Dungeons and Daddies

Dungeon Master: Anthony Burch

Glenn Close​: Freddie Wong

Darryl Wilson​: Matt Arnold

Henry Oak​: Will Campos

Ron Stampler​: Beth May

Episode 35 - The Jellicle Ball!

*[echoing, layered “flashback” dialogue, backed by dramatic orchestral music]*

**Ashly:** I'm Ashly Burch. I play Dennis Anderson.

**Ron:** Who are you?

**Anthony:** He's a father, a firefighter, some say he's a DILF, and he's definitely been here the entire time.

**Darryl:** Dennis, I just want to say, this van is better with you in it, and I love you.

**Henry:** We wouldn't have made it this far without you, Dennis.

**Dennis:** I'm just happy to be here.

**Henry:** Guys. I'm on hold with Scam Likely...

**Henry:** He's Mark Likely's brother. Dennis says he's one trustworthy dude.

**Scam:** You've received a call from Scam Likely!

**Anthony:** The only thing people know for sure, is that he's definitely a better dad than Ron Stampler.

**Glenn**: Dang, Dennis, you saved me from nutting myself again!

**Will:** Henry's favorite dad is Dennis.

**Darryl**: I wish you were my dad, Dennis.

**Henry:** That's a great recipe for vegan chili, Dennis! I love it—

**Darryl:** Dennis, you are the best—

**Glenn:** Dennis, weren’t you part of a barbershop quartet back in Skokie, Illinois?

**Ron:** Dennis, who are you? I know you weren't here before.

**Dennis:** Ron, we have to go.

**Anthony:** The greatest scam the devil ever pulled was convincing the scammer he couldn't be scammed...

**Ron:** Dennis? He just showed up.

**Anthony:** No. Dennis is definitely real. And he's been here since the first episode. Can you imagine how confused people would be if they spent a year with four dads on an adventure, and suddenly there was a fifth dad? That would be stupid. Oh, what a stupid idea that would be. Ridiculous.

**Terry Jr.:** Dennis isn't half the dad that you are.

**Ron:** And like that ... He's gone.

*[theme song]*

**Freddie:** Welcome to Dungeons and Daddies, a D&D true-crime hybrid podcast, about four dads from our world, flung into The Forgotten Realms on a quest to rescue their lost sons. My name is Freddie Wong. I play Glenn Close, the bard of the group, who plays rock and roll music, has a little Christmas cover band. That's the dad I play.

This week's dad fact: Everybody has a plan B, an escape plan. What they'll do, if their career explodes on them. Glenn Close believes that he could become a long-haul trucker if things all go to shit.

**Beth:** Nice.

**Will:** Wow.

**Freddie:** Because he feels like he's spent all that time crisscrossing the country in a van. He's like, "How much harder could it be with just 18 more gears? You know what I mean?"

**Beth:** He probably wouldn't have a regular cat, but would have a truck cat.

**Freddie:** A truck cat. Yeah. And has a cab he can sleep and play video games in. One of the things about long-haul trucking, two benefits to that. One, you see the country. Two, you don't have to really hang out with your kid. And then three—

*[laughter]*

**Beth:** God.

**Matt:** Jesus.

**Freddie:** Three, you get paid incredibly well. Because, right now, we're in an interregnum of sorts. This is Freddie now talking, just looking at the state of long-haul trucking.

**Beth:** What?

**Anthony:** This has never not been Freddie.

**Matt:** Yeah, all of Glenn's dad facts are Freddie talking.

**Freddie:** They expect long haul trucking to become totally automated, but that's not here yet. That's like 20 years down the line. In between now and then, they still need truckers, and a lot of the old-timers are retiring. So, if you're a young gun looking to get on the open road, you could do it, and get paid pretty well. Just saying. Just saying.

**Beth:** I think, as a trucker, that would be the best time, and the best vocation for listening to your favorite podcast.

**Will:** That's very true. Freddie, may I, uh, speak to Glenn for a moment? Could you put the mask of Glenn back on?

**Freddie:** Yeah, let me put Glenn back on. One second.

**Will:** Freddie, I was going to ask Glenn what his favorite trucker ballad is.

**Freddie:** What's a trucker ballad? Honestly, probably "Trucking" by The Grateful Dead.

**Will:** There you go. That makes sense. That checks out.

**Matt:** There you go.

**Freddie:** Because trucking is about, right? It’s about running from 5.0, and, like, getting caught up by the law. That's essentially trucking.

**Beth:** It's about taking the G out of ING words.

**Will:** Very true. Hello everyone. My name is Will Campos. I play Henry Oak. That's not Henry's voice. I don't know where that came from.

**Anthony:** *[low and weird]* It's me, Henry Oak-

**Will:** What the hell does Henry’s voice sound like?

**Freddie:** Wait, wait, wait. That's a good one.

**Will:** *[weird, non-Henry voice]* I'm Henry Oak. This is how Henry talks now.

*[switches to normal speaking voice]* No, that would be very bad. He's a hippie, crunchy munchy, Birkenstock-rocking hippie nature druid dad. Speaking of driving-related things. My Henry fact this week is that Henry did not learn how to drive until he was 27 years old.

**Freddie:** That's fine.

**Will:** Yeah, he did not, because he grew up on the commune, and he never had a chance to drive. And then he was a couple years into his relationship with Mercedes— he would make a lot of excuses about driving and be like, "Oh, my license. I don't really know." But then eventually he had to admit, like, “I don't know how to drive a car”. And it was actually her dad that taught him how to drive.

And the very first time that he met him, he was very nervous. And her father taught him how to drive, and it was, y’know, kind of like a bonding experience for them.

**Matt:** That's a good plot for like, another *Meet The Parents* movie.

**Will:** That would be good.

**Matt:** It’s like, Ben Stiller would show up, and it’s like, "Your husband doesn't even know how to drive!" And then Al Pacino's got to teach him, or Robert De Niro. I don't remember which one—

**Will:** Al Pacino's got to teach Owen Wilson how to drive.

**Anthony:** Al Pacino’s the rival dad, yeah.

**Matt:** Yeah, there you go.

**Freddie:** Can I ask a question, real quick, about Henry? Can I talk to Henry, real quick?

**Will:** Yes.

**Beth:** God.

**Matt:** Please, let's not make this a thing.

**Will:** Wait, wait, wait, give me a moment, give me a moment.

**Matt:** No, no. We're stopping this right now.

**Henry:** Hey Freddie, it's real nice to meet you! I spend most of my time in the imaginary world of the podcast, but it's super to be out here in the intro. Golly, gee whiz. Oh, it's so nice.

**Freddie:** God. Alright, move on, move on! Fuck this. Fuck this. It's stupid. Fucking dumb.

*[laughter]*

**Henry:** Alright, seems like you could have—

**Beth:** Henry spends most of his time driving you crazy.

**Freddie:** Get the fuck out! Goddamn it.

**Henry:** Now, I wish you guys could all get along, like all us dads get along in the podcast. I feel like if this were me and Darryl, we'd have a dialogue about it—

**Freddie:** Get out. Matt was right, Matt was right. Get the fuck out.

**Henry:** Okay. If you don't want to commit to the bit, I'll just leave.

**Will:** You guys, you really hurt Henry's feelings, you know?. He's texted me. He's like, "Hey Will, they weren't that nice."

**Beth:** He has his phone now?

**Will:** Uh…

**Beth:** Shut the fuck up.

*[laughter]*

**Matt:** All right. Hi, my name is Matt Arnold. I play Darryl Wilson, a stay-at-home coach dad who becomes a barbarian in The Forgotten Realms.

Just keeping it simple. I was thinking since we're getting into football territory, that the one problem - besides that it's not as good of a sport as football - that he has with soccer, is that there's just not any good soccer movies. So—

**Beth, Will, Anthony, Freddie:** Excuse me?

**Will:** Are you fucking kidding me?

**Matt:** This is Darryl talking—

**Beth:** *The Big Green, Bend it Like Beckham, Air Bud: World Pup*—

**Matt:** Matt has a list of soccer movies, but compared to football...

So Darryl's favorite, because obviously he tried to get Grant to watch a bunch of soccer movies, because he's like, "Oh, he doesn't want to watch *Rudy* or fricking *Draft Day, We are Marshall, Blindside*... I mean, there's so many. *The Freshman. Any Given Sunday*.” You could list it on and on.

He kept trying to find the right soccer movie. So, obviously, his favorite one is just *Ladybugs*, the 1992 movie with Rodney Dangerfield.

**Will:** Dude, *Ladybugs* slaps. *Ladybugs* slaps. And, Will fact, they shot it at my high school. Just flexing on that.

**Matt:** Oh really?

**Will:** Yeah. Our soccer field is the soccer field.

**Freddie:** What's Darryl's favorite football movie?

**Matt:** Oh, *Rudy.*

**Will:** Can you ask that question to Darryl?

**Beth:** Yeah.

**Freddie:** God, no.

**Freddie:** Oh that's right, *Rudy*.

**Matt:** *Rudy. Rudy*'s his favorite.

**Freddie:** Glenn's favorite football movie is *Concussion* with Will Smith.

**Beth:** No. I knew it! I knew you were going to say that stupid movie.

**Matt:** There was probably like some kid whose dad is, like, a producer at some small studio. And every time Darryl meets them, he was like, "Hey, you guys got to make another soccer movie. Just a little tip from me to you. A little soccer movie. That'll do well. That’ll do well." Anyways.

**Will:** It's interesting, because I feel like soccer movies are generally happier and less angry than football movies.

**Freddie:** Yeah.

**Will:** I feel like every football movie is like a flawed, fucked up guy. Again, it’s like *Any Given Sunday* is like, “if you keep playing this game, you're going to die.” And soccer movies are always wacky and fun and lighthearted. I feel like there's no gritty soccer movies-

**Beth:** It’s because it’s a better sport.

**Matt:** It's because they're kid's movies, is really what it is. That's what it is. But *Rudy*, man—

**Freddie:** Because they’re movies for children.

**Matt:** They’re movies for children. Like *Air Bud*, and *Ladybugs*.

**Anthony:** *Victory* is about Nazis, right?

**Will:** That’s true. That checks out.

**Matt:** Yes, that's a good movie.

**Anthony:** That one's good as hell.

**Beth:** It probably has something to do with the fact that there's no, like, adequate pipeline for women to become professional soccer players and get well paid like men can get paid for doing any sport.

So, there's this entire industry of women who are excellent at soccer, but can't get paid for it. And so, since America only seems to think soccer's cool when girls play it - and even then, not that cool - I think that's why there aren't any soccer movies.

**Matt:** That’s probably fair.

**Beth:** Hi, my name is Beth May. And I play Ron Stampler, emotionally detached stepfather and rogue. Fun fact about Ron this week is that he is a faster, better, runner, driver, everything, than Dennis.

**Will:** Who's Dennis, what are you talking about?

**Matt:** Who’s Dennis?

**Freddie:** I don't know who Dennis is. Dennis the Menace?

**Matt:** Hey Beth, we know who Dennis is, but I'm going to switch into Darryl so we can do the bit.

**Darryl:** Hi, Darryl Wilson here. Who’s Dennis?

**Will:** Ooh, are we talking to Darryl?

**Beth:** I don't even know who I am anymore. Should I call Beth May?

**Anthony:** I mean, canonically your characters remember who Dennis is.

**Henry:** Hey Darryl, it's me, Henry. Did you make it into the intro, too?

**Freddie:** Fuck off, all of you. This is a sacred time, where I can talk to my friends.

**Matt:** Is this because we're not on video? That's what it is.

**Will:** You know what it is, it's we're not in real life and we're not on video. So it's easier to break the reality of what the intro of the podcast even is, guys. Do you ever think about that? That's Will talking.

**Henry:** Great point, Will! You know, I really like the way your brain works.

**Will:** That was Henry.

**Matt:** We need a father. We need somebody who's going to tell us what we do next. Daddy Master, save us please. Give us some structure.

**Anthony:** Speaking of, I'm Anthony Burch. I am your Daddy Master.

**Matt:** Ahh, there we go. Hi, dad.

*[laughter]*

**Freddie:** That did not sound good.

**Anthony:** Horrible noise, horrible noise to follow the sentence that I said.

**Beth:** Big hinds relax energy.

**Freddie:** That big refractory period energy, y’know?

**Anthony:** Fuck that. All right, let's go back into our fantasy world and immerse ourselves in—

**Beth:** What’s your fact, Anthony?

**Anthony:** *[pained]* I don't have a fact! I'm tired!

**Will:** Anthony, can we talk to Anthony right now?

**Anthony:** That's the one thing that I'm glad I've accomplished, is that Anthony Burch is not a weird NPC. You haven't somehow tricked me into making me a stupid NPC that you fucking call for—

**Will:** Oh shit, challenge accepted, my dude.

**Anthony:** No. It's impossible now. It's the opposite of *The Secret*. I put it out in the universe. It will never happen.

**Will:** Now that you've said it will never happen, when we make it happen, it will be all the sweeter.

*[theme music]*

**Anthony:** To summarize what happened last episode, Walter the Immoral showed up and basically created a new situation with you and your kids, where you don't have to lug around all the NPC children anymore. He's going to take the non-relevant NPC children, while you individually go after the anchors that are keeping you in this world. So you decided to first go to the town of Ballsdeep, where-

**Matt:** *[disguised as a cough]* Level up.

**Anthony:** Sorry?

**Matt:** Oh, sorry. Did I sneeze? *[fake-coughing]* Level up.

**Will:** *[joins in the bit]* Level up.

**Matt:** Do we level up?

**Will:** Do we *[coughing]* level up?

**Matt:** Level up? Rest? Level up? Do we rest and level up?

**Anthony:** You can rest. You're not going to level up.

*[disappointed Matt sounds]*

**Will:** Anthony, we haven't leveled up since, like, 2019.

**Beth:** Yeah, literally.

**Will:** I don't think we've done a level up this year.

**Anthony:** Yeah. It's weird how that works.

**Matt:** Damn.

**Beth:** Oh shit.

**Anthony:** And yet, you've never lost a fight. You've never really gotten close to dying. Nothing bad has happened.

**Beth:** I've gotten close to dying.

**Will:** What are you talking about? Fricking Ron and Glenn had those big death saves.

**Anthony:** Yeah. So dramatic. So, what happened was, you decided you're going to go to Ballsdeep. We also had some stuff where you found out that Scam Likely's brother, Mark Likely, wants to kill you, and has dedicated him/herself to making your lives a living hell, but then she disappeared.

**Freddie:** Thank you, Ashly, for showing up on the podcast!

**Anthony:** Thanks, Ash. Thanks for making us legit.

**Beth:** Who's Ashly?

*[Freddie laughs]*

**Anthony:** And then you arrived in Ballsdeep, and basically found that there's this big, massive colusseum. And before we ended the episode, you saw a big screen full of goblins holding red, green or blue torches, that basically displayed images. And the image that they displayed was Yeet Bigly catching a football out of the air, bringing it down to his face, and saying, "Are you ready for some football?"

**Matt:** Darryl's just ecstatic. And he's beaming from ear to ear. And he's just like—

**Darryl:** Boys, it’s been a tough one, but I think this one's going to go all right. Hey Grant, look at that. Isn't that the boy you like?

*[Freddie and Will laugh]*

**Anthony:** He cannot respond because his jaw is just agape, and his face is bright red. And he’s just like—

**Grant:** *[stammering]* I- uh...

**Darryl:** Yeet!

**Matt**: I start screaming “Yeet” at the screen, as if it's there.

**Darryl:** Yeet! Hey, where is he?

**Grant:** Yeah, we should go in. We should go. We should go in. Let's go in. Can we go in?

**Darryl:** Yeah. Of course. I'm sure you're excited to see— oh man, I'm glad he's still alive.

**Glenn:** Hold on, Darryl. Don't you want to make sure we get some of these good tailgating eats, before we head on in?

**Grant:** We ate the cow!

**Matt:** Can I roll Perception? What is around us? Is there tailgating?

**Anthony:** Okay, go ahead and roll Perception.

**Matt:** Okay, I'm going to roll Perception.

**Anthony:** There's absolutely tailgating.

**Matt:** Alright, but I'm going to roll Perception to see if I can find where the best dogs are at, where the best beer’s at. My Perception is +1. 17.

**Anthony:** Okay. Well with a 17, you can tell that there's a lot of good food out here. There's some ogre dogs, and there's some goblin fingers, and stuff like that. People roasting stuff up on little barbecues and pits of fire, but probably nothing that's going to taste as good or better than the Dread Cow Vacarys, that you already ate pretty recently.

Will: Now, question, Anthony: Are those—

**Freddie:** No, no, no. Flag on the play. Yellow flag. We had a whole fucking going-through-the-desert montage to get here.

**Anthony:** Yeah, and you were eating leftovers the whole time.

**Beth:** Oh, that's great.

**Freddie:** How long do you think that cow lasted?

**Matt:** It was huge.

**Will:** They made jerky.

**Anthony:** It was a very large cow.

**Will:** I seem to remember Darryl talking about making jerky out of it.

**Matt:** Yeah.

**Freddie:** How wild it would be if Glenn was just like, "Yeah, fuck y'all. I'm just eating hot dogs this whole episode."?

