Condi

Hello everybody I just wanted to take this quick second in the intro where we normally do a funny cold open to remind you guys that we currently have a Blood in the Bayou T-shirt available right now on JRWIshow.com. This is super exclusive and it's only available for one more week and after that, it's gone forever. Not to mention, this is probably the only Blood in the Bayou merch we're ever going to make. Go grab it now at JRWIshow.com before it's gone for good. Again, this is only around for one more week after this episode airs, so get in now. Enjoy the episode.

Grizzly

Where we last left off. The three captains of the Riptide Pirates opened a chest left by the Black Rose Pirates, bonded with mutual friends, the Yeti Pirates, and then officiated a wedding between new friends, Star and Zamia. Before teleporting them and all the survivors of Onawa country to safety in Canella. And so the journey continues. We slowly drop down from dark clouds, swivel around the enormous ice mountain, following wilted petals from the great tree that passed. We blow over the landscape of this island. Down its center river, past each port and far across the sea until Onawa is but a silhouette on the horizon. The air today is thick. On your first day of travel, you'd never expect the bitter chills of the Black Sea could feel so congested. A small light may have been created and enjoyed within the walls of Onawa's Capital Palace, but the surrounding darkness that the Albatross splits through is nothing if not suffocating. The consequences of your chosen paths and all that is yet to come both weigh heavy like an anchor to the day as your journey slogs on. Some of your crew is just paddling away, basically, Gryffon and… it's Gryffon.

Charlie

Just Gryffon. We're still just, moping. It's a sad day.

Grizzly

Probably anyone that wants to help, row, but that's what's moving the boat right now.

Condi

I just think it'd be really funny if fucking Gryffon was running from port side to starboard side and rowing one side.

Gryffon

[Panting and Grunting as he carries this crew on his back]

Charlie

Just so unbalanced. Yeah, it's like we're just zig-zagging across.

Grizzly

Still compensating for all the L's in the past.

Bizly

I'm going to take Igneous over to Drey first.

Grizzly

Say Drey is using one leg, like hooking the paddle with his inside of his ankle and then doing it with the outside of his heel and just going back and forth, helping row.

Chip

Hey, Drey, how's this going there? You're working hard.

Drey

Someone's got to keep this moving.

Chip

Yeah, and you're sure... Doing that.

Drey

Who's the new recruit?

Chip

Oh, this is Igneous.

Igneous

Yo, how it going? Uhm... [In disbelief] Wait a minute.

Chip

Igneous, this is uh... Ah it's just-

Igneous

No fucking way, I know who he is.

Chip

It's just Drey Farin, ya know, of the Black Rose Pirates or whatever, right? Ya know? This is him.

Igneous

When were you going to fucking mention that you had someone from the Black Rose Pirates on your ship?

Chip

Oh, yeah, that? No big deal, buddy.

Jay

We've actually got two of them right now.

Igneous

Where were you when we were fighting that crazy fucking spider lady?

Drey

No, no, no. Black Rose Pirates all in the past. You know, they're gone and retired. I'm more of a consultant now for these guys.

Jay

He's actually been our accountant of late.

Bizly

Yeah, and he's really good at keeping up with the finances too.

Jay

Yeah.

Chip

Right, Drey? What's our stock looking at right now?

Jay

How's it looking? I mean-

Gillion

Not good enough.

Grizzly

He just looks over to the pile of treasure and some items that you guys hauled from this island that's sitting in a corner of the deck.

Bizly

Where's Gillion right now? Is he near it?

Charlie

I'm helping row, but you notice each time I switch sides, I get a little closer to the pile.

Chip

As our accountant, his only job is to keep Gillion from throwing the treasure in the ocean.

Jay

Gryffon also helps with that. He's a really good accountant, actually.

Bizly

It really takes us all, actually.

Jay

It's a shared responsibility.

Drey

Mostly, I just keep an eye on the old men. Speaking of old men, and you know Igneous it's your first day here on the crew, how about you take over my spot here and row the ship?

Grizzly

Then he stands up and he's going to interrupt your introductions and then move you over a second to get away from ear shot.

Drey

Speaking of old men, Chip, Earl is kinda losing his mind and Finn isn't doing so hot.

Chip

Losing his mind as in?

Drey

You know.

Chip

Corruption?

Drey

Well, it seems like it. He took a...

Chip

Any black ooze coming from the cough?

Drey

No, I don't think it's that far. But the ocean's changing... He just gets more obsessive about the fucking fruit. He kept trying to jump off the ship and get mushrooms from this fucking forest.

Chip

Yeah, that probably wouldn't be cool.

Drey

You know, like that. But he's a little self-destructive. I don't know if you want to break it to Gillion, but his uh- He's just getting old. I don't know if it's the corruption. We've kept them down on the bottom deck. So...

Chip

If they're not coughing up like ooze, we've got some time and Finn-

Drey

Nah, should just be resting.

Chip

Yeah. Not sure what's going on with him, but I'll check in with him. And maybe we can find Earl this fruit and he'll relax a little bit. Everything else is all right otherwise, though? No problems watching over the ship?

Drey

[Groans] We're still alive, aren't we?

Chip

So much confidence you inspire, man. Just to let you in, we ran into some problems over there.

Drey

Still alive, aren't you?

Chip

[Pained chuckle] No, I'm not. But like mostly! Like kind of.

Drey

Yeah, you are. You're standing right here, kid.

Bizly

Slowly reached my hand up to the bandana and I pulled it down and he can see me.

Drey

What the shit?! Put that shit back on.

Grizzly

He like immediately, puts it back on.

Chip

Yeah, not... Much of a looker anymore.

Drey

What happened?

Chip

I was just a boy who had his heart stolen by a girl. And it's like still in her stomach over there.

Drey

Fuck.

Chip

Look, I'm all right. I'm all right. I'm still moving around. Still fighting? That's all that matters, right?

Drey

Nah, you're not all right. Chip, we got to get out of here. Teleport away.

Chip

No.

Drey

Come back for Arlin later. It's...

Chip

We have to find him now.

Drey

What do you think he's going to think when he sees you and your skeleton?

Chip

Do you think that really matters?

Drey

I can imagine the guilt that might put on him. Is that really what you want to look like when we find him? I mean...

Chip

Captain Hendrix, you know him?

Drey

I talked about him a little bit with Jay.

Chip

He's the only one of the Pirate Lords still kicking around, and he's been messing with us. I don't know if what he said was true, but he told me Arlin was suffering. So if I got to suffer too, just a little bit, I will. It's no big deal. And once we have him, maybe he'll have an answer, ya know? Or maybe it doesn't matter. I'm standing here. It hasn't been too bad. Look, I'll be fine. I just wanted to let you know. So if I flaked any skin off you, on you, you wouldn't have too many questions.

Charlie

That's so gross. Are you shedding?

Bizly

Oh, I'm shedding. Oh, I'm shedding.

Charlie

No!

Grizzly

He looks down to the ground for a minute, tongue in cheek, and looks back up at you.

Drey

All right, big man. But if you- You see Hendrix? You call me. Don't keep it to yourselves anymore.

Chip

Got you, big man.

Gillion

You called?

[Laughter]

Charlie

Just materialized.

Chip

[Appearing out of thin air] Yes, Gillion.

Drey

I'm going to go. I'm going to sit with Finn.

Chip

Yeah, Gillion actually uh...

Gillion

Yes, Pookie?

Chip

I think we- [Confused] What?

Jay

[From across the ship confused] What?

Chip

We're going to let that slide for right now, but we'll talk about it later.

Gillion

It was on one of the darkest tomes in the castle.

Jay

Was it in that book that you found?

Gillion

It was. It was.

Jay

Oh, no.

Grizzly

You've been reading it?

Charlie

No, I opened it. The first two words are, "Hey, Pookie," and I closed it.

Chip

Wow, that threw me off guard. Okay, we got to go check on your grandfather.

Gillion

Yeah? Is something- Is everything okay?

Chip

Everything's fine, right, Drey? Everything's okay. Just want to make sure he's doing okay. I think a familiar face will do the trick.

Jay

I do worry since we've been away for as long as we have.

Charlie

What does Drey look like? Does he look like everything's okay? [Deviously] Insight Check. [Normal] That's going to go ahead and be a ten, middle of the road.

Grizzly

Drey usually looks pretty laid back, carefree. He did just get like the craziest news from Chip, and he's a little conflicted. You can tell he's conflicted. So he's not like looking happy or anything. Like normal. He can't really look you in the eye, which is not normal for Jay. Drey.

Charlie

Yeah, I keep trying to like, like follow.

Gillion

[Weaving to meet Drey's eyes] Where are you going?

Drey

I'll meet you down there.

Gillion

Alright, Alright.

Grizzly

He just fucking walks away.

Gillion

You've got me worried now. Let's go check.

Chip

Nothing to be too worried about. It should be fine.

Bizly

We'll go down.

Charlie

Sprint downstairs.

Condi

All together now.

Gillion

Grandpeepaw!

Grizzly

You guys head down into your bottom deck and you see just like sitting up in the tub that you got for him is your grandpa. He looks like he's just resting. He's got his eyes closed. He still has a pretty weak grin on his face. When you guys start making noise, he squints open a little bit. Wide eye catches you all coming down.

Gillion

Sorry for waking you up, Grandpeepaw. We just wanted to check in everything okay down here. You look dry.

Grizzly

Gives a big smile, but you notice that he- By the day since you found him has just been aging and he's slowly getting older and older.

Bizly

As Gillion is talking to Finn, I want to look over to Jay and just give that look of like, "Not good... Some shit." Just with looks, I feel like we can communicate this shit to each other. I feel like just like-.

Condi

It's been long enough.

Bizly

-nod to Gillion like, "If someone's going to console this motherfucker, it's you." So like...

Condi

And I look, I'm like, "Me? You want me?"

Bizly

I go, and I point to me and I take off the bandana and I look horrific for half a second and I put it back on.

Charlie

My grandpa thinks it's death and gives up.

Condi

Okay, I shrug and get ready, I suppose.

Grizzly

Slowly reaches his hand up out of the water and pulls you down to your knees, Gill. Reaching for your like your- the side of your face.

Gillion

Hey, what's going on?

Grizzly

Goofy smile.

Condi

I just want to see how the... Why do I forget what it's called? Corruption is- its progression with him. If he's okay.

Grizzly

Yeah, I would say you can do a medicine check.

Condi

Let's see. Natural 20.

Charlie

Oh, my God. We're so back, dude.

Condi

First roll of the day.

Charlie

We're so back. Oh, my God.

Bizly

I'm going to get a La Croix to celebrate.

Condi

Don't ruin my accomplishment.

Charlie

[As Gillion] Chip, why is this water bubbly? Oh, no, no, no.

Grizzly

If you were trying to sense corruption and just get a glimpse of it, Finn looks mostly untouched. I mean, he's been pretty secure down here. The most protected from the elements, especially in this only batch of fresh water in this entire ocean here in the bath. Looks like Drey has at least three now. He's been hit. And just from what you recollect, when you first got on your ship, obviously, Earl has quite a bit of corruption.

Condi

Assumably over four.

Grizzly

And then Gryffon and Queen are still sitting pretty around three. The medicinally Chip is totally dead. It looks like Finn is aging. That's pretty much it, aging. Whether the effects of the Black Sea are making the effects of the aging process harder on him, yeah, you can get that. Just the air here, it's rough on his system.

Condi

Do the white person thing where you suck in one of your cheeks. Just like concern, basically. Yeah.

Grizzly

He pulls you down, Gill, and he's just sort of looking at you and just-

Finn

[blargh]

Grizzly

-lets out a noise.

Charlie

It's like this is my grandfather dying of old age. I'm sorry, it's not funny.

Grizzly

It doesn't look like he's going to pass right now, but yeah, he's just aging.

Gillion

Grandpeepaw, do you need anything? I found this. I think this was yours. it was left in a chest where legacy things were. I guess that means you would want it to be remembered, so maybe it would help you remember? I take out the... I rummage past the book and I take out the library card- Actually, I'll give them both back. I'll give both to him and see if it jogs anything for him.

Grizzly

When you start pulling this stuff out, he like eyebrows raised up, eyes get wide. He starts to push himself up very very slowly and shakily as you start to pull them out. You hand the book to him first, he looks at it, throws it, and just fucking throws that shit. He stares at it for three seconds and then throws it away.

Gillion

I understand.

Grizzly

He's looking at the library card. He sees your face on it, looks at you and his eyes start to water a little bit.

Gillion

I'm sorry. I don't know why I did that. If we could try and change it or reset it somehow. I didn't mean to take it.

Grizzly

Shakes his head and then just hands it back to you. Then Drey goes.

Drey

Oh, shit. I forgot about that. What else did you find?

Charlie

Look at the corner with the book.

Gillion

Nothing. ...Fuck, I forgot. I can't lie. It's a book written by my grandfather called Dark Puckered Hole, and I think I know what it's about. But yeah, you can give that a light read if you want. Then these two found things as well.

Jay

Yeah, I found a...

Condi

Dig through my backpack or whatever.

Jay

This old thing.

Condi

And I pull out the heirloom pistol.

Drey

Oh, hey. Yeah, now it's all coming back to me! Kind of.

Jay

Also, you'll love this, a letter from my father to you where he says, "You piece of shit runt. Dad should have disowned you 17 years ago when you were born."

Drey

Yeah, that sounds like something I'd leave behind.

Grizzly

He walks up picks up the book and then he starts laughing. Goes

Drey

Finn, you son of a bitch.

Charlie

Gillion looks at Chip and does the face white people do.

Bizly

I do it back.

Condi

I do it too, just because I want to feel included.

Bizly

Drey just pockets the book and goes.

Drey

You know what? Finders keepers.

Drey

Thank you.

Drey

It's been so long, but this was Rose's idea, and yeah, it's a special weapon. It fits you.

Jay

No idea what it does besides shoot things, but I mean, that's really all I ever need. But I'll take a look at it later.

Drey

It doesn't do anything.

Jay

What?

Gillion

Huh?

Drey

Yeah, I mean, it shouldn't. It's a regular old family heirloom.

