

# A Car of a Different Color (S4, E41)

**SFX:**

INTRO MUSIC

**Rev:** For weeks now, whenever we come in to record, Megan and I will joke about, "Oh hey, look. The thermostat says Replace Bat. There's probably a little bat in there." And then we would laugh about it and walk away.

**Megan:** [Laughs]

**Kim:** [Laughs]

**Rev:** So we're at a point right now where we're recording every other week. Normally we record every week, but people are taking their vacations now. We've kind of built this into the schedule. And so at some point in the last two weeks, the bat finally died.

**Jake:** [Laughs] Hold on.

**Megan:** Hey, hey, hey.

**Rev:** The battery, I'm sorry. Fortunately, I came in yesterday to record something for Journey Indiana, because guess what happens when the battery dies on the thermostat?

**Kim:** Does it get really hot?

**Rev:** It just stops. Everything that we had, like, not taped, but what's the ... Command stripped to the walls? Fell off.

**Megan:** [Laughs]

**Rev:** It was so hot in here. Luckily the TV remote — which by the way, doesn't work right now — because its batteries were sacrificed to the thermostat.

**Jake:** Praises be to the thermostat god.

**Rev:** Oh, man. And like, I sat in here and I recorded for a little bit. And once I got it plugged in and working again, it was like, "Oh, it's 60 — it's 68 degrees in here." I'm like, "No, it is not." It's like, "Well, I gotta wake up first, and then maybe I'll get a sense of what the room is."

**Jake:** [Laughs]

**Rev:** As I was leaving, it finally went, "Oh, it's like 89 in here. I guess I'll turn on."

**Megan:** See, what you don't know is that this was all a trick played by me, hoping to not be freezing while we record for once. Sorry, Tass.

**Kim:** I'm a little sad that I missed out on a recording session where you all got to be, like, very scantily clad.

**Tass:** [Laughs]

**Jake:** I'm always scantily clad.

**Kim:** I mean, yeah, you are serving it for the rest of the group. The rest need to catch up to you.

**All:** [Laugh]

**Rev:** The horror that would have dawned on us when we stepped into the recording studio today.

**Tass:** That's when I say, "Nope." And I turn around and I go home.

**Jake:** Yeah. Grandpa Simpson. One loop, and out the door.

**Kim:** [Laughs]

**Rev:** So one thing I do want to take a second to mention is that as part of the Bake Sale that we did, we did offer a certain tier where people made donations, and we offered

them some time on the intro to either put out a personal message or like a little commercial for something that they were working on. We got our first one.

**Tass:** Oh, cool.

**Kim:** Nice.

**Rev:** And I know Tass already knows about this because he's very excited about it. This is for Earthdawn.

**Tass:** [Gasps]

**Rev:** Earthdawn has started a new Kickstarter. It is the Grand Bazaar, which is for the 4th Edition of Earthdawn. The Grand Bazaar is ... If you have not played Earthdawn, this is where, like, all stories begin. It is this enormous bazaar outside of the main city, where you can just find anything. And it is like bigger than the main city, because people just started to build it outside. So it's this enormous book that has a ton of stuff inside of it for the Grand Bazaar. It is open until June 14th.

**Megan:** The Bazaar, or The Kickstarter?

**Rev:** Yes.

**All:** [Laugh]

**Rev:** The Kickstarter is open until June 14th. And they have a bunch of add-ons that you can do, in addition to just getting the book, including a plush Mountainshadow.

**Tass:** Yes!

**Rev:** Which is one of the great dragons. Minis of some of the groups in Earthdawn like obsidiman and t'skrang, which don't exist in other forms.

**Tass:** I'm ... It made me — like I teared up a little bit when I saw those.

**Rev:** Yeah.

**Tass:** Like, oh!

**Rev:** And an enormous mini of Verjigorm, one of the main antagonists, who is the hunter of great dragons.

**Tass:** It's so good.

**Rev:** Yeah. So all of their physical books come with a copy of the PDF. On this, as add-ons, they've also added all of the books that they have done. So you can go in and kind of piecemeal whatever you want from them. So you can find that just by going over to Kickstarter and search for the Grand Bazaar. Or you can look in today's show notes to find the link to the Kickstarter.

**Tass:** So good.

**Rev:** So good.

**Tass:** The lore of this world is so good.

**Rev:** I have to tell you — and I forgot to bring it today. We got a prototype Mountainshadow in the mail.

**Tass:** [Gasps] What?!

**Kim:** I saw that! You showed that on the stream the other day.

**Rev:** I did. I did. He sat over my shoulder as I streamed the other day.

**Tass:** I love it. I'm telling you, I just got a raise at work.

**Rev:** Yeah.

**Tass:** So I'm treating myself. We're going to have a Verjigorm up in this studio as well.

**Megan:** Nice.

**Rev:** Also on Monday, if you are available, at 8 p.m., we are gonna do our anniversary stream over at Twitch.tv/TheCritshow. Tass is gonna be running a game of Monster of the Week, and we are all gonna be playing as the playbooks he made us for our birthday.

**Megan:** So not only as ourselves, like we do in Coin, but like as our legitimate selves in real life.

**Rev:** Yes. Like the ... Gosh, the best version — what Tass sees in us. The best versions of ourselves.

**Tass:** And the most ridiculous. Oh, and I've named it.

**Rev:** Oh, have you? What is it?

**Tass:** It's called The Other Side of the Other Coin.

**All:** [Laugh]

**Kim:** Good. Very good.

**Rev:** And along with that, our four year anniversary, you've got like three days from right now. If you are listening to this the day it airs, you got three days to get in your Critshow Creations entry, just to win all kinds of stuff. Just a big — just a big swaggle of stuff.

**Tass:** Just a mess.

**Rev:** Just a mess of stuff.

**Kim:** Yeah. The deadline is Saturday, May 28th, which is my birthday! And all I want for my birthday is to see your Critshow Creations.

**Jake:** And to send you just a big pile of garbage. I mean, swag.

**All:** [Laugh]

**Rev:** Jake, are you using this giveaway to clean out your junk drawer again?

**Jake:** Look, I've got good things in my junk drawer. I acquired them for a reason.

**Rev:** Yeah.

**Jake:** I just don't want them anymore.

**Rev:** That's fair.

**Jake:** And I'm passing the savings on to you.

**Megan:** One man's trash.

**Jake:** One man's trash is another man's trash.

**Rev:** [Laughs] But, it's free.

**Jake:** But it's free, and that makes it treasure.

**Rev:** It makes it feel like treasure.

And then lastly, I would just like to ask you all to stay tuned at the end of the episode for a couple of special announcements. And with that, it's time to let the recap roll.

**SFX:** RECAP MUSIC

**Tass:** "I have this other inkling, you guys. That if we're talking about this energy being out there, these pieces of the gods, I think we need to head up to the North Pole sooner than later."

**Jake:** "What do you feel like we're looking for, once we get here?"

**Tass:** "The feeling I get is just that if we had known what we know now, there is something there that would be evident."

**Kim:** "I know what happened to that energy. Koschei's and The Builder's. Nash devoured them, the same time that he devoured ... Megan's grandpa calls it the gold."

**Jake:** I want to Use Magic. And I think I'm just kind of standing there and watching this last moment and, like, rewinding it and watching it again. I don't know that I'm really looking for anything new, but I think I'm just kind of watching the last second that I had with TJ.

