Dungeons and Daddies

Dungeon Master: Anthony Burch

Glenn Close: Freddie Wong

Darryl Wilson: Matt Arnold

Henry Oak: Will Campos

Ron Stampler: Beth May

Episode 7 - The Battle Axe of Hatred

[*banjo playing*]

**Gartok:** Live from Neverwinter, this is Gartok. I'm Gartok. Today I'm talking about the four extraterrestrials in the white, metal behemoth making their way across the Forgotten Realms. If anyone's heard anything about these four aliens, I am taking calls. If you've got anything to say just call out of your window very loudly and I will hear you. Oh, we've got a caller.

**Bartender:** Oi, they snuffed me for thirteen barrels of beer! They say it was a *Darryl Barrel Special* but I don’t feel so special in the end.

**Gartok:** That is not helpful. Does anyone else have a lead on them— Oh! yep, we've got another caller. You're on with Gartok.

**Man Sized Snake:** They freed me from prisssson, they sssseemed pretty chill to me.

**Gartok:** Ooh, well given that they murdered my son, let's agree to disagree on that. Caller, you're on Gartok. What do you got?

**The Library:** Oooh yes, they were very curious about the many tomes I had within my library which I carry upon my back. After checking out several books and getting a stern warning from me that failure to bring them back within the allotted time will result in their utter demise, they decided to go to the city of Waterdeep, where they were immediately accosted by a band of briggens; one of which turned out to be Nicholas: the son of th-the one with the guitar—the one that kind of doesn’t do anything. He seems he’s that one’s son…and they could be in trouble now.

**Gartok:** Thank you, caller. That was great. That's all the time we have for today. This was Gartok on *NPR* which stands for… *National Public Radio,* which was the name of the giant I am standing on while I shout all this into the open air.

[*banjo music ends*]

[*theme song*]

**Freddie:** Welcome to *Dungeons and Daddies*, not a BDSM podcast. This is a Dungeons and Dragons podcast where four dads from our world are flung into the Forgotten Realms in a quest to rescue their lost sons. My name is Freddie Wong, I play Glenn Close, rock and roll dad. Dad fact for Glenn this week: he knows Japanese, as you heard from the previous episode, because he took a bunch of *Duolingo* courses in preparation for *The Glenn Close Trio’s* tour of Budokan over in Japan. You know like all good rock bands, they were gonna play Budokan, but they got cancelled because nobody gives a shit about *The Glenn Close Trio* in Japan. Turns out that their A&R guy got that mixed up.

**Will:** Can I ask a *Glenn Close Trio* question?

**Freddie:** Yeah.

**Will:** You mentioned that they're a cover band before.

**Freddie:** Yeah.

**Will:** What do they cover? Like, who do they cover?

**Freddie:** Oh, just non-stop dad rock. It depends on where they are. They do a regional base or a cover thing. So, if it's down south, they're going to throw some Skynyrd in there.

**Will:** I see, I see. What did they have planned for Budokan?

**Freddie:** Oh my goodness, just Japanese math rock.

**Will:** Oh sweet, very cool.

**Freddie:** They're trying to get, you know, sort of ingratiated in.

**Anthony:** Acoustic *Sailor Moon* theme.

**Freddie:** It’s just *The Beatles*. They’re just like “We're gonna try and redo what *The Beatles* did.”

**Matt:** Hi, I'm Matthew Arnold and I play Darryl Wilson, the stay-at-home coach dad who's a barbarian, and a little fun fact about Darryl: Darryl’s older sister, Casey, owns a massively successful brewery in Northern California.

**Will:** Whoa! Whooooa!

**Anthony:** That changes a lot.

[*Beth laughs*]

**Matt:** Yeah, It's called The Brew Dude which is what Darryl always called himself.

[*all exclaim*]

**Matt:** Yeah, She's got a really good gimmick where every beer is like a really cool dude on the cover, so it's like “Dales Ale” or like “Ray's IPA” and like, they're all like a little logo.

**Beth:** Wait, where is it?

**Matt:** It's up in like Northern California.

**Beth:** Oh man, she's out for blood in Silicon Valley.

**Matt:** It's big. It's like on a level like *Stone Brewery* or like *Sierra Nevada*, and it’s like— she's become very, very successful.

**Will:** How does Darryl feel about that?

**Anthony:** Yeah, it seems like you resent that.

**Matt:** Darryl definitely always makes sure that when there is a family event like his beer is the one that's in the cooler, and if anybody has a Brew Dude he takes it out and doesn't… [*mumbles*]

**Freddie:** Awkward Thanksgivings in the Wilson household.

**Anthony:** Holy shit, that’s dark.

[*Matt chuckles*]

**Will:** Mamma mia.

**Matt:** It’s good beer too. Here's the thing, it's very good beer.

[*laughter*]

**Anthony:** If Darryl is being honest with himself, is it better than his?

**Matt:** Yes, he's constantly trying to make beer that's better than his sister's beer.

**Anthony:** Holy shit.

**Beth:** Aw.

**Freddie**: That does not sound like one “hoppy” family.

**Beth:** Oh, yikes.

**Will:** Oh there it was!

**Anthony:** Ugh, thank god you’re not playing yet.

**Beth:** We haven’t started yet, we haven’t started yet. My name is Beth May and I play Ron Stampler, emotionally detached stepfather. Fun stepdad fact about Ron, and this is kind of a meta fact, is that Ron has never played Dungeons and Dragons. However, he has played *Scene It*.

[*all laugh*]

**Beth:** You know, a famous movie trivia DVD game. More than once, he's been— he's a big *Scene It* player. So don’t mess.

**Anthony:** Holy shit.

[*Matt continues to laugh in the background*]

**Will:** They call them “Scenesters” in the community.

**Anthony:** Is Ron good at *Scene It*?

**Beth:** I mean, he's okay, like he didn't know that Quentin Tarantino directed *Reservoir Dogs* but like he knew that it was a thing.

**Anthony:** Oh my God.

**Beth:** He thought it was about actual dogs.

[*all laugh*]

**Anthony:** Oh I see.

**Freddie:** Ron's the kind of guy who probably knows all the like female actors and like the trivia around them but like all the male ones, he’s like: “I don’t know.” It’s like really specifically—

**Beth:** I think he just won't admit that he knows. He’s like, he probably knows that Brad Pitt broke his arm in filming *Seven* and then had, like, the cast written into the movie but like he wouldn't say that.

**Anthony:** Wait, is that true?

**Will:** That is true, actually. Yeah.

**Beth:** Yeah. I was gonna like bluff it. I was gonna be like, “No, I just made it up.”

**Anthony:** That’s dope as hell!

**Matt:** Or like Viggo Mortensen in *Fellowship of The Ring*, when he kicks the helmet and he screams, he broke his toe.

[*all exclaim*]

**Will:** That's in *Two Towers*.

**Matt:** Shit. Alright everybody, this—

**Anthony:** You just got stuffed, motherfucker!

**Matt:** The first moment of this episode is gonna be Darryl Wilson jumping out of the minivan to his death.

[*all laugh*]

**Matt:** That’s it,I clearly cannot be on a Dungeons and Dragons podcast, anymore.

**Will:** What's up everyone? It's your boy, Will Campos. I play Henry Oak, hippie granola crunchy munchy Birkenstock wearin’ dad. We’ll have to check— there's some Birkenstock related news I'll have to check-in about in a second. Fun fact about Henry Oak, everyone's favorite hippy geologist dad, this week is that he does geology themed rap songs at the local kids— at the kid's science museum in San Dimas.

[*all exclaim*]

**Anthony:** This is a crime.

**Will:** His group is called *Hip Hop Rocks* but it's like “rocks”.

**Anthony:** I should've killed his kids when I had the chance.

**Beth:** Oh my god.

**Matt:** I’m taking Henry with me when I jump out of the minivan.

**Will:** Some of his songs include “In A Sedimental Mood”.

**Freddie:** Oh my god! That’s not even rap!

**Beth:** It’s like jazz rap.

**Freddie:** Yeah, it’s just like today’s jazz standards.

**Matt:** I like that it’s not rap, he calls it a rap band but it's not rap.

**Will:** I'm not done! “Subduction Junction”.

**Beth:** Oh, god.

[*all exclaim*]

**Will:** “Metamorphic Power Rangers”.

**Beth:** Okay.

**Will:** And his hip hop name is [*chuckles*] Igneous B-I-G.

[*all laugh*]

**Anthony:** I'm so upset.

**Freddie:** “Igneous B-I-G”.

**Will:** Henry Oak has never heard a Notorious B-I-G song, but he Googled rap names and like— then he was looking for one that sounded like he could squeeze a rock pun in there.

**Freddie:** Oh my god.

**Matt:** We need to have somebody at some point in this adventure come up and point out maybe that Henry's appropriation of rap music is problematic and just make him go into an existential crisis.

**Anthony:** I would if anything he just described even sounds remotely like a rap.

[*all laugh*]

**Matt**: That was very good.

**Will:** Y'all are acting like you've never seen a white geologist rapper before.

**Beth:** No, listen I believe in— I believe in Henry. I think he's going to make, like, you know, a volcano and blow up.

**Will:** Ooooh damn!

**Beth:** Yeah.

**Freddie:** Well on that clunker.

**Beth:** Ouch.

[*all exclaim*]

**Beth:** Well, now I'm going to make like lava and flow, slowly. Just kind of slowly freezing over millions of years…hardening.

**Anthony:** Speaking of hardening, I'm Anthony Burch, your daddy master.

**Will:** You're the daddy master and you're here to say…

[*Anthony laughs*]

**Anthony:** I love to play games with doofuses ever-y day. So is everyone ready to start playing this wonderful role playing game we call Dungeons and Dragons?

**All:** Yes!

**Anthony:** Alright.

**Matt:** All week.

**Will:** Take me away, daddy master.

[*transition music*]

**Henry:** Holy smokes! Glenn is that— is that Nick? Is that your son?

**Glenn:** Oh hell yeah! Nick, nice *Blade* landing!

**Freddie:** I'm gonna roll down the window on my side and lean out and be like—

**Glenn:** Hey Nick! Nice *Blade* landing. Sorry about denting your car, Darryl.

**Darryl:** [mumbles] It’s ok…

**Anthony:** Okay, so the *Blade* landing allows you to have one arm free right?

**Freddie:** Yes, absolutely.

**Anthony:** With his free arm, he like reaches out for high five.

**Freddie:** Yeah! I fucking rock that high five super hard from wherever I'm sitting in the car. That's a 2 roll on that high five so I do whiff it pretty hard.

**Anthony:** It's cool, he gets your palm with his like middle finger. He’s like—

**Nick:** That's close enough.

**Freddie:** Nice! Hell yeah!

**Darryl:** Hey Nick, could you maybe step off that hood there for a second?

**Matt:** I start getting out the car and checking if it’s dented.

**Anthony:** So, Nick looks at a Glenn and it gives him like a— “Pffft ‘This guy’” kind of face.

**Freddie:** I give a nod—

**Glenn:** I know, right. Hey man— guys it's all good. This is must be— this must be Nick and I guess it's his new band or something. Let's all get out of here and, like, just hang out.

