

## STL 61 — Viciousness and Vice-Admirals

### Content Warnings

- Bullying / taunting
- Emotional distress
- Allergic reaction (inc SFX)
- Innuendo
- Mentions of: childhood trauma, injury, death, alcohol

**TREXEL**

Special thanks to Aspen!

**(Sings)** If you go into the woods today,

You're sure to get eaten and die—

So don't go!

**[Show Theme - Intro]**

**IMOGEN**

Rusty Quill presents: Stellar Firma.

**[Theme continues]**

**[Footsteps and door whooshes as Trexel enters]**

**TREXEL**

**(Sings)** Hey hey hey hey hey, hey hey hey—

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk) (Annoyed)** Hey, hey, hey, hey, hey, hey!

**TREXEL**

—here, here, here, here is a David,  
Sitting so forlorn in the middle of the room.  
Hey David—

**DAVID**

Wh—

**TREXEL**

—why do you look so gloomy, with your little eyes looking out at me?  
**(David sighs)**  
Saying as if to say, ‘Trexel save me.’

**DAVID**

No—

**TREXEL**

Don’t worry David.  
Don’t worry David.

**DAVID**

Okay, I’m not.

**TREXEL**

Don't worry David, I'm heeeere.

**DAVID**

Good, I'm so glad you turned up for your shift.

**TREXEL**

I'm a cheerful boy, David. Do you know why I'm a cheerful boy?

**IMOGEN**

**[Beep]** Do not ask him. It is a trap.

**DAVID**

Why are you a cheerful boy, Trexel?

**IMOGEN**

**[Beep]** Why do you do this?

**TREXEL**

I'm so glad you asked, David. Because I take pride and joy in my work. And I don't know about you, that means something to me. You know, clones these days, the ah— It's not like the old days, back when I was—

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk) (archly)** What, where they just got blended after about four hours?

**TREXEL**

Exactly! They had respect. You're absolutely right, David. Now-nowadays, you just flit around, planning... y'know, bits of trees, and here and there—

**IMOGEN**

**[Beep]** It's hard to turn a blind eye when you keep yelling "I'm guilty, recycle me please," into my eye.

**(David makes incoherent strangulated noises to put an end to this line of thought)**

**TREXEL**

Complaining, not allow— oh, sorry, sorry, I'll, I'll do that again—not committing treason at all, at any point, but still—

**DAVID**

**(David sighs) (crosstalk)** Trexel. Trexel.

**TREXEL**

—being real naughty, and I just think it needs to change, David. And I've got an idea of how to do it. And you are welcome, David.

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** Oh, no.

**TREXEL**

No, stop thanking me, you're welcome.

**DAVID**

Please, no. Can we just do the brief?

**(Crosstalk)** Can we just do the brief?

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** I—was chasing Fern Creature, because I just needed one or two more ferns, and—

**DAVID**

You haven't got more ferns. Please, don't fill this office with ferns.

**TREXEL**

David, I have got more ferns, but they're not for you. They're my ferns. Now don't worry about that.

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** Good! Because it's so hot in here, the ferns that we got yesterday have just died! All of them!

**TREXEL**

That's alright! There's more ferns where they came from, and y'kn—in a way, I feel like when a fern dies, it takes some sorrow with it out of the world. It's like a... ferns are like a filter for sadness. At least that's my running theory, because I like ferns—

**IMOGEN**

**[Beep]** This is not how ferns work. They are just ferns.

**TREXEL**

You'll never guess who I found, David, somebody who I should have introduced you to **(stammering)**

**DAVID**

Oh—

**TREXEL**

—days, if not weeks ago.

**DAVID**

Oh, no.

**TREXEL**

The one person that can really bring some joy and fun back into your work, David, make you more productive, make you a better clone, make y-you a better employee!

**DAVID**

Is it Harry? He, he was nice.

**TREXEL**

No! No, it's not Harry. Harry's not the answer. The answer... is Vice-Admiral Fun.

**DAVID**

W-Who?

**TREXEL**

Vice-Admiral Fu— You’ve heard— You haven’t heard of Vice-Admiral Fun?  
They’re always on just after the Face, after the Face does Facetime with the  
Face, you get the Vice-Admiral Fun Happy Funtime Vice Hour.

**DAVID**

Right.

**TREXEL**

We all watched it!

**(Sings)** Ohhhh kids! Heyyyy kids!

You’ve got a gloomy look on your face!

But Vice-Admiral Fun’s coming with haste!

Vice-Admiral Fun is here with games and fun!

