

**Bizly**

On the last episode of Wonderlust, the team finally found their way back to each other, though standing between them was a deadly cave-in that has trapped the people of Cogtopolis for months. Luckily, Runt and WD have been doing everything they could to rally the people of Cogtopolis, build as many inventions as they could and open the caves once more. Working together from both sides, they began destroying the rocks, building supports, and pouring a wondrous alloy into the cracks to reinforce the wall. A lengthy battle against rocks ensues. Both the city and Blink take some serious damage, but the team emerges victorious. A cave with glowing veins was opened, and the people began rushing out into Reclaim once again. And now, my friends, we venture back once again into the world... Of Wonderlust.

(Music by LuisHumaniode) (Transcribed by Gabethiene)

**Bizly**

After spending the night in WD's apartment, the four of you awake in this dark apartment. WD, it feels very strange to be in here and not feel the motion, not feel it ticking with the clock. It almost feels like the city has lost a part of itself. When you wake up, you're expecting to feel it and you don't and it's a little sad - this being the city that you've lived in for your entire life. All of you can hear commotion outside still, it really has not died down since the opening was made. If you were to peek out the small window, removing the blanket, you can see people rushing in with supplies. Specifically, WD, if you're looking out, you can see Grant coming in with a cart of food in and his family greeting him at the door and moving inside.

**Milo**

Yay.

**Bizly**

Blink, you almost died from a rock falling on you. You're just happy to be alive, buddy.

**Blink**

I feel great right now, actually, y'know I think it like - I think there was a lot of tension in my back, and it cracked it out when it landed on me, y'know? Also, I have this really huge dent in my skull, which is super cool.

**Troy**

Oh dude, that was always there.

**Bizly**

Troy, you wake up to the sound, almost like it's inside your own head.

**Nnegh**

Nnegh.

**Condi**

Dude, you are - you are being assimilated.

**Troy**

Oh, dude!

**Nnegh**

Nnegh, nnegh! Nnegh!

**Troy**

Good morning, good morning!

**Nnegh**

Nnegh! Nnegh!

**Troy**

Oh, I guess that's the alarm.

**Blink**

Good morning to you as well, Troy.

**Charlie**

I'm going to-

**Troy**

Need to breathe, little guy?

**Charlie**

And I'm going to probably rip my clothes off.

**Bizly**

You guys all see Troy rip off his clothes and over top of him is almost like-

**Charlie**

He's telling me to! He's telling me to in my head!!

**Milo**

Who's telling you to??

**Bizly**

The best way I can describe it is almost like he's covered in petroleum jelly. It is all over him. You can see it's almost writhing and grumbling.

**Milo**

Ew.

**Bizly**

Troy, in your brain, it doesn't stop.

**Nnegh**

Nnegh, nnegh, nnegh.

**Bizly**

I'm going to need you to roll a Con save.

**Charlie**

Wait, wait, wait, wait! No, no, no! No no no!

**Condi**

You have the plus from Milo, don't forget.

**Troy**

Dude, what's - Nnegh - what's - Nnegh - what's wro- Nnegh, Nnegh-

**Nnegh**

Nnegh! Nnegh! Nnegh!!

**Charlie**

That is a 16.

**Bizly**

You don't take any damage. But you do feel it wriggling and writhing all over your body, and you start to itch.

**Troy**

Do you have any food, dude?

**WD**

I - I have crackers. I have - uh-

**Troy**

Where's the fridge?? Meat. MEAT.

**WD**

No meat, no meat.

**Blink**

I mean, it looks like they're bringing in some meat from outside.

**Milo**

I start shuffling through my - you see, I'm throwing like-

**Charlie**

Yeah, I rip open the fridge. I rip the full fucking handle off of the door, and I start pushing my body - I start pushing my body into the fucking meat drawer and trying to feed him as many of these things as I can.

**Bizly**

You start rolling around. What would actually be in there, WD?

**Milo**

Genuinely, it's like a college dorm fridge. It's like Dr. Pepper and like maybe - maybe a loose hot dog.

**Bizly**

There's a half-open can of tuna and you roll around in it, and you start to feel yourself really itch around that area where it's touching, and the tuna absorbs into you, and he goes...

**Nnegh**

Nnegh!

**Blink**

Why - the metal - the can is dissolving in your skin, Troy.

**Troy**

Yeah, ever heard a natural metals, Blink?

**WD**

That is processed aluminium.

**Troy**

Okay, have you ever stood up really fast and you see all of those little weird dark friends? Well, I figured out, they all go away. (Charlie laughs)

**Blink**

Troy, I mean... This can't be healthy, right? It's got to be eating you or something.

**Troy**

I usually just get the tuna and not for the fish. I don't understand.

**WD**

What is going on with you?

**Troy**

Oh, right. Um... Uh, what's up? I'm Troy. All rush, no drag.

**Charlie**

I kind of slide around a little bit on my petroleum, petroleum body condom thing.

**Charlie**

This is my friend who I found - gosh, a few weeks ago, I think, Blink? And he's just been growing on me.

**Condi**

Yeah, he has been growing on him.

**WD**

Growing - on you.

**Blink**

Yeah, he's just become one and the same, those two.

**WD**

Can I like, do something? Can I cut it out for you?

**Troy**

You can feed him if you want to do something. No fingers.

**Blink**

Listen, I've tried this a lot before, and I've tried to explain to him that it's probably not good for him.

**WD**

He's treating it like it's a fuckin' Tamagotchi. How do - get it off of him?

**Blink**

I don't know. I mean, maybe-

**WD**

Can you just starve it? Like-

**Blink**

Can you burn petroleum?

**Troy**

He even has mini games you can play.

**Charlie**

And my eyes roll back into my head.

(Laughter)

**Nnegh**

(Nnegh video game music)

**Troy**

Level up!

**Charlie**

Roll back down.

**WD**

What's the new high score, man?

**Troy**

Oh, no, that wasn't... Do you want me to get a high score? We could be here a while.

**Condi**

At this point, I've decided it's probably better to just like - y'know, leave it be. And what'll happen is what'll happen, I guess.

**Troy**

Oh yeah, it has it's - listen, I don't want to worry you guys. It has its benefits.

**Charlie**

I say, as I shove saltine crackers into my mass.

**Bizly**

You guys watch it. It's almost like it's going through a portal or it just completely dissolves.

**Milo**

I want to take out a piece of scrap metal that I have in my pockets and just push it towards him. I want to see what happens.

**Bizly**

Roll a Dexterity saving throw.

**Milo**

Me?

**Bizly**

Yeah, you WD.

**Milo**

16.

**Bizly**

Okay, so as you start to push this metal in towards it, you see it slowly concaves and leaves a little like - indent? Even in his skin, it's almost like he's pushing his skin back and it moves from it. And almost like a Venus flytrap tries to close up around your finger and you pull out just in time.

**Milo**

Uh-aa!

**Troy**

No fingers, I told you.

**Nnegh**

Nnegh.

**Milo**

I look at Runt.

**Grizzly**

Runt is in the corner in the room somewhere on the couch or on the floor using the couch as a backrest and just face buried, scribbling pen in her - one of her little journals just oblivious to everything going around. You just hear really fast (scribbles) graphite on paper.

**Troy**

Whatcha' workin' on?

**Grizzly**

Just so absorbed.

**Troy**

Whatcha' workin' on?

**Milo**

Can I walk over and look over her shoulder?

**Grizzly**

She snaps the book closed.

**Runt**

Aa!

**WD**

I was just curious.

**Runt**

Mind your fuckin' business.

**WD**

Listen, I - I know that we had a rough time the other day, but like - we're trying to work together here. If you're makin' something that could help us, then I'd like to know.

**Blink**

We don't do secrets. Yeah.

**Troy**

That mother fu- Yeah, fuck you, Runt. What the fuck is in the book?

**Nnegh**

Nnegh! Nnegh! Nnegh!

**Runt**

It's not for you, alright? It's not a secret. It's my fuckin' - it's my book. Back off, okay?

**Troy**

Sorry, dude. I thought we were escalating. Fuck.

(Laughter)

**Milo**

WD is going to... I think I'm going to start shuffling through that box, the box of all of Ripley's stuff.

**Bizly**

Sure, okay. Are you looking for anything specific?

**Milo**

I want to grab the stuff that she would use to pose as the Inventor.

**Bizly**

So, rummaging through the box, you find the device that allows her to speak as the Inventor, as well as - you find some old pictures, some sketches of what the Inventor might look like, as well as you find a little notebook where... It's almost like a design document, but for this character, right?

**Charlie**

Ohh!

**Bizly**

Like who this man would have been. It's really, really trying to go deep into what would resonate the best with the people. You see different ideas written down, some scratched out. It is generally, this is who the Inventor was meant to be.

**Charlie**

Can I look over WD's shoulder and ask what the weirdest one scratched out is?

**WD**

So o- we were trying to brainstorm what the best race it would be to have this guy be. So we-

**Charlie**

Okay, are you sure you wanna-? Are we getting into this?

**WD**

We had this idea of having him be a fish guy, and then we were like eh hh, because it's kinda gross and slimy. So we crossed that one out.

**Grizzly**

He did end up being like an old white man. I don't know if you're-

**Milo**

I meant D&D race, man!

**Troy**

I thought you meant ethnically, not like a fish-

**WD**

What the fuck does that even mean?

(Laughter)

**Troy**

Listen, I just got to know you, so I don't really know if we want to get in the eugenics of this. I'm actually wildly uncomfortable, I'm gonna go.

**Milo**

I was talking about making him a fish!

**Troy**

Okay, what else do you have crossed out there?

**WD**

Well... I mean, we thought-

**Troy**

For the record, I spend a lot of time down here. I have a fish friend. Okay, he's great.

**Bizly**

Alright, WD, you pour through this book looking for anything that might satiate Troy's curiosity, and you land on a page. It doesn't have any writing, just a drawing. It is of a man with no arms, all legs, six of them.

**Condi**

What?

**Troy**

Why didn't they go with this one?

**Bizly**

You remember you had gone with this idea that he had this horrible accident and built himself a leg machine to walk with six bionic legs, considered eight like a spider. But that might have been too much. No, six sounded right. You guys were really hyped about this idea.

**WD**

Oh, yeah. We tried to make Ant-Man.

**Troy**

That's a spider. What the fuck are you talking about?

**Milo**

Because it's an insect. Insect, six legs.

**Bizly**

Dude, Ant-Man is Paul Rudd.

**WD**

We tried to make him look like Paul Rudd, and we thought he was too creepy.

**Troy**

This looks like Spider Monkey from Spy Kids 2.

**Blink**

Oh, this one looks like the Thumb Guys from Spy Kids 1.

**WD**

Yeah, we had just watched all the Spy Kids movie, and I think we were just a little too inspired by it, so we had to take it down.

**Troy**

No, I completely understand.

**WD**

This one looks like George Lopez.

**Blink**

Why is he so ripped and naked here?

**Milo**

I was talking about the Spy Kids, George Lopez. But she flips past that bit. She's just like,

**WD**

That was a different drawing.

**Troy**

You did the thumbs from Spy Kids, too, but you made them hot. You made them really, really hot.

**Blink**

Like, really hot.

**WD**

Who is to say who drew these ones? It could have been me and it could have been Ripley. And-

**Troy**

They look they're manicured. The nail is painted.

**WD**

Yeah, well, you wouldn't take care of yourself?

**Bizly**

Runt, as they continue going on through the book, you are laser-focused on whatever it is you're doing, and you hear a sound. You're very much trained to keep an ear out for these kinds of things, and specifically, light footfall. Heavy enough for you to hear it, but it's quiet, and it's intentionally quiet. You get the idea that someone is attempting to sneak up.

**Grizzly**

I'm not gonna say anything. I'm going to let them continue doing this so that the person thinks they're sneaking up successfully. I'm going to get in a position to where their footsteps are going to cross my line of sight, and I'm going to hold the Telepathy spell to lift them off the air as soon as I see them, up in the air, off the ground. Lift them off the ground as soon as I see them.

**Charlie**

Is it Telekinesis or Telepathy?

**Grizzly**

Oh, Telekinesis.

**Troy**

Blink, do you want to sing the unaware song?

**Blink**

Yeah, yeah man.

**Troy**

I'm-

**Troy and Blink**

[not quite together] -really, really unaware. Someone could come at me from anywhere. I don't know how. I don't know why. If someone attacked us right now, we'd die.

**Bizly**

So you let it all play out, and you hear the window start to creak, but it doesn't actually open. Then you hear them sneak around. They're still pouring through the book and everything. You hear the door kind of creak open. You see a foot start to move its way in. It's this black boot that slowly creeps in, none of them seem to notice it. The door bursts open. All of you hear it. At this point, go ahead and roll that, and I will roll the Strength saving throw.

**Blink**

Someone might have blew through the door right now.

**Troy**

I wouldn't even notice. That is how.

**WD**

Blew my door off the hinges, and I'd have to pay for it.

**Bizly**

I got a 14.

**Grizzly**

I got a 16.

**Bizly**

Nice. Okay.

**Grizzly**

Have you ever played the VR games, like Blade & Sorcery, where you Telekineses someone and then they rag doll up in the air? Like, by their boot.

**Condi**

You throw them in the fucking roof and you hear the Half Life... (impact sounds)

**Grizzly**

The anchor point is the boot, and then they just lift up.

**Bizly**

You all see a figure burst through the door, the light from the city, almost blinding for a moment. You can't see who it is, it just fully silhouettes this man. Immediately, he goes flying up to the ceiling. You hear this loud, high pitched shriek.

**??**

(High pitched shrieking) Hey, get me down from here! Get me down! Come on, I'll give you anything you want! I'll give you anything you want, please!

**Runt**

Who the fuck are you and what are you tryin' to do!?

??

I'm just lookin' for my cousin! What are you doin'!? Come on, get me down from here, please!!  
Oh my God-

**Blink**

Oh, Pinch. Hey, hey.

**Bizly**

Not Pinch. You see Doppler sitting up on the top of the ceiling. It's like, held up there.

**Doppler**

Oh my God, I'm scared of heights! I'm scared of heights! Oh my G- ha! Ha! Clenching, don't piss! Don't piss, Doppler, god damn it! Get me down right now! Slow-like.

**Troy**

The ceiling is so low to the ground. You're like two feet up.

**Doppler**

No no no no, who's that makin' fun of me down there? Who's that makin' fun of me? I swear to God, I'm gonna turn him into a mush. I'm gonna turn him into a fucking mush. I don't like his face-

**Troy**

Why don't you come down here and find out?

**Doppler**

Right, get me down, please...

**Grizzly**

Alright, I let him down.

**Bizly**

He drops.

**Doppler**

Ugh!

**Bizly**

Hits the floor like a rock.

**WD**

Guys, can we be a little kinder to my apartment?

**Bizly**

You see just cracks up in the ceiling, like he comes down, he breaks one of the floorboards.

**Runt**

Guys, what the hell are you doin' here? How'd you get here? What?

**Doppler**

Kid! Oh, it's good to see ya!

**Bizly**

He comes over and just picks you up in a hug.

**Doppler**

Oh, we've been lookin' for ya! Where'd you get to? What are you doin' here? I knew that explosion was you, I was tellin' Pinch that explosion was you. Only you could explode somethin' like that.

**Runt**

I mean, you saw I like - yeah, I built a giant fuckin' weapon. I've been - I've been goin'... I've been researchin', basically. I'm - We were lookin' for this Inventor because we're tryin' to save the fuckin' world, I guess.

**Doppler**

Hang on, hang on.

**Bizly**

He goes over and shuts the door.

**Doppler**

Let's be careful now.

**Runt**

No, that's my bad. Yeah, my bad.

**Doppler**

So who are the meatheads?

**Runt**

I'm just excited to see - I mean, these are my... You know, this is the squad, I guess you could say.

**Doppler**

The squad?

**Runt**

Yeah, where originally it was just, this is Troy, this is Blink, and now we got WD, whose been helping me in Cogtopolis here. Couldn't have done it without her. I maybe could have survived without Troy and Blink, but y'know. It's debatable.

**Bizly**

He starts to walk up to - who's taller, Blink or Troy?

**Charlie**

I put myself in as 5'7.

**Milo**

He's so little~

**Charlie**

Don't do that.

**Condi**

I'm probably like 5'8 or 5'9, honestly. I'm not like a 6' foot person, though.

**Charlie**

Okay, in that case, I have three-inch insoles.

**Bizly**

Alright, Doppler walks up to you. His rat ears start to move backwards a little bit. He assumes more straight posture, and he walked straight up to you, Troy.

**Troy**

Runt, what does that mean?

**Runt**

Oh, here we go.

**Doppler**

Yous the ones who lost my cousin. Huh?

**Runt**

Here we go.

**Doppler**

Huh? Okay. Okay, you want to do this?

**Blink**

Hey, no, we don't have to do this.

**Troy**

Okay, no. Yeah, yeah, you want to do this? You want to do this?

**Bizly**

He goes to roll up his sleeves.

**Charlie**

I jump up on the table - I jump up on the table.

**Troy**

Why don't you come up here and fight me like a big man?

**WD**

Please not in here!

**Doppler**

Oh, I'll come up there, big guy. But you don't want me to get crazy, 'cause I'll get crazy.

**Grizzly**

I'm getting in between, I get in between.

**Troy**

(Feral barking)

**Doppler**

Runt, Runt I'm showin' him the tail. I'm pullin' out the tail, God damn it. I'm pullin' out the tail.

**Runt**

Back the fuck up, Teddy Bear!

**Troy**

(More feral barking)

**Charlie**

I start smashing pots and pants together.

**Bizly**

You see his tail comes out and it hits the floor with a thud.

**Doppler**

I'm pullin' out the tail, baby! Here it comes!

**WD**

Please, God, put it away.

**Troy**

Oh, man, that thing is thick. Where was he hidin' that thing? I'm kinda scared of that thing-

**Bizly**

Does an 11 hit you?

**Charlie**

No, it doesn't.

**Bizly**

Does a 21 hit you?

**Charlie**

It does, it does, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

**Bizly**

Okay, he comes up to swing at you with his hand, fully whiffs it. Does a full 360, smacks you in the face with the tail.

**Condi**

Can it smack downward so it destroys the table, too?

**Milo**

G-agh-

**Charlie**

When he smacks me in the face with the tail, I want to Repost and I want him to also feel something that feels like a tail, wet and slimy, slap him in the face, but it's too fast to figure out what it is.