**Rev:** Yes. The energy for Death and the energy for The Builder still existed. They were not unmade in that moment. And the look of surprise on his face when it hits him, versus the smile that he gives you before he leaves? You took it in the moment as a smug grin of victory. And it becomes clear to you in this moment that it was a smug grin of having escaped a situation that they didn't think they could get out of. And the thing that it's going to do is push the energy of The Builder and The Devourer out of Nash, so that he can become Death.

**SFX:** RECAP MUSIC FADES

**Rev:** Jake, you have just Used Magic to look back in time and see the moment where Nash took the energy from you, and also unknowingly took the energy of The Builder and Death. And learned, in watching his escape, that Death's going to try to push out The Devourer.

**Jake:** I need to go tell everybody this. Shit, I guess I'll go get Megan first, because I know the other two were, like, going indoors and underground. So I couldn't signal them if I wanted to.

**Rev:** Yeah.

**Jake:** So I'll go fetch Megan.

**Kim:** Who's also laying down in the snow.

**All:** [Laugh]

**Megan:** I've eaten part of the candy cane. I thought it was real.

**Rev:** [Laughs]

**Megan:** This is nothing like TV has taught me that Santa's workshop would be like.

**Jake:** "Have you found anything important?"

**Megan:** "No, I kind of just got here. I was looking around. There doesn't seem to be much. Are you okay?"

**Jake:** "I found out a bad thing."

**Megan:** "Oh, no. What's wrong?"

**Jake:** "Nash didn't, like, eat The Builder energy and the Death energy, exactly. Because the Death part is trying to take him over. So they're not, like, gone and digested. Death is trying to take root in place of The Devourer, within Nash."

**Megan:** "Oh, my god. It can do that?"

**Jake:** "I guess. It kind of makes sense. It's like a whole different thing. You know, Death was like an elder god or whatever that the new gods kind of usurped. So it makes sense that he might have something extra in the tank, to be able to beat out their stuff."

**Megan:** "Whoa. What does this mean for Nash? Like, is he himself? Is he whatever personality, like, Koschei had?"

**Jake:** "I don't know. But I think we should go find the others and let them know, and we can speculate on this."

**Megan:** "Yeah, this is ... This is wild. Yeah. Let's go find him. I think they went down that way."

**Jake:** Yeah. Head over towards the underground portion of the workshop.



**Tass:** Yeah, I'm just sort of pushing wreckage around and just looking around at anything that might stick out, which I have to assume is not much.

**Kim:** Yeah, I'm just touching the remains of the NOEL computer, and seeing if I can get any visions off of it.

**Rev:** Yeah. You go over to NOEL's old cradle and try to get a sense of anything. And you get some little quick visions. It's mostly ghouls, slashing and tearing at the walls of this place. And you see that NOEL, when they remove her systems, is in lockdown mode.

**Kim:** "Man, if I never have a vision about ghouls again, it will be too soon."

**Rev:** [Laughs]

**Megan:** Yeah, we head over towards them. "Hey Tass, Kim. Jake's got some news?"

**Tass:** "OK. What'd you find?"

**Jake:** "I used magic to watch the moment that TJ died again, and I noticed something. You know, Nash had kind of given me like a ... Like a shitty little smirk, after he ate the gold that prevented TJ from surviving. And I realized, watching it again, that it wasn't Nash really that did that. It seems like as soon as he imbibed The Builder and Death, that Death started trying to take over."

**Kim:** "Oh, that's why Nash looked so confused."

**Jake:** "Yeah, I think it hit him. And, you know, it was like a hostile takeover. Like Death intends to push The Devourer out and make Nash the new vessel."

**Kim:** "You said that he wants to push The Devourer out, but what happens to The Builder energy?"

**Jake:** "I don't know. I mean, he can't hold multiples at once. I don't even understand how Death, like, could be influencing him. You know, there's not room in the Potential for both of them. But he can't hold on to it. So I don't know if he gave that one up or is going to give that one up. I mean, I know that we know that The Builder hasn't been replaced, but

it's possible that he doesn't think of that one as much of a threat, or something. You know, he might want to put The Devourer into a vessel, because he knows the power of The Devourer."

**Megan:** "Yeah, but if Death has already been manipulated once by this ritual, recognizing that this other energy is in there and is going to go somewhere that could maybe be used against him again? If it was me, I would try to know exactly where that energy lives and control it."

**Jake:** "I don't know. I mean, he probably still has them both, then. So he's probably looking for a way to offload them and keep them on a short leash. I don't really know what to do about that, without getting close to Nash. But we need them. The good news is, if Death does take over, we're doing the exact same thing they did last time. So that's cool."

**Kim:** "Yeah, that's what I was thinking. You know, I've been wondering this whole time exactly what that shadowy figure is in the center, and also how we could do that ritual if Nash was The Devourer and we need The Devourer's help in order to do the ritual. But now it seems like in some respects, this has gotten a lot simpler. Though also infinitely more complicated, because we don't know what's happened to The Devourer and The Builder now."

**Megan:** "Yeah. The two rituals seem to line up a lot clearer now. But you're right, I think we need to talk to the gods and find out exactly what they did. We have to find The Builder and The Devourer, but we also need to know what we have to do when we get them."

**Jake:** "Maybe the gods will have some kind of answer for how to yonk those forces out of him."

**Megan:** "Yeah. Maybe we can somehow track down the people that that energy is best suited for next."

**Jake:** "Is there anything else we feel like we need to do before we try and get in touch with the gods?"

**Tass:** "I wouldn't know what."

**Jake:** "Well, I can start trying to figure out how to do that. I would love to not have to do it here, for so many reasons."

**Kim:** "I'd love to do it in like a warm place, please."

**Megan:** "I can't feel my fingers."

**Tass:** "I'm fine. But yeah, let's roll."

**Kim:** [Laughs]

**Jake:** He's in a tank top.

**All:** [Chuckle]

**Jake:** "Where are we gonna go? Just back to Indy? Back to the lair?"

**Kim:** "We could go to the lair, we go to the castle."

**Jake:** "Castle might be good. I'm gonna need to do some research, so it'd be good to have access to the library."

**Megan:** "Maybe my grandpa has some sort of insight on this."

**Jake:** All right. Head back to the chopper, and ask for a lift to the castle.

**Rev:** All right. Is there anything that you all want to do on the flight to the castle from here?

**Jake:** I think, barring the ability — like I feel like I don't have what I need to actually, like, make contact. But I think I'm falling back on, like, some prayers to The Defender. Like, I'm trying to establish, like, that I'm ... That I'm reaching out, right? Like, I want The Defender to, like, pick up in his ear, like, "Oh, I hear Jake's voice." Even though I don't expect anything to come of it yet.

**Rev:** While you're doing this, focusing down, trying to send this out. You're not expecting it to work, but you're trying. You're kind of probing. Roll Investigate a Mystery.

**Jake:** Six.

**Megan:** Is there any way to help out with this?

**Rev:** How?

**Megan:** Yeah, that's what I just said!

**All:** [Laugh]

**Rev:** I thought you were asking me!

**Jake:** On the part of a telepath.

**Megan:** Yeah. I mean, like, that's what I'm thinking. Like, this is a very personal thing you're doing. But, like, the fact that I also have a connection not to an existing god, but the essence of one that did exist alongside this, like, pantheon.