Fun fun fun, Vice-Admiral Fun!

Do you wanna play a game? As long as it’s theirs!

Vice-Admiral Fun, who’s got fun shears

Cutting down the bush of sadness!

Making it into the shape of a goat, ‘cos goats are fun!

As is Vice-Admiral Fun! Yeah!

**DAVID**

**(Flat)** No, I’ve never seen that program.

**TREXEL**

Ahh, it was alright. But Vice-Admiral Fun is, is the one surefire way to get any gloomy goose, like you—

**(David groans)**

—up and running again.

**DAVID**

Ah— okay, well, that sounds broadly awful, so let's, like, table that idea, and maybe do it never.

**TREXEL**

Okay, well, you're in luck, because I've brought them. Ladies and gentlemen—

**(David groans again)**

—Vice-Admiral Fun!

**[Door whooshes to admit a mechanized unit]**

**IMOGEN**

**[Beep]** Appearing today, via mobile hologram unit, live from the Fun Bunker — the most fun, and most secure, studio in the galaxy.

**[Holographic unit initiating]**

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Helloooo! I'm so happy to be here!

**(Gasps)**

**TREXEL**

Yeah!

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

It's so great to meet you, David-7! Ah-hah!

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk) (grimacing, elongated)** Ohhh, you know my name.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

**(Crosstalk)** You— Are you a grumpy-guts today?

**TREXEL**

Yes, yes, they are, Vice-Admiral Fun! They are! They're a grumpy-guts!

**DAVID**

Um—

**TREXEL**

Vice-Admiral Fun, um, um, could you, could you, could you yell your patented catchphrase that we all love?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

**(Gasps)**

Well, if it's vice, if it's admiral, if it's fun, then it's me!

**IMOGEN**

**[Beep]** More of a catch-sentence.

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**TREXEL**

It is! It's always you!

**[Clapping, laughing]**

**TREXEL**

Yay, hahaha.

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk) (polite but unconvincing)** Oh, good. Oh, I'm so glad you're here.

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** Oh, I'm young again. I'm young again.

**DAVID**

Well, we've got a brief to do, so let's get on with that.

**TREXEL**

Now, before we get into that, let's not rush this.

**(David sighs)**

Vice-Admiral Fun is here, David, to inject a little bit of pizzazz—

**DAVID**

Mhmm.

**TREXEL**

—and zhuzh into our daily work, so Vice-Admiral Fun is really gonna guide us to being better, happier, more funeriffic employees. Aren't you, Vice-Admiral Fun?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Yes. Absolutely. I've got a whole host of fun, fun games that we can play, that show—

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** Oh, good.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

—how much you love each other, how much you love the Board, and how much you love Stellar Firma, and working here!

**DAVID-7/ TREXEL**

**(Together)** Yaaaaay.

**TREXEL**

You know what? Let's start off with a game,

**(David vocalises sounds of general disagreement)**

let's not rush into the brief, let's start off with a game to get us in the mood.

**DAVID**

**(Incredulously)** We've got roughly fifteen minutes left, Trexel!

**TREXEL**

**(Rapturously)** But we've got roughly an infinite amount of fun to have!

**(Trexel cheers, while David groans and Vice-Admiral Fun laughs)**

**IMOGEN**

**[Beep]** I can assure you that the amount of fun available in this room is decidedly finite.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Well, I thought it would be lovely if you gave each other presents.

**TREXEL**

Ooh!

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Imaginary presents from the palace of your mind. But the person who gives the present doesn't decide what it is, the person who receives the present decides what it is. And they tell the other person, they say 'Thank you so much for being a wonderful present giver.' So... David-7?

**DAVID**

Um.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Would you like to give a present? To Trexel?

**DAVID**

's not, not really a, not really a— Um, here you go.

**TREXEL**

Thank you, David. D-Do I unwrap it now?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Yes.

**DAVID**

Ye—

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Unwrap it and tell us what you have.

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** Qu-quickly please. I haven't used much wrapping paper. It's really easy.

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** Okay, uh, unwrapping it... with my mind. It's a bow... who ties a bow?

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** I didn't—

**TREXEL**

Has anyone got any mind scissors? I'm not...

**DAVID**

No, I didn't, no—

**TREXEL**

I'll tear it open with my mind teeth.

**(Grunting noises)**

There we go, there we go, ah. Ooh. So many layers of mind paper, here we are, here we are.