**Doppler**

What the fuck-? What??

**Milo**

Hit him with a soppy slap, bro.

**Bizly**

He'd take four bludgeoning damage. Do you have to roll the hit?

**Charlie**

Okay. Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. I do, I do. I'm just going to do it unarmed. I'm going to do it unarmed. That's a 20 to hit.

**Bizly**

That'll hit.

**Charlie**

Takes six bludgoning damage from something really fast as I jump up in the air, I'm waist high.

**Bizly**

(Laughs)

**Charlie**

And turn around.

**Grizzly**

I just visualize that perfectly. Like (whip sound)

**Bizly**

You hit him and then the tail comes down, crashes the table. He turns around. Everything in the room goes silent. He just looks at you with a face.

**Doppler**

...What the fuck did you just hit me with?

**Troy**

I don't know what that was.

**Doppler**

Why do you mean you don't know what that was? That was so wet.

**Troy**

I wasn't myself.

**Doppler**

There's a residue. It's a residue!

**WD**

STOP FIGHTING!

**Runt**

Alright, knock it off. knock it off.

**Blink**

Are we done?

**Doppler**

Runt, you hangin' out with residue-having fuckin' meat heads? What is that? He'd leave a trail like snail-

**Runt**

Look, okay? I didn't fuckin'... I didn't deal the cards, I just played with them, alright?

**Troy**

My hands were by my side. I-

**Doppler**

Ough... It was a cold smack. It was a cold one.

**Runt**

Bunch of fucking flat heads, I swear to the God - ess, of everything. 'Cause there's only one that I've seen with my own eyes.

**Troy**

And by the way, we didn't even lose your cousin. He lost us. Yeah, he just left. He gave a - he didn't want to-

**Doppler**

Talking about Runt.

**Runt**

What the fuck are you talkin' about?

**Troy**

Oh-! Yeah-! Dude-

**Blink**

No, we didn't lose Runt. God kidnapped her.

**Troy**

Yeah, tell him your crazy theory.

**Doppler**

Pinch told me all about yous. Yous a bunch of meatheads who don't know nothin' and thinks you do. Except you, I don't know you. I don't know you. You can put your hands down.

**WD**

Just makin' sure.

**Blink**

God actually did kidnap her.

**Runt**

Pau- just relax. Okay, hold on. Where is Pinch?

**Troy**

Yeah, you come into our house, you start breaking stuff. Why don't you calm down?

**WD**

OUR house?

**Doppler**

Pinch is over with the rest of them trying to cover up the openings.

**Runt**

Like the openings in the Reclaim?

**Doppler**

Yeah, up to the top. I don't know. It was a whole bunch - he was talkin' to granny about it. They were working with the apothecaries, it was crazy. I've never seen them come together like that. They're real worried about somethin', they didn't even tell me what. They told me I had one job. One job is to go find you, get you away from the meatheads.

**Runt**

No, you can't - look, alright? They might be sorta on the dumber side, but they're not complete meatheads. They've kept me alive. And you know what? I consider them Friends and you know what? You motherfuckers are the meatheads! Kicking me out of the fucking Street Rats-

**Doppler**

Ohh!

**Runt**

-because I made one motherfucking mistake!

**Doppler**

'ey!

**Runt**

And by the way, I'm sorry about that. I'm glad to see that you're alive.

**Doppler**

Whoa-!

**Runt**

But even then, you guys think you know everything all the fuckin' time!

**Doppler**

Ohh!

**Runt**

And you try to take me away from my goddamn fuckin' job!

**Doppler**

Hey!

**Troy**

YOU'RE FUCKIN' RIGHT, RUNT!

**Charlie**

I fuckin' smash like, a cabinet.

**Runt**

Which is-!

**Grizzly**

And she's jumping up to him. She's like, [unintelligible]

**Charlie**

Fuck yeah, fuck yeah.

**Runt**

Which is to fuckin' save this goddamn b- uh - island! With my brain!

**Doppler**

Lower your voice now, why are we yellin'?

**Runt**

I don't know, I've been hangin' around the meatheads for awhile.

**Doppler**

I can see that in you. I can see it. Look, it's okay. I'm doin' okay, and I appreciate you sayin' that. And I'm not tryin' to take you from your job, I'm just tryin' to keep you alive. I heard, this is all I heard, that you was taken. And when I was taken, y'know, things had been done to go and get me, and I felt I owed some sort of debt to go get you. And also you're my cousin, I got to make sure you're not dead. I'm just kinda doin' the best I can around here, shit's fuckin' crazy out there. I don't really know what to do right now. Normally, it's one goal. It's go up, get the stuff, and come down. And shit has been real crazy ever since you came on that job, I don't know which way is up. I'm pretty sure it's that way, but we're not supposed to go up there no more.

**Doppler**

So what does it even matter?

**Runt**

Pinch is on - y'know, he's on that worrier shit, okay? And I just - I don't... He is like, I'm assuming preparing for doomsday, which is probably not the right course of action because if you hunker down and try to survive the blast, it doesn't stop the blast from comin', alright? We need to be way more proactive than that. You know what I'm sayin'?

**Doppler**

Well, the blast already happened, and we're good, right?

**Runt**

No, it's supposed-

**Doppler**

That was yous, I told him it was yous! He thought it was the end of the times.

**Troy**

Oh, new blast is going to drop.

**Doppler**

You - You - How about we just one blast, huh? Can we just get away with one, not doin' no more blasts? You did a great thing helping the people.

### **Runt**

That was not the end-of-the-time blast. I think, from what I have heard, there's a new blast on the way. Like, a much bigger one.

### **Blink**

Yeah, like a really big - like, a really, really big.

### **Troy**

This one's going to send you to the land before time, kid. This one's going to send you back to the fucking Mesolithic era if this one hits-

### **Doppler**

I don't know what he's saying. He said, Metholithic. I don't know what he's talking about.

### **Troy**

This shit's going to turn you into a crab, bro.

### **Doppler**

I don't wanna be a crab.

### **WD**

I'm really sorry to interrupt, what are - what are we talking about at all?

### **Doppler**

Oh. Hello, I'm Doppler, Runt's cousin. I'm one of the Street Rats, y'know, it's - we're kind of a pretty big gang. We do some pretty big stuff. Um, just, uh - I guess we're talkin' about the end-of-time blast that y'all did a little bit ago.

### **Runt**

That was a different blast.

**Doppler**

Okay, it was a different blast. Is another blast coming?

**Troy**

Yeah, Blink, fill him in on the end-of-time blast.

**Blink**

Yeah, so basically, there's that church, right? You know the church?

**Runt**

Yeah, you guys freaked out about it for about five seconds, and then we came here, took a little nap, and now we're here.

**Blink**

So, what they want to do is they want to use the technology that the Inventor has to essentially teleport everything back to where it used to be before a meteor hit, which was-

**Doppler**

I'm gonna stop you right there.

**Blink**

Yeah.

**Doppler**

No fuckin' idea what you're talking about. It's goin' in this one and out that one, frankly.

**Blink**

They're gonna explode the world. They're gonna explode the world.

**Doppler**

Who?

**Blink**

The Church of Reflection.

**Doppler**

They're just a bunch of guys in robes talking about ghosts. Ain't gonna blow nothin' up.

**Blink**

But they're also highly - like really, honestly, like a lot of positions of power there. Like... A lot of positions of power. It's a little scary.

**Doppler**

So we blow them up. Boom, bam.

**Blink**

Yeah. I mean, the Vixens are in on it, apparently.

**Doppler**

The Vixens are gonna blow up the world?!

**Blink**

I guess so. Yeah. I mean, it's a little fucked up.

**Doppler**

I knew it, I knew it. I knew that I knew it, I knew it. Fuck! Fuck! Fuck!

**Troy**

Woah, hey - listen, it's not the Vixens that are gonna blow up the world. It's ac- Well, I guess they're kinda in on every... So everyone's tryin' to blow up the world because everyone's in on it.

**Doppler**

I knew there was trouble. When I came here, on my way here, it was Vixens everywhere. Like ants crawlin' around the place, they're in here now. All over the city.

**Blink**

That's bad. That's bad for us.

**WD**

In my apart-? Oh...

**Doppler**

No, not in the room. In the city.

**WD**

You said I had ants, man.

**Troy**

Well, ants come in for water when it's dry outside.

**Doppler**

I think you actually might also have ants. I'm seein' some trails in the area.

**Troy**

I don't know why that would be. (wet slurps)

**Bizly**

(Laughs) There's a trail going straight to Troy's foot and getting absorbed in.

**Runt**

Point is, bad things are comin', and we're on a bit of a time limit to stop them from comin'.

**Doppler**

Okay.

**Runt**

The Vixens are in the city already, then, we got to make sure that they don't, you know, get what they need from the Future Thinkers before-

**Doppler**

Ooh, the Future Thinkers. Oh man, that's gearin' into a lot of shit, Runt. I'm gonna be honest with you, I have really no concept for all this. It's a little bit over our heads, don't you think? Maybe we go see Pinch, he knows what to do.

**Runt**

Pinch doesn't know what to do. That's what I'm sayin' to you.

**Doppler**

He might have a better idea than me.

**Blink**

I mean, we need all the help we can get, honestly. So if we can get Pinch on board, have the Street Rats, then uh... That would be good.

**Runt**

I don't know. The Street Rats have never had the kinda firepower to deal with the technology that we're up against.

**Doppler**

And you do?

**Runt**

Well, yeah. Look at me. (charging up sounds)

**Doppler**

Oh. Yeah, I guess so. I guess that's a lot of firepower.

**Runt**

I'm a walkin' war machine. Cheese ball!

**Doppler**

Is that a gun? You're holdin' a gun? Is that a gun you have?

**Runt**

Watch this. I made a helmet, too.

**Grizzly**

I push a button, Ironman. (tink)

**Doppler**

That's pretty cool. That's pretty cool what you did.

**Grizzly**

Voice comes out.

**Runt**

I am Iron... Man.

**Doppler**

Shit, I don't know how to help you. What do you want me to do? I feel like I'm supposed to do somethin' now. I found you! That was my job, I found you. That was it, 's all I had to do.

**Blink**

I have a great idea, actually. Something that works to your skills and abilities. I mean, Street Rats, you guys skulk around a lot. Maybe you can try to get us a secure route out of here, avoiding the Vixens?

**Doppler**

Skulk around? That's what we do, we skulk around? Fuckin' - gettin' wise with me.

**Runt**

You gotta admit. I mean, we do kinda skulk around a little bit, or we did.

**Doppler**

Yeah, sure, we do some skulkin', but who's this fucking guy? Talkin' about us skulkin' like that.

**Blink**

Listen, I've worked with you guys before, like a lot. I deliver for you all the time. You're always skulking, okay? It's just an observation, I'm not trying to come at you.

**Troy**

Can you try and use a more neutral word, Blink, than skulking?

**Doppler**

It's just I don't like the tone is what the problem is.

**Runt**

He's got like, a lot of stress all the time within, and it makes him abrasive.

**Blink**

Yeah, and I'm very stressed right now because the world is gonna blow up!

**Doppler**

Yes, I can see it. It's written on his face. It's written on his face.

**Blink**

The world is gonna blow up, and I'm very anxious about that! I don't want that to happen!

**Troy**

I've never seen a bird with forehead wrinkles.

**Doppler**

You ever just fuckin' chill out?

**Blink**

Yes. I mean, sometimes. I mean, I got wine drunk literally yesterday.

**Troy**

I don't know that that was chilling out.

**Doppler**

If anything, that makes me think you're more anxious.

**WD**

You were wine drunk while we were breaking through that fucking wall?

**Blink**

Yes, I - very much. We were super fucked up.

**Troy**

Oh, yeah, we were fucked.

**Doppler**

Drunk and handling explosives. I don't know if this guy should be tellin' me what to do, frankly.

**Blink**

I wasn't handling explosives!

**Runt**

Okay, okay, okay. Relax. Yeah, I agree we got to get out of here, but I also think that if possible, the main problem here is we don't actually know what to do either because we don't know what everyone else is doin'. So if the Street Rats are gonna help - and we will go see Pitch again, so that he calms the fuck down and stops sending all my cousins after me - maybe information is

kinda what we need to fight right now. I can think of no better people that might have it than the Thinkers.

**Blink**

What do they do? I've never really met the Thinkers.

**Runt**

It's in the name.

**Blink**

I mean, I've just like, been around.

**Doppler**

I suppose they would think, huh? I mean, I don't know.

**Blink**

Okay, no need to be, actually, a little - so fucking rude to me.

**Doppler**

Oh, sorry! Sorry! I'll just hang back in the corner and skulk for a little while.

**Blink**

Listen, listen, you have been-!

**Doppler**

Just hang back and skulk for a little while.

**Blink**

Oh, yeah, you skulk about. How about? Oh, yeah, oh, yeah - just go-

**Doppler**

Oh yeah, look at me. Because this is all we do! It's all we do!

**Blink**

And I didn't say it's all you fucking do! I didn't say it's all you fucking do!

**Condi**

And I slam my hand to the wall and break the drywall.

**WD**

AAAAH!

**Doppler**

You got to pay for that. He's payin' for all of it now.

**Blink**

I'm not paying for anything.

**WD**

In this scenario, I am the one who will be paying for all of this.

**Troy**

Let's all just calm down!

**Charlie**

And I take this box of ceramic mugs and flip it upside down so they all fall onto the ground and shatter.

(Laughter)

**WD**

My Snoopy mug...

**Troy**

Oh, that's what you do! You don't skulk, you snoop. And that's what we could use.

**Doppler**

I don't know if I like that either. I don't know if I like that either.

**Blink**

What do you like?

**Doppler**

But look, look if Runt - if you need me to do a little snooping and skulking, I can do it. Just as long as these guys don't fuckin' tell me to do it, that's my only problem.

**Blink**

Okay yeah, Runt, I'm gonna leave everything to do with this guy to you, actually.

**Doppler**

He's got one of those faces is my problem right now. He's got one of those fuckin' faces - you know what I'm talkin' about.

**Blink**

Do you want to punch it? Do you wanna pun- Will it make you feel better if you punch me?

**Doppler**

(Whistles)

**Blink**

I'm not gonna let you.

**Doppler**

Tough guy, huh? See, you see what I'm talkin' about? Meat heads. Meat heads.

**Blink**

I've had some growth recently. I don't let people do that anymore to me. Right, Troy?

**Troy**

Yeah, that's right! That's right! And if you punch him, you punch me.

**Blink**

And you know what happened last time you punched that guy.

**Runt**

Equilibrium needs to be established right now before I fuckin' blow this apartment up.

(Laughter)

**Milo**

I mean, for the love of God.

**Runt**

Alright, I'm at that point now. Don't fucking test me!

**Troy**

Don't bring our apartment into this.

**Bizly**

Our apartment?

**Milo**

I hand Troy a contract. I had him a contract.

**Runt**

If you could do some snoopin' and meet us back home, that would help. Just don't get caught again.

**Doppler**

Okay, where should I be snoopin'? Should I be snooping around the hourglass or should I go up top? Go see what's goin' on?

**Runt**

I don't know. You guys said - you said the church was real dangerous, right?

**Troy**

It's the hourglass that we gotta worry about, I don't know what's goin' on up top.

**Doppler**

The dudes in the robes? That's what we're worried about?

**Blink**

Yeah.

**Doppler**

Let's just go kick the shit out of 'em, I don't know. What do you mean?

**Blink**

Okay, but like, have you seen the leader of the church? Just a question here.

**Doppler**

Have I seen the leader of the church?

**Blink**

Do you know what he looks like?

**Doppler**

No, not really - it's just a bunch of dudes in robes, I don't know.

**Blink**

Okay, so imagine like-

**Doppler**

Nobody goes to the church anyway.

**Blink**

A lot of people go to the church, it turns out. In fact, they've kidnapped a few of our friends and they're holding them at the church. So technically-

**Doppler**

Pretty fucked up. That's pretty fucked up.

**Blink**

Yeah, it is a little fucked up.

**Doppler**

What is with all the kidnappings? There's a lot of kidnapping going on, frankly.

**Blink**

Yeah, I don't know, I don't know. It's a little concerning. This used to be a nice neighborhood.

**Doppler**

I got kidnapped recently. I was up top. We were stealin' some stuff from the trade - the trade people up there.

**Troy**

Oh, yeah. No, you shouldn't have done that.

**Blink**

Yeah, yeah. I mean, the trade company - that trade company is involved. They're part of the guys who want to blow up the world.

**Doppler**

Say that again?

**Blink**

Yeah, so they're involved. They want to blow up the world as well.

**Doppler**

The Wonderful Trade Company is involved.

**Blink**

Yeah, they're involved with the overseers.

**Doppler**

Okay, okay, that's all I needed to know. I'm goin' up there, and I'm gonna cause a problem. Runt, what do you think? You think I caused a problem, or do I cause a problem? Let me know.

**Runt**

I would prefer that you figured some stuff out so that we could all cause the problem together.

**Doppler**

Mmm, mmm, mmm.

**Runt**

Because if you do it alone, the chance of success dwindles significantly to about 5%. We were lookin' for a 95% success rate.

**Doppler**

Okay, okay. You said it.

**Runt**

That's a whole 90%.

**Doppler**

You're usin' words and numbers, so that's a bit of a tough one for me. I think I get the gist of what you're sayin', just look, don't - like a museum. I'm in a museum. I go up there, I'm in a museum. Look, don't touch.

**Runt**

We like collectin' things, right? Think about all the different clues and information as little knicks-knacks and gather 'em all up.

**Doppler**

Okay, I can do that. I can do that. I'll go straight up to the Trade Company. There's been some rumblin's up there recently, so they're up to somethin', I know that. I know that. And I'll tell, I'll tell Bl...

**Bizly**

Jesus, I'll keep forgetting the fucking names.

**Doppler**

I'll tell Pinch you're okay. And that you're grown and you can handle yourself. That's what I'll tell him. You know what? I'll tell him that. 'Cause you know, he always talks about you like you're a baby. And I tell him, Pinch, Pinch she's growin' up. She knows what she's doin'.

**Runt**

Exactly! You know what else you should tell him? Tell him to stop being a fuckin' C##### and actually make himself useful instead of hiding in the f- underground!

**Doppler**

Colorful language, Runt.

**Milo**

You can't say that anymore.

