**Travis:** So when last we left off, I just killed a treant with a single blow!

**Griffin:** [laughing] No, Trent-

**Travis:** Chopped him clean in half! Bunyan-esque, they called it!

**Clint:** Yeahhhh.

**Griffin:** Trent the treant-

**Clint:** Then he ate a flapjack, the size of a house!

**Travis:** [giggling]

**Griffin:** The… *tree* did!? Or… Magnus.

**Justin:** They both did, they shared it.

**Travis:** Both.

**Clint:** Yeah they had it-

**Travis:** And we kissed in the middle.

**Clint:** That’s a lot to eat.

**Justin:** They worked it out.

**Griffin:** *Lotta* kissing plants this adventure arc. I’m w- I’m kind of surprised. Uh… I mean it had to happen eventually, right? Y-- y--

**Justin:** Okay, is it my turn yet?

**Griffin:** Uh, no, it’s Trent the treant's turn. [dice rolling]

**Travis:** I mean, I get two attacks.

**Griffin:** Okay, we’ll say, yeah, it is still your turn. You’ve just chopped him over, and he uh… He, he lets you know- ‘Hey. I’m, still here, it’s still me, Trent. And I’m still alive.’

**Travis:** Now, lemme ask you this: I have a special skill, th-- called Disarming Strike. Can I do that and take his arms? [pause] Probably not, right?

**Griffin:** What is disarming st- I don’t even know what disarming strike means, I don’t think it means dis-*arm.*

**Travis:** Well it means that when I hit, I use one of my, um- The special dice, the reaction dice, to disarm them. But I guess since he doesn’t have weapons, he’s basically just doing melee, right?

**Griffin:** Yeah, he’s a tree.

**Travis:** Okay. Well, then I’m just gonna attack him with a battleaxe-

**Griffin:** He’s actually got a- He’s actually got a gun.

[all laughing]

**Griffin:** He’s got a-

**Clint:** And thus, guns are introduced to our universe.

**Griffin:** He’s got an AK- A. He’s- He’s got it, and he’s- He looks like he knows how to use it.

**Justin:** I shout from the Ethereal Plane-

**Taako:** Oh, he’s got a gun!

**Justin:** But nobody can hear me, and I’m just watching this unfold.

**Clint:** Are you *still* in that plane?

**Taako:** [singing] Mmm, whatcha say…

**Griffin:** [laughter]

**Justin:** [continuing to sing softly in the background]

**Travis:** Alright. I’m rolling to attack him. I’m gonna do, uh-

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** I’m gonna do it one handed- so then I’ve got my shield out. Cuz I don’t wanna get hit for fourteen points of damage.

**Griffin:** Okay. You- you used your move, um, to get to that fountain. But you can-- you can still access his like, butt from where you just cut him.

**Travis:** I wanna chop his butt again.

**Griffin:** Mmkay.

**Travis:** Uh, I rolled a sixteen, plus seven, so that’s 13. Or- Sorry, 23.

**Griffin:** [pause] Yeah. [suddenly surprised] PLUS SEVEN, Jeezer Creezer!

**Travis:** Yeah dude. That’s my attack bonus now.

**Griffin:** I don’t doubt it, but… Eeah. People be rollin’ some high numbers, now.

**Travis:** [rolling dice in background]

**Griffin:** Uh, yeah, you hit him.

**Travis:** That’s one d8… Four, plus six. So I hit him for ten.

{4:02}

**Griffin:** Yeah. He did not like that. Uhhh… Is that it for you?

**Travis:** …I mean I could action surge, and hit him again, but I think… That might be greedy, so I’ll wait.

**Griffin:** Mkay. Uhh… Okay. So, now Trent the treant, uh, rears up. On his uh, his two broad branches, to sort of lift himself up, and- and get a good look at, uh, the-- the face of the person who just attacked him. Um. And, he… uh, is going to whip at you, with his smaller, um…uh... spikier branch arm. Uh, and he rolls… [dice roll] A 21, versus AC.

**Travis:** Whoa, woof. Yep. Um, so, I have reaction- or uh, parry. When hit, use reaction dice plus… ‘S’ dice, to reduce damage by… d8 plus dexterity modifier.

**Griffin:** That was a lot of shit. I don’t-- what--what are ‘S’ dice?

**Clint:** Maybe it’s pronounced... ‘sssdice’.

**Travis:** Sdice. Um, so basically that- I have three reactions I can do, before a short rest.

**Griffin:** So you roll a d8-

**Travis:** Yeah, okay- [rolls dice] So, it was four… Plus my dexterity modifier, which is two, so… I, reduce the amount of damage I take by 6.

**Griffin:** Mkay. Did I say how much damage you took yet?

**Travis:** No, not yet.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Clint:** [stage whisper] He’s gonna add 6 to it.

**Travis:** Aw, that dick.

**Griffin:** [laughs] No, that’s not true.

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** Uh, it was 14… So, minus 6, is… 8.

**Travis:** Uh-huh.

**Griffin:** Uhhh… You take 8 poison damage.

**Travis:** Oh, no!

**Griffin:** And, we’re back up to the top of the order! Taako, you are in the… Ethereal plane.

**Justin:** [makes ‘bwvvf’ reappearing sound] Okay, I come back.

**Griffin:** Can you *move* in the ethereal plane and then come back?

**Justin:** Uhhhhhhhhh. Yeah, I mean I can get-

**Clint:** That’d be pretty cool.

**Justin:** I’m cool where I’m at, I can- what happens is when I come back- I mean, I can move in the ethereal plane. I automatically come back at the beginning of my turn. When I come back, I can come back to an unoccupied space within ten feet of where I left.

**Travis:** Man, that’s a good fucking spell.

**Justin:** Umm, so- How far was I from- how far am I from… he, who was Trent?

**Clint:** [laughing]

**Griffin:** [laughs] Um, you’re still about 30- feet- away, uh, from him.

**Justin:** Okay. That’s-

**Griffin:** At the like, front door.

**Justin:** That’s fine by me. Uh, I-

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Justin:** I’m going to cast, Scorching Ray. On Trent.

**Clint:** [sings to the tune of the MBMBaM 'Ira Ray' jingle] Are you scorching Ray?

**Griffin:** [bursts out laughing]

**Justin:** Who wants to know. Um...

**Travis:** You know what’s funny? Dad’s *never* listened to My Brother My Brother and Me before, he’s just a big Jimmy Ray fan.

**Griffin:** Yeah, sure. Aren’t we all?

**Justin:** So, lemme tell you the story here: I’m gonna create three rays of fire, and hurl them at targets within range. Uh, I can do one target or several, obviously I’m just doing the one target. Um, I’m assuming that the whole of Trent is now… not connected to the stump, right? The stump’s just like… Is no longer part of the Trent.

**Travis:** I set him free.

**Griffin:** Yeah, it’s just like- It’s like if you were fighting Ta- if you were fighting Magnus, and you cut his foot off… You wouldn’t attack his foot.

**Justin:** No, that’s true. I don’t- I- Correct. If he was cuttin’- his foot off, I wouldn’t do that. Uh, so I am um… Making a ranged, spell attack for each of the three rays. And then on hit, the target takes 2d6 fire damage.

