Dungeons and Daddies

Dungeon Master: Anthony Burch

Glenn Close: Freddie Wong

Darryl Wilson: Matt Arnold

Henry Oak: Will Campos

Ron Stampler: Beth May

Episode 28 - The Bridges of Dad and Son County

(Check out the finalized version on dungeonsanddaddies.com!

-Transcriber)

*[Thunder echos off of the mountains surrounding castle Ravenloft. Is it thunder? Or the echo from the magnanimous bolt of purple lighting that fried Scam Likely to a crisp? A figure falls into the mist below the castle in slow motion and we hear this: a sorrowful rendition of the Scam Likely ringtone…]*

**Anthony**: Dee, de de de dee, de de de de… (etc.)

**Freddie:** Welcome to Dungeons and Daddies, not a BDSM podcast. Most of the time a Dungeons & Dragons podcast about four dads from our world flung into the Forgotten Realms in the quest to rescue their lost sons. My name is Freddie Wong, I play Glenn Close, the rock 'n' roll bard of the group. This week's Glenn fact, you'll note the plumb and vigor to which Glenn attempted to acquire a DJI Phantom. It's because Glenn-

**Will:** Freddie's a huge nerd.

**Freddie:** It's because Glenn puts it on his list every year for Nick to buy him, but Nick never does.

**Will:** For Nick?

**Freddie:** Yeah.

**Matt:** Nick?

**Will:** To buy him like a $500 drone?

**Matt:** His seventh grader?

**Will**  Wait, wait, wait. Wait, wait, wait. So he yes... okay.

**Freddie:** Yeah, because he's like, "Hey, you know what would be really chill is if you got me a drone and we could fly it." And he's just put it on.

**Will:** Where's he think Nick is gonna get the money for this?

**Freddie:** He has a very skewed idea of how like allowance and selling laser pointers works in Middle School. He was like, "I don't know, can't you sell laser points? He must be selling laser pointers or something. I mean, how is he getting all that weed? Am I right?"

**Anthony:** Oh, my God. It's so nice that like you come in every once in a while to remind us that Glenn is objectively the worst dad.

**Will:** Yeah. Am all sitting here. I'm like, "No, but he's a widower, that sad." You're like, "No, fuck Glenn." When he's not plying his kid with illegal drugs, he's asking his kid to buy him expensive toys.

**Matt:** And least decriminalized drugs now.

**Will:** And not taking into...

**Freddie:** Yeah, yeah. Excuse me.

**Will:** For seventh graders? You think for seventh graders-

**Freddie:** It's decriminalized.

**Will:** ... weed is legal?

**Freddie:** Decriminalized.

**Matt:** It better be, otherwise...

**Beth:** Glenn is like one of those brand ambassadors who are like, "I'm not asking for anything for my birthday this year. I do have an Amazon wish list. Check it out."

**Anthony:** I think Glenn emailed his son his Christmas list while he was at Disneyland without him.

**Freddie:** He's like, "Ooh, ooh, ooh. Got an Amazon list."

**Matt:** I should get a drone.

**Will:** I do like that if Glenn does get a drone, you know he is not going to register with the FAA. And he is going to fly in illegal areas and get it confiscated almost immediately.

**Freddie:** He's going to fly... He's going immediately to every national park where you cannot fly drones due to the fire hazards that the batteries pose and he's gonna get those sweet shots of them Tetons baby.

**Will:** Is he going to try to do a Disneyland do you think? He's going to...

**Freddie:** Disneyland is a hard no fly zone actually for DJI.

**Beth:** Yeah.

**Freddie:** They coded in... A lot of these now we'll have the GPS's coded in.

**Will:** Oh really?

**Matt:** He can hack it.

**Freddie:** Yeah, he just pulled the GPS unit baby.

**Beth:** You know he's going to be like BYO UFO. Just sort of like, "What are those lights?"

**Freddie:** He's like, "Man, if I can just get a couple of these from my Insta Story when we're driving through the desert, I can get these lights doing some weird stuff. I can get that UFO crowd following me." And you'd get the R-bell crowd.

**Beth:** Fun fact about Glenn is that he has no post on Instagram but a bazillion story highlights.

**Freddie:** The one post is a tour thing from four years ago and that's it. Yeah.

**Matt:** Hello, my name's Matt Arnold. I play Darryl Wilson, a stay-at-home coach dad who became a barbarian upon entering the Forgotten Realms. A little dad fact about Darryl I figured, I broke my toe and Beth also has a broken body now, and a few of us has...

**Will:** Broken body?

**Beth:** Now?

**Anthony:** Maybe more specific. More specific or less specific, choose one of the two.

**Matt:** She's just broken.

**Beth:** It's been 28 years and I've been broken the whole time.

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

**Will:** Beth the Broken.

**Matt:** I figure Darryl probably had a few broken bones. So Darryl's broken his arm two times on his left, one times on high right. He's broken the bone three times.

**Will:** Wow.

**Matt:** Once when he was nine, once when he was 20 and once when he was 36. Every single time was at the football field at the jungle gyms across the street from the football field.

**Anthony:** The same place three times in a row?

**Matt:** Every single age was-

**Will:** No!

**Beth:** Oh my gosh.

**Matt:** He's always doing something stupid, always trying to show off and [crosstalk 00:04:23]

**Will:** 36?

**Matt:** Well that was-

**Anthony:** How old is Darryl?

**Matt:** 36 was last year.

**Anthony:** Oh, okay.

**Matt:** He broke his bone while trying to show off to Grant that-

**Beth:** Broke his bone? Which bone?

**Matt:** Broke his arm.

**Beth:** Oh okay.

**Matt:** In his arm. He was like, "I've still got it in me. I can still do this jungle gym. Check this!" He was trying to do... You know what it is? I would always as a kid try to do that cool way of flipping off a tree that they did in Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves, Kevin Costner. He would put his arms down and flip off of it. He does that.

**Will:** And it breaks his arm every time.

**Matt:** It breaks his arm every single time he's done it. So never [crosstalk 00:04:51]

**Will:** He's persistent, you've got to give him that.

**Matt:** He's persistent. He's just a fun loving guy, you know?

**Will:** Matt brings up a very interesting and weird thing when you're like, "Darryl's 36."

**Matt:** Mm-hmm (affirmative).

**Will:** That's only three years older than me. I'm 33 going on 34.

**Matt:** Look how accomplished he is.

**Will:** But it's weird. I don't think about how old the dads are. Right?

**Freddie:** They just are dad age.

**Beth:** Yeah.

**Will:** They're just dad age. It's like any dad is 20 years older than me.

**Freddie:** Yeah.

**Will:** Right? It doesn't matter. Right?

**Matt:** Yeah.

**Will:** But it's weird to think of Henry's probably only a couple of years older than me which is very... He's just a man. He's just a 38 year old man. This is very upsetting to me.

**Matt:** You have lots of friends who are dads, including one in here.

**Will:** Yeah, but like-

**Beth:** Oh wow.

**Matt:** Yeah, right?

**Beth:** Oh my gosh.

**Anthony:** The minute you had a kid, you immediately looked 20 years older than me.

**Beth:** They walk among us.

**Matt:** They walk among us.

**Will:** I feel weird...

**Matt:** I know what you mean.

**Will:** I feel the same way about the characters on Seinfeld. I've accepted that I'm older than the people in Friends, but as far as I'm concerned, I watched Seinfeld when I was in middle school so they will always be how much older they were than me in middle school when I saw the show.

**Will:** Hey everyone. You might be wondering who's this voice you're listening to? I'm Will Campos and I play Henry Oak, Birkenstock rocking crunchy, munchy, granola druid, hippy, nature, druid dad on this podcast Dungeons and Daddies. Fun fact about Will is that every time I go to do Henry's little run of crunchy munchy whatever, I forget it. I don't know how-

**Freddie:** It's been a year Will.

**Will:** I think I say it definitely every single time.

**Anthony:** You do.

**Beth:** It's really good though.

**Will:** It's just a word salad.

**Beth:** Yeah. No, the word salad, it's tossed nicely. Every time I really buy it.

**Will:** Tossed word salad and scrambled eggs. All right.

**Anthony:** Frasier will be older than everyone forever.

**Freddie:** Yes.

**Will:** Frasier is daddy.

**Beth:** And Niles is saddy.

**Will:** Can we please come up with a Frasier one shot and we can all play Frasier.

**Anthony:** There is definitely an RPG system called Tossed Salad and Scrambled Eggs.

**Will:** Wait really?

**Anthony:** I'm not joking.

**Beth:** I want to play Eddie.

**Will:** Mandatory.

**Freddie:** It's just there Frasier-verse and we're all different multiverse incarnations of Frasier.

**Will:** I can probably off the dome be each one of you who you are in Frasier.

**Anthony:** Do it right now.

**Will:** Right now. Anthony, Roz. That's just a no-brainer.

**Beth:** Dammit, yeah.

**Anthony:** Fucking great.

**Will:** Freddie is...

**Freddie:** See, I'm unclassifiable baby.

**Will:** Freddie's Martin. He's got a Martin energy for sure.

**Beth:** Yeah, definitely Martin.

**Will:** Matt-

**Matt:** Freddie's not Martin.

**Will:** Freddie's got that grumpy Martin energy.

**Beth:** Yeah.

**Freddie:** I don't know what this means.

**Anthony:** Freddie's Martin having a bad day.

**Will:** Matt is the Frasier of the podcast. I hate to admit it. I'm the Niles because I'm the more exaggerated, annoying version of Matt. And then I was going to be like, "Beth is Eddie."