**Doppler**

You really can't be sayin' that.

**Troy**

What invention was that?

**Runt**

Why is everyone lookin' at me like I committed a crime?

**Doppler**

I just - Listen, I maybe won't repeat it in such a way, but maybe not the language.

**Troy**

I know we're in Reclaim, but I don't think you can.

(Laughter)

**Runt**

Also, after that, tell him and my grandma, I love 'em.

**Doppler**

Listen, if I tell Three Strings where you're at, he's gonna come rushin' straight towards you like a rocket.

**Runt**

Remember, 95 chance success rate, we throw Three Strings into the mix and we're gamblin' at that point. Like, I don't-

**Doppler**

Oh, and you know how he loves gamblin'. It's a problem, really.

**Runt**

I want to keep as much people that I care about out of out of harm's way as possible. I'm only askin' you to help because I know, y'know, you're good at what you do.

**Doppler**

Heh. Hey.

**Runt**

I trust you and you're puttin' trust in me. That's the kind of-

**Grizzly**

I fuckin' dap his ass up.

**Runt**

That's what I need.

**Doppler**

Yeah, that's my fuckin' cousin. That's my fuckin' cousin. Alright, I'll do - I'll go up there, I'll look around. Look, don't touch. I'm in a museum. Won't tell Three Strings, but he is freakin' out, he's gettin' a little crazy. So you got to go see him at some point or he's going to somethin' drastic.

**Runt**

As soon as opportune, I will drop by.

**Doppler**

He's singin' real weird songs, Runt. I'm gonna go, but you just - go see that fuckin' guy.

(Laughter)

**Charlie**

Like Resident Evil when we pull up.

**Grizzly**

The end is coming~

**Doppler**

I don't know what it is you got into, kid, but I - I'm... I'll help you out.

**Bizly**

He gives you this secret handshake, and then he's like,

**Doppler**

Alright, avoid these Vixens. They're fuckin' everywhere.

**Bizly**

He goes to slip out the window, and you see he notices the window doesn't open.

**Doppler**

I knew that. I don't know why I'm fuckin' doin'-

**Bizly**

And he goes to open the door. He slips away.

**WD**

You can also take the hole.

**Bizly**

Yeah, he pokes it back in.

**Doppler**

Oh, yeah, I guess that is there.

**Bizly**

He walks back through the apartment, through the hole.

**Charlie**

And then I say,

**Troy**

Also, the window locks from the outside.

**Troy**

He's gone. Oh, I was hoping I could get him to go around and try the window a third time.  
Ruuunt... Ruuunt... Ruuunt...

**Runt**

What?

**Troy**

What do we dooo?

**Grizzly**

Oh. (Laughs)

**Blink**

You want to try to sneak into the church, maybe, and see what they're all about there? I have this new thing where I can disguise us as robed-hooded figures, all of us at once.

**Troy**

So you bought robes?

**Blink**

No.

**Condi**

I hide a bunch of robes in my bag.

(Laughter)

**Troy**

That's a cool new trick, Blink. Um - I think maybe - uh, it could be a- uh - uh... I don't know. It could be a good idea to see the Future Thinkers first because if they're thinking the future, they'll know...

**Blink**

I thought they were free thinkers.

**WD**

Nah. If they were free thinkers, we would have fixed that problem a long time ago.

**Blink**

Yeah, okay. So they charge.

**Charlie**

(Wheezes)

**Troy**

I think you're spending too much time around me.

**Condi**

(Laughs)

**Blink**

Yeah, probably.

**Runt**

There's only really one of the thinkers that I think would hear us out and then make a case to the rest of the Future Thinkers. It's the one that I flipped off as soon as we kind of freed everybody. I don't, like... It's the professor that - Wait, that W... I mean, I met him before and he told me that I was a child, and then I kinda like saved the city and then flipped him off with fireworks. I don't know if it... But it's still the best shot, alright?

**Blink**

Listen, I mean, yeah. I mean, you have maybe a bad rapport with this guy but me and Troy, we're a blank slate!

**Troy**

That's right. And, I mean, you know us.

**Runt**

I just... I don't know if that - would - work.

**Troy**

Listen, we'll get in there. I'll pretend to think, and we'll get along great. Worst case scenario, we'll pitch them all of this as a hypothetical, and if they think about it and they tell us the way to do it, but they don't do it because they're thinking about it, we can do it while they're thinking.

**Runt**

Even if the Vixens do talk to the Future Thinkers, I sincerely doubt that the Future Thinkers are gonna suddenly start doin' things when they're pretty much known for just thinkin'. What I want to do is find the one guy that maybe we got through to him with our action and then ask him what he knows so that we don't leave here empty-handed. They might know secrets about the church and stuff that most people don't know because they're kind of the collectors of all things knowledge and past.

**Troy**

Yeah. Okay, so how do we get to the... Well then, why aren't they called the Past Thinkers?

**WD**

'Cause that sounds fucking lame.

**Troy**

They're kind of like philosophizin' what we could do for a better future, but don't actually decide, don't actually settle on the - it doesn't fuckin' matter! Let's go to the academy where I assume it

is, where all where the classrooms are. We can probably just walk in since the city is in chaos right now.

**Troy**

Why are we future thinking? We're future thinking! You're just like them! Just do it! Let's go! We're there! Boom!

**Runt**

Alright, follow me.

**Bizly**

So, Runt, you're leading the way?

**Grizzly**

Yeah. I guess we can try and be a little sneaky.

**Bizly**

Go ahead and first roll a Survival check. The city isn't moving in the same way that it was before. There's still some mechanisms going, but for the most part, it's gonna be much harder to get there.

**Grizzly**

I got a 7.

**Bizly**

You can get there, it's just the Stealth check is gonna be a bit harder because you're not gonna be able to take the stealthiest routes. Go ahead and everybody roll Stealth.

**Charlie**

Damn, I rolled crazy baller. I got 18.

**Condi**

22!

**Grizzly**

I rolled a 26.

**Milo**

I got an 18.

**Bizly**

You guys sneak your way through Cogtopolis. Having a harder time manoeuvring through the city because of the lack of movement, the lack of ticking with the clock, and hearing the commotion of people rushing in and out, trying to get through. Really, you find yourselves best blending in in crowds, moving between these groups of people. But all around, you see these Vixens almost moving in on the territory, pushing people around. Some of the citizens of Cogotopolis are pushing back. It almost seems like the Vixens, some of them don't even believe exactly in what they're doing, but are just following orders.

**Charlie**

Onyx is still heading up the Vixens, right?

**Bizly**

Onyx, Big, and Aeon have always been the heads of the Vixens. All you heard last was that Aeon was trying to get them back and was kicked out. But considering how much she lied, you don't know how much of that is true.

**Charlie**

Man, imagine she never even got kicked out. That would be so good.

**Condi**

That would be crazy.

**Bizly**

You guys can easily stealthily make your way over to the clubhouse where it almost seems abandoned, somewhat like, torn apart. Some of the metal fencing pulled at.

**Grizzly**

That makes sense, we did tell them to take over.

**Bizly**

It looks like the doors are locked with a chain around the front, and most of the lights are off. In the front - WD, you'd see it first - are these two Guardian birds, these clockwork birds that stand in front. But nobody even seems to be attempting to enter.

**Charlie**

Guardian birds.

**Bizly**

They're like the clockwork soldiers, but birds.

**Charlie**

Oh!

**Milo**

Do they look on?

**Bizly**

They look on? Yes, they do look on and seem to be guarding the area.

**Blink**

So why do you guys look so tense all of a sudden?

**WD**

(hisses) These FUCKING birds.

**Runt**

Because those things are vicious, that's why.

**Troy**

Wait, do you guys know about birds?

**WD**

You don't? You're-

**Blink**

I'm literally a bird, I'm literally a bird. What?

(Laughter, Charlie's is manic)

**Charlie**

I shut the fuck up for the entire rest of the scene.

(Laughter)

**Bizly**

As you look at the bird-

**Charlie**

That wasn't even intentional! That wasn't even-! I think I'm actually stupid!

**Bizly**

So, you guys are standing out in front of the Future Thinkers Clubhouse, which is essentially where all of their teaching goes on as - Oh my God - as well as a lot of the invention and experiment, it goes on here. In front of you is a metal gate. Imagine like black metal spokes, and they're kind of like, some of them are torn up and ripped. And the actual building looks like a church, almost. A very very old building, and the front of it, it's about - I think it's three stories, right?

**Charlie**

I assume a kind of scary-looking building.

**Bizly**

It's a little scary-looking, but it's very similar to the university, but much smaller. It looks scary in the way that old buildings look scary. The two gargoyles, essentially, in the front. Troy, you would recognize them to almost be augments of the clockwork soldier?

**Charlie**

Like enhanced versions?

**Bizly**

Not necessarily enhanced versions, no. Just as if someone had seen a destroyed clockwork soldier and built them up into this.

**Charlie**

Ohhh, interesting. Okay, cool.

**Bizly**

If you look a little closer, you can see a light shining out from its mouth, and they kinda just scan the area.

**Troy**

If you guys give me... uh... Three seconds, I can tell you everything they're weak to.

**WD**

What?

**Blink**

Is that tr-true?

**Troy**

Yeah, but you have to tell me that you're like - like, we have to take the time. I know it's a lot to ask, so I just wanted to say so beforehand.

**Blink**

Yeah, take three seconds.

**WD**

That's fine.

**Runt**

WD, do you think that they take commands for some of the Future Thinkers?

**WD**

I... The last time we fought them, did they have a brain? Like - like something?

**Troy**

Give me three seconds and I'll tell you.

**Bizly**

What is it you're actually trying to do mechanically?

**Charlie**

Okay, I look over them and I say,

**Troy**

Enhance. (Action music)

(Laughter)

**Charlie**

I like, look with my eyes and I like, and I use Troyvision, and I start like - seeing - I zoom in and all of a sudden, like in my eye, they explode like in the Pepsi ad, and I see all of their parts, and- (More action music) And I'm looking around all of the parts, and I'm looking at the wires. I'm using Know Your Enemy, which lets me discern the immunities, resistances, and vulnerabilities of a creature I see within 30 feet of me.

**Bizly**

And what if the stat block doesn't have any of those things?

(a beat passes)

**Charlie**

Pfft. (Laughs) Okay, okay, we'll - we'll get to that. (Action music) I'm looking around all these things, I'm like following through the wires.

**Milo**

Yeah, I get on the keyboard with you. We're both doin' it.

**Charlie**

I see their brain and it looks like this fucking computer chip, like fucking 3D render that expands into a hologram and starts spinning around and it flies over to me. I flip it around and zoom into it. (Action music continues) I turn to Runt,

**Troy**

Screwdriver.

**Grizzly**

I hand him a screwdriver.

**Charlie**

I grab the screwdriver and I take it and I shine a flashlight on it. (Action music) And the light reflects exactly into the iris of the thing, which causes it to slightly dilate, allowing me to look at it again and I see into the core of its eye. (Action music) And I start seeing the zeros and ones of the binary, and then we zoom back out.

**Troy**

Heh.

**Charlie**

What are they weak to? What are they vulnerable to? What are they immune to?

**Bizly**

I - I - I don't know. There's nothing on the stat block. (Laughing) I can make something up for you, but like - I don't have anything on the stat block. It just doesn't... It's like, there's just nothing here, brother. I don't know what to tell you. I can come up with something if you really want, bro. I don't have anything on here.

**Charlie**

It's fine, it's fine. It's fine.

**Bizly**

Okay. Do you want me to tell you what their perception is?

**Charlie**

No, I don't get to learn that.

**Bizly**

Oh, it's plus eight.

**Troy**

Okay. Heh. I've studied them. I can tell you their immunities, their resistances, and their weaknesses.

**WD**

Well?

**Blink**

What are they?

**Troy**

What would you like to know first?

**WD**

Uhh... Immunities?

**Troy**

No immunities. We're good to go.

**Blink**

What are their weaknesses?

**Troy**

No weaknesses either, unlucky for us.

**Bizly**

I'm sorry.

**Troy**

We still have their resistances to worry about.

**Runt**

What are their resistances, then?

**Troy**

Let me make sure I've just got this right.

**Charlie**

I look back over. (Action music intensifies) (something explodes, even)

**Troy**

Nothing.

**Runt**

Great, Troy. That was very, very, very helpful.

(Laughter)

**Troy**

I can do that after the next time we sleep for eight hours.

**Runt**

I'm just going to take a chance here, and if they attack me, let's just fuckin' shut 'em down by force, alright?

**Blink**

Yeah, I mean, that's - I feel like that's a play, right? Like-

**Grizzly**

I'll use Disguise Self, it lasts an hour. I can make myself a foot taller. I'm going to look like the professor that was there when we cleared the way and just try to walk up to the birds and tell them to go somewhere else.

**Bizly**

They rolling Intelligence, maybe?

**Charlie**

Are they weak to being stupid?

**Grizzly**

They would have to discern that I'm disguised by using an Investigation check if they're smart enough to be like, 'This is definitely a spell, maybe.'

**Bizly**

These motherfuckers have a minus four in Intelligence.

**Grizzly**

Okay, this might work then.

**Milo**

Bird brain.

**Bizly**

Okay, so you walk up to them. What do you say?

**Runt**

[deep voice] Uh... Parole the area. Parole the area.

**Blink**

Parole? What?

**Troy**

You mean patrol the area?

**Bizly**

Both of the lights look over at you, shining in your eyes.

**Condi**

I just figured we could walk past them without giving them orders or anything.

**Charlie**

This could still work.

**Runt**

[deep voice, keeps changing] I'm gonna open the - I'm gonna open the door now.

**Troy**

Feel like can't really decide on a voice there.

**Bizly**

You walk up and the lights follow you the entire way up to the door.

**Runt**

[muppet voice] Alright. So far, so good.

**Charlie**

It's falling apart. Wait, let's try... If the lights are following Runt, can we try and sneak in while the door is still open and the lights are away from us?

**Bizly**

Door's not open, but yeah, you can sneak in to the courtyard.

**Charlie**

But we're past the... Like, the gate is all open.

**Bizly**

The gate's open? Yeah, because it's all been kinda ripped open.

**Charlie**

Oh, okay. Alright.

**Bizly**

The metal has been bent and stuff.

**Troy**

[whispers] Let's see if we can sneak past them while they're not looking.

**Blink**

Okay, yeah.

**Bizly**

Why don't you guys just roll another Stealth check.

**Charlie**

Uh-oh!

**Condi**

I got an 18.

**Charlie**

You know what? It's a group Stealth check. So maybe I don't even have to show the teacher my homework.

**Milo**

I got a freaking 20.

**Condi**

Dude, just put on your most innocent face.

**Charlie**

Okay, okay okay. I put on my most innocent face. I got a 5...

**Milo**

I'm imagining Troy with this big like, cartoonish smile-

**Charlie**

The grinch smile?

**Milo**

-like big rosy cheeks and his eyes are sparkling.

[Charlie forcing a wide smile]

**Milo**

No - well no, that's scary. (Laughs) I was imagining much cuter - stop.

**Charlie**

(holding his cheeks up in a big smile, laughing manically)

**Grizzly**

What was the DC?

**Bizly**

Ooh, ooh that, ooh that. Yeah, well, they have a plus 8 to Perception. I first rolled a 13.

**Grizzly**

Then that's good news. And then, what else? Did you roll at disadvantage?

**Bizly**

Then the second one is I rolled an 8.

**Charlie**

Okay!

**Bizly**

Plus 8. That's 16.

**Charlie**

Right.

**Bizly**

Right. So 18 plus 20 plus 5.

**Charlie**

No, I think we just ignore the 5.

**Bizly**

Plus 5 is 43. Divide that by 3?

**Condi**

That's only 14.

**Charlie**

Oh, we don't take the average. We don't take the average.

**Bizly**

Then what do we take? Then, brother, what do we take?

**Charlie**

We take the group majority of the project. Wait! I get a secret bonus, I forgot about thi-! I use - I'm sorry, it's been like a month. I literally took this because I'm so bad at this roll. I'm going to expend a Superiority die for Ambush, and I'm gonna get even lower and I'm gonna make my smile even wider, and I'm gonna roll a superiority die, which is a... I think for me now, it's a D10.

**Bizly**

That could really help.

**Charlie**

I got a 9! I got a 9! That brings me up from a 5 to a 14.

**Bizly**

18 plus 20 plus...

**Condi**

14.

**Bizly**

Plus 14.

**Condi**

52.

**Bizly**

Divided by 3. 17.

**Charlie**

Ohhhh! Let's go, let's go.

**Bizly**

17. Alright, Troy, you're walking up, you bump into the bird. It's almost like you just puffed out your chest and it's bumping you.

**Charlie**

It's just natural, yeah.

**Bizly**

The light comes over, shines in your face for a second.

**Troy**

Back off, dude.

**Charlie**

You know what I do? (fake lunges) And he flinches.

**Bizly**

Ooh, ooh.

**Charlie**

And then I keep going.

**Bizly**

The two birds, you hear, (zzzt) (various thumps, gradually growing distant) as they patrol the surrounding area.

**Troy**

Ohh.

**Bizly**

You guys have just a moment. Now, Runt, in front of you is a series of chains wrapped around this set of double wooden doors and a lock holding them in place.

**Grizzly**

Alright, I pick that shit.

**Bizly**

Alright, roll to pick that shit.

**Grizzly**

Multitool comes out of the gauntlet, and then I pull out another tool on the right-hand. Get in there. That is a 28.

**Bizly**

Uhh... You crush it. Immediately, the lock picks open. It's almost like you guys are walking over, you almost think she has a key. She just opens up, the lock falls to the ground, the chains all roll off of the door handles.

**WD**

Do you like, actually work here?

**Runt**

Well done, everyone.

**Grizzly**

I just say, looking like the old professor.

**Bizly**

Go to push open the door and you feel something on the other side barricading it.

**Runt**

That's not a good sign. Alright, Troy, you're up. Bust us in.

**Troy**

Okay.

**Runt**

Non-violently.

**Troy**

...Okay.

**Charlie**

I start... Stroking the door?

**Troy**

Am I allowed to use, like, fo- Am I allowed to use excessive force, professor?

**Runt**

Yeah, you know what? I'll help you out.

**Bizly**

Roll Athletics with advantage.

**Charlie**

Oh, that's hype. 31.

**Bizly**

Troy, you go to push the door open.