Gillion

Well, that can't be right.

Drey

It's the user that makes the magic.

Gillion

Oh, Jay! Shoot me!

Jay

Okay! [Condi Pulls back the hammer on an imaginary pistol and makes a firing sound with his mouth]

Condi

[Laughing] I don't actually.

Bizly

Actually, you have to.

Charlie

I don't know, man. You made a full pulling back the hammer-

Bizly

[Crosstalk] You have to.

Charlie

And pulling the trigger and gun shot sound.

Bizly

You can't take that back. We're playing an imagination game and you went, [Mimics Condi's gunshot sound] you shot a gun.

Charlie

I imagined you shot me.

Grizzly

Roll to hit next to Finn, who is-

Condi

No, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no, no,

Charlie

Actually, genuinely, I will restart my recording if you shoot my fucking dying, grandpa.

Condi

Okay, I got a 30 to hit.

Charlie

Yeah. That'll do it. That'll do it.

Condi

I haven't loaded it.

Charlie

This is a good way to find out, right?

Condi

Yeah. Wait, is it loaded, Grizzly?

Grizzly

No, any magical effects is not going to happen unless you attune to it. You're just going to shoot a regular gun to shoot.

Condi

But is there even a bullet in it? Because it has the loading property.

Charlie

Don't fucking tease me, dude. There's a fucking bullet in there.

Grizzly

If there's no bullet in it. Then it misfires or fires a blank, and it's really loud. It just.

Condi

Doesn't fire anything. Yeah.

Jay

[Loud Gunshot] Oh, I put a bullet in there.

Drey

Told you it didn't.

Grizzly

It's super loud. It rings out. Finn preemptively covered his ears.

Jay

I just like forgot that you had to load these things. I have the-

Gillion

Holy shit. Maybe it was going so fast, I didn't even feel it!

Finn

MmBuh-

Grizzly

You hear him start to make noises.

Gillion

Yes, Grandpeepaw.

Grizzly

He takes his finger and he presses the card that you're holding and he points at it and taps it.

Finn

[Struggling] Book. Book. My book.

Gillion

This is a card.

Grizzly

Then he makes a swiping motion.

Finn

Book.

Gillion

Okay... This is a card, grandpa.

Jay

I think he's trying to tell you to like, swipe the card in the book?

Gillion

[Contemplative] Okay...

Charlie

Okay, I take the card and I swipe it. I go,

Gillion

Book.

Grizzly

He's going to shake his head and then he'll ask you to hold your palm out with the card on it and then put his hand on your hand, making gestures. Then for a moment, just holds it here and then looks at you with really wide eyes and a goofy smile.

Finn

Book.

Gillion

Book.

Grizzly

It's like nodding, raising his eyebrows. For anyone that's watching this it's like five minutes go by.

Charlie

Yeah, he's doing that. I look around. I'm nodding and smiling at people.

Gillion

Yeah. Book!

Bizly

I do the white people thing.

Grizzly

Then there's the soft hum between your hands and [Magical woosh] you feel the magic of the card kind of illuminate and yourself has attuned to it. Essentially, as soon as you feel that attunement, as Finn helps you attune faster and basically passes it on officially, you feel that in any crevice at all, you can swipe this card and it will its effects will permiate.

Charlie

I look around for a crevice.

Grizzly

Yeah, you're on a ship. There's tons of crevices between wood planks and stuff yeah.

Gillion

It's weird. It's like I immediately know what it does. Wow. Let's see, crevice. Okay.

Charlie

Walk over to chip, put it between his lips and go,

Gillion

Zoop.

Grizzly

Chip doesn't have any lips because he's a skeleton.

Bizly

You do that and a smear of black, dried blood covers it and you get skin all up on it.

Charlie

Dude, I was just playing.

Bizly

There's like a chunk of lip comes off with it.

Condi

No. No, no, no.

Grizzly

Okay, you get the sense that [Stumbling over words] the crevice has to fit a doorway. [Laughing] It's like physical [Skin tearing].

Bizly

You want to put a card in my lips, motherfucker let's do this.

Charlie

That's so gross. I guess I like, I don't know. I think it's like a worm on the deck wiggling around and I step on it, don't realize it's fucking Chip's lip, I guess. That's just fallen off his face.

Grizzly

Eww Okay.

Gillion

Oh, worm. [Squish]

Charlie

I try to go over to, I guess, one of the planks of wood and swipe it just straight down and go,

Gillion

Book.

Grizzly

[Magical Woosh] This fucking door just... Almost like a gateway. It just sparks up into existence from the floor.

Gillion

I guess that would have been bad if I did that to your face.

Grizzly

It just emerges into this from this bluish, bright light. And then as the light dims and fades, you see there's a door with a simple shell decorated handle that you can open and walk into right here, it's created onto the wall of the ship.

Charlie

Can I take Grandpeepaw with me?

Grizzly

Grandpeepaw is already struggling to stand up, and Drey sort of like helps him up.

Charlie

Yeah, I want to help him. I want to help him through.

Gillion

Well, you guys want to check this out?

Jay

Sure. Why not?

Chip

Yeah.

Grizzly

This is the coolest shit you've ever seen. A door [woosh] of fucking magic. Yeah, this shit's awesome.

Gillion

I figured I'd ask. Maybe you guys want to stay here in the dark, dark stars.

Chip

No, it's okay. I'm just like, I'm super actually interested in this disgusting Black Sea. I definitely don't want to go in the cool magic door.

Gillion

Okay, cool.

Charlie

I leave.

Gillion

That's fair.

Charlie

I go.

Grizzly

You open it up, more of this blue light sort of peeks through, and you can see that it's just in this space, almost like you're walking into an ocean. You can't see what's behind it until you step into it. Are you all going?

Condi

Yeah, absolutely. No doubt.

Bizly

Hell, yeah.

Charlie

I want to take grandpa with me to the Magic Tree House.

Grizzly

All of you step through and you find yourselves, each of you floating underwater, but still breathing.

Charlie

It's like we immediately drown.

Grizzly

No, everybody can breathe, but you're still floating underwater. You're not standing on anything. You're basically swimming in this deep sea, but you are surrounded by an immense and magnificent library with floor to ceiling bookshelves and countless scattered piles of bound volumes. There's these bubbles that glow golden and float around with white light glass bubbles mounted to corners and the ceilings. There's these massive, beautifully decorated windows with an underwater ocean view that seems to be like this blend between all the colors of every ocean in the world that fade between each other before fading into this like sparkling infinity the the more you look out. The ocean colors that are changing bounce off this rich and dark wood of the interior of this library, creating the same alternating ambient light within. As as wondered and disorganized this place looks, you also see tiny axolotls wearing a different like a variety between bow ties or scholarly hats and the like. They're just zipping around and some of them are just floating. One of them just floats into all of your views at the same time and goes,

Axolotl

Hello.

Gillion

AH!

Grizzly

And then just spins around very slow.

Axolotl

Welcome to the Tidestrider Library Emporium. [Axolotl zips away]

Gillion

[Gasp] Book!

Jay

What?

Gillion

Oh Grandpeepaw this is incredible.

Finn

My book.

Grizzly

He Says.

Gillion

I think there's more than one here. There's a lot of... But where do we even start?

Grizzly

You notice when you look over to Finn inside this interior, not only is he able to swim so much easier than he can walk or stand, but he even looks like a little healthier just being in this dimension. And all of you inside here feel that thick, sticky, bitter cold humidity from the Black Sea that doesn't even make sense. It makes you feel sick just walking around has completely disappeared within whatever kind of pocket dimension this is. It's cool, it's nice, it feels like a very well-airconditioned house, and it's fresh. Like even though you're underwater, which is weird for you guys, the humans who have never breathed water before. Breathing water is like this, it's just a really fucking intensely fresh sensation like when you drink water after brushing your teeth.

Charlie

How does he- Guys? I think our DM's a fish because there's no way.

[Laughter]

Bizly

I'm feeling good, right? I'm feeling real good?

Grizzly

Yeah, you're still a skeleton, though, deep behind your disguise.

Bizly

Well, son of a bitch.

Grizzly

You feel as good as you can for being undead.

Charlie

You just needed a little rinse. You just need a little, put a little water on it.

Jay

This is actually awesome. Yeah, what's in this water?

Grizzly

As you notice that Finn seems more at home here, he starts to just swim him around. You ask, where do we even start? He goes,

Finn

[Intensly] Anywhere.

Gillion

Okay, let's uh- Guys, I think we should leave Grandpeepaw to it for a bit, but... Shit, I guess if there's...

Jay

Should we look around a little?

Gillion

Yeah, I say we give it a peek.

Charlie

I guess I'll just go pick up a random book and flip through it.

Bizly

Is there an undead section?

Condi

Yeah, that's a good question.

Grizzly

You ask one of the tiny axolotls. This one's just wearing a simple bow tie.

Charlie

I love these guys.

Bizly

Yeah, I'll come up. I'll say,

Chip

Hey, is there an undead section? Not that I am. Or like I-

Bowtie Axolotl

Nearly any topic can be researched here. Given enough time. If you can find the right book, they're everywhere. Hehehehe.

Charlie

Guys, I don't think I'm going back to the ship.

Chip

My friend is undead and I want to help out and stuff.

Grizzly

This axolotl explains the mechanics. If you want to find a relevant book, here's what you got to do. Charlie, do you want to read it out? It's on your item.

Charlie

Oh, shit. Yeah, I will. I haven't read it yet. Okay, yeah.

Grizzly

Another axolotl comes up. He's wearing your [Charlie's] glasses in real life. They're just the little blue on the pink.

Charlie Axolotl

Read and research. Nearly any topic can be researched here. Given enough time. Dotdotdot. If you find the right book, did my friend already say that? Shit. To find a relevant book, roll 1-20. On a 1-20, [correction 1-10] you find nothing! Then on an 11-20, you find [cheekily] something. If a topic is particularly unlikely to be in the library, only a natural 20 will produce a book of relevance. Additionally, each person can only attempt a book search once per day. Each day spent reading a book equates to plus one to the research check. You can attempt a research check with a given book on the first day, but it can only attempt the check once before the book returns to a random shelf in the library. This rule was set to disallow dropping books midway as Finn as a respectable cover-to-cover scholar. Bye!

Charlie

Just swims away.

Bizly

All right, I bet. 10.

Charlie Axolotl

Also, you can only explain the rules to someone once, then never again.

Jay

Oh, shit. No, I wasn't paying attention. Sorry. Oh, no.

Grizzly

Okay, so the axolotl just kind of swims away after explaining you rolled a ten. You start looking around, but it's such an expansive library. You don't find a specific undead book.

Condi

I'll help Chip with that, I guess, and try to do it. What was it? Investigation check?

Charlie

It's just a D20. Dude, the little guy already the fucking tadpole already said...

Condi

I rolled a 15.

Grizzly

So, Jay, without Chip, what book about Undead are you looking? What information are you trying to get?

Condi

Considering maybe the history of the Black Rose Pirates, Finn, and also potentially Captain Widow, maybe there is a book about her and her specific skill set that might explain some stuff.

Grizzly

That would have needed a natural 20, so I'm going to say you can find a basic book about the nature of undead creatures.

Condi

That's fine.

Grizzly

Which you can read and then ask topics related to undead creatures. So what we'll do with reading is you'll make an investigation check, but every additional day you spend reading it, you get a plus one to the check. The number that you roll equates to how many questions you can ask about the topic.

Bizly

I love books and reading.

Charlie

What other info do we really want right now? Because I'm uh, I do have to resist just like "How to Crotchet" or something.

Condi

That could be useful skill, maybe.

Charlie

I don't think there's anything specific I'd be looking for I guess if like-

Grizzly

Oh, yeah, you can use this at any time. I'm pretty sure you can do this once today. This door stays open for 24 hours if I remember right, and these axolotls can do almost anything for you if you need it. Like pass a message to him.

Charlie

I just always wondered if he ever came up with any special Grandpeepaw spells. I never really saw him do magic. I don't look for Grandpeepaw spells.

Bizly

I mean yeah, he was a bird. That's pretty-

Charlie

He was a bird.

Bizly

Pretty crazy.

Charlie

Oh, that would be... Wait, wait, wait, wait, I'm changing it. I want to know more about the spell that he cast that turned him into a bird.

Grizzly

Yeah, okay, roll D-20.

Charlie

19.

Grizzly

19. Ooooo a natural 20 would have been so good.

Charlie

Let's go. Let's go. Let's go. I know, I wish.

Grizzly

You find a scroll. Not necessarily a full book, but it is quite a long scroll that is just very tightly densed, packed paragraphs from top to bottom, filling this entire scroll. And it glistens as you move it left and right, almost like reflective paper. And it has a ton of... It's like handwritten too. It's like a ton of scratchy writing. So this looks like the spell you were talking about. This spell is ninth level.

Condi

Oh, my God.

Grizzly

That's in our mechanic terms. And what Gillion sees is this is the scroll of the spell. And it's big, and it is very powerful. You can just tell from your experience with magic that this scroll is super powerful. And what it was called when he wrote it, you can see at the top, there's scratched out names, but the one that he stuck with- stuck with was Finn's Recourse. So you'll have to read this for the day. At the end of the day, you would spend time reading it or something.

Charlie

Okay.

Grizzly

And then investigation will be how you.

Charlie

Sweet. Yeah 'cuz I'd love to know-

Grizzly

Get involved in the more-.

Charlie

Yeah, I'll spend the day reading it, I guess.

Gillion

I like it here. I like it here. It's nice. It doesn't kill me to be here. It doesn't feel like constant darkness and sadness and shadow and pain.

Jay

Yeah, I mean, I want to talk about that because a few things, I guess, really while we're in this nice water, it's warm it's like-

Gillion

Oh, yeah sorry.

Chip

Sorry, that was... Oh.

Bizly

I was going for the same bit.

Jay

Both of you?

Chip

You too, man?

Gillion

Yeah.

Grizzly

An axolotl comes up wearing big round glasses.

Glasses Axolotl

I'll clean that up. Don't worry.

Glasses Axolotl

And then just like... [absorbing noise] It's gone.