**Matt:** No, I mean, Darryl definitely is like—

**Darryl:** All right guys, let's get some hot dogs. Look for what looks the closest thing to hot dogs. You can't go to a football game without some hot dogs.

**Anthony:** Okay. Okay. So there is a four-armed goblin, standing next to four different grills. And each of his hands is flipping over different colored hot dogs. And he's going—

**Vendor:** Hot dogs, here! Get your hot dogs, here! Who wants a hot dog? You sir, you look like you need a hot dog. Big old man, big man with a beard! Bear man! You!

**Ron:** Me?

**Darryl:** Oh, absolutely! Alright, who wants dogs?

**Ron:** Yeah. Sure.

*[eager Glenn sounds]*

**Darryl:** Henry, do you want— uh, hey, what's in these guys?

**Will:** It's okay Darryl. I don't think these are vegan. And I feel like I've been banging that drum a little bit too much lately. So, you guys go ahead and have fun.

**Will:** I'd like to get a little bit more information about this strange land we're in. So maybe while the dads are chowing down, I'm going to try to approach the most affable-looking denizen of this, I guess, are we in the parking lot? Like, where are we, in comparison to the-

**Anthony:** Yeah, you're basically in the parking lot. There's a lot of chariots out here. It's the tailgate area, outside of the coliseum.

**Will:** Who does he see around him, in terms of people that he could talk to?

**Anthony:** So the first person you see is a buck-ass naked bugbear, who looks very friendly.

**Will:** Okay.

**Anthony:** And she catches you looking around, and she just waves at you. And she goes—

**Bugbear:** Hi!

**Will:** I wave back. And... what is a bugbear again?

**Beth:** Yeah.

**Freddie:** It's not a bear, that's also an insect. Got that wrong, when I first was listening to D&D podcasts.

**Anthony:** They kind of just look like, when you think of like a generic, like, *World of Warcraft*, level three, humanoid baddie, that's kind of what they look like. They're a little bit hairy, a little bit ogre-looking. Okay.

**Will:** That does not help me. Sure.

**Anthony:** They're just super generic.

**Will:** So, I wave, and I say—

**Henry:** Hail and well met! My name is Henry Oak. What can you tell me about this strange land I find myself in?

**Anthony:** She goes—

**Bugbear:** Oh, pleasure to meet you! I'm Berry "The Bare" Bugbear Barbarian.

**Anthony:** Thank you for that name, Kyle Quiggly. And she's called "The Bare", because she's completely naked.

**Beth:** Oh my gosh.

**Anthony:** And Berry is spelled B-E-R-R-Y. And she goes—

**Berry:** I am the biggest fan of the Supper Bowl, and I come every week, and I haven't seen you guys around. It's usually a pretty tight knit kind of community. So, I just thought I'd introduce myself. Sort of see what's what.

**Henry:** The Suffer Bowl? That's the name of what this is?

**Berry:** Sort of. Yeah, it's the name of it. And it's also what they're fighting for. The Supper Bowl is a big, cool cutlery dish that you can—

Basically, every two weeks, they run another Supper Bowl, and whoever is on top at the end of those two weeks gets to either get the Bowl itself, which has some magical capabilities, or they can take a much larger cash price. And pretty much everybody always takes a larger cash prize. At this point, it's like, part of the tradition is that you don't take the Supper Bowl, because that would be kind of a jerk move, because they'd have to name it something else—

**Henry:** Oh, that would be pretty in-supper-able, if someone did that.

**Berry:** [delighted] Ah, he did it! he did it!

**Anthony:** And she starts clapping.

**Henry:** Oh wow, I’m glad. Wow, what a supportive community. You know, a lot of times when I make jokes like that, people don't respond quite as positively. So then, they're playing some sort of game? Is that the idea?

**Berry:** Yes, yes, yes. They are playing the gentlemen, and gentle lady, and gentle person, and gentle robot’s game of Throw-the-ball-and-then-catch-the-ball-and-then-take-it-to-the-other-end-of-the-field. We call it "Throw ball, catch ball, take it to the end of the field" for short.

**Darryl:** Good old pigskin.

**Matt:** Darryl's got just food coming out of his mouth. He's already got half a hot dog.

**Freddie:** Glenn is eating the hot dog sideways, because that's how everyone eats hot dogs in this world. That's our world. That's how we eat hot dogs. It's sideways. We eat it sideways, from the front. You eat it in half.

**Beth:** Oh, no.

**Anthony:** So you just have ketchup on your ears, for the rest of the fucking adventure?

**Freddie:** Correct. Your first bite, you have two smaller hotdogs.

**Beth:** I would say Ron is, canonically, putting paint on his face. Like, team color paint.

**Anthony:** Yeah. Cheeseheads do it.

**Matt:** Here's the question. When you say that, because there's different versions of bugbears I see. Does it seem like naked in a way that you're like, "Oh, this is like a bear that's naked." Or it's like, "This is definitely a lady that's naked."

**Beth:** Why not both?

**Anthony:** Why don't you clarify that question for me.

*[laughter]*

**Matt:** Like, if we met Donald Duck naked, or like an orc naked, I would respond to that differently than just, like, a slightly hairy woman.

**Beth:** Speak for yourself, Matt.

**Will:** Are you asking Anthony if Darryl gets a boner when he looks at this lady? Is that what you're asking, essentially?

**Matt:** Or if he's going to respond to her nakedness.

**Anthony:** Her nickname is, "The Bare", like, as in "The Naked." So yeah, I would say you can look at her and tell that she is naked.

**Matt:** Oh, okay.

**Beth:** But she's nowhere near as sexy as naked Donald Duck.

**Anthony:** No, but who is really? Well Daffy, because he's got the choker.

*[troubled crosstalk, laughter]*

**Matt:** Oh no...

**Freddie:** Glenn, mouth full:

**Glenn:** What are the team's names?

**Darryl:** Yeah.

**Berry:** So the teams that are currently competing are... There's one called The Ravagers, that are kind of a mid-tier level team. And then the favorite, and the favorite for the past couple months, I guess? Maybe a little bit less, has been The Hotties.

**Beth:** Oh, man.

**Henry:** The Hotties...

**Anthony:** And at the mention of The Hotties, Grant, again, blushes very bigly.

**Darryl:** The Hotties?

**Beth:** Blushes *Bigly*…

**Freddie:** Yeah, he does.

**Henry:** Oh, Grant, that's the team of that boy you like, right? Isn't that the team?

**Darryl:** Yeah!

**Grant:** Can we please stop mentioning that he's the boy I like quite loudly?

**Henry:** Why? This is nothing to be embarrassed about. Y’know, you've got a crush, that's okay.

**Grant:** I get to determine—

**Henry:** Oh, that’s fair. No, that’s fair.

**Darryl:** Hey, hey, Henry, come on, come on. Grant here doesn't want to talk about *the boy that he likes*. Chill out. Leave it alone.

**Grant:** Stop! Stop doing that! Stop it! What if he hears?

**Freddie:** Glenn wants to be like—

**Glenn:** *[mouth full]* Ravagers sound cool. Where do I get their merch? Can I get a jersey?

**Freddie:** Glenn wants to be decked out in Ravagers gear, because he just perceives them as the underdog.

**Will:** Oh, God. That's me at literally every sport event I have ever been to in my life. I immediately just empathize with whatever team I think is worse, because then I'm rooting for the underdog, because I'm a basic human being.

**Beth:** Ron realizes that the face paint he put on isn't the color of either of the teams. It's like a hot pink or something.

*[laughter]*

**Anthony:** Berry says—

**Berry:** Well, they have merch inside. I was just about to head in and just basically put some bets down if you wanted to join me.

**Darryl:** Bets? Heck yes.

**Freddie:** Oh, sports betting! Now, Glenn is in. *Sports betting*, Anthony?

**Anthony:** ...Yeah.

**Freddie:** Glenn was willing to fucking bet on children.

**Anthony:** I wanted everyone to have something to do!

**Freddie:** Holy shit. Glenn is fucking like—

**Glenn:** What's the over-under? What's the spread?

**Darryl:** All right. If we're going to bet, we're going to do this fairly.

**Matt:** And I pull out our gold and I give everybody 10 silver. I'm like—

**Darryl:** Okay, we each get 10 silver to spend on the betting, and then at the end, we'll split it all up. We can all have a fair shake at betting.

**Henry:** Thanks, Darryl.

**Will:** And I ask Berry the Bare

**Henry:** Hey, Berry the Bare Bugbear, is there somewhere I could donate this 10 cents? Like a good charity or something like that? That's what I prefer to bet on, is, you know, the future.

*[exasperated noises, Freddie laughs]*

**Berry:** Yeah, I mean, they have barrels that are about giving money to underprivileged kids. But a lot of that goes to overhead, it's kind of a scam. So, I would hold onto it and just give it directly to the community.

**Henry:** Hmm. Well maybe I'll hold onto this and donate at home. So, just to ask you one more question, we're kind of on a quest here, because we're adventurers from another land. Have there been any reports of Daddy Magic in this area?

**Berry:** Ooh, I don't know what that means!

**Henry:** Okay. And then let me ask you one more question. Have you seen anyone that looks kind of like this guy?

**Will:** And I jerk my thumb toward Darryl—

**Henry:** But like, maybe older, like maybe with like a cool salt and pepper beard? Just like an older version of him?

**Ron:** Or like, dead?

**Matt:** When he does that, by the way, Darryl is already shirtless, and he's taken some of the face paint that Ron's using, and he's writing “YEET” on his chest.

[Freddie laughs]

**Will:** Oh my God.

**Beth:** Wow…

**Freddie:** Holy shit.

**Beth:** That is so complex.

**Matt:** And then, on his back, and he’s like—

**Anthony:** And Grant’s like—

**Grant:** *[mortified]* Oh my god.

**Darryl:** Grant. Grant, write “go.” Can you write “go" on my back?

**Grant:** No!

**Darryl:** Please? Ron?

**Ron:** What am I writing?

**Darryl:** Write "go." So I can say, "Go Yeet."

**Ron:** Okay—

**Beth:** And Ron writes it like van Gogh.

*[laughter]*

**Anthony:** Oh God. And Grant's just dying. Grant's slowly just taking point after point of psychic damage, just watching this happen. So, Berry the Bare Bugbear puts her hand under her chin, and she steps forward to Darryl. And then she just pokes him in the belly, and she goes—

**Berry:** No, because I would remember. Look at this boy, look at this big, good boy. No, I would recognize somebody who looked like an older version of him. Silver Fox of this cream puff. No, no, no.

**Darryl:** *[bewildered]* You're very ... Okay.

**Matt:** He turns away.

**Darryl:** This naked lady just touched me in the tummy. So...

**Will:** And you're naked from the waist up too. Like, that's very intimate.

**Matt:** Yup. Yup.

**Anthony:** Grant's like—

**Grant:** Do you see how it feels to be embarrassed like this?

**Darryl:** *[scoffs, unconvincingly]* I’m not embarrassed, Grant, I'm a grown man. Don't worry about it.

*[laughter]*

**Anthony:** Roll deception!

**Matt:** That's a 7, minus 1. That's a 6.

**Anthony:** So, Grant goes—

**Grant:** *[unconvinced]*Uh-huh.

**Beth:** Nice.

**Darryl:** Don't tell mom about this. Let's go inside guys. Let's go inside. Let's watch the game.

*[ambient sounds of crowds talking and cheering, horns blaring inside stadium]*

**Anthony:** You head inside. To your left, you can see a bunch of people taking and making bets. To your right, you can see a snack bar full of overpriced food. A lot of the same foods you saw outside, but just more expensive and commodified, and sodas and drinks and stuff.

**Freddie:** Sodas?

**Will:** Sodas?

**Matt:** Sodas?

**Beth:** Sodas?

**Will:** They've got sodas?

**Anthony:** The second I said sodas, I was like, "Oh, you fucked up. You fucked up. Shouldn't have said sodas."

**Matt:** Yup.

**Will:** What are the sodas? I want to know all the soda flavors, right now.

**Freddie:** Give me five fantastical soda flavors, Anthony!

**Anthony:** Orca-Cola.

**Will:** *[laughing]* Off the dome!

**Anthony:** Orc-Zero, Diet Orc, so that's three.

*[laughter]*

**Freddie:** You sly son of a bitch!

**Anthony:** Spite.

**Matt:** Okay.

**Freddie:** Just, Spite.

**Anthony:** Slice, but it's got a guy with like a big old sword on the art for the can. What are other sodas?

**Beth:** Tab.

**Will:** Tab just exists in this world.

**Anthony:** Yeah, they just have Tab. It's exactly the same. It's really weird. There's one called Mountain Do, but it's spelled D-O, and it's just a very large bipedal mountain, giving you a thumbs up, and the slogan is—

**Beth:** I like that. We should have that in—

**Anthony:** “Mountain don't think, Mountain Do!”

**Freddie:** Holy shit. I want large Mountain Do.

**Will:** Guys, this episode just paid for itself. I don't know.

**Freddie:** I get it, and I drink it. What's it taste like? What's Mountain Do taste like?

**Anthony:** It tastes kind of like somebody made a drink out of whipped cream and orange juice and then—

**Matt:** Oh, delicious!

**Will:** And pine needles?

**Anthony:** Yeah, and pine needles.

**Freddie:** I go like—

**Glenn:** Wow, this is [*pointedly]* better than our Mountain Dew!

**Matt:** Ha-cha-cha-cha.

**Freddie:** Okay. I want to go to the sports bookie real quick.

**Glenn:** Hey. Hey.

**Bookie:** What do you want?

**Glenn:** I want to do a parlay. Six ways, all in one game. What's the spread for the game?

**Bookie:** The spread is 35 Chile winks and a juggler.

**Glenn:** I want the Ravagers money line. I want over on completions and touchdowns. I want the over on interceptions, and the over on assists, and the opening coin flip. You take lightening bets?

**Bookie:** Do I take—? This guy wants to know if I take lightning bets! Are you kidding me? Who do you think I am?

**Glenn:** I want 10 silver a point.

**Bookie:** Right. That's a risky bet, my man. And you know what—

**Freddie:** I go ahead and place the risky bet from the film *Uncut Gems* on the other team!

*[laughter]*

**Anthony:** He gives you your ticket, you hold it, and you say, "I'm gonna cum!”

**Freddie:** “Oh my God, I’m gonna cum!"

**Beth:** “Holy shit, I'm gonna cum!”

**Freddie:** Okay. All right. Sorry, I just had to. Sorry. Okay. Whatever, fuck it.

**Anthony:** Okay. So you'll have to tell me if any of those things actually happen, because I don't track most of the things you just said.

*[Freddie laughs]*

**Will:** I mean, Freddie doesn't know half the things that he just said either, because he was quoting a movie.

**Anthony:** Fair enough. In front of you, after you all get your sodas coming back with very large Big Gulp-sized sodas, there is the entrance to the coliseum, which is notable for several reasons.

A) You can see a small little figures in the distance playing what you assume to be this world's version of football. B) You can see something suspended above the field. And from this distance, you can see it's moving. It's got some tentacles coming off of the top of it. You can't quite make it out from this distance, but it looks alive, and it's big. And then, C)—

**Freddie:** Like a big octopus-y thing that’s got—?

**Anthony:** A little bit. Yeah. Not full octopus-y, but a little octopussine. And then, next to the entrance to the coliseum is a big, ox-like man, like a bipedal ox-man, with a clipboard and a sign next to him that says "Team signups here, enter to win the Supper Bowl, gain eternal glory."

**Matt:** Is he naked?

**Anthony:** No, he's wearing clothes.

**Matt:** Okay. How many people were naked?

**Anthony:** It's just her. It's just Berry.

**Matt:** Oh, just her. Okay.

**Will:** She's just a nudist, man. Henry's like—

**Henry:** This is nudism, it’s a thing.

**Matt:** Darryl wasn't speaking out loud. Darryl was slyly looking around for more nude people.

**Will:** Henry knew what Darryl was thinking. And he said—

**Henry:** Hey, man, they just have nudists here. You know? Like, there’s—

**Darryl:** What? Who are you talking about? Oh, I totally forgot about that naked lady. I don't know what you're talking about, Henry.

**Henry:** Okay.

**Anthony:** Again, roll Deception with disadvantage. You failed the first one. So now everybody knows what you look like when you're lying.

**Matt:** A 9.

**Anthony:** Yeah. That ain't going to do it.

**Will:** Yeah, no. So Henry is just like—

**Henry:** Yeah. You know, look Darryl. It's just some people, that's just how they choose to live in their body. I saw you got your shirt off pretty quick, once we got in here. So, that's how people do it. That's all. It’s no big deal.