**Nick:** That was actually going to be my plan as well.

**Glenn:** Nice.

**Nick:** So you guys came t-t-to what?

**Glenn:** To just like hang out see what you've been up to, dawg.

**Nick:** Perfect, that's what I was hoping! Do you guys wanna go back to our hideout?

**Glenn:** Yo, sick! You got a hideout?!

**Nick:** Do you wanna meet The Boss?

**Glenn:** Oh, there's a boss?

**Nick:** Yeah, yeah I mean I got— he sort of found me after the— I was gonna get sold to some dude in Waterdeep but we all got accosted by a band of—

**Anthony:** And then as he's saying this, a guy behind him is like, “Are we gonna rob them or what?” Nick turns around and he’s like—

**Nick:** No,they're cool, they're cool! They’re with me, they're with me.

**Glenn:** Nice!

**Nick:** In order for us to, like, not rob you, are you guys cool with like either pretending to be or being criminals? Is that dope? Is that—

**Henry:** I— Hi, Nick! It's Henry. I'm— I'm one of the dads.

**Glenn:** *[whispering]* It's the granola square one.

**Nick:** *[whispering]* Oh, that one. [*aloud*] Yeah yeah yeah yeah yeah. Sup sup sup sup sup.

**Henry:** So, young man. W—so you're saying you're some sort of criminal? You're some sort of highwayman?

**Nick:** Yes. I was going to sort of clarify that with like, moral, like, justification but I *[dismissive noise]*. We don't hurt anybody. We don't kill anybody.

**Henry:** I—Guys—I don't know if I'm comfortable pretending to be a criminal. Is that like, are we going to have to steal— Are we gonna have to *do* crimes to—

**Glenn:** Let me ask you something here, Henry. Have you ever listened to any music that wasn't maybe purchased from the iTunes Store or the Google Play Marketplace?

**Henry:** I— I— I don't see what that has to do with anything. I mean, I think that’s just copyright violation. That's a little different than stealing.

**Glenn:** As a recording artist, you know, that's taking the food out of the mouths of starving musicians.

**Ron:** Are you saying that, you wouldn't steal a car.

**Glenn:** Yeah. You wouldn’t steal a car.

**Ron:** You wouldn’t steal a DVD.

**Glenn:** In a way, you're stealing.

**Ron:** Pirating music is stealing.

**Glenn**: Yeah. What Ron said.

**Nick:** Pirating is dope. It's the best kind of stealing!

**Glenn:** But my point is, you're already like criminally adjacent, so like, what's the big deal, man?

**Henry:** I mean…

**Darryl:** Teammates, can we focus for one second here? We were going to cross this bridge to get Nicholas, and there’s two other kids that we need to save. We don't need to cross the bridge anymore. Why don't you get your goddamn son in the car and let's drive to save our two children? So, what are we doing? Why are we going to pretend to be criminals? Son, get in the car!

**Nick:** Sounds like a dick.

**Henry:** We're here to rescue you, Nick.

**Nick:** HAHAHAHA! From what?

**Henry:** Well, it seems like you've been dragooned into a band of brigands.

**Nick:** No, no, no. Those words I've never heard before have no effect on me.

**Henry:** Sounds like someone hasn't been studying for the S.A.T’s enough to know what dragooned means.

**Will:** I throw a judging look at Glenn a little bit, like—

**Nick:** I prefer to think of us less ‘brigand dragoons’ and more like Bad Boyz with like a Z. But here's the full thing—

**Glenn:** Oh, cool.

**Darryl:** Can we get off the car, please? Just for one second while we're still talking.

**Freddie:** *[Laughter]* Has he been holding the Blade pose?

**Anthony:** Yeah he's still— The entire time he's been holding the Blade pose.

**Freddie:** Oh, sick.

**Anthony:** You’re gonna have to roll either persuasion or intimidation, whatever you think.

**Matt:** It's probably just persuasion, I'm not gonna hit him. That's a 13.

**Anthony:** Yeah, 13 will do, I guess. He goes—

**Nick:** Ugh, God, what a bummer. All right. Yeah.

**Anthony:** So he jumps off and he says—

**Nick:** Hey guys, hold up. This is—

**Anthony:** And he does, like Cool Hand signal at all the other brigands and says—

**Nick:** It's fine. They're tight. I'll vouch for him it's cool.

**Anthony:** And then he sort of leans over and whispers to you guys like—

**Nick:** *[whispers]* So here's the thing. I kind of can't leave, or I'll die.

**Henry:** You'll die?

**Nick:** Yeah. So here's the thing. These guys the guys I'm with— super tight.

**Ron:** They seem very tight, yes.

**Nick:** Yeah, they're very tight. Their boss— the Boss of Bosses, not my boss but that guy's boss— he like, he's like real cruel. And he put a spell on me, that basically like, I have like an indentured servant to him until I like, do a specific job for him. And if I try to leave without that then like, my head comes off.

**Ron:** It sounds like a position with not much room for advancement.

*[Matt and Will laugh]*

**Ron:** I have been in that position before and let me tell you that I, um, I sympathize with that. Is the position opening up, anytime soon?

**Nick:** Yeah. I mean, we're always looking for more people.

**Ron:** This is fabulous.

**Henry:** There is a lot of slavery going on in this wor— You know, I'm still mostly committed first and foremost to freeing our sons. I think, secondary goals, we should try to start some kind of like, Emancipation Proclamation. You know what I'm saying? I talk a lot about it on my hip hop album.

*[all exclaim]*

**Freddie/Anthony:** Oh no.

**Anthony:** Could you give us a line from—

**Freddie:** From the section where you talk about the Emancipation Proclamation in the context of geology for your hip hop album?

**Anthony:** *[laughs]* The easiest improv prompt of all time.

**Henry:** It's from my song *“Racism doesn't rock”*.

*[all laugh]*

**Freddie:** Oh my God.

*[beat drops]*

**Henry:** You know what's bolder than being older than a cold-shoulder-having-guy with a couple Folgers/

is not being racist /

because it's the basics/

that we're all equal./

So save some of that for the sequel.

*[all exclaim]*

**Beth:** Oh man.

*[beat ends]*

**Anthony:** You did not pick easy-to-rhyme words.

**Darryl:** As a big fan of his albums, I was like, I really like that song but just didn't have as much to do with rocks as his first album. I feel like—

**Anthony:** He got away from what made him a brilliant actor/artist.

**Beth:** If this was the end of 8 Mile, I would put the mic down and walk away.

**Matt:** I guess I lose.

**Darryl:** What job do you have to do, son?

**Nick:** Ah, well. There is a weapon. A legendary weapon— Actually, you guys want to do this not on the bridge? Do you want to like, go back to our hideout? It feels like that would be a more comfortable place to hang out.

**Glenn:** Do you have a green room back there? Sounds nice.

**Nick:** Exactly. We got a forest where we hang out in.

**Glenn:** So, like a green room. Yeah, nice.

**Anthony:** Yeah. OK. So he leads you along. I assume you're going to follow him in the Odyssey.

**Will:** Yeah I think we should. I think we should see what's going on maybe we can talk to this—

**Freddie:** I’m going to walk up front with my boy. My dude. Yeah.

**Anthony:** Nice. OK. So as you two are walking through the forest he goes like—

**Nick:** So, what— What's been up, Dad? What's been going on, Glenn?

**Glenn:** Yo. So sweet that we're on a first name basis. Yeah, I don't know. It's been like, pretty chill. We've been like, looking for Henry's kids. We found them. Then they like disappeared. There’s a lot of magical shit going on, man. It’s some real—

**Beth:** Ron leans his head out of the window and says—

**Ron:** Hey, Glenn. Did you tell him about me hiding in my pants?

**Glenn:** Oh, yeah yeah yeah.

**Nick:** What the fuck did he just say?

**Ron:** It was pretty cool, huh?

**Glenn:** How is Ron's kid on the team? Is he a weirdo?

**Nick:** Ron's kid plays with the ferocity of someone who's trying to get back at somebody. He kicks the ball harder than anyone ever needs to kick the ball. He'd like— no accuracy, all power. If we can get him right next to the goal, it's fine. Any other time, it's just an out of bounds.

**Ron:** Yay, that's my boy. I mean, my step boy that I have very little connection to.

**Glenn:** Makes sense. Anyway, we've just been like, looking for all y'all. You know, because we all got separated, and uh. It seems like you got a pretty good thing going on here. These guys are pretty cool. They all got like, weapons and like—

**Nick:** Yeah. We’re like a little army kinda, but like, not it? But we don't fight for stuff. That's my favorite thing. It's like, we're like, Bad Boyz but we kind of just hang out most of the time.

**Glenn:** So, kind of like a band without ideology. Very similar to sort of post-punk 80’s commercialism. I dig it.

**Nick:** Oh my god, very much that, yeah.

**Glenn:** So we're like you're like new wave Flock of Seagulls, huh?

**Nick:** We are the Flock of Seagulls of the Sherwood Forest.

**Glenn:** Whoa. Dang. Pretty cool. I dig your outfits, too.

**Nick:** Thanks, do you want one?

**Glenn:** Dude, these digs are sweets. It’s got like, a real Steven Tyler scarves thing going.

**Nick:** Hell yeah. Scarves are our main thing.

**Glenn:** I like the sheer number of scarves being used both to cover faces and necks.

**Beth:** Ron was unaware that father-son conversations could go on this long.

*[all laugh]*

**Will:** While they're talking, I raise my hand to the other guys.

**Freddie:** Inside the van?

**Will:** Inside the van,I raise my hand and I look at Ron and Darryl and I say,

**Henry:** Hey, guys. Can we have a quick stealth dad huddle real quick?

**Darryl:** I mean, we’re in the car, you can— let me just roll up the windows over here. Can we—

**Cern:** Sorry, sorry guys. Am I involved as well?

**Henry:** Oh, Lizardboy Scales McStuffins. Of course you're involved.

**Cern:** Thank you, thank you.

**Henry:** I kind of forgot you were there, I'll be honest.

**Cern:** Yeah, so did the DM.

**Darryl:** Not me. I mean, you're still in the passenger— you’re in shotgun, right?

**Cern:** Yeah.

**Henry:** Hey, guys. I just want to put this out there. Call an elephant in the room as I see it. It seems like there's a sort of energy between Glenn and his son that I'm a little worried that at the end of this, Glenn is gonna wind up enslaved in this thieves guild. I just wanted to take the temperature on the other dads.

**Darryl:** I don’t know, Henry. I was a little disappointed when I saw Nicholas there smoking the marijuana, but one, he's a good player on the team and, I don’t know, he's just— he's respecting his dad over there. They’re just having a good time.

**Henry:** Is it respectful, or is it— You know, like I just— It stresses me out a little.

**Ron:** You’re saying that there should be more animosity between parents and their children. I was thinking the same but I just didn't want to, you know.

**Henry:** You know I'm not trying to throw shade on anyone's parenting style.

**Ron:** Of course not. No, no, no.

**Henry:** It just seems like maybe Glenn is a little trying too hard to be his son's buddy instead of being his dad. And I'm worried that like, he might—

**Ron:** And dads are not buddies.

**Darryl:** You know what Henry? I hear you. I just think as a man you just tell him face to face. Let me roll down the window…Hey, Glenn. Henry's got something to tell you.

**Freddie:** I slow my pace a little bit and roll back in, as the car rolls around I’m going to do a cool like Fonz style lean on the car through the passenger seat.

**Glenn:** Hey what's up man?

**Anthony:** Nick slows his gait as well so he's walking next to you while this is happening. So, he's definitely going to hear whatever you say.

**Henry:** Oh jeez. Hi— hi. Hi Nick. How are you.

**Nick:** I'm doing great.

**Henry:** Oh I— you know— I had a kind of private thing I wanted to talk to your dad about, is that okay?

**Nick:** Yeah, go ahead.

**Anthony:** He keeps walking with you. He doesn't move.

**Henry:** Okay. Glenn. I'm not the best at confrontation or conflict and so I'm going to do what's called a “compliment sandwich.” So, I’m going to start by saying something really positive, which is that I love that you and Nick have such a close relationship. You guys can talk about anything.