**Charlie**

Can I say something while do it?

**Bizly**

Yeah.

**Troy**

AAAAAAAAAAH!

(Laughter)

**Charlie**

Then I do it.

**Bizly**

You're thinking something extremely heavy is gonna be on the other side. It's like one bookcase, and you bust open the door, and it goes flying across the room and crashes into a wall on the other side. Looking around, the place looks deserted.

**Troy**

Is this what it looked like when you guys were here?

**Runt**

Not really.

**Grizzly**

I drop the disguise.

**Runt**

Alright, contrary to what that looked like, we are not here to hurt anyone. So if you are hidin', we just want to talk.

**Grizzly**

Start lookin' around, looking in the classrooms.

**Bizly**

Roll, um... Perception.

**Grizzly**

Mind you, as an inquisitive rogue, I do have an ability called Eye For Detail.

**Charlie**

Not the finger up while you explain.

**Condi**

[nerd voice] Um, actually-

**Charlie**

[nerd voice] Um, I would like to interject here-

**Grizzly**

(Laughs) I got a 15.

**Bizly**

You are looking around the area, listening, trying to find anyone in the clubhouse, but there's no one. It seems anyway.

**Grizzly**

Yeah well, in that case, we'll start lookin' for any information.

**Bizly**

Go ahead and roll. Investigation. Start lookin' around then.

**Grizzly**

25.

**Bizly**

Just before we get into what you find, would anybody else like to do anything?

**Charlie**

I'm gonna start...

**Troy**

If they can see the future and they can plan for the future, then they know you guys, but they don't know me and Blink. So they know that Runt's smart and can investigate, and they know that WD can do whatever WD does, but they don't know what we can do.

**Charlie**

I'm gonna run through a wall.

**Blink**

No, wait. Are you su- I see you're winding up to maybe run through a wall, I'm seeing here. Are you sure you want to reveal your hand right now when they don't know what you do?

**Troy**

No, no, 'cause they would have thought already about what could have happened. They don't do what I can't think about, don't do.

**Charlie**

(Laughing) So I'm running through a wall.

**Bizly**

You burst through a wall and you find yourself barrelling in and you land on a couple of desks and you see in the front of the room is a chalkboard, this is a classroom. Papers go flying

everywhere as you land in here. And then... In the distance, you can hear the sounds of these birds stepping inside.

**Charlie**

Shit, I forgot they can hear. Oh...

**Bizly**

It doesn't seem they found you just yet, but they've started patrolling the interior.

**Milo**

I thought it was only sight.

**Bizly**

They're just moving in. You don't if it's because of that.

**Milo**

Oh, word. Okay.

**Troy**

Okay, Blink, do you hear that, dude?

**Blink**

Yeah, birds, coming in. 'cause the loud noise you just made, I think.

**Troy**

Well, we don't know that, we don't know that. I've never seen a bird with ears.

**Blink**

Yeah, yeah, I have them, I have them, I'm literally bird and I have ears.

**Troy**

They do?

**Blink**

They're like - There's hol-

**Runt**

If you fuckin' screw heads, screwdriver heads, flat fuckin'... If you fuckin' dumbasses ruin this before I get to look around.

**Blink**

Why am I the one who's getting blamed here? I didn't do anything. Why am I always bundled in with Troy?

**Troy**

We both take responsibility.

**Runt**

He's your responsibility, Blink.

**Blink**

Why is he my responsibility??

**Bizly**

Dude, ever since you picked him up in the streets.

**Runt**

'cause you're the adult!

**Blink**

That's not fair. That's not fair to me, he's also an adult.

**Troy**

I don't know what's goin' on.

**Bizly**

Okay, Runt, looking around, what you find are signs of the philosophers fleeing. You see bags packed up hastily, likely in the night while you all slept. It's the same signs that you saw in the first workshop that you went to, things strewn around the office, all of the valuables and items likely collected and gone, desks opened up and ransacked, essentially. But you see it for all of the philosophers... Except one. It seems as though one of them still has a bag laid out underneath a desk. Looking into it, you see family photos, old paintings, mostly just memorabilia. Something someone might - All the things someone might take if they were planning to flee. But it's all here.

**Grizzly**

What does he look-? Does he look recognizable so that we can try and find him since he didn't leave the city?

**Bizly**

Most of the paintings in there are from when he was young. It's hard to discern, considering the philosophers you've met have been extremely old. That is essentially it that you find in this room.

**Grizzly**

I can't decide if he's still in this building or if he's just in the city somewhere.

**Milo**

If he's anywhere.

**Grizzly**

I'll just hold on to one of the pictures of him, just in case I need to ask around for the specific guy.

**Bizly**

Like I said, a lot of the pictures aren't of him as he would look now, they're of a child.

**Grizzly**

I mean, if it's not useful, then I'll just leave it alone. I guess we'll leave.

**Bizly**

Really, all that does is tell you that he's not left. The others have already left, and he hasn't.

**Runt**

Alright. I don't know if we're runnin' out of time with all the birds, but WD, this guy is still here. I mean, there's one Future Thinker that didn't run away. The rest of them did.

**WD**

If I was a Future Thinker... Where would I be?

**Runt**

In the pa- In the future? I don't know. That's stupid...

**WD**

No, 'cause they're in the past. They're thinkin' about the future, but they're in the past.

**Milo**

Are there any like - like a badge or something that would tell us what room he would have taught in? Or like-

**Bizly**

Looking around this room, it seems like it is the classroom which he would normally teach in, that you're already in.

**Runt**

I don't know. We could look around for his office, maybe, but otherwise, all this memorabilia is family shit. We'd have to find where he lives. I don't know. Do they live here in the buildin'? I don't know what to do, honestly. If he's not here, he's not here.

**WD**

I have a bad feeling about this.

**Runt**

You have a bad feelin' about the one guy?

**WD**

If he is not gone, then why didn't he leave?

**Bizly**

At this point, you all would hear the birds approaching, getting closer, crashing into the floor. Troy, in this hole in the wall, you kinda hang behind it and you see them walk by.

**Troy**

Wait, okay. The birds, if they catch us... Are they gonna take us to him?

**Runt**

No, I don't-

**Blink**

They're probably gonna kill us.

**Runt**

They're like, pretty violent. Yeah, no. I think... Fuck.

**Troy**

Were you resisting before?

**Runt**

If my disguise device fooled them, I don't think they're very smart. I'm just going to be real. I'm not the best at, you know... I'm not the best at soundin' like an old man. I think they're stupid, Troy. I don't know if they're gonna like, know whether or not we're resisting or not. I think they're specifically programmed. I don't know, man. Maybe we just cut our fuckin' losses and get the fuck out of this city, alright?

**WD**

Why don't we check out the second floor?

**Blink**

Okay, um... Troy.

**Troy**

Yeah.

**Blink**

Up.

(Laughter)

**Runt**

There are stairs!

**Troy**

Up?!

**Condi**

(Laughing) I don't know. I mean, maybe you can jump through the floor.

**Runt**

Why do we command him like he's a dog, alright?

**Charlie**

Yeah, yeah, okay. You know what I do? I look at him and I go,

**Troy**

Up??

**Charlie**

And all of a sudden, I rocket directly up through the floor.

**Milo**

How?

(Laughter)

**Charlie**

I have the Cloak of the Flamed Angel. I can, in fact, fly. I fly through the ceiling. But to you, it just looks like I go... vwoosh!

**Milo**

How do WE go up? Do we just have to take the stairs?

**Charlie**

He didn't say everyone up, he just said Troy.

**Condi**

Well, yeah, I wanted Troy to make a hole in the ceiling.

**Milo**

I have my grapple gun. I grapple gun through the fuckin' room.

**Grizzly**

I can jump 20 feet up.

**Bizly**

Troy, are you going to the second floor, the third floor, or the roof?

(Laughter)

**Grizzly**

Might as well go all the way up.

**Charlie**

I go all the way up.

**Grizzly**

Just so we have the floors.

**Bizly**

You fly up and you land on the roof, and this is where you can see a bird's-eye view of this massive cog that houses all of these buildings. In the city center, you see Vixens actually rounding people up. It seems like they're looking for someone in particular, and they're pulling people out. It seems like they've also taken control of the cave opening. But the way out is now one of those Vixen checkpoints that you would have seen going into the Sorting District.

**Charlie**

I'll shout down back through the hole and relay all that.

**Troy**

It looks like they're lookin' for someone in town. Also, the hole is their hole now. They took our hole by force.

**WD**

Fuck!

**Troy**

I've got a weird feeling whoever they're looking for is the guy we're looking for, too.

**Bizly**

Troy, roll Perception up there.

**Charlie**

Perception! Troy look. 15.

**Bizly**

Okay, no, you don't see anything.

**Charlie**

Or is it? Because in my head, I use my Tactical Mind and I enha- I take the screwdriver out and I reflect the light into my iris to expand my eye to let more light in, to zoom in on the... (enhance) (action music) And the whole scene explodes out into techno. And I start looking, and I look into it, and I go through all the pieces, and (whooshing) it's like I'm brain blasting. I get to add a D10. It's an 8, so that takes it up to a 23.

**Bizly**

A 23! (Claps) You hear, below you, some sort of rumbling. Some sort of, almost like the rummaging of papers for a moment, and then silence.

**Charlie**

Does it sound like it's coming directly below me?

**Bizly**

Not directly below you, but definitely from this floor beneath your feet.

**Charlie**

I go straight there.

**Bizly**

You crash down again through another hole right next to the hole you just made.

(Laughter)

**Condi**

Another new hole.

**Bizly**

Essentially, what you see is - almost like a room within a room. Imagine a hallway going all the way around it and a room in the center that is walled off, and you imagine it is coming from there, from inside there, but you're in the hallway right now.

**Charlie**

There's no door into the room?

**Bizly**

There's a door.

**Charlie**

But they would think that, wouldn't they? I dive through the wall on the opposite side of the door.

**Condi**

I would like to just like - can WD get up on her own? Or-

**Milo**

Yeah, I have a grapple gun.

**Condi**

Then yeah, I'd like to just personally catch up to Troy at some point while he's doing all this.

**Bizly**

Okay. You all can go up there if you want to. Runt, would you be following up or are you going to the second floor?

**Grizzly**

Yeah, I have 20 feet. I can jump 20 feet high with my-

**Bizly**

So you all go up there. Troy crashes through the wall, and you don't see anything in here. It's very strange. Runt, if you want to roll Investigation again for in here.

**Troy**

I thought I heard something, guys.

**Runt**

Look, I don't know who's in here. If you're in here, we are not your enemy, and we are your best chance at getting out of this city alive right now. Not that we're gonna kill you, but like - that they might if they find you.

**Bizly**

Roll Persuasion instead.

**Grizzly**

Damn it, Investigation is so much higher.

**Milo**

Damn, if I roll Persuasion.

**Grizzly**

An 18.

**Bizly**

You hear, coming from a cabinet right next to the door. It's a small cabinet.

??

It's you.

**Bizly**

It creaks open, you just see a pair of eyes in the dark.

??

The ones who opened the cave.

**Runt**

[hushed] Yes. Yes, that's right. Come on out.

**Bizly**

He slowly creeps out and looks around at you all. You see, he's got this very dishevelled look to him. Normally, the philosophers are very well put together, but it seems as though he's been through hell over the last 12 hours or so. He steps out.

**Philosopher**

I didn't think... How did you...? I have a lot of questions, actually.

**Bizly**

This is the philosopher you would have known to belittle you when you spoke to him.

**Runt**

Oh, fuck you, dumb motherfucker. It's- Wait a second. It's you. You're actually who I'm lookin' for. Still, question one, what's your name? Because I never learned it.

**Philosopher**

I'm not sure it matters anymore.

**Runt**

Sure. Well, whatever. Alright, I asked a question, now you go. That's how conversation works. What?

**Bizly**

He just doesn't say anything for a moment and looks at all of you.

**Runt**

You look judgy. You got a very judgy face put on right now. I don't know if that's intentional, but it's sourin' the vibe.

**Blink**

Yeah, you're like kinda judging us.

**Troy**

I'm not saying anything.

**Bizly**

He looks over at you, WD.

**Milo**

Extend my hand out.

**WD**

My name's WD.

**Philosopher**

You caused a disruption in my class once.

**Bizly**

Holds out his hand and he shakes yours.

**WD**

I did!

**Runt**

That makes two of us.

**Philosopher**

(Sighs) So you're not here to... Harm me, burn the place down? Then what?

**WD**

No.

**Runt**

Unless we should. Should we? I don't know.

**Philosopher**

You wouldn't be the first to try. The people have lost faith in the Future Thinkers, and so the Future Thinkers are no more.

**Runt**

That makes sense to me. I mean, can you blame 'em? Look, I didn't find you to debate. We're lookin' for someone, anyone that was still here - the Future Thinkers - because we wanted to know what you might know about the stuff that's going on outside of Cogtopolis, if you know what I'm talkin' about. I'm really trying to gage your involvement before I go too deep. You know what I mean?

**Bizly**

Roll Insight.

**Grizzly**

Okay.

**Charlie**

Oh, you get that special thing!

**Grizzly**

Right. It's the, Can't roll lower than a 7.

**Bizly**

Oh, I love that. That's so fun with Chip.

**Grizzly**

20.

**Bizly**

It doesn't seem as though he knows exactly what you're talking about. Your request for information at all seems to put him at unease. Clearly, he knows some things, but he's not sure exactly. It may not be what it is you're referring to, but he knows something. He has some secrets, he has some information of some kind that he wouldn't want to tell.

### **Runt**

Alright, I can tell that put a little bit... Look, we don't have a lot of time, okay? The Vixens are gonna close in on this building at any minute, and then we're all going to be in trouble, okay? So I'm going to break it down as simple and as fast and as efficient as I can, okay? If anybody wants to chime in here and add anything that I forget, just feel free to hop in. Basically, the church, the Wonderous Trade Company, all these other factions like the Vixens who are here right now - sorry for lettin' them in, but I had to let the people out, you know how it is. They're gonna fuck up this place, this world, this island, everything. They're gonna fuck it all up. They're tryin' to use technology to destroy, which is not what it's used for. This knowledge should be used to build and to create. But they wanna go backwards, as far as I'm concerned.

### **Runt**

They want to literally go backwards.

### **Blink**

Yeah, they want to go to the past.

### **Runt**

Which should be alarming to you. And so we're tryin' to find information before we go into this dangerous, crazy fuckin' confrontation conflict against them. So if you know anything, anything at all that can help us before we put our lives on the line for the sake of both Reclaim and Wonder, you got to tell us. In exchange, maybe we'll help you get out of your life. I miss anything?

### **Blink**

No, I don't think so.

### **Runt**

I know this is a lot comin' from a girl that's 16 years old in a suit of armor. But you got to believe me, we might look like a group of dumb fucks, but we are more than capable. I am gonna stop talking now.

**Bizly**

He stays silent for a while and eventually leans back onto the counter that he was under.

**Philosopher**

How did you do it?

**Runt**

Do what?

**Philosopher**

The opening.

**Runt**

We tried somethin' we weren't sure if it was gonna work or not. We took a risk. That's the answer you're lookin' for. The specifics, the science, the heart and the hard work, all of that is kind of irrelevant. The reason you never solved it is 'cause you never tried.

**Philosopher**

The church...

(Silence)

**Blink**

You weren't kidding. This guy, these guys do think.

**Bizly**

He's really goin' for a while.

**Bizly**

(Laughter)

**Grizzly**

Oh, man. Old people, dude. This is the experience.

**Charlie**

This is awful. This is so bad.

**Condi**

The church. Yeah, the church.

**Philosopher**

This can't be right. No, the church wouldn't do this.

**Troy**

That's what you had to think about???

**Runt**

Okay, wait, wait. Why? Why wouldn't the church do this?

**Blink**

Wait, I have a question.

**Troy**

Blink, please keep it to one at a time, dude. It's gonna take like 30 minutes to process, too.

**Blink**

Have you done the... God, what's it called?

**Troy**

The Cinnamon Challenge!

**Blink**

Ooh, not that. Ignore him. The Pilgrimage. Have you done that? You know what's in the hourglass?

**Philosopher**

When I was a boy.

**Blink**

Okay.

**Philosopher**

But not since.

**Blink**

You touched the crystals?

**Philosopher**

Sure.

**Blink**

And what did they show you?

**Philosopher**

Mm.

**Troy**

That's a thinking sound. (Whispers) Runt, are they really all like this? This is so awful. This is so awful.

**Milo**

This is why it took them so long to think of a solution.

**Grizzly**

Runt's holding it in with you, like white-knuckled gripping. Like clenched fist.

**Charlie**

Literally gained nothing...

**Philosopher**

It was a long time ago. I believe it showed me my great grandmother. Even if I didn't see it, I felt it.

**Runt**

Okay, okay, okay, okay. I know - okay, okay, listen, listen, listen. Sure, you believe, you believe the church wouldn't do this. Now, hypothetically, you love this. Hypothetically, they would.

**Philosopher**

Hmmm, mmm, mmm.

**Blink**

In a hypothetical world where they would, yeah.

**Runt**

What could you tell us that would help? Professor-

**Grizzly**

Everybody here is just fucking-

**Bizly**

(Laughs) He thinks for a moment.

**Charlie**

Oh, does he? Does he?

**Milo**

He thinks for a MOMENT?

**Grizzly**

He thinks, huh? This even looks like the statue, dude. You know the statue, the thinker? That's what Bizly looks like right now.

**Milo**

Bro thinks he's the thinker.

**Bizly**

Roll Persuasion again.

**Grizzly**

Aw, for- I got 12.

**Philosopher**

I'm not sure. If that were true, if the church were looking to - what did you say, take us to the past?

**Blink**

Yeah. To literally send us back to where we came from.

**Philosopher**

That would be impossible.

**Troy**

Hypothetically, if it wasn't impossible... Assuming! Assuming that the variables are set and that they're going to do this.

**Runt**

Holy shit. How are you pullin' out this vocabulary?

**Troy**

In a limited amount of time and those variables cannot change. They are - They are - de-pen-dent.

**Runt**

It kinda sounds like you went to school. What the fuck?

**Troy**

The indepen...

**Charlie**

I'm like, looking over at the chalkboard.

(Laughter)

**Troy**

The independent variable is what can be done about this hypothetical situation, assuming all of the other things are true.