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** Okay, can we just—

**TREXEL**

**(Gasps)**

David! David, it's a beautiful sketch of me, looking wistfully out of a port window. And there's a speech bubble coming off of it, saying—

**DAVID**

**(Despairingly)** Oh no.

**TREXEL**

'Gosh, aren't I the luckiest clone-haver in the world? I love my clone, David-7, and they love me.'

**IMOGEN**

**[Beep]** You have clearly misunderstood the concept of love.

**TREXEL**

And then if you turn it over, it also has money in it!

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Isn't that wonderful? Well done!

**TREXEL**

Isn't it lovely?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

That's absolutely fantastic.

**DAVID**

It was a—

**TREXEL**

I never knew you thought I felt about you that way, David. I mean, it's a bit overblown, sure, I'm not that fond, but it's nice, the sentiment's nice—

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk) (sighs)** Great.

**TREXEL**

—that you think I feel that way about you. In fact, a little bit sad. I pity you, David, and in many ways,

**(David sighs again)**

pitying you is the greatest gift you could ever give me—

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** That sta—

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** —so thank you David.

**DAVID**

Started out so well, and then just...

**(Whistles, then makes a crashing noise with his mouth)**

**TREXEL**

However, this is mind money, and I would like real money from you.

**DAVID**

No, this is a mind—

**TREXEL**

So if you could just give me so— No, but you can't promise mind money, and then not give me—

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk) (through gritted teeth)** We've already... we've already gone through the David's Place saving fund.

**TREXEL**

I don't remember that, David, so it can't be true. Can you give me some cash?

**COIN FRIEND**

**[Beep]** There's nothing left, you fiend! You monster! You took everything!  
Everything!

**DAVID**

No.

**TREXEL**

I don't know about you, Vice-Admiral Fun, but I don't think David's, uh, playing a very fun game here. I think David's being a naysayer. And what do we say to naysayers?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

We say neigh to naysayers!

**TREXEL**

Neigh to you!

**(Sings)** You're a sad horse, and you're turned into glue!

You're a sad horse, so no more with you!

A sad horse doesn't live in a house!

It gets shot behind the barn! Boom!

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Yay! Oh, you remember my songs better than I do, Trexel. Oh, that was fantastic.

**TREXEL**

I do, I do. It was all I had!

**(Trexel sniffs and re-composes self)**

Hoo! Okay, right, so I better give a gift, uh,

**(Crosstalk)** better give you a gift to you!

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** Yeah, yeah, come on, let's just do that, because we haven't got the brief out yet.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

**(Crosstalk)** Yes, yes, let's keep going, keep the joy train rolling!

**DAVID**

Keep it quick!

**TREXEL**

Uh n— Okay, I, uh, I have forgotten to buy David a gift. Is that a problem?

**DAVID**

No, th-that's... **(sighs)**

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

You can buy one right now from your mind shop.

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** Wait, what's... no, Trex—Trexel, quick, what's this, I've just— no, but I—

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** Oh, well, okay, but hang on, it's, it's Mind, it's Mind Sunday, so I dunno if the mind shop's open. Hang on, I'll have, I'll have a check, hang on—

**DAVID**

Oh, no, Trexel, I've, I've, I've found—

**[A clap, whir, and buzzing sound]**

**IMOGEN**

**[Beep]** Initiating.

**DAVID**

Uh, I found, look, under, under here, look, oh look, you've already got me a present, it's, um—

**TREXEL**

Under the mind tree!

**DAVID**

Yes, it's, it's, oh look! It's a brief! Oh, you've got me a brief! Oh, it's just what I always wanted—

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** I wouldn't do that. I wouldn't buy that. Vice-Admiral Fun, no—Vice-Admiral Fun, they're, they're making—they're making a naughty, naughty sad horse move, I wouldn't have bought...

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** Wait, look, let me—no, quickly, let me just unwrap it—oh look, this—no, this is, this is from Scarlett.

**TREXEL**

**(Displeased grumbling)**

**DAVID**

And uh, and her—where she's from is, is she probably, she probably shouldn't disclose this. Oh, Trexel, this is, this just what I wanted. Thank you so much.

**TREXEL**

**(A series of grumpy noises)**

**DAVID**

Anyway—

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

**(Crosstalk)** Aw, that's lovely.

**DAVID**

—see, okay, **(reading)** so, so I inherited this shipping company from my aunt. She was totally above board – Hail the Board – and by the book. Since I took

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over, we've been doing a lot of... not so above board – Hail the Board – things. You know, a little theft, a little moving of illegal goods here and there, just wondering—

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** Sure.