**Freddie**: I hold out my left fist for a fist bump from Nick.

**Anthony:** Fist bump complete.

**Glenn**: Nice.

**Henry:** So here's the difficult part. Here's the meat of this sandwich. So it seems like Nick’s in a whole heap of trouble here, and—

**Glenn:** Yeah, we're just trying to figure it out man.

**Henry:** Yeah. Okay. I just— I'm a little— I just want to make sure when we get in there that we're all first and foremost fully committed to—

**Glenn:** — Helping our boys out, man! Yeah.

**Henry:** Okay. Oh yeah. Okay. I think—

**Glenn:** Cool cool cool. What was the compli— There's another compliment you owe me because we're at the top of the sandwich now.

**Nick**: Maybe it's like a Big Mac. Yeah. Three buns…

**Ron:** Big Mac has more meat, though. In that case, Henry is worried that your son is trying to swindle you and get us all sold into slavery.

**Darryl:** Yeah.

**Glenn:** WOAH! WOAH!

**Henry:** No, that’s not— I feel like a di—

**Ron:** That’s the double-patty part of this compliment sandwich.

**Nick:** What a dick!

**Henry:** That’s not— that's not what I was saying.

**Nick:** You don’t know me!

**Glenn:** Yo, Nick, you ain't gonna swindle us, right?

**Nick:** NO!

**Glenn:** Hell yeah. Yeah, whatever man.

**Nick:** Roll a Perception check if you don't believe me! Or an Insight check.

**Freddie:** I do not do that because I trust my—

**Will:** *I'm* gonna roll a perception or insight check! 14.

**Anthony:** You can tell that he is telling the truth as far as he knows.

**Glenn:** So you were talking about Big Macs earlier, you know. You know you talk about that Mickey D’s when you're hungry, so you tellin’ me that there's some weed up in here?

**Nick:** I'm telling you, my father, that there is something that is better than weed, that is everywhere in this forest.

**Glenn:** Yo!

**Anthony:** He like, moves a branch away with his hand and reveals, as if it was from a linear videogame, a beautiful forest clearing that has—

**Matt:** It’s like we’re blinded by the sun and we're like slowly coming up with the rising—

+

**Anthony:** Yeah—

**Matt:** —and it's like the Bloom, it’s all white—

**Will:** Does he have to boost us over a ledge, so that there’s enough time for the new zone to load?

**Matt:** We’re all wiping our eyes.

**Anthony:** That's what the bloom is, too, it’s streaming in the textures. And you see all the shapes of the landscape but the textures don’t pop in so it’s like, *[surprised sound]*, but then all suddenly they do and it's really pretty.

**Matt:** Darryl sprays the windshield with the cleaners so he can wipe it and get an extra good view.

**Anthony:** Oh oh that's good. That is absolutely how I would hide a load.

*[all laugh]*

**Anthony:** Basically you see this really thriving bandit camp with a lot of tents everywhere. But that's not the thing that grabs your eye immediately. What grabs your eye is that, lining the paths between all of the tents are these beautiful multicolored flowers of every shape and size. It reminds you of the fucking candy forest from Willy Wonka and they're everywhere all around this camp. And Nick goes—

**Nick:** Yo, Dad. Pick a color.

**Glenn:** Uh, like, a purple.

**Anthony:** Okay. So he grabs a purple and hands it to you and he goes—

**Nick:** This one lets you levitate for five seconds.

**Glenn:** Yoooo!

**Nick:** Yeah.

**Glenn:** Like, real levitation, not like in your head.

**Nick:** Like for real for real.

**Glenn:** What is it. How do you, what, what—? You grind it up, you sniff it, snort it?

**Nick:** Uh, you eat it.

**Glenn:** You eat it.

**Nick:** Yeah, dissolves on the tongue. Boom.

**Glenn:** An edible, I dig it. So it's gonna be there for a while, I dig it.

**Nick:** Yeah, I mean it's five seconds, but yeah.

**Glenn:** But it feels like —

**Nick:** It feels like it's a while.

**Glenn:** Nice.

**Nick:** It dilates time but like basically like every flower here does a different crazy thing depending on its color.

**Glenn:** Nice!

**Nick:** This. Place. Is. The tiiiiiits! And I feel like, I don't want to like, throw shade, but it feels like the rest these dads are kind of a bunch of fucking pricks, and I feel like you and I should maybe find a way to just sort of chill here for as long as we can.

**Matt:** Darryl is picking flowers, being like—

**Darryl:** Carol is gonna love this.

**Matt:** And he's picking a whole bouquet of flowers for Carol right now. He's stopped the car and I'm just picking flowers.

**Anthony:** Oh man.

**Glenn:** Yeah, you know what? I’ve spent some time with these guys, I would say — I would say give them a shot. Some of them are cooler than you think.

**Nick:** Yeah?

**Glenn:** I do agree with you, that's pretty wild. So what's the street price of this shit? I'm saying, can we move this?

**Nick:** Woah. I hadn't even thought about that! That’s why you’re the dad! Yo, we could go into the empire business! *[whispering]* Season five *Breaking Bad*!

**Glenn:** Yeah, I love that season.

**Nick:** Yeah it's a good season.

**Glenn:** Yeah.

**Nick:** So we could go get me out of my contract and then we could get into like, building an empire, building a whole gang business. And we could just retire here and chill out.

**Glenn:** Like Frank Lucas *American Gangster* shit. I love those movies.

**Nick:** Yes!

**Will:** So Henry's not hearing this, right?

**Anthony:** You can over hear that. I feel like it's been a long time since you heard anything.

**Will:** Okay. Henry would normally be staring slack jaw agape, slowly removing his sunglasses *à la* Alan Grant or Ellie Sattler in *Jurassic Park*. But he, he's picking his dad-dar. His dad radar has gone off like crazy watching Glenn.

**Matt:** Wait is your dad-dar something that finds dads, or…?

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**Will:** I could tell— I could tell if any man on the street is a dad. I have an amazing dad-dar.

**Will:** So my dad-dar’s pinging based off this conversation. I sneak over to Darryl, who's busy picking flowers and I'm like—

**Henry:** Darryl.

**Will:** I'm like,

**Henry:** I know I kind of came off like a prick earlier, but like, I'm getting seriously anxious vibes off of the Glenn/Nick situation. I just feel like Glenn’s not taking this very seriously, and I feel like Nick is like, you know—

I just, you know— Like, I try to be permissive with my boys, but there's like permissive and then there's *permissive*. You know I— far be it for me to get into another dad’s zone, but I'm just like, let's put that out there.

**Darryl:** Can you hold this bouquet really quick? I’m making a—

**Henry:** Sure, yeah, of course.

**Darryl:** Sorry, I’m gonna start another one, really quick.

**Henry:** Wow, this is gorgeous.

**Darryl:** I know right? God, Carol’s gonna love this.

**Henry:** This smells so good!

**Will:** I take a big whiff of the flowers.

**Anthony:** Oh shit. Okay. Roll a d20.

*[laughs]*

**Beth:** Oh my god.

**Will:** Oh shit. I got a natural 1.

**Anthony:** Oh, no.

*[muffled laughs]*

**Anthony:** Oh, no. Oh no. Okay. How many flowers did you pick?

**Matt:** I mean, the size of a bouquet. So how do you— Am I saying this correctly?

**Will:** *[pronouncing slowly]* Bouquet.

**Matt:** Bouquet? Okay.

**Matt:** I have a speech—

**Will:** Got a full Birkenstock—

**Matt:** I have a speech impediment, so if I say a word weird— just bear with me. It’s bouquet.

**Will:** Make sure to put him on blast so he can feel super self-conscious about it.

**Matt:** Okay. So it’s probably like 24 flowers, and it's definitely every single color. I mean, yeah, I'm definitely trying to pick every color I can see. You know Trader Joe’s, they have those like, good summer arrays?

**Will:** Yeah, like a Trader Joe's bouquet. Yeah.

**Matt:** Yeah exactly.

**Anthony:** All right. Let me— give me a second while I type out all the things that are about to happen.

*[they laugh]*

**Beth:** Ron turns to Cern and says,

**Ron:** How you doing, Cern?

**Anthony:** Cern’s like—

**Cern:** I'm doing good. It's nice to see a dad hanging out with his kid and having a really positive— It reminds me of what it was like to be with my kids, I had a very similar kind of relation. We're very close.

**Ron:** I don't care.

*[all laugh]*

**Ron:** I mean that's interesting, Cern.

**Cern:** No, I heard you— I heard with the thing you said first, that was the one that sort of stuck.

**Ron:** Okay.

**Cern:** Okay. Good talk.

**Anthony:** So, Henry Oak. The following things happen to you simultaneously.

**Will:** Oh, no.

**Anthony:** It's not that bad, you only smelled it. So you begin to float off the ground. You immediately vomit all over yourself. You become insanely paranoid and you're sure that Darryl just tried to poison you with these flowers.

**Will:** Okay. [*chuckles*]

**Anthony:** Not only that, You think that you did die from the flowers. You are certain that you are dead.

**Beth:** *[laughs]* Ego death.

**Anthony:** If you say anything in the next five minutes of podcast time you have to tell only the truth.

**Will:** Okay.

**Anthony:** And you also forgot— Between the end of the last episode and right now, you've forgotten everything apart from him handing you the flowers.

**Will:** Okay. Should I try to roleplay all those things at once, right now?

**Anthony:** It is up to you.

**Will:** Okay, so—

**Anthony:** I didn't expect a one —

**Will:** Let me rewind a second—

**Henry:** I think you said something like, if you eat these flowers then this bad stuff happens but I think it — *[he vomits over himself],* *[labored breathing]*

*[laughs]*

**Darryl:** Whoa, Henry.

**Henry:** What the fuck did you just do to me, you piece of shit?! *[he starts making paranoid sounds]*

**Darryl:** Ron! Uh, Glenn!

**Henry:** Oh jeepers! *[repeats this in background]*

**Freddie:** Nick and myself are gonna notice this and be like—

**Glenn:** Uh-oh, bad trip, bad trip!

**Nick:** Ohh, shit, he went and did too much.

**Glenn:** Ugh, typical newbie mistake.

**Henry:** *[continues making sick sounds]*

**Will:** It's just a lot of those noises for a while.

**Anthony:** Yeah, sure.

**Glenn:** I mean I guess we gotta bring him down from the ground.

**Nick:** Yeah, get him in like an ice bath or something?

**Glenn:** Cover him with a blanket or something, just like this one.

**Nick:** Yeah, we should go grab one—

**Darryl:** Are these drug flowers, Nicholas?

**Henry:** *[whispers loudly]* They’re drug flowers!

**Nick:** They're natural, first of all.

**Darryl:** These are drug flowers.

**Nick:** You have such a, like, stank in your voice when you say “drug.”

**Darryl:** I was gonna give my beautiful wife drug flowers.

**Henry:** He was going to poison his wife! He poisoned me first! KILL HIM!

**Nick:** Is this guy cool? Dad, is this guy cool? Glenn?

**Glenn:** Yeah— I mean he's high as balls right now but—

**Darryl:** Glenn, could you get a bottle of water, or something for Henry here? He's sweating his balls off.

**Henry:** No water. Nothing. No— I'm not taking anything from that guy!

**Darryl:** It's not gonna be me, Henry. It’s gonna be—

**Henry:** I [Stuttering]— Lies! LIES!

**Darryl:** It’s gonna be Glenn—Glenn! Ron, help me out here!

**Henry:** YOU kissed me!

**Glenn:** How did you feel about that?

**Henry:** Pretty weird!

*[laughs]*

**Nick:** Oh shit, he’s got all the— Yo! If you want to ask him any questions that you want serious answers to, that are honest, now would be the time, dad.