**Runt**

Nod, nod, nod, nod.

**Troy**

The church blowing everything up and sending us all to the being X, Y, and Z, Professor!

**WD**

Is he British?

**Troy**

Yes, I just don't bring it up.

**Philosopher**

I suppose you treat them as any adversary. Find their members... Perhaps try to persuade them out of it. And if not, use force. But - what you're saying is preposterous, truly. I think there is nothing to worry about.

**Blink**

That's cool. Whatever. Let's go, guys.

(Laughter)

**Bizly**

The Persuasion wasn't high enough. He's not going to give you anything right now.

**Troy**

Professor! Let me teach you a little something, professor!

**Bizly**

Roll Intimidation.

**Charlie**

No, I'm not done! I'm not done! 'Cause I start going up to him, Nnlep starts,

**Nnegh**

Blah blah blah.

**Charlie**

He starts bubblin'. I don't even fucking know what he does. I go up to him. I say,

**Troy**

Professor, you know if you withhold information from the test, you'll receive a FAILING GRADE!

**Charlie**

And I want to try and fucking scare the shit out of him.

**Bizly**

Roll Intimidation with advantage as your skin bubbles.

**Charlie**

I rolled two 6s.

**Bizly**

Fuck.

**Charlie**

Wait, no. I get Commanding Presence. I'm gonna expend a superiority die and add a D10. I can't be here anymore in this room.

(Laughter)

**Charlie**

I rolled a 10, that's a 20. Fuck you.

**Grizzly**

Max superiority dice.

**Charlie**

I assert my dominance over him.

**Bizly**

As you say this, you see this frail old man begins to cower away from you, and he simply says,

**Philosopher**

Terra would never! There's no way what you're saying is true! She wouldn't. I know her. You've been fed false information.

**Runt**

Blink, does that name ring a bell? Did you meet this person? You said the leader of the church was this big lion, scary man.

**Blink**

Yeah, whose name I forget. I think it starts with an A.

**Troy**

Aslan.

**Bizly**

Aldrick.

**Blink**

Yeah, Aldrick.

**Condi**

What was the name you said?

**Bizly**

Terra. T-e-r-r-a.

**Blink**

Yeah, I've never heard of Terra before, actually.

**Philosopher**

Aldrick either, he would never.

**Blink**

No, Aldrick. Listen, okay. Listen, Aldrick would, to be fair, because he did actually grab my ex-friend from a chokehold and drop her from the top of the hourglass trying to kill her.

**Philosopher**

Yeah, 'ex-friend'.

**Runt**

Did she die?

**Blink**

Yeah, They said it's rocky. It's rocky. No, she didn't die.

**Runt**

Okay, that was sad. I was gonna be a little sad.

**Blink**

No, I saved her, but-

**Troy**

Don't be. She's a huge bitch. And you know what? And y'know what? I wouldn't have said that - I wouldn't have said that three mistakes ago with her. But dude, we're in like number four.

**Runt**

I told the professor we wouldn't bite, alright? Let's back up. Let's bring her back down, okay?

**Blink**

No, I mean, to be honest with you, I'm tired. I don't care what you think you know, I want to know what you do know about what we can do about this fucking situation because if you sit here and think forever, you're never gonna DO ANYTHING!

**Runt**

Now you see how my experience was.

**Bizly**

Blink, roll Intimidation with Advantage.

**Condi**

That's a natural 20 on my first roll.

**Charlie**

Oh my God! Let's go, let's go.

**Condi**

Riptide dice, baby.

**Milo**

Blink, angry.

**Runt**

Of course, of course, of course. I've said these things four times to this guy, but of course, he only listens when a fucking man says it!

**Condi**

I'm sorry.

**Bizly**

Damn, if that ain't the problem.

**Charlie**

Blink is a bird, he has a cloaca.

(Laughter)

**Bizly**

Fuck, I did not want to think about my dog's cloaca. I did not want to ponder.

**Condi**

Too bad, it's in your mind now.

**Charlie**

Your dog got a cloaca, bro, take him to the vet.

**Bizly**

Blink lays an egg and this guy freaks the fuck out.

**Troy**

Dude, please calm down. You're gonna lay an egg again.

**Milo**

He screams so hard that he pushes an egg out-

**Philosopher**

If that were true, if that were true, we - you would-! I'd have to talk to her. She would... It must be a mistake, okay? What you're hearing, what you're seeing must be a mistake. She... She's my oldest friend. She's not like that. She wouldn't just... Terrorize the people.

**Troy**

Maybe it's not her then, dude.

**Philosopher**

Perhaps. And I imagine... I imagine you want to find her.

**Blink**

Yeah, I mean, probably.

**Troy**

[whispers] Not really, I kinda just want to stop these people from blowing up the world.

**Philosopher**

I don't know what it is the church even does. I just know since a young one, she has been involved. And she...

**Bizly**

He seems very hesitant to say this.

**Philosopher**

She is also involved in the going-ons of the city above. I have been sworn to secrecy. I should not even be saying this to you. But if what you're saying is true, she could be in true danger, and I... I would not forgive myself. And though I wish I could help, I seem to have my own battles.

**Troy**

Oh, yeah.

**Blink**

Yeah.

**Runt**

It sounds like she's gonna know a lot more than you do. Where do you think that we would find her now? As soon as possible, if we need to find her, that would help. And then we'll get you out of here, and then you can go fuck off.

**Philosopher**

Do you know of the upper city? Of Wonder?

**Troy**

Yah.

**Runt**

Where do you think he's from?

**Philosopher**

Down here...?

**Troy**

Don't ask elaborating questions, please. Just stick to yes or noes Runt, 'cause the sooner we get out of this, the sooner this fucking migraine goes away.

**Runt**

Yeah, we visited it a few times.

**Philosopher**

She, Terra, sits on the Council. They do not know that she's from down here. It's through the clock tower. That's how she gets up.

**Charlie**

Do I know about the council?

**Bizly**

Yeah, that's the government.

**Charlie**

Okay, great.

**Bizly**

They function at the Wonder Capital, which is a small island off the Coast of the Southwest.

**Charlie**

Great. Okay, cool.

**Runt**

What do you mean it's through the clock tower?

**Philosopher**

She ascends through the clock tower. That's how she comes back down.

**Runt**

No, the only thing up there was a fuckin' broom closet.

**Philosopher**

There is another way.

**Speaker 3**

What is it?

**Runt**

Alright, we got to go. Less talky, more do-y now.

**Philosopher**

I-

**Runt**

No, no, no. No, no, no.

**Philosopher**

I will show you.

**Runt**

He's gonna show us.

**Philosopher**

But you will take me.

**Runt**

Yes.

**Troy**

Okay.

**Runt**

That's the plan.

**Philosopher**

Keep me safe from these people.

**Runt**

Yes. Alright. No, we got it.

**Blink**

Okay, yeah, just like-

**WD**

If we have more time with you, the better.

**Troy**

We're leaving, we're leaving.

**Runt**

We got there, let's go.

**Blink**

We're going now, okay? Grab your stuff.

**Grizzly**

Someone pick him up and just carry him on your back so he just can't move slowly, y'know?

**Charlie**

You can take one bag and you have to collect it in the next two minutes.

**Philosopher**

Okay, alright. Alright.

**Blink**

Think carefully. Or don't think carefully - Don't think at all.

**Troy**

Blink, don't fucking say that.

**Philosopher**

Shit-

**Bizly**

He jumps down the hole.

**Blink**

Aw, he just killed himself. Fuck.

**Bizly**

He takes a good bit of damage. You see- (Laughs)

**Grizzly**

Tibia cracks.

**Bizly**

No, he doesn't do that. He walks down the fuckin' stairs, that's insane.

**Charlie**

Dude, this is so stupid.

**Bizly**

He walks down the stairs, he grabs his bag.

**Charlie**

'If I'm the Future Thinker, I'm going to jump down this 20-foot hole and break my legs.'

**Bizly**

He does not do that, he does not do that.

**Charlie**

'I forgot to think about it.'

**Milo**

We told him not to think.

**Charlie**

I want to give this guy a lobotomy.

**Bizly**

This Future Thinker leads you through the city. You guys have rolled plenty of Stealth checks, you rolled great. I'll just say you guys are able to manoeuvre through the city at this point through the crowds, make your way to the clock tower, and climbing up the same way where a lot of the mechanics were when you guys went up initially. He heads that way, and you see, really, there's a lot of commotion up here as well. This is where a lot of the people are trying to get the clock moving again. He takes you through a secret passage that is very tight. You feel you're squeezing through. It is essentially an elevator that leads you up. It's very rudimentary, very hidden.

**Runt**

Oh my God. This is well fuckin' hidden. I did not know this was here. WD, did you know this was here?

**WD**

No, but it reminds me of how we get into the Inventor's workshop.

**Bizly**

He leads you in. He's like,

**Philosopher**

Alright, we get up there, we will go our separate ways.

**Troy**

Okay.

**Charlie**

I hit the button.

**Bizly**

And you know what, Troy? You ride up. It takes a while.

**Charlie**

Ohhh, no.

**Bizly**

It takes a while, Troy. It takes a while, Troy.

**Charlie**

Oh no...

**Grizzly**

Plenty of time to think.

**Milo**

It looks like Troy wasn't future thinking.

**Bizly**

He looks over to you, Troy.

**Charlie**

No, no, no.

**Bizly**

And Troy, And Troy, you see him chewing on his fingernail. He looks up to you for a moment like he's going to say something. He stops. He stops and stuff.

**Troy**

It's not worth it. It's not worth it. It's not worth asking...

**Philosopher**

It- Hmm. Hmmm.

**WD**

What are you thinkin' about?

**Blink**

Why would you say that?

**Philosopher**

Me? I was thinking I recognize him.

**Blink**

He's got that kinda face.

**Philosopher**

Hmmm.

**Bizly**

Elevator keeps goin' up. If I had to give you a percentage, probably 15% of the way up so far.

**Charlie**

Oh my God. Oh my God...

**Blink**

So this thing's really slow, huh?

**Runt**

You know, while we're on the elevator, that kinda reminds me what he just said. I hate to say it. Is there any chance... Your dad, who you said makes the machines?

**Troy**

Yeah.

**Philosopher**

Hmmm. Mmm...

**Runt**

You know what? Why don't we wait until this guy is not here anymore? I'm afraid they're going to capture him and beat the information out of him.

**Philosopher**

Your father makes the machines? Hmmm....

**Troy**

Yeah, my name's Troy Loughferd.

**WD**

Wait, your dad...?

**Troy**

Yah.

**WD**

No, not yah.

**Troy**

Yeah, my dad's name is Extraordinary. You wouldn't believe it.

**Blink**

Okay, so what is it?

**Troy**

Yeah, it's Extraordinary.

**Blink**

Well, I mean, I can't judge that until I hear his name.

**WD**

Your dad makes the machines?

**Troy**

Yes, my dad. My dad, Extraordinary Lougferd. I'm Troy Lougferd, I'm his son. My dad makes the machines.

**Runt**

Is it Mr. Extraordinary or Dr. Extraordinary? Like, how far up the-

**Troy**

Uh, his name is Extraordinary.

**Philosopher**

So, what is his name, though? What is his name?

**Troy**

His name is Extraordinary.

**Runt**

You dumb fucks. His name is Extraordinary.

**Troy**

Yes, exactly. That's what I've been saying.

**Runt**

He's sayin' it out loud.

**Blink**

So wait, so his name is Extraordinary, and he chose - he chose, after being named Extraordinary, to name you Troy?

**Runt**

That's hilarious.

**Troy**

His real name is not Extraordinary, my real name is not Troy.

**Blink**

What? Your real name is not Troy?

**Troy**

No.

**Blink**

What's your real name? What?

**Troy**

It's Troy.

**Blink**

But you just said it wasn't. You're-

**Troy**

I made it up.

**Philosopher**

Terra told me some about the Lougferd estate. Beautiful place she describes.

**Troy**

Okay.

**Bizly**

And two sons.

**Blink**

You have a brother?

**Troy**

Yuh.

**Blink**

Why are you so neutral?

**Troy**

I just really want to be out of this elevator.

**Bizly**

We're about 40% of the way.

**Charlie**

Oh my God.

**WD**

Wait, so when you say your dad makes It's the machines.

**Troy**

Yes.

**WD**

What machines are we talking about? Are we talking all machines?

**Troy**

Okay, the big robots.

**Blink**

So like, with that in mind, could we maybe get the machines to fight our war for us?

**Troy**

I don't know.

**Bizly**

(Laughs)

**Blink**

Okay, well, let's try that.

**WD**

Wait, did your dad make those fuckin' birds?

**Troy**

No.

(Laughter)

**Charlie**

What % are we at?

**Bizly**

Forty-eight.

**Runt**

I feel like you're lyin' about - Troy, you said Troy is not your real name and it sounded truthful, and then you said that you made it up and that sounded like a lie. So like - do you have a second name?

**Blink**

Yeah man, I wanna know your real name.

**Troy**

I didn't want to tell you my real name.

**Runt**

Why not?

**Troy**

I don't like it.

**WD**

Wait, why don't you like your real name?

**Blink**

I'm sure it's awesome.

**Troy**

What's your real name, Runt?

**Runt**

It's Runt.

**Troy**

(Scoffs) Okay.

**Runt**

What the fuck was that noise? You don't like my real name?

**Troy**

I was just breathing. WD, what's your real name?

**WD**

My real name is WD, but like... Sometimes there's numbers at the end, but I think that that's kinda like annoying to say.

**Troy**

Okay, so they named you - they gave up after two letters. Guys, why are we all grilling me about mine?

**Runt**

I'm not!

**WD**

They didn't give up. It's a cool fuckin' name, Troy.

**Troy**

Woah, let's just all calm the fuck down! Let's all just bang the fuck off.

**Blink**

I can just... Yeah, no, I can move on. It's fine. It's fine, okay? I just like-

**Troy**

Alright! Yeah, I don't fuckin' ask you about this! I don't cause problems about your name! Why are you causing problems about my name?

**Runt**

You did cause problems about my name. You made a fuckin' sound. That was rude.

**Troy**

Yeah, you kept asking after I told you that I didn't want you-

**Runt**

No! NO!

**Troy**

Obviously! Because obviously!

**Runt**

NO!

**Troy**

Obviously-!

**Runt**

I said! I said-!

**Troy**

Yes?! Yes?! YES!?

**Runt**

That I respected your wishes!

**Condi**

Uh, DM, percentage? Percentage?

**Bizly**

Sixty. They scream for the rest of the way, and you all get to the top.

**Charlie**

Oh my God, I never thought you were gonna do that. Okay, cool.

**Milo**

I'd like to imagine the door is open and everyone's hair is dishevelled and there's a little smoke coming out.

**Charlie**

Faces bright red.

**Milo**

There's like - new soot on my face like something exploded.

**Charlie**

I just look at my eyes, it's dark circles.

**Bizly**

The doors open up and you guys see the mechanism of the clock up at the top, not moving and some humans up here moving in. The Future Thinker says,

**Philosopher**

Wrong floor.

**Bizly**

And clicks a button again.

(Laughter)

**Bizly**

And we continue our ascent again-

**Charlie**

We weren't even up?! We weren't even up?!?

(Laughter)

**Blink**

Okay, no, it's fine. It's fine, it's fine.

**Runt**

No fucking way, Troy! Did you - DID YOU FUCKING! DID YOU HIT THE WRONG BUTTON?

**Charlie**

I didn't hit the wrong button! How could I hit all of them, you dick?

**Milo**

That part is taking so long.

**Runt**

See if I ever respect you again! I swear-!

**Troy**

I didn't know-

**Grizzly**

And then we yell. We yell. All the way back up, we yell.

**Charlie**

Oh my God. Wow, this is awful.

**Bizly**

You guys make it up to the top, and it opens up and you find yourselves pretty much on level with where the airship lounge flies up to. As you step out, immediately the cold air hits you, and this Future Thinker steps back and braces as the wind carries you. Runt, can I have you roll?

**Charlie**

Oh no!

**Bizly**

A Con save.

**Milo**

You get a plus three.

**Grizzly**

If anyone's curious about how long we have, this roll is about to tell us.

**Condi**

Oh, God.

**Grizzly**

I rolled a 10, so plus three is 13.

**Bizly**

It's not going to do it, unfortunately. You take one point of exhaustion and 6 points of cold damage.

**Condi**

How many points of exhaustion do you have?

**Grizzly**

Just one.

**Condi**

Okay.

**Troy**

Hey, Runt, are you okay?

**Runt**

(Coughs)

**Troy**

Well, that's not good. Here, Blink, let's - let's huddle up around her. I have this strange lizard that absorbs warmth, and you have feathers.

**Blink**

That's... True? The feathers - yeah.

**Bizly**

Okay, so you guys are pretty high up, and sitting in the elevator is this old man trembling.

**Charlie**

I ignore him and instead, I try and give Runt warmth.

**Bizly**

Yeah, okay.

**Troy**

Guess you should have thought about this, huh?

**Runt**

(Coughs) Back up, back off. I appreciate it, but it - it - I'm not cold, it's the air in my fuckin' lungs. It's probably liquid in my lungs. I probably got sacs of fluid.

**Troy**

Okay, yeah, but you can't deny that it also is cold.

**Runt**

(Coughs) It is pretty cold, it's pretty chilly. But I installed a heater in my armor while I was in the Inventor's workshop. That doesn't help the fact that it's harder to breathe, though. I'd have to put the mask on for that one.

**Grizzly**

I put the mask on.

**Blink**

Okay, yeah. So, how do we get down from here?

**Philosopher**

I will say I've never gone this far.

**WD**

What?

**Blink**

Um-

**Philosopher**

Well, let's think about it.

**WD**

NO!

**Blink**

No, no, no, no.

**Grizzly**

I knock him out.

**Bizly**

Do you actually? Alright, roll to hit.

**Charlie**

I jump off. I can't-

(Laughter)

**Grizzly**

I don't know if that's in character, I don't-

**Bizly**

Okay.

**Grizzly**

That was so instinctually just like...

**Charlie**

I'm looking up what the... Because twenty D6 maximum is fall damage. Okay, it's a maximum 120. I like my odds, I like my odds.

**Bizly**

You can fly, you can fly.

**Charlie**

I don't - want to.

**Bizly**

Okay.

**Charlie**

You know what? I'll take a Runt with me and I'll fly away from here.