**Beth:** I am.

**Will:** She's the fan favorite. Eddie got more fan mail than anyone else on Frasier!

**Anthony:** And it made Frasier very upset. I lied, it's actually called Boss Dragons and Scrambled Eggs.

**Will:** It's true.

**Anthony:** The Frasier RPG. Literally the first sentence of the rules is, "Oh baby, I hear adventure calling."

**Matt:** Oh shit.

**Will:** That is extremely good. I'm very upset. Henry's dad fact this week is that everything Henry cooks is a la Henry.

**Freddie:** Oh, no.

**Will:** Whenever he makes it, it's like, "Hey, here's Mac and Cheese a la Henry."

**Matt:** Oh.

**Freddie:** Does he do like a Henry? A la Henry?

**Will:** If it's French... He would never make escargot.

**Matt:** Yeah, he is French.

**Will:** But if he makes... He has a vegan escargot that's like... I don't know what... It tastes like tempe with-

**Freddie:** At a certain point isn't it just like tofu with a shit load of butter?

**Anthony:** Yeah.

**Will:** It's tofu... No, with margarine because it's not butter either. It's vegan.

**Freddie:** Oh, you're right. Shit.

**Anthony:** So just wet tofu.

**Will:** It's escargot a la Henry, but-

**Freddie:** So just wet tofu with seashells.

**Matt:** Wet tofu that looks like a snail, sounds appetizing.

**Will:** Wet tofu that looks like a snail. If he's making something that already has an a la in it, it can go a couple of different ways. If he was going to make vegan Chicken a la King, it'd be vegan Chicken a la King a la Henry. But if he was making Apple Pie a la Mode, and he made the apple pie it'd be Apple Pie a la Henry a la Mode. Unless-

**Freddie:** All right, I'm done. We're done. Fuck this.

**Will:** ... he also made the ice cream. In which case it would be Apple Pie a la Henry a la Mode a la Henry.

**Freddie:** Oh.

**Anthony:** And because Henry made it, it's a la a lot of germs because he never washed his fucking hands.

**Beth:** Ooh.

**Will:** I've stated canotically... How dare you sir! I've stated canotically on this podcast that Henry Oak washes his hands before he cooks food. It's one of the seven times he washes his hands. I yield the remainder of my time.

**Beth:** Thank you. We're doing a roll call here. Hi, my name is Beth May and I play Ron Stampler, emotionally detached stepfather and rogue. Fun fact about Ron this week is that like many dads actually, Ron's signature, his legal signature, looks absolutely nothing the fuck like his actually name. Just maybe like an R that could be a K and then a couple of-

**Freddie:** Like hard squiggles.

**Beth:** A couple of hard squiggles. Hard heart monitor squiggles, and that's his signature.

**Will:** How hard is Ron's signature to forge?

**Beth:** Oh, it's extremely easy.

**Will:** Really?

**Beth:** No, I feel like if anything, Ron forges his signature off of Terry's. Terry Jr. is so good at forging Ron's signature that that's how Ron learned how to do his.

**Will:** So when Ron signs a permission slip, the teacher's like, "You didn't sign this." And he's like, "Shit, I got to get Terry to sign my signature so it looks more like my signature."

**Beth:** Yeah. Previously I think he just wrote the word Ron and that was it, but... Yeah.

**Anthony:** Hi. I'm Anthony Burch. I'm your dad.

**Beth:** Hi.

**Freddie:** Hi Anthony.

**Will:** Sorry, who are you again?

**Anthony:** I'm your dad. I'm your father.

**Matt:** I'm mad at dad today.

**Will:** Why are you [crosstalk 00:10:14]

**Matt:** You took away one of our favorite toys.

**Anthony:** Oh Scam Likely?

**Will:** Scam Likely.

**Matt:** Yeah.

**Anthony:** That's growing up baby. You enjoy a thing for a while and then life just takes it from you. You've got to deal with the void.

**Matt:** I'm not happy.

**Anthony:** Your new toy is the Scam Likely shaped hole in heart.

**Will:** Anthony's like gritted God of War dad these days.

**Matt:** Yeah.

**Will:** He's going to make us kill a deer in front of him, you know? "It's life boy."

**Anthony:** Pretty much.

**Matt:** Yep.

**Anthony:** Welcome to our fund dungeons and dragons podcast where if I see you like somebody too much, I will get rid of them.

(slight music)

**Anthony:** To summarize what you were all doing last time, you were basically on march to Castle Ravenloft. So you basically saw that it's connected to this mountain range surrounded by one little land-bridge and otherwise it's this kind of island in the center of this massive canyon of mountain ranges and stuff. And so you convince Scam Likely to go in and get the Orb of Dragonkind.

**Will:** How the fuck did they not call it a dragon ball? Infuriating.

**Anthony:** Because then you'd want to find six more.

**Will:** And bring Scam Likely back to life?

**Anthony:** Yeah. Oh, that'd be great.

**Freddie:** How do we extend the life-

**Matt:** That's how we extend the podcast.

**Will:** Guys, we've got to bring Scam back to life. We're going to have to go to the seven continents of the Forgotten Realms and get a dragon ball.

**Anthony:** Before you go into the castle. Just walk away from the castle with all the mercenaries.

**Beth:** I don't know, I want to meet Mark Likely.

**Freddie:** Yeah.

**Will:** Is he Mark... I guess he's his brother, right?

**Beth:** Yeah.

**Anthony:** Yeah. So you sent Scam Likely in to negotiate for the Orb of Dragonkind, which was scam the Orb of Dragonkind. He went in, managed to successfully scam it out of their hands but on his way out they realized that he was tricking them. He tried to escape on the back of the gold dragon that defends Castle Ravenloft and as he began to fly away, a beam of purple energy shot out from the tallest tower in the castle, hit him straight through the head and he... He falled down, I almost said.

**Will:** He falled down.

**Matt:** He falled down.

**Will:** Professional writer, Anthony Burch.

**Anthony:** He falled down, went boom, ...

**Matt:** Dead now.

**Anthony:** Dead now?

**Matt:** What?

**Anthony:** No, he's dead.

**Matt:** Oh.

**Anthony:** The problem is a character named Scam Likely, I'll never be able to conclusively prove that he's dead because-

**Will:** That's the greatest scam of all.

**Matt:** Yeah. But it sure seems like he died.

**Freddie:** Imagine if Tupac's name was-

**Matt:** Never Die.

**Freddie:** You know what I mean? Like Death-Faker.

**Anthony:** My name is When-You-Least-Expect-It.

**Freddie:** Yeah, my name is Death-Faker. It's like, "Well shit. My rap name's Death-Faker." "Do you think he died in that car crash? Actually, you know it's funny, his name... "

**Beth:** The greatest trick the devil ever pulled was calling me three times a day and me never answering.

**Anthony:** Basically where we're at right now is you just saw Scam Likely die. The golden dragon he was riding is sort of just flapping its wings. They're kind of unsure what to do because the person who was holding his control orb just died so that control-

**Matt:** It's like that controller's unplugged and-

**Anthony:** Exactly. He's sort of waiting. Everything's sort of on an animation that's looping. Also you saw through the DJI drone that there is a-

**Will:** Yet another sponsorship that we gave away for free.

**Freddie:** Just gave it to the wind. Just free to the wind. DJI, you know my Twitter.

**Matt:** I'm instantly piloting that drone straight up to where the laser bolt came from.

**Anthony:** Great. Okay, I like that.

**Matt:** I'm shaking. I still can't believe Scam died.

**Freddie:** No, no. You don't want to be shaking.

**Matt:** We got to see what shot him. We got to see what shot him.

**Freddie:** You don't want to be shaking with the drone because it's real fidgety, you know what I mean?

**Matt:** Fragile. It is. It's moving in real loop-de-loops as it's getting there. But also, I'm trying to avoid [crosstalk 00:13:19]

**Will:** You can see Darryl's rage and sorrow in the shaky arc of the DJI Phantom.

**Freddie:** The quad-copter as it rises in the air.

**Anthony:** You see in the tallest parapet, I guess, of the castle the same image that you saw briefly when Scam Likely turned around and showed you the image that was being displayed by the projector in the foyer. You see the three people in Purple Robes and then behind a sort of blue magical barrier, you see your children. The tallest of the Purple Robes is holding his hand outstretched and purple smoke is coming from it.