**Darryl:** Henry, I didn’t poison you.

**Henry:** Bullshit, man! You’ve been out for me since forever!

**Darryl:** If I’d poisoned you, would I do this?

**Matt:** I kiss him on the lips.

**Anthony:** Okay, well— all those things transfer to you then.

*[all laugh]*

**Darryl:** [*Vomit noises*] Oh my God! Why did you poison me, Henry?! What’s happening?

**Henry:** Ugh.

**Ron:** Cern, how you doin’?

*[Anthony laughs raucously]*

**Darryl:** Look at those people over there!

**Henry:** It’s them… They’re plotting against me… and you…

**Darryl:** Oh my god, I see outer space. Look!

**Cern:** I’m feeling very confused. Should we help them?

**Darryl:** I’m in space and I’m floating in space and I’m in space!

**Henry:** I miss my wife and kids.

**Ron:** Henry. Do you want my pants?

**Henry**: Give me the pants.

**Ron:** Which pants?

**Henry:** All of them.

**Ron:** Okay. Here you go.

**Will:** I just put on as many pants as I can. I put them on my head, on my arms… I'm just— I'm buck wild on these pants.

**Beth:** We’re all trying to put on as many pants as we can, guys.

**Anthony:** Nick just turns to you, Glenn, and he's like—

**Nick**: You were right. These guys are fuckin tight as hell. Nevermind.

**Glenn:** They kind of know how to party, you know what I’m saying?

**Nick:** Yeah, apparently. Holy shit! They really go hard.

**Matt**: Can I roll— All I'm doing right now— the only thing I'm trying to do is find where those Charleston Chews™ are. [*Laughter]* That’s literally the only thing I want right now.

**Anthony:** Yeah, go ahead. Roll a— roll an Investigation.

**Matt:** I got an 11.

**Anthony:** Well, you know that they are on Henry's person. If you want to know exactly where, ask him.

**Darryl:** HENRY. CHEW.

**Henry:** Chew?You're gonna eat me?

**Darryl:** Chew…

**Henry:** The Charleston Chews… Uh, They're right here. Just take them all. Just get away from me!

**Will:** And I just start throwing Charleston Chews at him.

**Matt:** I start eating all of them. I’m going to be so sad when I wake up, but I'm eating them all. That's what I would do right now.

**Glenn:** This is some pretty good shit, Nick.

**Nick:** Yeah. Yeah it should be coming down about— They just snorted, right? They didn’t eat?

**Glenn:** Yeah, I think he just took a big old whiff and then they osculated.

**Nick**: Right about…Now.

**Anthony:** And then very suddenly all of your symptoms disappear and you fall back down to the ground. You remember everything that did happen. The memory that you lost is now back.

**Will:** I pull a pair of pants off my head.

**Ron:** Hey, can I have that pair of pants? I’m kind of in Darryl’s whitey tighties right now.

**Henry:** Sure, Ron. Here you go.

**Ron:** Oh,Thank you so much. Okay.

**Henry:** Okay. Well that was, um. You know, I've smoked the devil's lettuce once or twice in my life *[all laugh]* but I have to say that that was, that was quite a trip. Ugh, I feel like some weird stuff— the Charleston Chews!

**Matt:** There's one left.

**Will:** I dive and I grab it, and I stuff it into my pocket.

**Matt:** I try to hang onto it.

**Anthony:** Alright, roll opposed. Acrobatics for you, Dexterity for you, I guess.

**Matt:** 19.

**Will:** I got a 14.

**Anthony:** Alright, so yeah, you managed to hold onto it in your fist before you grab it.

**Darryl:** Don’t take this one from me.

**Matt:** And I put it in my pocket.

**Henry:** *[in a warning tone]* Darryl.

**Darryl:** It’s— I'm sorry I ate them all, Henry. I'm sorry I kissed you again.

**Henry:** You kissed me again?

**Darryl:** I kissed you again. I need to—

**Henry:** Oh, it's all coming back to me now. Oh jeez.

**Matt:** I go in the front seat and I start— I start praying the rosary.

**Beth:** Oh my god.

**Anthony:** Oh man. So as this is happening, uh—

**Freddie:** Set and setting, am I right?

**Anthony:** As this is happening, a broad shouldered woman walks up to you—   
  
**Beth:** A broad shouldered broad? [*laughing to self*] That's not even funny.

[*laughter*]

**Anthony:** So she claps Nick on the back happily and goes like—

**Broad:** Ooh who are your friends? Introduce me.

**Anthony**: And Nick goes—

**Nick:** Oh, oh yeah. This is my boss. This is who I was telling you about. Her name is Ellory. She's my— she's— she's my boss. She's cool. She's tight. These are— Oh, and this is my dad, Glenn.

**Anthony:** And she’s just like,

**Ellory:** Oh. Nice to meet you.

**Anthony:** She reaches out for a handshake.

**Freddie:** I give a very flirty handshake.

**Anthony:** She gives a very asexual, strong handshake.

**Freddie:** Interesting how much emotions can be expressed with such few words. Such is the theater of Dungeons and Dragons!

**Matt:** I roll down the window.

**Darryl:** Darryl Wilson here. Nice to meet you.

**Anthony:** She shakes your hand. And I'm assuming you do the strong masculine squeeze thing?

**Matt:** Yeah.

**Anthony:** Do a strength check.

**Matt:** So that's a 10.

**Anthony:** She has a stronger handshake than you.

**Darryl:** That's a great handshake you got there, but if I'm gonna be honest, talking to you boss-to-dad here, I'm not a fan of the way you run this place.

**Ellory:** Sounds like somebody’s feelings are hurt that they can't squeeze as hard as I can. That's a shame.

**Darryl:** That's one of the many things that's bothering me right now, yes.

**Ellory:** Yeah, I always tried to tell the newbies like, you do one petal at a time, wait an hour, you do another petal. You guys are clearly outside your depth. Hey what brings you? Are you new recruits? Do you want to join the Watermice?

**Henry:** The Watermice?

**Ellory:** Yeah that's our little family we have here, the Watermice. Water, because we're close to Waterdeep. And mice, because we scurry about and we get what we can and no one will ever catch us.

**Ron:** Well, ever heard of the Doodlers?

**Ellory:** No, what are the Doodlers?

**Ron:** I'm not really sure actually.

**Ellory:** OH! It was that thing on— It was on— Yeah, it was on Nick’s shirt when he came in, the little ugly, noodle thing?

**Henry:** The wonderful drawing on Nick's shirt!

**Ellory:** Sure.

**Henry:** Drawn by two very talented artists, my sons— Hi, Henry Oak. Nice to meet you. Sorry I'm covered in vomit.

**Ellory:** It is not the first time I've seen this.

**Henry:** My eyes are probably a little bloodshot.

**Ellory:** Dilated. Very dilated.

**Henry:** Yeah, I'm still coming down a little bit, so I'm gonna stop talking.

**Ellory:** Great great great.

**Glenn:** Nick was telling me that there's something going on with like a weapon or something you guys are looking for and uh—

**Ellory:** Oh, Nick, you told him about that?

**Anthony:** And Nick goes—

**Nick:** Yeah yeah. I told them about the great axe or sorry, the Battle Axe of Hatred.

**Glenn:** [*laughing*] The Battle Axe of Hatred?

**Nick:** Oh yeah. So, so—

**Freddie:** Like *Iron Maiden*'s battle axe, am I right?

**Ellory:** It’s very cool.

**Glenn:** Why is it called the Battle Axe of Hatred?

**Nick:** Apparently there's like a demon inside of it.

**Glenn:** Woah.

**Nick:** It was like this old demon that they fought and defeated but they couldn't kill it—at least whoever these like crusader people were. So they like sucked its soul into the axe.

**Glenn:** Man. This is just such great album material right now guys.

**Nick:** It's pretty…it's pretty fucking metal.

**Freddie:** The thing about Glenn Close is that he's always wanted to go on like an *Iron Maiden* adventure. So this is like checking off a lot of boxes for him.

**Will**: You’re living— you're living a Molly Hatchet cover right now, is that what you're saying?

**Ellory:** So there's another gang nearby and I would love it…

**Anthony:** And Nick goes—

**Nick:** Well it's more your boss's boss would love it.

**Anthony:** And she's like—

**Ellory:** Yeah sure the boss's boss wants it. If you could go get this battle axe for me it would be super sick. I would owe you a for-real solid.

*[Freddie laughs]*

**Ellory:** So it's basically in this other gang’s like hideout that just sucks. They're just a bunch of assholes so like, you could go in there. You could get the stuff, you come back.

**Glenn:** And to be clear like Nick said that he's got like a spell or something cast on him or something? Like what's going on with this? Like you’re kinda forcing my dude to do this?

**Ellory:** I'm not forcing him to anyth—

**Anthony:** And Nick's all,

**Nick:** No no no no no no no. Yeah I— I told him about the wizard that put the curse on me. The sorcerer? Where my head falls off if I leave.

**Anthony:** And she's like—

**Ellory:** Yeah this is a fucking really magical spot, that just happens. It's got nothing to do with me— I wouldn't love it if Nick left, Nick’s tight as hell but like I would never do that kind of thing to your kid.

**Glenn:** Huh.

**Ron:** Oh.

**Darryl:** But if we get this axe. The spell will go away.

**Ellory:** Yeah. Yeah. That's, I'm pretty sure that's all the like this sorcerer guy wants, is his axe. So like we're probably fine.

**Darryl:** Son, it’s important that when you're in a contract you understand all the ramifications.

**Anthony:** You hear the noise of your son like “Mrrr!” like dying in the contract in your wallet like—

*[Freddie and Will laugh]*

**Darryl:** Oh my God! Oh my God.

**Matt:** Darryl Wilson suddenly realizes that he had all the knowledge in the universe at his hands and he didn't ask for a book to solve the contract for his kid.

**Will:** Oh you mean like with the librarian?

**Matt:** Yeah.

**Beth:** Oh yikes.

**Anthony:** That maybe that was gonna be my daddy fact this episode was that the only reason that NPC existed was because I wanted to toss you a softball for how to get out of that contract with your son and you just didn't do it.

**Matt:** I literally just stopped mid-sentence, and I just lean back and I go on with the rosary.

**Ron:** Oh wait I don't know. Call me crazy but it feels like if you don't want to lose your head you also don't want to be near a magical axe.

**Nick:** I don't think the Axe is gonna take my head off, it’s just a coincidence.

**Ron:** It seemed like a pretty big coincidence when you think of, like, axes chopping off heads, and heads being chopped off if you don't have the axe, and then it just all seems a little fishy.