**Griffin:** Mkay.

**Justin:** This will be unpleasant.

**Clint:** I hope it works.

**Justin:** The first one is a… a two, plus…

**Griffin:** That’s gonna miss.

**Justin:** Tha- I mean, it’s gonna miss, there’s no reason to do that. [dice rolling] That math. Uh, next one is a 20,

**Griffin:** Yeah, that’s a hit.

**Justin:** That’s a hit. Um, my spellcasting modifier, is that where we were just talking about the proficiency bonus, plus my…

**Griffin:** Intellect.

**Justin:** Intellect, okay.

**Griffin:** Plus, if you have a- Plus your umbrella is +1 now, so. Seven. I think.

**Justin:** Okay. [dice rolling]

**Griffin:** I don’t know what your intellect is actually, so-

**Justin:** So that’s… 16. So there’s 26 and 16.

**Griffin:** Uh, the 26 hits, the 16 juuust misses.

**Clint:** Awww.

**Justin:** Sheesh, okay. Fiiiive… annd… Six. Eleven.

**Griffin:** Uh, okay! Wait did you hit him twice? Oh each one does-

**Justin:** Each one does 2d6.

**Griffin:** Oh, damn.

**Justin:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** Uh, so you go 11 damage- You actually did 22 damage.

**Justin:** Oh! Fire?

**Griffin:** Cuz he is vulnerable to that shit.

**Justin:** Nice. And then I wink out of existence.

**Griffin:** ...Cool. How long does that Blink go? Until you fail… the roll?

**Justin:** It goes for a minute?

**Griffin:** Okay. Well each round of combat is 6 seconds, so.

**Justin:** Yeah, right. So that’s- I was thinkin’ we probably wouldn’t… Use it all up, but yeah. If we go ten rounds, then just remind me that I can’t do it anymore and need to use it again.

**Griffin:** Mkay. Uhhhh…

**Clint:** And where did you go?

**Justin:** I’m in the ethereal plane.

**Clint:** Is there anything you can *steal* in the ethereal plane?

**Travis:** [overlapping] Which one?

**Justin:** No, I can’t interact with anything up here.

**Clint:** [disdainfully] Hm. Well, good.

**Griffin:** Uhhhh… Next in the order, aaare… the vines!

**Clint:** Whaaaat?

**Griffin:** The vines, uh… In front of the fountain, have uh, uh, been drenched in some of the sap, uh, that came out of Trent’s… whole situation. Uh, and have begun to animate. Uh, and, two of them, uh, raise up into the air, almost like uh- uh- uh snakes that’ve been charmed, and they rear back, and they… Strike, at Merle!

**Clint:** What? Oh, yeah, right. [resigned] Okay.

**Griffin:** Uh, one of them critically misses. [dice rolling] And the other rolls a 24.

**Clint:** ...Alright. What do I roll?

**Griffin:** Nothin’.

**Clint:** Oh-

**Griffin:** You- Is your AC higher than 24? Cause if so, your character’s *broken*. And we need to restart.

**Clint:** No, I got 18.

**Griffin:** Okay. Uh, you take… [dice roll] 11 points of damage. Uhh, and you are ‘restrained’. [pause] And I know you’re wondering, what does that mean.

**Clint:** [cheerfully] Tell me, Griffin.

**Travis:** It means that you’ve learned how to control yourself, ‘n keep yourself from lashing out at others.

**Griffin:** [rustling] This appendix leaves *much* to be desired. Uh, you’re restrained- A restrained creature’s speed becomes zero, and it can’t benefit from any bonus to its speed. Attack rolls against the creature have advantage, and the creature's attack rolls have disadvantage. The creature has disadvantage on dexterity saving throws. So you’re- you’re all tied up, um, in these… In these vines.

**Clint:** Okay. So, I can’t do… anything?

**Griffin:** At the end of your turn, you can make a dexterity saving throw. Uh, trying to beat a 10. Uh, but no, for this turn you’re all tied up. You can do stuff, you just can’t move.

**Clint:** Okay.

{10:39}

**Griffin:** And if you’re attacked, then the attack has advantage, and if you attack anything, the attack has disadvantage.

**Clint:** Okay.

**Justin:** How would he attack something if he can’t move?

**Griffin:** I dunno, with his- with his- God magic!

**Travis:** With his braaain.

**Justin:** Quite a disadvantage. Okay.

**Clint:** Alright, but before I do anything like that, let me hit you with something else.

**Justin:** [distantly] No.

**Clint:** I talk to plants, we’ve already established that early.

**Griffin:** Yeah.

**Clint:** Can I just… *look*, at Trent, and *ask* him… ‘Why?’

[laughter]

**Clint:** Can I just, ask him why?

**Griffin:** I’m furiously flipping through the book trying to find a way. Uh, you can- I mean you can- You have two Channel Divinity’s. So… At level 6, you got a second Channel Divinity, you can bust that one off again.

**Clint:** Hm.

**Justin:** I think it would be good… For the podcast, if you would use this spell slot-

**Travis:** To talk to Trent.

**Clint:** [overlapping] For something else?

**Justin:** To talk to Trent. No, for the podcast you should talk to Trent.

**Travis:** No, Clinton.

**Justin:** We need to hear from Trent.

**Travis:** We need to-

**Clint:** Okay.

**Travis:** -check in with Trent at this point.

**Clint:** [laughing] I am going to use… my other Channel Divinity. And I am going t-

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** [yelling] MY BUUUUUUTT!

**Clint:** Trent-

**Travis:** [starts laughing]

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** [anguished] MY BUUUUUTTT!!! NO, MY BUUUUUUUUUUUTT!!! AAAAAAUUUUUGH. AAAAAAAAAHHHHAAHAAahhh... [screaming devolves into sobs]

**Travis:** What’s funny is that this is not the character of Trent, Griffin just sat on a porcupine.

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** [anguished] My buuuuuuttttt… I was *just born*! And then my butt came off! Why would you do this, I’ll kill you all!

[Justin, Travis choking back laughter]

**Clint:**

**Merle:** Trent-

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** I just got born, I’m a baby, and you cut my butt off! You cut my whole body off my butt!

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [loudly, so as not to be interrupted] I have a power to heal you!

**Justin:** [Dying of laughter]

**Clint:**

**Merle:** I have plant-

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** I don’t wanna hear it, man! You’re like-

**Clint:**

**Merle:** No, listen-! I can grow-

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** Listen, no *you* listen! I don’t have a butt anymore ‘cause you’re rolling with some genuine *dicks*!

**Justin:** [snickering]

**Clint:**

**Merle:** I- I’m not with them! I’m not with them!

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** You entered into the room with them, and you healed one of them-

**Clint:**

**Merle:** No, I saw them-

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** bud, nice try!

**Clint:**

**Merle:** -attack you, and I came in here and I said ‘Can’t we just talk to Trent’? I just wanna talk! I don’t know who these guys are, I have plant growth! I can *heal* you!

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** [still tearful] What is plant growth? Wh- what is-

**Clint:**

**Merle:** That’s when I make a- Listen, shhh-shh-shhshsh. I know it hurts. It’s a boo-boo.

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** I-

**Clint:**

**Merle:** And, and he hurt your butt. And he’s a bad, bad man.

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** He is, the *worst* man. I’ve only met four men-

**Clint:**

**Merle:** He is the *worst* man, and he is the *worst-*

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** And he’s one of them, and I- I *hate* it.

**Clint:**

**Merle:** I know, and here- I can do plant growth, and make your butt feel good!

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** Do you-

**Clint:**

**Merle:** Oh, god, I worded that wrong.

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** Well, from what I’ve heard it’s actually something you’re *very* much into-

**Clint:**

**Merle:** Here, you can read this Extreme Teen Bible, and why don’t-

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** [upset] I can’t read, I’m a *plant*! And I’m like *thirty minutes old!*

**Clint:**

**Merle:** No no, listen, Taako can read it *to* you, and I-

**Griffin:**

**Trent**: [anguished] Oooohhhhhhhhhh.

**Clint:**

**Merle:** Can use plant growth- No, shhhshsh! And make you *all* better.

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** That was a fart, I have to do those out of my *mouth* now thanks to your friend.

**Clint:**

**Merle:** ...That’s okay! Oh, wow! [sounding sadder] Ohh. Oh.

**Justin and Travis:** [giggling]

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** Yeah it’s a real horror show in here.

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [laughing] Holy *shit*, that’s the worst. No no no, it’s not the worst-

**Justin:**

**Taako:** I’m so glad I’m on the ethereal plane for that!

**Clint:**

**Merle:** I- I really- I like it- Oh, I guess M-Magnus will have to read the Bible to ya, and I’ll heal you!

**Travis:** This whole time Magnus is just s- I don’t understand any of this, I just hear--

**Griffin:** [crosstalk] No, you f--

**Travis:** --a lot of tree sounds coming out of Merle, I hear-

**Griffin:** Merle is- Merle’s just talking like [makes garbled growly noise] um, yeah. You- you can’t comprehend any of this. Uh, Trent says uh-

**Trent:** Is it- Can you- are you gonna re-attach me to my old... butt? Or would I grow a new one?

**Clint:**

**Merle:** I will- I will- I will try to do that, but if I do…! We have to stop this silly little conflict, and be buds! And you can really be a *bud*! Hah! See what I did there?