**Rev:** Yeah, roll Help Out.

**Megan:** Nine.

**Rev:** All right. So that bumps Jake up to a mixed success. You get a hold 1, but it does expose Megan to danger.

**Megan:** It's fine. I'm used to it.

**Jake:** I think old reliable. What is being concealed here?

**Rev:** I think it is the push from Megan. Like, you feel her kind of boosting your thoughts, pushing them further, trying to connect with this personality that you're familiar with. And normally when you hear Megan in your head, when you hear those messages, there's

just that slight bit of reverb. But as you send this thought out, it's like speaking into a sound treated room. Like, it is hollow and it is hitting something. The thing being concealed here is that right now there's something blocking your message from getting through.

**Jake:** OK.

**Rev:** Megan, I think you take one point of damage. We've talked about this before, that kind of mental stress from pushing your thoughts too hard.

**Megan:** I get a headache.

**Rev:** Yeah.

**Megan:** Ow.

**Kim:** [Laughs]

**Rev:** Anybody else?

**Kim:** Yeah. Thinking about trying to contact the gods. And I know that in this dimension, I may one day be the Oracle of the North Wind. Which stands to reason that maybe in other dimensions, I am the Oracle of the North Wind and maybe have talked to the gods before. I would like to try to, like, reach out to alternate versions of my selves, to see if they have tried to contact the gods previous.

**Rev:** Yeah. Roll Alternate Lives.

**Jake:** Good move.

**Kim:** Oh, yes. I was scared because I saw the logo. But these are the Strohm dice, so that's a good thing.

**Rev:** The next dice I get made, I'm gonna have the logo on the 3, just to really ...

**All:** [Laugh]

**Rev:** Get it on the 4, for the four year anniversary.

**All:** [Laugh]

**Kim:** That's a twelve.

**Rev:** All right. So yes, an alternate version of you has experience with this kind of thing. So you get a hold 2.

**Kim:** OK. Well, let's just start like very simply here. What did an alternate life discover about communicating and meeting with the gods?

**Rev:** You close your eyes and you reach out to these alternate selves, and your mind focuses in on one. And the voice that's in your head is very ... Almost like it's being carried along the breeze. Like you get a true sense of wind, and you get a foggy vision of almost like a wind elemental, but they have got these markings around their neck, like the Necklace of the North Winds. She tells you that one of the easiest ways to try and get one of the gods' attention and send them a message is to be doing something that embodies what it is they stand for. So if it is a god of fire, having an enormous flame. If it is a god of battle, being in the midst of a fight. Doing something that would turn the gods' attention toward you, before you try to reach out.

**Kim:** OK. So I've also heard that mortals entering the plane of gods can be, like, very bad. So I think my next hold is what did an alternate life learn too late to help them?

**Megan:** That's such a good question.

**Rev:** The thing that they discovered too late to help themselves was that the entities, the gods, whatever it is you're trying to communicate with, whatever you're trying to work with. All of the forces that you're bringing together have to exist in the same place for it to be safe for all involved. So similar to what Cara learned too late. If there was a way to get everyone involved on the same plane, it would be a safe ritual for all involved. And then your eyes clear, and this voice from another world leaves you.

**Kim:** "I just spoke to another version of myself that has talked to the gods."

**Tass:** "OK. So what did you learn?"

**Kim:** "So I was wondering how one goes about trying to get the gods' attention. And what the other me advised was that a good way to get the gods to look at you is to do something that is exemplifying what that god stands for. So a big show of something that would get The Defender's attention, or The Challenger, or ..."

**Tass:** "The Torturer."

**Kim:** "The Anarchist. But that — yeah, yeah. Some of those do not sound like fantastic ways to, um ... To go about. But if we can think of something, that might be a good way to get them to try to meet with us. The other thing that I was wondering about was when we do this ritual, how do we do it so that no one dies? And what she had to say was that if we could figure out a way to do this ritual where everyone involved was on the same plane of existence, then no one has to cross through a veil and no one has to die."

**Tass:** "Well, that's huge."

**Kim:** "Yeah."

**Megan:** I rub the palm of my hand to my forehead. "Jake, were you able to make any sort of contact? I was trying to kind of boost that mental connection, but I don't know if your thoughts were too sharp or something, but that kind of hurt."

**Kim:** He's got that pointy brain.

**Megan:** You've got pointy thoughts!

**All:** [Laugh]

**Jake:** "No. Actually, kind of the opposite. There's a barrier or something up. It wasn't just like I couldn't get their attention. It's like something's in the way of getting their attention."

**Megan:** "Maybe cause it's like Kim said, you're not doing the thing they're about?"

**Jake:** "I mean, it felt more definite than that. Like, you know, it felt like something was actively barricading, not just that I wasn't putting out a strong enough signal to be noticed."

**Kim:** "Is it possible that they're mad at you?"

**Jake:** "I mean, that's totally possible. I don't know. I don't feel like they would all have a reason to be mad at me."

**Kim:** "Yeah."

**Jake:** "Disappointed, maybe. But other than changing teams, like, I don't think I did anything to make an enemy of The Defender."

**Tass:** "So if you don't think they're putting up this barrier, who is?"

**Megan:** "And how?"

**Jake:** "I mean, it's not necessarily that they're not putting up the barrier. I would guess if that's the case, that it's not just against me?"

**Tass:** "Ah."

**Jake:** "Like maybe they've sequestered themselves or something, and so nobody's gonna get through. Um ..."

**Tass:** "Sounds like a bunch of chicken shits to me. I challenge you to say otherwise!"

**Megan:** "Ah, The Challenger."

**Kim:** "Oh. Yeah. Maybe."

**Tass:** "Eh? Eh?"

**Rev:** Lightning strikes the helicopter.



**All:** [Laugh]

**Jake:** "I don't ... I think that seems like a very disrespectful way to approach this."

**Tass:** "Yeah. All right."

**Jake:** "If they weren't mad before, they might be now."

**Tass:** "OK. Then the gloves are off. I will give you the synopses of all of the Godzilla movies in order for the rest of the ride. And The Torturer cannot ignore that."

**All:** [Laugh]

**Megan:** "I'm very interested, though, so I don't think that that's gonna work on me."

**Kim:** "Yeah, because, like, who do we ... Like, the sort of gods that we can maybe get in contact with. We've got The Defender, The Challenger, The Executioner, The Torturer, The Anarchist. A lot of these do not sound like fantastic in terms of trying to get their attention."

**Jake:** "Yeah. Don't want to engage with a lot of them."

**Tass:** "Hey, I'm sure they're lovely people. Right, Defender?"

**Kim:** [Laughs]

**Megan:** [Laughs] "I don't know if, like, challenging the gods and defending the gods is what they're looking for, but I love this energy."

**Kim:** Rev's just shaking his head behind the microphone.

**Rev:** Everett opens the back hatch.

**Tass:** [Laughs]

**Rev:** Pushes Tass out.

**Tass:** Executioner, nice!

**All:** [Laugh]

**Kim:** We did it! We got a bingo.

**Jake:** "I feel like this will be part of maybe what I can figure out, trying to research this. You know, we don't know a lot about where they are. You know, whatever their Mount Olympus-style place is. But if I can figure out something about it, that might help us with both figuring out why they're blocked off, or how. And, figuring out a different place that we can do this that's not fatal to us."

**Tass:** "Yeah. Yeah, OK."

**Megan:** "Maybe we can also work on trying to find something that would qualify as defending for you, to gain The Defender's attention, if this wall can come down."