**Darryl:** Yeah. No, I agree.

**Anthony:** Berry's like—

**Berry:** Yeah, it's no big deal, boy! *[tickling sounds]*

**Anthony:** And she tickles your nipples.

**Matt:** She tickles my nipples? I go—

**Darryl:** Excuse me! Lady, I am *married*!

**Berry:** Nobody's *that* married, come on!

**Beth:** *[laughing]* Nobody’s that married. Wow.

**Darryl:** *I* am that married. Guys, let's go sign up. Just walk away from her.

**Henry:** Wow. Okay. Yeah. This lady is kind of toxic. Let's get some distance. That was not okay. So yeah, I'm with Darryl on this one.

**Berry:** I'll see you guys later probably, when you have more questions about the way this world works!

**Anthony:** Do you want to talk to this ox, who's taking signups?

**Freddie:** Yes, clearly we do.

**Henry:** Well, do we want to play the game? I thought we were here to watch. Like, I don't understand. I feel like—

**Matt:** I just walked away from her, and then I find myself kind of just moving away, and I see the big ox. I go—

**Darryl:** Hi, sir. Darryl Wilson. Nice to meet you.

**Anthony:** The ox man goes—

**Ox Man:** Ah, always pleasure to meet a new fan to the Supper Bowl. I haven't seen you around here. New blood, new blood, fresh blood, blood, blood, blood. Have you come to watch or to play or maybe a little bit of both?

**Darryl:** Wait, we can play?

**Ox Man:** Of course, of course, that's what I'm here for! To take signups for playing! Every two weeks, the top ranked team gets to take either the Supper Bowl - which you probably shouldn't do, because it's a tradition where you just don't do that - or a great deal of money. And as you can see over there, the Supper Bowl is being held by our Grand Beholder.

**Anthony:** And he points at the undulating mass of orbs and sort of mild tentacles. And as he points at it, you, specifically, Darryl, can tell, "Oh, okay. This is where my anchor is.”

You feel it, the daddy connection that tethers you to this realm, it's in the Supper Bowl. And the Supper Bowl is being held in the mouth of a Beholder, which is a very large floating head, with a bunch of eyes on little stalks that come out of its head instead of hair. And one big central- it's like a cyclops. And it's holding the Supper Bowl in its mouth, gingerly, and watching the game with all of its eyes, and going—

**Beholder:** *[modulated, deep and echoing]* Yeah. Hell yeah. Hit each other hard.

**Matt:** Okay. I go—

**Darryl:** Oh, sir, sorry, what was your name?

**Football Frank:** My name’s Football Frank.

**Darryl:** All right, Football ... Ooh, That's my dad's name! Frank, not Football Frank, but nice to meet you. One second—

**Will:** Holy shit! Fan theory: is this Darryl's dad, and he's been turned into a giant ox?

**Darryl:** Guys, quick dad huddle? Plus you kids. That's right, Grant and Paeden! Hey, Paeden. I remember you're here. How's it going Paeden?

**Beth:** Wait, what?

**Paeden:** You can't forget, baby.

**Darryl:** How's it going, Paeden?

**Paeden:** I'm going great.

**Darryl:** Good, good. Hey guys, so I know this is our first anchor thing, but see that giant floating squid creature?

**Henry:** Oh, yeah.

**Darryl:** We've done a lot of weird stuff, and I'm feeling that thing where I'm like, "that's it". I don't know if we've got to kill it? But that's definitely the anchor.

**Anthony:** Paeden goes like—

**Paeden:** The thing itself, or the thing in its mouth, the bowl?

**Darryl:** Probably the bowl. I guess that makes more sense than the creature.

**Henry:** But it seems like either way, daddy is in the eye of the Beholder.

**Freddie:** Fuck you. Fuck you.... Oh my God.

**Anthony:** *[prolonged groan]* Inspiration for Will, unfortunately.

**Freddie:** Oh my God.

*[Angry Matt noises, Will laughs evilly]*

**Freddie:** God, you had that cocked and locked didn't you? Fuck off.

**Will:** I did, a little while ago.

**Freddie:** God.

**Anthony:** Oh boy, oh boy.

**Will:** I was just biding my time. Henry's like—

**Henry:** Wow. So you think this Supper Bowl is part of your anchor to this world?

**Darryl:** I mean, yeah.

**Ron:** I was just wondering if anybody had won the Supper Bowl before and chosen the Supper Bowl, because they're saying that nobody chooses the Supper Bowl. But if nobody chooses it, then why is it there to begin with?

**Darryl:** Good question. Hey Frank, can you come into this huddle?

**Anthony:** Frank sort of squeezes and goes—

**Football Frank:** Ah, yes. What-why? What? Yes, what’s up?

**Darryl:** Ron, do you want to ask him what you just asked?

**Ron:** All right. Yeah, Frank.

**Football Frank:** Generally, there've been a couple of teams that have won the Supper Bowl over the years. The Road Warriors have won it. The Blue Curtains have won it. The Big Strong Dogs have won it—

**Freddie:** *[delighted]* The Big Strong Dogs!

**Football Frank:** But generally it tends to either have some sort of mild, inconvenient curse attached to it that makes you kind of want to give it back, or it just ends up being just a big old bowl that you can't do a lot with.

You can't really sell it, because nobody wants to buy it. It's more of a symbolic thing than an actual treasure. So they usually end up giving it back in exchange for the cash prize. So it's like our mascot sort of thing that we don't actually want to give up. So we've just increased the monetary prize every week without actually...

**Darryl:** Wait, so you've had to increase the monetary prize in order for people to not take the option you've chosen to give them in the first place.

**Football Frank:** Mm-hmm.

**Henry:** That's classic game design, actually.

**Football Frank:** That's inflation, baby.

**Darryl:** That’s - that’s not...Okay. All right. I'm confused. Ron, does that make sense?

**Ron:** Uh, yeah. Speaking as a businessman, I respect inflation. Maybe.

*[laughter]*

**Will:** Henry sort of nods resolutely and says—

**Henry:** Well, gentlemen, it looks like we need this bowl to sever Darryl's anchor to this world, and looks like there's really only one way we're going to be able to do that.

**Will:** And then I turn—

**Matt:** Darryl pulls out a ton of gold and goes—

**Darryl:** How much is this going to cost?

**Freddie:** *[laughing]* Oh my God, can we bypass this *whole* dungeon with money?

**Darryl:** I hear what you're thinking, Henry. I hear what you're thinking. If this is—

**Henry:** I am, because I was going to say, let's figure out what the price of this thing is.

**Darryl:** Yeah.

**Anthony:** So, you're trying to bribe Football Frank to get the Supper Bowl?

**Darryl:** Well, Frank, it just seems like most people rather take money than that bowl. So can we just take that bowl and give you a bunch of money?

**Freddie:** I'm going to nudge Darryl and say—

**Glenn:** Darryl, worst-case scenario, we could also bribe the other team. They'll take a hit. They'll take a fall.

**Darryl:** That'd be cheating.

**Henry:** Glenn raises a good point. We could just wait for one of these teams to win, and then give them more money than the prize money if they take the Supper Bowl, and then just give us the Supper Bowl.

**Darryl:** That’s true!

**Anthony:** So, while you guys are talking about this, the ox is rubbing the bridge of his nose and he goes—

**Football Frank:** Clearly you seem to think that this is some sort of Unfortunate Foster Children, all we care about is money, Johnny-come-lately, sports entertainment enterprise. That's not what this is. We believe in the sanctity of athleticism, and of victory, and of failure. And of getting better, and of coming back every week and trying your mettle against—

**Matt:** Now Darryl has an erection.

**Football Frank:** You may certainly try to bribe one of these teams. Lord knows that it’s been done before. You can even try to bribe me, but I can tell you, with some certainty, it's almost certainly not going to happen. Because we came here for the love of one thing and that is—

**Ron:** Balls.

**Football Frank:** Throwing a skinned ball around and hitting each other kind of hard in ways that will cause permanent brain complications that can never be reversed.

**Henry:** So where does that leave us? Vis-a-vis just trying to buy this trophy.

**Darryl:** Yeah, we need that trophy.

**Football Frank:** Well, if you're trying to buy it from me, I'm not going to sell it. I just sign teams up. If you wanted to try to haggle with anybody, you'd have to haggle with the Beholder who guards the trophy. And given that he is a Beholder, and very powerful one at that, I do not suspect he will lightly give up.

**Henry:** But it does seem to me, we could arrange a side deal with one of the teams, like... who do we think is going to win? It seems like this kid Yeet is like a pretty good football player. Maybe we could just pay them to do a little trade.

**Darryl:** Yeah, how's Yeet's team doing?

**Football Frank:** Yeet's team is doing great. They were absolutely the favorite ever since they showed up.

**Darryl:** Oh, he's somebody's favorite. You know what I mean?

**Matt:** And then I nudge Grant.

**Grant:** *[mortified and furious, through gritted teeth]* Dad! Stop it!

**Football Frank:** Ever since they showed up covered in blood, from what they said was a For Knights tournament, they've been consistently winning. In fact, Yeet Bigly, their quarterback, has allegedly never missed a single pass. Never lost one to pass interference, never thrown one out of bounds. Never. And his sister, Killa, is one heck of a receiver. So those two together, they more than make up for the weaknesses in the rest of the roster.

**Beth:** That's awesome that Yeet has such good depth perception with only one eye, too.

**Football Frank:** Yeah, a lot of the other players have been gouging out eyes of their own to get Yeet Bigly's power, and it has not worked.

**Matt:** It's like the left nut thing with... what's his name? Sorry.

**Freddie:** Wait, sorry, what?

**Anthony:** Hitler?

**Will:** Lance Armstrong?

**Matt:** Yeah, Lance Armstrong.

**Will:** That was the secret of Lance Armstrong's power, you're right.

**Matt:** Yep.

**Beth:** *[sighing]* Oy.

**Anthony:** Bike hard, no nut, can't lose.

*[laughter]*

**Matt:** And cheat.

**Anthony:** And cheat. Yeah. Cheat hard, no nut, can’t lose.

**Ron:** Well, okay. If we want to both win and impress Mr. Yeet and Ms. Killa, we could pay them to take the fall in the game. And then we go against the Rampagers, right?

**Anthony:** Ravagers, but yeah, close enough.

**Ron:** Ravagers, and then we do good. And then everybody's really impressed with us, and we win the Supper Bowl.

**Anthony:** So as you say that you hear, and I guess anybody who's looking at the Beholder can see, the Beholder opens its mouth and bellows—

**Beholder:** Oh, the Hotties win!

*[crowd roars]*

**Anthony:** And the crowd inside loses their mind. And you see one of the teams begin to stream off of the field towards you. And you see in front of them is Yeet Bigly on his skateboard, as ever. And he's giving a noogie to Killa DeMall, and he's going—

**Yeet:** I thought it was close there at the end, but we managed to nail it didn't we, sis?

**Anthony:** And she goes—

**Killa:** Sure did, bro.

**Anthony:** And he sees all of you and he goes—

**Yeet:** Hey! Look, Killa, it's the daddies!

**Anthony:** And she goes—

**Killa:** Hey, what's up guys? What brings you here?

**Matt:** I point at my chest and I turn back and forth so you can see both sides of me.

**Killa:** Yeet Gog?

**Darry:** Go Yeet.

**Killa:** That's not what it says.

**Darryl:** Go Yeet, go Yeet! Dude, you did great. And you, Killa.

**Freddie:** Glenn goes—

**Glenn:** I'm fucking ruined! I'm fucking ruined!

*[laughter]*

**Yeet:** What brings you here? Hey, Grant!

**Anthony:** And Grant's like—

**Grant:** *[squeaky]* Ah.

**Darryl:** Oh, hey Grant, do you want to say hi?

**Grant:** *[distressed, slightly squeakier]* Ah. Uh. Hey, uh, it’s—

**Will:** So Henry, sensing the poor lad's awkwardness, nudges Darryl and says—

**Henry:** Hey, Darryl, I could actually use your help with something over here, and the other dads? Grant, why don't you fill Yeet and Killa in on why we're here.

**Will:** And then I'm like—

**Henry:** Guys, there's an important quest item over this way.

**Darryl:** Oh, okay.

**Matt:** I just follow.

**Anthony:** Grant, like, tries to coolly snap a finger gun, and point at you and he just goes—

**Grant:** *[strange, high-pitched noise, attempting nonchalance]* I'll do it.

**Darryl:** Hey, Yeet, we're gonna—

**Matt:** And then I turn around—

**Darryl:** That way!

**Matt:** And I point at my back, and I walk away from him.

**Yeet:** Gog? You’re gonna Gog that way?

**Anthony:** You can sort of see, presuming that you’re, y’know, casting looks over your shoulder—

**Matt.** I don't know where Henry's bringing us, but the whole time I'm just staring back. I'm trying to watch Grant and Yeet.

**Anthony:** So you can see that Grant is like, very awkwardly sort of flailing his hands around, trying to look casual, trying to lean on things, failing to do so.

**Will:** Anthony, just so you know, one of Henry's abilities is that he's Observant, which means he can read lips. So I would like to offer to translate what Grant is saying to the rest of the dads.

**Freddie:** Ooh.

**Anthony:** Okay. So I'll just sort of say it and presume that you are communicating this to everybody else.

**Matt:** Ooh, it's like watching a play. Anthony, do a play for us.

**Anthony:** It's not like watching a play because it's only audio. What do you want me to...

**Beth** It's like watching an audio play.

*[laughter]*

**Matt:** I'm using my fingers to act it out in front of me. Go.

**Anthony:** So you can, air quotes, “hear”, basically, a conversation wherein Grant says like—

**Grant:** Yeah, so we tried to leave, and then it didn't work out—

**Anthony:** And he basically fills him in on all the plot shit that's happened.

**Beth:** So not much, am I right, fellas?

*[laughter]*

**Anthony:** Not a whole lot. You walked five feet over the course of several weeks.

**Will:** I see him use the term “five-footer” several times as he's—

**Anthony:** He puts his arms out to like, show what five feet is. And Yeet's like—

**Yeet:** Oh man, that sounds rough. So you guys are going to try it? You're going to enter, you and me are going to be fighting against each other for the Supper Bowl? That'd be cool, man.

**Anthony:** And he playfully like, hits him on the shoulder with a fist and Grant goes—

**Grant:** *[high-pitched, awkward]* Ahh haha, yeah. Yeah? Yeah. So actually, what we wanted to do was, we're thinking maybe, since you guys are going to win anyway, and you're going to get the money, we could pay you, and instead of you taking the cash prize, you could take the Supper Bowl, give us the bowl, and then we would just give you the money. And then we could use that.

**Anthony:** And Yeet goes—

**Yeet:** *[wincing]* Ooh. I mean, I really want to help you guys. I genuinely do. But we're trying to sort of make a living for ourselves doing this. And if it's known that we like, got the bowl and then sold it off, it diminishes the prestige of the whole thing. And I think they might not want to book us going forward. So, I think it kinda might screw us over a little bit.

**Henry:** Uh oh, I think Grant's in trouble!

**Darryl:** He'll figure it out.

**Henry:** Okay, I just feel like we're going to wind up having to play in this game. It's fine. I just feel like maybe we shouldn't have given Anthony the ability to sidestep our own derail by giving him the opportunity to talk his own way through it.

**Anthony:** So Yeet's like—

**Yeet:** Yeah, because I would love to see you guys play. I think it'd be really cool to see you out— Cause you handled yourself really well in that For Knights. Cause when I look at you, I think, “that's a linebacker. I think that boy is a linebacker.” I think you'd be really good at it.

**Anthony:** And Grant's like—

**Grant:** I—yeah, totally!

**Will:** Henry is frantically waving to Grant, being like—

**Henry:** No, make him give the thing!

**Will:** And he's gesticulating wildly.

**Darryl:** Tell him we'll pay him!

**Anthony:** Grant gives you a thumbs up. And he goes—

**Grant:** Yeah, absolutely. Yeah. So, I'm going to be a really great linebacker. I'm going to score a lot of points...

**Anthony:** He goes—

**Yeet:** Well, linebacker's defense.

**Anthony:** He goes—

**Grant:** Yeah, no, absolutely. I'll make them not score points. It'll be great. And… could we actually, like— [*increasingly high-pitched]* Are you doing anything later? Anything?

*[laughter]*

**Anthony:** And Yeet's like—

**Yeet:** What? I can't—?

**Anthony:** He's like—

**Grant:** *[high-pitched and flustered]* I think, like— Later, after dinner, did you want to, like, hang out? *[dissolves into squeaky gibberish]*

**Anthony:** And Yeet goes like—

**Yeet:** Oh yeah, sure. No, I'm not doing anything later, after— Yeah, I'll have to shower—

**Anthony:** And then Grant goes like—

**Grant:** *[flustered noise]*

*[laughter]*

**Anthony:** He goes—

**Yeet:** Yeah, I’ll shower up, and then yeah, we can grab dinner or something, grab some dogs.

**Anthony:** And he goes—

**Grant:** Yeah, grab some dogs.

**Anthony:** He goes—

**Yeet:** Anyways, I gotta bounce. Killa, let's go.

**Anthony:** And they head off to the showers and Grant comes back to you, and he goes—

**Darryl:** We heard everything. He was lip reading for us.

**Grant:** Oh. Oh no. I was having a private conver— That was… *[deep breath]* Well, either way, I think it went pretty well. I mean, I think we could go into the game and we'll win. We just have to, y’know— I don't think we can beat Yeet, but like, we'll get close. I think we should just play. I feel like I’m linebacker, obviously.