**Travis:** It was good.

**Clint:**

**Merle:** It was a plant thing!

**Justin:** I couldn’t hear it, I’m in the ethereal plane.

**Clint:** [simultaneously] the ethereal plane, yeah. Okay.

**Griffin:** And you’re speaking tree.

**Clint:** Yeah. Uh, [gibberish sounds with a weird cadence]

**Travis:** Did you just rewind yourself?

**Clint:** [snorts]

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** [teary] I don’t wanna get- Listen. I’m gonna get kind of existential now.

**Travis/Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** But I was born… Like a, like a *minute* ago.

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [sympathetically] Yeah.

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** And I was put here to stop people from going upstairs! And, I think I can- Here’s the thing. And it’s the only problem. I’m sad about my butt. Well, I’m angry about my butt… Sadness is part of it, I’ll just- and there’ll be lots of time for sadness later. But, right now it’s mainly just anger. And here’s the thing? Is that I think I can- I think I’m winning, this fight and that I might be able to-

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [sighs] No…

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** -beat you guys. And-

**Clint:**

**Merle:** The bad lady, is the one that sent you down this path!

**Griffin:**

**Trent**: But she-

**Clint:**

**Merle:** Nobody else told- *sicced* you on… Your three best buds... -to-come.

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** But- The bad lady grew me up out of the ground, out of nothin’. Listen, I want a butt very badly. And I’ll tell you what. If you give me my butt back? I’ll only… Kill your friends.

**Clint:**

**Merle:** Hmmm.

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** Th- Now, wait-

**Clint:**

**Merle:** You mean you’ll let me- You’ll let me go?

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** Yeah. Now really think about it.

**Clint:**

**Merle:** Oh I am! Oh believe me, I’m really thinkin’- I mean [using character voice] I’m really thinking about it. You know anybody that would hurt trees? They, they *suck*.

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** Yeah.

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [vehemently] They *suck*.

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** No friend of mine!

**Clint:**

**Merle:** Uh…

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** [simultaneously] Obviously, since I’m a tree.

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** [simultaneously] Merle, what’s he saying? Are we gonna get out of this one?

**Justin:**

**Taako:** [simultaneously] Let’s just- do it!

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [through gritted teeth, to Magnus] Chop him, will you please freakin’ *chop him!?*

**Justin:**

**Taako:** Do what you’re gonna do, homie.

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** It’s not my turn!

**Justin:**

**Taako:** I’m in-

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [strained] *Chop him!!!*

**Justin:**

**Taako:** I’m in the ethereal plane, it’s like I’m watching this on Netflix. You can do whatever you want.

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [still directed towards others] I’m gonna keep talking to him, *chop him-*

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** [uncomfortably] Guys, I actually understand Common, English…

**Travis:** Okay, I attack him.

**Clint:** That was French. I was talking in French.

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** Oh, I don’t understand French then, sorry, go ahead.

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [gibberish, then in a vaguely French accent] -chop him!

**Justin:** Dad thinks Plant and French sound the same.

**Clint:** It did sound exactly alike.

**Justin:** They’re the same language.

**Travis:** Okay okay. I am uh, I am attacking him now.

**Griffin:** Is it your turn?

**Travis:** I go after Merle, I guess Merle got a-

**Clint:** Can I keep talking to him to distract him?

**Griffin:** Yeah you can talk to him, as- [laughing] as Magnus chops him apart.

**Travis:** I’m gonna chop his butt again.

**Justin:** I think- I think--

**Clint:**

**Merle:** He’s- he’s a bad, bad man.

**Justin:** I think Magnus should get advantage.

**Griffin:** Yeah. He is- he is distracted, Magnus you have advantage on your attacks.

**Travis:** Okay. [dice rolling]

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [soothingly] Yeah. So you know, pay no attention to that man with the great big axe.

**Travis:** [in background] Okay, well that’s a 16… That’s 23… [dice rolling]

**Clint:**

**Merle:** He’s a baaad dude.

**Travis:** Uh, yeah so- My first attack I rolled a 23.

**Griffin:** [in a Southern? accent] It hits.

**Travis:** [imitating accent] It hits. That’s a d8, plus 6… Uh, so that’s 8… damage.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** And now I’m going to attack again! I assume I don’t have a surprise advantage now, though.

**Griffin:** No, he is- he is well aware.

**Travis:** Well I rolled a 25.

**Griffin:** Wow.

**Travis:** Well, it’s hard to miss, when you have a plus 7.

**Griffin:** That’s true.

**Travis:** And, I hit him for 7.

**Griffin:** ‘Kay.

**Clint:** And I turn, and go-

**Merle:** [scandalized gasp] Magnus! What did you *do!?*

**Griffin:** [laughing]

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** But you- but you said-!

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [sounding hurt] Magnus!

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** [confused] But you- !

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [sadly] Awwww. Trent.

**Griffin:** Trent- Trent goes-

**Trent:** AH! AHHHHH! Okay! Alright! Okay! Okay! Guys? Alright, guys? I’ll think- I’m thinking about it now. Now I’m giving it some serious consideration. Just the whole backin’ off and letting bygones be bygones, thing.

**Clint:** [laughing]

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** Please. Please don’t- I have kids. I don’t. I was just born. You know this. I’m a baby, though! You wouldn’t- hurt a baby, would you? Waaaah, mama mama! Baba, please! Pass me my binkie! Wahhhhh. Ohhh.

**Travis:** Is he dead yet?

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** Change my dipe-dipe! Please! My binkie now.

**Travis:** So like… Is he dead?

**Griffin:** He’s not dead. But he’s beg-- he’s asking- he’s asking, for you to let him go.

**Justin:** We can’t understand him.

**Clint:** [resigned] I understood it. What do you- well you’re in the ethereal plane! You wouldn’t understand it anyway!

**Justin:** Yeah, that’s true. Uhhhhhhhh, uhh… Whose turn is it, Griff?

**Griffin:** [laughs] It’s uh, Mag- It’s uh, it’s Trent’s turn. He spends his turn pleading and uh, crawling his way towards the front door, uh, leaving a uh, a, uh-

**Justin:** Sappy.

**Griffin:** Ghastly trail of sap, behind him.

**Clint:** Hmm.

**Justin:** Okay.

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** Aw, man.

**Justin:** Am I back yet?

**Griffin:** Uhh… yeah Taako. It’s up to you.

**Justin:**

**Taako:** S- Oh, okay. So...just born, huh?

**Griffin:**

**Trent:** Yeah?

**Justin:** I raise my hand, and I cast Scorching Ray, and I say-

**Taako:** Welcome to Earf!

**Travis, Griffin:** [laughter]

**Justin:** 17.

**Griffin:** Yep.

**Justin:** [dice rolling] 24.

**Griffin:** Yeeup.

**Justin:** [dice rolling] 15.

**Griffin:** Mmmno.

**Justin:** Mkay. So, [rolling dice] five, [rolling dice] two, [rolling dice] one, [rolling dice] 5 2 1 5. Five, two-

**Travis:** Thirteen.

**Justin:** Thirteen, thirteen- 26.

**Griffin:** [shocked] Twenty-six?

**Justin:** Yeah, cuz it’s double, cuz it’s fire.

**Griffin:** Oh, yeah. Uh… uh, One of the beams, uh, cuts uh, a line, up the wall, uh, behind him, and just goes right through his big arm, uh, which falls to the ground with a thunk-

**Clint:** [sympathetically] Oh!

**Griffin:** Uh, and the other ray just hits him right square in the chest, uh, and he… Collapses to the ground, and sort of disintegrates.