**Matt:** Okay. So he... So this is not an image. We're seeing... This is where they were recording themselves from.

**Anthony:** As far as you can tell, that is them.

**Matt:** That is them, okay. It's not on the screen or something.

**Anthony:** Yeah, I mean basically yeah. You would also be able to see the webcam essentially. There's a webcam one end of the-

**Matt:** Okay, there's a webcam. Wait, wait, is there a webcam?

**Anthony:** It's literally a webcam.

**Will:** Wait! What? It's a webcam?

**Matt:** Guys, the Purple Robe dudes are up there with a webcam and our children.

**Will:** They've got tech and magic?

**Anthony:** That was the most threatening sentence I've ever heard in my entire life.

**Will:** Holy shit.

**Anthony:** That is the rowdiest, most horrible sentence anybody's ever said on this podcast.

**Beth:** Cut it out. Cut it out.

**Matt:** Wait, what did I say?

**Anthony:** No, no. It's not your fault. You just said, "The Purple Guys are up there with our kids and a webcam."

**Matt:** Yeah, well you put them there Anthony. I'm just describing what I saw.

**Freddie:** Wait, can we just look closer at this magic barrier, this blue thing? Is there anything specific about it? What are the kids doing back there?

**Anthony:** So the kids are sitting looking alternately bored and kind of scared depending on the child. I think Lark and Sparrow and probably... Which one's the Lovewolf? The Lovewolf one is scared, the crazy one is bouncing in his seat essentially. Grant is just looking into the middle-distance because his soul is dead. Terry Jr. is just very depressed looking and Nick Close is kind of like bored and trying to crane his head around and see what the dude just did, and the purple guy just shot at and all that kind of stuff.

**Matt:** Can I see, does Grant have the orb with him?

**Anthony:** When he got abducted by the Purple Robes, you gave him the orb and told him to hide it right?

**Matt:** Yes.

**Anthony:** What I'm going to do is I'm going to roll slight of hand on him, and if he can beat the Purple Robes then retroactively we'll say that he managed to hide it from them permanently.

**Will:** Hot dice.

**Matt:** But we wouldn't know.

**Anthony:** Correct, you wouldn't know but I will know.

**Matt:** Yes, okay.

**Will:** Oh.

**Anthony:** Because if he did hide if from them, you wouldn't be able to see it because he'd be hiding it [crosstalk 00:15:35]

**Matt:** Yeah, that's true. I was thinking it was bouncing around like [crosstalk 00:15:39]

**Anthony:** Like he's fucking Steve McQueen in the Great Escape, just throwing it at the fucking ground.

**Beth:** He's doing contact juggling with it.

**Freddie:** This is my contact juggling orb and you guys can't take it away from me. They'll be like, "For sooth, look how it appears to float in the air."

**Anthony:** So I know if they found it or not.

**Matt:** Okay. So we don't. Okay. Well I said what I said to everybody else. That's what I'm seeing everybody.

**Will:** Oh guys, we're in a jim-jam here. It just hit me that not only did we lose Scam Likely, we also lost the badass commander of the mercenary army.

**Freddie:** Oh shit, you're right.

**Will:** He's also dead.

**Freddie:** As far as the mercenaries are concerned, they saw their leader from behind walk into this thing, attempt to ride a dragon and then die.

**Anthony:** Well they also saw him rip off his mustache and do a really weird voice. They're like, "Did he go insane?"

**Matt:** Yeah.

**Will:** Anthony, I want to do vibe-check on the mercenaries. How are they doing?

**Anthony:** Okay, roll Perception.

**Freddie:** Roll vibe-check?

**Matt:** They better be good because they're professionals.

**Will:** I got a natural one on that.

**Anthony:** Oh. It could be anything.

**Beth:** Guys, I can tell you what the vibe is. Hello, Mr. Mustache.

**Anthony:** Yeah, what's up?

**Beth:** Well, I guess I have to be the leader of the mercenaries now huh? And then also sort of the scam master. The scam...

**Anthony:** Heavy weighs the mustache.

**Beth:** It does. It does weigh heavy. I'm going to say your vibe is good everybody. Good vibes. Thank you.

**Anthony:** Why don't you roll Persuasion?

**Beth:** Mm. *(politely refusing)*

*[all laugh]*

**Freddie:** That's an advantage roll certainly with the mustache.

**Anthony:** Sure.

**Beth:** Oh true. I got a 15, and with the plus zero for Persuasion, that means a 15 total.

**Anthony:** All right. I feel like that'll do it.

**Will:** So they've just accepted Ron as their new commander because of his alpha-man mustache?

**Matt:** He was just asking the vibe-check.

**Anthony:** Yeah, I feel like you probably that stuff. You told them what the answer to their own vibe-check is and then the mustache probably be like... The mustache saluted like it was saying goodbye to Scam Likely. The tendril of the mustache just... to the center of it so it looked like it was saluting Scam Likely's passing.

**Beth:** Yeah.

**Anthony:** And then Bad Dogs around you sort of see that and they do the same thing and they salute Scam Likely, or I guess to them Benedict Cabbagepatch but crazy and with no mustache. They look to you and they say, "What do we do sir?"

**Beth:** Well, really quickly I just want to canonically reestablish that what Ron looks like right now is a man with a Devil mustache that's kind of like murkily brown and black, with no pants but only boxers that say cool guy on them.

**Will:** It's kind of like the beginning of Breaking Bad.

**Beth:** Yeah. And then he's only got hair on one leg.

**Matt:** So it's from Breaking Bad.

**Beth:** And a huge dick! No, that's fine. It's okay. He doesn't have to have a huge...

**Matt:** But he does.

**Beth:** But he does.

**Will:** He didn't have to, but he sure does.

**Beth:** Yeah. That was a gift from God, not a requirement.

**Ron:** Okay, so...

[all laugh]

**Ron:** Okay.

[More laughter]

**Ron:** Bad Dogs, first things first. Sit. Stay. Good dogs. Okay. Guys, hey guys.

**Will:** What's up Ron? Are you talking to us or the Bad Dogs right now?

**Beth:** I'm sorry, no I'm talking to you. I mean the dad you. The dog, not, no.

**Will:** Okay, what's up?

**Beth:** Okay.

**Will:** It seems like you've really commanded the respect of these Bad Dogs.

**Beth:** I really have but the whole commanding respect versus commanding an army thing, that's where I'm experiencing some difficulty.

**Freddie:** I bet you it's not that different.

**Beth:** Okay.

**Will:** First of all, I just want to say Ron, the first person you have to command respect from is yourself. I want you to know that we respect and you should respect you too.

**Beth:** Wow.

**Will:** You got to start from within, you know? I just wanted to put that out there, as a thing. Maybe you could make a battlefield promotion and we could see... I'm sure he had a number two-

**Anthony:** Paeden is immediately like, "Somebody say promotion? Somebody say number two? Hello. I can be your second in command."

**Beth:** Yeah. Let's see. I guess Darryl, Glenn, Henry and Payton, you guys all promoted to General Colonel.

**Anthony:** Yes, yes, yes.

**Matt:** I walk over straight to Paeden and I go, "Not you little buddy."

**Anthony:** What?

**Matt:** Yeah, you remember what you did to Glenn?

**Anthony:** I was already punished for that I believe. You took the knife. That is a separate occasion. This is a new day baby.

**Beth:** Guys. Now that I have [crosstalk 00:20:10]

**Anthony:** You're talking to a General Colonel, thank you.

**Freddie:** I just want to be clear, he did slash up my achilles tendon, but he is right. Double jeopardy. If we start doing than then who knows what shambles of a legal system we'll have left.

**Beth:** Well guys, now that we're like... you're really the head of the crew, so to speak, I actually have an idea.

**Will:** Let's hear it.

**Beth:** So we've been able to communicate with these hooded fellas when we were asleep and they couldn't do anything to really hurt us when we were asleep. I was wondering if we fall asleep right now and we get the Bad Dogs to be watch dogs and then while we're asleep maybe we use that gun to compel them to say something that lets us know what they're after besides our kids who are-

**Freddie:** So Ron, you're saying like a real Nightmare of Elm Street dream warriors thing?

**Beth:** Yeah.

**Matt:** Do we bring the gun into-

**Will:** Can you bring the gun into the dream?

**Beth:** Well, I mean-

**Matt:** And also, they could just kick us out of the dream.

**Will:** They did do that one time.

**Matt:** I was going to say, we could at the very least... Again, just in case everybody... the kids are in that tower. They shot a sniper bolt or something at us. We could also write a note on the drone and fly it up to the window and be like, "Yo, fucking give us the kids."

**Beth:** What's up? You up?

**Matt:** Yeah. You up? We need to talk to them.

**Anthony:** What would you do if I was here right now?

**Beth:** Pics please. No.

**Will:** That's a good idea. Bring the drone back.

**Matt:** Vroom.

**Anthony:** All right, so the drone goes back to you.

**Will:** Give me a pen, I'll write a note.

**Anthony:** What is the note you're going to write on this drone?

**Matt:** Should we tell them we have a whole army outside and we want our kids back, no trouble sort of thing.

**Freddie:** And then also, you can talk. Because we can hear them but they just can't hear us.

**Matt:** Yeah, they can talk to the drone.

**Anthony:** Okay.

**Will:** They can talk to the drone?

**Matt:** Yeah. Yeah. The drone's got audio so we can hear them.

**Beth:** We've got to be really snappy about the language here so that we can just sort of convince them but also it's not too much of a challenge to read. Let me get the little Post-it note here or something.