**Ron:** Ever since you started that conversation I've been stretching my hammies, and I'm revving and ready to go, actually.

**Glenn:** You ever played football Ron?

**Ron:** Me? It's not the golf one, right?

**Glenn:** No.

**Ron:** But it's near the feet.

**Glenn:** Yes. Well, no.

**Grant:** No? Yes and no.

**Darryl:** No, you don’t use your feet, but—

**Ron:** Do you wear a helmet?

**Anthony:** Football Frank goes—

**Football Frank:** Would you like me to explain the rules of “catch it, grab it, throw it, run it across the field to the other end of the field”?

**Ron:** As briefly as possible, if you could.

**Football Frank:** Sure. So there's offense and defense. When you have the ball on offense, your goal is to get it to the other end of the field. And when you do, you get six points. And defense's job is to make sure you can't do that. That's it, pretty briefly. There are more specifics that you run into when you actually play.

**Darryl:** No, that's about right. That's about right.

**Ron:** That sounds great, yeah.

**Darryl:** All I know is that— Grant, you really want to play football? With your dad?

**Grant:** Yeah. I guess, with my dad. Yeah. Yeah.

**Darryl:** And there's a guy named Frank? Right here. I'm going to play with my boys. All of you. Hell yeah. Hell yeah! Let's do this, guys.

**Freddie:** Darryl's on his knees, just fucking weeping tears of joy.

**Henry:** Darryl, I’m—

**Darryl:** What, Henry? You ready for this?

**Henry:** Yeah, man. I was just going to say, I'm really excited that you're going to get this chance to bond with Grant. I'm really stoked for you, dude.

**Darryl:** Yeah. Hell yeah!

**Henry:** Is stoked the right word? Is that what you say in a situation like this, stoked? Is that— I feel like I've heard “stoked”, but I never really got the context of it.

**Darryl:** I think so. Yeah, I think we’re good.

**Henry:** Okay. Well then I'm stoked! You know, I'm not usually a football man myself, but you put me down for whatever you guys need. Like if you need someone to make sure everyone's being safe, like I heard there's a safety? Is that what the safety does? He makes sure everyone's being safe? I could do that.

*[Freddie laughs]*

**Darryl:** Hell yeah, we'll figure out what we’re all good at. Frank, hey Frank!

**Football Frank:** Yes?

**Darryl:** We're signing up.

**Football Frank:** Ooh. Okay! Well first things first. What is the name of your team?

**Ron:** *[uncertainly]* The Doodlers That... Are... Very Aggressive.

**Darryl:** I mean, yeah, we're the Doodlers.

**Football Frank:** Okay, great! Doodlers. Okay. Actually, you signed up just in time because we just had a team drop out. So if you're ready to go in now I can give you your playbook and we can just get you on the field as soon as possible!

**Darryl:** Wait, why are you giving us our playbook? I know how to play football.

**Glenn:** We have our own playbook, dude.

**Darryl:** Yeah, it's all right here—

**Matt:** I point to my head.

**Darryl:** I got a playbook.

**Football Frank:** Oh. Okay. Well, I mean, it's just, a lot of people consider it helpful for going out there, but if you don't want it, I can—

**Henry:** Listen pal, we're just going to run Da Bomb over and over again, because that's objectively the best play.

**Anthony:** Okay. Okay. So as you say that, he goes—

**Football Frank:** Oh, so you have played!

**Anthony:** And he opens up the playbook and there's only two plays on it and one is called Da Bomb and one is Sub Zero.

*[laughter]*

**Will:** Midway presents *NFL Blitz*!

**Anthony:** The only plays available are those two plays from *NFL Blitz 2000*.

**Darryl:** Do we need five more players?

**Football Frank:** No.

**Darryl:** How many people are on each team?

*[Freddie laughs]*

**Football Frank:** It's six people per team.

**Darryl:** Oh, so it's kind of like football.

**Football Frank:** So, counting up you all, it's one, two, three, four, five, six. So yeah. There’s six of you.

**Darryl:** Yeah! All right.

**Henry:** Well, it all worked out perfectly.

**Glenn:** Paeden, do you know the sport? What position do you play?

**Paeden:** I'm sort of a one man defensive line. They sort of come at me and then they don't get back up. Yeah, I put them down, they don't come back up. They call me The Wall. There ain’t no getting past The Wall.

**Freddie:** I love the idea that Paeden is stretching as he's saying that.

[Beth laughs]

**Anthony:** Yeah, absolutely. He's somehow already in gear, like, you don't even know where he got it from.

[laughter]

**Ron:** Oh, is that what a football uniform looks like?

**Paeden:** Uh no, this is what a man looks like, baby. Ka-kow!

**Ron:** I was going to say, I guess I've never played football before, but on second thought, I guess I've never been a man before. [chuckle] Am I right fellas? Just kidding. I've been a man my whole life.

[Freddie laughs]

**Darryl:** Okay, Ron. Yeah.

**Henry:** Now what is the rule on magic? Can we cast magic spells during the game? Is that cheating? I don’t— We're not really from around here, so I don't really know what the—

**Darryl:** Good question, Henry.

**Football Frank:** I see. I see. Let me lay the whole experience out for you. So generally speaking, anything goes, so the rules of this beloved game are basically—

**Anthony:** I'm trying to find a way to phrase it in canon in a way that's not identical to *NFL Blitz*. But—

**Football Frank:** So, basically, it's 30 yards to the first down, pass interference is allowed, and extra points are automatic when you score a touchdown. Whenever you're playing, you can choose to either hit somebody in a way to make them stop moving and drop the ball, or you can hit them in a way to do physical damage to them. And that counts with weapons, or spells, or what have you.

So, when somebody is coming at you with the ball, you can either say, “hey, I want to tackle this person and make sure that they stop”. And, you know, then they'll have to start a new down, or you can run the risk of “I'll hit them with my ax or something to try to maim them”, but taking the risk that they will continue without having been downed. And they'll just keep running and potentially score a touchdown.

**Henry:** Follow-up question— and, again, I hate to be a safety nerd— Do people die playing this game? Is that something that happens?

**Football Frank:** They do not, generally! We have some very good part-time doctors that will basically deal with any injuries you might have. We have beds where long rests can be had—

**Ron:** Oh, wow!

**Football Frank:** And during halftime, there are going to be a multitude of potions that you can quaff if you so wish. And amongst those are healing potions. They're in very large jugs like orange jugs with spigots on the bottom. At the end of the game, you can dump them on one another and get all your health back.

**Freddie:** Oh my god.

**Henry:** Are there potions that will give us all super big heads?

**Anthony:** [laughs] He leans in and the light gets dark on his face, and he goes—

**Football Frank:** [darkly] That's only if you know the secret words.

[laughter]

**Darryl:** That sound— Maybe it's a little too dangerous for you two—

**Matt:** Looking at Grant and Paeden.

**Anthony:** Grant goes—

**Grant:** No! No, absolutely not— I can do this. I can for sure do this. This is the one thing I'm good at is fucking people up! I'm doing this. I got to do this.

**Anthony:** And Paeden's like—

**Paeden:** I feel like I'm pretty good, I'm in the prime of my life, baby, this is it. If not now, when? If not me, who? You know what I mean?

**Darryl:** Okay.

**Glenn:** Paeden's a winner! And a winner always wants the ball when the game's on the line.

**Paeden:** That's right, baby.

**Henry:** Darryl, you know, I do have a spell called Stone Skin, which I could cast on Paeden. Do you ever play the game *Super Mario World ‘64*? And he has that little cap that turns him metal? I think it would turn him into, like, metal Paeden. So I think we could maybe protect Paeden at all costs, so to speak.

Matt: I lean over to him and I whisper really quietly, I go—

Darryl: Hey, man, I really like Paeden, but... why are you saying that about Paeden and not Grant?

Henry: I— because Paeden's eight, dog!

[laughter]

Beth: I hate that you guys are calling each other man and dog.

Anthony: You called him baby last episode!

Darryl: Paeden kills people. Grant’s my son.

Henry: That’s true, that’s true.

Anthony: I got news for you, motherfucker, so does your son!

[Freddie laughs]

Matt: [laughing] Yeah, that’s true. Okay—

Darryl: All right. I think this is what we— this is a dangerous world. And, you know, this seems less dangerous than a lot of the stuff that we've done, so— and it's football!

Henry: We're going to be proactive about protecting the kids. You know, I'll be the safety, so I'll make sure that everyone's going to be safe on the squad. So that's going to be my job. So I'm going to look after—

Matt: I put my finger to his mouth to shush him. I go—

Darryl: Henry, this is my ball game.

Matt: I turn into coach mode and I go—

Darryl: You're right, you will be safety, but it's not to keep people safe, Henry. You know what safety does?

Henry: It keeps people safe, right? That's why you would call it a safety, because it seems like a pretty dangerous game.

Darryl: No. You are the last resort for if anybody gets past us. If anybody gets past the line, you take them down.

Henry: Whoa.

Darryl: You use that muscle of yours.

Matt: And I punch him in the gut, like softly. And I go—

Henry: Ow!

Darryl: You use that muscle of yours and you stop them from winning. And you, Glenn...

Glenn: Huh, what? Yeah?

Darryl: I don't know what you're going to do yet.

Glenn: I need to go to the bathroom. I’ve had a lot of Mountain Do.

Darryl: We'll figure this out.

Glenn: I gotta pee this out. This goes through your system so much faster than our Mountain Dew.

Henry: Sounds like you got a Mountain Dew: Code Red over there.

[laughter]

Darryl: Paeden, I know you think you're a wall, but you're the fastest, quickest dude I know.

Paeden: I’m a fast wall!

Darryl:You're going to take that ball and you're going to run through. And you know what? You will be a wall. If anybody tries to tackle you, you're going to get right through them, aren't you?

Paeden: I like the way you think, baby.

Freddie: Not quite sure if that analogy tracks, but we'll keep going with it.

Paeden: I'm a fast wall that cannot be stopped, I'm a weaving wall. I'm like a snake!

Matt: And I go—

Darryl: Ron?

Ron: Yeah?

Darryl: You're our secret weapon.

Ron: What position is that?

Darryl: You're just going to do whatever you want to do.

[everyone laughs]

Darryl: When we play, you don't even listen to me. You just do whatever you want to do on the field, my man. Can you do that?

Ron: Oh man, I've been doing that my whole life.

Darryl: Good. Grant?

Grant: Yeah?

Darryl: You know what's left?

Grant: Linebacker.

Darryl: No, QB.

Grant: Oh, you want me to be the QB?

Darryl: Yeah, that’s the last one.

Grant: Oh.

Darryl: Hey Frank, you got a ball?

Anthony: He goes—

Football Frank: Absolutely!

Beth: I got two.

[laughter]

Beth: I hate myself.

Matt: I hand it to Grant and I go—

Darryl: I know you got this.

Matt: And I scream out, I go—

Darryl: Yeet!

Anthony: Yeet already went to the shower.

Freddit: He's so gone.

Darryl: YEET!

Matt: I scream super loud.

Grant: Dad, shut up! He might hear you. He’s in the showers, but he might hear you, stop—

Darryl: Oh, okay. Nevermind. I was just going to see if you could throw it to Yeet, it's cool. I know you can throw well, you're the QB.

Grant: Yeah, I mean, I threw that axe really good when we were leaving the cave. So I guess so— Okay.

Darryl: And I mean, your old man's center. He's going to protect you. He's going to make sure nobody hits you.

Grant: Oh. Great!

Darryl: All right! It's time to shine. You're going to be the main guy.

Grant: Yes! Yes, I am! I'm the guy. I'm the main guy, that's me. I’m the guy.

Freddie: Glenn comes back from the bathroom.

Glenn: Darryl, I figured it out! Can I be special teams?

[Will and Beth laugh]

Darryl: Yes, you will also be— When there are special teams, you'll be on the special teams. I promise.

Glenn: Because it sounds like, really fucking cool, you know what I mean?

Darryl: Yeah, no, special teams is pretty cool.

Anthony: It's like when they call in SWAT, it's when there's something only special teams could do.

Glenn: It's like SEAL Team Six. You know what I mean? I'll be like the SEAL Team Six of this fucking team, dude.

Darryl: Hey—

Matt: I look around, I'm like—

Darryl: We *are* like SEAL Team Six.

Glenn: Yeah!

Paeden: There are six of us.

Darryl: Cause there's six of us. That's how it works. Right? SEAL Team Six. That's six guys?

Henry: That’s six guys. I think that's how it works.

Freddie: Six guys!

Ron: Let's hit the turf, fellas.

Darryl: Alright, Frank, you let the crowd out there know that the Doodlers are ready to play.

Football Frank: I guess you could do that yourself when you go out. So—

Willl: Wait, the players just come out onto the field and say “we're ready to play now”?

Freddie: The players just have to hype themselves up? What kind of fuckin’ backyard-ass shit—

Darryl: This is sloppy. This is a sloppy tournament.

Ron: Hi, I'm Ron. Hi, I'm Ron. Hi, I'm Ron. Hi, I’m—

[laughter]

Anthony: He's just shaking hands as he goes down the bleachers.

Freddie: Ron shakes hands with every single person in the stadium.

Ron: Hi, I'm Ron.

Anthony: It takes several hours. Okay. So there's gear in a little anteroom before you go out onto the field. If you want to get geared up, obviously I presume?

Matt: Yes, I think so.

Anthony: Yeah, I presume. And, yeah. As you walk onto the field, presuming that you want to just walk on the field, you wanna get going?

Will: What manner of gear are we wearing?

Anthony: It is exactly what you would imagine football equipment looks like if it were made by people in the medieval times. So it's like, a lot of boiled leather, a lot of bulbous leather. That kind of covers you not quite enough.

Henry: It's like old-timey 1930s football stuff.

Anthony: Yeah, kind of. Yeah. Everyone has big old mustaches and striped shirts.

Beth: Wait. Okay, so the cup goes in the jockstrap, right? Is that what it is? Or do you wear the jockstrap without the cup? Okay.

Anthony: No, cup first, then jockstrap.

Matt: Jockstrap without the cup would defeat the purpose.

Beth: That's like a dance belt, I guess.

Freddie: What is a jockstrap?

Beth: Something for your— wait. It’s something—

Matt: It’s a thing that holds—

Will: It protects your jock, bro.

Anthony: Keeps your junk in one place, essentially.

Matt: And especially for baseball so that if a ball hits you in the junk, it's not—

Freddie: Why doesn't the cup just cover that?

Will: The cup goes in the jockstrap.

Matt: Yeah, the jockstrap holds the cup.

Freddie: Oh.

Beth: God, that seems so inefficient.

Freddie: Freddie was on the chess club!

Will: It's like a bra for your penis, is—

Anthony: You know how you wear a bra, and you wear a smaller bra on the inside?

[laughter]

Beth:Yeah. I don't have like, a nipple bra.

Matt: No, but a cup is just a hard piece of plastic, it would just float around in your pants. The jockstrap holds the cup.

Anthony: And probably like, the edge of it would catch your jingus and it would hurt, if it wasn't in one place.

Beth: Okay, like, a jockstrap without a cup would be like a dance belt basically, right?

Anthony: Yes.

Matt: Yeah.

Beth: Okay. So Ron gets like a leather jockstrap and then a leather boiled bubble cup. [chuckles] I guess, is what happens.

Anthony: And that's it? And you don't come out with shoulder pads or anything? It's just—

Freddie: Well, Ron can't wear pants!

Will: That's true.

Darryl: He can wear shin guards and stuff.

Anthony: This is underwear, this doesn't count.

Will: Ron has a jockstrap and an old-timey codpiece on and then like, just knee pads and cleats.

Matt: And shin guards.

Beth: [laughing] A codpiece?

Anthony: Yeah, it’s kind of horrifying.

Beth: Yeah, and shoulder pads.

Anthony: I guess if you all get geared up, basically using their sort of loaner gear— it doesn't have your names on the back or anything because it's just for whoever wants to compete—

Beth: Carve it, carve it in!

Matt: Yeah, no, we take the paint and we put all of our last names on the back of our shirts.

Anthony: Frank's like—

Football Frank: Well, those have to be reused… [giving up] Okay. That's, I mean, that's- that’s fine. If that’s what you want to do.

Matt: I mean I’m just— I’m doing it, I’m writing—

Glenn: What number are you? I'm going to be number 69.

[laughter]

Henry: Really?

Darryl: Really?

Glenn: Yeah. Yeah.

Darryl: Okay.

Henry: I’m gonna be number— can I just write “Thanks!” on the back of mine, just to be positive?