**Clint:** [fake-sobbing] Treeeeent!

**Griffin:** Uh, and as he does, the two vines that were restraining Merle, uh, release him.

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [sobbing] Treeeennnnt! Oh, Trent…

**Justin:**

**Taako:** [amused] I guess we solved your baby *Trent* puzzle, huh?

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [sobbing] Trent! Nooo…

**Griffin:** You guys would have no idea what Merle is so sad about.

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** Yeah, we did great! Merle, come on!

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [tearfully] I know, I know. It’s just- [sniffs] I don’t know, he was *so young*…

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** It… He hit me, like real hard.

**Justin:**

**Taako:** Hey, he- the- [laughs]

**Clint:**

**Merle:** I know, but you’re a douchebag, and he’s just so young…

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** I mean… fair…

**Justin:**

**Taako:** I miss him- I miss… I miss uh, I miss him too. [sniffs] It was a him? That’s fine. Is there any good gold or anything?

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** You find Trent’s wallet, on a wallet chain.

**Justin:** [laughing] So young.

**Griffin:** He had a wallet chain going into a small… bird’s hole.

**Clint:** I keep staring at Taako the *entire time*.

**Griffin:** Uh, he doesn’t- He does not have a wallet on him, he’s a tree, but uh… you could, uh…

**Travis:** He does have pockets, and we find his Subway stamp club card.

**Justin:** I go right- It has no stamps, he was born 30 minutes ago. Uh, can- I- I go over to the booths then, I’ve moved on with my life.

**Griffin:** Okay. Yeah, there is a- there is a pretty clear gap looking into the booths, where Trent fell. Uh, so you can sort of uh climb over some of the rubble, and access those booths. Um, there are some, uh, registers back here, that have been… uh, picked over, picked clean, um. They’re all open, and… empty. But underneath one of the- the uh, booths, the uh the far booth, uh, underneath, sort of tucked away, is a small… A small black iron lockbox.

**Travis:** Cool.

**Griffin:** It’s locked- it’s locked.

**Justin:** It’s locked, right? I figured it was locked.

**Travis:** Well, we put it in our bag-

**Clint:** What’s the size of it? Large, small?

**Griffin:** Uh, um… Shoebox sized.

**Justin:** I wish we had some rogues. Why don’t we have rogues.

**Travis:** We need a rogue. Can we have another brother?

**Justin:** We need a rogue.

**Griffin:** Hey dad? Hey dad, can you- hey, Dad?

**Travis:** Dad?

**Justin:** Daddy?

**Clint:** Yeah? Yes?

**Griffin:** Hey dad, I’ve been wanting to talk to you about this for a long time- How about a brother or sister? That can play DnD with us? Now listen, it is gonna take ‘em a while- to learn the ropes.

**Justin, Travis:** [simultaneously] He could adopt.

**Justin:** Can you adopt Wil Wheaton?

**Clint:** Aaaactually, you do have… A fourth brother.

**Griffin:** Wh, whwhwhwhat?

**Travis:** What?

**Griffin:** Wait- Why are you telling us this-

**Clint:** You should’ve asked! You’ve never asked before.

**Griffin:** Can we end- Can we end the call? And, talk about- This seems like a bad, venue for this.

**Clint:** No, I- You opened the can of worms-

**Justin:** This is- this is what the donors paid for.

**Clint:** Let’s talk about it. His name is Jon Snow,

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Clint:** He uh, he has a job in the armed forces-

**Travis:** Mhm.

**Griffin:** Oh, I love him! He did that uh, [singing a mangled version of ‘Informer’ by Snow] a licky boom-boom, down.

**Justin:** No, that’s *just* Snow. That’s-

**Clint:** And he’s- he’s kind of- he’s kind of, stationed far away? But um, y’know, he’s always askin’ me if *he* has any brothers, uh, and I didn’t acknowledge cuz he’s a real bastard. So I haven’t really said anything before, but- maybe we can get him on the phone after the show.

**Travis:** Hey dad, just real quick- uh, how proud of yourself were you for that joke?

**Justin:** [giggling]

**Clint:** Uh, pretty proud!

**Travis:** [loud laughing]

**Clint:** I’ve been saving this since episode two. [laughs]

**Griffin:** And a second question, follow-up question: Dad, did you get my Informer by Snow joke.

**Justin:** [laughs] No way.

**Clint:** No, huh-uh.

**Griffin:** [imitating Snow] A licky boom-boom, downnnn.

**Justin:** *Now* he gets it.

**Clint:** Why did you licky my boom boom down? I don’t understand.

**Griffin:** [exhausted inhale] And, I’m dead.

**Clint:** [laughter]

**Travis:** So we pocket the… the lockbox. Cause none of us know how to open it.

**Griffin:** Uh, you-

**Justin:** No wait, that sucks, is there a spell- it seems like there should be like… Lock opening spells.

**Griffin:** Uh… I mean you could just-

**Justin:** Doesn’t it seem like there should be- I- I don’t have any, but.

**Griffin:** You could throw it really hard at the floor?

**Travis:** I just kinda hammer on it with my fist for a while?

**Griffin:** I- I’ve never seen- Listen. We- We been playing-

**Travis:** Oh it turns out Steven’s a rogue! The goldfish picks the lock.

**Griffin:** [laughs] We’ve been playing-- We’ve been playing D&D for like seven months now. And I have never heard the three of you give up on something as quickly as you gave up on that lockbox. [imitating them] A lockbox? It’s locked? Welp! I guess- I guess we’ll never know!

**Clint:** We’re thinkin’ ahead too much!

**Griffin:** You might not be *alive* to open up that lock box! You could die in the next encounter!

**Travis:** Okay, I open it. I think my way through it.

**Griffin:** Telekinetically open the box?

**Justin:** No, no, he uses his *wits*.

**Travis:** Yeah.

**Clint:** Actually, he uses his forehead.

**Justin:** That’s right- should there- there should be like a… Should be a- Can he use a dexterity check? [giggles]

**Griffin:** To- ge-

**Clint:** [interjecting] To pick the lock!

**Griffin:** Okay, yes, use a dexterity check.

**Travis:** I- I rolled- uh, well four plus two… So six.

**Griffin:** Okay. With your dexterity check, you throw the box into the air, and try to dodge it as it falls.

**Clint:** [laughter]

**Griffin:** And with a six, you *failed*.

**Travis:** Okay, let me try strength check.

**Griffin:** [exasperated laugh] Okay.

**Travis:** That’s an 11, plus four. Fifteen.

**Griffin:** Mmkay. You lift that box up, and you lift it- really, high, and you lifted it *really* fast.

**Travis:** [talking over Griffin] Okay, let me try constitution.

**Griffin:** -super, super big muscles. Okay!

**Travis:** [already rolling dice] Uh, that’s.. sixteen plus two… Eighteen.

**Griffin:** Okay. You, and the box, both drink *poison!*

**Justin:** [laughing]

**Griffin:** And *you* survive, but the box has died.

**Clint:** That means it’s open, right?

**Griffin:** [flatly] Yes. With that, the box pops open. It has 900 gold pieces inside.

**Clint:** Yeeaah!

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** I did it.

**Clint:**

**Merle:** Way to persevere!

**Justin:**

**Taako:** [dubiously] I- We- can’t *take* these.

[pause]

**Justin:**

**Taako:** This is-

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** [interjecting] Nope, totally can.

**Justin:**

**Taako:** This is a *bank*. No-

**Clint:** [talking over him] I keep staring at- at Taako.

**Justin:**

**Taako:** No, *listen*-!

**Clint:** I don’t blink-!

**Justin:**

**Taako:** This is-

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** No, insurance will cover this. It’s fine.

**Justin:**

**Taako:** No listen. It’s a bank!

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** This is a victimless crime.

**Justin:**

**Taako:** We’re not *looting!* We’re st-

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** [confidently] FDIC will cover this.