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

**Beth:** Or actually, I'll attach one of my business cards to... I'm going to write, "You up? Talk to drone, bitch." What else were we going to...

**Matt:** We want our kids back.

**Beth:** Oh, "Kids back," with an extra K. "Big, big army. Smiley face with tongue out, eggplant emoji."

**Matt:** So you drew an eggplant emoji?

**Beth:** Yeah.

**Anthony:** The drone just flies up to the window and you see the shortest of the three Purple Robes go, "Oh shit. They've got a Phantom."

**Freddie:** Nick is the background going, "Ah, my dad's here."

**Anthony:** Yeah. Nick's like, "My dad." It's literally the scene from Die Hard, where it's like, "Only my dad can make somebody that irritated." "What's he doing?" "His job."

**Will:** Now I have a DJI Phantom. Ho, ho, ho.

**Anthony:** The shortest one comes up to your drone and takes the note. You can hear them mumbling. "... eggplant emoji." It reaches into its cloak and pulls out a stone. It licks the stone, sticks it on top of the drone and does a go back kind of motion, like a push it away with his hands kind of motion.

**Will:** Can we really not see under this hood with the drone?

**Anthony:** Yeah, no. You can't, it's magical.

**Will:** It's a magic hood.

**Anthony:** It's a magical dark robe.

**Matt:** He really pulled it down tight.

**Will:** So there's a rock attached to it now?

**Matt:** No, it's like a hoodie and he's pulling the...

**Will:** You can see a tiny little nose poking out.

**Anthony:** It's like Kenny from South Park.

**Matt:** Yeah.

**Anthony:** He attached a rock to it and is now beckoning the drone essentially to go away.

**Freddie:** Guys, this could be a trap. Maybe he puts a kind of bomb on it.

**Matt:** This is dangerous.

**Will:** They don't want to kill us.

**Matt:** That's true.

**Will:** This whole thing's been about they were like... I'm pretty sure...

**Freddie:** Hey Doug, go and receive that drone in that empty field over there behind us.

**Anthony:** God, all right.

**Beth:** I'll do the orders thank you very much.

**Freddie:** Oh, okay. Sure.

**Anthony:** General Colonel, yeah?

**Beth:** Hey. Doug, just do what Glenn said please. If you would, please.

**Matt:** I fly the drone over and land it kind of like 100 feet from all of us, so Doug can go get the rock.

**Will:** Are we really going to make... Henry's like, "Doug, stay right there. This is absurd." Henry goes up to the drone.

**Anthony:** Okay. So Doug's like, "I mean I need the credit. All right."

**Will:** You're still going to get course credit, don't worry about.

**Matt:** I'm disappointed with you. You made Henry go do that.

**Anthony:** "I wanted to do it." You're just going to investigate it?

**Will:** Yes.

**Anthony:** Basically the rock is on there. Why don't you roll Arcana?

**Will:** Arcana?

**Matt:** Right when he's about to pick it up, vroom, I start the drone and move it away from him a little bit.

**Will:** Very funny Darryl. It's hilarious.

**Freddie:** Hey, careful man. Those things can cut you real bad.

**Beth:** Can they really?

**Freddie:** Yeah. Do not [crosstalk 00:24:34]

**Will:** I got an 11 Arcana.

**Anthony:** Okay. That's enough. It is a speaking stone, which is basically a fancy walkie talkie.

**Will:** Ah.

**Matt:** Oh.

**Freddie:** Hey, that's funny because we were talking about sending a walkie talkie but they just sent a walkie talkie instead. It's great.

**Will:** All right. I pick it up and I say, "Hello?" No, wait, wait. No, is say, "Yellow?"

**Anthony:** You hear one of the Purple Robes go, "Henry."

**Will:** Hey, this is... You got Henry. Who's this?

**Anthony:** This is the author of all your pain.

**Will:** It's Blofeld?

**Anthony:** Shit.

**Anthony:** I should have come up with someone that's not from Spectre.

**Will:** It's hard I know. Spectre's left such a cultural footprint.

**Anthony:** What a classic.

**Anthony:** It's me. It's one of the guys with the purple robes.

**Will:** Oh hey, yeah.

**Anthony:** I've got your sons.

**Will:** Hey, wow. We've got a big army out here. What we were thinking is let's just... Give us our sons back and we won't have to invade your castle. We just disabled your big dragon, unfortunately our good friend, Scam Likely, fell to what appears to be his death? Maybe, maybe not. Who knows? He could come back at some point. It seems like this dragon was kind of your big centerpiece and he doesn't seem to be doing that much right now. Why don't you just give us our kids back and we could pretend this whole thing never happened and we can all call it a day.

**Anthony:** Henry, Henry, Henry. The dragon is not to protect us. The dragon is to dissuade attack. We don't need a dragon to protect us. Trust me. But I'm glad you're here because all we really wanted to do is talk. Ideally face to face, but this can do. Especially if you want to bring the drone back up and come see us.

**Matt:** We can come face to face.

**Will:** Why don't you guys come out here and talk to us face to face?

**Matt:** Just come out there.

**Anthony:** You can come to us.

**Will:** You could come to us too though.

**Freddie:** But we came all this way over here.

**Will:** We've come farther to you. We were in a completely different realm. I just want to say like-

**Anthony:** So what's a couple more steps?

**Beth:** Okay, can we split the difference between... I don't know Los Feliz and Inglewood, and just say that we can meet in downtown or mid-city.

**Anthony:** Why don't you actually roll Persuasion because the idea of both of you meeting at a sort of center point is not terrible and you have really cool dramatic bridge.

**Will:** In downtown LA.

**Beth:** In downtown LA? That's another 15 plus Persuasion of zero, which means 15.

**Anthony:** All right, 15 is what it was going to take. The robe says, "Okay. So we can go to the center of that bridge and talk it out."

**Will:** Yeah. Center of the bridge huh? Hold on one second.

**Will:** And then I cover the rock thinking that that's going to do anything.

**Anthony:** Sure.

**Will:** I'm like, "What do you guys think? Shall we meet with them up in the center of... It seems better than meeting them in the castle right?"

**Beth:** Yeah.

**Matt:** Yeah. Certainly better than the castle. The thing I'm scared of is Erin said something about the more we know... Now I'm kind of worried that they said that all they want to do is talk. Because whatever the bad guys want to do is usually bad, and I'm not the biggest fan of Erin, as you know. I think she cheated us if I were to be frank. But she did warn us and said the more we know, the worse it'd be. So I'm just like-

**Freddie:** What if one of us is listening?

**Will:** Shhhh! Hey, we're going to get right back to you, okay? Bye. How do I turn this off?

**Anthony:** You don't. It just...

**Will:** It just always speaks?

**Anthony:** No, that doesn't make any sense. That would be useless as an item. Yeah, you just think that you don't want it to be on anymore and then it's not on anymore.

**Will:** Okay. Yeah. I'm going to do that. We'll call you right back.

**Anthony:** All right, hit me up.

**Matt:** I quickly dig a hole in the ground and I shove it in there and throw it on top of it.

**Will:** Good call. Good call.

**Anthony:** Nice.

**Will:** Okay.

**Freddie:** Or alternatively we give it to Doug.

**Freddie:** Doug, just blow on this.

**Anthony:** You can't hear what they're saying.

**Will:** We could do... Like two of us talk and then two of us sneak. Do you know what I mean?

**Matt:** To save the kids.

**Will:** To save the kids.

**Matt:** Well we do have...

**Will:** We have the Dimmadome sword and we could fashion together a zip line and two people could go zip into the castle.

**Matt:** We could try to check if Grant has the orb.

**Will:** How would we do that?

**Matt:** We could fly the drone up there and have him like... The drone says, "Do you have the orb." He sees the drone and he can nod or shake his head.

**Will:** Ooh! You could do that while we're distracting them by talking to them.

**Matt:** Because the only thing I'm concerned about is if they did find it, if I was them and I found the orb, I'd throw it in a chasm or in lava so then teleport...

**Will:** Oh, I have an idea. Here's an idea as well.

**Freddie:** Doug could pilot the drone there while we meet them.

**Will:** Doug could pilot the drone and Payton could help. That could be an intern task that they work on together because I feel like they need more teamwork. I was going to say-

**Matt:** I don't want Payton with Doug. Payton's already seems to be going through some things and he did... Are we all forgetting he slashed Glenn and Doug murdered a man.

**Freddie:** Yeah, you have a good point.

**Will:** I've really lost track of what is and isn't acceptable for children to do in this world. I'm just going to put that out there.