**DAVID**

—what the ratio of above board – Hail the Board – under the table – Hail the Table – operations has to be before we should just stop pretending to be a shipping company, and fully embrace the title of space pirates.

**TREXEL**

Okay.

**DAVID**

Oh Trexel, this is, oh, this is so nice. And we've got a whole, maybe ten minutes, to work out this, and not be killed!

**TREXEL**

It's a weird gift, David. It's a weird gift that I've given you,

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** Well— well—

**TREXEL**

but hey, if I gave it to you, then it must be good..

**DAVID**

And Vice-Admiral Fun said that I had to come up with the present you gave me, so this is what I've decided. Isn't this fun? Isn't doing our mandated work fun!

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** Vice-Admiral Fun, I want, I want a ruling on this. Is this allowed? Are we allowing this?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Yes, absolutely. Whatever comes from the wonderful mind palace of the person who receives the gift is correct and right and good, and gets all the balloons on their birthday.

**IMOGEN**

**[Beep]** So decrees the judge in this court of fun.

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** Thank you, Vice-Admiral.

**TREXEL**

**(On the cusp of a total meltdown)** I wanted all the balloons on my birthday, where are my mind balloons?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Well... Here you go!

**TREXEL**

**(Gasps, instantly mollified)** Yayyyy! Pop, pop, pop pop pop, pop pop pop, no one has them except me! Hah!

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Right, well, okay, I think... since David-7 got a brief, I think we should maybe... take a look at it, and see what we can do with it?

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk) (sighing, relieved)** Thank you, Vice-Admiral.

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** Okay, Vice-Admiral Fun.

**DAVID**

Right.

**TREXEL**

Okay, so, umm... so this is a question which has plagued me before. At what point does your shady underground crime hobby just become your shady underground crime vocation, you know?

**DAVID**

Mmhmm.

**TREXEL**

Sure, I occasionally break into peoples' sleeping quarters and steal their valuables—

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** Oh, dear.

**TREXEL**

—like not because I'm a burglar, or not because I'm a, I'm a podbreaker, but just cos it's sometimes people are lax in security and it's fun to do. But then when you're doing it every night, and then sometimes during the day when people are at work, and then actually instead of your other work, at what point am I just the best burglar in, in the universe, you know?

**IMOGEN**

**[Beep]** When is there so much horseradish sauce that the beef falls out?

**TREXEL**

When's the tipping point?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Interesting. I'm not sure— I'm— That's not really my area of expertise. My expertise is more in fun. So... I would like to hear what David 7 has to say.

**TREXEL**

Yeah, where do you think the tipping point is, David? At what ratio?

**DAVID**

The tipping point of you going—

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** Well, no-no-no, no-not me, particularly...

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** —from being an executive consultant to... just a thief?

**TREXEL**

No, no, no, no, not me particularly, I— one's tipping point. Y'know, at what percentage do you go from, like, doing some stuff on the si— When does the side hustle become the main gig, David?

**DAVID**

Well... well. Here's the thing. Th-The problem here is that I-I think what they're, what they're doing now, um, are, are not so... um, y'know, Board-approved. Uh, but it seems like they are, oh let's say, following their fun. So... so, Vice-Admiral, if you have— What if, what if their fun isn't Board-approved fun? Which fun should they follow?

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** That's a good question.

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** Board fun or their fun? Eh?

**TREXEL**

And who's better to rule on this than Vice-Admiral Fun? So, Vice-Admiral Fun, given your total commitment to fun, and joy, and following your bliss, and also your total commitment to the Board, and rules, and Stellar Firma, if those two are diametrically opposed, which one do you follow?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Uh, I— **(coughing)**

**TREXEL**

Okay, they're, they're turning—

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

**(Continued coughing)**

**TREXEL**

Oh, they're kind of choking.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Uh—

**TREXEL**

Have you, are you having an anaphylactic shock to that question?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

I- I- I think I'm allergic to, to moral quandaries. Um, **(clearing throat)** just give me a moment.

**IMOGEN**

**[Beep]** It would appear that the Armada of Fun is aflame with this antinomy.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Just give me a moment.

**(Continues to cough wetly)**

**DAVID**

Are you... are they...

**TREXEL**

Are you, are you— Oh, god.

**DAVID**

Oh god.

**(Vice-Admiral Fun chokes and clears throat as Trexel mutters in general concern)**

They've—they've swollen up.

**TREXEL**

Oh that's, that's weir—hang on a minute. But, but, but, Vice-Admiral Fun, I mean, how could you have such a, a strong reaction to this? Surely you come up against these moral quandaries all the time. How to have fun and also TOTAL COMMITMENT TO THE BOARD? And obedience in all things?!