**Justin:**

**Taako:** We’re *literally* stopping a bank robbery.

**Griffin:** [laughing]

**Clint:** I keep staring at Taako.

**Justin:**

**Taako:** Just cause you found *money* in a *bank* doesn’t mean that you can just take it with you!

**Travis:** I put the money in the bag for safe keeping,

**Clint:** [overlapping] I’m staring,

**Justin:**

**Taako**: Great, I grab some *chairs*. Like, I grab *furniture*. What- why are we *looting!?*

**Griffin:** [still laughing]

**Justin:**

**Taako**: This isn’t a *dungeon*, people do *business* here!

**Griffin:** [laughing harder]

**Justin:**

**Taako:** Put that back!

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** Listen, the government's gonna pay this back.

**Justin:**

**Taako:** [incredulously] Nobody’s gonna do anything, you’re gonna get arrested! You’ll go to jail! You- We’re *literally* talking the chief of police is *outside*.

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** Yeah, and he would want it- Listen. *He* would do this if he were here. The corruption in the militia-

**Clint:**

**Merle:** You know what- Magnus, I think he’s right.

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** Nope!

**Justin:**

**Taako:** Of course I’m right!

**Clint:**

**Merle:** Let’s- let’s put the chairs back, and let’s- let’s, *you and I*, spend all of our energy looking for a door, from the booths, so we can continue our quests like good adventurers.

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** No, I know where we’re goin’, and I’ve been down this road- *Pocket Spa*, or whatever the fuck he’s got now.

**Justin:**

**Taako:** *You* don’t know I have that.

**Griffin:** [interjecting] Oh my god, did you buy the Pocket Spa so you could have a secret handheld place to stea- put your stolen loot!?

**Taako:** [stammering] I- You don’t know- You don’t know me.

**Clint:** We’ve been in your spa! We were in the spa last week!

**Justin:** What- uhhh… Yeah, you’ve been in it. You guys have. But Griffin hasn’t.

**Clint:**

**Merle:** Come *onnnnn*, Magnus.

**Justin:**

**Taako:** You guys can split it 50/50 if you want, I swear to *god*, first thing I do when I get outside is I rat you out.

**All:** [laughter]

**Justin:** I’m writing it on my *goddamn* character sheet. So I *never* forget to *rat you two out.*

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** Listen. Listen. I’m just taking it… So The *Raven* doesn’t take it. We could maybe use it to negotiate with her. And then return it to Captain Captain Bane when we get out.

**Justin:**

**Taako:** So you’re keeping it for safe-keeping… And then convenient forgetting.

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** [relieved] Yes!

**Justin:**

**Taako:** Got it. Well I can- that’s morally grey, I can roll with that.

[snorting]

**Travis:** Okay, we’re gonna head to the left.

**Griffin:** So you’re saying you’re gonna get back to the- to Moonbase Alpha, and you’re gonna go- “What’s in my bag? Why is it so hea- OH shit, guys-!”

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Griffin:** “We forgot.”

**Justin:** I- You can’t *plan* on it, just has to happen.

**Travis:** Yeah.

[pause]

**Griffin:** ...This is starting to sound a little premeditated.

**Justin:** No, it’s not!

**Travis:** No!

**Griffin:** [doubtful] Okay…

**Griffin:** Um… Alongside this lockbox you also find-

**Travis:** A note that says, ‘This money is for whoever finds it!’

**Clint:** [laughing]

**Griffin:** It says ‘Do not steal, for kid medicine.’

**All:** [laugh]

**Griffin:** Uhm, you find an odd-looking… Square key.

**Clint:** [immediately] I steal it.

**Griffin:** With the Gold- Oh! It’s gone. Whoop! Poof.

**All:** [giggling]

**Griffin:** Uh, with the uh, Goldcliff Trust insignia on it.

**Justin:** Aw man, was that the key to the lockbox? [laughs]

**Griffin:** [tense pause] No.

**Justin:** Okay, good.

**Clint:** Phew!

**Travis:** Okay, we head towards the door… On the left, that we saw earlier. With the tracks and stuff.

**Griffin:** There are… two doors! On the left. And I will describe them… Right now.

[pause]

**Griffin:** One of them has a sign over it that says stairs.

[assorted laughter]

**Griffin:** And the [laughs] and the other one, uhh-

**Travis:** It’s like I’m there!

**Griffin:** [laughing] The other one, uh, does not have a sign over it that says stairs, it is a, uh, much sturdier, uh, metal door, uh, with a part in it, and there is a, uh, small panel, to the left of this metal door, uh, with a button on it and a slot.

**Justin:** I uh, take the key that we got and I try it in that slot.

**Griffin:** Uh, you put it in- uh, and the button lights up.

**Justin:** And I walk away.

**Travis:** I- I press the button.

**Griffin:** Adventure over. You press the button, uh, you hear a ‘*bing-bong*!’ That’s right motherfuckers, another elevatorrrr!

**Clint:** [laughing]

**Griffin:** Does everyone get that I have an elevator fetish at this point? It’s just like, what’s not to like about them. Uh, and uh, the door… opens up!

**Clint:** Doo doo, doo doo… [humming “The Girl from Ipanema”]

**Griffin:** This is a -- it opens up to reveal, a… Glass elevator. Uh, Wonkavator.

[Clint continues humming]

**Travis:** A Wonkavator! If you will.

**Griffin:** Well, if you will. But we won’t, ‘cause it’s not that. It’s just a glass elevator with a glass, uh, bottom, glass walls, the uh- the top of the elevator car is a, uh, a sturdier metal, with some, uh, lights built into it. And the exterior of the elevator shaft is also glass, so you can sort of, uh, look out over the, uh, the city of Goldcliff, or you would if the building had not been sort of surrounded by these vines. Um. So there’s little shafts of light poking in? Uh, but uh, otherwise it’s mostly just sort of vines that you can see through the... through the elevator, uh, wall.

**Travis:** Now if I remember from the last episode, Griffin, you said it was a 20 story building? Is that correct?

**Griffin:** That’s right, and, uhh and, uh, you-

**Justin:** God it’s been two weeks, how do you remember that?

**Clint:** Look who’s writin’ shit down!

**Travis:** That’s all m- in my dome piece, y’all.

**Griffin:** [laughs] Um, uh, and there are in fact 20 buttons. On the, uh, panel in the interior of the elevator. Uhhh, they go from 1 to 19, and then, the, uh, at the very top, of the row of buttons, is, ah, the letter V.

**Clint:**

**Merle:** You guys are gonna have to do this, ‘cause I can only reach the 10th floor.

**Travis:** I hit all the buttons.

**Justin:** Ugh.

**Griffin:** Okay, so you’re going in the elevator?

**Justin:**

**Taako:** You know, I’m gonna take the stairs.

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** What? But-

**Clint:**

**Merle:** What-?

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** We’ll race.

**Justin:**

**Taako:** Hey yeah, that’ll be fun.

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** Okay, I’ll see you on the second floor.

**Justin:**

**Taako:** A mini- a minigame.

**Griffin:** Okay.

**Travis:** Now everyone call in your votes. Press 1, if you want Magnus to get there first. Press 2, if you want Taako to get there first. Press 3, if you want Merle to take a nap.

**Griffin:** Okay. Uh, so, you- Taako, you are taking the stairs,

**Justin:**

**Taako:** Yeah.

**Griffin:** You’re racing up, maybe it’s a- like a, calorie conscious decision?

**Justin:**

**Taako:** Yeah, I’m trying to slim down. Lose the LB’s. I might be back on TV someday, I- I never know. So I gottaaaaaaaaauh, slim down.

**Griffin:** Okay! Uh, so, uh, y- you deliver that, touching, heartfelt monologue, uh, to Merle and Magnus, uh, as the elevator door shuts and you start your long trek up the stairs.