**Matt:** What he did was wrong. That's all I saying. Payton, you heard me. What you did was wrong!

**Anthony:** I wasn't actually going to injure injure him.

**Matt:** You did injure him!

**Anthony:** I gave him a little spook, a little fun spook. And you know what? He didn't hiccup anymore. I'm basically a doctor.

**Freddie:** I'm what passes for a doctor in this world.

**Will:** I'm going to bring us back on subject for a second.

**Matt:** Yes. Yes.

**Will:** What we could also do, hear me out, what if we go talk to them but in a little story called The Odyssey, wherein Odysseus and his men did not want to hear what the Sirens had to say. We could plug our ears and pretend that we know what they're saying, just to keep them out there long enough.

**Matt:** If there's anything dads are good at, it's pretending they're listening. Just, "Mm-hmm (affirmative), yep."

**Will:** Yes dear. Yes dear.

**Matt:** Yeah. Absolutely.

**Beth:** Ron puts the Walkman on.

**Freddie:** Oh that's right, Ron's got a Walkman.

**Will:** Ron's got a Walkman, I've got my Airpods. We could just plug our ears up, and then my thought is we just pretend like we're listening to what we're saying and meanwhile you're figuring out if Grant's got that thing.

**Matt:** Well Doug will do it because I think if...

**Will:** Doug, yes. If they see you flying a drone they're going to be like, "What's up with that?"

**Matt:** Yeah, I think if all of us aren't on the bridge they're going to wonder why all of us aren't on the bridge.

**Freddie:** We have our stone in the car. We'll write a note to Doug that says, "Hey Grant. If you have the stone, use it."

**Will:** Use it.

**Freddie:** Give him instructions on how to use it.

**Will:** Yes, and say, "Everyone hold onto the stone." And then...

**Matt:** Oh, shit yeah.

**Will:** Okay.

**Matt:** All right, yeah.

**Will:** All right, well this seems like half a plan.

**Freddie:** Hold on, now hold on. If it doesn't work, what then?

**Will:** Oh good call, good call.

**Freddie:** Because there's a chance that they've discovered...

**Matt:** What we'll do is whatever we say. We go, "Mm-hmm (affirmative). We totally hear you. We totally understand. We're going to go back and talk about it more."

**Freddie:** We've got to ask our wives.

**Will:** Perfect.

**Freddie:** We've got to ask our wives.

**Will:** We got to ask our wives! I've got to ask the old ball and chain... I'm not going to say that about Mercedes Oak Garcia, but we got to check. This is a partnership, you know?

**Anthony:** I'm going to ask my beautiful, beautiful ball and chain.

**Will:** I have to... yes.

**Freddie:** Here's what it'll be. If it's a no, the drone flies out and we can see it. They'll make a signal with the drone so we'll know that they don't have it. That'll be our cue to be like, "We got to regroup."

**Matt:** Or we can do...

**Matt:** Hey Payton.

**Anthony:** Yeah? What's up.

**Matt:** So I'm still disappointing in you slashing him.

**Anthony:** I don't know why.

**Matt:** Here's a job-

**Anthony:** I did a thing.

**Matt:** Here's a job for you buddy.

**Anthony:** We agreed to it.

**Matt:** You were hearing about what we were going to talk about, the drone you were going to send up, right?

**Anthony:** Of course I was eavesdropping, yes.

**Matt:** Of course. Of course. I knew you were. If it's a yes...

**Will:** If it's a yes, the kids can just honk the horn in the van because that's where the thing is. If it's yes, they're going to teleport out of there.

**Matt:** Okay, and if it's a no?

**Will:** If it's a no Payton goes, "I made a boom-boom in my pants."

**Anthony:** I'm not, under no circumstance... I have dignity.

**Will:** Payton, if you say that though we've got an out. Although how are we going to hear Payton if our ears are plugged?

**Matt:** No, he's just going to scream. Give me your best animal impression.

**Anthony:** Wah.

**Matt:** Do that as loud as you can.

**Anthony:** Okay. It doesn't get very loud. That's about as loud-

**Matt:** What's the loudest animal impression you can do?

**Anthony:** The loudest animal impression-

**Matt:** Can anybody in this army just do a call or a signal so that means no.

**Beth:** They all start barking.

**Anthony:** Yeah. [crosstalk 00:31:42]

**Matt:** Okay. Great. If it's a no, we'll hear barking from over the hills, nobody will be suspicious.

**Will:** But we will have our ears plugged.

**Matt:** Oh shit.

**Freddie:** That's right.

**Will:** The only problem with this plan.

**Matt:** Henry, that's why you're here man. I would have just been on the bridge be like, "Where's the signal?"

**Freddie:** If it's a no, the drone just buzzes us.

**Will:** Yeah, the drone flies overhead.

**Matt:** Okay, all right.

**Freddie:** And if it's a yes, it'll stay there and they can keep the drone I guess.

**Will:** Yeah.

**Freddie:** I guess they can keep the drone.

**Will:** Ron, what do you think?

**Beth:** I agree with this plan because I invented it and I'm your commander.

**Anthony:** That's a fucking leader.

**Beth:** I'm actually going to bring my skip it weapon with me just in case things go sour.

**Matt:** Yeah, I'm bringing my weapons, obviously.

**Beth:** Another Odyssey adjacent sort of move we could make a giant horse and then all the dogs could be in the horse and then we're like, "Here's a horse." And they're like, "I'm going to look inside this horse." And then that's how we get them.

**Matt:** Ron, that's actually a pretty good idea. If the conversation seems like it's going poorly say that we do have a big ceremonial wooden horse for them.

**Beth:** Yeah.

**Matt:** At the very least it's just like a starting point for the negotiations, just like a thank you from us to them. That's like a good backup plan for sure. Who knows?

**Beth:** Absolutely.

**Matt:** Also, if they know... Because here's the thing, they have a webcam. Also, they're response to that, they say, "That sounds cool." Okay, like [inaudible 00:33:08] but they're like, "Hey, that's the Trojan horse." They're from our world, right?

**Will:** Interesting point.

**Matt:** That's true.

**Beth:** Yeah, yeah.

**Matt:** If they know what it is-

**Beth:** If somebody sounds off in the comments like, "Yo, that's a reference from Gladiator."

**Anthony:** That's my favorite part of Gladiator.

**Will:** All right, should we do this?

**Anthony:** Explain this whole plan to me again, beat by beat.

**Will:** It's a simple plan Anthony.

**Matt:** Yeah.

**Anthony:** You dumb fuck.

**Will:** Let me just see if I've got this straight gentlemen. The plan is to drink until the pain's over but what's more... The plan is we go up to talk to them, meanwhile Doug is flying a drone up to the tower to see if... What's your son's name again?

**Matt:** Grant.

**Will:** Grant, right. I knew that. Grant. Grant.

**Freddie:** Classic dad move, forgetting your kid friend's names.

**Will:** If Darryl Jr. has the teleportation orb, meanwhile we're distracting the robe guys and we've got our ears plugged in case they have magic juju they want to run on us by talking to us and making us learn more about them, because as our good friend Erin O'Neil pointed out, that could be a thing they try to do. While that's going on, we're finding out the situation with the teleportation orb. If the teleportation orb is there, they're going to beam back to the van. If it's not, the drone does a loop-de-loop and we know it's time to get out of there. We say whatever's going on, "Look, we're going to need to talk to our wives first." Which is kind of my move when I'm car shopping, you know? And then they go, "Uh-ho."

**Freddie:** Or in a timeshare presentation.

**Will:** Timeshare. I've got to talk to the Mrs. first. We're going to say that to them and then just peace back to the van.

**Matt:** I just want to clarify that for me it's not our good friend, Erin O'Neil, it's our partner who was very rude and frankly I'm not a big fan of.

**Anthony:** Nobody holds a grudge like Darryl.

**Matt:** I'm just making sure. Just making sure we all understand.

**Will:** I'm just going to put this out there, and I'm not accusing you of anything but I just want to say, if Erin O'Neil was a man, would you be calling her assertive and a hard bargainer?

**Matt:** I think if Erin O'Neil was a man, you wouldn't have given half of our money for no reason. I think somebody was feeling a little bit patronizing. That's all I'm going to say.

**Will:** Well, that's neither here nor there.

**Matt:** Throwing back. Throwing back.

**Anthony:** Payton's like, "Get him. Get him. Get him."

**Freddie:** Doug, do you think you can handle this drone?

**Anthony:** I mean I guess we'll find out pretty quick, huh?

**Freddie:** How good are you at this thing you've never done before?

**Anthony:** I've literally never seen anything like this before in my life.

**Freddie:** Doug, get some practice laps in.

**Anthony:** Okay. He's going to roll a practice with it. Oh wow, he actually did okay on that one.

**Matt:** He's just natural?

**Anthony:** Yeah, it was a 17. So apparently he's like... He didn't crash it basically. If he got less than 15, I was going to say he crashed it. But no, he didn't crash it. He's going to roll again. Basically every time he succeeds in one of these rolls, he's going to get a plus one to his actual... for doing it on the night.