Gillion

Wow. There's actually incentive to keep doing it.

Jay

I need to get out of here.

Gillion

Hey, Jay, just let go.

Glasses Axolotl

You can come and go whenever you'd like.

Jay

Don't say that.

Chip

I actually don't think I can do the first one anymore.

Gillion

They'll clean it up if you do. Yeah.

Glasses Axolotl

Would you like to research? Psych!

Jay

Okay anyway,

Gillion

These guys are funny.

Condi

The little axolotl's, I shoo it.

Glasses Axolotl

We are all one collective consciousness.

Gillion

Yeah, that. That makes sense. That makes sense.

Jay

Okay, that makes a lot of sense.

Charlie

Axolotls over there, they're a tricky bunch.

Glasses Axolotl

As you command, friend of Tidestrider!

Grizzly

Then they just swim away.

Gillion

But you didn't want anyone to clean it when you do?

Jay

[Stumbles to speak]

Chip

Just spit it out come on.

Chip

She does the white person thing.

Gillion

Wait, don't spit it out they'll clean it up.

Jay

Well, I'm wondering about the old men on our ship, if we should be really keeping them while we're here.

Chip

Yeah, I was thinking the same thing. Maybe we bring them back to not the Death Ocean.

Gillion

I think that's a good idea. I mean, if this stays open for 24 hours, I've got the magic in me, so I could try and cast a few old Lessie-Ressies on the people that are suffering the most.

Jay

Earl is not looking good from what I saw. It's mostly just Earl really.

Earl

[Maniacle] Fruit... Fruit

Chip

I just think as long as we keep them in here, we're putting them in danger. I love having them around, but it's not like they're necessary to this specific journey that we're on.

Gillion

Are you saying keep them in here or teleport them away?

Bizly

I was thinking teleport them but-

Jay

Well, how long does that door stay there for?

Gillion

Twenty-four hours.

Jay

What happens when-

Gillion

The axolotl told me.

Jay

What does it- What happens when it closes?

Gillion

I don't know.

Jay

Does this place just like… [Squish sound] You know?

Chip

Maybe we let it disappear and then figure out what happens and then leave them in here because I don't want to leave them in here and get stuck.

Gillion

Why don't we just ask everyone on the crew? They all know what they signed up for. We could just go around. How about this? Why don't I cure them of corruption first and then we ask?

Chip

Well, here's the thing, Gillion, is we're the captains, and they're our crew. They signed on to follow us, and they'll follow us wherever we lead them. And I think we should lead them home, at least to a place that's a little safer than this.

Gillion

I won't tell them to die for the cause, but I also won't tell them to not die for the cause. It's really up to them if they want to be here, if they want to fight alongside of us. What captains would we be if we turn that down?

Jay

I don't want specifically to keep Old Man Earl, maybe Drey, especially Finn, in this... in this sea longer than needed. Everybody else we can use the help of, but...

Chip

It goes beyond just what's best for them. I hate to say it, but they're a risk in here.

Gillion

Yeesh.

Chip

Look, I'm just trying to be realistic here.

Gillion

Maybe that's a conversation we have then about what happens if someone goes down. But we added all of these people to this crew because they're all either powerful, competent, smart, just from all walks. I don't feel the best about just like ordering them to go home if they want to see this through with us.

Jay

I don't want to order anybody to go home. I'm more- I'm just worried about the people who can't do anything but stay on the ship, who are just sitting here and waiting and slowly becomeing more and more corrupted without a thing they can do about it. That doesn't feel right. It doesn't sit well with me. If they want to stay on the ship, that's their choice. But I don't want them to feel like they have to be here.

Gillion

The corruption I can deal with, especially while we travel, I can help cure people of it. And so that way it's really just... The decision is just if they want to stay here, not if they will just want to be consumed by the dark thoughts.

Jay

Well, maybe we should talk to everybody.

Gillion

I like the world where all of us get out of this.

Jay

Yeah, same. I'd prefer.

Condi

I'd glance at Chip and then look away real quick.

Gillion

We'll find the right book, buddy. Don't worry.

Chip

Hey. J- One thing at a time.

Jay

I also wanted to talk about our next destination, I guess.

Chip

We would go to the hole, right? But we can't find it now.

Jay

We don't have the map, no.

Chip

If we traveled to the different landmarks, do you think you could draw up enough of a map?

Jay

Triangulation? Yeah, easy. It's baby shit. You know who you're talking to?

Chip

All right, motherfucker. Say it with your chest. Shit.

Jay

I am.

Charlie

If someone had a recollection or a...

Jay

Well, the map isn't on their bodies anymore, right?

Gillion

But if anyone remembers how their last journey into this sea went, maybe we can retrace those steps.

Condi

Can I actually do a check to see how I might recall this map?

Grizzly

History for memory, like we usually do?

Charlie

I'm going to give her guidance. I'm going to give her guidance.

Condi

I'm also going to do Flash or genius, too.

Charlie

Let's go.

Condi

We're going big. 22 plus another 4, 26 plus d4. Okay, I got it. That's 30.

Grizzly

Dude yeah, you remember the landmarks and stuff?

Jay

It would be easier if we go to all three islands, but I could maybe get away with just doing two.

Grizzly

It was Onawa country which you've been to. It was the Stronghold, and then it created a triangle in the top. The last point was the Crescent Chain, which is a, if you remember reading, what you do from history, it was where the final altercation of the Pirate Lords happened a decade ago before Rose tried to retire. It's supposedly supposed to be in the middle between those points somewhere.

Jay

But as far as where we go next, I'd really like it if we went to the Navy Stronghold.

Chip

What for?

Gillion

Then let's do it. Oh, I mean.

Chip

I mean yeah sure. But I just...

Gillion

Well, you look pretty bad now, huh?

Chip

Well, yeah, because you made me look like a dick.

Gillion

Yeah, I mean, anything for you, Jay? Yeah, you don't need to tell me. I trust you.

Jay

Chip, for your sake, since you didn't like-

Chip

Well, no, don't make it about me like that.

Jay

Just for you because you're curious and-

Chip

What the hell, guys? No, because I'm taking an interest in your interests. You know? Like Gillion basically said, "I don't care." He doesn't want to know. I think I look better.

Jay

Out of generosity and love for my friend, I am going to tell you the reason because you asked me and I appreciate that, but I also appreciate your sincerity in just wanting to go with it, Gillion. That really means a lot to me as well. Thank you both.

Chip

Now we're all just jerking each other off. Can you just say why you want to go there?

Axolotl

I want to know too!

Chip

You stay out of this!

Grizzly

[Crosstalk] An axolotl swims around.

Jay

This is the only chance I'm going to get to go to a Navy stronghold that is completely abandoned and we will have no live resistance, at least.

Chip

And you know that for sure?

Jay

You think there's going to be active Navy members still in the sea after everything we've seen?

Chip

There were active pirates here.

Jay

Yeah, but from what I know, the Navy pulled out ages ago. And if they still have some connection or any files that have been updated still or anything, maybe I can find out something about Ava. Maybe I can find out who gave that order.

Chip

Hey, okay, let's go and check all that out. I'm sure we can learn something. All I ask is that when we get there, just before we walk in, you go, "Yeah, there's definitely going to be nobody here, no opposition here." So that it's really funny when there is.

Jay

Yeah.

Condi

I write that down.

Charlie

I write down, "Hello?", "He's right behind me, isn't he?", and "Phew that was easy."

Bizly

I write down, "Hey, guys, watch this."

Charlie

I give the axolotl a full copy of my Just Roll With It: Riptide notes.

Grizzly

You also hear right behind you.

Finn Axolotl

Young Tidestrider.

Gillion

[Gasps in shock]

Grizzly

You see, yeah, you like whip around. You see an axolotl that has Finn's beard and stuff.

Finn Axolotl

I have connected my consciousness to these axolotls once more.

Gillion

Okay, so are you-

Finn Axolotl

It's going to make it easier for me to communicate.

Gillion

I have so many grandpas now!

Grizzly

You see another one that has one of its eyes closed and it looks like Drey a little bit.

Drey Axolotl

He did it to me, too, for some reason. I don't...

Gillion

Wait, no way. Please do us.

Chip

I'm down.

Finn Axolotl

Please come to the second level and I will connect you to the axolotls.

Bizly

[Crosstalk] Oh. Yes. We go, instantly.

Gillion

Okay, grandpaxolotl!

Charlie

We go to the second level to get jacked into a hivemind.

Grizzly

Okay, you will see that they are just like, Finn and Drey. Drey is like lounging on a chair that's just floating by itself, but not like... It's weird because it's floating and spinning, but it's not moving with any current or anything here and the under the water. You go up to Finn, who is just like pulling books and then looking at them, tossing them somewhere. You come up to him, and as soon as you do, he looks at you and puts his thumb on your forehead, and then immediately, little [poof] axolotl pops up and it looks just like Gillion.

Gillion Axolotl

Wait, guys, what's going on? For one second, I was going up to see my grandpa, and now all of a sudden, everything's different.

Charlie

Turn it into a cosmic horror.

Jay

This is turning into horror, and I, don't want to-

Gillion Axolotl

Wait, so we're going to the stronghold next?

Gillion

Oh, not you, little guy. You get to stay in here forever.

Gillion Axolotl

What?

Grizzly

He does just the Chip and Jay immediately right after, and then the axolotls come up. So whenever- if you are far apart here in the library because it is quite big, if you're far apart and you think using this axolotl, it will run around and do what you think or say.

Charlie

Oh, that's awesome. This is so cool.

Grizzly

Only inside here.

Condi

This is some severance bullshit.

Bizly

Me and the axolotl in the corner are doing a duet of heart and soul.

Charlie

Guys, can we please do a one shot where we play as our axolotl fucking selves trapped in this library?

Grizzly

What happens when the library door closes?

Charlie

Yeah, right.

Axolotl

Nice to see you join the collective consciousness.

Gillion

Let me out of here!

Chip Axolotl

I'm everything and nothing all at once.

Jay Axolotl

This isn't real. This isn't real.

[Chip and Chip Axolotl Start to sing the tune of Heart and Soul]

Gillion

I can't tell who's me which thoughts are mine!

[The Chips continue to sing]

Gillion Axolotl

I'm getting a load of this guy.

Grizzly

Yeah, so until you're better at this brain exercise of controlling your thoughts, all of your thoughts are just pouring out of your axolotls right now. This is Finn's sadistic way of sharpening his mind.

Gillion Axolotl

Swim, swim, swim.

Jay Axolotl

This is fucked up. This is so fucked.

Gillion Axolotl

Evil light. Who am I?

Condi

I'm going to hop out of the library, I think.

Charlie

Yeah, I'll also leave.

Bizly

Does dying make your dick shrink? Google.

Charlie

Little axolotl named google comes up.

Google

Hey!

Grizzly

You're a skeleton, you have no dick anymore.

Charlie

What?

Condi

Your dick fell off?

Bizly

Dude. My dick fell off?

Gillion

[as a bit] Oh, gross. Another worm.

Charlie

I step on it.

Bizly

NOOO!

Grizzly

When you committed to being a fucking skeleton, you lost everything.

Chip

Greater restoration-

Grizzly

[Crosstalk] Your balls.

Chip

-right now.

Gillion

That's a high-level spell Chip...

Jay

That's really high yeah...

Chip

[Dejected] No, it's lesser restoration at best, and I know that.

Charlie

I would like to go around the ship to whoever seems the most corrupt. Lesser Restoration is one corruption point, right?

Grizzly

Yes, I believe so.

Condi

I'll talk to Chip for one moment, and I have another thing on the dossier.

Bizly

Sure. Yeah, I'd love to just get my stuff identified, and that's really all I want.

Condi

I can only identify, cast identify one time a day. Can I identify shit just by taking time to do it?

Grizzly

I will allow it to be used as a ritual just so you don't have to call Enza and waste your teleport every time you want to identify. Basically, what you do doing Identify as ritual is only, I don't know if it's not something you should be able to do, but I'm just going to allow it. It just means one item per hour.

Condi

The Eye of Ferin has Identify as well is what I'm saying. Not that we have to teleport.

Bizly

Okay, I'll talk with Jay. I want to identify the item I've got.

Jay

Hey, Chip.

Condi

I stop you as you come out of the library.

Bizly

I do the white people thing.

Condi

I do it back.

Charlie

We're just going to keep doing that all episode.

Jay

If you could maybe go talk to Queen. I mean, you guys seem closest, but she was a little upset after our encounter with that Bard.

Chip

Yeah, no, I could talk. What should I say?

Jay

I don't know. I mean.

Chip

Could we like tag team it?

Jay

You want to tag teammate? I don't know. I need to make a call to Enza.

Chip

Well what the hell, man? You just put this on me, and you're going to walk away?

Jay

Well, no, sure, we can tag teammate, I guess. I don't really know what to say either, though. I'm not.

Chip

Really- what did you say? I'm dead, dude. I'm dead.

Jay

Okay.

Chip

I go up and I say, You know how to play the Xylophone? And I lift up my bones. That's all I can do.

Jay

I'm just a girl. So like what do you want from me, man?

Chip

[Bewildered] What?

Grizzly

Can't teleport Anza today if that was the plan.

Condi

I wasn't going to teleport Enza, no. I just wanted to get her to send a piece of mail in Dolphin mail because we can't do that in the Black Sea. I would send it myself, but we can't.

Bizly

Do have a letter for my wife. Need to get that sent in Dolphin mail.

Charlie

We'll make a little mailbox at the bottom of the ship that we can put in mail to send to Enza.

Chip

Come with me. I'm not doing this alone.

Jay

Okay, okay, okay.

Grizzly

Okay. You follow behind Gill as he walks into the kitchen area like that, where the Captain Quarter normally is on a ship. This is where your crew sleeps in the kitchen and stuff. As soon as you walk in Gill first, because you're looking to Lesser Restoration, the most corrupted, which is Earl at the moment, he turns around in this darkness and you just see the white eyes glowing through it, piercing the darkness, and you hear.

Earl

Got any grapes? [Evil laughing]

Jay

He's fucked. He's fucked.

