

## RQG – 126 – [Title]

### Content Warnings

- X
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**ALEX**

Rusty Quill presents: Hi everyone, Alex here, I'd just like to take a moment to thank some of our patrons Catherine Muchika, Kitty Hanan, Paige Steele, Alexander C Barr, Jean Ferguson, Sarah Beacon, Kate Carter, Josh H and Neil Harvey. Thank you all ... we really appreciate your support. If you'd like to join them go to [www.patreon.com/rustyquill](http://www.patreon.com/rustyquill) and take a look at our rewards.

**[Show Theme - Intro]**

**ALEX**

Hello and welcome to episode 126 of the Rusty Quill Gaming podcast. I'm your host and GM Alex Newall and with me today, I have:

**BRYN**

Bryn Monroe

**HELEN**

And Helen Gould

**ALEX**

And who are you playing?

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**BRYN**

Hamid Saleh Haroun Al-Tahan

**HELEN**

Azu

**ALEX**

A couple of notable absences ...

**HELEN**

**Imitates sound.** I can't take it.

**ALEX**

Just don't open your eyes. At least one of em deserved it, I'm just saying!

**BRYN**

What! You monster!

**HELEN**

Unclear 0:02:29

**BRYN**

I don't respect your craft.

**ALEX**

No-one does. So yeah, guess what ... we just ... press on without then? Guess that's a thing that we do? So, everyone apart from a couple of notable absences ... drop down as they say ... "Oh my god, wow"

**BRYN**

Oh well Hamid was screaming "No" last time I checked.

**ALEX**

Yes, yes you were.

**BRYN**

**Imitates sound.** Where are they? Where did they go? Grizzop, unclear  
0:03:00 Grizzop ...

**HELEN**

Hamid, I think, I think they've gone.

**ALEX**

Give me a perception check.

**BRYN**

Rolls dice. 28.

**ALEX**

And ... Azu.

**HELEN**

Rolls dice. 21.

**ALEX**

So, things to be aware of ... the room that you're in ... it's been heavily fortified since you were last here. There is a barricade across the main entrance, there appears to be barricades across the side entrances and so on ... there's a massive pile of supplies in one corner, additionally, there is what appears to be a number of cots enough for each person, laid out. Einstein is currently wearing what I can only describe as ... full tactical gear.

**(Group laughter)**

**ALEX**

He's got dark, like dark clothing with coloured shades

**HELEN**

With dust goggles on?

**ALEX**

He's got dust goggles on his head, he's got multiple like ammo-belt style things around him, and a big sort of travelling cloak. If it weren't for the fact that it was Einstein looking back at you a bit gormless going ...

"Wow."

He'd kind of look like he's, he's got this place down! But yeah, he's there and he's like ...

"I can't believe it. Ishaq, Ishaq are you okay? Is everyone, is everyone, is everyone okay?"

**HELEN**

Does everyone have all their limbs?

**ALEX**

Wow ... okay. Alex playing multiple NPCs ... nightmare!

**BRYN**

Yep.

**ALEX**

Losing party members that's basically okay, but playing multiple NPCs is very difficult.

**HELEN**

**laughter**

**BRYN**

Basically okay.

**ALEX**

So I am gonna have to sort of ... skim across this. I can't, I can't, I can't, there's like 6. But yeah, everyone's sort of checking themselves round, Emeka's immediately like ... grabbing Azu aside and is like ...

"Are you okay? What's been happening? Are you okay?"

Vesseek's just sort of ... looking around ...

**HELEN**

Oh no!

**ALEX**

Keeps looking around. Everyone's kind of ... mostly, everyone's like happy like "Yeah, come on!". Pumped. Vesseek's just kind of looking round a little bit ... a little bit lost.

**HELEN**

No. Okay, I'm gonna ...

**ALEX**

Azus' beaming ... they both kind of make eye contact at some point and you can both ... both their eye, their faces just, just drop.

**HELEN**

Oh no! Okay ...

**ALEX**

There's a loud resound clang (**imitates sound**). And then you realise Vesseek dropped the sword in the middle of the floor for some reason.

**HELEN**

I can't do it ... (**laughter**). Okay, alright ... Azu ...

**BRYN**

I'm gonna run over and ... hug Vesseek.

"We'll find a way, we'll find a way ... we'll find them ... professor, professor, how long were we gone?"

**ALEX**

"Okay, so everyone's probably gonna wanna have a ... a sit down or ...

**BRYN**

"Just tell us!"

**HELEN**

Einstein please.

**ALEX**

Been about a year and a half.

**BRYN/HELEN**

WHAT!

**ALEX**

Quite a lots ... happened ... things have, really moved on quite a lot since you were ... here. I'm gonna be honest, I was starting to worry that I couldn't actually ... come here anymore.

**BRYN**

"A YEAR AND A HALF! No, really we can't think about this yet". So three people got left behind, how do we find them professor? How do we ... find em?

**HELEN**

Take a breath Hamid, okay, let's just ... long, long breaths.

**ALEX**

"I'm really sorry, I ... I don't really have anything for this, I mean ... I, I, I, I've done what I can but, it's ...!"

**BRYN**

The gate is still here, is it still broken?

**ALEX**

What a good question to ask in character. Yes, it's still there ... still hung there perfectly motionless, however, obviously, at a quick glance you can see ... there's no-one in there. Interestingly though, there might be a pile of rubble on the other side ... it's hard to tell. Like it's wibbly wobbly.

**BRYN**

It was the planer shift spell! Who knows about planer shift?

**ALEX**

"It's gonna be hard to find any of the old guards these days you know? Everyone's underground".

**BRYN**

What do you mean everyone's underground? You just, you just mean ... you just mean ... the old ... magical experts right?

**HELEN**

Einstein's what happened?

**ALEX**

"I think everyone needs to just ... take a seat, I have some stew, okay? I've gotten very good at making it over the last year, and we just ... everybody needs to breathe okay?"

**HELEN**

Okay.

**ALEX**

And then for fun, to shake things up, I'm gonna do, I'm gonna do a weird jump here. I'm gonna jump to ... exactly the same spot actually now I think about it. Exactly the same spot in every way. By saying every way. It is full of people; it is full of people who are dressed really strangely actually. Yeah, it's weird, cause they all seem to be wearing like ... like period costume or something! It's very strange.

At which point, both Sasha and Grizzop drop to the floor in the middle of the room that they just left the parody at.

**BRYN**

You're the worst!

**HELEN**

You're alive **unclear 0:07:44**.

**BRYN**

The worst.

**HELEN**

The devil, the actual devil!

**BRYN**

They were here all along.

?

We were here all along!

**(Group laughter)**

**HELEN**

Beelzebub himself ...

**ALEX**

Oh, it's not that you're immortal, you just died in a way that I ... predicted so, thankfully, it's all fun and interesting.

**BEN**

We've done a cool time hop.

**ALEX**

So, Sasha ...

**LYDIA**

Yeah.

**ALEX**

And Grizzop, could you both, please give me perception checks?