**Jake:** "Yeah. Boy, I'm gonna sleep, because I feel like I'm not gonna get much once we get there, so."

**Megan:** "I'm so rested."

**Rev:** Though you still feel tired.

**Megan:** Oh, yup. That tracks.

**Rev:** [Laughs]

**Tass:** "Yeah. All right, let's just get some rest, get to where we can make some moves, and see what we can find out."

**Rev:** All right. So the rest of the flight back to the castle is uneventful. If you have any damage, you can heal one point of damage over the course of this flight. It's a long one, again. Everett lands inside of the quarry where all of the mine shafts split off, and let you out.

**Jake:** Yeah. Start hiking down to Castletown.

**Rev:** You all make your way down through the mines and into the castle. And Selina is in the front room reading, when you come in.

**Rev:** SELINA: Oh, how's it goin'?

**Tass:** "Pretty good. Whatcha reading?"

**Rev:** SELINA: Of Mice and Men.

**Jake:** [Laughs]

**Tass:** "Nice. It's one of my favorite books, actually."

**Rev:** SELINA: I really like this Lenny guy. I hope things turn out for him.

**All:** [Laugh]

**Kim:** Oh, man.

**Rev:** SELINA: Yeah. The books he's got here aren't very modern, but I'm just working my way through the ones I had ... You know, sometimes, you know a story but you haven't read the book?

**Tass:** "Yeah."

**Rev:** SELINA: So I just want to read the book now, so that I can say that I know it from the book and not just, like, hearsay.

**Megan:** "Modern adaptations?"

**Rev:** SELINA: Yeah.

**Tass:** "Very cool."

**Kim:** "Nice. How's Elnore going? You still just going over there to get, like, some little snacks and stuff? That going okay?"

**Rev:** SELINA: Yeah. I've been going over there every morning for my breakfast. It lasts me the rest of the day.

**Kim:** "Nice."

**Rev:** SELINA: What're y'all up to?

**Tass:** "Oh, just gonna try to talk to the gods."

**Rev:** SELINA: Well, good luck with that.

**Tass:** "Thanks."

**Kim:** [Laughs]

**Jake:** "What would be your thoughts on, like, being a vessel of a god?"

**Rev:** She sets her book down.

**Rev:** SELINA: Come again?

**Jake:** "I don't — I don't know how else to say it."

**Rev:** SELINA: Oh, you best do some splaining, then.

**Jake:** "Well, we're gonna have to do a thing where we're gonna need to, like, utilize the powers of a bunch of gods. But some of them are like dead, and their abilities are just out there. And one of them is The Devourer. And you, you know, eat energies and things. And we're gonna need somebody to harness the powers of The Devourer."

**Rev:** SELINA: Oh.

**Jake:** "And you seem like a prime candidate, if you would be into that?"

**Rev:** SELINA: Shoot, you saved my life and, you know, didn't hold me accountable for the job I was stuck doing. If there's a way I can help out, then ...

**Jake:** [Laughs] And I just like that ... [As Selina] You didn't hold me accountable for my terrible crimes.

**Megan:** [As Selina] You let me get away with my crime, so I'll do whatever you say.

**Jake:** [As Selina] I'm indebted to you.

**All:** [Laugh]

**Rev:** I more so meant, like, that you didn't blame her for being forced into that situation.  
[Laughs]

**Rev:** SELINA: Oh, you just let me get away with whatever I fucking want, so I'm down to clown.

**Jake:** [As Selina] So I'll definitely take the ability to eat anything and everything that I could ever want, because you'll let me do fucking anything.

**Megan:** [Laughs]

**Rev:** SELINA: I know you all keep real short leashes.

**Megan:** [As Selina] This has just been a win, win, win, win, win for me.

**Rev:** SELINA: I just keep failing upward.

**All:** [Laugh]

**Kim:** [As Selina] I'm going to eat the world.

**Jake:** [As Selina] I spent, like, what, a few months inside a bell? Worth it!

**Megan:** [Laughs] Oh god, I can't breathe! Ouch.

**Rev:** SELINA: But yeah, I would be more than happy to help. If there's a way for me to aid you, to pay you back for all the kindness you've shown me.

**Jake:** "I will warn you. One, you're gonna have to participate in kind of a dangerous thing. And two, and maybe the harder thing, it's going to take a lot of willpower to not abuse those abilities."

**Rev:** SELINA: I'll be honest with you, I've been doing dangerous things my entire life, except for, well, these last couple of weeks on this couch. It's been pretty nice. But I fight off the urge every day. Something I'm kinda used to.

**Jake:** All right. Well, I'm gonna go try to learn some more about how this whole thing works, so ...

**Rev:** As Jake heads upstairs, Selina picks up her book. But then she looks back at you again, Megan.

**Rev:** SELINA: What's it like, having the essence of a god in you?

**Megan:** "It's not too bad. Like, you know how Jake had, like, his fiery sword?"

**Rev:** SELINA: Yeah.

**Megan:** "Yeah. So like that was him having powers from, like, one of the gods that exists. But, like, the things that I can do come from a god that died a long time ago."

**Rev:** SELINA: Oh. So it's not like — I won't be take over by this god, or something.

**Megan:** "No, no, no. Like, it's not — it's not like what the god used to be. It's just kind of like the energy and power of what their vibe was."

**Rev:** SELINA: Oh, like they're ... Like their champion, or something.

**Megan:** "Kinda, yeah. But you are just kind of a person that represents the thing that they were about. So me, the god that I have abilities from was called The Empath."

**Rev:** SELINA: Oh, well that makes sense. You were very sweet to me when we actually got to meet.

**Megan:** "Yeah, thanks. Um ..." [Laughs] "I forgot what I was gonna say. That was really kind. Um ..."

**Jake:** [Laughs]

**Megan:** "Yeah. So like, that's why I can do, like, telepathy and like telekinesis. It's very, like, psychic mental powers. And you, like Jake said, can eat energy. And there's this other god called The Devourer. And that was kind of their jam, so."

**Rev:** SELINA: This'll sound like a weird sentence, but it sounds like a pretty delicious job.

**Megan:** [Laughs]

**Rev:** SELINA: Because magic is delicious. And if — you mean I could, like, figure out what all other kinds of things taste like? Because I've wondered.

**Kim:** Ooh, boy ...

**Tass:** Now that you're saying this, I kind of ... I kind of want it.

**Megan:** [Laughs] It does sound good.

**Tass:** Yeah.

**Kim:** Tass, you can't have everything. You're already The Chosen, bud.

**Tass:** Now, hey. Hold on.

**Megan:** He's like, "You didn't see me in that vision. I could have been anywhere."

**Kim:** He's like, "I gave it up once before. I'll do it again."

**Megan:** [Laughs]

**Rev:** I will do it again.

**Megan:** I'll do it again for some delicious food. [Laughs]

**Tass:** I'll do anything for a cosmic cheeseburger.

**All:** [Laugh]

**Megan:** "Enjoy your book."

**Rev:** SELINA: Thanks. I'm just about at the last chapter. I think it's gonna get good.

**Kim:** Oh ...

**All:** [Laugh]

**Jake:** [As Selina] I can't wait for the happy ending.

**Rev:** SELINA: I can't wait for the denouement.

**All:** [Laugh]

**Kim:** [Sighs]

**Rev:** Jake. So what exactly are you looking for here, as you comb through the collected books of Geoffrey Nash?

**Jake:** I'm looking for information on wherever they are. What is this place? I understand that it's extra planar. How would communication between two planes be barred like that? Like, you know how you read like a mythology book that taught you about, like, the Greek pantheon and shit? But like the real life version of it.