**Bizly**

Okay, okay.

**Charlie**

And I'll leave this man to die.

**Milo**

Wait, wait, wait, wait!

**Charlie**

What, what, what?

**Milo**

Can I just Find Steed? Can I get a horse up here?

**Condi**

What?

**Charlie**

You can just do that? Okay wait, what does that even look like?

**Bizly**

Okay, what does Find Steed say?

**Charlie**

It makes a horse.

**Bizly**

Okay, you make a horse up here.

**Milo**

I just want to go.

**Condi**

Yeah, but how is that going to help this situation?

**Milo**

I thought we were goin'!

**Bizly**

You're at the top of a tower, a horse spawns.

**Charlie**

No, well how does a - what does the horse look like? How does the horse get there? I need to know.

**Bizly**

She throws out a mechanism that builds up into a horse. Now there's a horse. It looks really real.

**Condi**

Wow.

**Milo**

I thought that there was more distance we had to cover.

**Condi**

It's entirely vertical, vertical distance.

**Milo**

I misunderstood, I misunderstood!

**Charlie**

No, I say

**Troy**

Cool horse.

**Charlie**

And instead of Runt, I pick up the horse.

(Laughter)

**Milo**

I didn't understand the circumstances.

**Grizzly**

Alright, to be complete. I don't actually even know what to tell this professor. I just want us all to make our way to wherever the Wonderous Council is.

**Charlie**

Me too, me too.

**Bizly**

How are you guys getting down? Are you taking him with you?

**Grizzly**

Oh, you know what? We probably should take him with us 'cause he's connected to Terra.

**Charlie**

Oh, God. Yeah, we take the - oh, fucking hell. Yeah, we at least get him down and then decide if he wants to go a separate way. I don't care.

**Grizzly**

If we have to jump, I can just Feather Fall us.

**Charlie**

Yeah, let's do it.

**Grizzly**

Yeah, I give us all parachutes and we can fuckin' go skydiving.

**Bizly**

You guys fly down. You glide into the city center of Earhart. Troy, this city is nothing like you remember it at this point. Sure, the buildings are the same. Sure, the brick roads are lined with snow, but the lights are off and no one's here. Not in the streets, anyway. You see clockwork soldiers by the dozens patrolling the streets. You hear over the loudspeaker,

**Loudspeaker**

The city of Earhart has been put under a mandatory lockdown. Stay inside your homes and remain calm.

**Bizly**

And that just repeats over and over and over again.

**Troy**

Well, that's not good.

**Blink**

You guys do that up here often?

**Charlie**

Do we?

**Bizly**

Never. Never before.

**Troy**

No. We don't.

**Runt**

Do you know the way to the Wonderous Council?

**Troy**

I don't believe in the government.

**Runt**

That's fine. It's not about beliefs. We're just looking for Terra, remember? For information?

**Troy**

Alright. Okay. Yeah, I know the way. Do you have anything with her scent?

**Bizly**

No.

**Runt**

I have this picture that was in your bag. They've been childhood friends, right? Is this her? Did you smell like her?

**Philosopher**

Did you pull that from my bag?

**Runt**

I might've.

**Troy**

(Sniffs) Okay. Uh, uh uh - That way!

**Runt**

Maybe we can catch the train. If they're runnin'. If they're not runnin', we can just follow the tracks, yeah?

**Bizly**

It seems like the trains aren't actually running at the moment. But following the tracks, you could get to the capital. But you see it's very peninsula-shaped, almost. It's mostly surrounded by water, and it's just that one way in or taking the train from the Lougferd estate.

**Charlie**

Oh, if only we had a horse.

**Milo**

Dude, I was going to say that. I was just like, 'I'm not. I can't.' I can't do it again.

**Charlie**

Oh, I'm serious.

**WD**

Wait, no way. I can make a horse.

**Troy**

You can make a horse? No, you can't make a horse.

**WD**

And this is the first time we're having this conversation...

**Troy**

It is! No one could just make a horse, WD. What are you talking about?

**Milo**

Fuckin' throw a cube on the ground, a horse comes out.

**Troy**

Fuck, you just made a horse!

**Milo**

Of the things that WD pulled out of the box of Ripley's belongings, she lifts out a cube - a mechanical cube - and she tosses it onto the ground. And - like and a fuckin' transformer - the cube lands and it hits a button at the the bottom of it and it goes, (metal creaking) and it's a horse.

**Grizzly**

Do you know that reaction image where the dude has his hands up on his forehead and he's doing like the-? That's what Runt looks like.

**WD**

I see you have a sled on - in your possession.

**Troy**

Yeah. I see a horse. You wanna-?

**WD**

We - I think we could team up.

**Troy**

Okay.

**Charlie**

I dap up WD, and I want to strap my sled - I want to go like this with my sled. (Cha-CHING) And then I want to have it expand to get bigger so it can hold all of us. 'Cause it's a really cool sled,

so it makes sense that it could do that. And then I want to strap it to the back of the horse and we can put someone on the horse and we can all ride.

**Grizzly**

Couldn't we just sled on the train tracks and avoid all the confrontation?

**Bizly**

That would work great, as a matter of fact.

**Milo**

Can my horse still pull it?

**Grizzly**

That's what I meant. Sled on the train tracks.

**Charlie**

Yaaaaay.

**Milo**

Yay!

**Bizly**

You guys ride the train tracks with a horse pulling a sled into the Wonder capital. You kind of follow the outskirts of Earhart, and then as you're riding, you push past it and a wall that you go straight through the train tracks seem to move inside of this heavily fortified capital city, essentially. Not even a city, I'd say there's just a couple of buildings and one main one, really. As you guys travel in, this is more of a mountainous terrain that you're in right now. So, there's a lot of high elevation, some buildings up there, and that main building - very similar to the island you went to where the Wonderous Trade Company was positioned. You get in and you see there's a few people moving between buildings, but the snow is picking up heavily, falling down. Anyone moving through the paths is trekking through, picking up their feet, practically doing high knees, running through this snow. Seems everyone is moving frantically. And as you pull up to the little train station, you see clockwork soldiers patrolling in here, but just a couple.

**Bizly**

Immediately, you would get the attention of a shorter woman who's moving between two buildings and stops and looks over. You can see she's wearing this massive coat and just looking over at you as your sled comes to a stop, you see her rushing up over.

**Woman**

Who is that?

**Troy**

It's a horse.

**Woman**

Trains aren't supposed to be... What? Trains aren't supposed to be running right now!

**Troy**

Yeah, it's a horse.

**WD**

Lady, it's a fuckin' horse.

**Blink**

It's a horse, the horses run naturally.

**Troy**

Lady, have you ever seen a horse?

**Woman**

Why is there a horse on the train track? Who are you?

**Troy**

Now you're startin' to ask the right questions.

**Blink**

We're-

**Blink and Troy**

Troy Lougferd.

**Charlie**

And rip off my - I don't even have it on. I just do this.

**Bizly**

She stops there for a second and then runs.

**Troy**

Oh my God, I forgot I'm a wanted criminal. We have to get her!

(Laughter)

**Bizly**

Starts running through the snow. You see, she's very short, so she's trying to trek through this snow, like trying so hard to push through. She's practically swimming.

**Charlie**

I get on all fours. I go Tharian.

**Philosopher**

What are you doing?

**Troy**

(Rabid barking)

**Runt**

What the fuck is happening? What have you done to the city?

**Woman**

Help! Help!

**Troy**

She's seen my face! We have to stop her!

**WD**

Why is that an issue??

**Blink**

Troy's a little bit of a criminal.

**Troy**

So are you, I think.

**Blink**

Me too, yeah.

**Condi**

I am going to cast Slow in a box with her at the center of it. Half speed, minus two penalty to AC and Dexterity saving throws and can't take reactions.

**Charlie**

There's a save, though, right?

**Condi**

Wisdom save, yes.

**Bizly**

She rolled a 5.

**Condi**

Okay, she fails.

**Charlie**

Like a wolf stalking a rabbit on a dark winter night, I run at her like there is no food that will allow me to survive the winter except her.

**Milo**

Oh my God.

**Bizly**

You get to her pretty immediately. She's barely making it through the snow. And once you cast Slow, she's moving at a snail's pace.

**Troy**

Why are you running?

**Woman**

Get away from me! Somebody help!

**Troy**

We're here to help, lady, but what's goin' on? What's wrong?

**Woman**

No, no, no, no, no! You're Troy Loughferd!

**Troy**

Yeah!

**Bizly**

She's just got this frantic look in our eyes and just keeps trying to run away.

**Troy**

Wait, hang on, lady. Lady - why are you so scared of me?

**Woman**

You! You're the one who did it!

**Troy**

What did I do?

**Woman**

The rumbling - you caused it!

**Troy**

Wait, I did?

**Woman**

Guards, anyone, please!

**Charlie**

Okay, we got to stop this now. I'm going to - I'm going to tackle this poor woman.

**Milo**

This is an ethical dilemma. I don't know.

**Charlie**

Not for me. Not for me.

**WD**

Ma'am, it's fine! He's just a little weird! He's just a little special!

**Troy**

Ma'am, I need you to stop fucking struggling!

**Bizly**

At this point, one clockwork soldier would begin moving up, trekking through this noise, moving slower, but the light shines over onto the two of you as you're on all force.

**Troy**

You don't have to help me, I won't hurt you. You just need to tell me where your government building is.

**Grizzly**

I thought you already knew where it was.

**Charlie**

No, no.

**Bizly**

You can roll Persuasion if you want to, but I'm going to have to say a disadvantage. 'cause that's like-

**Charlie**

Okay.

**Grizzly**

We should not be spending time on this woman!

**Charlie**

She was gonna! She was gonna alert! She was gonna call - 17.

**Grizzly**

You're already wanted!

**Charlie**

17, 17.

**Grizzly**

I grab Blink by the scarf.

**Runt**

How could you leave out the fact that you're wanted!?

**Blink**

I honestly forgot. I actually didn't realize we were wanted. We just accidentally caused a, I don't want to call it a catastrophe, but-

**WD**

That would cause you to be wanted!

**Blink**

I don't know! Listen, we went to the university. I actually really forget what exactly we did.

**Charlie**

I don't remember either.

**Blink**

At the university that caused the robots to chase us, but, um-

**Runt**

How do you forget these things?

**Blink**

If it is any consolation, I'm 99% sure it was Troy's fault, so-

**Charlie**

You piece of shit.

**Runt**

You're the reason-! You're the reason the city's on lockdown?

**Blink**

I don't think that's true. Something else had to have happened.

**Charlie**

It could have been us, but something else had to have happened.

**Milo**

Did it just happen? Like, days ago?

**Condi**

It was a few days ago that we were - yeah, that we were here.

**Milo**

Dude, if 9/11 happened two days ago, don't you think we'd be on lockdown?

**Condi**

I just don't - there wasn't any casualties. We didn't do that.

**Charlie**

We just attacked... Well, what did we do?

**Condi**

I don't remember. Like, literally, the details slipped my mind. So it must not have been anything that bad.

**Runt**

My cousin was right about you two fucks.

**Blink**

Why am I always wrapped up in the... Why is that a duo thing?

**Charlie**

Neither of us can even remember what we did!

**Blink**

It's just been a while, okay? Like-

**Bizly**

What are you doing right now, Troy? You have one opportunity before this clockwork soldier gets close enough and the light goes red and you start fightin' it.

**Charlie**

Okay, does she point me in the direction?

**Bizly**

Oh, yeah. She points it directly at the big building.

**Troy**

Now look at this thing and smile.

**Charlie**

I put her directly in front of my face so - I like, put myself down the snow a little so it just looks like she's looking up at the clockwork soldier and smiling.

**Bizly**

Okay, roll Stealth with advantage because you're hiding behind this woman.

**Charlie**

16.

**Bizly**

It looks down for a second. She smiles with this. [smiles] A couple of tears start to roll away.

**Grizzly**

She puts the fingers in her mouth and widens her smile.

**Troy**

Use your hands. Use your hands to make it...

**Woman**

[muffled] I don't want to... It hurts.

**Bizly**

And then the clockwork soldier. (robot walking)

**Milo**

[robot voice] Must have been the wind.

**Troy**

Hey, thanks so much, lady. I really appreciate it. You've really helped me do what I've set out to do here.

**Woman**

Please don't...

**Troy**

I won't. I won't. Don't worry. I'm totally innocent. Here, this is my friend Blink.

**Blink**

No.

**Woman**

(shrieks)

(Laughter)

**Blink**

I'm not getting involved with this.

**Bizly**

She passes out upon seeing Blink.

**Charlie**

Okay, I'm gonna put her somewhere where she won't die in the cold, and then we can keep going.

**Bizly**

You want to carry her along? I'd say you can find a warm spot just for the sake of brevity, and you want to make it into the government building.

**Charlie**

Yeah, yeah of course.

**Grizzly**

This is going to be - this is crazy. I don't even know - I did not expect to get here and everything be on lockdown.

**Blink**

That's fine, we just break into the building.

**Troy**

That doesn't seem right. That doesn't seem right. Runt, how do you think we should do this?

**Runt**

I wasn't plannin' for that to be on high alert, lookin' for you two, apparently. So you can't be you two right now, that's for fact. Don't be Blink, don't be Troy. You're back to Yort, you've been demoted.

**Troy**

Aw, man.

**Runt**

Do you still have those cloaks in your pocket? Or in your bag, Blink? 'Cause I think we need 'em.

**Blink**

It's It's like a level five spell. So, y'know, just like...

**Runt**

Put on a normal cloak and if you need the magic one, well, hold on to that.

**Blink**

No, no, it's fine. I can use it, I can use it. Just like, sometimes I feel like I should be picky.

**Condi**

And I don't know, I fucking snap my fingers. And Troy is a foot smaller and like a old man with a mustache and a goatee and then some chops and no hair, you're bald.

**Bizly**

You get a mustache, goatee, and chops. That's just a full beard.

**Charlie**

Just describing parts of a beard.

**Condi**

No, no, so it's not a full beard, it's more - they're disjointed.

**Bizly**

Oh, okay.

**Charlie**

Eww! It's going to be a patchy fucking beard.

**Bizly**

Yeah. So they were selected separately in the character creator.

**Condi**

And you're bald and you're a foot smaller, you're a foot smaller. I'm a foot taller.

**Charlie**

Oh, fuck you.

**Condi**

I'm super handsome and a regular-looking dude.

**Charlie**

Fuck you, dude.

**Bizly**

Hell, yeah.

**Condi**

Hell, yeah.

**Troy**

[peasant english accent] Hey, what'd you do to me?

**Blink**

I didn't change your voice.

**Milo**

He's British! He's in his true form!

**Speaker 3**

Oi, my real voice is comin' out with my fuckin' name.

**Bizly**

You guys would notice the Future Thinker starting to walk away, trying to get away from you?

**Runt**

Hey, wait. No, no, no, no. Get the fuck back over here. We need you for this now.

**Philosopher**

I want nothing to do with this.

**Runt**

No, you're associated, alright? 'cause we're not getting in there without your help, especially if you're a friend of one of the council members. I was gonna say you should make yourself look like guards or something, but this will do.

**Blink**

Oh, my bad.

**Runt**

I don't know if sneakin' in there is the right move because if we do that, we're immediately gonna be the enemies, and then you really will be guilty. I don't know what you did, I don't know if you're innocent, but that's the bad move. I think the best course of option here is you got to introduce us at the front door, Mr. Professor Man.

**Philosopher**

It's not like I'm any more welcome here than you.

**WD**

But your friend is here.

**Runt**

Look, it's a risk, okay? If Terra sees you out there about to die, maybe she'll call 'em off.

**Philosopher**

Hmm. Maybe if I ask for her directly. I'll help you, but you can't hurt anyone else. No chasing anyone on all fours.

**Troy**

I don't even remember doing any of those things.

**Runt**

I will put him on a leash.

**Troy**

I'm a new man now!

**Bizly**

He walks over to the front and you guys find these extremely tall doors that he pulls on, and they slowly open up. And you see this cylindrical, almost, reception room where you see a couple of people leaned over a table, looking down, putting little flags down on the map. Not sure exactly what they're doing, but one man would - on the other side of the room, he's kinda looking out the window. He looks over to you guys.

**Man**

What are you doing here? Who are you?

**Runt**

[hushed] WD, can you act like my mom? And then you guys are like my dad and my brother. And then we'll just act like a family. And this professor, he's gonna like, y'know, we need to see

the council members. We're really affected by the catastrophe that Troy Lougferd caused. You're Yort, by the way. You're not Troy. Don't forget.

**Troy**

[hushed] Okay, I'm Yort. Okay, and then what does the professor have to do with all that?

**Runt**

[whispers] The professor is on our way in. He's going to... The professor, we're a family behind you, we need help.

**Troy**

[hushed] Okay, but how do we...? Okay, so we are a family that he's taking in right now?

**Runt**

[whispers] Yes.

**Philosopher**

I'm taking you in to see the council?

**Runt**

[hushed] Oh, we have information about the Inventor. I don't know. Say that.

**Man**

The entire city is on lockdown. You should not be here.

**Runt**

[whispers] We need to see Terra. Terra. We need to see Terra, it's about the Inventor. She'll know.

**Bizly**

You see the Future Thinker starts to freeze up a little bit. You see he might be thinkin' a little too long.

**Troy**

He's thinking. He's fucking thinking.

**Runt**

Terra. Ask for Terra.

**WD**

Excuse me! My family, we need help. We have information on the Inventor?

**Runt**

For Terra. For Terra.

**WD**

For Terra! For Terra, we have information on the...

**Milo**

I grab Runt.

**WD**

My daughter! My daughter is sick! My daughter is sick!

(Laughter)

**Troy**

My sister isn't well.

**Runt**

Oh my God.

**Blink**

No, you're the grandfather. You're the father.

**Troy**

Uh, uh-

**WD**

I'm so unwell, that's my brother- (Coughs)

**Bizly**

You see his eyebrows furrow for a second, and then he comes in and leans close to you, WD.

**Man**

Say that one more time.

**Bizly**

We - We have information on the Inventor for Terra, and we need her help.

**Man**

Stay here.

**Bizly**

And he rushes off into another room. You see the other guys at the table have looked over.

**Condi**

Insight check?

**Bizly**

You can roll Insight.

**Condi**

Either way, 16 plus 7, 23.