**BEN**

Rolls dice. 20

**LYDIA**

Rolls dice. 16

**ALEX**

Cool, you're both gonna be taking some damage before I describe what's happening as well.

**ALEX**

Sasha you take 19.

**HELEN**

I never got to thank Grizzop!

**ALEX**

Nope.

**laughter**

**BRYN**

Alex, you know how we spent like ... 8 episodes with a split party ...

**ALEX**

I thought I made it worse.

**BRYN**

And you were celebrating ....

**laughter**

**BRYN**

About reuniting us? We were back together for 2 episodes ...

**ALEX**

And you all believed me! You all believed me!

**HELEN**

**Unclear 0:08:37** a completely ... so much worse way.

**ALEX**

Grizzop takes 23 damage.

**BEN**

That's fine I've got loads of hit points.

**ALEX**

Yeah I know you do. That's why I've got to punish you in different ways!  
So, you both land, face down feeling atrocious. The first things that you notice  
... this room is full of people, there is the sorceress of conversation happening  
... what languages do you guys have?

**LYDIA/BEN**

Not Latin.

**(Group laughter)**

**ALEX**

I don't know where you're going with that!

**BEN**

English, Dutch and Goblin.

**LYDIA**

French, which is quite Latiny!

**ALEX**

It's, they're speaking a weird language you don't know. By the light and  
quality you can tell immediately ... it's night, and there's a lot of lit braziers  
around the place. So like, lots of firelights and so on, and the other thing that

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you can see ... even underneath you ... you know that sort of broken mosaic on the floor ... nah, nah ...

**LYDIA**

It's very nice ... what does it show? Is it sexy?

**ALEX**

Unclear 0:09:29 ... you can't tell because a)

**(Group laughter)**

**LYDIA**

It's Rome!

**BEN?**

We know there's Romans!

**ALEX**

They've been in a sexy tavern basement.

**BEN**

Some big, sexy Hades!

**LYDIA**

Yeah.

**ALEX**

So, you are currently face down ... so you're too close to the mosaic but also, even if you wanted to look the room's full of people, you have no kind of objective look on it. So, let's do some knowledge here shall we?

What knowledges do you have Grizzop ... first?

**BEN**

I have ... dungeoneering, geography, nature, and religion.

**ALEX**

Could you please give me a knowledge geography ... and a knowledge religion please?

**BEN**

Okay, so I've got 11 on geography and 16 on religion.

**ALEX**

You recognise that the language they're speaking is Latin ... you do not speak that language like, you know it enough to be like ... "I know what that is".

**BEN**

I know when somebody's speaking Mandarin, I cannot speak it!

**ALEX**

Yeah exactly, exactly. Sasha what knowledges do you have?

**LYDIA**

I only have local.

**ALEX**

Okay knowledge local ...

**BEN**

She's got ... you said you have a good ... idea of the layout of Rome ... a couple of episodes ago.

**LYDIA**

I did ... yeah, I would know the layout cause we ... I had sort of looked over it.

**ALEX**

Give me knowledge ...

**LYDIA**

But I wouldn't ...

**ALEX**

Local.

**BEN**

Yep more evidence we're playing Assassins Creed ... that was when she synched to that evil point!

**laughter**

**BRYN**

Yeah, I remember that.

**LYDIA**

The dice know that Sasha's in a bad way, cause she rolled a 6 on that so it's ...

**ALEX**

That's fine.

**LYDIA**

Only a 19.

**ALEX**

So, in terms of the geography check you haven't rolled high enough for me to give you any additional information ...

**BEN**

That's fine.

**ALEX**

You recognise that people are speaking Latin. No-one even appears to have recognised that you're here at this point, and when I say the place is full ... I mean ... look up, there's a pair of feet, there's a pair of feet! It's sort of chokka with people ... No-one's noticing you cause you are currently underneath a crowd.

**BEN**

Oh, can we see each other?

**ALEX**

Yes.

**BEN**

Okay.

**ALEX**

You have basically been ... immediately opposite one another, in a full crowd of people and you are, below their knees currently.

**BEN**

Are we in action time? I draw an arrow out of my quiver and mouth "overts".

**LYDIA**

Sasha gets up.

**ALEX**

Cool.

**BEN**

I'm gonna stay sitting, but draw ... draw my bow, not my arrow. Whatever the thing is that I do!

**laughter**

**ALEX**

So, at first no-one really ... seems to have noticed anything whatsoever.

**LYDIA**

Where are the others?

**ALEX**

And I'm gonna pause here and say ... Alex does not know enough Latin, to start yelling out Latin words!

**LYDIA**

Maximus!

**ALEX**

Alex knows things ...

**BEN**

Archmay

**ALEX**

Yeah, Alex knows things he was ... forced to memorise, but not actual Latin.

**BEN**

Cammus Cannos.

**LYDIA**

Decorum!

**BEN**

Pykilliush ... est in ...

**ALEX**

Correct.

**BEN**

In atria.

**laughter**

**ALEX**

So, a, a, a cry of alarm goes from the corner ... Bryn please

**BRYN**

No, you know as much Latin as I do!

**ALEX**

So ... yeah a cry goes up from the corner, you don't know what it is, but people are clearly gesturing to ... Sasha, where Sasha is currently. Apparently no-one's noticed Grizzop yet. But there's a lot of (**imitates sound**). Additional information now you're stood up.

**LYDIA**

Yep.

**ALEX**

Most of the people here, are VERY fat, and in various states of undress.

**LYDIA**

Okay.

**ALEX**

Currently they're all just like (**imitates sound**), none of them are particularly, how do I put it? Likely to combat you.

**LYDIA**

Grizzop, I think we're in an orgy! A Roman orgy ... I think we've gone back in time.

**ALEX**

Another significantly more afraid cry goes up as someone notices Grizzop  
(imitates sound).

**BEN**

Oh, they're gonna think I'm a monster! (Imitates sound).

**ALEX**

The people are immediately backing away from Grizzop and scrambling over  
one another ...

**BEN**

Here a moment, let's shout I'm a monster!

**LYDIA**

We don't, we can't see ... all these weird helpless people!

**BEN**

So, I'm gonna start waving my arrow at people to see if they're backing off.

**ALEX**

I'm gonna ask a question here which is ... do you intend to make this kind of,  
chasey etc and I'll go into a initiative or, are you wanting to ... like, what's your  
current intents here, just so I can gauge how ...

**BEN**

My current intents are I want to talk to Sasha and work out what the answer to that question is.

**ALEX**

Okay, well that's fine. In which case then, I'm gonna stay out of initiative for now. But yeah, everyone's like (**imitates sound**) ... they're all scrabbling over one another, mostly people are tripping over their own clothing and falling over, like, wine is being splashed everywhere, a cry is going up.

**LYDIA**

We need to get out of here Grizzop.

**BEN**

Yeah, before the guards come, but do we start murdering or do we run?

**LYDIA**

Run!

**BEN**

Right, let's go.

**LYDIA**

Run.

**ALEX**

Okay so, you already actually know the layout of this building, it was messed up and half of it was missing, so maybe don't go in that half but let me know what you're wanting to do and I can make this work.