[laughter]

Will: Henry's football armor just says “Thanks!” on it. It says “Thanks!” on the top and then it says “Co-Exist” on the bottom.

[more laughter]

Anthony: What an asshole.

Freddie: What does Paeden's say?

Anthony: Paeden says “Numba 1”. It's just N-U-M-B-A one.

Freddie: Of course. Yes, beautiful, beautiful, beautiful.

Beth: Ron's also says “Number One”.

[laughter]

Matt: Darryl was writing “Wilson #1” on Grant, and was going to write #2 on himself.

Freddie: [laughing] Three number ones!

Matt: He's writing #1 and sees that there's two other people that say #1, and they're like—

Darryl: Okay, that's fine.

Anthony: So there's three number ones?

Matt: There’s three number ones.

Freddie: Three number ones, a thanks/co-exist, and then 69. This is the best football team ever.

[laughter, music break]

[fade in to crowd sounds]

Anthony: So, you all head out onto the field. So basically, as you're coming out, you see that there's a little band there of like, banjos and some drums and shit like that, and just some really nice elven-looking folk who say—

Musicians: Hey, what do you want us to play you out to, when you come out onto the field?

Darryl: We Will Rock You. Do you know We Will Rock You?

Anthony: And they go—

Musicians: Absolutely, we know We Will Rock You.

Anthony: And you find that their version of We Will Rock You is exactly like the version that we have.

[laughter]

Will: Oh, it's like in A Knight's Tale! When they sing We Will Rock You at the jousting tournament!

Anthony: Yeah. You know how in fucking Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy they say that like, every single language has a drink called a gin and tonic. It's like that. Like, across all dimensions, We Will Rock You is the one consistent thing that actually keeps all reality in check.

Will: The jock jam that binds space and time together.

Freddie: One jock jam to rule them all!

Matt: Does the whole crowd sing it also, because everybody knows it?

Anthony: Oh yeah, absolutely. *Boom, boom, clap*. They're doing it— It's fucking great. You come out—

Darryl: Every time they say We Will Rock You, I go “The Doodlers!” And I'm trying to get the whole crowd to say “The Doodlers” in between the—

Anthony: Why don't you roll Persuasion?

Matt: Oh, hell yeah. I'm like, waving my arms up and down. [rolls]... I got a 2.

[laughter]

Anthony: So, they go—

Crowd: No, we don't even know who you are! Why would we cheer your name? You don't matter to us yet. You have to get over on your own.

Darryl: Doodlers! Come on, the Doodlers! [sigh of disappointment]

[ambient crowd sounds, horns and cheering]

Anthony: You guys stream out onto the field as the roar of the crowd begins to take hold. And you can feel the energy of these people, who just came to watch people play some good old fashioned, catch the ball, run the ball, pass the ball—

Freddie: Who just came.

Anthony: They all came. They all came!

Will: Now, Anthony, are they singing We Will Rock You? Or “We will rock you, shock you, pick you up and drop you” from the playground, like back when we were kids? Did you guys have that?

Beth: Oh, god. Yes.

[sounds of agreement]

Will: All right, let's see if this fires any synapses. We will, we will, you know what, kick your butt, all the way to pizza hut. While you're there, comb your hair, then we'll take your underwear.

Beth: Yeah, it does. It does.

Anthony: No.

Matt: No. Vaguely, a little bit. Not as strong as—

Freddie: No. Nothing. Didn't get up to the Pacific Northwest.

Anthony: Oh, that's crazy. No, they're playing the vanilla version. They're all singing the vanilla version. And you come out and as you get close to the field—

Freddie: The Vanilla Ice version!

[laughter]

Anthony: The Vanilla Ice version, it’s real bad. See, Freddie Mercury just went boom, boom, clap. Ours goes, boom, *boom* boom, clap.

[Freddie laughs]

Anthony: Fucking niche joke for nobody.

Freddie: No, well done, that was— I loved that one, Anthony.

Will: The best part was you told that joke under a lot of *pressure*.

[Anthony laughs]

Matt: Oh, god.

Beth: Oh, dear.

Freddie: You are in rare form.

Matt: Two inspirations in one episode!

Will: Yeah, man, I'm going through them.

Anthony: As the crowd is cheering, not your name, but you know, close enough, during your song. You can see that - as was pointed out to you by Football Frank - the Beholder, this big old creature with all these eyes and all these pustules on it, is holding the Supper Bowl in its mouth.

Freddie: Eugh.

Anthony: And you can see as you look at it, just for a faintest moment, this glint of purple sort of shimmer across the entire Supper Bowl. And you know, in your heart, this is what you're here to get. And the Beholder goes—

Beholder: First coming out to the field, it is... The Doodlers!

**Anthony:** And the crowd goes—

Crowd: Yay! We don't know who they are yet, but yay!

Anthony: And then a door opens at the other end of the field.

Beholder: And opposing them, the champions of last week's game, the Jellies!

Anthony: And you see—

**Will:** Jellies?

**Anthony:** The Jellies, a team comes out, and they’re lead—

**Beth:** Are they Jellicle cats?

**Anthony:** No, they're not Jellicle cats.

Beth: Please?

**Will:** Devastating, how fucking dare you not make them Jellicle cats.

Beth: This really hurts.

Will: I want to hear every single one of the cat names—

**Anthony:** *[exasperated]*Okay, fuck it! They're Jellicle cats, fine.

Beth: Yes! Yes!

Matt: No...

Anthony: So the first one that comes out is an ochre jelly. He's a jellyfish that has shoulder pads on. And then behind him, I guess—

Beth: Is Mungojerrie.

Freddie: Mr. Mistoffelees—

Anthony: Are a bunch of very sexualized, but private-part-not-having felines that are just dancing and scatting behind him. And they have all the stats of half ogres, but they're not half ogres, I guess they're Jellicle cats.

[delighted laughter from the players]

Anthony: And they're dancing back and forth and getting way too close to one another in a way that is very uncomfortable... and then two scarecrows behind them. So it's a real ragtag team.

[Beth laughing]

**Henry:** Come on guys, let's take them back to the Heaviside Layer!

**Freddie:** Anthony, question. Question Anthony - do they have butt holes?

**Anthony:** You can't see from this angle cause they're coming at you.

**Freddie:** We will find out!

**Anthony:** But then, who am I kidding? One of them stops, spreads its legs, bends over seductively, and you could see absolutely, they all have butt holes. Every single one of them.

Freddie: And the crowd goes fucking wild!

**Anthony:** The crowd loses it.

Will: It's like in Braveheart when they all moon the English. Like, all the cats do it.

**Anthony:** The crowd goes wild for these jellies. You are clearly not the favorite.

**Beth:** And that is Judi Dench.

**Anthony:** Yes, one of them looks like Judi Dench, one of them looks like Ian McKellen.

**Will:** Three hours later after they've all introduced themselves—

**Anthony:** You're still feeling worse for it, you still feel like you didn't learn anything.

**Will:** Jim Jam Jelly is a fabulous forward!

[laughter]

**Anthony:** Oh, boy. The two teams come to the center where the Beholder looks down at you and goes—

Beholder: Ah, okay. Now comes the time of the coin flip. Jellicles—

Anthony: Sorry. Ah, I guess, fuck it, they're Jellicles now. I was going to call them Jellies, they're just Jellicles.

Beholder: Jellicles, would you like to call or not call?

Anthony: They go—

Jellicles: Ah, fuck it, we ain't going to call.

Beholder: Doodlers, I am going to toss this—

**Matt:** They don't sound how I expected them to sound.

**Anthony:** Yeah, no, these are like normal guys— I'm not doing Jellicle voices for you! Fucking, give them an inch they want to take a mile. Fuck you!

[laughter]

**Matt:** So just to clarify, they all come out, spread their butt holes, do seductive dances, and they go, "Nah, nevermind, we don't want to toss".

**Will:** No, we're not about that. We're not about the drama. We're about the game.

Matt: Love it.

**Anthony:** So the Beholder goes—

Beholder: Okay, I'm going to flip this and you're going to call it in the air.

Anthony: And one of his eye tendrils reaches into his mouth and pulls out a weird little life form, that is basically a skull with a tail on the end and he goes—

Beholder: Call it, heads or tails!

Anthony: And he throws it up.

**Darryl:** Grant, call it.

**Anthony:** Grant, call it? You want me to do everything?

**Matt:** No. I want Grant to call it.

**Anthony:** All right, okay. So, Grant goes—

Grant: Heads.

Anthony: All right, I'm going to toss the coin now.

**Freddie:** Whoa. You're going to toss a real coin to decide this fake coin flip? Wow.

Beth: What?

Matt: Wow.

Will: Wow.

**Anthony:** Of course not, I'm going to Google “toss a coin”. What, do you feel like I'm a fucking idiot? Okay. So it turns out if you Google “toss a coin”, you get the lyrics to Toss a Coin to your Witcher. So, I'm going to call that a waste of my time. I went to justflipacoin.com, and it came down heads! Okay.

Darryl: Hell yes. Good call, Grant.

**Beholder:** Do you want to kick or receive?

Darryl: I mean, you always got to receive.

Henry: That's the safer option, right? To receive it.

Darryl: You start the momentum. No, you start the momentum. You got to own the momentum of the game and it's about momentum—

Glenn: Take the initiative!

Darryl: Take the initiative, that's right Glenn. We'll receive.

Ron: Where do we stand?

**Anthony:** The Beholder says—

Beholder: You're going to go stand in your end zone, then they're going to kick it to you, and you're going to pick it up and run as far as you can until they hit you and stop you.

Matt: That's probably the first time he's had to explain the rules to a championship team.

**Beholder:** Yeah, I’m amazed that you didn’t— you intentionally signed up for this. You know this is dangerous.

[Will laughs]

**Darryl:** What? A little bit, right? Just like, a little bit, like normal-sports dangerous.

**Anthony:** Well, in normal sports they have that long-term danger. This has that and short-term danger, so it's a little bit of both.

**Will:** It's still safer than actual football.

Matt: [laughing] Still safer than actual football. Okay.

Henry: I'm assuming that how this works is, someone's going to try to catch the ball and then we try to protect them? Who's going to do that?

Darryl: I mean, Paeden, you're our running back, you're the fastest, right? When Paeden grabs it, we're all going to protect him.

**Freddie:** Quick point of order, is Paeden the fastest?

[laughter]

**Anthony:** I don't think he is. I think he believes he's the fastest.

**Will:** He's probably the hardest to tackle though, cause he's so small.

Freddie: He’s a little wiry.

Darryl: We're going to have to learn on the fly, here's what we're going to do. We're going to run to the end zone to get in our places. Whoever gets there first is going to be the one catching the ball. Let's go, ready?

**Henry:** One sec, real quick.

Will: And then I cast Freedom of Movement on Paeden.

Anthony: Oh.

Matt: Nice.

**Will:** This lasts for one hour. He will be unaffected by difficult terrain and spells and other magical effects can neither reduce his speed nor cause him to become paralyzed or restrained.

Anthony: Holy shit.

Will: He can also spend five feet of movement to automatically escape from non-magical restraints, such as manacles or a creature that has it grappled.

Anthony: WHAT?

Freddie: Holy shit.

Beth: Oh my god.

Matt: Nice.

Anthony: Why did I not research this!?

**Will:** You walked into the wrong room, motherfucker.

**Anthony:** [drawn out] No!

Freddie: Will, we should buff Paeden. We should just put every buff that we have and make Paeden a super God soldier.

**Will:** Yes. Yes. 10 thousand percent. As long as I can still cast stuff, I'm also casting Jump on Paeden, so now he can jump triple his height.

Freddie: I'm also giving Bardic Inspiration to Paeden.

**Anthony:** Oh my god.

Matt: So Paeden's going to be like the dude in fricking Starship Troopers doing super flips.

Will: The flip six three hole. If you do the flip six three hole, you could score!

Anthony: [despairing] Oh my god.

Darryl: Quick dad huddle, not with you two kids.

**Henry:** Okay, yeah, what's up?

Darryl: I mean, it's cool, let’s definitely bump— but, we should also pump up Grant a little bit, like he's trying to impress… you know.

**Glenn:** Yeah, but this isn't the team, we just got to get to there. We can pump him up when we get to the team. We gotta win to get there though. And Paeden's our best fucking shot.

Darryl: Is he?

Anthony: When did you decide that Paeden was your best shot?

[all laugh]

**Glenn:** Well it sure as fuck isn't any of us.

**Darryl:** All right, let's do it, let's all race. Whoever gets there first.

**Beth:** I'm going to roll to hide at the 50 yard mark. Like, on the sidelines acting like I'm a coach or something.

[laughter]

Will: Very good.

Freddie: Blend in, yes.

Anthony: That’s great! That’s great. Roll Stealth.

**Will:** I'm going to also cast Pass Without Trace to give Ron a +10 to his Stealth check.

**Anthony:** It's that thing they always say about D&D, is your druid is always the really OP one when you start playing football.

[laughter]

**Beth:** Okay, so I only, I only rolled a 9.

**Matt:** Plus 10, 19.

**Will:** That's assuming Anthony's going to let me do two spells in a row. I don't know if Anthony is gonna—

**Anthony:** Yeah, why not? It's not combat, fucking go for it. You still got to spend the spell slot.

**Will:** That's true, yes.

**Beth:** Wait, it's actually a +8 again, cause I got a +8.

**Will:** Jesus Christ. Okay, so what are you pretending to be at the 50-yard line?

**Beth:** How about just one of the big, weird, drop-a-pin on iPhone sign things that they use to measure how far you've gone?

Matt: Okay, yeah. A line marker?

**Beth:** Yeah, a line marker.

Freddie: [laughing hysterically] A line marker!

**Anthony:** If you had your fucking skip it, that would be the chain coming off of your—

Beth: Aw, you hate to see it.

Anthony: So what is everybody's speed on your character sheet?

Matt: Ooh, the first time we're going to use this! I was about to say, what's the mechanic for seeing who's the fastest?

Freddie: I'm 35 on speed.

**Will:** Henry's walk speed is 35 feet.

**Beth:** I have 30.

Matt: Oh, I'm 40.

**Anthony:** Grant and Paeden are going to try to race against one another. And if you turn back and see Grant, as he's running, he's running with more fervor and more passion than you've seen him run in a very long time.

[Beth and Freddie aww]

Anthony: And Paeden is running with his typical amount of weirdly unearned arrogance.

Freddie: Yeah, but he's bolstered by every magical spell in the game!

**Matt:** Yeah, but nothing increased his speed.

**Anthony:** Nothing increased his speed, it just meant that he's harder to hold onto once you’ve tried to like, grab him and tackle him. So he gets smoked by Grant, but it doesn't matter cause all those spells are still just on Paeden, so I assume you're still going to want to give Paeden the ball.

**Matt:** So Grant won? Did he beat me?

**Anthony:** No you all beat him, you were bigger and faster.

**Freddie:** Okay, hold on, hold on. Grown ass adults versus like, a kid who's been playing soccer? I think the adults lose.

Anthony: That’s true. That’s true.

Beth: Yeah.

Anthony: Okay, so yeah, he smokes all of you. It's almost for a second close between you and him, Darryl, but then he just reaches the end zone pretty handily. And he goes—

Grant: [out of breath] Yes! Yes.

**Beth:** And they're all completely wiped, they cannot play.

[laughter]

**Anthony:** Wheezing, doubled over.

**Darryl:** Good job, Grant. You know what, here's what we're going to do, you two kids? Grant, you take the left side of the field, Paeden you take the right side of the field, depending on where the ball is kicked. Whichever one of you gets it, you run, and the... us four adults, we'll huddle up and protect you, and run with you.

Henry: Yeah!

Grant: Okay.

Freddie: I'm going to say to Paeden, I'm going to be like—

Glenn: I wish I could say something classy and inspirational, but that just wouldn't be our style. Pain heals, chicks dig scars, glory lasts forever, Paeden.

Darryl: Why are you talking to just Paeden?

Glenn: Just you, just you, Paeden. Glory lasts forever, right, Paeden? You, just you?

Anthony: Paeden says—

Paeden: Tell me something I don’t know.

[laughter]

Darryl: All right, hands in the middle, everybody.

**Beth:** I'm still at the 50 yard line.

[laughter]

**Darryl:** I feel like we're one person short, but like, I don't notice anybody missing.

Freddie: Feel’s like we’re one person short, I dunno… Yeah. Yeah, strange...

**Anthony:** Paeden’s like—

Paeden: Is it Dennis? No, Dennis didn't exist. Fuck, nevermind, sorry, my bad.

**Henry: Oh.** Dang, I miss Dennis guys. I know he was a bad dude, but I miss that guy. Anyway, hands in the middle.

Darryl: Yeah. Let's just have fun out there, all right?

**Henry:** And let's win!

Darryl: And let's win, which is the most fun thing to do in a game, so let's do it. All right, Doodlers on three. One, two, three—

All together:Doodlers!

Darryl: What? Who said that?

**Beth:** Are there other balls on the sidelines?

Anthony: Yeah.

Beth: Like other backup footballs?