**Rev:** Why don't you roll Investigate a Mystery?

**Jake:** OK.

**Rev:** While I come up with something.

**Kim:** [Laughs]

**Jake:** That's a four.

**Kim:** [Gasps]

**Jake:** Oh, I'm trying to decide if I'm gonna spend a point — like, we've got to figure out how to communicate with them. I'm gonna spend a point of Luck.

**Rev:** OK.

**Jake:** Council of Wizards.

**Kim:** Wizards is mad at you for two things now.

**Rev:** Oh, boy.

**Jake:** I've pissed them off twice in a day.

**Rev:** Yeah. They're coming in hot. All right, you get a hold 2.

**Jake:** What happened here? I can feel that there's this barricade. Did they put it up? Did someone else put it up? What am I feeling?

**Rev:** So as you go through and try to find out about communicating with the gods, you pretty quickly come across the idea that the gods really don't have the ability to stop someone from communicating with them. That if communication didn't work, it would be because the person trying to reach them has put up a block against the gods.

**Jake:** Man, I don't know ... I'm trying to figure out if this is something I specifically am going to need to remedy, or if I'm cut off but somebody else can open this line of communication. That's my, what can it do? Like, or ... What? Maybe, what is being concealed here?

**Rev:** What that god do?

**Jake:** What that god do?

**Rev:** Yeah. So the vibe of what you're trying to figure out. As you have this thought of, is this something that's me specific? Is it people in general? Because you're all connected, that you all seem to have this kind of shared fate, you don't imagine that anyone in the group would be able to do it until kind of atonement was made. You don't think that you have to be the one to atone specifically, but you think that you would have to find a way to appease a quorum of the remaining gods.

**Jake:** Oh, fucking hell. OK. All right. I think I kind of clap this book shut and, like, toss it aside in frustration.

**Megan:** Selina walks in with Of Mice and Men, fucking throws it in the same way.

**All:** [Laugh]

**Megan:** Fuck books!

**Kim:** That's so funny.

**Rev:** SELINA: You're right. Books are dumb. I hate them. They make me feel things.

**Jake:** I'm gonna go back downstairs.

**Tass:** "Hey, bud. What'd you find out?"

**Jake:** "I fucked up, when I renounced the power of The Divine. I didn't just, like, renounce it. I cut myself off from it. So the wall that's up is my fault."

**Kim:** "Oh, shit. I was right. They are mad at you."

**Jake:** "They are ... I don't know if they're mad — well, yes. Because I'm pretty sure that we're gonna have to do something for the gods that pleases them, or else they won't talk to us anymore. Not all of them, but three of them, as far as I can tell."

**Rev:** Yeah. And like, just to clarify, I think what Jake found out like. This is not a they are, like, mad and have cut him off. This is a they can't. Like if this was the electricity in your house, when Jake stopped being The Divine, he didn't, like, turn the power off in the breaker. He called the power company, and they dug up the lines. And so now it's ... That has to get re-established. So it's not like them being ... [Laughs] Just being petty.

**Jake:** They're not just pouting.

**Rev:** Yes, exactly. I mean, I'm sure one of them ...

**Jake:** A little bit of pouting is in there, but ...

**Rev:** Yeah.

**Tass:** "I don't know where to start on that."

**Jake:** "We can't. Not yet. I mean, I was hoping that this would be a simple fix, but it's not. This is going to take time. This is going to take planning. I'm on board with the idea that before we can get to that, we need to go through and we need to start fucking up some of his bigger picture stuff."

**Megan:** "OK. I think this still works, then. We go through, we fuck up whatever we need to fuck up on this other side of this portal, we start thinking of ways that we can maybe appease these gods and maybe have friends on this side doing the same thing. Just coming up with possibilities of ways that might get their attention, or make them happy. So that when we do come back, we at least maybe have a starting point."

**Tass:** "I like that."

**Jake:** All right.

**Megan:** I'm gonna head off to find my grandpa.

**Rev:** Yeah. So you all head upstairs towards the lab, and your grandpa isn't here.

**Megan:** "Wonder where he is. Maybe he's working with James? They said that they were gonna maybe meet up and go over stuff."

**Tass:** "Yeah, let's go."

**Rev:** All right, you head through the portal into Elnore, and the first thing you notice is that Ferguson is not here.

**Kim:** "OK."

**Megan:** "Where the hell is everyone?"

**Rev:** And you head into the portal that takes you into the subterranean lair, and it is crowded in here. The first thing you notice is that the IPT Cruiser is front and center of this room. There are a pair of feet sticking out from underneath it — someone's underneath the car working on it. And you see Rev and Grandpa Tincher, over by the computer. On Rev's shoulder is a very tiny Ferguson. And Megan's grandpa is chiseling some runes into the ground.

**Tass:** "Rev! You're back!"

**Rev:** REV: Hey, how's it going?

**Tass:** "It's going! I have to know something. I have to know something. Were you a dog?"

**Rev:** REV: Yes.

**Megan:** "Hell yeah!"

**Tass:** I just throw my hands up to the rest of these guys for high fives.

**Rev:** REV: You were both there to.

**Tass:** "Shut —"

**Jake:** "Yes! I said it looked like us!"

**Rev:** REV: You were both dogs.

**Tass:** "Oh!"

**Megan:** "Have you been back to the inn to see Trog recently? He's got a box with like a bunch of stuff that we found from the future that has, like, all the keepsakes from your adventures. And so we kind of saw what you were up to, but — oh, it's so good to see you." And I give him a hug.

**Rev:** REV: Wow.

**Rev:** And he hugs you back.

**Rev:** REV: Yeah, I saw Trog just kind of as Landara and I were coming back through, but then I headed here.

**Jake:** "Oh, where's Landara?"

**Rev:** REV: She's actually in the back room.

**Kim:** "Hi, Rev. Nice to meet you. I'm Kim. I'm also one of the things that they found in the future."

**Rev:** REV: Oh, hi! Welcome to the past?

**Kim:** "Yeah."

**Rev:** REV: Wait, is this your past? Or is this like, a different timeline now?

**Kim:** "That's an excellent question. The way the time works is it's just a river. So we are in the past, which is my past, but now we have sort of set the river in a new direction."

**Rev:** REV: Ah.

**Rev:** Ori wheels out from underneath the car. He is just covered in grease, and he stands up and wipes his hands off.

**Rev:** ORI: Oh hey, guys. How's it going?

**Tass:** "Hey, man. Whatcha working on?"

**Rev:** ORI: Oh, just making sure the car is all set up. Like, the car part of it. Like, I don't know any of this other stuff.

**Rev:** And he gestures to a bunch of strange little devices just all over the car.

**Rev:** ORI: Like, this is — this is their thing. But I was just making sure the car itself is in good working order.

**Megan:** "Is there any oil left in it?"

**Jake:** [Laughs]

**Rev:** ORI: Oh, yeah. No, I was just changing it out, and ... This'll sound like a weird humblebrag. My chest has kind of got too big ...