**Bizly**

He's going to get Terra, for sure. He's a lackey. That's a motherfucking lackey.

**Condi**

That's a motherfucking lackey, okay.

**Bizly**

That's a lackey if you've ever seen one.

**Runt**

Alright, Professor, stop freezing up, okay? When Terra sees you and you see her, alright, make sure you make yourself known. She might not recognize you.

**Philosopher**

Okay, alright. I just - There's - This is far out of my wheel house, you must understand.

**Runt**

If anyone's going to protect you, it's probably an old friend.

**Bizly**

The guys at the table.

**Table Guy**

What exactly are you doing here? What did he run off for? You said you're sick?

**Runt**

I mean, I definitely am sick. So-

**Table Guy 2**

Don't bother with them, we have plans. I'm sure Terra is just taking on another... Charity project.

**Bizly**

They lean over. They're leaning over at the table.

**Blink**

Hey, so um... We've been handling our sick relative here. Why is the city on lockdown?

**Table Guy 2**

You haven't heard?

**Blink**

Missed that part. Yeah, missed that part. Don't get the newspaper.

**Table Guy 2**

The Lougferd boy's gone mad.

**Blink**

Oh.

**Table Guy 2**

Explosions around the city. You haven't heard?

**Blink**

Around the city?

**Table Guy 2**

Yes, all of Earhart fully locked down. No one can come in and out of the belt. It's a mad house out there.

**Troy**

I really don't remember doing that...

**Blink**

I'm going to be honest, I don't think you did do that.

**Table Guy 2**

Keep your eyes out. They're saying he's with some gang of ruffians from somewhere else, a far off island.

**Blink**

Yeah.

**Table Guy 2**

Monsters, even, they - some are saying, but I don't know if I believe it.

**Troy**

What do you think? You think this, uh... What was his name? Tr-Troy guy could really do all that? I mean, I've seen him on the news and the TV and how cool he is and everything. I just really don't think he could do something like that.

**Blink**

Yeah, it's really strange to me. Last time I saw, he shit his pants.

**Milo**

I elbow him.

**Table Guy**

I'm not sure where you I saw him, but he's dangerous. And if you do see him again, make sure to alert the clockworks. They'll handle him.

**Troy**

Yeah, I could try. Probably too fast, though. Just based on what I've seen, probably too fast.

**WD**

You're British, you're British-!

**Troy**

Sorry, sorry. They're slandering me. This is my name, dude.

**Bizly**

At this point-

**Man**

Alright, I've got you a meeting. Follow me quickly.

**Grizzly**

Okay, do that.

**Bizly**

You guys push in through this room and you see in here, the floor has this white marble with black designs all over it, almost with the design of a dream catcher along the floor. In front is this, actually all surrounding are chairs where the council would normally sit. Troy, you would have actually been here before, seeing - maybe when you were young, your father taking you here for different things.

**Charlie**

Turbo.

**Bizly**

It's really this room that jogs your memory, remembering a time when your father stood in here and pitched the idea of the clockwork soldiers to this board, to this council. You remember that moment because it was one triumphant day for him, but you were so young, you really didn't understand the truth of it all. You rush off through a... It's almost like a secret door where this man pushes in and it almost clicks out. He opens it up and you all go filing in. Through here, there's a stone staircase going down. Then you open up into almost like a study. There's a desk in here, but there's also some leather chairs and a fireplace, some book shelves. It's actually a very tall, very beautiful, old-looking study room. The door shuts behind you and you hear,

**Terra**

Let them in!

**Philosopher**

Terra, I... I came to make sure you were okay.

**Charlie**

This is my favorite part, where he has to talk to himself.

**Condi**

(Laughs) Everybody else, shut up.

**Bizly**

She looks up. Doesn't say a word, just looks over all of you.

**Terra**

Oh, what are you doing here?

**Bizly**

He didn't say anything, he just kind of looks to all of you.

**Philosopher**

They're saying things. Terrible things that couldn't be true.

**Terra**

What kind of things?

**Philosopher**

I - I couldn't even remember. What was it you were saying? Something about the church?

**Blink**

Church of Reflection. I don't know if I should keep speaking. Just, y'know, a tip that the Church of Reflection has been up to some nefarious stuff.

**Bizly**

She gets up from this leather chair, and you see she's a very tall woman wearing a robe that, Troy, you would know to be standard for the council people. She got this short hair. She looks over.

**Terra**

You brought - them. These people know you from down in Reclaim.

**Runt**

To be fair, we have been here on our own before. He didn't really bring us here. We brought him here so that we could get, y'know, a private audience with you. Trusted company. This guy is the trusted company.

**Blink**

And also, it's pretty obvious that those two are from Reclaim.

**Runt**

Yeah.

**Terra**

Ohhh, ohh... You have gotten yourself mixed up in something now.

**Philosopher**

But it's not true, can't be. There's talk about you - blowing up the island.

**Terra**

We're not going to blow up the island. Where do you guys hear these things anyway? And what is this Inventor you're talking about?

**Bizly**

She kinda perks her head up a little bit. She looks over all of you.

**Condi**

Insight check.

**Bizly**

Yeah.

**Charlie**

This is - I don't know, I don't know, guys. I don't know.

**Condi**

That's going to be a 13.

**Bizly**

She knows who the Inventor is, clearly.

**Condi**

Okay.

**Charlie**

How in on it is she? And I say,

**Troy**

Oh, we heard something with our ears which are attached to our faces. This one's mine.

**Charlie**

(wet removal of... skin?) And I rip off that. What is her reaction to seeing my face? Is it like, 'aaa, a terrorist!' Or is it like, 'Oh, yeah, it's this guy I set up.'

**Condi**

Yeah, I guess you're Troy Loughferd again. You become...

**Charlie**

Oh, wait, I don't actually know. I guess I can't do that, so I just do this with my face.

**Troy**

(Gargling) (face stretching)

**Blink**

Do you want me to drop the spell? I mean, I can.

**Troy**

I don't know. I guess it's the best way to figure out if she knows how much she knows, right? If she's in on it.

**Blink**

I mean, are you sure? You're kind of a terrorist right now, apparently, in here.

**Troy**

You're right. I mean, you can just call me your crazy uncle if you want.

**Blink**

Sorry, he's crazy.

**Bizly**

You tear off the disguise or not?

**Charlie**

It depends on if Blink drops it or not.

**Condi**

Are we secluded in here?

**Bizly**

Yeah, very.

**Condi**

Yeah, sure. I drop it on him, not on me. Nah, I do it on both of us. Fuck it.

**Bizly**

She... Unwavered.

**Charlie**

So you did know. Okay. (finger clicking) Okay, sister. That's crazy.

**Bizly**

It's not necessarily that she knew who you were. It's just she doesn't seem to be reacting to you as Troy Lougferd in any kind of way, the same way the other person did.

**Terra**

And you've brought... A Lougferd boy. Oh, that's great. (Sighs) Who else knows you're here?

**Philosopher**

No one. Terra, y-y... you still haven't clarified. Is this true? What you're saying? What they're saying?

**Troy**

Odd question to ask. A lot of people know we're here. And if we don't return within a specifically allotted time, they all have orders.

**Blink**

Yeah, I mean - well, you're a big part of the church, yes? I would also like to know if you're in on the whole sending everything back to how it used to be thing.

**Troy**

'Cause we think that sounds... Great!

**Blink**

Awesome.

**Bizly**

Roll Deception, roll Deception.

**Charlie**

It's a 7, but hear me out. I cannot make that any better than a 7. That is a 7.

**Condi**

Can he get an advantage 'cause I was helping?

**Bizly**

Sure.

**Charlie**

That's a 19! That's very much something. That's very much something.

**Grizzly**

We just want to know what's goin' on. And maybe in exchange, we can give you information - you know, a knowledge trade. Not here to cause any problems. Just escortin' your friend.

**Bizly**

Before she can say anything, the philosopher looks back to you and looks to her.

**Philosopher**

Wait, wait, wait, wait... So it is true what they're saying?

**Bizly**

And she just walks up to him.

**Terra**

Look, I'm very glad you're okay. Let me just... Deal with this, okay?

**Bizly**

And she goes up and she hugs him.

**Charlie**

I don't trust this one bit.

**Condi**

And he dies.

**Bizly**

She just says,

**Terra**

I'm sorry.

**Bizly**

She leans back away from him, and he collapses to the ground.

**Troy**

Um. Yeah, no, I definitely saw that coming.

**Blink**

Yeah, I fucking saw that coming. Okay, yeah.

**Bizly**

You see the dagger in her left hand. She looks to the four of you.

**Terra**

Change your minds?

**Runt**

Hold.

**Blink**

Hold. Pause. You just killed him.

**Troy**

Guess he didn't think about - guess he didn't - guess he didn't think about-

**Runt**

Are you going to attack us? Or are we gonna do the knowledge trade?

**Terra**

Ohhh, I am tired of capturing you, Troy Lougferd.

**Blink**

As far as I'm aware, you haven't actually captured him once before.

**Terra**

Who do you think sent him after you?

**Blink**

That was- (pops lips) Onyx, which I guess by association-

**Terra**

Mmhm.

**Troy**

Well, there was totally that other woman in this mask, and she did sound kinda like... You.

**Blink**

Okay, well, sometimes there are important details maybe you shouldn't leave out all the time.

**Terra**

Let's face it, the entire city is looking for you. I don't have to capture you, you brought yourself to me. The question is why? And who's that?

**Bizly**

She looks at you, WD.

**Troy**

That,

**Charlie**

I turn back to them,

**Troy**

Is... The...

**Blink**

The - the - uh- uhhh, um...

**Troy**

liiii-

**Blink and Troy**

liiiiiiiiiiii-!

**Runt**

Not the time!

**WD**

Um!

**Blink**

That's not important right now. We came here to make a trade of knowledge, and we need to know if you're on board.

**Runt**

She's got the knowledge.

**Blink**

Why would you say that?

**Troy**

Stop, stop. Oh my God, Runt. Oh my God.

**Runt**

I wanted to be included... I don't know. I thought you were going to introduce yourself, and then Blink started talking, and I fuckin' freaked out.

**Troy**

Everyone needs to stop saying words.

**WD**

I have information.

**Troy**

Do you?

**Blink**

I guess that's on the table now, okay.

**Bizly**

You see as she walks over to you, WD, The hood that was hanging off the back of her head, she lifts her hands and covers her face for a moment, just slicking it back and pulling the hood off. And you can see the leopard fur and the ears poke out and that disguise drop.

**Charlie**

I'm going to step in front of her before she gets close. I'm going to say,

**Troy**

Whoa, no closer while you're holding the sharp thing.

**Bizly**

She looks down at the dagger.

**Terra**

Here.

**Bizly**

Holds it out. It's still dripping with that blood.

**Terra**

Take it.

**Blink**

Don't do that. Don't do that, that's evidence. That's evidence. They're going to pin a murder on you.

**Troy**

No, that's alright, I'm tired. Why don't you just stay right there? We can talk from a distance.

**Terra**

You're the one who knows where the Inventor is. Hey, they sent you to find him.

**Runt**

We didn't say that. You're makin' a lot of assumptions, alright? We just said we got information, and you got information. You do the trade.

**Terra**

I'm sorry. You walk into my chambers, force my hand in taking - really what wasn't your friend.

**Runt**

No one forced you to do that.

**Troy**

Super optional.

**Blink**

Super unnecessary.

**Runt**

No one forced you to do that.

**Troy**

We were just here to make a trade. I actually am still not sure why that happened.

**WD**

I don't know what to do right now...

**Terra**

And what? You're... Looking to leverage this information?

**Runt**

Yeah, I assume it's pretty important to you.

**Troy**

What? No, I'm just Troy, and I don't understand all this stuff or what's going on or what's happening or why he's sleeping now after you poked him with that. I'm just-

**Terra**

You want information? You want to use leverage? Fine, sure. Here's a little information. Your friends have been moved. They weren't happy about the arrangement. One of them tried getting away, slipped right through the cracks. She wasn't really important. We still have the rest. The assistant, the professor. Those are the ones we really needed.

**Troy**

I hope you're sure.

**Blink**

That means Mai got away.

**Troy**

Which is cool that she - we got that.

**Blink**

Yeah, that's kinda good, yeah.

**Troy**

I don't know what you guys are thinkin', but if we can find Mai, we can find out where they got taken.

**Blink**

Well, now we're kind of in this office right now with this lady who's clearly a psychopathic killer, and that causes - puts a little bit of issues in the...

**Troy**

It does, it does...

**Blink**

We just want to know what the church is up to so that we can decide if we're on your side or not. Okay?

**Charlie**

While he's talking, I want to start circling the room, looking for if there's anything in here. Like, any hidden thing or whatnot that she could use to try and get the jump on us. But I'm also going to try and put myself behind her.

**Bizly**

I believe that's Investigation.

**Charlie**

I'm very bad at that. 7.

**Bizly**

Okay. Lookin' around with a 7, you don't find anything.

**Blink**

After we left the church, me and Aeon had a conversation about it, and she convinced me. So I just want to make sure your motives are as pure as I think they are.

**Terra**

Sorry, wait, the Vixen girl? I thought she was dead.

**Blink**

Who told you that?

**Terra**

It doesn't matter. I thought Aldrick already told you everything. Gave his big monolog speech. He loves to do that.

**Blink**

His speech is shitty, to be honest. He just doesn't... Have you heard it? I mean, have you been to the...

**Terra**

Yeah, I've heard it a couple of times. He says, 'Ooh, touch the crystal. Touch the crystal.'

**Blink**

'Touch the crystal. Oooh, look, it's my ancestors.' I mean, pretty cool.

**Terra**

He's got some more traditional methods, but a product of his time, really. Look, I don't care to fight you. You want to know what the church is up to? He told you. We're goin' home. I've already told you where your friends are. What's this about the Inventor? Did you find him?

**Runt**

Specifically, you didn't say where they are, just that they were being moved.

**Terra**

Hmm, hmm. Fair point.

**Runt**

So, I can give you information, it'll be as vague.

**Terra**

Sure, sure.

**Bizly**

She goes and sits down in her chair, just leaving the body lifeless on the floor.

**Blink**

At the end of the day, we did have an agreement: Information about the Inventor for our friend's safety. So... I do apologize if we're thorough about that.

**Terra**

I really don't know what it is exactly you're looking for. What - how they're doing it? I don't know the science.

**Runt**

But you would know the components. You know the Inventors need it. Why?

**Terra**

My area is influence. I'm not... not much for the nitty-gritty of it all.

**Troy**

Here's what I want to know. 'Cause I mean, uh, this thing is crazy. I mean, gosh, you guys have got everyone thinking I'm a Turbo Terrorist now and I've been blowing everything up. I don't even know how you'd something like that! I mean,

(Laughter)

**Troy**

I just can't get it through my head! How do you do something like that?

**Terra**

Troy Lougferd, you're not as stupid as they say.

**Troy**

No, I'm really... I genuinely don't know how you do something like that.

**Terra**

Let's just say you've made a fantastic scapegoat. It's really not personal. Although you have put a bit of a wrench in a couple of plans. But if anything, you've done exactly what we wanted.

**Troy**

I know. It's crazy, too, because you send out someone to find this person you're looking for, and then you put a bounty on them. I mean, if I'm not as stupid as they say, it sure sounds like maybe you're not as smart as they say either. I mean, what's gonna happen if you catch me? You let me go to go find this person again? You hate to admit it, but - we're the closest shot you got. Kind of an awkward scapegoat.

**Terra**

That's assuming we need you, and... We might not. Sure, the Inventor would help go a long way. You serve a much better purpose, just... Making people scared. They already all fear you. They kiss the ground you walk on for your entire life. We just use that. And you make it very easy. Running from town to town, stealing, hurting. Fib a few truths.

**Troy**

No, it sounds like all eyes. I'm chill as fuck.

**Blink**

Well, there was that one time you punched that guy 'cause he stuttered.

**Troy**

I stuttered, though, to be fair.

**Terra**

We just enhanced the narrative, really. That's all it is. And cities on lockdown, really. We've got free reign to do what we'd like.

**Grizzly**

I'll just look around the office if I can. Y'know, with my eyes.

**Bizly**

Okay, roll Investigation.

**Grizzly**

That's a 27.

**Bizly**

Looking around the office, you're looking for anything that can help you? Is that just like nothing specific?

**Grizzly**

Something helpful is what I would be looking for. I'm not sure exactly what would be helpful.

**Condi**

Yeah, literally any information about their plan, I think.

**Charlie**

Yeah, I'll take anything, to be honest.

**Bizly**

So looking around this office, Runt, you don't see anything related to the church. It seems like she very much keeps it under wraps that she's from down there, so likely she wouldn't leave anything sitting out or anything that would indicate her being from Reclaim. But what you do find is what almost looks like a war map where you can see and discern that the red flags represent the Wonderful Trade Company that have been moved to encircle Inaro Fel, where the mountaineers are from. So that town with Grey, that Grey is now the leader of, it seems to have been overrun with Wonderous Trade Company soldiers.

**Grizzly**

Were there any other faction placements on this map? We know that the Vixens are in Cogtopolis.

**Bizly**

They've got a couple cogs placed around the cities through the belt. And generally - what you take that to mean, just looking at the map and everything around it, is like - this is what has been held down by the Clockwork soldiers. This is all of the area that is in lockdown currently. And you see a couple checkpoints of Wonderful Trade Company around. It seems like they've been coordinating with them to accomplish some goal, likely to find Troy. That seems to be what the entire city is concerned about, is generally like terrorism. You see on the map as well, different explosion points, like craters that are signalled by a little strip of paper that has a fire symbol drawn on it. These are areas of attack where where the city is being attacked, essentially. They're staging attacks and framing him, keeping the citizens in check, leaving them scared of him. A lot of what they're doing is being justified under the guise of finding him.

**Grizzly**

My two questions, other than where they want the teleporter base to be, that's one of the questions that we all agree on, right? It's where are they - where would the teleporter's base begin? And what might power such magic like that? That is important. And then where the friends are being moved, that's also important. But we could probably learn that from Mai, if we find her. And then third one would be, how are they moving around so fast? If they're moving around super fast. The fourth one would be, other than a scapegoat, do they need Troy for anything else?

**Bizly**

Finding the Inventor is what you would know. That's what they set Troy and Blink on. Other than that, I think those are questions to continue investigating and finding out.