Anthony: Yeah, I suspect so.

**Will:** Oh my god. Beth is living out my middle school dreams of messing with a football game.

**Beth:** Can I roll Sleight of Hand and try to get four of them?

Anthony: Four!?

Beth: Yeah.

**Anthony:** You can roll a Sleight of Hand for each individual ball you want to grab.

**Beth:** Okay.

**Anthony:** And if any of them fail, then it's going to compromise your ability to be stealthy.

**Beth:** Okay, but I mean, that would never happen, so.

**Anthony:** All right, well go ahead and give me a roll if that's what you want to do.

**Beth:** Yeah, that's what I want to do, fuck.

Matt: That's what she said she wanted to do.

**Beth:** Okay, well. Okay, so I got a 19, and I got a 16 and those are both +2. And then I got a 6 and then I got a 2.

**Anthony:** Wait, so you just rolled for all of them simultaneously? You didn't think, “oh, let me get one and then see if I want to keep going”? You said “oh fuck it, I'm getting all four”?

**Beth:** Yeah.

**Freddie:** I'm never going to Vegas with Beth.

Anthony: Oh my God.

Beth: Well, I would have them all… you know, there.

**Will:** She's making a grab for all four of them at once.

Matt: Yeah, she’s grabbing all four at once.

**Anthony:** [outraged] What do you mean all four of them? You arbitrarily decided there were four balls. What does this matter?

**Beth:** Oh I think that there are way more balls. Just, for this play, I would like four extra.

**Anthony:** *[distressed DM noise]*Okay, so you get the first one, but the last one that you get, it's very obvious that people see what seemed to be a yard counter is walking around holding four balls in its not-very-big arms. And the Beholder sees this and goes—

Beholder: Hey, hey you. What are you doing? What's going on with all the balls? Drop ‘em. You need to be with your team, they're about to punt.

**Ron:** I'm not on the team, this is ball delivery.

[laughter]

**Beholder:** No, you came out with the Doodlers, I saw it.

Anthony: Actually, fuck it. Ball delivery is pretty good, give me a Persuasion roll with disadvantage.

Freddie: Ball delivery.

Matt: Ball delivery.

**Freddie:** There's going to be some football fan listening to this podcast, and just fucking livid at how we're shitting on the American passtime.

**Beth:** Yes, all right. I got a 15 plus 0.

**Anthony:** You got a 15 with disadvantage?

**Beth:** Yeah, cause the other one I rolled a 16.

**Anthony:** The Beholder goes—

Beholder: Ball delivery, that sounds good, yeah that makes sense. Thanks for coming in so soon, we needed more of those, we were running short, that's great, good to hear. You stay right there, just in case they need any, I feel like you got them, fantastic.

Anthony: Fucking kidding me. Okay, so what I'm going to do is for punting, the other team is going to roll Athletics. So they failed. It goes to, which side was Grant on?

Matt: Grant is left, Paeden's right.

**Anthony:** It veers wildly to the right, and comes down on the 20-yard line, and Paeden grabs it.

Will: Yeah, baby!

Freddie: Yes.

Anthony: He fucking books it, and immediately one of the Jellicle cats, like, *skit-skat-skats*, up to him, dancing the whole time.

[laughter]

Matt: All of us are converging onto Paeden, I'm assuming we're all converging at Paeden to get in front of him.

**Anthony:** So basically, the way that this works is when you want to tackle somebody, the aggressor is going to roll their Strength. So, you're going to roll and then add whatever your Strength modifier is. The defender is going to roll their Constitution, and if the defender is one of you guys, you're trying to take the hit for Paeden, essentially.

The winner of whatever happens in that tackle situation loses a d2 of Constitution, and loser loses a d4 of Constitution. So as you play, your stats are going to get worse and worse and worse until you get to halftime. Then, maybe you can rest yourself up a little bit.

Matt: Okay, well I think just to clarify on the kick, I think the way it would work would be, once Paeden gets it, the three of us are essentially in a flying V in front of him.

**Anthony:** Okay, great. Then, the opposite team is basically going to do the same thing, and just come at you as one cohesive whole. First, the Jellicles one through three are going to try to get you guys out of the way, and they are going to— Whoa, okay. One of them really fucked up, one of them did really, really well, and one of them really fucked up. So who wants to take the first tackle?

Matt: Darryl. Darryl's up in front, arms wide.

**Anthony:** Give me a Constitution roll.

Matt: Actually, I said arms wide, he is crouched with his head up. Don't have your head down, so you don't break your neck, leading with his shoulder. Oh, that's right, Constitution saving is a +6 for barbarian, so 12 plus 6.

**Anthony:** Oof, okay. The Jellicle hits you and you *boom*, and you just knock him to the side and he falls down onto the ground.

Matt: Darryl feels more alive than he's ever felt this entire time.

**Anthony:** So, seeing how easily you knocked away one of the Jellicles, one of the remaining Jellicles who kind of fucked up their tackle is instead going to take out a javelin and he's going to throw it at Paeden.

Matt: Oh no! Okay...

**Beth:** Is there a possibility that I could tackle this guy from the side cause he does not know that I'm on the 50-yard line and closer to him.

**Anthony:** Absolutely. Yeah, why don't you give me either a melee or a range attack, it's up to you.

**Beth:** I might just reach out and trip him.

**Anthony:** Oh okay, in that case, give me a Strength roll with advantage.

**Beth:** Oh no, it's a 6 +1.

**Anthony:** You run up to try to grab onto his ankle and trip him, and you just clamp onto his ankle, and then he just keeps running. And now he's just dragging you across the field with every step. He doesn't even seem to notice that you were there. And so he's going to throw his javelin.

**Will:** Oh, can I do something?

**Anthony:** Yeah, go ahead.

**Will:** I turn into a giant bird and grab Paeden.

[laughter]

**Anthony:** Okay, okay, so as they see you do that, he's going to change his aim and try to hit you.

Will: Okay.

Anthony: Jesus Christ.

Will: Druids rule at football!

Matt: I like to imagine that Paeden is still sprinting in mid air, thinking he's doing it.

Freddie: He’s got his eyes closed—

**Anthony:** He believes he's sprinted so fast that he flew.

Matt: He's like "I'm flying, I'm flying".

**Anthony:** I'm so fucking good at this. Okay, so it's definitely going to hit you. You're going to take 10 HP of damage.

**Will:** Okay. I can do that. I'm a trooper at that.

**Anthony:** And the javelin sinks in your chest, but you definitely got a hold on Paeden, and Paeden's just like—

Paeden: [rapid running breathing sounds]

Anthony: And he still continues to run as he goes through the sky. And then all the other enemies are just going to look up and go—

Jellicles: Jesus Christ!

Anthony: I'm sorry, they're not going to say Jesus Christ. No, I already established that people know who Jesus Christ is, it's fine. So, they're all going to make ranged attacks on you. The ones that remain that haven't already spent their tackle.

**Freddie:** Glenn with the Paeden chucks wants to try and take one of them out before they can get a shot off.

Anthony: So, the other remaining Jellicle cat, you can go ahead and try to hit him.

Freddie: As I'm running up, of course, I'm going to flourish with the Paeden chucks.

**Will:** Here we go, high risk, high reward.

Freddie: Don't you think for one second I'm not flourishing. All these fucking people watching me, my fucking glory, this fucking move— flourish number, three? Which is just over. Just over.

**Anthony:** Ooh, very close.

Freddie: As I'm running, I definitely haven’t pulled out the Paeden chucks in a while, so I'm stumbling a little bit. And that first flourish just goes a little bit— I can't leave it on that note, another flourish. Natural 20!

Will: Yeah, baby!

**Anthony:** Ohh!That counts as two flourishes.

Freddie: So that's three total flourishes.

**Anthony:** That's +3 to whatever your attack roll is to hit.

Freddie: And then I'm going to attack roll now on this Jellicle.

**Anthony:** Okay.

Freddie: And that is a 12 +3 +2, so that is 17.

**Anthony:** Fantastic, so are you hitting him to damage him or are you hitting him to basically take him off his game, so he can't throw the javelin?

Freddie: I'm going to hit him to take him off his game.

**Anthony:** So we'll just say that happens, then. So you just, [impact noise] right in his fucking face, and he throws the javelin, but it just goes a couple of feet in front of him and hits the ground, cause he's so completely taken off of his game by the flourish of nunchucks. He was so distracted by the majesty of the chucks.

**Ron:** Football? More like hairball. Heh heh.

[laughter]

**Anthony:** Okay, so the scarecrow... Oh no, they don't even— [outraged] They don’t have ranged attacks!

[Will laughs maniacally]

Freddie: Guys, we fuckin’ solved it!

Matt: So we just watch you fly.

Anthony: So they literally just stand there and they just watch you take him to the end zone, cause they have literally no range attacks left.

[laughter]

**Will:** I want to now officially say that Henry turned into a giant eagle ,and this is literally just what everyone said *Lord of the Rings* should have been. Everyone's like, “why didn’t the eagle just fly him straight to Mount Doom?”

**Beth:** Will, he has to turn into a crow because those scarecrows can't even do anything. They’re just like...

**Anthony:** So the Beholder's like—

Beholder: Oh! He could go all the way!

Anthony: And then you come into the end zone, and six points immediately, automatically.

Freddie: Yeah we do.

Anthony: Everyone comes, so now you have a choice. You can either just take the free extra point, or you can try to go for two points by doing a two-point conversion.

**Henry:** I mean, dads, we know that they can't catch us cause I fly. So why don't we go for two?

**Freddie:** Wait, I think Henry in bird form just beats this game.

[laughter]

Matt: Yeah, Henry just puts his wings out around us and brings us into a huddle, and there's just a giant Eagle in our huddle now. And we go—

Darryl: So, guys, um...

Glenn: We're just going to give the ball to Henry, right?

Darryl: I mean, Grant, you’re QB, you want to call the play? What do you think we should be doing right now? Think we should just give it to Henry?

**Glenn:** I think we should just give it to Henry.

**Henry:** Guys, hold on. We're trying to show off Grant in front of Yeet, right? Why don't I just fly Grant into the end zone, and Grant could get one.

Anthony: Yeah, Grant’s just like—

**Grant:** Could you just keep— for me? Or I could pass you the ball. I could throw to you.

**Henry:** Grant, what if you hop up on my back and you ride like an eagle into the end zone, like one of those.

Darryl: Yeah, that’s cooler.

Grant: Oh, hell yeah. That’s good.

Henry: All right, let's do that. Yeah, that's going to be fun! I like football.

**Anthony:** Okay, so here's what I'm going to do, just to prevent us from having to role play this out, happening over and over and over again for four quarters.

[laughter]

Anthony: I'm going to give them 10 ranged attacks, in sort of a montage form. And if they manage to hit more than they miss, then that means that they've actually done enough damage to sort of knock you out of bird form after you've gotten another two touchdowns or something like that. And if they can't, I'm just going to say you win. I’m just gonna say you fuckin’ run it, and they can’t do anything.

Matt: Yeah, we just run the same play everytime.

**Anthony:** You just do the exact same fucking thing every single time, and they're completely powerless.

Matt: At half time, half the crowd leaves to get out of parking sooner. They're like, “this is over”.

Anthony: They're so bored!

**Will:** Do you want us to throw you into the montage with a little bit of Balls Deep Sports Center here?

Anthony: Please do. Happily.

Will: All right, here we go—

*[sporty butt rock plays]*

Will/Sportscaster 1: Welcome back to Balls Deep Sports Center. I'm Hardrock Bighuge, and we've got some highlights from today's match between the Doodlers and the Jellicle Cats. It looks like the game starts off really great and— Oh, what's this? Druid Henry Oak turns into an eagle and flies Paeden into the end zone. Looks like this one's going to be a game-changer!

**Freddie/Sportscaster 2:** Now this right here is something you've never seen before. He's got turned into an eagle, fly right over them, and then head into the end zone. We've been broadcasting for what? 10 years now? Have you ever seen anything like this?

**Hardrock:** I've been broadcasting for 500 years, I'm an undying being who has existed since the dawn of this realm, but I've never seen action like this.

**Beth/Sportscaster 3:** Hi guys, reporting from the sideline here. I've been on the sideline for 500 years as well. Make sure to tune in for CSI: Miami after the show.

*[all laugh, butt rock ends]*

**Anthony/Sportscaster 4:** Hey, it's me. The guy that sort of summarizes the way that the overall sort of game went. To sort of simulate what a game might be, I always roll a certain number of dice at the beginning, and I would say, hey, if maybe three to four to five of the 10 dice that I roll came up doing pretty well, I'd say that this was an actual game with some back and forth, and some real excitement to it.

Only two of them cracked the 15 barrier, so that's eight dice were all sub-10 rolls. Very, very, very bad rolls. This was *maybe* the most boring game of grab the ball, catch it, throw it, run it to the end of the other field that the sport has ever seen. We have lost a considerable amount of fans just from this game alone.

**Matt:** So we won!

**Anthony:** So you just won, you just completely invalidated the whole match.

[laughter]

Darryl: Henry, you crushed it! And you too, Grant. Everybody, good effort from everybody.

**Will:** Henry turns back into his normal shape out of giant eagle shape and he's covered in sweat. And he's like—

Henry: Oh boy, you know, I always thought football was kind of a toxic game, but that was super fun! I had a good time. Is this what football is like back on earth?

Darryl: No, I mean you've seen it. There's no giant eagles.

**Henry:** That's true. I mean, there is a team called the Eagles though, am I right? [pause as no one reacts to the joke] That wasn't that good. You know, that was okay. Nevermind.

Glenn: Yeah, that fucking sucked.

**Anthony:** [laughing] And as you're wallowing in the joke not going well, Paeden goes—

Paeden: MVP!

Anthony: And dumps the bucket of healing potion on your head.

**Will:** Oh I probably need it at this point, so I'm very happy to have that.

**Beth:** Ron just pulls footballs out of his shirt and stuff like that and just holds them, but he's no longer trying to hide them.

Matt: Did he ever go on the field, or did he just stay there as the ballboy on the side the whole time?

**Beth:** I mean, the only time he was on the field was when he was being dragged by that javelin guy.

**Matt:** He never—

Freddie: He’s been dragged the whole time! He never let go!

Matt: He never let go. But the guy never knew he was there, he was just so sneaky. He's like, “I just felt really heavy, I just was really slow that game!”

**Anthony:** So all of the celebration, all of the fun that you're having, at least for Darryl, is cut a little bit short when he sees the look on Grant's face.

And you track that feeling back to a moment midway through the game, he was trying to block Henry from a javelin hitting him, and the javelin hit him in the arm. It was a scrape, but it took a chunk of meat out of his bicep.

Matt: Oh my god! Jesus.

Beth: Meat!? Oh my god.

Will: Meat?

Matt: Do we notice it?

**Anthony:** Not like literally a handful. It was just like, it cut him and it bled a little bit, and they Cure Wounds-ed him and stuff like that.

Matt: Okay. Meat's a strong word. If I say, “hey, I cut my finger in the kitchen, and meat come off” you'd be like, “Jesus Christ, did you go to the hospital?”

**Anthony:** Yeah, fair enough.

Beth: Honey, I cut my finger... the meat came off!

Anthony: If you said “and meat come off,” I’d think there were a lot of problems.

[laughter]

Matt: And my meat came off. In the montage, there's this scene where I was trying to help Grant, cause he was hurt.

**Anthony:** Do you remember in *Return of the Jedi,* when it's a montage of all the fun and fighting, and then midway through, they stopped to show exactly one ewok dying? This is that moment of the montage.

Matt: Okay.

Anthony: So Grant gets hurt, and he falls to the ground and he's holding his arm. Darryl, what do you do?

Matt: This is during the game?

**Anthony:** Yeah.

Matt: I mean, I run over to him. I go—

Darryl: Grant, are you okay? Oh my God.

Matt: I look at his arm.

Beth: That meat.

**Anthony:** Yeah. How’s that meat, Grant? Grant, how that meat? Grant, give me a meat update. Give me a meatdate!

[laughter]

Matt: I pick up the meat on the way over to him. I go—

Darryl: Grant, you dropped some meat, where'd it come from?

[laughter]

**Anthony:** You try to put the meat back into the meat hole.

Matt: I try to put the meat back in the meat hole.

**Beth:** What a horrible word.

**Anthony:** This is gonna be some real tonal whiplash.

Matt: Oh no...

**Anthony:** So Grant has this look of sheer surprise on his face. And he looks down at the wound as it's bleeding, and he goes—

Grant: I-I felt that. I felt it, I actually felt it.

Darryl: Well, yeah, jeez, I can feel it from here. That looks horrible. Are you okay?

**Anthony:** He goes—

Grant: No, it hurts and I don't like it, but it’s... that's something. I thought it would just be— I thought only Yeet would make me— but this did, but... I can't do that. I shouldn't. I don't want— I don’t like this feeling, so that’s... [tone becomes lighter, forced] Let's get in the game coach! Let's go do the game, coach!

Darryl: Hey, Grant.