Gillion

He's too far gone.

Chip

Gillion, you're doing that. We're doing a different thing. You're doing that.

Earl

Hey there, little man.

Gillion

Hey.

Earl

Got any oranges? How about I take some coral from your head again and make a potion? I'll make a potion.

Earl

That's a good idea.

[Earl begins to go at Gillion for his Coral as Gill begins to scream]

Chip

He's got that.

Condi

You hear steps running up the stairs and the door slam.

Charlie

Yeah, he fucking jumps on me. I go flying out the door I'm like wrestling with him.

Grizzly

He's grabbing onto the [muddled crosstalk].

Charlie

Yeah, I'm like bucking him around,

Earl

[Crosstalk] Alright I'm going to make this real.

Gillion

I'm trying to help you!

Condi

Chip and Jay are gone.

Bizly

Oh, we're gone. Oh, we're so gone.

Condi

We're gone.

Charlie

I'm going to use... Let's see. I've got three second-level slots. I'll use them all on Earl, honestly, if he's really bad.

Grizzly

Yes. So that's three-

Charlie

Three-

Grizzly

Points of corruption?

Charlie

Yeah, three points of corruption back.

Grizzly

Okay. You feel like the grip as you like [Blasting magic] send your spells off into his body, that divine light just courses through his veins for a second. Then he just falls on his back and starts breathing.

Earl

[Labored deep Breaths] Where are we? Well, sorry about that. Hey, what was going on? Wow!

Gillion

When you see me, do you think fish or do you think juice?

Earl

I think fucking idiot. If I'm being real.

Gillion

There he is.

Earl

Shit. All right. Yo. What uh- Hey, new guy. When'd he get here?

Igneous

Oh, you know just- I've been rowin' the boat... Where are we going?

Charlie

Yeah.

Gillion

Don't worry about it. A stronghold somewhere. Hey, Earl, let me know if it ever gets out of hand again, or if you feel particularly dark or if you want to start juicing the crew mates, okay? Just find me.

Earl

Will do. Yeah, maybe I get back on that circuit. You know? I'll start hitting P-90X.

Gillion

Yeah, I think we have one downstairs. You spent a lot of money on it and we never have really used it.

Earl

I got to build up the respiratory system, get my muscles back over.

Grizzly

Flexes, skin stretches. Like [Muscles buldging]

Gillion

I uh- Yeah. I sort of sent off a lot of our money to a Shake Weight startup. I have some downstairs if you want to do them with me. Do you guys wanna shake weights?

Earl

Fuck yeah.

Gillion

Yeah, fuck yeah.

Earl

Yeah.

Gillion

Fuck yeah, dude.

Earl

Fuck yeah, dude.

Gillion

Just two fucking guys doing shake weights. Fuck yeah, dude.

Earl

[Crosstalk] Fuck yes.

Gillion

Let's fucking do it. Fuck yeah, dude.

Earl

I'm going to show you how to shake that weight. I'm a master at it.

Gillion

Not if I show you first. Not if I show you. Shake that weight.

Earl

Not if I show you second

Gillion

Not if I shake it harder.

Earl

Second is the...

Gillion

Second is the back en-

Earl

Not if I shake it faster.

Gillion

No, not if I shake it longer, big long strokes.

Grizzly

So you guys go down to the bottom deck.

Charlie

Exiting their scene, that's all.

Grizzly

Whenever you look for Queen, you're going to try that at Crews Quarters area and then this stuff happens, you realize Queen's not in there.

Bizly

Before we go and find Queen, Jay and Chip go to craft a little thing.

Condi

Can I melt down 500 gold pieces into easily malleable metal? And then-

Bizly

I don't want to say what it is yet. I'll just DM you.

Grizzly

Oh, uhm. What tool sets do you guys have?

Condi

Actually, I have a thing. Give me an hour and I can make any tool set.

Grizzly

Okay, Jay you'll have to produce an armorer's or blacksmith's set for this.

Condi

I spend an hour getting hammers. I somehow set up an anvil and a giant furnace.

Grizzly

You can just use your kitchen furnace.

Condi

Then we cut me up, wiping the sweat off my brow. I'm like, Oh.

Jay

[Exasperated Sigh]

Bizly

It's a fucking blacksmith montage. Yeah, that's what.

Charlie

I'm picturing too. I'm picturing you know when you finish an outpost in Far Cry?

Bizly

Yes, dude.

Charlie

It just changes the camera and all of a sudden she's got the fucking hammer and an anvil.

Condi

Chip walks up to me.

Jay

[British NPC voice] What can I do you for?

Bizly

We sit there and hover for a second while I go through the menu.

Jay

What do you need craftin'?

Grizzly

In the time that it takes for Gillion and Earl to do their shake weight P-90X workout.

Condi

They shake weight for an hour?

Grizzly

Probably more, honestly. They're both really competitive, I assume.

Condi

They're going to have crazy fucking forearms, bro.

Charlie

Gillion is a till-failure,

Grizzly

Old Man Earl sweats out like-

Charlie

Two corruption points?

Grizzly

No, he sweats out 10 years of his life. He's fucking on the ground afterwards. He's so- he's sleep.

Bizly

If he is not Iroh jacked, I don't want him on the ship anymore.

Grizzly

That's going to take a minute.

Charlie

We only have two, so we're both doing one arm.

Grizzly

He is Iroh jacked, but it's underneath the loose skin. He's got to do some X. He's got to get bigger to fill it out. You know?

Condi

Yeah, his legs are good, though.

Charlie

Dude. We got to shake more weights.

Bizly

Let's just pull the skin back and put a chip clip.

Charlie

That's so gross, dude. There's that fucking Family Guy bit.

Grizzly

Okay, so you guys finish up. It's late afternoon, still sailing in the direction you gave it to both Gryffon and... It's a loose direction. Actually, just go ahead and roll Survival.

Condi

Twenty-two.

Grizzly

Based on memory and using the Spyglass, you, Gryffonhan, and Igneousns are paddling as fast as they can pretty slow towards the stronghold.

Condi

Also, as soon as I finish up, the entire furnace and everything else crumbles into dust.

Bizly

What the fuck?

Grizzly

Artificer.

Condi

Yeah, they vanish.

Grizzly

Into ashes and sweep it off the deck.

Charlie

I break it. Yeah, I break it.

Condi

Gillion walks back to the wall.

Grizzly

Then the three of you, the captains, will find Queen sitting on the very back of the ship. There's a little balcony that you can get to either from the deck of where the helm is or through the crew's quarters. It's just a small, very thin balcony at the back of the ship. They're just sitting on the rails out looking out as the ship slowly pushes forward and their obow is just leaned against the railing.

Gillion

Oh, shit. Am I last minute getting it on a group gift? That's super awkward.

Chip

It'll be fine. You'll see it and just pretend it was all of us. You're leading this in. Am I leading this in? Who's leading this in?

Jay

I feel like you should lead this in because you're closer with her.

Chip

You feel like I need to be doing a lot today, don't you?

Jay

I'm sorry.

Gillion

It's cool, guys. I got this.

Chip

Oh, no.

Jay

No, that might be a bad... Do you even know what to talk to her about...

Chip

And he's gone.

Gillion

Hey, Queenie pie.

Chip

Oh my God.

Gillion

How's it kicking up here? How's the lack of wind treatin- how's this dark out? I guess this is always dark out.

Jay

Completely stale air.

Chip

How are you doing, Queen?

Queen

Captains. Oh um... Am I needed?

Jay

No uhm...

Chip

Just checking up?

Queen

Just sort of hitting a rest here until getting back to the normal.

Chip

Yeah, because it looks like you're staring longingly out beyond the ship.

Queen

Was I?

Chip

Yeah.

Queen

I didn't notice.

Chip

It's all right. We all stare longingly now and again.

Grizzly

It's sort of like an atmospheric… Again, there's no wind in the Black Sea, but there is a push of just their hair, the gently leaf. [Woosh]

Queen

May I confide in you, Captains?

Jay

Of course.

Chip

Anytime.

Gillion

Yeah.

Bizly

I'll rest against the ship, trying to like have as casual of body language and open-

Charlie

I'll rest on Chip while he's resting on the ship. We're in a row.

Bizly

It's super chill, though.

Condi

Yeah, I lean up against the rail and just look out as she talks.

Charlie

I'm trying to figure out how to position, but I can't quite. I put two arms on it and then I put my elbow on it, but it's a little too tall, so it's up here and then I sit on it, but then I almost fall off. Then I just go back to standing completely upright.

Bizly

I go to stand in front of Gillion, just trying to block this awkward. Trying to seem super chill and this is totally normal.

Charlie

At a certain point, I just a full on give up and just man emoji.

Bizly

I can picture that so vividly.

Grizzly

They look out ahead.

Queen

Have you ever been scared of who you are?

Bizly

I look to Gillion, actually.

Charlie

Gillion makes the white guy face.

Condi

Jay also makes the white guy face.

Charlie

Yeah, that's okay. What are you scared of?

Queen

Of who I was? Terrified. It never bothered me before. And then I met someone who knew me and they were evil and I knew their melody. It wasn't a bad one at all. I'm wishing I hated it. Because we all hated them. For who they were and what they've done. What if I was evil? Before we met, what if it all comes back one day and I... What would you do?

Gillion

If it's okay, I guess I'd answer that with a question for you. If it did come back, and I don't know, maybe it might, does that get rid of who you are now? Because from the moment I met you in that weird alley when I saw you on that stage. You've been more than a good person and a good artist. You've been an amazing friend. Even if you were something else before, I don't think that changes the memories you've made now. Who you are now. You don't get to choose who you were. You get to choose who you're going to be.

Queen

But what if I'm not even cursed? What if I wasn't an artist or a musician or a friend at all? I'm just no good. One day I'll realize that this was all an act. And what if it's so impactful that it overrides all of the new? Like sailing a boat? Some say once you learn, you never forget.

Gillion

Well, then I guess.

Queen

How do you unlearn who you were if you suddenly remember? How do you choose to be?

Gillion

It's okay. Are you scared of who you were? Or are you scared that you'll remember?

Queen

Both.

Gillion

I don't know what all of that's like, and some of it... I'm sorry you have to go through any of it. I know it's not an act right now. I think you do, too. It's just hard to tell sometimes when you start asking so many questions. It's easy to get trapped up and there.

Charlie

Point at their head.

Gillion

Instead of seeing what we all see, which I think is you. And if it does come back, we'll get through it. You'll get through it. This Queen we know now is strong, really strong. And I don't think- Well I don't think whatever happened before is going to override that. And we won't think any less of you for it.

Jay

Yeah. Hey, we made you something a little bit ago.

Condi

And I beckon to Chip to pull it out.

Gillion

I didn't help. But I wish. I wish I had but...

Jay

I think you helped more than enough with what you said.

Bizly

I pull out a small crown and I hand it over and I say,

Chip

I can't speak to who you were before, but to me? And now? Like Gillion said, you're a friend, a healer, a Queen. A Queen deserves a crown.

Jay

And if you find yourself doubting who you might be. I mean, I hope you can look at this crown and think of the you that we all see.

Grizzly

They take off their tall top hat and sort of reveal like what you hadn't seen before. These rabbit ears that are tall and kind of sprout from the top of their white long hair. They just sort of put the crown on their head, sits nicely between them, doesn't move around too much.

Queen

I feel crazy. Thank you, captains.

Chip

Of course.

Grizzly

Then they look out and toss their top hat [Top hat flying out] onto the sea.

Queen

I will do my best to be as brave as the example you said. La.

Gillion

We won't stop you because we're having a good time. Having a good time.

Queen

Having a ball.

Grizzly

Yeah, all of you get back onto the main deck.

Condi

We probably chat a little bit and then go our separate ways to do our things.

Bizly

I'll help, bro. I'll check back in on Igneous, who's been rowing forever.

Chip

What's up, man? Working hard?

Igneous

[Panting]

Chip

I've never seen a rock sweat before.

Igneous

No wonder. It's condensation, okay?

Chip

Yeah, totally.

Grizzly

He stops for a second.

Igneous

Life on the sea. It's a lot more- It's a lot tougher than I expected.

Chip

Yeah, I guess you just got to get used to it. The whole being a pirate thing and being legendary and stuff. You'll get there one day, buddy.

Igneous

I thought I was pretty fit. You know I lo-

Gillion

Hey, why is the ship veering left?

Grizzly

Okay, Gryffon actually yells out.

Gryffon

Come on, keep it up.

Chip

All right.

Gillion

Now I need to find the navigator to re-adjust our course.

Grizzly

It's so funny because Igneous is fucking jacked and he looks really fit, but this is like winding him.

Bizly

I go to Igneous, I go,

Chip

No, no, no. Let the real pirates handle this.

Bizly

I go to pull the row and I'm just having a really fucking hard time. I'm like.

Chip

[Extreemely labored] It's super easy for a legendary pirate.

Grizzly

One of the bones just frickin snaps in your forearm. Yeah,

Chip

AH! ... That was a pirate scream. We like to do those around here. We like to do those around here. It just really keeps morale up.

Igneous

Real good example, cap.

Gillion

Oh, hey, Igneous, are you free?

Igneous

I am now my schedule just free'd up. Captain's are so generous.

Gillion

Okay, great. Actually, yeah, I was just hoping we could hang out for a bit.

Chip

What?

Igneous

I haven't got to get to know you very well.

Gillion

I'd love to get to know you. Yeah! Everyone on the crew, it's always fun. Oh! Keep at it Chip.

Chip

I kinda want to hang out. [Snaps another bone and whimpers in pain]

Grizzly

[Laughter] The fucking whimper.

Charlie

I look at Chip.

Bizly

He did the white people mouth.

Grizzly

I know he did.

Charlie

Yeah, I did. I did. I did.

Bizly

I continue whimpering, that is all.

Charlie

Yeah, well. Can we hear that?

Bizly

[Pained Whimper]

Condi

It continues throughout the night.

Bizly

You hear that like over and over.

Grizzly

Getting to around early evening now. What's next?

Condi

I just want to call Enza and be like,

Jay

Hey, Enza, I need a favor. Can you write a letter to a friend of mine?