**All:** [Laugh]

**Kim:** "Yeah."

**Rev:** ORI: And so like I uncorked it, and just ...

**Kim:** [Flustered noises] "This is ..."

**Rev:** He just rubs his pecs.

**All:** [Laugh]

**Kim:** [Exhales] "This is a very good look on you."

**Rev:** ORI: Oh, thanks.

**Kim:** "Yeah."

**Jake:** "Sorry. What exactly is happening to the car?"

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: Ah, yes. I had said that I had some modifications to make to the car, and ... Well, we started to realize how much work needed to be done. And so we just kind of started reaching out to people and their different areas of expertise. And the next thing you know, well, all of this. So the car. First, here.

**Rev:** And he reaches in his pocket and he hands you back the keys.

**Jake:** I'm way less enthusiastic to take these keys.

**Rev:** Yeah.

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: Everybody, everybody step back a little bit. Jake, if you would just move a foot over to the side.

**Jake:** I do that.

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: Push the call button.

**Jake:** "The call button?"

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: Like the ... Oh, I don't know what it's called.

**Megan:** "Alarm button?"

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: Not the alarm, but where you like chirp it, to find out where it's at.

**Jake:** I'll press like the lock button.

**Rev:** You do that, and you hear the first — like the [imitating a car lock] "mep mep" — you hear the first "mep," and then there's a flash of light and the car is right next to you like a foot over, as the second "mep" hits.

**Kim:** [Gasps]

**Jake:** "Oh!"

**Megan:** "What?"

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: This way, you'll be able to call it to you. I don't know what these other worlds are going to be like. But there may be a time where you're doing something and you need the vehicle. So this will make sure that if you ever get separated from it, you won't leave strange technology in another world.

**Kim:** "You can call it across dimensions?"

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: No, you will have to drive the car through the portal. That's why we brought it inside.

**Kim:** "OK."

**Jake:** "Oh, my god."

**Tass:** "That's so cool."

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: And these ...

**Rev:** And he starts pointing at all of the little pieces of machinery.



**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: I was going through the notes. You all have the ability to absorb the energy of the world that you're going into, and change and adapt to fit it. Now, the car will do the same thing.

**Megan:** "Whoa!"

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: It will draw on the energies of that world, and shift into something that appropriately fits in that world.

**Megan:** "It's a Magic School Bus!"

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: I don't know what that is.

**Kim:** "I don't know what that is either."

**Megan:** "Oh my gosh!"

**Jake:** Megan runs to the television, turns on PBS.

**Megan:** [Laughs] I wheel out the TV cart.

**Jake:** "This is bananas. Very good. Good job."

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: There are many complications with trying to send you all into these other dimensions, and making it so that it's safe for you as well as whatever it is you may need to bring back, but also not having this weird fluctuation of what happens with time while you're gone. And that is actually why Ferguson — Ferguson, if you could come over here?

**Rev:** And you see Ferguson flit off of Rev's shoulder. And you can see that around his neck, he's got a very tiny necklace with a glowing center. And as he speaks, if you remember when you heard the queen talk, it was just chittering. But you can hear his voice being amplified by this gem, and pushed out into the room.

**Tass:** Oh.

**Rev:** FERGUSON: [In a tiny voice] Yes. I had the opportunity to deal with some of the time magic. I ran it through a couple of tests. We were able to build a field so that the caster of the spell, who is putting you through, they're put in a slowed state. So that for them it's not very long. But, if you look at the portal, there ...

**Rev:** And he indicates to a bunch of small hourglass shapes along the base of the portal. And there are sand inside of them. And some of it's flowing down, some of it's flowing up, some of it's going very slowly. They're all moving in different ways.

**Rev:** FERGUSON: [In a tiny voice] We set up the portal so that it will sync with the time of the place you're going to. So there won't be a worry of, "Oh, are we being here a very long time? Or a very short time?" It'll just be the time is the time.

**Tass:** "You guys are doing a hell of a thing over here."

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: I'll be honest. We accomplished much more, I think, than we had anticipated. I had mentioned before that I had gathered a lot of time magic in my travels, in my suit. And when we cracked open the containment unit to get to that time magic to utilize, there was a bit of a spillage. And luckily this place is very well warded, and so the magic stayed in here. And we didn't really notice until we ran out of food, and Ori ran out to get some other meals for us. But time in the lab seemed to be going about 3 to 4 days faster than it was outside of the lab. But it did wear off, but it did give us much time to work in what was only three days in the outside world.

**Megan:** "Oh, my gosh."

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: Yes. It was kind of a lucky accident.

**Tass:** "We'll take lucky accidents. We like those. I think we live those."

**Jake:** [Laughs]

**Tass:** "So how close to jumping in this car and going through the portal are we?"

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: I think we're ready when you are.

**Jake:** I think I want to walk over to like James and kind of put a hand on his shoulder, and be like, "It's pretty busy in here. I'll bet it feels like old times, right?"

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: It does. It was very nice to be helpful again. To be useful. To even see the things that I had thought of in the future, and realize that I could put them together now.

**Jake:** "Have you been back to see any of the old team yet?"

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: Hah. No. I wasn't exactly sure how to start that conversation. And nobody thought it was a good idea, what I was doing. And then I lost many years of my life to it. That's a large "I told you so" that I'm not looking forward to.

**All:** [Laugh]

**Jake:** "That's fair. And Margaret is not above that, so ..."

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: Yes.

**Jake:** "Yeah."

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: She hasn't softened with age, has she?

**Jake:** "No. God, no."

**Kim:** "It might be good just to try to say hi, though. You know?"

**Megan:** "She might say I told you so, but she'd also probably be very, very happy to see you."

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: Oh! Maybe I could ... They keep talking about ... I know that it's different on the cube that you gave me. But on the telephone, the textual message.

**Jake:** "Just text. Just text message."

**Megan:** "No, textual. That's it."

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: Textual. Because you give people the context for the things you want to say, but in typed words instead of your own voice.

**Kim:** "And it's very hard to read subtext into it."

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: Yes, yes.

**Jake:** "Well, by all means."

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: Does anyone have her number?

**Tass:** "Yeah, I gotcha." And I'll give it over and, "Make sure to end anything that you send with an 8, three equal signs, and a capital D. And that's like a sign off."

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: Oh. Should I not sign off with my name? Who is this three D...

**Tass:** "You know what? No, you're right. Do that one. That's better."

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: Do I sign every text message?

**Megan:** "You should sign every text message with "Love, James."

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: I like it.

**Jake:** I can't — I can't abide this. [Laughs] I'm watching all these people take advantage of a poor old man who's been out of the world for so long. I'm just. I'm just like, for shame on all of you.

**Megan:** You know what? I would love to get text messages from my grandpa that just say "Love, Grandpa" after every single one.

**Jake:** That's fine. If he loves the person he's sending the text message to, he can do that.

**Rev:** But not to the UberEats guy.

**Megan:** [Laughs]

**Jake:** We can't just universally tell him.

**Megan:** "Grandpa, can we talk to you about something real quick?"

**Rev:** GEOFFREY NASH: Yes, of course.

**Megan:** "So we recently found out that when this world's Nash killed TJ, and TJ killed Death, the energy from The Builder and Death went into Nash as The Devourer. And we know that Death is trying to take over and push out those other energies. And I just — I don't know if there's any information or insight you might be able to give us on if he would have thought to try to work on finding someone to have lined up to take those powers, or ... I don't know. I just — it's so unexpected. And I just thought maybe you might have a different view on the situation."