**Charlie**

I think we maybe hold off on saying anything to this lady until we figure out what she's even about. I can try and talk to her a little more if that's cool.

**Bizly**

Okay. Yeah, she sat down over in the study and really is just pulled out a book and pouring over it.

**Charlie**

I'm going to walk around the chair.

**Troy**

Oh, see, this is odd.

**Terra**

Mm? What's that?

**Troy**

Last time I was in the chair.

**Terra**

(Chuckles) I suppose.

**Troy**

You know what's funny, too, is we both came into this room. We both are wearing disguises so people don't know who we are 'cause they hate us. We're kinda the same.

**Bizly**

If you're gonna kill me, just do it, y'know. I... I really don't have much room to run here, so.

**Troy**

I don't want to kill you. I was just making an observation. We're both hiding from these people.

**Terra**

Sure. We're both hiding. Do you ever...? No, you wouldn't be interested.

**Troy**

Yeah, you're probably right.

(Laughter)

**Terra**

See, you are a bit of a fugitive around here. And... I doubt it goes back to normal, y'know? Convince an entire city that this one person is the cause of their suffering. They're not going to go back and just start to love you again. Well, unless Daddy buys that love. But... Surely you want - surely you want out of that shadow. Who could live in the shadow of Extraordinary Lougferd? A bit of a kook, he is, huh? Imagine a world where we didn't have to live in shadow. Check this out.

**Bizly**

She flips in the book.

**Terra**

Right there.

**Bizly**

And it's a drawing. The surrounding area reminds you of the vision you saw of that world.

**Terra**

Isn't that beautiful?

**Bizly**

You can see it's almost like a utopian city.

**Troy**

Yeah, it seems perfect.

**Terra**

We could build this. Put it right there. We wouldn't have to hide, we wouldn't have to... play pretend. Whole city, all to ourselves. Think of everything we've learned here. Take that back home? Hmm. We'd be unstoppable.

**Troy**

I guess that's what the big lion man wants, right?

**Terra**

Oh, he just wants to get back there. Oh, stuck in his ways. But this world has already been tapped. You know, we have an island. That's just about it. Over there... They don't have anything like this. No trains, clockworks. With one clockwork, we could form an empire there.

**Charlie**

Guys, I think she's just straight up evil. Like, I don't know-

**Condi**

She does sound straight up evil, yeah.

**Charlie**

She's just like, 'We could take over that world!'

**Milo**

I think she's just like a colonizer.

**Troy**

Oh, man. Maybe we really are about the same.

(Laughter)

**Troy**

You know, it's funny. I wonder if when you do that, you'll have a hole, too. With like, a bunch of bug people or something, and maybe they'll all try and teleport out.

**Terra**

No more holes, no more holes. I'm done with holes and hiding underground, everyone will be welcome in the city.

**Troy**

Oh, really? So I can come over anytime?

**Terra**

If you help, you could be...

**Bizly**

And she leans over to you.

**Terra**

My right-hand.

**Blink**

So wait, just to clarify,

**Troy**

Hang on, Blink, one sec. I think I got something goin' on here.

**Blink**

Okay.

**Troy**

It's a pretty good opportunity.

**Blink**

Wait. Whose idea was all this? Was it yours?

**Terra**

No, no. A dream of Aldrick's, of course.

**Blink**

Yeah, that adds.

**Terra**

You can't beat him. And trust me, you can't beat him. This world?

**Bizly**

And she holds up the page, not even turning back to you, Blink, just holding it up, pointing at it.

**Terra**

He was born there.

**Blink**

Oh. So he's like, old, old.

**Bizly**

And she shuts the book.

**Terra**

He's the only one left who remembers it.

**Troy**

So he's the only one that's ever seen it?

**Terra**

Understand.

**Troy**

He's the only one that could tell other people what it looked like, probably.

**Terra**

Except for the crystals.

**Troy**

Yeah, sure. But all sorts of stuff is possible with technology. You probably wouldn't care about something like that.

**Terra**

Yeah, you're right. (beat of silence) But if I did?

(Laughter)

**Troy**

If you did, I'd say... Everyone's here on this island, above or under, for what?

**Terra**

I don't know. Rock fell from the sky, brought us here. Kinda what he tells us.

**Troy**

Sure, that's the story. But everyone's here in Wonder. My whole life, I've seen everyone come here for fame, for success, for power. I mean, just like you said, y'know? It's the perfect plan. If you can't beat it, join it. And he's the only one. How do you even know he's from there? 'Cause it's funny, we went - we went to the mountain. That's where this cape's from. We saw all sorts of magical stuff up there. And he uses technology. Nothing up there had to. They don't need it.

**Runt**

It's true. I can prove it.

**Troy**

Those beings from those other worlds, they had powers I can't explain. We even have some things from there. So if his world is so perfect, why would he need to get to the top... Using machines from Wonder? Unless, unless he really did need them. Unless maybe he's not like that stuff we saw up on the mountain. But I don't know. It's just a thought. I'm sure you guys and everyone you talk to has probably already had this thought, too, so... But hey, I'm happy for him. I mean, he's got everyone, including even me. I can't even go outside in the palm of his hand. (Sighs) So shit.

**Charlie**

I sit down, too.

**Troy**

I guess no matter - no matter what I do, he's going to get exactly what he wants.

**Bizly**

Pretty fucking good.

**Grizzly**

When I realized she evil, I decided we should let the evil guy deal with her.

(Laughter)

**Condi**

It just makes sense.

**Grizzly**

I'm kidding. But he is crushing the evil versus evil right now. Makes sense to me. (Laughs)

**Terra**

If he was nothing like those things on the mountain and stretched the truth a little, maybe he wasn't from this place he talks about. There's still other worlds. Kinda all that matters, isn't it? But I hear what you're sayin'.

**Troy**

Man, I wish I didn't miss the big game.

**Terra**

Oh, there was no big game.

**Troy**

They cancelled the big game??

**Terra**

Had to. On lockdown.

**Troy**

Oh, man, he really is evil. (Sighs) I was just thinking about the big game and getting first place. And since everything is coming to an end, all the first places and all the trophies I got. And I was recalling all those moments, and I kept thinking, 'Man, I do not remember who got second.' It's funny. They all worshiped the ground I walked on. They all went, 'Troy, Troy, Troy!'

**Terra**

Not a word for the second.

**Troy**

I mean, I don't know. Maybe there was. I was pretty caught up in it.

**Terra**

Okay. Say somebody came along and stole first place.

**Troy**

Fuck. You're talkin' to the right guy. Say, Aldrick, shit his pants. Hypothetically, hypothetically shit his pants as he's about to cross the finish line. Do you know what? I'm going to tell you something I've never told anyone. As soon as that record, that undefeated record I had changed, no one looked at me the same. No one thought it was cool to shit your pants just 'cause I said it was cool to shit your pants. All of a sudden, the fact that it was the upset of the century, they switched up like that. No one was looking for me to make a comeback.

**Terra**

If Aldrick lost his leverage... oh, he'd really shit his pants.

**Troy**

I guess so. Hey, has anyone ever told you you'd make a great therapist? This is really helpful.

**Terra**

Uh huh.

**Charlie**

(Laughs)

**Troy**

Sure, he's the one that controls all the strings, right? I mean, you guys are all... We're all dancing to his fiddle.

**Terra**

I see what you're getting at, okay? The trade company is moving your friends. They're being held at the base of the mountain in Inaro Fel. The girl - she got away, she's still under. You don't have much time.

**Troy**

And there goes his leverage.

**Terra**

Oops.

**Troy**

Be a shame if she got away and we learned from her what happened.

**Terra**

Oh, well, that is what happened, isn't it?

**Troy**

Glad we're on the same page.

**Terra**

You're sharper than you look, Lougferd.

**Troy**

What can I say? I use the best wax.

**Terra**

You should check in on your father, though. Not a fan of what's going on around here. I'd talk sense into him. I really would.

**Troy**

Um, I don't really want to talk to my dad.

(Laughter)

**Terra**

Okay, well, if we get into it, I will have to start charging by the hour. And it is not cheap.

**Troy**

I don't think my insurance is going to cover this.

**Terra**

I wonder if your old papa would have a back door into the clockworks.

**Blink**

Yeah, she's got a point there. I was thinkin' the same thing.

**Troy**

Oh, man, that wouldn't make Aldrick look very good at all if his army all of a sudden wasn't working how he wanted, huh?

**Terra**

And of course, the true wrench in it all is the Inventor, y'know? Where you... Where do you go to find a guy like that? He's been... Hah. Since that first demonstration in Cogtopolis, Cogtopolis he's been looking. You know, the cave-in. Just a way to find him. Lock everybody in. Still found nothing.

**Runt**

You thought the cave-in would weed the Inventor out... Because he'd fix it?

**Terra**

Well, a couple of things. We I figured he was in Cogtopolis, so lock down Cogtopolis. Go and find him in there. Didn't have any luck there, but yeah, that was kinda plan B. He seemed to be this miracle cure to every problem, so come up with a problem... He'll be your solution.

**Runt**

So you really don't care about other people?

**Terra**

What? Of course I care.

**Runt**

This teleportation, the church, you were going to get power over other people out of it.

**Terra**

They need a leader. Someone to control. Otherwise, it's chaos. I care enough to step up. And sometimes there are costs.

**Bizly**

She looks over to the body.

**Terra**

But it's for the best. Well, I've given you more than... More than... (scoffs) More than enough, I think.

**Troy**

We'll be on our way.

**Terra**

I'm pretty sure we had a deal. Information on the Inventor?

**Troy**

Oh! Right. That. Ta-doy, Troy!

**Terra**

Look, I helped you. And I don't want to, and I don't want to transport the entire island. I really don't care. I just want to go. Just me.

**Runt**

Oh... Well-

**Grizzly**

Is there a window nearby?

**Bizly**

Is there a window nearby? No, you're underground.

**Grizzly**

Oh, okay, I see.

**Troy**

You've given us quite a bit. So I'll give you something, too. The Inventor? While we were looking around, digging, trying to learn more about what to do, let's just say-

**WD**

He's not who you think he is.

**Runt**

Look, if just you want to go, instead of giving you the Inventor, I could just send you back when we're done with the church. Just you.

**Terra**

You could?

**Runt**

Probably.

**Terra**

And how's that?

**Runt**

I'm pretty smart.

**Troy**

And because we're narrowing in on it, he's closer than you think. Hahahahaha....

**Terra**

Okay.

**Charlie**

(Laughs)

**Terra**

Are we just going to do riddles or where is he?

**Troy**

Let's just say... You know him really well.

**Terra**

Stop. What are you doing? What are you-? Tell me with your eyebrows. Okay, okay, so the Inventor is somebody I know? Yeah?

**Runt**

Kind of embarrassing if he was the professor and you killed him, but I'm just going to like... That'd be really funny.

**Terra**

Ooh, ooh that'd be rough.

**Troy**

That sure would be rough.

**Terra**

Was it?

**Troy**

We got to rescue our friends now.

(Laughter)

**Runt**

Because of this predicament, offer still stands. When we're done, if you want to go back by yourself, just tell us where to find you.

**Terra**

Oh, fuck. I just killed him. Oh my God.

**Bizly**

Wait, roll Deception for me.

**Charlie**

Oh, guys, I'm proud of this one. Alright. Can I have an advantage from the circumstances?

**Bizly**

Uh, yeah.

**Charlie**

Okay, okay, okay.

**Bizly**

I didn't make you roll for most of that because it was just conversation.

**Charlie**

Yeesh, that's a 10, bro. Not good. I've had inspiration marked on my sheet for a really long time, but I don't remember how it got there.

**Condi**

It was - I'm pretty sure from when you said-

**Charlie**

Oh, it was from the foot fetish! Can I use my foot fetish inspiration?

**Bizly**

Sure.

**Charlie**

Yes! That's a 16 plus 3, 19.

**Bizly**

19? Yeah, she says that. She says,

**Terra**

Oh, fuck, I just killed him.

**Grizzly**

We synced up. We all synced up. We immediately just synced up the lie.

**Charlie**

And we did.

**Terra**

Oh, man. Ugh. I knew he was smart, but he just never fucking did anything. Alright, well, when you're done doin' what you're doin', I'll be lookin' for you.

**Bizly**

She points at you, Runt.

**Runt**

I'll be lookin' for you, too.

**Terra**

In the meantime, can't really do much about the whole making everyone think you're a terrorist thing.

**Charlie**

She looks over where I used to be, and there's now just a hole in the window.

**Condi**

(Laughs) There's no window, dude.

**Bizly**

No window. You're underground.

**Milo**

He's burrowing.

**Condi**

He's burrowing.

**Charlie**

I don't suppose there's a hole in the ceiling.

**Terra**

Oh.

**Blink**

Okay. We're just going to take the elevator.

**Terra**

Yeah, that's okay. Sorry you had to see all that.

**Blink**

Yeah.

**Runt**

Me too.

**Blink**

Me too. Yeah.

**Terra**

But... Good luck!

**Blink**

Okay, well, good - chattin'. Bye!

**Milo**

I can't believe she's just like, 'Yeah, that chick's there, too'.

**Bizly**

I can't believe it either, it was just really convincing.

**Charlie**

I actually think I did pretty fucking good in there, guys.

**Milo**

You just kept talking and I was like, he's doing it.

**Charlie**

Kind of crazy. Troy gets her. Do you know what I mean? I do feel like they...

**Bizly**

That's kind of why it worked. Fuck it - I'm just really impressed. Like, that was really good.

**Runt**

There's an elevator that we're taking?

**Bizly**

No, it's stairs. It's stairs. You just walk up the stairs. You guys walk out.

**Charlie**

I walk out, I immediately get arrested.

**Bizly**

I walk out and the little guy goes,

**Man**

Where did the other one go? There were five.

**Runt**

These are not the droids you are looking for.

**Man**

Wait, wait, wait, wait, wait, wait. Tr-Troy Log- Troy Lo- Troy! Guards! Someone!

**Bizly**

The little man's just running away to get help.

**Charlie**

I chase him on all fours.

**Condi**

I cast Slow on him.

**Charlie**

No, but in reality, in reality, I look at him and I say,

**Troy**

No one will believe you.

**Charlie**

And then I fly. I literally fly out the skylight like Superman with my cape.

**Grizzly**

Is your dad's castle or whatever in the rich guy estate area?

**Charlie**

Castle?? It's not here, it's not here.

**Bizly**

It is the estate. He owns the estate.

**Grizzly**

Can we hop back on the rails and head that direction?

**Charlie**

I think we got to get our friends before they fuckin'... She said we got to be fast.

**Bizly**

You guys get back to the sled being pulled by the horse on the train tracks. You make your way over towards the Lougferd Estate. As a matter of fact, to get to where you're talking about, to Inaro Fel, you'll have to skirt right around the Lougferd Estate.

**Troy**

No! No! No- Well, I guess we can come here on the way back.

**Bizly**

And with that, my friends, our time together is up.

**Charlie**

That was a stressful one, boys.

**Condi**

I'm glad you somehow had the words.

**Charlie**

I'm glad you let me go for it.

**Charlie**

Troy carried, low key.

**Runt**

What's up, fuckers!

**Grizzly**

Runt, language, damn. Hey, everyone. 'Gratz on making it to the end of the episode. Always happy to see you here and genuinely hope you enjoyed it and are enjoying Wonderlust. Anyways, it's that time again. I shall now have the pleasure of shouting out members in our high roller tier, starting with our website, [jrwishow.com](http://jrwishow.com). So! A big thank you to Domo, Moon's Alibi, Cornier Comet, Pillow, Jim Hiking Jacket, Silent Night. Sorry, I had to do that. Echo, Love Struck Krista, Spicy Squid Ink, Gas Mass... Wait, Ghast Mask... Ghast? Maker. I thought... I was trying to say Gas Master. I don't know why. Sorry. Newt Beatle, Back Ground Character. Sorry, I'm missing some characters in that name. I didn't know what it was. Expugaloo, Goont.

**Grizzly**

I am Goont. Swirly Is a Guest on JRWI, M4500 had top surgery. Let's go!! Sara Zaku, Cinebunny03, Pupper In Space, Dark Soul, Spittake on JRWI, Cranky Martin, Cals, Sea Fresh, Crash Fox Zero, Insomnia Draws, Ara the King, Itdemo, Yedium Type Z, Elvish Cyborg, Bazozo, Golden Block 12, Pink Tucky, Awesome Man, Tooney Looney, Wild James, Aaron Moment, Bebson, Caffeine Connoisseur, Bran Nyan. Or Branyan. Unstable Chaotic Cracker, Val Punk, No. Castillo Jr. Or Castillo? No Castillo Jr. One of those. Sumpfee, It's Albert, Teeny Ghosts,

Stinky Man, Sklorby, Cry Says Sunny Stinks. Okay, sorry, Sunny. Get fucked, I guess. Jason the Fricker, Joshua Mills, Pondering My Borb, Mutich, The Tired Eldred Horror. I'm Rollin' Cu', Narwhal Shellfish, Mario Craft 6000, Hibiscus, Kedis Badis, and the Loot Goblin, Jordan Darlin, Alister Sussy, or Susie.

### **Grizzly**

The Retrolyzer, Pine T, Jojo Jordan 123, Avi E, Chronus 513, Vapor Slash, Mr. Mustalid, Staniel the Manual, Dev the Dolphin, Cheesus, Milo Mumbles, me and Anna. Awesome, alright. That was everyone on our website. Moving on over to Patreon. Ruiner, Just a guy, Kage Blakene, Liam Osborne, Boxfish, The Megabat Aiko,

### **Grizzly**

Leaky Liqueur or Lacquer, or none of those are right. Basic Blur, Ara The King, Canonical JRWI Jesus, Amen. Vyper Hypnotic, Al Major, Voy Essence, I'm Just a Burb, Lightning Deathbringer, Agar Steeljaw, Limb Muncher, Morbius, Oliver Lolly, Mr. C, Grizzly Look Behind You, WHAT?? Oh, we're all good. And Jay Newall, it's part of the name. Thanks for carrying on the legacy. It's Sea Fresh, Me Forever Mate, Sara Zaku, Charlie Darling Songbird, Daxie Boy, Beans, Pippin the Vagabond, Shrimps Is Bugs, Mr. Nacho, Nonzalotl, and JRWI Enjoyer. Thank you all so much for the support, and we'll see you in the next episode. Alright. Yeah. Bye-bye!