Enza

Oh now you're asking more stuff of me, huh? You dump all these people into my fucking house, and then now you want what is it?

Jay

You gave us a teleorter. Of course, we're going to use it. It is what it is, right?

Enza

I didn't expect you to save upwards the 20-50 people every fucking day, okay?

Jay

Neither did we. Neither did we, okay?

Enza

These people need homes now. I can't afford that.

Jay

Well. I mean surely the-

Enza

I don't have enough rooms. I'm putting some of them to work already.

Jay

That's good. I mean, they probably need work.

Enza

What they need is 16 clerics, 'cuz some of them are vomiting up black ooze.

Jay

Enza don't be sassy with me right now.

Enza

I'm fucking with you okay?

Charlie

"Don't be sassy" is crazy.

Enza

What is it?

Jay

I just need you to send a letter to a friend in the Horsea for me.

Grizzly

Then one to the prison at All-Port.

Jay

Yeah, and also Chip has a letter that he wants to send.

Charlie

I will spend the rest of the day reading books, and I will read the scroll, and I will also take a cheeky peek at my grandpa's Dark Puckered Hole.

Bizly

Dude, you just can't say it that way, though.

Condi

You can't refer to it like that.

Charlie

Just out of curiosity. I started to get bored with the scroll probably after knowing Gillion about maybe seven minutes. Then I just like, look, over at the book. I'm just like [Sounds of mulling over the thought] maybe I just crack it open.

Bizly

You can't be looking at your grandfather that way, bro.

Charlie

What's wrong?

Bizly

You said, "I'm going to take a look at my grandfather's Dark Puckered Hole", bro.

Charlie

Dude, that's gross. Why would you say that? Dude. What the fuck?

Condi

Dude, that's fucked. You cannot say that. About his grandfather, man?

Charlie

About my grandpa? Why are you looking at my grandpa's ass?

Condi

Just weird that you'd do that.

Bizly

Just interested, bro I don't know.

Charlie

I'll tell you what, you died and you changed.

Grizzly

You changed. So you basically have to focus on one or the other. You're either going to get your roll for the scroll or for Dark Puckered Hole. And then same for Jay. Jay, for the rest of the day, you can either start identifying all the items that you guys have gotten or you can work on your pistol.

Charlie

Okay, natural one is Dark Puckered Hole- no. 1-10 is Hole, 11-20 is scroll. That's a natural 20. What the fuck? All right, that's the scroll, I guess.

Condi

I feel like my priority is totally the pistol. Is it bad that recently I had a change of heart and suddenly now I want Jay to have a full-on rifle. But I don't think that should happen.

Charlie

Well, maybe he'll poke it in the right place. It will expand.

Condi

It will expand into a rifle.

Grizzly

Fucking just make up your mind before you make it canon that's all.

Condi

Yeah, pistol.

Charlie

Wait, you're going to make it a cannon, too? Dude, Jesus it does everything.

Condi

Yeah, dude. It's also a cannon.

Grizzly

You have multiple days of travel, right? You're fucking paddling, so it's going to be a minute. So tomorrow you can do the magic items. Okay, so the rest of the day, gun for Jay. Chip, what would you like to do? You can find out what something does by attuning to it.

Bizly

I just wanted to know what my item did.

Grizzly

Yeah, so if you want to find out, you can attune to it.

Bizly

I am attuned. Whoa. It got an icon when I did it.

Charlie

Woah.

Grizzly

You put the ring on, you sit wherever you want to sit, and immediately, as soon as you put it on, you start getting these flashes of memory where you are… The first one that comes to mind is when you were protected by Arlin during the battle in the hole in the sea, and the tentacles pop up and they're slashing and grabbing the ship and breaking it in half. And he just barely throws you back onto the ship and Drey ties you to the center mast. That memory fades and you attune and you can add Ring of the Ocean Beast to your inventory.

Charlie

Ring of what-the-scallop?

Grizzly

Bro said, what-the-scallop?

Charlie

Holy clam!

Bizly

This ring has been passed down through the generations. It grants the wearer the "Protection of the Sea, Ocean Beast". While attuned to this ring, you get a plus two bonus to AC. Ocean Beast?! Dude, this is like the Moon Beast's son it's got to be.

Charlie

I was going to say, you know what the Moon Control's, dude?

Bizly

Turn the tides. You can expend a charge to cast the shield spell on a reaction.

Condi

Oh, fuck yeah. Fuck, it's got a lot of charges too.

Bizly

Yeah, six charges.

Condi

Wait, but does it regenerate charges?

Bizly

That's a DM question.

Grizzly

The ring recovers 1 d6 charges at dawn.

Bizly

Wait, does that mean my AC is supposed to be 19?

Condi

19, plus you get six casts of Shield of Day, which is plus 5.

Bizly

Dude, that's crazy.

Charlie

Dude, we're indistractable, dude. It feels good. It feels good.

Bizly

Well, it feels good, but I'm still dead. What am I protecting right now? Do you feel me? I don't.

Charlie

Know, dude. The last fucking inches that are left.

Bizly

They're all gone. Oh, no, you gave me four, bro. I'm actually moving up in the world, matter of fact.

Charlie

No, you should keep track of that in your notes. We'll keep track of the inches.

Bizly

All right. Notes. Backstory. Four inches.

Charlie

I'll read-a the scroll. I'll read-a the scroll.

Grizzly

All right. You spend some time going through it. It's very scratchy, very complicated. You're not a wizard or anything. Teaching Gillion Magic was a struggle, but you got by because you innately just picked it up. You know what I mean?

Charlie

Yeah, he's not very good at learning stuff.

Grizzly

This will take a bit. So that's what you do. Now, Jay, you start working on your weapon. Basically, what you're doing is you're attuning yourself to it as the Artificer. We're flavoring that as also you are figuring out what the fuck you want to do with it, and you can add it to your inventory when you're done.

Condi

I think for tonight though, basically what I'd be doing is I'd be taking that pistol and adding the auto-loading property that I have on all of my pistols because I never want to deal with the loading property.

Charlie

That's so fair.

Condi

And I guess attuning to it if that's what is needed.

Grizzly

So you can add, it's called Phoenix, to your inventory.

[Oo's and Aah's]

Charlie

Damn.

Grizzly

And if you want, you can read out what is this.

Condi

Yeah, I absolutely will. Or maybe I won't.

Charlie

Okay. Fuck you.

Condi

But I will.

Charlie

Okay!

Condi

You have plus one bonus to attack and damage roll is made with this magic weapon, artificial radiance. When you do damage with this weapon, you deal an additional 1d8 of radiant damage. Once per long rest, while wielding this weapon, you can shoot a target that has dropped to zero HP- Oh, I get healing points. I get healing bullets. This is my dream come true.

Charlie

Yay.

Condi

And heal them for the amount of damage dealt.

Charlie

Oh, I get it. It's Phoenix.

Condi

Only on people that are dead, though. Yeah, because they come, they rise from the ashes. That's cool. I like that.

Charlie

Maybe you could shoot, Chip and uh...

Jay

Hey, Chip, can I try something?

Bizly

Didn't you used to have a healing gun in PD?

Bizly

Yeah, I did. I did. I did. I did. The healing shot.

Charlie

But it wasn't 100 % chance that it was going to be a healing shot. I feel like I remember.

Condi

Yeah, I'd just be like, This might work. I might shoot them, and then usually, it did.

Grizzly

Last reminder for the end of the night before you guys start to long rest.

Charlie

I have one last thing I want to do before I go to sleep. I'm going to use the rest of my spell slots, which is three-third level, three-fourth level, and two-fifth level all on lesser restorations for corruptions for our crew. So that's eight casts I can do.

Grizzly

How would you like to divvy it up?

Condi

So you used three on...

Charlie

On Earl, yeah.

Condi

And he had over four, so I don't know where he's at now. I think he's under four now.

Grizzly

I mean, I see you rolled that natural 20 earlier, but I just wanted to tell you where everyone was at. Earl is back at three now. Igneous is at four, Queen is at three, Gryffon is at three.

Charlie

Okay, and Drey and Grandpeepaw, do they have any?

Grizzly

Grandpeepaw had one.

Condi

He's aging, yeah, and Drey is at three.

Charlie

Okay, two on Igneous, one on Earl, one on Queen, one on Gryffon. -two, three, four, five. One on Drey. They're all down to two. Then you know what? One more on Queen because they deserve it tonight.

Condi

That's real.

Charlie

Queen is down to one. Igneous should be at two. Earl is at two, Queen is at one, Gryffon's at two, Drey is at two, and grandpa's at one.

Grizzly

Chip. You got that envelope and you have that sort of smaller looking callnch shell.

Bizly

Okay. I mean, I look in the envelope. What's up with that?

Grizzly

In the envelope, you see a few small items. It looks like a vial with a small, like a very tiny rolled up piece of parchment inside the bottle. Then there's almost like a newspaper that has been torn, like just a section that's been torn. Then there is a printed out picture from one of the shells that take pictures.

Bizly

All right, so the photo, let's do that first.

Grizzly

You look at the photo.

Bizly

Yes, I do.

Grizzly

On the back, it's very faded, but it's a scribbled in heart, and it just says love. You turn around and you see a woman that has cherry red hair, and she's beautiful, and she's pregnant, and she's in a dark gown holding her stomach, and she looks at the shell. This is like smiling, like smiles and waves.

Bizly

She's looking at the shell. Sorry, the callnch shell?

Grizzly

Like she's looking at the camera.

Bizly

Oh, okay. I thought you were saying she had the callnch shell.

Charlie

Thougt you were saying she had moving eyes that were... Yeah.

Grizzly

No, static image. She's like posing for a photo, this photo. Next to her, the background is super fuzzy. It's a very old shell, so it's like old magic. It doesn't help that this has been faded over time. The background is super fuzzy. It was all blurred. But just next to her, the size of a very young teen, maybe 13 or less, you see a kid with long, black hair and a braid and a face that reminds you of Price.

Charlie

Wait, sorry. I'll do a different face.

Bizly

Don't do the white people face. What the fuck? What the scallop? What the?

Charlie

I will actually curse you to cause you to drop "What the scallop" out of your vocabulary because that is a crazy reaction.

Bizly

Let me take that back and do a new reaction. Holy mackerel.

Grizzly

I actually love what the scallop. I don't like that one.

Charlie

I kind of miss what the scallop.

Grizzly

I like what the scallop.

Charlie

I'm going to uncurse you.

Bizly

All right, then you say it.

Charlie

Mother of carp.

Bizly

So are you saying that-

Grizzly

I didn't say anything.

Bizly

-this is totally no, but, motherfucker you are, though. You is, though. This woman. And you- and you look at me, okay? This woman, is this the wife of Captain Rose?

Grizzly

Context is probably who his fiancé was, yeah. Why else would he put it here? And she's pregnant, lines up with the fact that he said he was going to be a dad.

Bizly

Dude, when you were explaining this photo the whole time, I'm thinking, Oh, God, I'm so fucking stupid. He's going to tell me something and I'm going to be supposed to figure it out, and I'm not going to? Then you said that, and now I'm like, like I'm vibrating at this moment.

Grizzly

Yeah, chip, you see this and you recognize his face and your eyes are wide open.

Bizly

No, that is not what happens. I see the photo and I go,

Chip

Whoa! Hey! Whoa! Nope! Nope! Woah!

Grizzly

Everyone on the ship rush over to wherever the fuck Chip is.

Bizly

I do a fucking alarm sound. It's the middle of the night. Everyone's sleeping.

Chip

Whee woo, whee woo!

Grizzly

Gryffon, like tackles you. Puts his mouth-

Gryffon

Hey. There are creatures in the water.

Chip

Hey! [Chip screaming through Gryffon's hand]

Gryffon

All right, calm the fuck down.

Chip

Okay.

Gryffon

Politely. Captain. Respect.

Chip

Okay. Okay. Okay.

Gryffon

Shut the fuck up.

Chip

Take your hand off my mouth.

Gryffon

All right.

Chip

Okay, I'm good. I'm good. ... Whoa!

Grizzly

Except for Drey and Finn have stayed inside the library, but everybody's around.

Gillion

Chip, Chip, you're going to wake up Grandpeepaw. What could… Woah!

[Chip screams with Gill and Gryffon covers both of their mouths]

Bizly

I hold up the photo. I'm just holding it up. I hold it to Jay. I hold it to Jay.

Jay

Who are these people? I've never seen this person before in my life.

Chip

What the fuck are you talking about?

Gillion

Wait, what?

Condi

I've never seen Price.

Grizzly

Yeah, Jay has never seen Price in her life.

Chip

Wait, Gillion. You have you seen Cap' Pr- [Lots of crosstalk] Gillion, have you seen?

Gillion

Yeah, I did. He killed you a billion times in my dream.

Chip

Oh.

Jay

Oh, okay. Yeah, that's true.

Chip

Gryffon, sorry.

Gryffon

Hey, what the fuck is going on?

Chip

Gryffon, my fault, bro. I just figured out that my mortal enemy is the son of one of my father figures. It's like the whole thing.

Gillion

Yeah, keep up Grippin-

Charlie

-What?

Bizly

What have you two been doing together you're calling him gripping?

Gillion

I'm going back too bed.

Condi

A lot of the shake weight.

Gryffon

[Sigh] What the scallop.

Chip

Yeah! All right, I'm one-fifth of the way through. Can you guys clear out and then come back if I react that way again?

Jay

Yeah, see you.

Chip

Yeah, might happen again.

Gryffon

I'm going to sit here.

Chip

Yeah, that's cool. We can do this together. We can do this together. I sit in his lap and I pull out the next thing.

Grizzly

What the.

Gryffon

No, no, no.

Chip

Sorry. I just really need a father figure right now.

Gillion

You could have left, dude. This is on you. I'm only 10 years older than you.

Chip

Yeah, but you're so big and like a panda bear.

Gryffon

Don't fatherly objectify me.

Chip

I'm doing it. It's already happening. Can you bounce your leg?

Grizzly

You hear the bones rattle.

Bizly

Yeah, I pulled out the newspaper piece.