**Will:** Oh, that's cool.

**Anthony:** Yeah.

**Will:** Look at Anthony coming up with these mechanics of the [crosstalk 00:35:52]

**Matt:** As Doug's practicing, another thing to point out dads is should one of us listen?

**Will:** Oh.

**Freddie:** What if we brought Payton to be our interpreter?

**Will:** What if we record it?

**Matt:** But then we will have to listen... Payton may not be bad. Don't want to use the wrong thing.

**Will:** I don't know. I don't feel like I want to know...

**Matt:** I want to trust because if somebody could listen-

**Anthony:** Payton's immediately like, "Put me in coach. Put me in. I can do this. I can do this."

**Matt:** If somebody could listen to it and could help us just let us know if we should know what was said or not.

**Freddie:** That requires someone with some verbal skills, you know?

**Anthony:** It's your boy. It's your boy. Me. Me. Payton. Smartest guy you know. I talk all the time.

**Will:** If we... Okay, I'm kind of like if Payton knows, is that going to make them more powerful? Do you know what I mean?

**Anthony:** I can't budge my wood.

**Beth:** Well, it's a matter of how seriously we take whatever he says.

**Will:** That's true!

**Matt:** That's true.

**Beth:** And so as a commander, I say Payton is this something you'd be interested in doing is listening and then knowing what they say for realsies?

**Anthony:** Payton salutes you. He goes, "Put me in coach. I'm a great listener. I'm a great communicator. You all know that."

**Beth:** We don't need you to be good at communicating. That's one of the worst skills a leader could have. If you just know... If you're good at knowing then we'll be good at not knowing.

**Anthony:** What I'll do is if it feels like they're saying something important, I'll pull my ears to say, "Hey, unclog your ears. Listen to what they're saying." And if what they're saying seems like it's scary and it might be bad, I'll just shake my head really, really hard and be like, "No! Don't listen."

**Freddie:** I don't know about this guys.

**Anthony:** Maybe I'll point in the opposite direction.

**Freddie:** I don't know about this one guys. I don't know if we should...

**Anthony:** If you want me to do something more subtle, I can do something more subtle.

**Will:** I think it's not-

**Anthony:** I'll scratch my nose.

**Will:** Scratching your nose is good. Scratch your nose if you think it's something we shouldn't listen to because that means-

**Anthony:** Yes. I'll scratch my nose because it smells fishy.

**Will:** Don't nose.

**Anthony:** I don't nose if you should listen to this.

**Matt:** But it's also just when we're done he can just brief us on what was said, whether or not we should know it.

**Will:** That's true. Yeah.

**Matt:** He doesn't even have... We don't have to change listening or not listening.

**Anthony:** Yeah, but I mean I will be summarizing versus say you hearing it from the horses mouth.

**Matt:** Yeah.

**Beth:** That's right. The other part of our plan was if things go awry, we say that we have a wooden horse to offer.

**Matt:** Yeah.

**Will:** That's right, yeah. Okay.

**Beth:** Payton, if you think that we need to bring out the horse guns, so to speak-

**Anthony:** You have a horse gun?

**Beth:** Boy, don't we. Do not.

**Will:** That's Ron's slang for his fucking rig.

**Beth:** Maybe just do a quick little gallop with your front two paws.

**Anthony:** Okay. I can't do that. No problem.

**Beth:** Your hands I mean.

**Matt:** Your paws.

**Anthony:** Yeah, so my hands?

**Beth:** Yeah.

**Anthony:** So you want me to gallop with my hands.

**Beth:** Yeah, just a quick little gallop. There you go. Yep, that's... Do that again, once more for the podcast audience here.

**Anthony:** I'm putting my hands out in front on me like a T-Rex.

**Beth:** No, just the motion.

**Anthony:** Oh, just the motion? Yeah, that'll go well.

**Matt:** Just like that.

**Beth:** Wow. That's great.

**Anthony:** It's like you're a T-Rex who's trying to swat a fly.

**Beth:** My role in talking to the robbed figures, while we are on the bridge is I'm going to respond with dialogue that make it seem like I am listening and responding to what they're saying but actually I'm just listening to the Walkman.

**Matt:** Non-committal, yeah.

**Will:** Exactly. Yes.

**Beth:** Yeah.

**Anthony:** So Doug asks, "Are you setting me up the drone? Is the drone going to have a message on it?"

**Will:** Yeah. Yeah.

**Freddie:** We're going to write the message instructing the kids how to use the stone if they have it.

**Anthony:** Okay, okay. Cool.

**Matt:** All right.

**Anthony:** So Payton's going to be with you.

**Matt:** Yes.

**Anthony:** Doug's going to be using a drone. I rolled three times for him and all times he got under 15, so you're just going to have a straight up or down D20 roll.

**Will:** Gentlemen, before we go in I want to do a dad huddle. Bring it in.

**Matt:** All right, Daddle.

**Freddie:** Okay.

**Will:** Hey guys, I just wanted to say this could be our last dad huddle for a while.

**Matt:** We're going to die?

**Will:** This is it. This is the end-zone. Do you know what I mean? To put it in terms that Darryl might understand.

**Matt:** Hell yeah. Hell yeah.

**Matt:** I hold everybody tighter.

**Will:** I just want to let you all know whatever happens in there, whatever goes on from this point forward, it's been an honor getting to know each and everyone one of you as dads.

**Matt:** Same buddy.

**Freddie:** Same man.

**Anthony:** I feel the same way.

**Matt:** Yeah Payton, you're in this one.

**Anthony:** Of course I'm in this one.

**Will:** All right. I think we do a hands in the middle doodlers.

**Matt:** Doodlers.

**Beth:** Okay.

**Will:** Three, two, one.

**Beth:** Achoo.

**Matt:** Doodlers.

**Anthony:** You sneezed on my hand.

**Will:** All right, I pick up the rock. Robe gentlemen?

**Anthony:** Yes.

**Will:** Robes, we're ready. We're ready to talk.

**Anthony:** All right. We will meet you on the bridge leading to Castle Ravenloft.

**Anthony:** You start walking towards the Castle Ravenloft where your kids are being held, where the Purple Robes have caused so much trouble for you over this past however many weeks it's been, months it's been. And as you get closer, you also remember that that dragon is still sort of floating in the air, just sort of flapping its wings a little bit confused.

**Matt:** I kind of tap everybody on the shoulder. I'm pointing up at the dragon. I'm like, "Oh yeah, the dragon."

**Will:** Shit, we forgot about the dragon.

**Anthony:** It's not floating over the bridge but it's there. As you guys walk up onto the land bridge connecting the mountain range to the castle, the front door, the portcullis, raises up and you see the three Purple Robes for the first time in the flesh, eye to eye. Simultaneously to that, around the back of the castle Doug is going to try to pilot the drone.

**Anthony:** First the Purple Robes are going to roll Perception with advantage because they have no reason to think this is on the level because you're you. Ooh, first roll is a two. Second roll is a 14. Okay, so now he's going to roll Drone Stealth.

**Freddie:** This has got to be the first ever drone stealth roll in D&D.

**Anthony:** Rolled a 14.

**Will:** Oh shit.

**Anthony:** So they don't notice, but you see the drone sort of zoom... just this little speck of... What colored DJI drone did you get?

**Freddie:** It'll actually have some LEDs on it so you know the orientation. It'll be green for forward and red for back.

**Anthony:** Okay.

**Freddie:** We can see the red side of it.

**Anthony:** You see a green and a red sort of moving horizontally perpendicular to you zooming around the back of the castle. The tallest Robe kind of cocks its head for a second. As it sort of turns to look, it's already disappeared behind the castle. You are standing on the precipice of a thousand foot drop, as howling, biting cold winds of snow and ice scratch your face and buffet your body.

**Freddie:** Your buttocks.

**Anthony:** Your buttocks.

**Freddie:** They buffet your buttocks.

**Anthony:** They buffet your buttocks.

**Freddie:** Nice.

**Anthony:** It takes not inconsiderable amount of effort to make sure that you stay upright and not get-

**Will:** Oh good.

**Anthony:** What?

**Will:** I was like, "Oh good. We have to stay upright." I'm just nervous.

**Anthony:** Yeah. You're definitely in a precarious position. If a really bad stiff wind came, who knows, you might get blown over the side.

**Will:** Nobody fart.

**Anthony:** You basically have a moment to have a 30 second conversation if you so wish with the dragon before the Purple Robes will reach you on the bridge.

**Will:** Okay. I cast Speak With Animals and I say, "Hey, Mr. Dragon. Mrs., Mr., whatever your pronouns are."

**Anthony:** My name's Raymond.

**Will:** Raymond.

**Anthony:** Yes.

**Will:** Raymond the dragon.

**Anthony:** Raymond Dio.

**Will:** Raymond Dio?

**Anthony:** Yes.

**Will:** I feel like that's-

**Freddie:** Like Ronnie James Dio man. Fuck yeah. I don't know how I could hear that. I just intuited it.

**Will:** Okay. We only have a little bit of time here Glenn.

**Freddie:** Okay, yeah.

**Will:** Mr. Dragon, we're here to rescue our sons on a mission of noble mercy and we've come a very long way and we hope that... You seem that you were cruelly enslaved by these awful robe guys so we just hope maybe you could either bow out on this one or maybe be on our side in the clutch.