**LYDIA**

Running out the back of the ...

**ALEX**

Out into the city, hiding in the gardens? What kind of thing are you thinking?

**LYDIA**

We wouldn't know the gardens.

**BEN**

You went through the gardens.

**LYDIA**

Yeah, but they were trashed so we wouldn't know what the gardens are like.

**ALEX**

But that's kind of what I'm getting at.

**BEN**

Do you agree that we're running out the front door?

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**LYDIA**

Into ... yeah, of the front door ...

**BEN**

Okay.

**LYDIA**

Cause the back was smashed so I don't know unclear 0:14:01 ...

**ALEX**

Both of you give me a reflex save.

**LYDIA**

Rolls dice. Natural 20.

**BEN**

Rolls dice. 14.

**ALEX**

Natural 20 and a 14.

**LYDIA**

Whatever happened to you, I can catch you.

**BEN**

And also if anyone grabbed me I'm ... shooting them in the throat!

**ALEX**

So, things that happen ... you both leg it out the front door. There are a couple of guards there. I might even use the correct word! Fratorian Guard ... at the entrance. Ooo unclear 0:14:24.

One of them tries to reach out and grab Sasha and just fails. One of them, successfully manages to sort of, get in Grizzop's way ...

**BEN**

Yep.

**ALEX**

I'm not doing the grapple check at this stage cause; I would rather die.

**BEN**

Oh, well cool, cause I'm gonna kill those guards.

**laughter**

**ALEX**

Great, can you, can you take the shot for me please?

**BEN**

Yes, so what I do, is when he grapples me, I shove the bow next to his chest and shoot him up through the chin!

**ALEX**

No!

**BEN**

I've got the lowest, you know height difference to, to make use of.

**ALEX**

To be clear ...

**BEN**

That says a lot.

**ALEX**

Yeah, you're getting ...

**BEN**

It's 26.

**ALEX**

Well, yeah ... you know it's a hit. Roll me the damage.

**BEN**

I mean that's not a lot. Rolls dice ... 5.

**ALEX**

5. Okay enough to, throw his head back (**imitates sound**) ... he's out of your way.

**BEN**

Yep running.

**ALEX**

So you are now running down that long straight avenue that we were ... heading up if you remember, way back when?

**LYDIA**

Yep.

**BEN**

A Roman road.

**ALEX**

There are these braziers set, at intervals. It is a gardened avenue, long, long, straight ... there are ... still a few sort of, let's be honest, for Romans quite foppish looking if I can mix my ... periods a little bit there. People wandering round. There's a lot of nudity, and there's a lot of like, food canapé table type

things ... laid out around the place and you two are ... charging right down the middle of this avenue, no-one has any time to react by the time that they're seeing you, they're like "What was that?". The guards are already in disarray ... when was the last time they had to deal with people ... running out from the place? (**Imitates sound**). So, you are easily just, charging straight down this avenue.

**BEN**

So this is a city full of hedonism bots?

**ALEX**

Certainly seems to be at this stage.

**LYDIA**

Unclear 0:16:07.

**BEN**

Yes.

**LYDIA**

So, as soon as we're out the gardens, we're gonna duck into a alleyway?

**BEN**

I will follow Sasha.

**ALEX**

Can you both give me, one more reflex save?

**BEN**

Yes. Rolls dice ... 16.

**LYDIA**

Rolls dice ... 24.

**ALEX**

Perfect. And can you both give me a stealth?

**BEN**

Yes. Ooer, that was rubbish ...

**LYDIA**

Rolls dice ... only 29.

**BEN**

Rolls dice. I rolled a 3, so a 12.

**LYDIA**

I rolled a 9.

**ALEX**

So, the good news is ...

**BEN**

You need a cloak.

**LYDIA**

Yeah, my cloak.

**ALEX**

You burst through the main gates, that were open ... mostly the issue that you've been having is, other people coming up the avenue, rather than people getting in your way, the guards are completely unable to run any kind of effective defence here like, you've picked "the worst" possible time for them! You manage to make it out, however, you aren't initially able to duck down a side alley or anything. People are like "they're they are, they're" and its Grizzop ... it becomes readily apparent Grizzop's the issue, it is humans and nothing but humans as far as the eye can see and they are all pointing at Grizzop going (**imitates sound**) and pointing at Grizzop, it's really hard for him to duck down anywhere.

**BEN**

Can I take a disguise check?

**ALEX**

So ...

**LYDIA**

Yeah can I ... I was gonna put my cloak on you and then like ...

**HELEN**

Pretend he's your baby.

**LYDIA**

Pretend you're a child.

**ALEX**

Because these are all civilians, we are going to jump ahead, I'm not doing a full chase sequence that lasts four episodes for an entire city it'll drive me completely barmy! Yes, eventually, you manage to find yourselves in a back alley. To be clear though, it was hard one, Grizzop is an absolute liability where you are at the moment, because he's just sticking out ... never mind the clothing like, it's just too obvious.

**LYDIA**

Yep.

**ALEX**

If you want to make a disguise check?

**BEN**

Yes, so ... are you giving me the cloak?

**LYDIA**

Yeah. That only adds ... stealth, I think.

**ALEX**

But, in terms of story fluffy kind of thing, it'll help cover the ...

**BEN**

It might give me a circumstance bonus?

**ALEX**

Exactly, exactly.

**LYDIA**

I don't even have it written down ...

**ALEX**

Do you have any items with which to disguise yourself, or are you making a general disguise?

**BEN**

I've got the cloak.

**LYDIA**

And I have a disguise ...

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**ALEX**

What I meant is ...

**LYDIA**

Disguise kit

**ALEX**

Do you have a disguise kit? Is what I'm getting at?

**LYDIA**

I have a disguise kit.

**BEN**

Oh no, but if you do then ... actually, is it better that you disguise me?

**LYDIA**

Yeah.

**BEN**

Yeah.

**ALEX**

It really is!!

**BRYN**

It is ... if I remember correctly, it's pretty difficult to mechanically to disguise yourself with a member of a different ...

**LYDIA**

Yeah, yeah yeah.

**ALEX**

It's a very high ...

**BEN**

Oh no, it's more just ...

**ALEX**

BC.

**BRYN**

Yeah, it's more just hiding the fact you're a goblin.

**BEN**

Tie my ears back ...

**LYDIA**

Yeah, yeah, yeah.

**BEN**

You know I don't want to ... no-one's gonna look at me and go, "that's a human!". They're gonna look at me and go "that's someone with their face covered, but they're not a goblin" as far as they know.

**ALEX**

So ...

**HELEN**

Weird baby.

**BEN**

Yeah.

**ALEX**

Give me the disguise check? In fact Pathfinder, is disguise its own thing still?

**BEN**

Yes it is.

**LYDIA**

Yeah it is, and I've got 9 in it, which is good cause I only rolled a 9, so 18.

**ALEX**

18.

**LYDIA**

You're an 18 baby.

**ALEX**

You do a really good job! Not like, life changingly spectacular, oh my goodness who are you? But yeah what you do is you like, look, there's no version of this where I can make you look like a full sized human, let's work with what we've got. With the culmination of the cloak doing a lot of the work, you manage to make Grizzop look ... like a passable older child.