**Clint:**

**Merle:** When was he on TV before?

**Justin:** [interrupting] We’re goin’ to the- we’re going, um… Mer- ‘Member, I had a cooking show?

**Griffin:** [simultaneously] He had a cooking show.

**Clint:** [gasps] Ohhhhh.

**Griffin:** That was in the- Oh, Dad, that was in the bonus episode? Uh, maybe you didn’t listen to it because you don’t support our-

**Clint:** Oh I don’t get a chance to hear any of ‘em.

**Griffin:** Sure.

**Clint:** I don’t subscribe to this. [laughing]

**Griffin:** Also you’ve got a Zune, and I don’t think those do podcasts.

**Griffin & Justin:** Uh-

**Travis:** [laughs]

**Justin:** Wait, we’re just going to the- we’re going to the second floor, is what we agreed on. Right?

**Travis:** Yes.

**Justin:** Okay, so-

**Clint:** [loudly imitates snoring]

**Justin:** I just go up one flight of stairs.

**Clint:** [still snoring]

**Griffin:** Okay. You go up one flight of stairs to the second floor. And the elevator door opens and there they are and you’re on the second floor. And that was- boy, that was boring.

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** We did it!

**Justin:**

**Taako:** Listen- listen, guys, I think we should go to the one marked V. So I’m gonna hop in there with ya. Make room for ya boy.

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** But what if-

**Justin:**

**Taako:** [with exaggerated Italian accent] *MAKE RRROOM-*

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** -there’s something on all the floors!

**Clint:**

**Merle:** Look, look. We gotta make sure. I’ll go up the stairs. I have the shortest legs!

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** Okay, you check every floor. We’re gonna head up to the vault.

**Justin:**

**Taako:** That’s fine. That’s fine.

**Clint:**

**Merle:** I’ll check every floor…

**Justin:** [laughs]

**Clint:**

**Merle:** You guys go up in the elevator, since I’m the smallest and- and you know, the shortest legs-

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** Sounds great.

**Clint:**

**Merle:** -and it’s gonna take the longest time.

**Justin:**

**Taako:** And the funniest if you fall down the stairs.

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [laughing] That would be kind of- I make noises, [descending tone] *bing bing bing bing bing bing bing*. ...Alright!

**Griffin:** But that’s not your armor, that’s just like something you do while falling down the stairs.

**Travis:** Oh, I give him the Stone of Farspeech!

**Justin:** Oh, yeahyeahyeah.

**Clint:** Oh, good thinking. Alright, an’ I got my insight earring on too, y’know.

**Griffin:** So… what is that, you’re gonna- What is that.

**Clint:** Nah, it just gives me more insight.

**Travis:** He just looks really good.

**Clint:** I could put the scuttle buddy in with you guys!

**Griffin:** Actually, Dad, I’ve- been looking for the right time to tell you this…

**Justin:** [giggling]

**Clint:** [sadly] What?

**Griffin:** Your scuttle- Your scuttle buddy was on the train that got destroyed.

**Clint:** *SSSHIT!*

**Griffin:** He *did* forget to get the sc--

**Travis:** No, he gets three uses out of it!

**Griffin:** ...*NOT IF IT’S DESTROYED!*

**Justin:** [simultaneously] NOT IF IT’S *ON THE TRAIN!*

**Clint:** [laughing]

**Griffin:** It-! You can’t use it once and throw it in a *volcano* and go ‘here comes number two and three!’

**Travis:** Oh, is this- Griffin, is this gonna be one of those moments, where like, two episodes from now it’s gonna be like… ‘You hear a slight scuttling out of the garden!’

**Griffin:** No, this is one of those moments where you learn to take care of your shit!

[laughing]

**Griffin:** Where you learn to be cautious with your possessions!

**Travis:** I hug Steven even closer.

**Clint:** Well, thank you once again-

**Griffin:** [bursts out laughing]

**Clint:** Thank you Griffin, for teaching me an- an important lesson.

**Griffin:** Yeah! Yeah.

**Clint:** The son has become the father.

**Griffin:** Now you’re gonna think, before you leave your LEGOs lying out-!

**Clint:** I know.

**Griffin:** What are you gonna do?

**Justin:** *New dad*, could you push the narrative forward, ah-puh-leeze?

**Travis:** [giggles]

**Griffin:** Yeah, so um, Merle you’re- you, hop out of the elevator at the second floor, uh, and uh begin your trek up the stairs, and uh… Taako and Magnus, the door shuts to the elevator, and your, ah, elevator adventure… *begins*.

**Justin:** [giggling]

**Griffin:** Uhmm… You uh, you’re moving up, getting a satisfying *ding!* with each floor that passes… It would be satisfying if you had an elevator fetish. Which, I know not everybody has. [Sound of a distant chain thrown and caught] Umm… aaand, at… Floor number… 11. Or should I say, between floors 11 and 12-- Is *somebody* clipping their nails.

**Justin:** No.

**Travis:** What?

**Justin:** I don’t know what that was. Did it sound- wait, did it sound like somebody throwing a chain dice bag up in the air and catching it?

**Clint:** A little.

**Griffin:** Yes.

**Justin:** Okay, that mighta been me.

**Griffin:** [inhale] Uhh, between floor 11 and 12, the elevator suddenly stops. And then, a few seconds later, the lights above you blink off.

**Travis:** Cool cool.

**Griffin:** And, the vines outside of the exterior glass wall of this elevator shaft, uh, begin to… move. They begin to, uh, uh, move in a circular pattern around the building almost like they’re constricting. Um. And, they... shatter through the exterior glass wall of this elevator shaft, um… and begin to sort of close around the glass walls of the elevator car. And, below, you see a flurry of activity, as you see the vines have broken in through the first floor, and are almost like filling up the elevator shaft like water. They’re just growing wildly. It looks like a, looks like a- a- a pit of snakes is just sort of being poured into this shaft. Uhm, and *that*… is the situation for you. Merle-

**Travis:** [laughs] Still walkin’ up the stairs.

**Griffin:** Merle-

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [breathing heavily, as if winded] WHAT!?

**Griffin:** Um, so you started on floor 2. Why don’t you make a Constitution, throw, and we’ll see how… How, how- how quickly you’re going to be able to scale these- these steps.

**Clint:** Alright.

[pause]

**Clint:** 20.

**Griffin:** ...You rolled a 20! Okay, you are-

**Clint:** Actually, plus 2 Constitution, that’s 22.

**Griffin:** Al*right*, you’re super sturdy! You- you are, moving up these stairs in a sprightly manner.

**Clint:** [singing] *Gonna fly now…!*

**Griffin:** Every, every, you’re skipping every...

**Clint:** [making speedy sounds]

**Griffin:** -Two steps! You just sort of… Yeah. You’re zooming up them.

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [happy mario noises]Yeah! Woo! Ha ha.

**Griffin:** You’ve made it to, uh, [laughs] the 6th floor, and you’re yelling things at every step apparently,

**Clint:**

**Merle:** Here I go!

**Griffin:** Havin’ a great time, uh, and, you are, basically unaccosted!

**Clint:** [victorious laugh]

**Travis:** [laughs] Just havin’ a good old time!

**Clint:**

**Merle:** Love the staaairs!! Whee!

**Griffin:** Switchin’- switchin’ the action back to, uh, Taako and Magnus, uh, you are… You are in a heap of trouble.

**Travis:** So we’re between floors, it’s not something where we can get… out. [pause] Is there like, is there like one of those roof access panels, like you see in movies?

**Griffin:** There *is*- there is a panel above. Uh, leading up to the top of the elevator car.

**Justin:** Uh-... Can it- [stammering] O- okay, uh… Mmmn- Uh…

**Taako:** Magnus, uh, can you knock the, the panel out?

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** Yeah, probably.

**Clint/Griffin:** [laughs]

**Justin:**

**Taako:** Can you use like, I dunno Phantom Fist, or, or your hand?

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** Yeah, sure!

**Travis:** Can I- Can I reach it, Ditto?

**Griffin:** Uh… Yeah!

**Travis:** Yeah, I’m gonna Phantom Fist it.

**Griffin:** [overlapping] It’s a- it’s about at the end of your wingspan, reaching up.

**Travis:** Okay, I wanna fist it.

**Clint:** Yeah, please don’t say fist it.

**Justin:**

**Taako:** Okay, uhhhm…

**Griffin:** You Phantom Fist it, and the hatch just pops- right off, and goes flying into the air, it’s just a hatch! You can lift it up with your hands! Why are you Phantom Fisting everything!