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Well, I think that whatever the Board says... that is fun! And whenever someone suggests that something is fun that is not Board-approved... I come up in hives! It's not very pleasant, and also I get very phlegmy. It's not pleasant.

**(Coughs, clears throat)**

**TREXEL**

How much time do you spend, sort of swollen and phlegmy in that case?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

It's, mmmm... about 98% of the time? Possibly?

**TREXEL**

Oh, wow.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

A lot of people think that fun things are not related to the Board in any way... which is completely and utterly wrong.

**DAVID**

Well, except—

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** Sure.

**DAVID**

—in, in this specific case where obviously—

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** Yeah, in the case that these just—

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** —they're following their fun, and they're saying it's all, it's all below... below board.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

**(Aggressive choking)**

**DAVID**

Oh god, no, what if they've gone again!

**TREXEL**

Okay, okay, okay, David, David, stop talking, stop talking. Vice-Admiral Fun, Vice-Admiral Fun, I think you've misunderstood. Uh, this person, she clearly wants to, to space pirate in the way that the Board likes. Uh... pirate our enemies, for example, then it would be... pirating and fun!

**DAVID**

No, that would be space privateering.

**TREXEL**

**(Sotto voce)** Well, I mean, sure David, but Vice-Admiral Fun's gonna suffocate if we don't, you know, coat the pill a bit.

**DAVID**

I'm not really... bothered. You, you, you brought them here.

**TREXEL**

You're ruining Vice-Admiral Fun. Vice-Admiral Fun was the one thing I had going for me for years and ye— Y'know, you're stuck on your own, and the meat pile's started to smell, and you've lost the fork cos you were chucking it at the wall so that you could get it to, like, jam in there and im-impress girls, and, and... hot boys, and things like that, and, and, and you chucked it, just sort of like, through an air lock, so you're just eating... stinking meat with your hands.

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But then Vice-Admiral Fun's on, and it's all a little bit better! So maybe, David, maybe... you could not ruin this for me?

**DAVID**

Well...

**TREXEL**

You think you could that?

**DAVID**

Maybe... maybe you shouldn't... shouldn't meet your heroes. Cos it's turned out to be Vice-Admiral Fun.

**TREXEL**

Yeah, a big puffy mess. Big sad, puffy mess. You alright over there, Fun?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

I'm just having a wonderful time staring at the wall. Isn't this wall lovely? I love walls.

**IMOGEN**

**[Beep]** Unfortunately, the walls do not love you back. They are just walls.

**DAVID**

I don't think that's tr—

**TREXEL**

Well that's—

**DAVID**

I don't think they're having a wonderful time.

**TREXEL**

No. No, the smile's gone a bit rictussy. Uh, okay, no, y'know what, all is not lost. We can still have fun. Let's just, let's just, let's just, you know what? Let's play another game.

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** Ye—

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

**(Crosstalk)** Yes!

**TREXEL**

Vice-Admiral Fun, why don't we play another game?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

That's a wonderful idea! Right. My next game is called... 'I've Eaten all the Slurry!'

**(Gasps)**

Doesn't that sound fun?

**(Trexel gasps)**

Doesn't that sound fun?

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** It does sound fun, it does sound fun!

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** Right.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Right. So what we're going to do is... we're all going to close our eyes,

**(David sighs)**

and someone is going to say, 'I've eaten all the slurry!'

**TREXEL**

Okay.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

But in a silly, silly voice... and the people who didn't say it have to guess who it was!

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk) (skeptical)** Okay.

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** Okay, okay, okay, okay. Uh, now, my eyes don't close quite as well as they used to, but I'll just put my hands in front of my face if that's okay.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

That is absolutely fine. Alright.

**TREXEL**

Okay.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Let's close our eyes: one, two, three.

**TREXEL**

**(Immediately)** Trexel's eaten the slurry, I did it, I did it, Trexel ate it!

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Well... David-7, can you guess—

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** Yeah, it was Trex—

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

**(Crosstalk)** —who did the silly voice?

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk) (deadpan)** It was, it was Trexel, and it was his voice, it wasn't... it wasn't a silly— it was just a normal voice.

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk) (incredulous)** How did you know? How did you know? I was so— No, that was clearly different.

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** You said, you said, you said your—you said your own name.

**TREXEL**

Yeah, but it was a double bluff! Like, who'd say their own name?!