Grizzly

You see a newspaper. It has a title that basically frames the Black Rose. "The Black Rose conquers another island." They've gone and they have their flag raised and the article, you can barely see some sentences that have been ripped off that are framing it as if they've "enslaved these people and put them under their command, blah, blah." But then you see the picture and it is a fucking banquet, dude. You can see that the pirates that you remember are all having good time, Jug's there, the big turtle, Captain Rose, Drey, Arlin, Finn, and people behind them, they look kind of impoverished. It's like a village that, I'm not sure where, but I don't know if impoverish is the right word, but maybe humble and very simple, nothing too classy, nothing too advanced. They're just like fucking hitting it, man. They're drinking, they have arms over one another. They're having a grand time, and he just kept it, and he put it in here. On the back of the newspaper clips, it's whited out and faded. There's no writing, but it is Captain Rose's handwriting that you just wrote "Legacy" on it.

Bizly

All right. Small tube with tiny parchment.

Grizzly

You open up the small tube and you start to tip the tube over so that you can slide out because your fingers won't fit in there.

Bizly

You're trying to edge me right now, bro. Come on, let's do this. Freaking me out. There's so much anticipation in my body. This just needs to happen.

Grizzly

It slowly slides out of the tube.

Bizly

Oh, my God, dude.

Grizzly

Hits your palm right as you go to open it. It expands into this massive fucking, almost like a hexagonal-shaped parchment

Chip

AH- Wait.

Grizzly

Right in front of you, lands on the floor.

Chip

Wait.

Charlie

I start to get up. I stop.

Grizzly

You are looking-.

Bizly

No way.

Grizzly

-at a hand-drawn.

Bizly

No way. I know what this is.

Grizzly

By Captain Rose, a map of the world.

Charlie

Oh, shit.

Condi

It's finally fucking time. Are you serious?

[Chip, Bizly, Gill, and Charlie all begin to scream and Cheer over this map]

Condi

How long have you been sitting on this? How long have you been sitting on this?

Grizzly

Actually, you hear Gryffon go,

Gryffon

Woah!

Bizly

I was going to say, Gryffon's got to start doing it.

Condi

Jay walks into the room.

Jay

Woah!

Grizzly

Alright everyone roll initiative. I'm just kidding.

[Chip continues to freak out over the map]

Gillion

Grandpa, you got to see this!

Grizzly

Grandpa is still in the library. He never left. Neither did Drey.

Bizly

[Groaning noises] Sorry, I tried to do as voice as best I could.

Gillion

Oh, my God. Pretzel. Are you seeing this?

[Silence]

Grizzly

So this file is way too big. You guys are going to have to download it.

Gillion

Oh she's already seen this...

Chip

Pretzel. Are you seeing this?

Gillion

Pretzel, are you seeing this?

Jay

Come on, pretzel. Are you seeing this?

Pretzel

[Begins to cheer and scream over the map]

Charlie

Wait, hang on. I take out Destiny's Blade.

Gillion

Destiny's Blade, are you seeing this?

Destiny's Blade

No, no, I can't. I don't have eyes.

Gillion

Oh. Sorry.

Chip

Can you explain it to him?

Gillion

Yeah. Uhm. Nah.

Chip

Do you know what it is? Do you know why we're screaming about this?

Charlie

Yeah, totally. This is like Settlers of Catan, right?

Grizzly

Posted in the chat.

Bizly

It look like that. It look like d20.

Condi

It do look like d20. Holy fuck-er-roly balls.

Bizly

The way you're flexing on me today is crazy, by the way.

Condi

Yeah, you are kind of doing that.

Bizly

You're just going so hard today.

Charlie

I saw the whale with the cowboy hat.

Condi

Oh, there's the horsea. It looks like Texas.

Charlie

I'm so pissed that exists. What the fuck is the come... Wait, did that say Cumagoon?

Condi

The Cumagoon? No, that does say Cumagoon.

Charlie

Grizzly.

Grizzly

What?

Charlie

Tell me in the Black Sea that does not say Cumagoon, dude.

Grizzly

Hey, I didn't make this, Captain Rose did.

Bizly

You are captain- I'm going to fucking faint.

Condi

Let's see. Have we been to everywhere? The one that is Yep, Yep, Yep, Yep.

Grizzly

Just a few things here. Some of these locations that you see are not actually on the one your characters see. Let me send on a screenshot that X's out, the ones that you don't actually see.

Condi

Do we not see the Cumagoon? Tell me we see the Cumagoon.

Grizzly

You see the Cumagoon.

Condi

Oh, thank God.

Charlie

Yeah!

Jay

Does that say the Cumagoon?

Grizzly

Just timeline-wise, some of these wouldn't exist yet.

Charlie

Oh, yeah, I get you. It's probably not labeled the Black Sea huh?

Grizzly

No, I wouldn't. It wouldn't be labeled the Black Sea. I didn't think of those details.

Charlie

No, it's okay. You would have to get two- No It's totally cool.

Bizly

Let me just say if we're trying to triangulate between Onawa country, Crescent chain and the-

Condi

It's the Cumagoon, I mean.

Bizly

The Cumagoon. It's like the Cumagoon is a-.

Bizly

That's the Black Sea or the Black- The Hole. That's the Hole.

Charlie

That's the White Sea, man.

Condi

That's the White Sea. Where a Black runs White, dude. Holy shit.

Charlie

Jesus fucking Christ. I'm so sorry you gave us this incredible artwork, and we just immediately focused on the Cumagoon.

Condi

We're on Cumagoon. There's no getting off of Cumagoon.

Grizzly

That's the intention. I'm not even mad. I intended for that.

Bizly

You intended for Cumagoon to be the focus?

Grizzly

Yeah.

Bizly

You've thought of everything.

Grizzly

So what your characters? I'm going to describe this for audio listeners since they don't get to see it until they go on Pinterest or something. You guys see a sepia-colored map. That's not traditionally your rectangle. It's more cut into a 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, hexagonal shape. You see the North Sea, the Viridis Sea, the Eastern Sea, called the Sakura Sea or the Sakura Ocean. And then there's the Blue Royal to the south where you guys started your adventure in the Horsea somewhere you've never been, that is very well documented. And what's missing from this map that you guys have been to is the block in the Southern Sea. And there's a bunch of locations you haven't been to in the Northern Sea and in the Eastern one. But you get the sense that this was finished or as finished as he could get it 10 years ago when he left this treasure box behind before they left this island and then the Hole in the Sea happened. A lot could have changed, but it's pretty safe to say since islands don't really move. That these are the biggest or most important locations in the entire world.

Bizly

What are the balls with the letter A on it?

Grizzly

That just signifies the undersea. That's like where it is.

Charlie

The A, I think, is Allport and then the other side is the tree.

Grizzly

If we've talked about where Gillion comes from it has always been the northern tip.

Charlie

That's why I always say when I talk about home, I always say in the top left.

Grizzly

We'll say you're all here because the alarm went off. Gryffon looks so fucking surprised he did the alarm as well. Jay, you know from just education, one of the most rarest treasures or items in the world is like a world map because not many people sail around and survive that journey. A lot of map stuff that R.A.F.T. Has is like the collection of a ton of people and they monopolize that info. So if you think back to how many world maps you've seen since you started. Lizzie had one and now you have one and that's kind of it. You can assume that the government has their own.

Chip

Does anyone have a callnch shell right now?

Bizly

I'm saying this in character.

Jay

I used mine already today. Your wife is getting your letter, by the way.

Bizly

Awesome.

Grizzly

You've called Enza twice today, so you have, I think, one more callnch shell.

Bizly

Okay, I take the callnch shell. I'd like to call Lizzie.

Condi

Do we even have her on these ones? We do, right? Do we?

Grizzly

I don't know, because you fought with each other. I don't know if you linked up. You can call Caspian.

Bizly

I'll call Caspian.

Chip

Gillion, can I please use that right now?

Gillion

Yeah, of course. Yeah.

Bizly

Okay, I take it. I call Caspian.

Grizzly

Roll in our counter check.

Bizly

Twenty, not natural.

Grizzly

Your cone shell rings like it does. It doesn't get... It doesn't struggle with the signal across the arcane webs here in the Black Sea, but Caspian doesn't pick it up.

Bizly

All right. Can I leave a message?

Grizzly

Not with these ones.

Bizly

Okay, I put it down and I say,

Chip

They're probably fine.

Grizzly

Could be busy.

Bizly

Now I'll go to the other callnch shell. The little one.

Grizzly

Yes, this one looks like it has a button on the very top that you can click and it will play back something.

Jay

I'm in it now. I'm here with you.

Charlie

The pyrs have been lit, dude. The alarms have been sounded.

Condi

Yeah, I'm here. You pulled out a world map. Now I need to know I'm here.

Jay

If you're looking for another father figure, I can.

Chip

Wait, what? Are you going to be my father figure now?

Jay

No, I think-

Chip

Gryffon's already doing a really good job.

Grizzly

No, Gryffon has pushed you off at this point. He's on his knees looking at the map on the ground. It's quite large. It could cover a table.

Gryffon

God damn, this is fucking... This is rare.

Chip

Hang on, hang on, hang on. I've got this callnch shell. I'm going to play. There's a message I can play. Everybody, shut up. Everybody, shut up.

Igneous

But w- [Incomprehensible].

Jay

No, just stop. Just stop it. You're scaring me.

Chip

Stop moving and breathing. Gryffon, just stop doing what you're doing. Gryffon, just stop.

Gryffon

Oh, my God. Godess- God is it- fuck um, all of them.

Chip

Gillion, start breathing again.

Jay

He forgot to breathe. He forgot to breathe.

Chip

Manual. Manual breathing.

Charlie

Gillion's just shaking his head.

Gillion

Chip, I never stopped because I didn't know if I'd be able to figure out how to start again.

Chip

Gillion, I can't breathe anymore. You have to breathe for me.

Gillion

Play it before I pass out.

Chip

Okay!

Bizly

I play it.

Grizzly

You click-

[Charlie, Bizly, and Condi all take deep breaths]

Grizzly

-the callnch shell, and you immediately hear the white noise in the background from whatever ambient room noise this was recorded in. Then you hear a voice you haven't heard in so long. You hear Captain Rose, speak.

Captain Rose

[Deep breath in, and sigh] Captain Rose. My final recording log. In the privacy of my quarters aboard the midnight, Rose. Even with the Emperor's gracious accommodations, I can never feel at ease unless I'm sleeping on the sea. Tomorrow, we depart this beautiful country for one last ride. We've celebrated non-stop. Made good friends. And drank even better booze. But if you're hearing this, it means we all died. The life of a pirate can be the most free life lived in this ocean world. The only one who will ever truly stand in your way is yourself.

[Bizly gasps for air]

Grizzly

I told you not to do it.

Bizly

I know, because it takes so long. [Laughing and catching his breath] I can't do it.

Grizzly

I told him not to do it.

Bizly

I'm sorry. I can't see right.

Condi

I gave out like a minute ago, so you guys are better than me.

Charlie

I know. It turned into a competition at a certain point.

Bizly

No, I know. I just had to make it longer than Charlie, but I started to tingle.

Charlie

I know. At the end, I started to feel your chest start to go in and out. It's trying. I was like oh, fuck.

Bizly

I started to tingle.

Condi

Anyway, continue. Continue.

Captain Rose

The only one who will ever truly stand in your way is yourself. Everything is your responsibility, your weakness, your choices, the dreams you chase and the ones that follow you. Even so, freedom can look so different to every individual. Not every pirate is going to play fair. I've been prepping for this moment a long time. The day I'd be out-manoeuvered. This chest we're leaving behind is to help you succeed where I have failed. In return, all I ask is a favor. I thought for a long time that my greatest dream was to see every corner of the world. But trust me, there is no end to what can be discovered. I thought the legacy of my crew would grow the more places we left our mark, the more wedid. The more we did, the more we would be remembered. Now I fear we'll be remembered for something we didn't do. Anyways, I think I should have cared about how my friends would remember me. My family. So how about that favor? If my wife is still alive, tell her. Tell her, our child. Our child. "I'm sorry." Don't worry about trying to salvage or carry on the legacy of the Black Rose. I want you to do something greater. Do something better. Something different. And it'll be enough for me that just you remember us. And don't forget, be loud, be merry, be a good pirate. Thanks for coming to look for us. I knew you would. Take care, Chip.

Grizzly

And then it ends.

Chip

He could have met anybody by that. There's a lot of Chips around.

Jay

There's so many Chips and the amount of Chips on the Black Rose Pirates.

Gillion

What the scallop.

Gryffon

God damn.

Chip

I'm totally going to sleep after this. So let's. [Yawn] Hit it.

Jay

We don't need to dissect all that.

Chip

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

Gillion

Yeah, not much to think about here. Good night.

[Laughter]

Bizly

It's so funny that Gillion meant it.

Charlie

This guy just literally rolls over goes to bed.

Charlie

Kind of imagining all of this on the main deck. You all just separate, leave.

Chip

Sounds good. Great stuff.

Jay

Good day, guys. Good day. Another day on the ship.

Grizzly

All right, guys. Everyone lays down... I mean, who's going to try and actually get some Z's? And if you're not, please let me know.

Condi

I'ma. I'ma go look at the world map, for a little bit, probably, but I'll probably eventually get some Z's. This is probably the coolest thing I've ever seen. I probably go to bed.

Jay

Yep, good night, guys. [Snores]

Condi

Starts Sprinting.

Bizly

Imagine, Chip probably has a sleepless night, but functionally, I would like to sleep.

Grizzly

Functionally, Chip doesn't sleep. He spends the night trying to remember his memories and shit.

Bizly

Oh, right. Right.

Grizzly

Okay, so everybody go ahead and roll for corruption.

Condi

What is it again?

Grizzly

Wisdom Saving throw.

Condi

Yeah, I knew it was wisdom because I'm bad at it. Twelve. Is twelve okay?

Charlie

You guys get a plus four. 17.

Condi

Oh, 16.

Bizly

Well, I rolled it two. So like... Seven?

Grizzly

So, Chip, one point, Jay, Gillion, you guys are okay.