**Travis:** I must destroy!

**Griffin:** You Phantom Fist it and the- you hear the panel go ‘oh shiiiiiiiiiiit!’ [trailing off]

**Justin:** [laughs] Uh-

**Clint:** None of us speak panel.

**Justin:** How far up are we?

**Griffin:** Uhh, I mean you’re-

**Justin:** Like how far is there up, uh, above us? I guess we got like, what, a hundred feet?

**Griffin:** Uhh, yeah thereabouts.

**Travis:** Okay, I wanna lift- I wanna lift Taako out the panel.

**Justin:**

**Taako:** Nnnah, unnecessary, my man.

**Justin:** I cast- are you guys ready for this?

**Griffin:** I am so ready.

**Justin:** [carnival barker voice] *Rrrrrope Trick!*

**Clint:** [laughter] [imitates like, a carnival rope lasso sound?] Wee-oorww!

**Justin:** So here’s what Rope Trick does. I take my rope, that I have, in my bag-

**Travis:** And he lassos the vines.

**Justin:** No. It’s up to 60 feet long-

**Griffin:** [overlapping] Kay.

**Justin:** -and on the other end of the rope, it ties to something in another dimension, and we can crawl up the rope-- It goes to its full height, of 60 feet, and we can crawl up the rope… Into another dimension.

**Clint:** [gasps]

**Justin:** Are you ready… to go into another dimension with me.

**Travis:** YES!? So ready!

**Griffin:** You’re gonna climb- [laughs] you’re gonna climb up the 60 feet of rope?

**Justin:** Uh- Well we’re gonna climb- We’re gonna *start*, because that way we won’t die, and we’re gonna start goin’ until we can find, uhh, a way to get out! An egress, if you will.

**Griffin:** [pauses] Mkay.

**Justin:** I feel confident we’re gonna find one.

**Griffin:** Explain this to me one more time, you- you have created a hole 60 feet above you? Into-

**Justin:** There is- A hole 60 feet above us that a rope is now extending into. Okay? So we’re gonna start climbing.

**Griffin:** Okay. Alright, go for it. Is there a climbing check? I don’t have a character sheet in front of me, so.

**Travis:** I assume that’s Strength, Agility, Acrobatics… Athletics.

**Griffin:** Ath- Athletics, maybe?

**Travis:** Yeah, I think- I think climbing is Athletics.

**Griffin:** Does the rope retract and bring you up? I’m just trying to figure out if-

**Clint:** No, you still have to climb it!

**Travis:** Athletics is Strength. Um, no, we already knew that. So, Athletics, um… is, [reading from handbook] difficult situations you encounter while climbing, jumping or swimming.

**Griffin:** Mmkay, so, you’re making an Athletics check.

**Justin:** Yeah. [pause] [reading] While climbing or swimming each foot of movement costs one extra foot. Uhhh,

**Griffin:** Well, we’re not in combat though.

**Travis:** Well- I think that- I think that the an-

**Justin:** That’s the only thing it says about- I mean, I’m reading under the section special types of movement. Climbing, swimming and crawling.

**Travis:** [overlapping] And I think that-

**Griffin:** [simultaneously] No, I’m just gonna give this a difficulty rating, and then you guys- make the check, and then if it passes the difficulty rating then you… Do it.

**Travis:** Oh okay.

**Griffin:** Uhh… Okay! So we’ll say you have to beat a… 10 is like medium and 15 is hard but we’ll split the difference, ‘cause 60 feet is a loooong way to climb.

**Justin:** We don’t have to climb the entire thing. That’s not what I’m- what I’m thinking. Uh, lemme uhhh...

**Travis:** We need to get up to the 11th floor and open those doors.

**Justin:** That- that’s it. That’s all we- Or, or we have… Or we need to have- I’m talking- I’m gonna n-- We need to talk in character. Um-

**Justin:**

**Taako:** So here’s what I’m thinking. If we can climb up, uh, a foot, just you know to the next level, maybe uh, maybe then Merle- Merle, do you read me?

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [imitating radio static] 10-4, good buddy!

**Justin:**

**Taako:** Oh, okay. People listen-

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [muffled] Come back, rocking chair!

**Justin:**

**Taako:** People listen to this, so that seems-

**Griffin:** [laughing]

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [imitating radio] Cab-over Pete with the reefer on-

**Justin:**

**Taako:** Ohh, no.

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [radio] -and a Jimmy haulin’ haul!

**Justin:**

**Taako:** [Southern accent] Oh golly. Oh, golly.

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** Okay, well! ...We’re gonna die!

**Justin:**

**Taako:** How’s- how’s your sonic experience, everyone? Pleasurable? Glad to have this directly in your ear buds?

**Clint:** [still through hands] Time to add some special effects to the show!

**Justin:**

**Taako:** Make sure to tell your friends to rate ‘n subscribe!

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [muffled] Now what did you want there, good buddy? C’mown.

**Justin:**

**Taako:** This is our first podcast, ever.

[snickering]

**Griffin:** This is golden. You- you’re hatin’.

**Justin:**

**Taako:** So listen. Merle. Meet us on the 11th floor. F- As fast as your stupid little legs can carry you!

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [muffled] Roger that!

**Justin:**

**Taako:** Okay, great! And once you get up there, try to figure out a way to get the doors open.

**Clint:**

**Merle:** [muffled] Okey dokey!

**Justin:**

**Taako:** Excellent.

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** Thankyousomuch!

**Justin:**

**Taako:** Rope Trick!

**Griffin:** Alright. You, cast Rope Trick- Do you get to choose the dimension that it ties off into?

**Justin:** Umm, it actually- hold on one second, let me tell ya.

**Clint:** Listen, you been spending a lot of time in other dimensions, aren’t you worried about sperm count?

**Griffin & Travis:** [laughter]

**Justin:**

**Taako:** Ah, no I’m in--

**Justin:** [reading] It rises in the air, at the end of the rope an invisible entrance opens to an extradimensional space… That lasts until the spell ends.

**Travis:** So it’s a space you create.

**Clint:** It’s just like a cubbyhole.

**Justin:** Yeah. So it’s just- And I, we can actually crawl into that and hide? And chill? Uh, but that seems… Like we’re not gonna climb 60 feet. That seems crazy. So…

**Travis:** No. Who are we, y’know?

**Clint:** [unintelligible agreement] -after a minute.

**Justin:** Yeah. Right.

**Griffin:** Okay. Uh, so a rope, uh, out of thin air falls in through the hatch, in the uh, in the uh, in the elevator, uh… And uh, you look up, and sure enough, there is a… Just sort of black hole, uh, sixty feet above you. Around floor 17 or so. Uh, and uh, yeah! It has, lowered itself into your elevator car.

**Travis:** So, we start climbing for floor 12. Or 11.

**Griffin:** Well you’re between 11 and 12, so you’d be climbing towards 12.

**Clint:** 12.

**Justin:** Yeah. Climbing towards 12.

**Griffin:** Mkay. Uh, let’s take a break, hop back to Merle, Merle you’ll make another Constitution saving throw, see uh, see how quick you’re moving up?

**Clint:** Uh, 11, plus… Uhm, 3, right? And that’s… 14.

**Griffin:** Okay. Uh, you’re a little bit more winded, now. You’re not movin’ quite as… Uh, fast, you’ve-

**Clint:** Got it.

**Griffin:** -you’ve, made it to uhh, you’ve made it to floor number 9.

**Clint:** Aw, come on. Alright. Welp! Can’t I-

**Griffin:** And uh…

**Clint:** Do I get a turn, or-? We’re not in combat, are we.

**Griffin:** No, we’re not in combat. Um-

**Travis:** Keep running!

**Griffin:** I’m just doing a sort of ‘24’-esque splitscreen. Uh, back to Merle, and uh, back to Magnus and Taako- um, the rope’s in your car. And the ball’s in your court.

**Justin:** Okay I- uh, I start climbing up towards floor 12. I’ll make an Athletics check… [dice rolling] Ffffour plus… uhhhhhhh… Zero. Four!