**DAVID**

You.

**TREXEL**

**(Dawning realisation)** Oh, and I did. Let's play again, let's play again, let's play again, okay, try again, try again.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Alright, alright. 3... 2... 1...

**TREXEL**

**(Yelling)** I'm David 7! I'm David 7, and I ate the slurry! Look at me, I'm a stupid slimy clone, and I ate all the slurry! Look at me, David 7!

**DAVID**

**(Long sigh)** It was, it was Trexel again, because, um...

**TREXEL**

No, wh— No! It was, I—it said, it said David 7, and you said it wasn't a double bluff, so they said they were David-7, so what's your problem?

**DAVID**

Well, you, you, you started insulting me, which I wouldn't do to myself, and, and...

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** Well, you would! Look at you!

**DAVID**

And, you, you, you still, you still used your own voice, so it was pretty obvious that it was.... Unless, uh, Vice-Admiral Fun, can I, can I hear your, your Trexel impression, just to make absolutely sure?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Let's see... it has been a while since I've done impressions on the show, actually. Let's, let's see what I can do. **(unflattering, grating)** 'I'm Trexel Geistman, and I love to do things!' **(laughter)**

**TREXEL**

The Board and the fun are not compatible.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

**(Immediate choking noises)**

**TREXEL**

Yeah, there you go. That stopped that. Now, David...

**DAVID**

Trexel, I don't, I don't think you should really use that against them. That seems a bit cruel.

**TREXEL**

They were doing a mean impression, David, so...

**DAVID**

No, they were, they were just trying to do an impression. There was nothing wrong, they said you liked doing things. You do like doing things.

**TREXEL**

Who says?

**DAVID**

You do!

**TREXEL**

Only Trexel gets to say. I'm a self-determining being, David, and I won't be mocked or made fun of.

**IMOGEN**

**[Beep]** You are a self-determining berk!

**TREXEL**

I'm a noble steed.

**DAVID**

Uh-huh.

**TREXEL**

Look at my hooves! I'm no sad horse.

**(David sighs)**

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**TREXEL**

I'm a happy stallion.

**IMOGEN**

**[Beep]** Let's make some glue.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Well, I apologise, Trexel, if my impression caused any offence—

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** Yeah.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

—and I would like to offer you a bouquet of mind balloons.

**TREXEL**

**(Sings)** More mind balloons!

**DAVID**

Oh, such fun.

**TREXEL**

You know what, this time, I'm gonna, I'm gonna put my face in the mind balloons and let them bounce off them!

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** Oh, pop!

**TREXEL**

**(Trexel emits happy noises that then turn to disappointment)**

I've had an accident.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Oh, dear. Well, let's just move swiftly on from that very odd... interaction, and try another game, shall we? Let's just try another game, that one didn't quite work.

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** Yes, let's push on to another game.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

**(Crosstalk)** So let's try another game!

**DAVID**

Oh yeah, let's try another game!

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** Lots of these games don't seem to work all that well.

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** Let's just push through the pain!

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** Why are the games so bad, Vice-Admiral Fun? Why are these bad games? Cos you should be good at this, cos you've been doing it so long, so why are the games bad?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Well, I-I think they're good, actually. **(breaking down)** I think they're very good games.

**TREXEL**

Why? Why do you think they're good? They're, they're not working. And they're bad. And they're not making David have any fun, and I feel quite hurt, so why are you so rubbish at this? That's— It's just an honest question, why are you bad at this?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Um, well, um, I, you know, on the show, uh—

**TREXEL**

Yes?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

—we have a thing called a script, and I read out the script, and... **(nervous chuckling)**

**TREXEL**

It's scripted? But I thought we were just seeing inside your fun Vice-Admiral Funhouse.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Well—

**TREXEL**

It was scrip— What? Are you telling me it was a lie?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

It's, it's—

**TREXEL**

You're telling me it was a lie, now?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

It, it, it's inspired by true life... and my life is very fun... so...

**DAVID**

Is it?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

It's very, very fun.

**DAVID**

Uh huh.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

I love walls. Walls are good. Walls don't scream...

**(Trexel is disappointed)**

**IMOGEN**

**[Beep]** Walls are fine, and have no opinion of you.

**DAVID**

Vice-Admiral, what's your fun?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

I... I don't know. Just whatever the Board says is fun. That's my fun.

**TREXEL**

No, no, but like—

**DAVID**

Ah.

**TREXEL**

—deep down, what's your fun, though? Cos we all, you know, we all hail the Board, we all love the Board, everyone loves the Board—

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** Oh yeah, love the Board, woo, the Board, yay!