**Henry:** I'll say I don't follow Ron's logic exactly, but emotionally I'm right there with Ron.

**Ron:** Thank you, Henry.

**Henry:** In terms of having a bit of skepticism about this.

**Will:** I want to roll an Insight on Ellery.

**Anthony:** Okay.

**Will:** 16.

**Anthony:** 16, oh wow. You can tell she's definitely not telling you the whole truth.

**Will:** Okay.

**Anthony:** I feel like yeah, I feel like that's probably enough to know right now.

**Will:** Okay

**Henry:** Guys, I get the feeling that Ellory’s not telling us the whole truth.

**Glenn:** Dad huddle, folks.

**Henry:** Okay.

**Darryl:** Get in tight, Cern.

**Glenn:** Lizard boy you can get in here.

**Cern:** Hey!

**Ron:** Call me Lizzie.

**Cern:** Nah, I would prefer Lizardboy Scales McStuffins. That’s the name that my savior gave me. So.

**Ron:** Okay, cool, I’m really sorry. Okay, cool.

*[all laugh]*

**Ron:** Nah, he’s cool. He’s cool, guys. Okay.

**Cern:** Yeah. I mean we're not exactly tight on the kind of place where you can start giving me nicknames.

**Ron:** Yeah, no, I’m so sorry. *[chuckles]* Okay. Cool.

**Cern:** Like you’ve been really weird, really kind of distant to me emotionally so like—

**Ron:** Okay, yeah. Yeah.

**Cern:** I think we can sort of keep each other at arm's length right for right now.

**Ron:** Yeah, yeah.

**Beth:** Ron's crying a little bit.

**Glenn:** Well look guys, here's the deal. Clearly my son's got a thing going on and if, regardless of how we end up, you know, what we do, I think we got to get rid of this curse and we kind of got to go along with whatever they got going on, right? Because if his head's gonna fall off that's going to do me no good. That’ll be a major bummer.

**Henry:** I think we can all safely say no one wants your son's head to fall off.

**Glenn:** Oh nice nice.

**Henry:** It is important to establish common ground in a conversation like this, so I do want to personally share that I don't want your son's head to fall off.

**Darryl:** Neither do I.

**Cern:** I’m Cern. I don’t either.

**Henry:** Ron, do you have something you'd like to say?

*[short pause]*

**Ron:** No.

*[all laugh]*

**Henry:** All right. Well four out of five isn't bad.

**Glenn:** About the assent you get from dentists, most of the time. Yeah.

**Henry:** Yeah. Four out of fi— It’s always that one dentist in the end.

**Glenn:** What's up with that?

**Henry:** You know, I'm going to put that into my next hip hop song. I like to do a little observational comedy in my songs—

**Glenn:** —in the middle of hip hop. Yeah.

**Henry:** Yeah. You know just some little things I've noticed. My slightly skewed take on the world. You know.

**Beth:** Oh my god.

**Anthony:** Henry puts the tight into tight five.

**Will:** Yes.

**Henry:** Let me see if I've got this straight. So Nick got picked up by this sorcerer who put a curse on his head that said if you leave, your head's gonna fall off.

**Glenn:** Yeah.

**Henry:** And now that sorcerer wants us, through Nick, to steal a battle axe for him from another camp of bad guys.

**Glenn:** Yeah.

**Henry:** And I'm using air quotes there and I'm going to say that out loud because I'm on a podcast.

*[all chuckle]*

**Henry:** So are you all bound by the sorcerer's magic or just Nick.

**Ellory:** I mean he's our boss. He's our boss of bosses. I mean not all of us are gonna have our heads all off. He's like new, like you basically— the way it works, I believe, is that you join your little indentured for a while we get to threats of violence and then eventually just sort of come to like it? And then you don't need to spell anymore. So like it's fine.

**Ron:** I can get behind that work culture.

**Glenn:** Kind of basically how the music industry works, you know?

**Henry:** Well Glenn you know I'm going to let you QB this one since it's your son that's a sports metaphor for Darryl, quarterbacking.

**Matt:** Darryl nods. He's very happy.

**Will:** I'm trying to get on Darryl level because we smooched again, so I'm just trying to get past the awkwardness.

**Henry:** What's— what's the move?

**Glenn:** So like look man, Nick’s saying that his head's gonna fall off if he doesn't do this thing. I feel like we gotta like do him a solid. I feel like you've moved the whole point of this whole thing is to help each other out and help these kiddos out and it seems like he's in a bind, man.

**Henry:** Okay.

**Darryl:** I mean the whole point is to get our sons back to the real world, so if this is the only way to do it…

**Ron:** I mean we could take him back, but he wouldn't have the head.

**Darryl:** Yeah.

**Henry:** I think we want to keep him head intact.

**Ron:** Okay. Okay then I'm I'm on board.

**Henry:** Okay just see, I'm a little skeptical that this is going to work. I feel like, what motivation does this guy have to lift the curse on Nick after we get the battle axe?

**Glenn:** Well I mean— so you saying we just like, leave him here and then go find another kid?

*[short pause]*

**Glenn:** Because that's what you're saying, Henry. You're saying like, “it's too hard to fix this problem right now let's just leave him!”

**Henry:** You know I'm not I know that's fair. I— I'm not— You know there is in this book Creativity Inc about Pixar they say that *[others scoff and groan]* if you're going to pitch a question or a problem you should have a solution and I don't have a solution right now so I'm going to keep thinking and maybe I'll come up with one.

**Darryl:** I think—

**Ron:** I think that— oh, go ahead.

**Darryl:** Oh no. Go you go, Ron, you go.

**Ron:** Oh thank you. I was just going to say that I think there might be a little emotional transference on Henry's part. We did not succeed in saving his two children, actually twice. So two children squared failed attempts. And he might be just carrying some of that trauma into this right now. But that's just me playing therapist baseball over here by myself.

**Will:** Henry is aghast at how hard Ron nailed it.

*[all laugh]*

**Will:** Henry just shuts the fuck right up.

**Darryl:** I think we've all made mistakes. I think Henry, you know I'm sure he has some things he regrets. I'm sure— you know we don't know if this is going to be a mistake or not but we can't judge ourselves from mistakes like basic common mistakes like you know getting the one book that could save your fucking son.

*[Anthony laughs maniacally]*

**Darryl:** So I think—

**Anthony:** Cern also points out—

**Cern:** The place that you're going to return the book is also the same town your son is in. So if you meet your son before you return the book then you only have the 24 hours to save him. Like you, yeah, you really did kinda mess this one—

**Matt:** Darryl hugs Cern with a tear in his eyes. He goes—

**Darryl:** You're right Cern. We got, we got this. Everybody, hands in the middle.

**Cern:** That wasn't me trying to make you feel better, I was— I was pointing out—

**Many of them chanting:** Cern Cern Cern! Cern Cern Cern!

**Darryl:** No, no, no!

**Henry:** Not now, not now!

**Darryl:** ‘Cause we can get the book. The guy with the book will be there when we go save my son.

**Cern:** Yeah but if it takes more than two weeks to get there—

**Glenn:** *[cuts off Cern with a sound]*

**Cern:** Okay. Sure.

**Glenn:** Lizard Boy, read the room.

**Cern:** Yeah. My bad, my bad.

**Henry:** That's right, Darryl. Hands in the middle.

**Cern:** Yeah, hands in the middle. I’m Cern. This is great.

**Darryl:** We're going to save Nicholas. Glenn, I’ve noticed that *your* hand’s not in the middle.

**Anthony:** Oh my god. In real life, all of us had our hands in the middle. But Freddie didn’t.

*[laughter]*

**Beth:** Oh, man.

**Freddie:** I’m trying to mix the podcast. All right.

**Ron:** Hey, Doodlers on three. One two three— just kidding it's dumb to say Doodlers.

*[Anthony laughs]*

**Darryl:** Doodlers! Oh.

**Ron:** It’s dumb.

**Henry:** Doodlers!

**Ron:** Doodlers.

**Cern:** Doodlers.

**Darryl:** Let’s do this.

**Glenn:** Ron you’re kind of bringing some negative energy into that circle today. Everything okay?

**Ron:** Oh, no that’s— I'm just— I was thinking about…well, fatherhood. Seems these adventures bring out fatherhood a lot. Anyway let's go rescue, uh…

**Matt:** Darryl leans over to Cern and he's like—

**Darryl:** Ugh. Fucking— in sports when— after you do the hands in the middle the circles over. I don’t know why Glenn’s still talking about it. So anyways—

**Ron:** [*crying*] Henry do I show up on your dad radar thing?

**Henry:** Gee, you sure do, Ron.

**Ron:** Thanks for saying it. Even if it ain't true, man.

**Henry:** It is true! My dad radar goes crazy around you!

**Anthony:** If Ron would want the emotional vulnerability of checking to see if he's telling the truth by doing an insight check—

**Beth:** Checking is the last thing he wants to do.

*[Will laughs]*

**Anthony:** Okay cool. Cool. That is completely up to you.

**Henry:** Let's go doodlers! You know?

**Glenn:** Doodlers!

**Henry:** Let's— let's be—

**Darryl:** Hands in the middle! We gotta do this right.

**Nick:** Oh my god. Did we not just do this?

**Darryl:** We got it, but when it's done you put your hands in the middle and then you go to the game. So like just for me can we—

**Ron:** Doodlers on three. One, two, three—

**All:** Doodlers!

**Glenn:** Nick we've decided.

**Nick:** Yeah what’re we doing? What’re we doing? We gettin’ the axe?

**Glenn:** We're going to help you out. We're gonna lift this curse and then we'll figure it out from there.

**Freddie:** And I give him a little wink because we talked about maybe potentially starting up a drug empire but that's between me and him.

*[Beth laughs]*

**Anthony:** He points at you and he goes—

**Nick:** That's my fucking dad.

**Anthony:** He goes for a high five.

**Glenn:** Yay! My son!

**Freddie:** I fuckin double high five.

**Beth:** I love you guys.

**Anthony:** Okay. So Nick pulls out a tattered map.

**Nick:** The gang we're trying to get rid of, they're called the Redbrands, and they're total fuckin narcs. Like they just sell people out to the Waterdeep City Watch. They're all like rich jerks, they totally suck. They're basically just a bunch of rich kids who felt like playing bandit. So they just like, took their dad's money and started a little empire for themselves. They blow.

**Darryl:** When you say sell people you mean like, they stop people from selling drugs?

**Nick:** Okay, yeah I guess if you consider selling drugs a bad thing then yeah they do that.

**Glenn:** Legalize it!

**Henry:** What are the drug laws in this world?

**Nick:** These flowers? They're very illegal.

**Henry:** They're very illegal?

**Nick:** Yeah.

**Henry:** Wow is there some sort of governing body that like—

**Nick:** In Waterdeep, yeah. There's like a city watch that tries to keep things clean.

**Glenn:** Like an ATF, huh?

**Henry:** So the Redbrands sound like maybe like a cool group of responsible youths that are trying to clean up their city. Maybe a little.

**Nick:** I mean they kind of just suck.

**Darryl:** Do they kill people?

**Nick:** Yeah, probably.

**Darryl:** Do you guys kill people?

**Nick:** I don't. And Ellery doesn't. And we tried not to. I think some of the other guys have before, like Johnny No-ear and—

**Glen and Henry:** Johnny No-Ear?

**Henry:** I want to hear more about Johnny No-ear.

**Nick:** Johnny No-Ear like kill a guy and then got caught by the City Watch. But the guy he killed was also a murderer, so they like couldn't tell like how the justice was to go so they just took off both of his ears and then said, “Well that's your punishment done I guess”.

**Henry:** Oh.

**Ron:** But why is he called Johnny No-ear?

*[pause with distant laughter]*

**Nick:** I f— I mean I feel like I just ex… Any other questions? Are we good?

**Freddie:** I feel like Ron's like, “Hey Johnny! Johnny!” and he gets no response—

**Freddie and Anthony:** He does not turn around.

**Freddie:** He’s like, “It's very difficult to tell direction!”

*[laughter]*

**Anthony:** So are we ready to go?

**Will:** Let's go…

**Henry:** I'm gonna want a little bit more information about the Redbrands if we're gonna kill any of them.

**Nick:** Sure. Here's the layout:

**Anthony:** And he shows you the map and he says,

**Nick:** The item we're looking for, the Battle Axe of Hatred, is in the northwest corner.

**Darryl:** So how far away is his hideout?

**Nick:** It's not very far; it's like it's like, a ten, fifteen minute walk, I assume. Although, you guys have the car!

**Darryl:** Yeah we got a car.

**Henry:** Yeah, we got a car so we'll be there in like two minutes.

**Nick:** Yeah.

**Henry:** You guys are really close to this other hideout.

**Nick:** Yeah. I didn't think that through when I said how far away it was. Constant border squabbles between us and the Redbrands.