**Anthony:** Okay. Roll Persuasion.

**Will:** God, I have to... Fucking god damn it! I rolled a two.

**Anthony:** So you say all that and the dragon goes, "No, I'm good and then it flies away."

**Matt:** That works.

**Anthony:** And just enjoys its freedom and bounces.

**Will:** Okay. That's better than the alternative I guess.

**Freddie:** Dang Henry, what did you say to that cool dragon dude?

**Matt:** Henry, don't take it personally man. Some dragons just don't...

**Will:** Guys, I'm just not a very charming person.

**Anthony:** So the three Purple Robes approach you and you have ear buds and ear plugs in right?

**Will:** Yes.

**Beth:** Yeah. I put the Walkman ear pieces in my ears and I'm listening to music but I'm ready to act as if I am not.

**Matt:** I step forward and I say, "Darryl Wilson. I can't say nice to meet you but I'm glad we could all talk." I put my hand out.

**Anthony:** Let's see, do they want to shake your hand? Yeah. Okay, so the medium-sized guy reaches out and shakes your hand.

**Matt:** Can I perceive if it's a hand I've ever shook before?

**Anthony:** Go ahead and... If it's a hand you've shaken before?

**Matt:** Of if I can tell anything from the hand.

**Anthony:** Go ahead and roll Perception.

**Matt:** Especially if it's a hand I've shaking before.

**Will:** Darryl casts Hand Sense.

**Matt:** 16 plus Darryl's handshake ability, which is plus 20.

**Anthony:** I got 36.

**Matt:** Perception, so 17?

**Anthony:** 17. Okay. With the 17, you can tell that this particular hand you have never shaken before.

**Matt:** Okay. Young, old, calloused?

**Anthony:** This hand is a little bit older, it's a little bit wrinkled and-

**Will:** I'm going to fucking puke right now I'm so nervous. What is going to happen.

**Anthony:** This is not how I saw this happening, but yeah. So yeah, that's what you get from a 17.

**Matt:** Okay. So older.

**Anthony:** The Robes presumably start talking, you can't tell because the robes are covering their faces so you can read their lips.

**Will:** There's a little bit of a show [crosstalk 00:44:49]

**Anthony:** Their heads are bobbing a little bit.

**Matt:** So the other ones don't shake my hands?

**Anthony:** No, it was just that one.

**Beth:** I couldn't if I try.

**Matt:** No, I understand. I hear you.

**Anthony:** Roll Deception.

**Beth:** Baby, you're not that kind.

**Anthony:** Both of your roll Deception.

**Beth:** You take the weight off of me.

**Anthony:** Roll Deception!

**Matt:** I got a three.

**Anthony:** You got a three?

**Freddie:** I got natural 20 plus six.

**Beth:** I got a 13 plus zero. 13.

**Will:** I'm just folded arms like...

**Anthony:** All right, so immediately the tallest one walks up to Ron and to Darryl and yanks with one hand Ron's Walkman out of his ears and then reaches towards Darryl.

**Matt:** If he walks up to me I put up my hand like I'm about to sneeze.

**Matt:** Oh sorry, excuse me. Sorry. Okay, anyway sorry I missed what you guys were saying. Keep going.

**Anthony:** No you can... Did you also remove your earbuds?

**Matt:** No, that was me trying to recover... I blocked... I stopped him from... It was a distraction.

**Anthony:** No, you failed so badly. He's like, "Fucking no. I'm not stupid." It reaches over and grabs you by the ears and pulls out your ear plugs and goes, "Can you hear me?"

**Matt:** Oh thanks buddy, I was wondering what was going on.

**Freddie:** Glenn'll be like, "It's the altitude. He gets plugged up a little bit sometimes."

**Anthony:** You guys, I know what you're doing.

**Matt:** Anyways, I appreciate, I appreciate that. What was your name again? Nice to meet you by the way, I'm Darryl Wilson. Sorry, I couldn't hear you before [inaudible 00:46:12].

**Anthony:** So here's the thing-

**Matt:** All right.

**Freddie:** Will and I still have our ear plugs in.

**Anthony:** Yeah. Do you guys want to leave the room?

**Freddie:** Actually, you know what we could do. If you guys take off your headphones, I can play white noise through our headphones.

**Will:** Okay.

**Anthony:** Great.

**Freddie:** We won't hear this. I have a little soundboard on this mixer. I'm just going to turn up the white so we will be unable to hear what's going on and we're just going to go off of the cues of the body language of our fellow podcasters.

**Will:** I am so terrified right now. I cannot believe that this is how this is going.

**Matt:** By the way I say, "Oh, sorry about that about my ears clogged. Hey Payton, why don't you go ahead and head back over there. There's no reason for you to be here any more." And I-

**Anthony:** Payton's like, "Yeah, sure." And he stays right where he is.

**Matt:** Oh man.

**Freddie:** All right, so we're into white noise mode Will.

**Will:** Yep.

**Anthony:** Okay.

**Will:** I want to say for the record that Freddy's white noise is like a laugh track of an audience applauding which is the most surreal thing to listen to as this is going on.

**Anthony:** It's the only thing that Freddie can relate to. It's like, "I just need adoration. That's what relaxes me." He goes to sleep to the sound of people applauding him.

**Freddie:** We are totally in the blind here now.

**Anthony:** Are you sure? You can't hear any of this?

**Will:** I hear mumbling but...

**Anthony:** Okay, that's fine. That's fine. Okay.

**Matt:** That'll be cool.

**Will:** Yeah.

**Anthony:** The tallest Robe reaches out to you and says, "This can be very, very simple. We will send you back to the moment that you would have, Darryl, driven your kids to the soccer game but this time you will instead put them on a bus, which we will be driving. And that will be the last time that you see your children. But you will know several things. Firstly, that your wives will never have to die in horrible agony in a pyramid because they went looking for you in the Forgotten Realms because you won't be in the Forgotten Realms. And secondly, you will know that your children are being raised happy and healthy by someone far, far more competent at fatherhood than you are. They will live happily, they will be safe and all we need you to do is go. If you want to keep this gentlemanly, if you want to keep this fair, that's where it can end. You don't have to know anything else about what's going on and it's all good."

**Beth:** Okay. But what if we also want our sons?

**Anthony:** Yeah, that's not going to do it.

**Matt:** Hey, our sons have their own agency and have their own decisions. Have you talked to them about this because we found [inaudible 00:48:20] happy and it's-

**Beth:** They really don't.

**Matt:** If my son came to me and said, "I want to leave." We would talk about it. I would listen. I would hear him out but it's not up to us, it's definitely not up to you sir.

**Beth:** Can I ask what you want with them anyway? I just... I mean listen, there are other kids out there and I know a few kids... I've seen them.

**Anthony:** Yeah, exactly.

**Matt:** [crosstalk 00:48:40]

**Anthony:** After you say all that stuff Darryl, the tallest Robe reaches out to you with its hands and goes, "There it is. Classic Darryl. You believe that these kids deserve more control over their destiny's than they do. The truth of the matter is... and you know this, I know this, your children know this most importantly, you are bad fathers. You are not taking them down a good road in life. They will be unhappy or they will be dangerous or they will give into their worst temptations. By god, your son alone, there is light in him that has long since gone and I believe that is your doing. I'm sorry to say, I'm not that sorry."

**Matt:** Are you a parent?

**Anthony:** I would like to be the parent of your children.

**Matt:** That's not a thing you... You don't get to just choose your-

**Beth:** Yeah, you can't... No, I've heard men say that before.

**Anthony:** I actually do. We actually we do because-

**Beth:** Yeah. If I had a dollar for every time a man said that to me.

**Anthony:** Listen, we will raise them and we will do a better job than you ever could. They will grow up happy and strong. We three will become more than just dads. We will become Omega Daddies. We will be immortal and wise and powerful, empowered by the youth and the love of your children.

**Beth:** Yeah, but what will the kids become?

**Anthony:** The kids will become whatever they wish to be. We will have the power to give them anything, as Omega Daddies. We can be the dads, not just of your children but of the entire realm. This world needs daddies and we will be those daddies.

**Matt:** There's nothing greater than being a dad, man. I just told you right away that you're not ready to be a parent.

**Beth:** You know what's wild is that we're already daddies and so if we just sort of stepped up, so to speak, we would be the Omega Daddies.

**Matt:** Yeah, being a dad is its own... You do what you... Look, it's-

**Anthony:** Ron, I do not know how many times I have to tell you that you don't know what you're talking about, to shut the fuck up. You had a chance to make something out of your relationship with Terry Jr. and you didn't.