**LYDIA**

Yeah, like from the back and the sides, it looks like a child.

**ALEX**

From the front, it's a little bit mucky like, you have had to like, change colouration a lot and stuff.

**BEN**

I have massive solid red eyes.

**LYDIA**

Yeah.

**ALEX**

And here's the part ...

**LYDIA**

Glasses.

**ALEX**

That's what I'm getting at. You are now able to pass, Sasha reckons, as long as you head down ...

**BEN**

Yeah.

**ALEX**

And you aren't, looking at people, talking to people, or generally drawing attention to yourself ...

**BEN**

Yeah.

**ALEX**

But you can now, walk around the streets and people aren't immediately gonna be screaming and charging ...

**BEN**

Yep.

**ALEX**

Okay?

I'm going to jump, hypothetically ... a couple of thousand years, quickly. Back to Central Rome.

**LYDIA**

Okay.

**ALEX**

Einstein has insisted that everyone eats and for what it's worth, you are all ravenous.

**HELEN**

I haven't eaten for a year and a half.

**ALEX**

Well more than that. Einstein starts explaining that Eldarion did sort of, has let him know before that that kind of thing really, leaves you kind of hungry afterwards. And he proceeds to give you a run down.

"Okay, so, things have gotten real difficult so I'm gonna, go through this very slowly, okay? This is, baby steps okay?"

**HELEN**

Okay.

**ALEX**

"Okay. So, you know how a while ago there was problems with, you know riots in, in London and ..."

**BRYN**

Yeah.

**ALEX**

"And Paris and there was some you know, elsewhere?"

**BRYN**

Yeah.

**ALEX**

"And zen you left. And then the rioting stopped in London ... which is quite cool, you know? But it carried on everywhere else you know, but then the riots stopped in France, that's quite cool right? Then the riots spread everywhere else ... basically, as far as it can be described, we're sort of under a foreign occupation ..."

**HELEN**

By what?

**BRYN**

By who?

**ALEX**

"Zats a really good question, with a very complicated answer. It's sort of occupied by us! Sort of, but not."

**HELEN**

US?

**ALEX**

"So, ze people in London, they're still in London, only they're not ze same, they're kind of ... what's the words that Sasha uses? Robotty, sort of."

**BRYN**

What!

**HELEN**

Oh no.

**ALEX**

"I know it's ... zo at the moment, most of Europe is now pretty different ... and zen I mean, good news for you, Africa seems to be holding out okay!"

**HELEN**

Well naturally.

**ALEX**

"Yeah well you know ... Australasia fell a while ago so you know, no prisons! East Asia's okay ... they seem to be doing okay. Basically, people been getting taken over by something and they're really keen to take everyone else over as well."

**BRYN**

Sort of Simulacrum mind control magic?

**ALEX**

"See that's what we thought at first you know, so, me and the other ... the other Harlequins ... I'm totally high up in the Harlequins now by the way! They really appreciate teleporting, super useful skill right now, am I right?! But seriously though its' terrible. So, basically, we started forming something to sort of ... find out what was happening, slow things down, we may have captured some people ... to try and find out what it is".

**BRYN**

Okay.

**ALEX**

"Something sort of grows in them, and zen they start ... they sort of change sides, I don't know how else to describe zis, it's very complicated and I'm not really, the person to ask. Basically ..."

**BRYN**

What have the Meritocrats done?

**ALEX**

"It's a really good question! At ze moment, they're sort of holding a counsel ... since Gweave disappeared."

**HELEN**

Who?

**ALEX**

"Gweave is the Meritocrat who was, you know, in charge of France, a lot of the finance stuff, stuff like that."

**HELEN**

Ahh.

**ALEX**

"They're gone now ... again, I'm just kind of giving you a rundown ... there's, quite a lot of, quite a lot of ... zings going on so, zat's a thing that's happening. Questions?"

I'm gonna take a break, you can come up with some questions, and come back.

.....

**ALEX**

"And yeah, I mean on ze bright side, all of ze issues with the weather don't seem to be linked, you know, it's affecting zem as much as it's affecting us so that's okay."

**HELEN**

Who's them?

**ALEX**

"You know, the, ze ... others, well you know!"

**HELEN**

Do, how, how widespread is this ... problem, like are there like ...

**ALEX**

"Okay, okay let's run through the list ..."

**HELEN**

A dozen of you and a million of them, or ...

**ALEX**

"Basically, everyone West of ... about India, up to, sort of ze Atlantic! That kind of ..."

**LYDIA**

But North of the Mediterranean?

**ALEX**

"Said ... Ishaq"

**laughter**

**LYDIA**

Yeah, I think **unclear 0:24:57** Ishaq.

**BRYN**

Or Gusset, or anyone, it could have been anyone!

**ALEX**

"So, basically, it seems to have started in Europe ... basically. We've got no news on the Americas, they seem to be okay, you know, nothing seems to be happening there, that's good!"

**BRYN**

Where did it start?

**ALEX**

"We think London."

**BRYN**

London.

**ALEX**

"We think London. You know those riots started happening ages ago ..."

**BRYN**

Yeah, it's part of it? And actually how it spread? You said something grows inside people? Some sort of parasite?

**ALEX**

"So, let's put it zis way ..."

**BRYN**

Can you take it out of people again if you capture them?

**ALEX**

"We haven't managed yet and, I wasn't part of it, but I get the impression that doing so is very fatal at the moment. So, I think some people are still working on that a little bit."

**BRYN**

When you say something's in them ...

**ALEX**

"So, I mean, I, I ... you know I draw it ..."

**BRYN**

Yeah.

**ALEX**

"That's a great idea! Okay, one sec ... yes"

Runs over to his supplies and he's like, putting em out. By the way, as he starts like throwing boxes willy nilly ... he's got everything, he has supplied everything here, unnecessarily so, you're pretty certain that there's a raft at one point.

**HELEN**

Wow.

**ALEX**

But yeah he's digging through and digging through, and he's like ...

"Right okay, cool".

**HELEN**

I'm so proud of him.

**ALEX**

He starts, he starts ...

**BRYN**

Unclear 0:26:06 awesome.

**ALEX**

He starts, he starts charcoaling and ...

"Okay cool, so, I'm not very good but, you know, here you go!"

For what it's worth, he's not very good, but what it appears to be is people covered in sort of ... veins, is the best description of it.

"They're very blue, very shiny ..."

**BRYN**

But it's obvious visually when you see someone?

**ALEX**

"In ze late stages, yes, early on not so much, and that's the problem you know!

It's very easy for zem to send people over our side, they just send them back when they start showing signs you know? And they have a real knack for taking our people and making them their people you know!"

**BRYN**

And you don't, we don't know how that's done?

**ALEX**

"No, we ... we have been having a rough time of it ..."

**BRYN**

So, there's a group of you ... the Harlequins working but you don't know what the Meritocrats are doing about this?