**Glenn:** Sort of an uneasy truce.

**Nick:** Yep! So, shall we go?

**Glenn:** You coming with us?

**Nick:** Oh yeah, of course.

**Glenn:** Hell yeah.

**Nick:** I'm getting pretty good with a blade if I say so myself.

**Many Dads:** Woah!

**Darryl:** So what sort of weapon do you have there?

**Nick:** Oh *this* is a dagger. A small knife for stabbing or slashing.

**Darryl:** You're gonna have to hand that over.

**Nick:** Ooh, not gonna do that. You're not my dad, turns out.

**Darryl:** Glenn you're—

**Freddie:** I’m already showing off my nunchucks to him.

**Nick:** Oh shit! Sweet nunchucks!

**Glenn:** Look at my chucks, dawg.

**Nick:** Oh my God! Did you make those?

**Glenn:** I know, are you jelly? Found these in the armory. Turns out they got nun chucks in this world too.

**Will:** Henry's giving Darryl look like *[angrily] “*HMMM!” Like, can you HMMM?

**Matt:** Yeah, Darryl also.

**Will:** You know like an arched eyebrow like “Hmmm?”

**Darryl:** Can you at least, please, sheath the weapon as you enter my car?

**Nick:** Of course! Yeah! That's always the plan.

**Darryl:** Alright.

**Nick:** You got to keep it fuckin’ like oiled and like sharp. A blade rusts when it’s out of its sheath. I remember that from *Sanjuro*. Remember when we watched *Sanjuro*?

**Glenn:** Oh dude, so dope.

**Nick:** So good. I like it more than *Yojimbo* but that's just me.

**Darryl:** Alright, get in there.

**Anthony:** So yeah. You guys drive up to the Redbrand headquarters and basically you see it is essentially just sort of a big warehouse built out of stone. There's one entrance coming in and stationed in front of it are two dudes in red tunics.

**Freddie:** What time is it right now?

**Anthony:** It's— it's sunset.

**Glenn:** Hey I got an idea here guys. So there's kind of a trick that me and the guys back in the trio used to do when we were going through 420 friendly states. And it’s, if you take a plant matter and you kind of put it on the exhaust, you can blow wild clouds off because the heat of the exhaust combines with it and you can just like gas out like a garage or a closed space and all I'm saying is, if we wait until it's dark and we figure out which one of these plants is most advantageous to us, and we hot-box this entire warehouse, we'll be able to get in and sneak out no problem, dudes!

**Henry:** I do wonder how we're going to get in if we smoke out the whole place.

**Glenn:** Yeah.

**Henry:** How are we going to get through without getting what is, I believe, referred to as a “contact high”? Did I say that right?

**Ron:** Or maybe we could shield our nose and mouths in some way.

**Darryl:** Urine! Urine! Right?

*[short pause, then laughter]*

**Anthony:** Where is this going?

**Darryl:** If you pee, if you pee on a cloth—

**Will:** It was only a matter of time until water sports came into this, *Dungeons and Daddies*—

*[all laugh]*

**Darryl:** If you pee—

**Will:** “*Not* a BDSM podcast.”

**Darryl:** Right? If you pee on a cloth—

[*laughter*]

**Darryl:** I was listening to *Hardcore History* where they’re talking about World War I, and they peed on their faces.

**Ron:** Wait did one person, or is it just like…? Does each man pee on his own face? Or is there a…is there a different way to work that?

*[all laugh]*

**Freddie:** Beth!

**Anthony:** Oh no. Oh no.

*[laughter continues]*

**Freddie:** Such glee!

**Beth:** *[through laughter]* I’m so sorry.

**Darryl:** Maybe I wasn't clear. We shouldn't pee on the faces, we should pee on some piece of cloth, and then put it on our face covering our nose and mouth.

**Beth:** That’s so much better.

**Will:** Can— I'm going to…Henry pulls out his phone which he has not used yet.

**Anthony:** Oh yeah, okay.

**Will:** And Henry is going to Google whether peeing on a rag will help you un-gas-mask yourself.

**Anthony:** Okay. Well first of all roll a d20.

**Will:** Okay, hot dice! I got 5.

**Anthony:** All right, cool. So next time you roll, you gotta make sure to not get a 2.

**Will:** Okay.

**Anthony:** And as you're Googling, you get a phone call. It's one of those like red screens that says, like, “scam likely.”

*[Freddie laughs]*

**Will:** It says “scam likely?”

**Anthony:** Yeah.

**Will:** Okay, I answer it.

**Caller:** Mmmmm greetings! It is I, Scam Likely!

*[Beth laughs]*

**Henry:** Hello?

**Scam Likely:** Have you a question for Scam Likely?

**Henry:** Scam Likely sounds a lot like the Library. Is it the Library?

**Scam Likely:** We’re *cousins!*

*[all laugh]*

**Darryl:** Hey Henry, what's going on over there?

**Henry:** Hold on, I'm on the phone with Scam Likely.

**Scam Likely:** I detect that trickery is afoot! And as the patron saint of the tricksters, I would convey to you a free piece of advice!

**Henry:** Hi, um, boy. Wow. This is not how I was expecting this Google search to go. So, Scam Likely, I'm assuming you're if you're cousins with the Library you must have some knowledge of these parts.

**Scam Likely:** I've knowledge primarily of scams! And tricks and japes. My square brother— I mean cousin— my square cousin, who may be my brother. Who knows? It might be one of my scams!

*[all laugh]*

**Scam Likely:** He doesn’t know about the art of trickery.

**Henry:** Well, Scam Likely, we’re trying to kind of pull a scam ourselves which is maybe why you called us—

**Scam:** Oooh! That's why I knew to call you.

**Henry:** I don't have the greatest feeling about Scam Likely. But I think I'm going to feel—

**Scam:** Why wouldn’t you trust me?

**Henry:** Oh, I didn't mean to say that part into the phone.

**Scam:** I heard it all!

*[Will and Freddie laugh]*

**Henry:** I'm going to go ahead and float our idea by him. ‘Cause if it this is a guy who knew to call me because we were doing something, I feel like he might know what's up. We are…we were gonna smoke out a bad guy hide-out with a lot of drug flowers—

**Scam:** Ooh! Naughty.

**Henry:** And we’re wondering if we can pee on a rag and then use that to breathe through and that will keep us from getting high.

**Scam:** Absolutely, it shall.

**Henry:** *[chuckles]* Okay.

**Darryl:** What does Scam say, Henry?

**Henry:** Well the man named *Scam Likely* says it's a good idea.

*[Freddie laughs]*

**Will:** I'm going to roll an Insight check on Scam Likely.

**Anthony:** Roll with disadvantage cause you're just hearing his voice.

**Will:** Okay.

**Freddie:** And he is the master of japes!

**Will:** Oh, I got it 4. Seems legit!

**Anthony:** Seems very legit.

**Henry:** All right guys. You know, I think I got a good feeling about Scam Likely and the documentary that Darryl half remembered. So let's do it. Scam Likely, thanks so much for your help. We're gonna do the scam now.

**Scam:** Lovely! Be sure to call me back and tell me how it went.

**Henry:** Oh, shall do, buddy. You have a good one.

**Scam:** You have a good one as well, Scam Likely awayyyy!

**Anthony:** And then he hangs up.

**Freddie:** I love the idea that when he hangs up, you get a notification, like a push notification where it’s just like, “Someone's hacked into your Apple account.” Like, “They've bought $99 worth of like, free app stuff here,” and you’re all, “Woah, what the hell?”

**Anthony:** *[Scam Likely voice]* I'm really leveling up my dudes in the Marvel Strike Force!

*[all laugh]*

**Matt:** Have you logged into your Gmail account at location: Forgotten Realms?

*[all laugh]*

**Freddie:** Yeah, Scam Likely just phished your ass.

**Freddie:** Okay. I want to drive around slowly and look for any inlet points, any sort of vent shafts, anything that we can hook the car exhaust up into on this headquarters building.

**Anthony:** So as you drive around you see that there's only the one door that goes in, the very large door for like, cargo and stuff like that. But there is an exhaust vent on the back and there are two windows on each side. So Nick points out at the map and he goes—

**Nick:** Just so you know there's like a bunch of smaller rooms. So I don't know if I'll be able to hot-box the whole place unless all those doors happen to be open and I'm not sure if they will.

**Glenn:** Hmm. Good point.

**Darryl:** Maybe uh— Ron, can’t you just make animals appear?

**Henry:** Ohhhhh!

**Ron:** [*flirty*] Which animals do you want?

*[laughter]*

**Beth:** And Ron winks.

**Nick:** Are gonna smoke out a dog or something? What's going on?

**Darryl:** The exhaust will only go in one part maybe get some animals just run in there with a— *[chuckle]* back in the day, you know, common thing is like you know you light a cat's tail on fire. Woo-wee! Don't know what's going to happen.

*[many exclaim]*

**Freddie:** Back the fuck up, *what*?

**Many:** *WHAT*?

**Henry:** Sorry excuse me—

**Darryl:** What?

**Beth:** Oh my god.

**Nick:** Old people are the worst.

**Henry:** You lit a cat's *tail* on fire?

**Matt:** Look— Darryl…

**Darryl:** I’m feelin’ a little bit judged.

**Matt:** Really quick, no. Matt has *never* lit a cat’s tail on fire.

**Beth:** The police are on their way!

**Darryl:** Look, all I'm saying is that we can make any animal appear, and we can get some, you know, light some torches of those drugs—

**Freddie:** Very quick, remind us, what is the rules for your Hat of Vermin?

**Anthony:** The Hat of Vermin?

**Beth:** The Hat of Vermin.

**Anthony:** It's bat, frog, or rat. They're neither friendly nor hostile, they're not in your control, they behave as an ordinary creature of their kind—

**Beth:** —and they disappear.

**Anthony:** —and they try to get away from you as quickly as possible. After an hour or when they drop to zero hit points, they disappear.

**Glenn:** So Ron, when you got your frogs—

**Ron:** Richard and Maggie.

**Glenn:** Richard and Maggie, they were like trying to get away from you, huh?

**Ron:** Well I— I luckily was able to catch them and hold onto them to save myself from falling—

**Glenn:** Did you get a sense that they were like, trying to get away from you?

**Ron:** No. No. I've never gotten that sense from anybody.

*[Anthony laughs]*

**Glenn:** Right. Right. Okay. Cool cool cool.

**Henry:** You know, in my times in this land I've become intuitively aware of an ability I have. And I think I could maybe speak with an animal.

**Freddie:** *[gasps]* Oh yes! Yes!

**Antony:** Wow!

**Will:** So mayhap, I have a first level Divination spell that allows me to speak with animals, so—

**Anthony:** Speak With Animals is also a very good band name.

**Will:** Speak with Animals. That's right!

**Freddie:** *[laughing]* Speak What Animals!

**Will:** From the makers of *Animal Collective* comes: Speak With Animals.

**Will:** Okay, You gain the ability to comprehend and verbally communicate with beasts for the duration of the spell, which is about ten minutes. So I can talk to a beast or an animal, and I *might* be able to persuade a beast to perform a small favor for me at the GM's discretion.