**Beth:** I think I did actually.

**Anthony:** No. No. I'm afraid not.

**Beth:** Okay.

**Anthony:** You decapitated his father in front of him. This entire adventure was meant to elucidate to you a fact that you know deep in your heart to be true, that these kids need better fathers than you four. I'm sorry that that is the case but we can be those fathers.

**Matt:** Hey buddy, that's what being a parent is man. Every day of being a parent's thinking, "You know what? Somebody else is probably a better parent than me. They'd probably be a better parent." That is how you strive to make yourself better.

**Anthony:** Exactly.

**Matt:** You don't know what the hell you're doing.

**Anthony:** Exactly. There's always a better parent.

**Matt:** That's our kids.

**Freddie:** It looks like it's getting heated.

**Anthony:** And we are those better parents. So-

**Matt:** Hey Ron, what do you think about we should let Glenn and Henry in on this.

**Anthony:** So Payton looks to Henry and Glenn and flicks his ears.

**Will:** Okay. I unplug my ears and I go, "Yes!"

**Anthony:** And so the tallest one goes, "That's very cute. That's cute. So you were told about the nature of the magic and... Okay, very [crosstalk 00:51:20]"

**Matt:** Not really. We don't know. All I know is I just heard a bunch of horse shit coming out of your mouth so if that's the nature of the magic.

**Freddie:** Oh, it got heated.

**Anthony:** You are going to answer yes or no to the following question. Will you let us raise your children, in exchange we will help you leave the Forgotten Realms today. And not only that...

**Anthony:** The shortest one walks up to Glen and produces a cell phone.

**Anthony:** I believe you have a call.

**Freddie:** Glenn looks around confused, seeing that it's got heated. I look to Darryl like, "Darryl, what's going on. Do I need... "

**Matt:** They think they're going to be better dads than us and they are going to become Omega dads-

**Freddie:** I've heard that before.

**Matt:** Yeah. And also I explained that being a parent means you're always wondering if you're a terrible parent. That's just what being a parent is. It's fricking hard as hell, and that they're going to become something called Omega Daddies, and it sure sounds like they're going to suck our son's souls or something so they can be dad's for everybody. I don't know. It's a bunch of horse shit from a bunch of people who aren't parents clearly. I think we should sock the shit out of these guys once this go bad. But go ahead, get that phone call because these guys are assholes.

**Anthony:** Language, language, language.

**Freddie:** Okay. I'll take the phone.

**Anthony:** The phone rings.

**Freddie:** Caller ID? Nothing?

**Anthony:** The caller ID says the name of your late wife, Morgan Freeman.

**Freddie:** I'm staring at this and I'm frozen. I answer and I pull it to my ear.

**Anthony:** You hear the voice of your late wife going,

**Morgan:** Hey Glenn, I'm on my way home. Do you need me to get anything at the store?

**Glenn:** Hey, what year is it?

**Morgan:** You got into it early today, huh? Right back home in 2012, like in Back to the Future. You remember Back to the Future? It's like Back to the Future when he's like, "What year is it?" What's up? So yeah, did you need me to get anything. I was just going to get some stuff.

**Glenn:** You know what? It's good to hear your voice.

**Morgan:** Oh, that's nice. Yeah. Are you going to get all emotional on me again? I'm driving. This is embarrassing. Oh, I see. You're in one of your introspective weed moods.

**Glenn:** Yeah, maybe that's it. uh--

**Morgan:** Actually, you know what? Why don't you just call me back. [*phone clicks*]

**Beth:** Are the Robe guys like... How closely are they watching Glenn take that phone call?

[*Will gasps*]

**Anthony:** I imagine they're all focused on them pretty well, yeah.

**Beth:** Um...

**Matt:** Are you going to be a sneaky rogue?

**Beth:** Yeah, um, that was my plan.

**Matt:** Reveal one of their faces?

**Beth:** That's a good idea. Yeah, I could just try to pull that robe off.

**Matt:** Yeah, you can try to pull one of the robes off one of their faces.

**Beth:** Yeah.

**Freddie:** So Glenn is going to look up shaky. Confidence totally gone. Color drained from his face, and he goes,

**Glenn:** What the fuck was that, dude?

**Anthony:** Why don't you go ahead and roll Stealth.

**Beth:** Yes, as I simultaneously go to [*dice rolling*] rip the...So that's 21.

**Anthony:** 21?

**Beth:** Yeah.

**Anthony:** Wow, okay. So which one are you going for? The medium-sized one, the tall one, or the squat one?

**Beth:** I think I'm going to go for the medium-sized one.

**Anthony:** Okay. The tall one steps forward and says,

**Tall Robe:** Glenn, as I told Darryl, you will return to the moment that your child would have went to the soccer game. But instead of getting on Darryl's van, he will get on a bus. You won't be waving him off alone. You will be waving goodbye to your son standing next to your wife, Morgan, who will not have died in that car accident all those years ago. We can save her and you can have the love of your life back in your arms once again. Everybody gets what they want. All of your wives will be safe and all of your children will be raised by people who know what the fuck they're doing. Now what say you?

**Anthony:** And as he says, "What say you?" Ron Stampler sneaks behind the medium sized one and pulls his hood down. You see someone that you don't recognize at all. This is a face that's completely unfamiliar to you. This is also the same person that Darryl shook the hand of. But Henry, you are looking into the face of Barry Oak, your father.

[*Will gasps*]

As the other two Purple Robes turn and see that you've unrobed Barry Oak, the tall one goes,

**Tall Robe:** Oh for fuck... I guess we're just doing this. I was going to do it dramatically but sure, fine.

**Anthony:** And he pulls down his hood revealing the face of Willie Stampler.

**Beth:** Oh my god.

**Anthony:** And the third one pulls his down, the short one, and you see the face of Bill Close. You are looking at least three of the four of your fathers. They see the look of confusion on your face and Willie Stampler says,

**Willie Stampler:** I see, I see. You're confused. Let me explain. There are many kinds of magic in this world. Death magic, fire magic, truth magic. But when I died, when my soul transferred to this bizarre realm, I learned one truth, that the strongest magic that there is, is Daddy magic.

**Anthony:** As he says that, as that's sinking in, you see the DJI drone come out of the tallest parapet and you hear faintly over the howling winds…

[*Car horn honks*]

[*Matt gasps*]

**Beth:** [*quietly*] Fuck!

**Beth:** Ron turns and in a Christian Bale in the Prestige whisper says, "

**Ron:** Abracadabra.

*[outro music Alright by Maxton Waller plays]*

**Freddie:** Dungeons and Daddies is Matt Arnold as Darryl Wilson, Anthony Burch as our DM, Will Campos as Henry Oak, Beth May as Ron Stampler and myself, Freddie Wong as Glenn Close. Theme song and outro is Alright by Maxton Waller. Thanks this week to Huey Martinez for the name of Glenn's wife which he established in one of his comics. And incidentally, Morgan Freeman was 100% in the running with a bunch of other famous males with female names. You know, this inverse of Glenn Close. So he managed to see right through our joke. Dang, he predicted it.

**Freddie:** Also, special thanks this week to our fine Patreon supporters. Folks like Marcus Neilson, Ronan Noyman-Hammond, Chris, just Chris, Anthony Perry, John Alt, Chessot Chessocks, Darren Haas, Elizabeth Hope and Patrick Kason. Those are the names you need to be repeating to yourself every night before you go to bed. Especially Chessot Chessocks, a little alliteration there, huh?

**Freddie:** We've got some really cool shirts and hoodies and pins coming very soon. And remember, all patrons get first crack at any and all merch. So help support the show and help yourself to new merch when it comes out in the next month or so by heading over to patreon.com/dungeonsanddads. This episode marks a story turning point as we enter into the next phase of the podcast. So for those of you who have stuck with us over the past year and those of you just joining us, thank you all for listening and we hope we've entertained you thus far with our dad antics.

**Freddie:** Our website, dungeonsanddaddies.com. Our Twitter, Twitter.com/ddungeonsanddads. The private Facebook group is bit.ly/dungeondads and the subreddit is r/dungeonsanddaddies. Next episode coming at you March 17th, not the 16th. See you then.

**Freddie:** (singing)

**Freddie:** So we had Nick probably early, so probably '95, `96 somewhere in there.

**Anthony:** That's when she died? Okay. She goes, it's-

**Will:** Wait, how old is Nick?

**Freddie:** No, hold on, you're right.

**Will:** It's 2020 dog!

**Freddie:** Okay, sorry.

**Matt:** Do 2012 if... She died when Nick was three or four?

**Freddie:** Yeah.

**Matt:** So 2012.

**Will:** 2012? Dang, she never saw VGHS coming.

**Matt:** She was a Kickstarter backer but never got those rewards.

**Beth:** Oh god.

**Freddie:** Holy shit, sucking our own...

**Will:** Please cut that out.

**Anthony:** Yeah, we're cutting that.

**Freddie:** Yeah, okay.

**Beth:** She's in a better place.

**Matt:** Absolutely [crosstalk 00:59:14]

**Beth:** No.

**Anthony:** In Heaven there's season four of VGHS.