**Rev:** GEOFFREY NASH: Well, when you all destroyed Koschei, you released the essence of the god from the vessel. So I think the best way to think about it would be to ask yourself these questions. Assume that Nash is in the same situation that you are: simply a vessel for the energy. What did you know from The Empath? Did you know anything? It's very possible that he could still be himself, but being pushed in a different direction?

**Megan:** "Yeah. Yeah, that makes sense. The Empath didn't take me over, didn't make decisions for me. I mean, I still sometimes had these, like, impulses that I should do something. And sometimes it was not something I could really fight against. But I'm still me. So, Nash is still Nash."

**Jake:** "Yeah. I mean, I guess I kind of forget, as much as we refer to Koschei as Death. He wasn't. He was Koschei. That was the problem."

**Rev:** GEOFFREY NASH: Yes. And Koschei had been the vessel before and was there at the separation, then imprisoned. So for him, it was being reunited. For Nash, he may not even know on a conscious level that Death is there.

**Megan:** "It really helps to put that in that perspective. I've just kind of been thinking of Nash and Death and The Devourer as this like own separate evil thing. But kind of relating it to what I've gone through is helpful and kind of makes it less scary, honestly. Thanks, Grandpa."

**Rev:** OK. So what are you all doing in the lair, as everyone is doing final preparations?

**Tass:** I think I'm just going over everything with these guys. Like, I know I'm not going to understand almost any of it, but just ... I want to ask like, what exactly do we do, you know, in accordance to all of this. Like, who does what at what time? Just go over the whole process, top to bottom, as many times as it takes for me to get it.

**Rev:** Yeah. I think ,in a very simplified way, what they explain to you is that you'll all get into the car. Grandpa Tinchler will activate the computer components of this. The time components of it are already going — they just constantly are on the move. And then, as previously established before, Rev will cast the spell. They had to build a new spell that encompassed all of these other parts. And with his kind of growing knowledge of magic through the other worlds, everyone else is so focused on the type of magic that they can do, Rev was the most generalized one, so this was a spell for him. He will be placed inside of the circle of runes. Once he finishes casting the spell, Geoffrey will activate those runes, which will then put Rev in a bubble that slows time down. So for him, it will be a very short time that he's casting the spell, to take away the fatigue that Geoffrey himself experienced. And then the portal will be open, and it will stay open while you are gone. You'll pull the car through, and the car and all of you, of course, will change. And that Ori and Landara are here. You know, Ori was working on the car. But part of why the two of them are here is to act as guards, in case anything comes through the other way.

**Tass:** "Outstanding. So functionally, drive car forward."

**Jake:** [Laughs]

**Rev:** JAMES FRANCIS TINCHER: We tried to make it as user friendly as possible.

**Tass:** "I love you all so much."

**Kim:** They knew who they were building this for.

**Tass:** [Laughs]

**Kim:** Yeah, I'm just watching Ori work. Um, no ...

**All:** [Laugh]

**Jake:** Thirsty!

**Kim:** Listen, it's been said multiple times in this show thus far that Ori had a hell of a glow up, so.

**Rev:** He did.

**Tass:** Yeah.

**Kim:** No, I mean, I'm honestly probably talking with Rev and Landara. Just ... They are the people who I know have been to a variety of dimensions. And kind of like, what is that like? What should I be on the lookout for? And then, you know, out of the corner of my eye, I'm watching Ori work.

**Rev:** [Laughs] Yeah. They tell you collectively that ... You know, after you tell them your experience coming back in time, that feeling of magic kind of being pulled away? That it's a similar feeling, but different in the sense that the magic that is in you, the power that is in you, is shifted away and replaced with something comparable to the world that you're going into. And I think that Rev talks about ...

**Rev:** REV: The first time that Landara took me through one of these, the most jarring thing to me was all of my stuff changing.

**Kim:** "Huh."

**Megan:** "For example, Kim, we went to another world one time and my salt shaker — which I use as kind of a focus to draw my power — it didn't really work there, but it turned into like a cool, like, salt crystal dagger."

**Kim:** "OK, OK. And so ... But as long as you make it back through the portal, like with that item — with that salt crystal dagger. You'll still keep all of your stuff when you go back to the — to your world?"

**Rev:** REV: Correct.

**Kim:** "OK, cool."

**Tass:** "Man, I wonder what this is gonna turn into." And I kind of heft my golden shotgun.

**Rev:** I think Rev sees that, and is like ...

**Rev:** REV: I see you got the top tier skin in Call of Duty.

**Tass:** "I ... I did."

**Rev:** REV: How did you unlock the gold shotgun wrap?

**Tass:** "I guess I am The Chosen again."

**Rev:** REV: Oh! Like, you had to go through the ritual and stuff again?

**Tass:** "No, it sort of came to me honest, I guess."

**Megan:** "It chose him."

**Rev:** REV: Hey, congratulations!

**Tass:** "Thanks. I am equal parts honored and, you know, horrified at the responsibility, and so on."

**Rev:** REV: That checks out.

**Tass:** "Yeah."



**Megan:** I can't really think of anything like specific that I would want to do. Maybe ask Ori about the car and the things that, you know, they kind of pointed out how this works. Just in case while we're in another world and something seems to go wrong, I am at least, you know, I've done a walk through of how stuff's set up. So even if I don't fully understand it, I can try and troubleshoot.

**Rev:** ORI: Yeah, I don't exactly know what to tell you. The car ... Like it's a car here. But if it turns into, I don't know, three wolves pulling a dog sled.

**Jake:** [Laughs]

**Megan:** "Does it need to eat?"

**Rev:** ORI: Probably? Like, treat it like whatever it's like.

**Kim:** "What if you only come back through with two wolves? Then is it like ..."

**Rev:** ORI: Oh, you'd probably be short a tire or something. Yeah.

**Megan:** "Trike?"

**Rev:** ORI: No, I think it just comes through busted.

**Megan:** "Oh, no. So are we going to go through a portal and then we have to try and come back to the same place, like usual? Is it like the kind of cracking an egg thing?"

**Rev:** ORI: Yeah.

**Megan:** "OK, OK. So just gotta make sure somewhere we can drive back through. Cool."

**Jake:** You said that Landara's in the back?

**Rev:** Yeah.

**Jake:** I'm gonna go check in on her.

**Rev:** Yeah. You head into the back, and there is a large metal case on the ground that is open, and it is filled with a bunch of futuristic looking weapons. And she's sorting through them.

**Jake:** I walk up and I do our secret handshake.

**Rev:** LANDARA: Hey, how's it going?

**Jake:** "Uh, too fast. Too fast. Much happening."

**Rev:** LANDARA: Too furious?

**Jake:** "Too furious. How about you?"

**Rev:** LANDARA: Not bad. It's been nice having some company.

**Jake:** "Wait a second. Hold on. Did you ... Have you seen Fast and Furious now? Is that something you've dipped into, in all of your world traveling?"

**Rev:** LANDARA: The first one. Rev showed it to me. He hadn't seen it either, so.

**Jake:** "Boy, that almost blew right past me. But, uh ... Let's talk about that for 14 or 15 minutes, here."

**Rev:** LANDARA: Yeah. I'm excited to see where the franchise as a whole goes.

**All:** [Laugh]

**Jake:** "What is all this?" Like I want to gesture at all the future tech.

**Rev:** LANDARA: These are just some things that I brought along. You know, in case I need them.

**Jake:** "What do they do?"

**Rev:** LANDARA: That one shoots. That one shoots something bigger. That one explodes.

**Jake:** "Are any of them on the car that I need to know about?"

**Rev:** LANDARA: Oh, no, no, no. This is just for us to guard the portal.

**Jake:** "Got it. How was world hopping?"

**Rev:** LANDARA: It's good. I like it. And, you know, I'm glad you guys dropped Rev off, because I think having someone there who's, like, super excited to do it and didn't think it existed makes it even more fun.