**ALEX**

"Well the Cult of Mars, they're doing a lot cause they're doing a lot of the containments at ze moment you know, so they're all the ones on the sort of front, they're the ones sort of ... trying to keep things at bay ..."

But it is literally a ....

"You know it's a big battle, and it's really hard ... fighting your friend, who you were just ... were fighting with like two days ago and now they're fighting you like that's ..."

**HELEN**

So this infects people within ... religions as well?

**ALEX**

"Oh yeah. Yeah, yeah."

**HELEN**

No divine protection or anything?

**ALEX**

"Oh, you're hoping for ze power thing ... not so much, no ... not so much."

**BRYN**

And you haven't find any way to counter act it?

**ALEX**

"Not yet."

**BRYN**

Professor, what's the situation in Cairo?

**ALEX**

"So ..."

**BRYN**

I grab Ishaq's hand and, squeeze it really tight.

**ALEX**

"No need to panic for your family. I keep up to date on ze things, you know! You can trust Einstein, Einstein's got it, yeah." Basically Cairo's sort of becoming a ... like evacuation central, you know. It's got a lot of ze ... ze

infrastructure for the finance stuff went down but, you know, it's been holding up quite well. So you get a lot of refugees coming to Cairo, Damascus also's getting a lot of ze overflow now, since you fixed the water problem. Good job on zat by the way guys, you know, take your wins where you can get them. But, but yeah ... so, Cairo is, is not great. Your family by the way, been checking up on zem, they're fine, they're well out of it!"

**HELEN**

Mitans can do that yeah.

**ALEX**

They had a few volunteers to go, go help out but, for the most part, the threat isn't really knocking at your door, you know."

Beaming ... sort of putting his hand up.

"So, if I wanted to, you know, find people who were, you know, potentially, like related to me and people I care about who are in London and I wanted to look for em, where would they necessarily be? Cause the thing is, if I look for them and I can't find them, you know ... I'm gonna have to look elsewhere! But am I gonna look in Cairo, do I look somewhere else? Because, if, I mean, I've got a list of people that I'd like ..."

And he just keeps going on and then, eventually ...

**LYDIA**

Unclear 0:28:33.

**ALEX**

Yeah Einstein's just like ...

"Okay, okay. So, I'm really sorry, I don't have ze info on zem, I can find it out but, yeah ... like ze Harlequins we do what we can, ze Cult of Mars, we kind of have an understanding now, you know. Zey let us do our thing, zey do their thing and the Meritocrats, we get the impression that something might of ... put a bit of a scare in zem you know ... it makes sense cause, ultimately, you know ..."

**BRYN**

There's only four of them left.

**ALEX**

"Zat's the thing, you know. Big problem, only four! But that's sort of ze lay of the land. I mean feel free to ..."

**BRYN**

Did anything end up happening with the Simulacra ... did any news of weird mechanical bodies finding a wall? It seems like maybe that just ...

**ALEX**

"I feel like zat's what I've just been describing, sort of, you know."

**BRYN**

Well it's not mechanical bodies!

**ALEX**

"No, not really. I tried to look into Wilde, he just ... he just disappeared. He went totally off grid yeah; I have no idea what's happened with zim."

**BRYN**

Oh dear. We should ...

**HELEN**

How do we help?

**BRYN**

Yeah, well the first thing we should do is get these people somewhere safe.

**ALEX**

"I mean ... yeah, step 1 ..."

**BRYN**

Where's safe, where's safe?

**ALEX**

"So, I mean ... Cairo has a bunch of stuff going on, you know like, they, they aren't overwhelmed, they aren't overrun and so on, I think it might be ... make sense to go there first and then sort of make our calls. I've gotten REALLY good at teleporting out of here by the way."

**BRYN**

That's good news professor, well done.

**ALEX**

"I've been here ... twice a week, every week, one week to practice the other one to be ready. Really glad you're back by the way."

**BRYN?**

Thank you so much professor I cannot tell you how much ... I appreciate it and how much you've done, just ...

**HELEN**

Yes, this is fantastic.

**BRYN?**

Thank you.

**ALEX**

"Also, check zis out."

So he closes his eyes and starts screwing up. He starts going like puce, like **(imitates sound)** ... really, really, really shaking, then points and goes ... **(imitates sound)** and you see a illusion of Einstein appear just going ... Hey, he doesn't speak, just goes hey double thumbs up.

**BRYN**

That's brilliant professor, well done.

**ALEX**

He kind of looks to Azu and sorts of gives a wink ...

"That's so easy, I've always been able to do that you know. Just thought I'd show everyone ze things that I've always been able to do, you know ..."

**laughter**

**HELEN**

I nod back ..

**ALEX**

"It's totally normal."

**HELEN**

I nod at Einstein like yes "I'm so proud".

**BRYN**

I turn to look at everyone else ... "Where does everyone want to go?" Maybe Cairo, maybe ... I mean Emeka probably wants to go home? Emeka you probably wanna just go home or ...?

**ALEX**

Emeka just kind of ... sits there for a bit, looks to Azu ...

"If I do, there's not gonna be anywhere to go to ... eventually, is there?"

**HELEN**

It doesn't sound like it.

**ALEX**

**Imitates sound**

**HELEN**

Do you want to come with me?

**ALEX**

**Imitates sound.** Gives a sort of ... nod ...

"So, I reckon we should probably, you know, re-group, I can drop a miline to Currie, Currie's still okay, Currie's bouncing around ... she's, she's the lady with the plan at ze moment!"

**BRYN**

She might be able to help us figure out what wrong in coming back?

**ALEX**

"So I'm guessing by the way I didn't want to, draw attention, the whole Grizzop/Sasha thing ... did they ...?"

**BRYN**

We were all standing in a circle, everyone closed their eyes, when we came back here 3 people were missing.

**ALEX**

"And Eldarion?"

**HELEN**

She's not here.

**BRYN**

Eldarion and Sasha and Grizzop were all ..

**ALEX**

"All three ..."

**BRYN**

Did we feel ... where, where was Eldarion in the circle cause? ...

**ALEX**

So, Eldarion was" ...

Oh, let me think ...

**BEN**

She was me and Azu.

**ALEX**

Azu and Grizzop and then ...

**BRYN**

So, Azu may have felt that happen? So you might know that she stepped out of the circle before the teleport? Whereas Hamid has no idea! Hamid literally, considers them 3 to have been entirely unclear 0:32:11.

**ALEX**

"I mean Zats" ...

**HELEN**

So, do I know that she went?

**ALEX**

Now that you think about it ... yeah. Like, it wouldn't have come up before now, that wasn't a thing that you were particularly ... focussing on.

**HELEN**

Yeah, I was like ...

**ALEX**

A lot of info very quickly, but yeah ...

**HELEN**

I think she may have left.

**BRYN**

What do ya mean?

**ALEX**

"What you mean ... she ran away?"

**HELEN**

No, she ...

**ALEX**

"It doesn't sound like here, she's kinda hardcore sometimes you know!"

**HELEN**

I mean she let go of ... me deliberately I think.

**BRYN**

Where, what, when?

**HELEN**

Before we went, I couldn't stop her.