**Griffin:** [pauses] ...You don’t do very good.

**Justin:** No I try, and just like, fall right off.

**Clint:** [laughs]

**Travis:** Okay, let me try-

**Justin:**

**Taako:** I’m flashing back to gym class over here, gang.

**Travis:** Let me try. [dice rolling] Uh, that is a 13, plus 7. A twenty.

**Griffin:** Okay! Uh-

**Justin:**

**Taako:** Look at him go!

**Griffin:** -yeah, you get up uh, you go up on the rope and uh, you- you move up, uh, just the- the few feet up to, uh, the 12th floor- You think maybe if you’d just stood on top of the car you might have had access to the 12th floor door, but.

**Travis:** But then we wouldn’t have gotten a [imitates Taako] *Rope Trick!*

**Justin:**

**Taako:** *Rope Triiiick!*

**Griffin:** That is true! Rope Trick is pretty great! Uh…

**Travis:** I reach down and grab Taako’s arm.

**Griffin:** Okay, you reach down and grab Taako’s arm, and *as you do*, the vines that’ve entered in through the exterior wall of the building grab onto the elevator and pull on it so hard,

**Clint:** Oh! Oh my gosh!

**Griffin:** -and it collapses and falls and Taako just sort of, moves through the hatch as the elevator falls around him. And all of a sudden you are supporting Taako’s full weight, and I’m gonna need you to make a strength check.

**Travis:** That is 15, plus 4, 19.

**Griffin:** Mmkay, you are holding on to Taako. Uh, with one hand on the rope, one hand on Taako, at the 12th floor door, uh, and we’re gonna move back to Merle, Merle make a Constitution throw.

**Clint:** May I just say… Good, vivid storytelling.

**Griffin:** Yes!

**Clint:** Good storytelling.

**Griffin:** Thank you.

**Justin:** [in Taako’s voice] An’ nothing makes a story better than someone saying in the middle of it that it’s good.

**Travis:** [mocking] ‘This is good so far.’

**Griffin:** Call me- Call me Ishmael! This book is gonna *kick ass*!

**All:** [laughter]

**Clint:** Jay Gatsby collapsed the elevator! I rolled a 16-

**Griffin:** [overlapping] As God is my witness, this has been a fucking dope ass movie!

**Justin/Clint:** [laughter]

**Clint:** Attention, movie studios!

**Griffin:** This is the start of a beautiful friendship! And the end of a fucking kickass flick!

**Clint:** 16, wise-ass, 16!

**Griffin:** Thanks, moviegoers, hope you liked it! For Casanova, it’s me! A famous guy! Bye!

**Justin/Travis:** [laughing]

**Justin:** [deep voice] Luuuuke! I am your father! Can you believe that shit or what!? Did you see that coming? Fuuuuuuck.

**All:** [still laughing]

**Clint:** [deadpan] 16.

**Griffin:** Uh, 16 okay. You have made it, up to the 12th floor and as you kick open the stair-

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** [muffled] Open the door!

**Griffin:** -access, there are some vines, uh-

**Clint:**

**Merle:** What!?

**Griffin:** There are some vines that-

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** [muffled] Open the door!

**Griffin:** Oh I sh- didn’t know if you were talking to me, or, t- to- Magnus.

**Clint:**

**Merle:** Open what door!?

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** [muffled] The d- the *elevator* door!!

**Griffin:** There’s-

**Clint:**

**Merle:** Why are you yelling through the door when we can talk through the stone of- of blabbing!?

**Justin:** That doesn’t sound any *better*-

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** [muffled] You’re right, hold on one second- [imitates static] [muffled and now quieter] Open the door!

**Griffin:** [laughs] Uh, as you uh, reach the 12th floor, and kick open the stair access, uh, and enter in, uh, this floor has just started to be overtaken by these vines. They’re coming in actually from the other side of the building than the elevator shaft is on, and just sort of swarming into the room from the windows. Filling it up, like, really really really quickly, it’s almost like a uh, a tidal wave of vines has started to pour into, uh, this floor and they’re moving at you *very* very very quickly.

**Clint:** Alright. I use my crowbar!

**Griffin:** Do you *actually* have that?

**Travis:** Yes! There is a crowbar in the Adventurer’s kit.

**Clint:** Justin-?

**Griffin:** Okay!

**Clint:** [cheering] Crowbar!

**Justin:** Yes, he’s got a crowbar.

**Griffin:** Fuckin’ A, go for it Gordon Freeman.

**Clint:** I call him Chris.

**Griffin:** Chris the crowbar. Let ‘er fly.

**Clint:** Chris the crowbar! [forcefully] I put it into the elevator doors, and I… *pry* the doors open!

**Griffin:** Mkay. You pry the doors open, with your-

**Clint:** [interrupting] But I do it at the last possible second, so I can-! [sheepishly] ...Be a vivid, story-teller… too.

**Griffin:** Oh-kay!

**Justin:** Can we actually- Can Dad name the crowbar after a listener. Do you have a listener name handy that we could just p- we could use real quick?

**Griffin:** Let me open up Twitter, I’m- let’s just go with the top name. The last person that tweeted about TheZoneCast.

**Justin:** Okay.

**Clint:** I take… Emmanuel the crowbar, and I jam him into the doors of the elevator. And with all of my mighty, dwarven… *might-,*

**Travis:** Mm-hm, good-

**Clint:** I *pry* open the elevator doors, Emmanuel *straining* in my hands-! That sounds so nasty.

**Travis:** Doesn’t Emmanuel have a face like the flute, in uh, H.R. Pufnstuf?

**Clint:** Yeah, it’s just like, he’s goin’- [high pitched] ‘Hey, be careful what you’re usin’ me for!’ And I *pry* *open* the doors, at the very last second.

**Griffin:** At the *very* last second, okay. You-

**Clint:** No, wait!

**Griffin:** [continuing] -pry the doors open,

**Clint:** No no, no no, no no!

**Griffin:** -to the elevator,

**Clint:** Not at the very last second!

**Griffin:** -and a *wave* of vines crashes into you from behind, knocking you forward into the elevator shaft. And the doors *slam-*

**Clint:** [desperate] Five minutes-! Five minutes before.

**Griffin:** -behind you. [satisfied] You didn’t get there five minutes before, so you- So you have fallen into the elevator shaft, make a reflex saving throw to see if you can grab onto your party.

**Clint:** At the last… 30 seconds.

**Griffin:** [laughs] So make a Dexterity saving throw.

**Clint:** My Dexterity- aw, geez. 12 plus 0.

**Griffin:** Okay! 12, yeah, that’s enough for you to grab on to Taako’s… ankle.

**Travis:** Oh shit!

**Griffin:** As you fall into the elevator shaft, and the doors, uh, slam behind you, and [laughs] Emmanuel the crowbar goes plummeting to its viney death, at the bottom of the elevator shaft. Thanks for listening, Emmanuel!

**Travis:** Griffin, you realize that crowbars are made out of metal. Like it doesn’t fall *and die*.

**Griffin:** Well actually, you hear him go ‘I’m gonna dieeee!’ as he falls, um, and so the three of you are now hanging- so this scene was really great, um-

**Clint:** This looks like the Goonies.

**Griffin:** It is very Goonies-esque, uh, Magnus you wanna make one more strength throw now that you’re holding up the weight of two people?

**Travis:** God damn it. Yep. [dice rolling]

**Clint/Justin:** [laughing]

**Travis:** Okay. That’s an 11… plus- 15.

**Griffin:** 15! Uh, yeah, that’s enough. You are still holding onto this rope that is tied in a dimension that none of you know about-

**Travis:**

**Magnus:** Could either of you grab the rope now please!?

**Griffin:** -while vi-- Well, they’re below it, um, you’ve got it sort of by the edge of it, and um.

**Travis:** Well what the fuck am I supposed to do now!?

**Griffin:** I dunno. Find out, next time on- The Adventure Zone!

**Clint:** [laughing]

[theme begins to play]

**Griffin:** You like that shit? That’s audience retention!