**Jake:** "So it's ongoing, then. You're not, like, done now. Like, you're going back in?"

**Rev:** LANDARA: Well, I guess it depends what the future holds. Like for now, I'm here. I told them I'd help guard this portal for whatever's going on.

**Jake:** "Well, I appreciate that. It's good to have you here."

**Rev:** LANDARA: Yeah, it's my pleasure. It's not often I go to a different world and get to actually relax a little bit.

**Jake:** "Well, enjoy that while it lasts. Because at any moment, this could all just go sideways."

**Rev:** LANDARA: Yeah. What kind of things do you think might come through that portal? They all were pretty clueless.

**Jake:** "Oh, I mean, if it's just stuff coming from the places we're going? I don't know. I mean, one of the things we saw was like an egg."

**Rev:** LANDARA: Like a big chicken.

**Jake:** "More reptilian."

**Rev:** LANDARA: All right.

**Jake:** "Yeah. Put Alien on your list of movies to watch."

**Rev:** LANDARA: Oh, yeah. That a pretty good one?

**Jake:** "Well one, yes. And two, may be relevant to things that might come through, so."

**Rev:** LANDARA: All right.

**Jake:** "All right. Well, I'm gonna go help finish up preparations for the jump, here. So ..."

**Rev:** She nods and dips back into the case. And I think as you come out of the back room, Geoffrey has finished cleaning up the runes on the ground, and Grandpa Tincher lets you know that everything is ready. And everyone starts to move into their positions.

**Kim:** Yeah, I want to fire off a very quick text to Strohm. Saying, "Going to another world. Not sure how long I'm going to be there. I love you, and I hope I'll see you soon."

**Rev:** As the four of you climb into the car, Kim, you get a text back that reads, "Be careful, my dear. I'll see you soon."

**Kim:** "Which one are we going to?"

**Tass:** "I was talking with him earlier. I thought the one with the, you know, that had all the star charts and stuff might be a good start?"

**Megan:** "Yeah, it's one of the ones that we have all three of, so."

**Kim:** "Sounds good."

**Megan:** "All right, everyone. Buckle up."

**Rev:** Grandpa Tincher flips a couple of switches on the computer console. The added components on the base of the portal spark to life.

**SFX:** SCI FI MUSIC STARTS

**Rev:** Rev presses the palms of his hands together and cast the spell. He throws his hands open, and the built up magic pulses out from him, lighting up the crystals along the portal's base. And the portal thrums into existence.

**Tass:** "Well, you came through time. Now you get to go through to another world even further than Elnore. How you feeling?"

**Kim:** "Still terrified? But I'm excited that I'm not alone."

**Tass:** "Yeah, that's usually the vibe."

**Rev:** Grandpa Tincher flips one final switch, and a series of runes that run along the floor light up underneath Rev. His movements start to become slower and slower and slower, until you can barely notice that he's moving at all.

**Jake:** I throw it and Drive and slam on the gas.

**Rev:** You pull forward, and through the portal. You've all felt the sensation before, the energy of another world flowing into you and changing you. But it feels different this time, more controlled. Around you, the IPT Cruiser shifts and fluctuates as well, the space inside growing larger, the steering console expanding, and the thrust of the engine becoming stronger and more steady. As you come out the other side of the portal, you find yourself in the dark void of space. Faintly, just ahead, you see a planet illuminated by the turquoise glow of a nearby planetary nebula. A screen on the console lights up, the thrust of the engine becomes stronger, and the small, ashen planet draws nearer.

End of Season Four.

**SFX:** SCI FI MUSIC FADES

**Rev:** Well hey, everybody. Welcome to the end of Season Four. First off, I just want to say thank you to all of you for joining us over these last few years, as we have told this story. We've said it once, we've said it a hundred times. This would not be possible without all of you. Without your support and your words of encouragement, and just your joining us in this adventure every week. It can be very easy to get bogged down in the minutia or

the stress or the work of things. And it is all of you that remind us why we do this every week. So thank you for being so loving and so supportive, and for joining us every week.

So much like last year, we're gonna take a little break between seasons. Everybody's got some time scheduled to take a little bit of a vacation. You know, we have certainly learned that self-care is very important, and it's not something that we are always great at. So we are scheduling in time to give everyone weeks off, so they can go on various vacations and things like that.

As always, do not fear. We will not leave your feed empty during that time. So here's the schedule we have lined up, and this is actually gonna take us to the beginning of Season Five, which will drop on Wednesday, August the 3rd. The first day of Gen Con — that will also be the first episode of Season Five.

So between now and then, we have got nine weeks. Well, what are we gonna do for nine weeks? Well first, just like last year, we're gonna do some one page RPGs. We have recorded these already, and had a blast playing them. So for the first four weeks, you can tune in to hear us run through some one page RPGs.

We're gonna do something we have talked about for a very long time. I know you have heard us talk ad nauseam about Further Investigation, which was a campaign that Jake ran, with Tass and I playing kind of Holmes and Watson-esque characters. Well, just to give you a little bit of a taste of that world, Jake is going to run kind of the beginning of that story. We didn't even play the very beginning of that story. We kind of started at level 3, with the idea that we had already done some cases, we knew each other. Jake is gonna run us through a game of Pathfinder that is kind of the first case of Further Investigation. So it'll be myself and Tass and Kim and Megan playing, and Jake is going to run that. And we are very excited to share those characters with you, because you've heard us talk about them a lot and how much fun we had doing that story.

And then the last episode, before we get into Season Five. So that would be Wednesday, the 27th. We are gonna have our Season Four Q&A. So we already did a Q&A for Urban Shadows, because there was a lot that went on there. If you have any questions about Season Four — or really, about anything over the course of the last four seasons — you can send those questions into us. We would like to have those questions by Friday, July 8th. So about five weeks from now. And we'll take some time to remind you as it gets

closer. But if you've got any questions about the second half of Season Four, or really anything leading up through the story the last four years, you can either submit those on Discord, you can go to the Contact Us form on the website, or you can email us at [thecast@thecritshowpodcast.com](mailto:thecast@thecritshowpodcast.com).

So we hope that you enjoy our next few weeks of one page RPGs, and Pathfinder one shot, and then of course, the Q&A right before we launch into Season Five, which will be out the first Wednesday of August as we are all prepping for Gen Con. So again, thank you all so much for joining us. We love you all very much. We hope that you have enjoyed the journey so far, and we are excited to share with you the rest of this story, as we slowly start to move towards its finale.

**SFX:**

OUTRO MUSIC

**Carolyn:** The Critshow is a Critshow Studios production, edited and produced by Brandon Wentz, with music by Jake Pierle. You can find more information about us at [thecritshowpodcast.com](http://thecritshowpodcast.com). To keep up to date with upcoming live shows, contests, and other special events, follow us at The Critshow on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. For even more weekly content, join us at [Patreon.com/TheCritshow](https://Patreon.com/TheCritshow).