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** I love the board, you love the Board, everyone loves the Board.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Hail the Board.

**TREXEL**

But, you know, when, when it's dark at night, and you're just sitting there alone... what do you think, like, 'You know what I'd love, I'd love to be doing this,' what's that? What's, what's your, what's your bliss?

**DAVID**

Wh-When you close your eyes, what do you see on the inside of your eyelids?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

I see... an elephant farm.

**TREXEL**

Oookay...

**IMOGEN**

**[Beep]** Now that is a surprise.

**DAVID**

No, let's look, yes, and, and what are you... what are you doing in this elephant farm?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

I'm... I'm breeding the elephants. I am encouraging the bull elephants to breed with the lady elephants.

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**DAVID**

Oh... oh, oh, um, and how—

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** So your dream is—

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** —how are you, and how are you doing that?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

I'm playing them... sensual music.

**TREXEL**

Okay, your fun's weird, and it makes me uncomfortable.

**DAVID**

No, no, their, their, their fun's absolutely fine!

**TREXEL**

That's weird fun.

**DAVID**

I mean—

**TREXEL**

What? Hey, she's standing next to a herd of elephants, saying 'Come on, get on with it! Make some progeny, ya sexy trunked beast!'

**DAVID**

Well? Someone's got to do it.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Yes, exactly!

**TREXEL**

That's true, someone's got to do it, and they found a pervert Vice-Admiral Fun.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Excuse me!

**TREXEL**

So, Vice-Admiral Fun, what I'm learning here, what I'm learning here is that my childhood was a filthy lie. Is what I'm learning here. I thought I was watching a true and honest account of a real person having fun, and now I find out that it was a scripted, scripted lie, conducted by an elephant pervert.

**IMOGEN**

**[Beep]** That is the case with more media than you would imagine.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

I don't quite know how to respond to that. I... I had never intended for my show to be a lie. I thought that it was a wonderful, magical fantasy, that every child could enjoy.

**TREXEL**

I understand why they replaced you with Captain Joy now.

**(Vice-Admiral Fun gasps)**

I get it. You know, before I didn't, but I get it now. I get why you were replaced by Captain Joy.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Captain Joy. Captain Joy is the only thing in Stellar Firma that is not fun.

**IMOGEN**

**[Beep]** Ooh! Harsh words!

**TREXEL**

Okay, seem to have—

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** Oh. Ah.

**TREXEL**

—stepped on a little bit of a, little bit of a hot topic there. Um, they've gone quite red, and those are some— You know what, I don't know if you noticed, but quite how big Vice-Admiral Fun's fists were before they, sort of, started clenching like that. Um. How about we, ah, how about we finish off this brief, David? Just quickly finish off this—

**DAVID**

**(Quietly)** Maybe we should get Vice-Admiral to help us, just, just maybe calm them down a bit.

**TREXEL**

**(Quietly)** Yeah, yeah, yeahyeahyeahyeah, okay, okay, okay, so, um, so **(normal volume)** Vice-Admiral Fun, moving away from your utter replacement, uh, by Captain Joy—

**DAVID**

**(Sharply)** Trexel!

**[Vice-Admiral Fun’s mobile holo-unit starts whirring threateningly]**

**TREXEL**

Sorry. Moving— Sorry, sorry, sorry, sorry. Sorry, sorry. Moving, moving— No, okay, moving away from... anything that I have ever said, um, if you’re going to be... a space pirate, you know...

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Yes.

**TREXEL**

—in line with the Board, do you think you should just be, like, out and proud, like, ‘Hey! I’m a space pirate, and that’s okay!’

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

I mean... pirates are fun.

**TREXEL**

They have fun, fun hats!

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Fun hats!

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** Yeah.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

**(Crosstalk)** Fun cravats! And fun bats!

**DAVID**

Or a bat.

**TREXEL**

Or a bat.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Space bats. They're, they're, they're the, they're the new, fancy parrots.

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** Okay.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

This season's parrots are bats.

**TREXEL**

David, I-I think, I think they're a rambling fool. I'm really sorry, I don't know if I can just let them... "Space bats are the new parrots"? Who'd say something like that?

**DAVID**

I mean, it sounds like something you'd say.

**TREXEL**

Oh, it must be pretty good, then. **(louder)** Well done, Vice-Admiral Fun!