**ALEX**

"Well I mean ..."

**HELEN**

Grizzop slipped as well.

**ALEX**

"All three of Zem would be ... would have been, really useful right now!"

**HELEN**

Eldarion left, Grizzop ...

**BRYN**

What do you mean left? What happened?

**HELEN**

She stepped away and, then Grizzop was there ...

**BRYN**

Before it started?

**HELEN**

You know how it was! We began to fall and then ... she left and then I was holding Grizzop and then Grizzop wasn't there ... and I couldn't catch him **(imitates sound)**.

**BRYN**

I hug Azu.

**HELEN**

Oh, Azu hugs back.

**LYDIA**

Hugs one of her thighs!

**laughter**

**ALEX**

I'm gonna jump back. Really, really ...

**BRYN**

Yeah ...

**ALEX**

Really, really far back ...

**BRYN**

Yeah, way back.

**laughter**

**ALEX**

Basically as far back as I can ... go, before the campaign starts to fall apart ... to Grizzop and Sasha ... I am, just jumping in pretty much where I left you at this stage.

**LYDIA**

I mean, right, okay, so, like, do you think, like that it probably ... maybe it it drops us at the time when they're just about to like, start the ritual?

**BEN**

Well they didn't seem very ready for a ritual, they're ready for something else!

**LYDIA**

Well, I ... yeah alright then ...

**BEN**

I think we; we might have just been thrown back in time!

**LYDIA**

Well ...

**BEN**

Kind of looking around, the city doesn't seem like much on a war footing like, by the end, the, the Meritocrats were, were at war with Rome! I think this is before they, you know, maybe ...

**LYDIA**

You got any like magic that can help with languages? Oh, is your god still here?

**BEN**

I feel ...

**(Group laughter)**

**BEN**

Confidentially ...

**(Group laughter)**

**BEN**

Alex!

**HELEN**

If its owt like that!

**BEN**

Grizzop, Grizzop feels himself!

**ALEX**

Oh, yeah my bad (**imitates sound**).

**Laughter**

**BEN**

Yeah.

**ALEX**

Oh sorry ... (imitates sound).

**(Group laughter)**

**BEN**

I'm not making the noise!

**(Group laughter)**

**LYDIA**

I mean, you don't ...

**BEN**

I send out my spirit.

**ALEX**

You don't feel fundamentally different from ... normal. You aren't glowing!

**BEN**

Lay on hands?

**ALEX**

It works, do you heal!

**LYDIA**

Yeah, we do actually need that.

**BEN**

Rolls dice. Well, I get 10 back and I'm not fatigued! Yay!!

**laughter**

**BEN**

Yeah, yeah, no ... she's still here. Right, the same plane, the same ... Oh, I think we've just been thrown back in time, but like location and geography stays the same, time stays ... the same?

**LYDIA**

Well, like ... well, is there anyone here that it'll be like, on our side? So like ...

**BEN**

No.

**LYDIA**

The church? No! Like, you don't ... is there no like church? So it's like recognised?

**BEN**

It's a risk. I don't know if the cults were particularly ... they were allowed to exist, they weren't friends with the Meritocrats, they just weren't as bad as Hades. We could find ... Artimus?

**LYDIA**

Yeah, and like ... I can, like ... keep a supply ... you'll just have to be like my weird child?

**BEN**

That's fine.

**LYDIA**

Yeah.

**laughter**

**BEN**

Oh, it's ... okay, I think this is important as well, cause I don't know what's gonna happen but I ... you should know Eldarion sacrificed herself to get us out of there. So, she's gone gone, not us gone, she's gone! As far as I know and, but she like actually, she started the spell and stepped out to ... give us a

chance and I'm pretty sure she did it for you so ... I think she did care even if she had a really bad way of showing it. That's, anyway ...

**LYDIA**

Sasha does not process this unclear 0:35:59.

**laughter**

**HELEN**

Why would you say this?

**BEN**

I'm just very honest.

**LYDIA**

Staring at a wall.

**ALEX**

I love, I love Helen's reaction when she's just like ... so, what you're saying is that you put someone in an atrocious situation, also here's emotional baggage to deal with at the same time!

**BEN**

Oh, erm but also, we literally and legitimately ... outwitted a god! That rumbling was the hand of Hades, literally! I saw it, and we got away. So whatever happens we beat a god, and we, we have that that happened!

**LYDIA**

Yeah.

**BEN**

So ...

**LYDIA**

We had like 12 mates ... back then though!

**BEN**

I said we! We all beat a god, literally, actually a god! So, I don't care what happens now, no-one, no-one can take that away from us so, that's ours to keep! Shall we go find the Cult Botanist? Cause, also the thing is, I have no idea how to get back and I have no idea how to time travel and I don't know who can help us so, we, also might be stuck here for, you know ... for ever.

**LYDIA**

Sasha is staring at a wall.

**BEN**

But we're not dead and we really could be so, hey!

**LYDIA**

Yeah, it's alright and like these people seem well easy to rob!

**(Group laughter)**

**BEN**

Yeah I mean ... if it doesn't work out, we could just ... I'll, I'll kill every single one of them!

**LYDIA**

Right yeah.

**BRYN**

Wow Ben, that smile!

**ALEX**

Grizzop.

**HELEN**

Sasha and Grizzop show everybody.

**LYDIA**

Sasha needs to be the voice of reason!

**(Group laughter)**

**LYDIA**

What!!

**BEN**

Payments are not reasonable.

**LYDIA**

That is almost, the worst bit of emotional baggage. There's a lot of stuff, it feels like ... might I ask Eldarion what was going on? Like, I even said like before we go ... before we go ... I asked her why she didn't want me to do my job and I ... it makes no sense, she was never nice to me, like and she never gave me the things I, I needed like, any kind of support or freedom or, like anything other than just insults! So, I don't know, if she was sacrificing herself for me or for some goal she had right? Like, maybe she had a plan and that plan is now ... I don't know, but like, I don't, I don't know if they'll, do you think they'll cope without us?

**BEN**

Yeah, yeah.

**LYDIA**

Yeah like, I mean well they're like, the average of their sizes and like, it's about us right? Like, and there's lots of other sort of people out there!

**laughter**

**LYDIA**

So ... yeah, I will go nick us some sandwiches, and while I am gone you think about where there might be a cult for us to find!

**BEN**

Okay.

**LYDIA**

Heads off into the ...

**ALEX**

Cool, in which case then ... could you give me a knowledge local Sasha? As much as you're saying to tell ... Grizzop where to find it?

**LYDIA**

Rolls dice. 19.

**ALEX**

19. You'll be able to at least get him to the Temple District that you reckon you saw on the way earlier.

**LYDIA**

Okay.

**ALEX**

Because, again, the layout, it's subtly different like ... its, it's not identical but it's very difficult to say whether it's because your years earlier, whether there's just been like a ...

**LYDIA**

Oh I thought it might be that he's like "we need to get to ... France" or like wherever there was some struggle ...

**BEN**

Oh no.

**LYDIA**

Or we need to get to Greece, where the religion's ...

**BEN**

If you, if you ...