**Anthony:** Yeah, GM discreets. GM says you’ll deffo be able to do that. That's great.

**Will:** So you have— remind me it's a bat, rat, and a frog.

**Anthony:** You can choose any combination. You have three creatures at any given time in any individual one can be a bat, a rat, or a frog.

**Ron:** I would like two rats and a bat. What should their names be?

**Darryl:** Nibbler for the—

**Henry:** —for the—

**Darryl:** —for the bat.

**Henry:** For the bat. And then we'll say Sonar for one of the rats.

**Ron:** And Dracula!

*[all laugh]*

**Darryl:** And Dracula for the second rat!

*[laughing continues]*

**Beth:** “Sonar, Nibbler, and Dracula” is the name of the band.

**Henry:** All right. I'm feeling really good about this plan guys.

**Glenn:** All right. So I'd like to put this plan into motion.

**Anthony:** I’m glad somebody is. All right, so tell me exactly what you do and what order and I will have you roll for things as you do them.

**Will:** Okay.

**Freddie:** Okay. So I think the first step is we go back to the field of flowers.

**Glenn:** Nick, what do each of the colors do?

**Nick:** Purple makes you float.

**Glenn:** Yo.

**Nick:** Yellow makes you nauseous.

**Glenn:** Purple Haze.

**Freddie:** I'm like jotting down potential street names, like cool street names.

**Glenn:** Purple Haze okay. Okay. Mellow yellow— mellow yellow, ooh— makes you not nauseous? Hm, no.

**Freddie:** I cross out Mellow Yellow from my notebook.

**Nick:** Blue makes you paranoid, Green makes you think you're dead.

**Beth:** Oh my God.

**Nick:** White makes you tell the truth. That's not a racial thing. And pink makes you forget the last five minutes.

**Glenn:** So it feels like if we could blend the cocktail here of the one that makes you think you're dead, makes you vomit, and then makes you forget things—

**Darryl:** Maybe levitate. Cause why not?

**Ron:** Paranoia?

**Darryl:** And then they’d fall— paranoia?

**Glenn:** Well here’s what’s great about levitate—

**Darryl:** No, paranoia they will attack us.

**Ron:** Oh, yeah.

**Glenn:** And here's the best thing about floating: You just push him out of the way.

**Darryl:** Yeah.

**Ron:** Oh true true true true.

**Freddie:** So we build a bunch of bundles of those flowers.

**Anthony:** Okay.

**Freddie:** The next step is I will take the oil from my jug that I got, and create a tincture, an essence, an essential oil of those flowers.

**Anthony:** Beautiful.

**Freddie:** So we have like, some you know infused oils of those ones, as well as a bunch of bundles.

**Anthony:** OK. Can you roll Nature with advantage?

**Freddie:** Nature with advantage. Between an 18 and 11, I'll take the 18.

**Anthony:** OK. These tinctures…seem very dank.

**Freddie:** Yes. yes.

**Beth:** *[chuckles]* Dank tincture.

**Freddie:** So we have now, a bunch of bundles of these flowers which were careful with handling, you know we maybe have some gloves on, because you know, we've seen the effect. We have the oil of this. We need to figure out some sort of improvised hose of some kind.

**Matt:** So the Honda Odyssey has an interior vacuum cleaner.

*[Will laughs]*

**Beth:** Oh my god.

**Freddie:** That's right!

**Anthony:** It really does?

**Freddie:** Yes. In addition to DVD screens that pop down it has a built-in vacuum cleaning system so you can clean out the back.

**Matt:** Looks like it’s about a six foot hose?

**Anthony:** Gary Gygax just hit 300 RPM in his grave.

*[all laugh]*

**Matt:** So I’m not sure how tall it is, but we got like a six foot hose so we need to extend it more from the-

**Anthony:** No, that's fine. That's enough.

**Matt:** Okay. He's like, “That’s fine.”

**Anthony:** What, am I going to make you come up with a second hose? Like?

[*laughter*]

**Matt:** We go into the forest and search for materials.

**Darryl:** Hey Cern, can you give us like four feet of skin?

**Cern:** I can’t just like, molt at will.

**Darryl:** Okay, that’s fine. This hose will do it.

**Cern:** Grow your hair out right now.

**Freddie:** Ron tries really hard. He’s like, “Oh, you can do that?”

**Beth:** I was like—

**Ron:** Darryl, Cern asked you a question!

*[all laugh]*

**Freddie:** So we'll drive up to the side. I assume at this point after our preparations it's the middle of the night, probably 2, 3 a.m.

**Matt:** We go into neutral and we push it, in case Anthony is gonna do some crazy shit where they hear us.

*[Anthony laughs]*

**Will:** Kill the headlights and put it in neutral.

**Anthony:** Yeah if there’s anything you know about me, it’s that I'm going out of my way to fuck you over, and *not* roll with your stupid fucking plans.

**Matt:** Yeah we’re gonna be quiet, Anthony so, yeah. Don’t try to play any tricks on us.

**Beth:** Does the van have any Scotch tape? Or like tape?

**Matt:** You know. I'll be honest, I don't think there would be—

**Freddie:** You probably have a duct tape though, in the back.

**Matt:** I do have duct tape. I don’t have scotch tape.

**Anthony:** There would be some sort of tape in the first aid kit too.

**Beth:** Oh yeah.

**Freddie:** Yeah, that’s true.

**Beth:** I'm just thinking how to affix the bouquets to our animal friends.

**Matt:** Oh probably a band-aid—

**Beth:** In a healthy, safe way. That does not endanger them.

**Matt:** Oh. You take this bandage wrap. Non sticky bandage wrap, and just wrap it up around them.

**Beth:** Aw.

**Matt:** Yeah.

*[Beth and Matt laugh]*

**Freddie:** So Ron was probably— will summon our aforementioned one bat and two rats.

**Beth:** Yes. Do I have to say anything or can I say anything?

**Anthony:** You can always say whatever you want to, Beth.

**Ron:** Go, go, Hat of Vermin, go. I want two rats and a bat.

*[all laugh]*

**Anthony:** Two rats and a bat *poof* out of the hat, and immediately start moving away from you.

**Freddie:** And we do it inside the van, right? Because there's nowhere for— inside the van there's nowhere for them to go.

**Anthony:** Oh sure. Okay.

**Will:** Okay, So as she casts them, I cast Speak with Animals.

**Anthony:** Okay, so immediately you hear the two rats and the bat going like,

**Vermin:** Get away! That guy’s fucking weird!

*[all laugh]*

**Vermin:** We've got gonna get away from him. We’ve got to get as FAR away from him as possible, he’s so fucking weird! Oh my God. Oh my God. We gotta get away from this fucking guy!

**Ron:** Henry, what are they saying?

**Henry:** They're saying *[stutters]* that Ron is such a cool cat. We can't wait to hang out with him. *[in whisper]* Hey guys. Hey, it's me Henry. Hello.

**Vermin:** Hi. What's going on? Why are we here?

**Henry:** So you've been summoned into existence.

**Vermin:** Oh Jesus.

**Henry:** So we need a favor from you guys. I would like to ask one small favor from you.

**Vermin:** I will do anything to get away from that guy.

**Henry:** Sure sure sure. Cool cool cool. So, we're going to affix some little flower bouquets to you guys. And we need you to run into that building and get into as many rooms as you can, because we're trying to like, smoke out the building.

**Vermin:** Okay. Okay, I guess. Sure. Can we do it now please? Get me out of this van. I don’t want to be here.

**Henry:** Yeah we're gonna do it here. We're going to— we're going to do it as quick as we can.

**Vermin:** Just keep us away from this guy. Oh my God. Oh my God.

**Henry:** Hey Ron—

**Ron:** Hey, I was just thinking how, if I'm a cool cat, rats don't really like cats.

**Henry:** You know that's exactly the problem. They're a little intimidated by how cool you are. So—

**Ron:** Oh, okay. This happens *a lot*.

**Henry:** Yeah. You know, so I think just cause, you know, you want to maintain a cool air of mystique, I would like, maybe keep your distance from the rat in the back.

**Ron:** Okay. Okay. They can't handle the Ron Stampler-ster.

**Henry:** Exactly.

**Ron:** I was gonna say “The Ronster” but then I said the Stamplerst…I'll be in the back.

*[laughter]*

**Anthony:** Can we get—

**Henry:** Cool.

**Anthony:** When we do merch, can we get a mug on the front says “They can't handle the Ron Stampler” and on the back it just says “ster”.

*[all laugh]*

**Freddie:** Okay, we tie up the animals and prep them with the bouquets.

**Anthony:** Okay. Somebody roll Animal Handling.

**Matt:** Oh I got that.

**Darryl:** Hey buddies, hey cuties.

**Matt:** That's a 14.

**Anthony:** Okay.

**Will:** How big are these bouquets that we're putting on these animals?

**Matt:** These two dang drug do-ers probably wrapped them tight as shit. They’re probably like little—

**Freddie:** That’s true, Have you seen how much—

**Matt:** They’re probably like little six-colored joints.

**Freddie:** Yeah, it’s not about volume it’s about how tight that pack is.

**Matt:** Yeah, it’s probably about sixty pedals per tightly wrapped joint.

**Henry:** Are we gonna— so, I know we just all put Darryl on blast for lighting a cat's tail on fire, and like holy shit, are we going to light these joints on fire and put them on the back of an animal?

**Glenn:** Well you know these guys are gonna disappear in like an hour anyway.

**Beth:** *[shakey]* Oh man.

**Anthony:** Oh the rats in the bat are like—

**Vermin:** What's he saying? What did he say?

**Henry:** *[sounds of discomfort]* Is there anything we can do to like, make sure that they don't get hurt?

**Ron:** We could give them cigarette holders like Cruella De Vil.

**Henry:** …Okay.

**Glenn:** We could— Here's what we could do. We could tie it behind them like on a little piece of twine.

**Henry:** Like on their tails?

**Glenn:** Like on their tails, but a piece of twine so they're not like directly—

**Henry:** Oh. They're dragging it behind them. Perfect. That’s great. I love that.

**Glenn:** Yeah, it’s— they’re dragging it behind or float floating it underneath.

**Henry:** Okay. Yeah, yeah.

**Freddie:** We are not advocating for abuse of animals on this podcast. Thank you, Will.

**Matt:** Okay.

**Freddie:** Okay so we've prepped the animals, it’s the dead of night. We're about to push the car up to where the exhaust vent is on the building.

**Anthony:** Okay. So because it's dark, and because the car's in neutral, roll stealth with advantage.

**Matt:** 16.

**Anthony:** Okay, you’re fine. As far as you can tell, nobody notices.

**Darryl:** So we're running in and the animals are running in.

**Glenn:** We're gonna let smoke out, and send the animals in, and then we're going to go in afterwards after we know that this drug has had time to take effect.

**Darryl:** Alright.

**Anthony:** OK. There are still the two guards out front they've switched out for a different pair of guards but they're still just the two guards out front.

**Glenn:** These guys are guys I think we're gonna have to take care of. Because everyone inside is probably sleeping or they're taking a shift, so we have to figure that out. Maybe the only time we have to get aggressive, but; I say we start the plan. Dads? Are we about to start the plan?