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

**(Crosstalk)** Thank you! Yes!

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** Keep going! Yes, okay, so, so fun space pirates have a space bat instead of a parrot.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Yes, yes, and, uh... their ships have special, uh, jet thrusters, that allow them to go through deep space, so that's wonderful.

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** Mmhmm. Sure.

**DAVID**

Uh-huh.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

And their sails—

**TREXEL**

And when we get to the, the murdering bit of being a pirate, what's fun about that?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

If you're murdering bad people, in a fun way, then that's fine!

**IMOGEN**

[Beep] Quis custodiet ipsos pirates.

**TREXEL**

Ah, yes, sure, I, I mean, just out of interest, when you are swinging over onto a ship, space-laser-cutlass in mouth, and, you know, descending upon someone to cut off their head and maybe their hands, at what point do you sort of check in to see if they're a bad person or a good person?

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

You say to them, 'Do you love the Board?' And if they say 'No', then you cut off their head!

**TREXEL**

What, while you're swinging? You're like swinging over, going 'Do you love the Boaaaard?' and then they've got about like two seconds to respond—

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Yes!

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**TREXEL**

—otherwise you assume no, and then slice.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Yes! Exactly. Give them a fair shot at declaring their love for the Board. Two seconds is the Board-mandated amount of time for people to declare their love for the Board and then, heads off! All good!

**DAVID**

Well, it sounds about as fair as anything in Stellar Firma, so that, that checks out.

**TREXEL**

And pretty fun!

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Yes.

**TREXEL**

So.

**DAVID**

I'll just tell this person to—

**TREXEL**

So Scarlett needs to just be, just be a proud pirate, lose the pretence—

**DAVID**

Get her to get a bat.

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** Be a proud, bat-wielding, person-murdering, question-screaming, head-cutting—

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** Go around screaming questions, cutting peoples' heads off.

**TREXEL**

And it gets the Vice-Admiral Fun seal of approval. So whenever you swing over to somewhere, just say, 'I've been sent by Vice-Admiral Fun!' Slice!

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Yes, and make sure to check if they love the Board, and if they do, just... have a party with them! And if they don't, cut off their heads. That's...

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** Fun space party.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

**(Crosstalk)** That's the Vice-Admiral Fun way.

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** Okay. Okay, well, uh... I think, I think we're all done here, so you can just, I think you can go, Vice-Admiral Fun. I think you can go.

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** Just gonna... pop this.

**[Whir of panels and machinery]**

**IMOGEN**

**(Crosstalk) [Beep]** Submitting.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Well, thank you so much for the, for such a fun, fun time!

**DAVID**

Oh, it was so fun.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Now, which bar are we going to now?

**TREXEL**

Uhhhh...

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Which bar are we going to for the after-party?

**TREXEL**

Um, I, I've got, uh... **(stammering)**

**DAVID**

Oh, I dunno, I dunno Trexel, I obviously can't leave this room, it's Board-mandated. But you can, you should probably...

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**TREXEL**

Uhhh...

**IMOGEN**

**[Beep]** And Vice-Admiral Fun can go anywhere on a portable holodeck.

**DAVID**

You and Vice-Admiral Fun should go—

**TREXEL**

Well—

**DAVID**

—go to a nice bar!

**TREXEL**

I've got a, I've got a, I've got a dancing lesson I think, which I can't—

**DAVID**

No, you could go to the, you could all, you could both squeeze into the Asteroid Booth.

**TREXEL**

No, I've got, I've got a— I've got a coupon for like for, for—

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** You know, have a booth together.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

**(Crosstalk)** Very intimate.

**TREXEL**

No, no, no, I'm pretty sure, pretty sure Vice-Admiral could tell you all about their elephant farm.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Yes.

**TREXEL**

It's— I've just checked, I'm just checking the coupon, it's actually, it expires in twenty-five minutes, so I've, I've really gotta, I've gotta go now.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Well we can be fast, we can run, we can scoot on over to the Asteroid Bar—

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** Yeah! Yeah, though.

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** My legs, my legs don't work.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

—and that's where we'll cuddle up with some elephants?

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** No, that sounds lovely, yeah, off you both go. Okay, yeah—

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Come with meee!

**DAVID**

**(Crosstalk)** —no, go on, go on, just enjoy your evening, yeah, I'll clean up here, bye, bye! Bye!

**TREXEL**

**(Crosstalk)** My— No, I... oh, okay, Da... David. Da—Da—Okay, okay.

**VICE-ADMIRAL FUN**

Buh-bye!

**[Door whooshes as Trexel and Vice-Admiral Fun leave]**

**[Show Theme – Outro]**

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