Charlie

Let's go.

Grizzly

Also Chip, now it's time to make that Hollowed save. I believe it's an Intelligence saving throw.

Bizly

Yes, yes. 22.

Grizzly

What are you thinking of to remember the essence of Chip, who Chip is at his very core?

Bizly

Right now, I'm trying to remember everything I can about Price and recontextualizing with this new information. Why do we hate each other?

Grizzly

When you start thinking of Price and you rolled a Natural 20 last time you were trying to remember shit, there is a moment where you see silhouettes in a memory in a warehouse and you see them murdering someone. For a split second, it fucking scares you.

Bizly

I see who? I see Price?

Grizzly

Do you remember how you had your memory modified? Yes.

Bizly

That's what I'm-

Grizzly

To forget this-

Bizly

That's what I'm talking about, yeah. I'm trying to remember-

Grizzly

This one flash.

Bizly

Oh, so it's a piece of that.

Grizzly

Yeah.

Bizly

Oh, shit.

Grizzly

It scares you for a moment like something is very wrong with you or like you did something very bad. Then you start to think of like, Why was he like that? You talked about the Black Rose Pirates a lot as a kid, but he was never a big pirate fan.

Bizly

I can imagine.

Grizzly

The next day comes, and it's as brutal as ever. What would you guys like to spend this day doing? I know, Jay, you want to try to identify stuff.

Condi

Yeah, I've figured out what I want to do with my pistol, by the way. It's just modular, so I can improve it by adding more pieces and eventually make it a rifle. But right now it's a pistol.

Charlie

It's like a nerf gun?

Condi

It's like a nerf gun with a mod- it can add rifle barrel onto it.

Charlie

Yes, that's sick. That's so cool. 1-10 is the Hole 11-20 is the scroll.

Condi

I think you should actually make it one dice harder every time, like plus one difficulty.

Charlie

Well, it wouldn't matter because I just rolled an eight, so it's Hole day.

Condi

It's Hole day.

Charlie

It's Hole day.

Grizzly

Chip, what are you doing?

Bizly

Oooh. Stewing? Stewing. I'm stewing.

Gillion

Chip, I know you probably have a lot of questions, so if there's any chance that you can find answers. Book.

Charlie

Swipe the thing to open the doorway.

Chip

Me? I don't have questions. I don't know it's just like...

Gillion

Right, right, right. Yeah, yeah. Okay.

Chip

Just normal, like Chibo stuff. Like, growing around in here in this old noggin of mine.

Gillion

Knockin around in the old noggin.

Chip

I mean, I'll go in if you want me to or something. Or whatever.

Gillion

Do you want me, to want you to?

Chip

Uhm.

Gillion

Well I'm gonna- Here. Im gonna be in here, and I'll just leave.

Chip

Oh, you're going in there?

Gillion

Yeah. So if anyone wants to come with.

Chip

Okay yeah, I'll tag along, sure.

Gillion

Yeah, I figured.

Chip

Yeah, of course.

Gillion

Yeah, you don't have to do anything.

Chip

No, anything for you, buddy.

Grizzly

Gillion rolled for it. Gillion is opening up. The book called The "Dark Puckered Hole", written by Finn Tidestrider. God knows how long ago.

Gillion

Is this really my destiny?

Grizzly

And you feel as soon as you open up the book and you begin to read, you feel, "Oh, my God, this book is extremely magical. And if I finish this book, I will get a very, very, very positive boon." But you have to finish the book and the time limit is a week.

Condi

As you read this, I'm going to close my eyes to become more immersed.

Charlie

It has to be a week? Okay. Okay.

Grizzly

Here's the fucking... Here's chapter one.

Gillion

Chapter one: Woodworker.

Grizzly

Yes! The title got him.

Bizly

Fail.

Charlie

I'll close the book. I closed the book. I closed the book.

Bizly

You got to try. You got to try. You got to try.

Charlie

Okay, okay. Dude, as soon as I read Woodworker, I knew I was fucked. Okay, okay.

Gillion

[Reading from the Book] Chapter one: Woodworker. Lost on the open sea is an ever burning flame that can never be doused. Only tamed by the exchange of sweet, bodily nectar. It is a flame shared between all, burning like a candle for some and a romantic disaster for others. I did not set out on the world to drink up only half the knowledge and experience it pours to my asses glass. No, to explore the world with an unbiased mind, I must first explore myself. My first man was a shipwright. His Bosom beg to be free from the tight prison. It was his button fabric wrapped around his chest.

Bizly

Grizzly. Holy shit.

Gillion

My advances were direct. A simple offer for pleasure was all it took. We were a hurricane of moisture and tension, wrestling our trousers off through the nearby woods, leaving my robes and jockstrap, his boots and briefs strung along the branches above our path. I traced the grooves of skin outlined by his muscles all the way from his top to his bottom.

Bizly

What the fuck?

Gillion

Thus, my eyes perceived for the first time, that dark puckered hole.

[Laughing]

Gillion

A beautiful discovery. I was overwhelmed with emotion as if a typhoon. I worked my magic on this anus until I gasped for air. I was motivated to turn these deep groans into dainty whispers. Suddenly, his passion fruit busted its seed, and like a raging beast of the land, he flipped me into vulnerability on my stomach. He had caught his prey and my fate was tightly sealed.

Bizly

I'm not supposed to hear this. I'm not supposed to hear this. I'm not supposed to hear this.

Gillion

From behind, I was railed. My vision fading from this drug of lustful ectasy.

Bizly

Dude, this is not the first time you've written stuff like this.

Grizzly

It absolutely is.

Gillion

Like young Ferin's quick ability to reload his pistol, the beast shot on my back.

Bizly

Augh! Augh!

Gillion

After he came from behind, I was ready to move forward. With full clarity, I caressed his lips, thanked him for our study, and ventured forth to search for a new dark, puckered hole.

Bizly

I have a headache.

Condi

You did it. I think that was only as funny as it was for me because I'm imagining... No, that and because I'm imagining you sitting down and just writing it.

Grizzly

I actually sat at the top of my staircase and just fucking focused, dude. I focused so hard.

Charlie

My neck actually hurts. My neck veins hurt. My face is so tight. I feel my veins, dude. Holy fuck. What the fuck? Genuinely, demonic lines in what you wrote, dude. Actually, some lines sent from hell to kill me.

Bizly

I've never felt like my mind had been defiled.

Charlie

That was the hardest thing I've ever done on this podcast. I was trying to just actually lock in.

Condi

If five years ago when I was a wee lad and we were starting just roll with it, I don't think my mind really explored the possibilities of potentially getting to the point where we'd be reading Gay Smut together.

Charlie

In character, for a mechanical boost.

Condi

-for a mechanical boost.

Bizly

There has been a shift in our friendship, I think, guys.

Charlie

I turn the page.

Grizzly

I need like 15 minutes for chapter two.

Charlie

No, I can't. [Stuttering over himself] Gillion's brain is shattered. He doesn't blink for the rest of the day. He just slowly closes the book.

Condi

That's a lot to read about your grandpa.

Gillion

Thank you for your wisdom.

Grizzly

All right, chapter one is done.

Condi

Congratulations. You have to do the rest within a week.

Charlie

Jesus fucking Christ.

Gillion

Jay, how close are we?

Condi

How close are we?

Grizzly

Using the spy glass. You get that. There is today, tomorrow, and one extra day. So you have three days left. We're going to zoom through it. I'm not going to make you read out loud every single passage. That'd be crazy.

Charlie

Okay, I was actually going to see if Chip could read it to me instead.

Condi

Bed time story.

Grizzly

Just go ahead after you finish the first chapter, go ahead and give me a Charisma Saving throw.

Charlie

It's so fair. That's so fucking fair. I got a 32.

Condi

You didn't actually understand most of the words, man.

Gillion

What does it mean?

Condi

What is a Dark Puckered Hole?

Grizzly

How does Gillion interpret all that?

Charlie

There's a lot of big words. I think he interprets it as a metaphorical way of his grandfather taking knowledge from the land.

Grizzly

It's maybe some social stuff.

Charlie

With a lot of metaphors and a lot of... Yeah, a lot of social customs, I think. It's like he's like,

Gillion

Oh, I didn't know land dwellers greeted each other like that.

Condi

Oh, no. No, no, no. Don't learn from that.

Grizzly

All right, excellent. You did so well. Magical items, you're spending the day identifying ritually with your eye. That's what your eye lets you do. Very, very cool. First thing, that bag, you can go ahead and add something called Bullet roulette to your inventory.

Condi

Bullet roulette.

Charlie

I'm interested.

Condi

I'm interested.

Grizzly

Once you identify it, you realize that you have to think about pulling a bullet from this bag in order for it to work.

Charlie

That's so cool.

Condi

There's a lot of bullets in here.

Grizzly

Yeah, maybe don't read them all right now.

Charlie

It's a different one each time. Okay, that's sick, that's sick.

Grizzly

Chip got a magical glass that you identify next called the Everfull Glass, which you can add to your inventory.

Condi

Magical glass called the Everfull Glass.

Condi

I have two rings, a cloak, a black tablecloth, and that was everything I [incomprehensible]. Okay.

Grizzly

So Everfull Glass Chip, essentially, you can magically fill that shit with whiskey, fine wine, Aged Ale, whatever you want. It has to be alcohol. Three times per day as an action, you can drink from it. Fifteen temporary hit points and immune to being frightened for one minute.

Condi

Shame the alcohol doesn't work on you anymore.

Grizzly

You can still drink from the glass, though.

Bizly

Damn.

Grizzly

The black tablecloth. That, Charlie is going to love this one. That is a portable hole.

Condi

Portable hole.

Charlie

I shutter.

Charlie

Is this the Dark Puckered Hole?

Jay

Hey, Gillion here.

Charlie

I flinch away.

Condi

Next one is I have a cloak.

Grizzly

You can add Shift Weave to your inventory.

Condi

I have two rings left.

Grizzly

Okay, one of the rings is a ring of swimming.

Charlie

I take that.

Condi

You don't need it. You don't need it. Okay, and the other one?

Grizzly

You have a ring of shared suffering, but you only have one and it's missing its counterpart.

Condi

I put it on. Do I feel pain? No. Okay, good. I was wondering if maybe the person... Maybe they're just in perpetual pain.

Charlie

No, they probably just got a ring from their grandma and you're going to get shot one day and then they'll die.

Grizzly

Unless you guys want to do anything else, we're just going to travel.

Charlie

1-10 is Hole, 11-20 is scroll. Thank God. Today I'm reading scroll.

Condi

You're going to reset your progress.

Charlie

Wait, I have to read Hole in a week, don't I? Yeah.

Condi

How many chapters are in Hole?

Grizzly

A lot. Lot of chapters

Bizly

Enough, I'm sure.

Condi

A lot. What an ominous answer.

Grizzly

I'm saying about like 30 chapters. Is that a lot?

Condi

He got one chapter in a day. Oh, my God.

Grizzly

Well, no, he only read one chapter out loud. He might have gotten further.

Charlie

When the rest of the crew has gone to bed, I go to the study. I find the darkest, messiest corner. I carve out a nook for myself. I take little clips and clip my eyes open so that I can't... I can't look away. I have the axolotls holding me down. One of them turns the pages.

Axolotl

For the sake of knowledge!

Charlie

As I'm forced to read my grandfather's greatest work and his greatest conquests, Dark Puckered Hole.

Grizzly

I just need three wisdom saving throws for corruption.

Charlie

This part is easy. Do you get plus four? No, you don't because I'm in the... Oh, fuck, I specified that I was in the book nook. I'm sorry, unless you're in the book nook with me.

Bizly

I went in with you.

Condi

I don't. I sleep normally.

Charlie

You wouldn't want to be within 10 feet of me right now, but.

Bizly

Maybe on that night I do.

Charlie

You totally can be. I'm just reading Dark Puckered Hall.

Bizly

I'll probably take a look over. Hey, Gillion, what are you reading? Then a little more of my skin falls off and my eye falls out and I've been forever changed.

Charlie

Yet I look back at you more haunted than you've ever been. I changed my background to haunted one. I'm going to go ahead and make a Charisma save.

Grizzly

Are you just focused on the Dark Puckered Hole, so not the scroll?

Charlie

Yeah, I'm focused on the Dark Puckered Hole.

Grizzly

Yeah, then go ahead and make three Charismas saves.

Charlie

Okay, first one's a 29, second one's a 28. Third one's a 32. Jesus fucking Christ. I rolled 18, 16, 19. That's ridiculous.

Bizly

Dude you're really good at reading gay smut.

Condi

Yeah, it's crazy.

Charlie

Thanks, guys.

Condi

You should do this for a living.

Charlie

Glad these roles didn't happen in the big spider fight. That was a really climactic moment.

Condi

Yeah, that would have sucked.

Grizzly

In the three days you get more than halfway through the book. The first night, Jay, you take a point of corruption?

Condi

Yeah.

Grizzly

I need you guys to roll two more Wism-saving throws.

Bizly

We know that there is the buff from being around Gillion, right? That it's better?

Charlie

I feel like you would. There's no way you wouldn't right?

Bizly

If we know that, then I will always do it around Gillion because it doesn't make sense not to.

Charlie

Holy shit, natural 20. What the fuck, guys? I'm popping off today on all these rolls. It's crazy. Second one is, in fact, Uh-oh, guys, it's a 15. The Dark Puckered corrupts me.

Condi

You read something especially Dark, and Puckered.

Bizly

I would suggest Gillion to cast use all the spells on restoration on the crew in this time.

Condi

I could also be doing that if Gillion is too focused on other things.

Bizly

I think we could just have that. We could just say like, you guys do that.

Charlie

I can get off- uhm... Unfortunate phrasing. I can cast 10- I can do 11 a day that's nuts.

Condi

I can do 10 total.

Charlie

If we are casting these constantly, we can keep ourselves at zero, right?

Condi

We can, but we also need to save slots for other things.

Grizzly

On the day after the third night, you can't do it because then you'll be out of resources for the whole day, and that's the day you're supposed to arrive. But if you guys are doing, you have that many amount of points, I'd.