**LYDIA**

Are stronger.

**ALEX**

Like, you will know this without knowledge checks ... there are temples from an Artist in Rome. For what it's worth the way that you always learnt it as well, without a knowledge religion check the issue wasn't that every single person in Rome was absolutely evil, it's just that Rome had a real knack for taking all of the worst people ... rising to the top!

**BEN**

Oh yeah, also I just don't know who's responsible so ...

**ALEX**

Yeah of course, no-one does.

**BEN**

Kill them all!

**(Group laughter)**

**BEN**

That's what I mean.

**BEN/BRYN**

That's the only way to be sure.

**(Group laughter)**

**ALEX**

So, I am going to jump back to the ... present, it's all gone strange! So, jumping back, Einstein's there ...

"Okay, so Cairo zen? I can at least put us in touch with people who can, you know, get involved and so on".

**BRYN**

Okay, Vesseek, where do you want to go?

Rusty Quill Gaming – 126 – [Title]

**ALEX**

He picks up the sword ...

**BRYN**

Are you from Amsterdam as well?

**ALEX**

"Let's go to Cairo!".

**BRYN**

Okay.

**ALEX**

Give me a sentimentative Azu.

**HELEN**

Yes. Rolls dice. Oh, a 17.

**ALEX**

Vesseek smells of righteous anger!

**HELEN**

Ah I know what that smells like!

**(Group laughter)**

**HELEN**

Oh, speaking of, Ed what about you?

**ALEX**

"Oh, well ... I hadn't really ... what's Apollo up to these days?"

"Erm, you mean like the cult or ..."

"No, no Apollo".

"I don't know, that's a ... Ed, I kinda missed you!"

**(Group laughter)**

**ALEX**

"You know."

**BRYN**

Ed we'll get you back to the Temple of Apollo in, in Cairo, it's not a very big one but there's one there".

**ALEX**

"No/Yeah that's probably a good idea. Yeah, I'll be, oh, I'm so late."

**(Group laughter)**

**ALEX**

"I'm so late, I'm gonna be in so much trouble!"

**HELEN**

Oh, he's so adorable.

**BRYN**

I think people will have bigger things to worry about!

**ALEX**

"Do you reckon if I, like solved all of the, the problems they'd let me off?"

**BRYN/HELEN**

Yes.

**ALEX**

"Oh wicked, let's do that, we should do that!"

**BRYN**

Ishaq we will get back to, the rest of the family and figure out ...

**HELEN**

Yeah, that's priority number one I think.

**ALEX**

Ishaq kind of ... holds your hand ... by the way he seems to be handling it really well, like not crying and whirr, just a sort of like "Yeah okay".

**BRYN**

We've created a twin paradox you guys.

**HELEN**

Oh yeah.

**BRYN**

Oh yeah.

**HELEN**

Oh my god.

**BRYN**

Twins who are different ages!

**ALEX**

Bryn gets it ...

**laughter**

**ALEX**

Bryn gets it, I am so happy! So ...

**HELEN**

Oh no.

**BRYN**

Then we'll figure out what to do next. I, I'd like to talk to ... Professor Currie about the plane, the Plane of Shift, I wanna know if there's anything we can do for Sasha and Grizzop.

**ALEX**

"Oh yeah, Currie'll know, Currie's WELL GOOD at that kind of thing! I mean, to be honest, I'm surprised Eldarion was trying to do it like, she's, she ... she never really seems the plane of travel type you know I think she might have pushed herself a little bit."

**BRYN**

Doing it to help. Wait, she, let go just as it was starting?

**HELEN**

I think what happened was ...

**BRYN**

She said she can only transport ...

**HELEN**

She sent, she sent us ...

**BRYN**

Transport nine people.

**HELEN**

And not herself.

**ALEX**

"I mean ... that sort of sounds like her, she was very ... dramatic! I mean zats a, that's a word you know! Very dramatic."

**BRYN**

I wish I had the chance to thank her ... she, saved the rest of us so ...

**ALEX**

"Oh, before I forget ..."

**BRYN**

Not everyone.

**ALEX**

Einstein goes over to his supplies ... rummage, rummage, rummage ...

"Okay, one of these for everyone!"

He holds out what appears to be like, a satchel.

**HELEN**

What's the, what's the ...

**BRYN**

Yeah I'll grab it ...

**HELEN**

Yeah.

**BRYN**

And look through, look through what's inside.

**ALEX**

You got a pen and paper?

**HELEN**

Okay, alright!

**ALEX**

So, in there is what Einstein clearly thinks is ... the ultimate survival pack for all of you heading into a breaking world!

**HELEN**

Fantastic!

**BRYN**

Okay, yeah, fair enough.

**ALEX**

Two potions of cure serious wounds each. And he has a satchel for you guys and all of the hostages FYI.

**HELEN**

God bless him!

**BRYN**

He's great.

**ALEX**

Two potions of endure elements, a full set of ... basically desert weather gear in case you had to leave Rome on foot or something.

**HELEN**

In all the right sizes?

**ALEX**

A good guesstimate. A circle of rope for everyone, like I said these are big packs.

**HELEN**

Gosh I've got so much rope.

**ALEX**

And then last but not least, a mobile stone ... for each person.

**EVERYONE**

Yeah!

**ALEX**

As you're sort of looking through it ...

**LYDIA**

Wait, who had the mobile stone last, the other one, do we still have one?

**BRYN**

No, cause we took it, you had it ...

**BEN**

I think you have it.

**BRYN**

You had it last.

**LYDIA**

Ahhh.

**ALEX**

Yeah, I thought that was the case, if it was wrong I was gonna be ... think quick, think quick, think quick, quick, quick, quick, quick, quick!

**LYDIA**

Can you imagine ...

**HELEN**

It doesn't work properly!

**BRYN**

Who knows? Who knows how magic goes?

**ALEX**

That's the most, that's the most boring answer.

**BRYN**

Yeah, is there food ...

**ALEX**

How fun would it be if it did?

**BRYN**

Is there maybe some food and water in these packs?

**ALEX**

Oh yeah, sorry. There are 10 days of rations and there is a water skin, I realise that technically Pathfinder is like, yeah 10 days of rations but water ... you know what I mean. As you are running through this, like this thing and having a look, Einstein's like literally looking over your shoulders, clearly pleased as punch with himself and he's like ...

"And zhats, zhats a mobile stone and, they're really hardly to make ..."

**BRYN**

This is amazing professor, well done.

**ALEX**

"I technically invented zem you know, but zen I kind of, I kind of got the process down so, just you know ..."

**BRYN**

They rock!

**ALEX**

"Yeah, zey Arrrrr!!!"

**laughter**

**ALEX**

"You zee, everyone's so down at ze moment, you don't need to be, everything's terrible but you could still make a joke!"

**BRYN**

I mean Hamid, Hamid looks distraught and confused, but he's trying.

**ALEX**

Oh god, yeah, you all look awful and you're all still covered in the filth from another dimension I'll just say.

**BRYN**

Thanks mate.

**ALEX**

Dust ...

**BRYN**

No, I'm pretty sure Hamid looks fine!

