I'm chilling.

Charlie

The last thing you see is your mom going.

The Unseen One

Bet.

Charlie

And you open your eyes, and just like that, all three of you are standing looking at this sort of featureless grey building with these blue illuminated letters on it that say 'Obscura Systems, Inc.'

Bizly

I still stand very ridgidly.

Condi

What do I remember?

Charlie

You never remember going inside. Neither do you.

Emizel

Okay, so...

Grizzly

Do I remember what happened inside?

Charlie

No.

Grizzly

So I don't have anything to feel guilty about. Oh, sick, dude! All right.

Condi

Are we still here with the intention of going inside?

Charlie

Yeah.

Emizel

Okay. So, guys, I got this. Okay? I'm good with receptionists.

Shilo

Her name is Vanya Hemlock.

Arthur

I'm - Sorry?

Shilo

She's at the Riverside Senior Living.

Emizel

What?

Shilo

She now has black hair and it seems she assists the elderly.

Emizel

Where do you get - the powers of fucking foresight from? We haven't even gone in yet, man.

Charlie

Shilo, you would notice this, like-

Grizzly

The way he just looked at Condi. (Laughs)

Charlie

You would notice like blood trickling down almost from the back of their heads.

Bizly

I go over to the back of Emizel's head and I take a little bit off.

Arthur

What happened prince?

Shilo

You both saw them, so they took you.

Arthur

What do you mean?

Emizel

I saw the Unseen One?? That's awesome! Yes!

Shilo

It does not matter.

Arthur

Was I'm not supposed to? What happened prince?

Emizel

I guess he is like the Unseen One for a reason.

Shilo

All that matters is I have made the bargain and you are here now.

Emizel

Okay, but I still have questions, so should I go back in?

Shilo

Here's the thing is, I totally forgot entirely what you were going to ask. Can you say it again? 'Cause I-

Emizel

Because it's like pretty multifaceted, honestly.

Shilo

You keep saying that, but you never actually ask the question.

Grizzly

I touch the back of my head.

Charlie

Yep.

Grizzly

And go.

Charlie

Feels wet.

Arthur

...Vampires suck.

Charlie

And that's where we'll in the session.

(Laughter)

Grizzly

Fuck yeah dude!

Charlie

Oh, fuck yeah.