**Henry:** Synchronize your watches, dads.

**Darryl:** Synchronize your urination.

**Anthony:** Nick is like—

**Nick:** You are so fucking cool.

*[Freddie laughs]*

**Glenn:** I guess it's time for us to empty our bladders onto the masks that we'll be wearing.

**Matt:** I give everybody a strip of a cloth that—

**Freddie:** I critically fail on my urination on it though.

**Anthony:** You can't go when people are watching.

*[Will laughs]*

**Freddie:** Yeah exactly. But I pretend— but I pretend like I did. So it's like, oh I'll be fine. It’ll just be a cloth. So my cloth is not soaked with urine.

**Anthony:** OK. Good to know.

**Matt:** At all?

**Freddie:** Yeah.

**Anthony:** But you don't you don't notice though.

**Will:** We don't know.

**Matt:** We're all peeing.

**Anthony:** Yeah you're all peeing.

**Will:** So do we all have to roll our pee?

**Anthony:** It's up to you.

**Will:** I'm going to roll a pee. I got a 17 guys.

**Freddie:** Dude, you got so much.

**Anthony:** So good at peeing.

**Beth:** I got 11.

**Anthony:** That’s good. You’re good at peeing.

**Freddie:** That’s fine. Fine, yeah.

**Matt:** I got a 19. Darryl lets it rip.

**Beth:** I always knew.

**Anthony:** Darryl’s is so loud you have to do another stealth check.

*[all laugh]*

**Matt:** That's a natural 20.

**All:** Woah!

**Matt:** Darryl knows how to fucking pee.

**Freddie:** And it also blends in to the gentle sounds of a babbling brook nearby, and causes anyone within earshot to drift into a deeper, more restful slumber.

**Matt:** Perfect white noise.

**Beth:** *[through laughter]* Or— or it causes *them* to pee.

*[all laugh]*

**Anthony:** Please join our Patreon for our ASMR video of Matt Arnold peeing for 90 minutes so you too could get a restful slumber to the sounds his bladder emptying.

**Ron:** I don't think mine, you know— it doesn't smell like it would block anyth— Does anybody want to trade?

**Freddie:** GOD.

*[Will makes sounds of disgust]*

**Ron:** Hey, Cern?

**Anthony:** So Lizardboy Scales McStuffins is like—

**Cern:** I was hoping I wouldn't go in? Is this—? I guess this I guess this is up to you, Darryl.

**Darryl:** No you know what, buddy, you should keep watch.

**Cern:** Thank you so much.

**Glenn:** He should be revving the car to make sure, right?

**Darryl:** Yeah why don’t you rev the car?

**Henry:** Oh, yeah!

**Glenn:** He's got to rev the car because—

**Cern:** Ooh!

**Glenn:** —again you need to keep the engine to push all the air through.

**Cern:** I can do that. Yeah, no problem.

**Matt:** Yeah, let me teach him how to— I teach him what pedal does what.

**Anthony:** He's not quite tall enough to reach them all—

**Matt:** Yeah, it’s very adorable.

**Anthony:** —so when he has a lean down over it's a little bit cute.

**Glenn:** Aw.

**Anthony:** So Nick’s like—

**Nick:** So do you want me in front or in back, when we rush this place?

**Glenn:** You know what Nick? Here's what I was thinking. Because Cern doesn't really know much about how like, automobiles work, I feel like you should like, stay behind make sure that, you know, he's revving the engine that the car's working and everything you can. You know if anything goes wrong you can stay on and, kinda keep a lookout. You know?

**Nick:** Sounds kind of lame though, I wanna be with you.

**Glenn:** Well look, you remember when *[chuckles]* the *Stones* played Altamont?

**Nick:** Of course I do. You know I remember that.

**Glenn:** Well you weren’t alive for it, but when I told you about this—

**Nick:** Yeah.

**Glenn:** A big reason why that concert went off *so well* was because the Hells Angels were keeping a lookout over the crowd.

**Nick:** Ooh. So I’ll be the Hells Angels.

**Glenn:** Yeah you're gonna be my Hells Angel and I'll be *[laughing]* the Mick Jagger in this equation.

**Nick:** That sounds perfect. I'm down with that.

**Henry:** Everyone mask up!

**Anthony:** Everybody does.

**Glenn:** Stage one of our cool dad heist, guys. The two sentries out front—

**Anthony:** Is “cool” the word?

**Freddie:** Yes. And I think at this point—

**Anthony:** *[laughing]* We’re wearing pee masks.

**Freddie:** —at this point, Ron throws the animals in through the windows by the vent.

**Beth:** Oh yeah. I just like open the door.

**Matt:** And then the little rats should run past the guards. Feels like the animals and the car go the same time. We count to 20 or whatever, and then we go in also.

**Anthony:** Okay, so you let the bat in through the window, and then you send the two rats toward the guards? To the front?

**Freddie:** Yeah. To try and distract them.

**Anthony:** Okay.

**Matt:** And we lit them on fire.

**Freddie:** Yeah, we lit their bundles.

**Will:** Yeah we lit their joints on fire.

**Anthony:** So the bat gets in fine. It goes, and you start to see smoke coming out of the window that it just went in—

**Freddie:** —and the van's going, too.

**Anthony:** And the van's going. and you can definitely see that some smoke is leaking out of the exhaust pipe a little bit. Not so much that it you're like, worried that it's not getting high, but enough that if this were a videogame you would know like, “Okay cool that's active.” It's doing the thing we intended it to do.

**Matt:** Puzzle solved.

**Anthony:** Yeah, exactly.

**Matt:** Bling!

*[Anthony sings Zelda discovery song]*

**Will:** A quick-save icon comes up the bottom corner of the screen.

**Anthony:** The two rats as they run up toward the guards…the guards see them and go—

**Guards:** Oh shit!

**Anthony:** —and start like trying to like kick out the rats. They hit the rats. Not enough to do damage, but enough to keep them away from the door. So rather than running in, they’re just like tussling with the guards, essentially.

**Matt:** Are the guards getting high?

**Anthony:** Because the rats are moving back and forth, and because the guards are trying to attack them, the smoke isn't quite getting to the guards. So they seem like they're not having any effects happen to them.

**Freddie:** But they're distracted, right?

**Anthony:** They are certainly paying attention to the rats, and if you wanted to attack them or do something now, you would get Stealth advantage.

**Glenn:** I think it's time to get in there guys and knock these guys out.

**Henry:** Okay. Glenn. It's nunchuck time.

**Glenn:** It's nunchuck time, baby!

**Freddie:** The chain glistens in the moonlight as I steel myself to do one flourish; a 5.

**Anthony:** Ooh, close.

**Freddie:** A second flourish: a 15.

**Anthony:** All right.

**Freddie:** I’m gonna fucking NOT let it ride from there on, and I approach one of the the guard— the guard who looks the most distracted, and try and bonk him over the head with my nunchaku.

**Matt:** Should we simultaneously attack them?

**Freddie:** Yeah, I'm leading the charge.

**Matt:** Whatever one Glenn is going for, Darryl’s raising his axe, but he’s using the blunt end to bludgeon because he's not going for a kill.

**Anthony:** Same guy or different guy?

**Matt:** The other guy.

**Anthony:** The other guy. Okay, cool.

**Matt:** Yeah, yeah yeah.

**Anthony:** Yeah, go ahead and roll, and if you hit it then you'll get stealth attack damage.

**Matt:** Can he try to like, knock out instead of kill?

**Anthony:** Yeah! Whenever you want to, basically at any point in D&D, just say “I'm doing non-lethal damage” and it mechanically is identical.

**Freddie:** I guess the flourishes don't really work in stealth because there's no one there to see it, but it helps me — it helps *me* out. It helps *me* out. I feel more confident. I come in at him with an 8.

**Matt:** Darryl sneaks up, raises the axe, and rolls a 1.

*[laughter]*

**Will:** Plan’s off to a great start.

**Beth:** Oh, man.

**Anthony:** So as Glenn Close comes in, basically the way that we'd said this is every correct flourish gives you a +1 to hit, so you rolled 10.

**Freddie:** Yeah.

**Anthony:** Effectively. So as you come in you try to swipe down with a nunchuck, but as the guy is leaning down to kick the rat, he just barely dodges out of the way and it just *woosh* right past his head. As that happens, the guard looks up to be like “Huh?” and turns just in time to see Darryl hit himself in the face with his own fucking axe handle because he's not used to using the handle to attack instead of the blade, so go ahead and roll an attack against yourself.

**Matt:** Okay.

**Freddie:** It hurt itself in this confusion!

**Anthony:** Yeah!

*[Will laughs]*

**Matt:** So that's going to be… oh wow this axe is very strong. That’s gonna be a 15 damage.

**Freddie and Will:** 15 damage!?

**Beth:** Oh!

**Anthony:** No. No. You don’t roll a d20 for damage, that’s not possible.

**Matt:** The great axe is a 1d12+3.

**Will:** Oh my god!

**Freddie:** What!?

**Anthony:** Are you fucking kidding me? How much health do you have?

**Matt:** I have 32. *[laughs]*

**Anthony:** Okay, alright, alright, okay.

**Freddie:** So you almost concussed yourself immediately.

**Anthony:** Holy shit. And not only that, *[group chuckling]* you like bend over and take a deep breath to try to get your like, your sort of faculties back, and as the smoke enters your lungs—

*[Will laughs]*

**Anthony:** —you remember, “Oh shit. In that documentary they tried to use pee to neutralize the chlorine in chlorine gas and it did *nothing*.”

*[all laugh]*

**Anthony:** It has nothing to do with poison in general.

*[all laugh more]*

**Beth:** Oh my god.

**Anthony:** And you begin to vomit, and float—

**Freddie:** *[through laughter]* Oh my god.

**Anthony:** —and you think you're your dead, you forget the last five minutes, and you can only tell the truth.

*[all laugh louder]*

**Anthony:** So the guards see this happening. They see you hit yourself in the face and then vomit all over yourself. And they’re like—

**Guards:** Uh, alarm?

**Anthony:** And then one of them takes out a whistle and just blows it really loud—

**Beth:** *[laughs]* Sorry.

**Anthony:** —and you hear a lot of cacophony within the warehouse and your stealth plan has officially gone to shit.

**Will:** You know we have ruined so many of Anthony's clever plans—

**Freddie:** *[laughs]* It’s only fitting!

**Will:** —that it's only fair that we've completely ruined one of our own.

*[Freddie laughs]*

**Will:** Good job everyone!

**Matt:** I feel like this episode has a good anti-drug message in the end.

*[all laugh]*

**Beth:** And as Henry would say, that's a “rap!”

*[all oooohhh]*

*[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 by Maxton Waller. If you've enjoyed this show may I suggest, either recommending it to a friend or leaving a nice review on iTunes for us. It helps us out. Or you could even do both. That helps us out doubly. Slide into those DMs @dungeonsanddads on Twitter. Find a non-stop cavalcade of unbearable dad humor on our Facebook group at bit.ly/dungeondads

and join the burgeoning Sub Reddit at Reddit.com/r/dungeonsanddaddies. Is there a better way of saying a sub Reddit? Like, “Slash R”- Ah I've never been able to figure that out. We're coming back at you May 7th. So until then, 9 out of 10 dads agree wearing socks with sandals combines both the comfort of socks with the convenience of sandals. So that's why you should do it.

*[outro music ends]*

**Anthony:** Before we started recording, we were talking about investment tips and—

*[laughter]*

**Anthony:** —it was maybe the most dad I felt in my entire life. Turns out you're just put to hang on to your mutual funds. Don't try to play the market, kids.

**Will:** Always save 5 percent of your paycheck and put that into your savings account.

**Matt:** There you go.

**Anthony:** That's good. I don't do that at all.

**Freddie:** And also if you're young, fuck it! Put on all in weed stocks! Who knows?

**Anthony:** *[laughs]* Invest in dank.