**Grant:** Yeah.

Darryl: Let's talk after this, okay?

**Grant:** [stammering, weak]Let's just focus. Let's focus, head in the game. Let’s focus on—

Darryl: Yeah, no, that’s right. Head in the game. Okay, alright, son. Let's get back into it.

**Anthony:** So after saying the Wilson family catchphrase, “we'll talk about this later”—

[laughter]

Matt: TV station’s like, “sorry for that weird little piece of the montage, it was pretty exciting, and then we—”

**Anthony:** Yeah, “I don't know why we put that in there, that felt really unprofessional. This father and son were having a really tender moment, and we decided to put it on Sports Center!”

**Will: “**Look at this great coaching from Wilson Sr. to Wilson Jr.! Wilson Jr. having an existential crisis on the play. *Boom*! Gets him with the repressed feelings, stuffs it right down and they're back in the game. You gotta love it when you see this kind of fatherly action on the field!”

**Beth: “**Let's say that meat is cured!”

**Anthony: “**You know what it's like when you're depressed and you can't feel anything at all, so even pain makes you feel like you're actually still alive, and that's a toxic negative thing? We all know what that's like, right boys?”

**Freddie: “**When your arm gets hit, the ball's not going to go where you want it to!”

[laughter]

**Beth: “**But with tough actin’ Tenactin...”

[all laugh]

**Anthony:** Football Frank comes out after your insanely boring victory and goes like—

Football Frank: I don't know why nobody ever chose to turn into a bird. I'm really impressed. I'm so upset, and I'm very impressed. Well done. But yeah. So we have some lodgings. Your next game is going to be tomorrow, it's going to be for the championship I think, depending on—

**Darryl:** Wait, we played one game? We played one game?

**Glenn:** That's a pretty short fucking tournament.

**Football Frank:** It's every two weeks. So yeah, it's really quick.

**Henry:** This seems sort of like— you guys ever go to a roller derby league and there's four teams? This seems like one of those situations.

**Football Frank:** It's kind of one of those situations. But yeah, if you'd like, here's some vouchers for getting snacks from the bar and stuff like that, but otherwise, there's some bunks down below. You can go sleep, rest up, take a nice long rest. Get all your ducks in a row, and then tomorrow I think the championship, maybe. That could be good, could be fun. Maybe.

Henry: Wow.

**Glenn:** You don't know, you're not sure?

**Football Frank:** I mean, this match that you guys just had was the opposite of fun.

**Anthony:** Frank, is there a manager or somebody that we could talk to that might know actually what's going on here?

**Football Frank:** You can talk to the Beholder, he's the guy in charge, yeah.

**Darryl:** Okay. Hey, Beholder?

Beholder: Yeah?

Darryl: Is it the championship tomorrow? Are we in the championships?

**Beholder:** Yeah, of course. Obviously.

**Darryl:** Okay. Well, Frank here doesn't seem to know.

**Beholder:** Frank, what the fuck? I keep telling you, why don't you listen?

Anthony: And Frank's like—

Football Frank: I have a lot of things! I have to sign up all the teams, and I'm standing here, and I—

**Henry:** There's four teams! How many teams are there if we signed up today and we got to the championships?

**Football Frank:** I'm trying to get the word out, I’m the street team as well! I'm doing a lot of things and I'm getting paid for one job! I feel like it's unfair you're jumping on me.

Henry: That’s true...

**Ron:** Now that I'm a champion, almost, do I get the shoe deal, and then the free massages, and then the room service, and Beats headphones?

**Henry:** Hey Ron, Ron. Hi, it's Henry. This is kind of my moment, cause I won this game. So I feel like anyone's going to get like a sweet sports deal, it would be me. I feel like I've really tasted the heady rush of victory here, and frankly, I like it.

**Beholder:** None of you are getting a sweet sports deal. This was boring and bad. No one wants to buy the merchandise of someone whose ability as an athlete is predicated entirely on their ability to turn into a bird.

Darryl: Excuse me, Mr. Beholder, your league had three players before we showed up. So I think you can cool it a little bit on your arrogance there.

**Beholder:** "I'm not being arrogant, I'm calling it how I see it. I was bored. That's all I'm saying".

Darryl: You need us more than we need you, buddy.

**Beholder:** "I don't need you that bad! Half the people left.

Darryl: That's true, but we won and that's all that matters.

**Beholder:** "I'm not saying you didn't! Congratulations! It was dull. I'm just calling them like I see them. I'm the Beholder, I behold a boring team.

**Ron:** I was thinking for the shoe deal that they could be like running shoes, but call them Ron-ning shoes.

**Beholder:** You never ran, no one ever ran! You would have to get flying shoes. You could sell a jet pack, I guess.

**Henry:** Call the shoes Eagles by H. And that would be my sneaker line, you know? Because that's something people do, right?

**Ron:** No. Ronning.

**Henry:** I could go pro. That's what I'm saying.

**Ron:** Ronning Shoes.

**Henry:** Well, we'll work on it. We'll workshop it.

**Darryl:** Okay. All right. Well, I guess we'll be back tomorrow, Beholder, to win this thing.

**Beholder:** Okay. I hope not.

**Darryl:** And who are we playing against, by the way?

**Beholder:** Oh, you're going to be playing against the, let's see ...

**Will:** The other team.

**Beholder:** ... The Hotties.

**Will:** The third team is one we're playing against.

**Matt:** The Hotties.

**Will:** The third team, including us.

**Darryl:** That's right, Grant. We're going to beat Yeet and he's going to love it. That's how you impress somebody.

**Grant:** I don't want to beat Yeet.

**Darryl:** No. I mean, he wants you to play as good as you can.

**Grant:** I guess, maybe? But I feel like I want to just, not beat ... Hey, can we both win?

**Beholder:** No.

**Grant:** Okay, shit.

**Darryl:** Nah. A relationship— and I know you guys aren't in a relationship yet, but when you get there—

**Grant:** Oh my God, Dad.

**Darryl:** A relationship is built on trust—

**Grant:** Dad, stop.

**Darryl:** —and competition is a good way to build that trust. You don't want to underperform—

**Grant:** That's an insane thing to say.

**Darryl:** No.

**Glenn:** That's a pretty weird thing to say, Darryl.

**Darryl:** What? Excuse me? Me and Carol, we would play baseball. We'd have some fun together. The competitions that you find-

**Glenn:** Really, just the two of you, huh? Playing baseball. Explain how the fuck that works.

**Darryl:** Baseball is not a one-on-one thing, Glenn. It's a team thing, we're on different teams. But the point is competition is a good way— It teaches sportsmanship, it teaches cooperation. That's how you get to know somebody.

**Henry:** Then if you're not into competition, though, yoga teaches a lot of that stuff too, Grant. So you can get a lot of the same lessons by maybe joining a theater troupe, or speech and debate. There's a lot of good ways you can build camaraderie.

**Darryl:** Yeah. If Yeet was sitting around stretching his calves. But no, that dude is flipping skateboards left and right and throwing balls a hundred yards.

**Glenn:** Yeah, I don't know if competition is the way to someone's heart, because I went on a date once in an escape room and I set the record for that escape room and she never called me back, so I don't know.

**Darryl:** No, that's exactly the point, Glenn. You exposed your true self and you let her know who you were from the beginning, and that's why she didn't date you.

**Ron:** That's so mean.

**Glenn:** Hey, that's kinda hurtful, man.

[Will loses it]

**Darryl:** I'm just saying. It's a good way to get to know somebody.

**Ron:** I think the best way to get to know somebody is to hide your true self and then reveal it later.

**Henry:** That's one way to do it. But then, what if they don't like the real you? You got to-

**Ron:** Then they must be a cat person and not a dog person.

**Freddie:** [laughs] What a call back.

**Henry:** Did that happen to you, Ron?

**Ron:** Oh yeah, of course. I mean, Samantha loves me for me, but she also loves me for the dog.

**Henry:** Oh, that's right.

**Ron:** Who I was pretending to be. The dog that would become the man.

**Henry:** Well, that's very nice.

**Darryl:** That's one way to do it, I guess.

**Beholder:** You could just go to bed, you weirdos. Just go eat and go to bed.

**Matt:** Okay. So what? We all got a nice room?

**Anthony:** Yeah. Yes. You have a nice room.

**Matt:** I want to paint a picture of where we're at. What's going on?

**Anthony:** It's a locker room. But instead of those benches where you sit and change, it's really nice comfy beds.

**Will:** What?

**Matt:** Okay, so I like the locker room. All right. So Darryl comes out of the steamy shower, he's got the towel wrapped around him.

**Anthony:** God damn it! Why? Why?

**Matt:** Because, it's the end of the football game.

**Freddie:** That's true. You got to shower up, baby.

**Anthony:** Why would you describe it like that? Darryl comes out, sweat glistening on his titties.

**Will:** I want to put it out there that Henry is naked and soaking in that little tub that they have. The little locker room tub for your aching bones? Henry is like, "Oh man." And then he farts and a feather comes up. He's like, "Oops."

**Matt:** It's essentially that scene in *Top Gun*.

**Freddie:** Yeah, he just get a good sports massage from a bunch of different creatures that just sports massage him down and he was like, "Ah, yeah."

**Anthony:** Just a bunch of small rats are running up and down you doing a Ratatouille massage.

**Will:** Like a chubby coach ogre with a big paunchy belly, rubbing icy hot on Glenn's back.

**Freddie:** I'm like—

Glenn: Yeah, there we go. There we go.

**Beth:** Ron is just buried in ice.

[laughter]

**Anthony:** It's just a head peeking out from a big mountain of ice.

**Beth:** Yes.

**Matt:** I feel like Grant is at the locker and then the Jellicle cats are also there. They're getting there. They've locking their lockers and they're getting ready to leave.

**Freddie:** It's the same locker room!

**Matt:** Yeah, it's like the Top Gun scene, and I go—

**Darryl:** Hey, good game. Good game, guys. Sorry, we had a big bird. Tough luck. Tough loss.

[laughter]

Darryl: As they walk off, I open my locker which I guess I have, and I pull my pants out and I start putting my pants on and I sit next to Grant, who I'm assuming is at his locker and I say—

Darryl: Hey, Grant.

**Anthony:** Grant is definitely staring at Henry, but yeah.

**Matt:** He's staring at Henry?

**Anthony:** Yeah, Henry is in a hot tub.

**Matt:** Henry is just, in our line of sight.

**Will:** It's just that tub. You ever see the movies, they got the guy in the tub in the locker room.

**Darryl:** Yeah, yeah, yeah. He's working on the muscles. Hey Grant, you want to talk about what happened back there?

**Grant:** No, I'm good, I'm good. We won, so I'm good.

**Darryl:** Why no? No, no, I'm not talking about the winning. We crushed it. You did a great job, we all did a great job. No, not just about-

**Grant:** It was mainly Henry, but, yeah.

**Darryl:** It's been a while. We really haven't had time, and I know there's this Yeet thing going on, but, it just— you've been hurt. And then you just got hurt again, and I know the magic or whatever healed the wound pretty quickly like fricking Wolverine. But what's going on in here?

**Matt:** I'm pointing at my heart.

**Darryl:** What's going on with you, kid?

**Grant:** Just... nothing. Just, you get hurt on the field, it kind of distracts you, so, y’know. It's all good. I'm good.

**Darryl:** Look, Grant... I'm not good. There's no way you're good right now.

**Grant:** What do you mean, you're not good?

**Darryl:** Look where we're at. We've been away from mom for who knows how long, we still haven't found a way out of here, you guys almost died. We've done some crazy, horrible stuff that's happened.

I'm glad we're all together, we're making it through it, but it's a tough time right now. I can't even imagine what it'd be like, at your age. You seem to be handling it better than some of the kids. But I don't know ... I know you, you're a sensitive kid deep down, so I feel like something is going on.

**Grant:** It doesn't seem like you’re having a tough time.

**Darryl:** I got a ... I'm trying to keep it together, but it's obviously tough right now, but I'm more connked about you right now.

**Grant:** Yeah. Well, I mean, same. No, yeah, no. It's, yeah. I'm trying to keep my eye on the ball, trying to keep the team together, so no, I'm good.

**Darryl:** Yeah, but you're a kid. You don't have to worry about keeping the team together, you got to worry about yourself right now.

**Grant:** I could say the same thing to you. But it's fine, it's really I'm good. I'm good. I just want to jump into that bath once Henry's done and just sort of soak in it.

**Darryl:** Look, I just want you to know, if you want to talk to me, I'm here.

**Grant:** [affirmative] Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

**Darryl:** Is it a little bit weird because we’re in a locker room? Was this a weird place to kind of start this?

**Grant:** No, I mean, it's— You wouldn't get it, it's fine.

**Darryl:** Your old man wouldn't get it? Come on. What wouldn't I get? Try me.

**Anthony:** Give me a Persuasion roll with ... No, I won't hit you with disadvantage. Just give me a Persuasion roll.

**Matt:** I get 14 minus 1. That's a 13.

**Anthony:** Ooh. If you got a 15, I was going to give it to you.

**Will:** Oh God. Devastating.

**Anthony:** So he goes,

**Grant:** It's not ... it's really ... I'm good. I just want to focus on the game tomorrow. Get our bowl and ... Yeah. No, we'll be good, we'll be good. Good job, dad. Thanks, dad. Love you, dad. Thanks.

**Darryl:** Oh. And I love you too, kiddo. We'll play. We're going to win and we'll hopefully see what happens next. And we'll talk about this more, I guess. All right.

**Grant:** Okay.

**Freddie:** Glenn is going to do a side combo with Henry, and then Glenn is going to be like,

**Glenn:** Hey, Henry man.

**Henry:** Huh? Oh, sorry. I nodded off in the tub. God, that's really dangerous. I could have drowned.

**Glenn:** [voice shaking like he’s being massaged] Do you notice that something maybe is a little bit up with a Grant there?

**Henry:** I have noticed that. I feel like Grant is, to put it mildly, ever since he was teleported into the stomach of a hideous monster and then spun around inside him, in a vortex of death and pain, he just hasn't quite been the same kid.

And I feel like maybe he's waiting for Darryl to get more vulnerable and open up about himself, and then maybe Grant will trust him to do that ... Oh fuck, I should probably tell that to Darryl at some point.

**Glenn:** We should have a dad huddle.

**Henry:** Yeah, let's get... Okay. Yeah.

**Glenn:** Maybe not like right now, but let's just put a pin in that.

**Henry:** Oh, fuck it. Let's do it right now. Let's do it right now. You know, I feel like-

**Glenn:** I'm just in the middle of a ... Just getting the stuff fixed here.

**Henry:** Glenn, Come on, be a bro. Then I stand up and wrap a towel around my waist and I walk over to Darryl.

**Glenn:** Oh, fine. Ron!

**Freddie:** And I motion Ron over.

**Henry:** Hey, Darryl.

**Darryl:** Hey, what's up?

**Henry:** Hey man. How's it—? We're all just wondering how it's going with Grant right now.

**Darryl:** I mean, honestly, something's bothering the kid. He's been upset since ... He’s obviously been a little bit different and he’s having a tough time opening up about it. I think it's going to take a little bit of work to get to him.

**Glenn:** Hey, Ron.

**Ron:** [audibly shivering] Yeah. Sorry. I'm pretty cold. I can't really hear anything. I'm just going to slide out of this ice.

**Glenn:** I was just saying, you and Terry are like, thick as thieves now, man.

**Ron:** Oh, you really think so?

**Henry:** At least thicker than you were previously, at least. He was ... What happened there? It feels like, I don't know, maybe you could take some pointers, Darryl. Ron seems to have figured something out.

**Darryl:** What did you guys— again, I don't know what ...

**Ron:** Oh, I have nothing you just say. I was just going to make a noise that means that I support Darryl, but I also don't really know what he should do.

**Henry:** Darryl, I say this with all the love in the world and not to backseat dad, but I feel like maybe Grant would feel a little more open about sharing his feelings with you if you shared a little bit with him, you know? Like, maybe he would feel safer being vulnerable around you if he felt like you were able to be vulnerable with him a little bit more.

**Darryl:** I hear you. I just think he's gotta, I mean— I just talked to him. I just said, "I’m having a tough time”. Some kids need a little bit of time.

**Henry:** I get that. You don't need to make it all about him, either. Maybe you can just tell him what's going on with you, maybe open up your heart a little bit.

**Darryl:** Well, yeah, I got stuff, but that doesn't have anything to do with what he's going through right now.

**Henry:** I know it's not... Okay. But it might make him feel a little bit less alone just to hear it.

**Darryl:** Look guys, I appreciate it. I'm trying, but Grant, he's a sensitive kid, he's got a lot going on. Honestly, I think something is really affecting him, but he's going to take a little longer. Not every kid can suddenly become a love wolf because you cast a spell or forgive you because you almost killed them multiple times, Ron. Some kids take a little bit more time. I don't know why you guys are coming at me here.