Condi

Say we can probably clear everybody off.

Charlie

Why don't we clear everyone off until the day we're arriving and then we can just live with whatever happens? If any of us failed to save on the day of our arrival or any of the crew did, we're going to have those points. But Jay and I will go around tapping people and shooting out lightning.

Jay

Restore. Restore. Restore

Bizly

I don't think the restoration works on me, right?

Charlie

Nope sorry. You'll need to find a professional.

Gillion

Restore. Restore. Restore. Oh, it's just you again, Chip. Sorry, I can't help with that.

Chip

Help.

Bizly

Chip, you do have one. Do I get another one? I have two now, total.

Charlie

Is this okay, by the way, that we're just spamming Lesser restoration when we travel?

Grizzly

You cleared of the corruption? It's good. You need to survive here somehow. Otherwise, what? Do you want to die?

Charlie

No, I don't know. Okay. I'm sorry, DM. I'm sorry, DM. I'm sorry, DM.

Grizzly

Intelligent Saving throws, chip. Three of them.

Bizly

Okay, that's a 16, 19, natural 20.

Grizzly

You are good for these three nights. However, on the last night before the day you guys were supposed to arrive at this stronghold destination. As you're laying there and you're inside the library at home, and it should be only accessible through that door, there's a [Sudden rush of wind] dash of shadow that startles you to the point where you sit up like something was around you watching, and then it ran past you and disappeared.

Bizly

Did I see where it was going?

Grizzly

No not here. It's like when you're laying down in the middle of the night and you think you see something in a dark corner?

Charlie

He's saw the hat man.

Bizly

The skin man.

Condi

Don't think it. Don't say it.

Grizzly

On the day of, as soon as you're all up and you exit the library for the morning, you look out onto the horizon, Jay, and see and also smell like you would when a storm is coming. But you look up and you can see the three routes of the Black Sea today are all different with different dangers. On going straight ahead, you see a field of these serrated tentacles lashing out and sticking out from the water.

Jay

Nope.

Grizzly

That's on the path you're going right now. It's straight ahead, the shortest path.

Charlie

Yeah, that's just bad.

Grizzly

Off to the right where you go around that to try and get it from a different angle, you see that that's these black clouds with some low, dim, purple glow in them and the rumbling of thunder.

Charlie

[Whispering] I swear to fucking God, if I get struck by lighting, one more fucking time.

Grizzly

On the left, going around the other side, it looks seemingly calm, but it's super out of the way.

Condi

Yeah. Do the tentacles look like they're wildly flying about without thought? Or could they be connected to a creature with higher thought that could crush us into a million pieces?

Grizzly

It looks like they're just wildly lashing around, snapping and then...

Jay

So...

Gillion

How is it looking, Navigator? All clear skies, I take it.

Condi

You get zapped by lightning.

Jay

Okay, so let's look at our options. To the left, we've got Thunderous Skies.

Gillion

Well, that doesn't sound too good. All right.

Jay

Straight ahead, we've got Tentacles.

Chip

What?

Gillion

Like how many?

Jay

A lot, very big. They could crush us and destroy us.

Gillion

To the right?

Jay

Nothing, but I don't trust that.

Chip

I also don't trust that.

Jay

Yeah, actually, somehow nothing seems worse than going into something that we know.

Gillion

The calmest waters are before the harshest storms, so I think instead we should go directly into the tentacles.

Jay

Gillion, do you still have the Reduce spell? I wonder if we could sharply navigate our ship if it was smaller.

Gillion

I don't know that I do, but even if I did-

Grizzly

It only reduced the ship.

Gillion

It would only reduce the ship.

Chip

Jay, I got a level with you. I think if we sail directly into big tentacles, it will elicit a trauma response within me.

Grizzly

You already recognize them from this distance.

Charlie

Oh, no.

Chip

I'm going to have to advise against the tentacles if you do not wish to trigger my fight or flight response.

Gillion

Completely fair. This is my same feeling about the thunder clouds. I genuinely think if I'm struck with lightning one more time, I will either be fully immune to it or I will die instantly and my heart will give out due to the immense amount of constant voltage it receives from the environment.

Jay

Uh huh, Uh huh. Okay.

Gillion

But that only leaves the worst option.

Chip

Which is nothing. Which is something.

Jay

Which has to be something. Yeah.

Chip

But think about it this way, right? Imagine somebody offers you a hundred dollars or a free sword or a mystery box. I'm going for the mystery box.

Gillion

I'd say, I don't make deals with your kind and I'd attack them.

Chip

You don't even know what kind. It's not- How do.

Gillion

I know that the mystery box isn't some soulbinding contract?

Chip

You'll never know is the problem.

Gillion

Yeah.

Chip

Is you'll go to sleep tonight and you'll think, Oh, man, what was in those calm waters?

Gillion

No, I think I'll be thinking about Dark Puckered Hole.

Chip

You got to stop reading that book.

Jay

It's getting to be a lot, Gillion.

Chip

I vote for the nothing.

Gillion

Okay, you know what? I vote for nothing, too. That is to say that my vote is for the path with nothing, not that I'm not voting.

Jay

It's like a little bit out of the ways as well. But what's the worst that could happen?

Chip

Why did you say that?

Jay

Well, it's because we're in a fictional story and everything it's like-

Charlie

zooms in full-fish eye on Gillion as my eyes go slightly farther and farther apart.

Jay

It's like a trope to do that before something bad happens.

Gillion

What?

Grizzly

So you guys head towards the seemingly calm waters.

Charlie

Wait seemingly?

Grizzly

You're navigating, correct, Jay?

Condi

Yeah.

Grizzly

Go ahead and make an intelligence saving throw and a survival check today.

Condi

Is Gillion close enough to me during these trials and tribulations?

Charlie

Yeah, if you want me there.

Condi

Do you attach to my hip?

Charlie

Yeah, sure. I take chains and wrap them around both of us and bend them, fuse them together.

Condi

Eighteen with you.

Gillion

I'm helping!

Charlie

I'm distracted by a fucking bat.

Condi

I'm going to call my Flash genius beforehand here and use it on the survival check. Natural 1, so 12 total.

Grizzly

You guys sail through the seemingly calm waters and you do so for the entirety of the morning. Your crew, Igneous and Gryffon are paddling, Queen's now helping, Earl's helping. He's getting that shake workout in. They're all helping, so you're going a little faster. But you assume, just based on your knowledge with the spyglass, the map that you have, it's going to take a little longer. It takes even longer than you expected. The morning goes by, the afternoon, evening, and the sun is starting to set and you guys still haven't found the stronghold.

Charlie

I don't know, man. What if it's like an infinite hallway situation?

Condi

I don't like that. I don't like that not again.

Condi

What would you like to do, navigator?

Condi

How long was I expecting it to take if we just went straight?

Grizzly

Probably should have got there around the afternoon.

Condi

We went the long way around and it's now nighttime. Before I make the decision, can I cast detect magic?

Grizzly

You can cast Detect Magic, yeah. Yeah.

Condi

Do I notice anything around here? Any oddities, any arcana?

Grizzly

It's a 30-foot sphere on you. No, you do not. Other than your magical items and weapons and stuff.

Jay

Something is weird. We should have been there a bit ago.

Gillion

Maybe the math was off.

Jay

No, the math is sound.

Jay

I pull up a piece of paper and says 4 times 4 is 16. It's right. It's correct.

Gillion

No, it's four.

Jay

What?

Gillion

It's 4.

Grizzly

You only really have a few options. You can keep sailing, you can stop, or you can turn around and go a different direction.

Condi

Do I see the bullshit that was happening to the north?

Grizzly

No, no, no. At nighttime here in the Black Sea, it's so dark. Only light you guys have is really what you produce.

Gillion

It's your call.

Jay

I'm going to say-

Gillion

This darkness is reminding me of something.

Charlie

And I read Dark Puckered Hole.

Condi

I'm going to ask the spyglass some questions.

Grizzly

I'm already assuming you used it to help navigate.

Condi

That's totally fair. Or I just didn't because I rolled a natural one, but up to you. I'll just give you two. Then I'm going to ask distance to the stronghold and distance from where we started the day.

Grizzly

You traveled almost an entire day's worth?

Condi

So it's not as if we haven't been moving.

Grizzly

You get the sense just looking through it that you're almost there. Actually, you get the sense that you should be there right now.

Bizly

What the scallop.

Jay

Let's pull up the rows for the night and stay here. Something's weird.

Chip

Well which direction is it?

Gillion

Yeah. Are we there yet?

Jay

We're basically on top of it right now.

Bizly

I look down.

Chip

Wait, that's not how that works.

Gillion

Well, it didn't sink, did it?

Chip

Oh, it might be how it works.

Jay

I don't know. I mean, how would a stronghold sink?

Gillion

I mean, it's called R.A.F.T. It would be pretty embarrassing.

Jay

That would be.

Gillion

Do you want me to check or is that fucking crazy?

Jay

No, not in the ocean. No.

Chip

Does it hurt you to be in there? I can't remember.

Grizzly

It's actually one of probably the most sure-fire ways for Gillion to get corrupted. I think he got really lucky... like he rolled really well last time.

Charlie

Yeah, but it was scary.

Grizzly

Jay, you remember, just from your knowledge, all these strongholds are also known as Iron Islands. They're massive and its sinking would be insane.

Jay

It definitely didn't sink.

Gillion

Oh, rock test!

Charlie

I pick up a rock and I throw it as hard as I can in a random direction.

Jay

Throw it in front of us. That way.

Condi

I point.

Charlie

I throw it in front of us as hard as I can. What happens to the rock?

Grizzly

Roll a strength check.

Charlie

14.

Bizly

I look up.

Grizzly

Yeah, you look up roll perception with disadvantaged it because it's really fucking dark.

Bizly

22.

Charlie

Dude, you just make up shit.

Condi

Wait, did you say you look up? I feel like- oh that was in Blood in the Bayou.

Bizly

Oh, God.

Condi

I'm just thinking about bad things happening when you look up.

Bizly

Dude, I'll never forget that moment.

Charlie

I feel like you hold that against me until the end of the time.

Bizly

An asteroid needs to be hurtling towards me right now, grizzly.

Grizzly

Yeah, fucking if you haven't seen the goddamn Blood in the Bayou, everybody go listen. So, Gillion, you throw a rock as hard as you can. It disappears in the darkness, and then you hear [Impact, bird cawing] as soon as you throw it, it hits something and it starts screeching. And then you hear [Gusts of wind] as it starts to fly towards where you are, and then it emerges into the light that's casted off of your ship just from whatever, like glowing lantrons or torches. And you see this fucking like the face of a man, but his eyes are like sewn shut and his mouth is like broken open and his limbs have been knotted and twisted and gnauled into this weird fucking, almost like worm-like body, but he has these wings that are made out of bones, and it's dripped and connected by this black ichor.

Bizly

You are speaking too casually about this abomination.

Gillion

Guys, even I know when to say "Fuck It".

Grizzly

And it flies towards you and it's high enough, it's right above the mast of your sails. As soon as it fucking does, as you look up, Chip, you hear it. Then from above you, this fucking burst of this almost like a lightning charge. It's pure arcane energy comes out, strikes this creature, disintegrates into dust. And with the 22, you can't see any formations, but you see a mirage after that explosion of arcane energy.

Chip

We in a test tube.

Jay

What does that mean? What are you looking at?

Chip

I mean, we're in the simulation. I don't know.

Gillion

We're an experiment.

Grizzly

That's what we're going to do in the session.

Condi

Oh shit.

Charlie

We're in a test tube.

Condi

Hey hope you guys enjoyed that episode. I just want to quickly thank our $50 patients, such as-

Condi

GBS Child, semicolon semicolon, Dejavous, KepsuBow, JRWI hater, Zephry Nova, Stinkyman, HighInPotassium, Wildstar00, Shtum Yums, That_One_Furry, ImJustABirb, Crankymarten, Ryan Joslin, Lightning Death Bringer, That_Rare_John, Tweebuffelsmeteenskootmorsdoodgeskietfontein, Cheesus Bri, unless..., ItsAlbert, William_B_Wumbo, InsomniaDraws, Kelly the Raccoon, Agar Steeljaw, insomnia, LimbMuncher, MrAnderson1078, Mephobia Man, AerynMoment, WaterLenny, Alastor Susi, Broderick Motif, Finalfan.

Condi

[Stumbles over next patron's name] You guys are making me work today.

Condi

Faloughasch, certified cringefail loser boy, To Be Determined the DnD group, ThatOnePerson, EMT3, EricaMoon, CoJoWo, Mr_Cee [Gübleck Whisperer], NovaSync, Teenie_ghosts, It’s Cfr3sh, Me4EverM8,

Condi

It's the.

Condi

Stusj Dude, Cerezaku, Charlie DarlingSongbird, AquaTheKaizoku, Microwave with a hat, Bazzozo, Katus Batus, Titan Storm, Luke Ranboo, Lemon_Leviathan, RuthTheBananaDuck, UnstableKha0ticCracker, brandyane, DaxxyBoyy, Vapor, CollinTheBard, ImButtflusting, beans, Pupper in a Spacesuit, Jaidz2604, PippinThePaladin, SweetCacti, Baka7, Calz “The Folded Pizza” Zone, The AWE50MEMAN, Chillion Vibestrider, ManmadeImp, JordanDarlin', Iaminyourwalls, Mr. Nacho, Wildjames, KevSenpaii, Tim-Gus-Ping-Gus, mitchell iverson, MithralGear417, BossGoat, Captain Lafayette (and crew), Narwhal Shellfish, Crobins, Deathclaw, Glorbech Eater of Worlds, BigBlueBearBoy, ElvishCyborg, Spinyax, Buttery Toaast, Sylvsol, jasonthefricker, eunoialune, CornierComet, SorcererPunk, Ryker Kirottu, Nonxlotl, Funny Hats Incorporated, JRWI Enjoyer, and Jay Newell.

Condi

Thank you guys so much for the continued support. Again, if you haven't picked up the new Blood in the Bayou shirt, go do that now because that shit is awesome. Again, it's going to be gone forever. Okay, bye.