**laughter**

**ALEX**

Does he really?

**BRYN**

Yeah.

**ALEX**

Oh no did you cast prestidigitation since you came back?

**BRYN**

There was long, there was a long pause, of course he cast prestidigitation ...

**ALEX**

Oh mate, okay, oh god, I've got so many ... no you're fine.

**laughter**

**ALEX**

Cool. In which case then Einstein's right ...

"Okay, so I'm gonna have to ... shuttle."

**BRYN**

Okay, so first Cairo then Currie?

**ALEX**

"Zat sounds like a plan. I'm gonna have to shuttle you guys, don't worry this place is safe as I can get it! I mean, there is NOTHING coming in here, okay?"

**HELEN**

Alright.

**BRYN**

Okay.

**HELEN**

You've done really well professor thank you so much.

**ALEX**

"I know right!"

**BRYN**

These are unclear 0:45:09.

**ALEX**

"How good am I!? Everyone's like ah you, you can't be a leader of the resistance, you can't either resist your way out of a wet paper bag ... totally can, totally nailing it!"

**BRYN**

Professor, you've done amazingly.

**laughter**

**ALEX**

"That's what I thought! Dam straight, okay".

Einstein's like "cool", holding hands ... in a, non-dramatic way.

**BRYN**

You said shuttle ... unclear 0:45:29.

**HELEN**

How many ...

**ALEX**

Basically, he's just holding his hands out for who, whoever ... he can do it in two trips.

**HELEN**

Okay.

**ALEX**

So, I will jump to ... the distant past, past, past. You manage to make it to the Temple District really easily ... disguise it's totally working by the way, the cloak's a little bit out of style ...

**LYDIA**

Yeah.

**ALEX**

Cause you know ... it's quite warm, it's a summer's eve apparently and yeah, like, it seems to be okay.

**LYDIA**

Just like, pretend to be coughing or something, then they'll see why you're covered in stuff ... and why you sound weird.

**BEN**

**Imitates sounds.**

**LYDIA**

Yeah.

**laughter**

**LYDIA**

Right.

**ALEX**

Grizzop starts to attract, a little more negative attention!

**LYDIA**

Well, I mean, Sasha wouldn't get this right. And also of course she is in studded leather goth gear, **unclear 0:46:13** so ...

**ALEX**

So what, what Sasha gets is stares but not get them, get them now.

**LYDIA**

Right yeah.

**ALEX**

So, you're at the Temple District ... things that are slightly weird to Grizzop's eye ... yes it's sort of organically laid out in a way that we described before but there's also ... the temples tend to try and put a little bit of distance between themselves ... really really not, like they're they're, they're kind of ... they're not squeezed up ... what my point is that they seem to be like shoulder to shoulder in a way that ... you're used to a lot more kind of ... division, maybe a little bit of discord, it doesn't seem to be there really. You can easily recognise the Artemidean one. Admittedly it's still in the, the Roman style so its more stone than timbering wood but, you can tell because, all of the others don't have arrow slits.

**laughter**

**BEN**

Cool. Go in there then!

**LYDIA**

Yeah.

**ALEX**

So you head up, there is a guy basically hammering what appears to be a poster of some kind on the wall, straight off the bat I'm not gonna even explain it, you know that the Artimedians tend to go in for like wanted posters and bounties and things like that as a thing ...

**LYDIA**

Oh no.

**ALEX**

So, there's a poster getting put up ... give me a nod any of either of you have knowledge history?

**LYDIA**

I don't have any knowledge history.

**BEN**

No I do not.

**ALEX**

Then, it's got some random geezer on it, Roman geezer probably but not you, definitely not you. I mean they're quick but they're not that quick!

**BEN**

What's the name? It's a Latin alphabet, it's fine ...

**LYDIA**

Yeah, he can read it.

**BEN**

I can read the name.

**ALEX**

That's a really good point. You're not sure how to pronounce it ... it's either Kickero, Cicero, Sikero, Kissero ... I mean Latin it's all weird ...

**BEN**

It's Kickero.

**ALEX**

For a start like, all of the words keep changing, based on how they're used in a sentence! It's nonsense what are you're gonna do with that? But yeah ...

**BEN**

I mean tent is still a thing in modern languages!

**ALEX**

What?

**laughter**

**ALEX**

So anyway, you am a Artimist?

**BEN**

I am an Artimist.

**ALEX**

But yeah, as the guy turns round, sees Sasha ...

**LYDIA**

Waves ...

**ALEX**

Starts gabbling at you in Latin.

**LYDIA**

So she speaks sign language. He doesn't but she is skilled at gesturing right?

And ... no, don't ... like if you learn sign language you get really good at ...  
getting abstract concepts across in ...

**ALEX**

I just feel like I'm gonna be doing the first charades role of the campaign.

**LYDIA**

Yeah, yeah. No and it also wouldn't be the first, we did it before and so she just tries to mime help and I've got something for you. And then like inside like, it's like ...

**ALEX**

Give me a ...

**LYDIA**

I mean if it isn't diplomacy ...

**BEN**

Linguistic?

**ALEX**

I feel like it'd either be linguistics or perform, I'm gonna with ling ...

**BEN**

Yeah, it's perform.

**LYDIA**

Okay. Rolls dice. 11.

**ALEX**

11. He sort of, you know what listen ... good news, he doesn't think you're trying to attack him! So, yeah, he's started doing it, he's kind of like (**imitates sound**) at first eventually you just resort to you know hands together let us inside please! At which point he's like (**imitates sound**) he kind of gestures to Grizzop and kind of gestures like, rocking a kid to sleep style.

**LYDIA**

She kind of does (**imitates sound**) kind of sort of gesture.

**ALEX**

Again the guy kind of taps his nose, kind of comes to invite you in at which point, there is the sound of a distant explosion (**imitates sound**) and huge amounts of screaming.

**laughter**

**BEN**

Yeah, why not.

**LYDIA**

Yeah.

**ALEX**

I'll end the episode there!

**BEN**

Oh Alex ...

**LYDIA**

Of course.

**BEN**

You're the worst!

**LYDIA**

What the, wait, no, this is the end of the recording session for us!

**ALEX**

Yeah, ending there seems sensible, everything's fine.

**BEN**

You remain the absolute worst.

**ALEX**

The party is at best unclear 0:49:43 ...

**BEN**

We hate you; the audience hates you literally everyone in any way involved in this podcast, or adjacent to it hates you!

**LYDIA**

People who haven't heard of the podcast yet.

**Group laughter**

**ALEX**

Bye guys.

**EVERYONE**

Bye!

**[Show Theme - Outro]**

**ALEX**

Hi everyone, Alex again, so this episode actually concludes season 3 of Rusty Quill Gaming, thanks for sticking with us through the ... happy pulpy season, we hope you enjoyed it and are looking forward to what comes next. Season 4 will be starting in a few weeks but don't worry, we've got a few special episodes coming out between now and then so you'll still get your weekly gaming fix. So thanks again from me and the rest of the Rusty Quill gang for following along in our adventures and we'll be with you all again next week.

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