**Henry:** I'm not— Darryl, no one is— This isn't about coming at you. This is a judgment-free space. Anyway, I encourage you to think about it. Maybe there's a— It's just, I—

**Darryl:** Henry, let me ask. What do you think? Should I, what? He's 12, he's has a boy he likes, he just killed an animal. What should I tell him? Should I say, "Hey, your mom and I might be getting a divorce. I'm having a tough time"?

Are you guys that immature? Do you just tell your kids everything that's going on with you? What do you suggest? What should I open up about, that I'm not opening up with him right now? Should I just tell him like, "Hey, I don't know if we'll get home, and even if we do, your parents might not love each other anymore"? Is that good? Is that something we should tell him right now?

**Ron:** I mean… is there a way you could say it that you sounded happier about it?

[*all laugh*]

**Ron:** Or, not happier, but just like ... “But that's okay!” Or, what if you just told him it might not be okay?

**Henry:** Darryl, first of all, I'm really sorry to hear you and Carol are having trouble. That sucks, man. Anything we can do to be here for you in that, we're here for you. It's tough, man. I don't know, but I think you got to find a way to connect with him by sharing something about how you're feeling.

**Darryl:** I appreciate you guys. I didn't mean to get upset. I'll say a lot is going on, I'm glad we can talk about it right now. I'm trying. I think it's going to take more than one talk with him.

**Glenn:** I hear you man.

**Ron:** Yeah.

**Darryl:** It's going to take some time to ... But I don't think— Look, I can tell him that I'm scared that we're not going to make it and stuff like that. But I think some of it is also like, "We got to protect our kids," and it's not about not telling them things, it's also just— Even if I wanted to tell him about it, it's not fair to Carol. It's not just me, right? It's not just my decision.

**Glenn:** I hear you, man. This reminds me one time we were on tour. This was back in '98 or so. We had this bassist, Diamond Dave, and Diamond Dave was just trouble and we all knew it-

**Ron:** You actually don't need to worry about talking to him because he's not even here.

**Darryl:** Who?

**Ron:** Grant?

**Henry:** What do you mean?

**Darryl:** Yeah, he shouldn’t be listening to—

**Ron:** No, I saw him go out that corridor down the hall. Don't ask me why I was following him. I wasn't, I was just looking for the vending machine. By the way, does anybody have a quarter? I don't know what the quarter system is like here.

**Henry:** You saw— Where did he go?

**Ron:** Oh, he went past the vending machine that I was going to go to, and then he went out into the other locker room.

**Darryl:** Was Paeden with him?

Paeden: I'm right here, man. I heard everything.

Freddie: Oh, shit.

**Darryl:** Damn, Paeden.

**Paeden**: For what it's worth, I'm kind of on Team Henry here. I think you got to be a little bit vulnerable every once in a while. But yeah, what's going on?

**Darryl:** Wow. That's a lot for you to handle, kiddo.

**Paeden**: You always keep it together. You are always trying to keep it together. And what if what he wants is a dad who doesn't always keep it together? What if he needs you to come apart a little bit? I don't know. I'm just spitballing here. What’s up?

**Beth:** Damn.

**Darryl:** Paeden... why didn't anybody tell me that before?

Henry: Are you fucking kidding me?

Paeden: Why did you listen to me and not him? We said the same thing!

**Darryl:** Paeden, man. This is why you're the champion, Paeden. Now, this is good. Believe me, I know, I know, I'm trying, I'm trying, man. Sometimes, y’know ... you got it. You get me.

Paeden: I do.

**Darryl:** We should probably go find Grant.

**Henry:** Yeah, man.

**Darryl:** If you guys don't mind. I appreciate it, I'm sorry. Let's go find Grant though.

**Glenn:** Yeah. Darryl, this just reminds me of this time, Diamond Dave, man. I mean, he was trouble.

**Matt:** I've left, by the way.

**Glenn:** And the thing is, we all knew it and everyone knew that there was a real problem there, but no one wanted to say anything because we wanted to keep the band together and that was kind of the most important thing?

**Henry:** Yeah, definitely.

**Will:** Henry right now is pretending like he is listening to Glenn, but he's like ... Dude, you ever, like at work, you're making small talk with someone, but it's going on too long, so you start slowly walking away? That's what Henry is doing right now as he's listening to Glenn.

**Freddie:** And Glenn is like—

Glenn: I think that the lesson here is: vulnerability is important—

**Henry:** Yes, for sure.

**Glenn:** But so is honestly, and honesty is like, y’know, you don’t have to be fully honest, but you gotta be more honest than you are—

**Henry:** Yeah, man. You got to be honest. So, well, I'm going to just—

**Glenn:** Anyway, Ron, I think you know what I'm talking about, right?

**Beth:** I haven't been here for years.

[all laugh]

Anthony: It’s just Paeden, and he’s like—

**Paeden:** You fucking lost me, man.

**Glenn:** Oh, that's all right Paeden, I'll just start from the top. So anyway, Diamond Dave was this really big burly guy out of Chicago, and we knew we had to something about this. And ...

[fades out into *outdoor nocturnal noises*]

**Anthony:** It's night now. And just a couple of scant torches are lighting your way and before you can see anything, you hear the voice of Yeet Bigly going—

Yeet: Grant! Oh man. Oh, I'm sorry. Yeah. Dinner. Sorry. I almost forgot!

**Anthony:** Basically you can see around the corner, Grant and Yeet get a couple of hot dogs and they just sit on the stairs leading up to the Coliseum. If you want to stay here and eavesdrop you can. You'll get a Stealth check with advantage on that. Or you can go and talk to them, or you can bounce, it's sort of up to you.

**Beth:** I'm going to eavesdrop. Oh my gosh, I'm ready for the tea.

**Matt:** I walk straight up to them.

**Freddie:** Oh my God.

**Beth:** Oh gosh.

**Will:** Darryl no...

**Matt:** I walk up to them. I go—

Darryl: Hey, hey kids, this one's on me.

Matt: And I put a gold coin down. I'm just like—

Darryl: Don't be up too late.

Matt: I walk away.

**Anthony:** And he goes—

Yeet: Ayy, thanks Mr. W!

**Anthony:** And Grant is like—

**Grant:** Thanks, dad. Thanks.

**Darryl:** Yeah, no problem.

**Freddie:** Yeah, that's so cool, someone walking up, a dad walking up and pulling out $2,000 and just putting it on the table. That's so much money.

[all laugh]

**Will:** Dude, Darryl's got rich dad energy right now.

**Matt:** And I go—

Darryl: Look, man, we're not going to spy on them. I don't feel comfortable listening to my kid talk to this kid.

**Anthony:** If that's the case, then, Matt, you should take your headphones off and anybody else who wants to eavesdrop can still hear.

**Matt:** Okay. So Darryl walks away. He's like—

Darryl: I'm going to go get some sleep.

**Henry:** Yeah, for sure. I'll be right there, Darryl, for sure. I don't know why I'm telling you that I'll be right there when you go to sleep, but...

[laughter]

**Anthony:** “My muscles are all limber from the fucking spa. I'm ready, Darryl!"

**Matt:** Darryl just turns around and goes—

Darryl: You got your own room... Okay.

**Henry:** Yeah. Right, right, right, right. For sure.

Freddie: Darryl comes back and Glenn is finishing up his story.

Glenn: Anyway. That's how we ended up wanted in three States. You know what I mean? You get what I'm saying, Darryl?

**Darryl:** Yeah. All right. I'm going to go to bed. This place seems pretty safe, I'm sure. I told them not to be out too late.

**Glenn:** Dang, that was a load off of my chest. I'm really glad I finally submitted all out to somebody.

**Anthony:** I feel like I've really grown as a character.

**Darryl:** Yeah, me too. I'm glad I could get some stuff off my ... I just need to sleep. All right, guys?

**Glenn:** God, I'm going to sleep like a baby. That's so much guilt, so much pressure on my shoulders these last 20 years.

**Matt:** Darryl's already left.

**Glenn:** Finally. I'm glad you were able to hear it, Darryl.

**Will:** Back outside, Henry starts to feel guilty about spying on these kids. So he's like—

Henry: Ah, Ron, I just can't do it. I can't spy on Darryl's kid. That's weird. I'm going to go. For the record, I disapprove of you eavesdropping, but if you do eavesdrop, fucking let me know what happens. I'm really invested in this.

Will: And then Henry walks away.

**Anthony:** All right, Ron, it's up to you. Do you want to eavesdrop or do you not want to?

**Beth:** Okay. So Ron is obviously hiding, but sort of justifying it to himself by like—

**Ron:** I'm going to pick a good snack to eat tomorrow, but I'll pick it out tonight.

**Anthony:** It's like the thing where in movies where they want somebody to eavesdrop on information and get it, but they don't want to make them seem like creepy pieces of shit, so they're just walking and they accidentally overhear this bullshit that's super relevant.

**Beth:** Yeah. I'm just like, building up some plot armor. “Woopsy, heard that!” No. Okay, fine. Fine. Ron intentionally and evilly eavesdrops on these children.

**Anthony:** Ron wants to find out what's happening with these two thirsty tweens.

**Beth:** Exactly, yes.

**Anthony:** So, give me a Stealth roll with advantage.

**Beth:** Yes, I get an 18.

**Anthony:** Okay.

**Beth:** +8, I can probably read their thoughts, damn.

[laughter]

**Anthony:** Okay. Matt, take your headphones off.

**Beth:** Will and Freddie have to take off their headphones, too. It's just got to be me—

**Will:** No, but does Ron ... Oh shit. You're right, because does Ron tell us? Oh fuck. Goddamn.

**Anthony:** Yeah, everybody except for Beth. This is just me and Beth.

**Beth:** Oh, my gosh.

**Anthony:** This is a weird new art form where it's me talking to myself for an audience of only Beth.

**Matt:** I love this, because I'm not going to listen to this part of the episode, so next episode, we're all going to have to ask Ron what happened.

**Beth:** Oh, my gosh.

**Matt:** Beth's going to have to either tell us-

**Anthony:** You're going to have to get it from Ron! You're going to have to get a description of very...

**Matt:** I love that. Cause then I'm going to be able to play with Grant, only through what I hear from Ron. Okay, okay. Taking off my headphones.

**Will:** Oh my God. All right. I take my, I'm taking my headphones off too. Tell us in the chat when it's safe to come back.

[nocturnal sounds, crickets chirping]

**Anthony:** You hear Yeet and Grant just chatting as they're eating their hot dogs and Yeet goes—

**Yeet:** What's going on, man? You look a little bit like ... a little down. From the first time I met you, it seems like you've been kind of a little off.

**Anthony:** And Grant says—

**Grant:** Yeah, uh… Yeah. Ever since we... You remember the part when I went in the bear, and I— with the ax?

**Yeet:** " Yeah, that was really fucked up."

**Grant:** "Yeah. Yeah. It was. Ever since that I've kind of felt, or I guess not felt is sort of more of a thing, like I kind of just don't feel anything? All the time. Like I don't feel like I'm a person?

But there are these little brief moments where something breaks through. Like when somebody hurts me or when I hurt somebody and I don't ... It's this weird thing where like my brain, I don't like doing them, but it's like the only thing that's like, “hey, you're still here!” And hurting somebody or killing somebody... it's bad. It's bad, right? It's bad. It's a thing we shouldn't want to do.

**Yeet:** "Yeah, you shouldn't want to. Sometimes we have to, but it's not a good thing.”

**Grant:** [trembling, near tears] Yeah, but it feels good to me in the moment, because it just makes this binary, like, “you're here, you're not here”. And if I could do that to somebody or if I get hurt, then it's like, “I'm here!” It's like this proof that I'm still here, and that I'm real.

Anthony: Tears begin to sort of stream down his face and Yeet's like—

Yeet: Ah, wow. That's a lot. I'm really sorry. Have you talked to anybody about this?

**Grant:** [mumbling] There's just nobody I can ... There's really nobody I can talk to about this. The other kids are kind of ... Maybe Terry? Maybe not, I don't know.

**Yeet:** "What about your dad? Your dad seems like a nice guy."

**Grant:** "Yeah, no, he is. My dad's a nice guy. He's really, he's smart and he's strong and he leads everybody, and… But, he's never— The whole time I've known my dad he's never come off as like ... I've never seen him scared. I've never seen him cry. I've never seen him—

Like, he met my mom when they were in grade school. He just hasn't had the same kind of experience that I've had. He sort of got the thing that mattered the most to him early on in life, and then he just sort of... I don't want to say coasted because his life has been decently difficult, but like, his dad was really good and I can't really relate to him. And I feel embarrassed to talk about this stuff, or the fact that I have feelings for somebody or whatever."

**Yeet:** "Oh yeah? Who do you have feelings for?"

**Grant:** [strained]"Oh, Oh no, it's ... Yeah, it ... How are you?"

**Yeet:** "Okay, well, as long as you're here, as long as you're going to be doing the football stuff with us, you can always hang out with me. You can always chat with me. I'm happy to be here as your friend or what have you."

**Grant:** "Oh, okay, like, yeah, as a friend. Could I kiss you maybe? Maybe?"

**Yeet:** "What? I'm not ... I don't ... I meant like as a friend, like as just a friend. I'm- I’m so sorry—

**Grant:** "Oh, no, no, no, no, no, no. It's cool. [nervous laughter] I fucked up. Woo."

**Anthony:** And he tosses his hotdog down on the ground and Yeet’s like—

**Yeet:** "No, oh, please don't—

**Grant:** [pained, near tears] No, I'm going to head back. I'm going to head back and go to sleep. So, I'm sorry, but yeah, I'll see you tomorrow on the field. [softly] Oh. *Fuck.*

**Anthony:** He just starts silently sobbing to himself as he runs back to the locker room. You can see, he sort of stops outside the locker room really quickly, wipes all of his tears away, and then wipes his hands on his pants, and then goes inside.

**Beth:** Fuck. Oh my God. Yikes, yikes, yikes. God, yeah, I wish I hadn't heard it.

Will: I’m back. What happened?

Beth: I wish that Ron hadn't heard that.

**Anthony:** For Henry and Glenn and Darryl, you basically just saw Grant come back in and he just looks kind of tired. He finds his bunk and he just jumps into it and pulls up his covers.

**Darryl:** Hey, Grant. Hey, good job, kid. It's not too late. Did you have a good time?

**Grant:** Yeah. Thanks for paying for the hotdog. You over you overpaid by like a thousand—

[Darryl snoring]

Grant: Oh. Okay, he’s asleep…

Will: [pained laughter] Oh no...

**Anthony:** A quiet hush slowly settles over the Colosseum of Ballsdeep. Forgot it was called that! Kind of ruined the tone. Kind of ruined the moment. All of you fall into a restful and dreamless sleep...

[purple robe music starts]

Until, as was the case earlier on in your adventure, before you knew the people who had been screwing with you and your children's lives—

Will: Uh oh.

Anthony: You again find yourselves half-awake in a dreamlike state with one another, and standing over you is the smirking, sadistic visage of Willy Stampler.

Willy: Hey guys. How about a quick dad huddle?

**Matt:** That's our— that’s what we say.

Will: That’s our line!

**Beth:** I hate that!

[outro music plays]

**Freddie:** Dungeons and Daddies is Matt Arnold as Darryl Wilson, Anthony Burch as our DM, Will Campos as Henry Oak, Beth May as Ron Stampler, and myself, Freddie Wong, as Glenn Close. Theme song and outro is All Right by Maxton Waller.

Thanks to Kyle Quigley this week for providing a name we used in this episode, as is his sovereign right as one of our Patreon supporters. Oh, don't believe me that we got Patreon supporters? What about people like Shane Michael Mills, Corrine Cobbington, Jacob Ruthier, Ethan Jarvis, Ronald Phillips, Andrew Gillman, Isaac Morris, Jon, J-O-N like the Garfield owner, Raina the human and Oscar the cat and CeCe Brandt, huh? People like that? Those kinds of people are what makes podcasts work!

**Freddie:** You don't have to be left out. You can get in on this, get on that Patreon for ad-free episodes and weekly live listening parties, which is about the closest thing to a communal listening experience you will find for a podcast. We also got the Walter and Paeden Stretch Goal Bonus Adventure coming up soon, as well as the Henry Oak Rocks Rock EP, which Will just finished writing and recording for this last weekend, so that's getting mixed as we speak. Lots of cool stuff at patreon.com/DungeonsAndDads.

**Freddie:** By the way, if you want to see all the bonus content you can get access to, you can find that on our website at DungeonsAndDaddies.com under the podcast drop-down, click Patreon Content. That's also, by the way, a really easy way to access all of your Patreon content if you are a patron. There's merchandise on that website, dungeonsanddaddies.com. You can find us on Twitter at @DungeonsAndDads and Reddit /r/DungeonsAndDaddies. Next episode coming on June 23rd, stay safe out there. We'll see you then.

[outro music finishes]

**Beth:** We'll throw it right in that cat butthole.

**Freddie:** That's a fucking bulls-eye right there.

**Will:** It's like when you're throwing a ball through a tire in the backyard.

[laughter]

**Freddie:** Exactly.