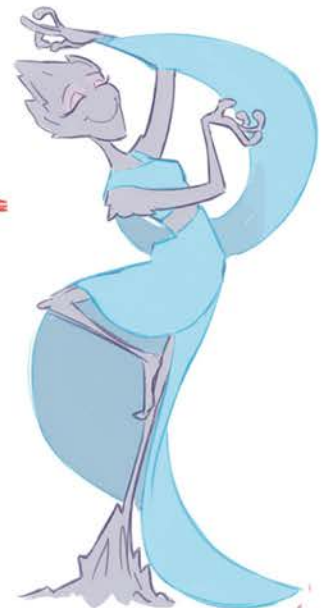


12 FANTASY COURT

WRITTEN BY:
GRANT LEASE



UP ON:

AN IDYLIC, STORYBOOK CLEARING

-- flowers, butterflies, even a few *fairies* -- is BURNT TO A CRISP by a PORTAL that crackles into existence. A SHADOWY FIGURE steps out. Crossbow in hand. He FIRES it into the sky.

SHADOWY FIGURE

Four down, one to go. Mwahaha--
(nothing happens)
Woops, wrong bolt.

He loads another bolt -- glinting, runic metal -- and fires. ON THE BOLT as it sails into the blue sky -- electricity ZAPPING as it SPINS A STORM AROUND ITSELF.

White clouds twist into BLACK THUNDERHEADS. A BOLT OF LIGHTNING goes CRASHING into the land below, revealing --

EXT. MYTHICAL BATTLEGROUND - DUSK

Corpses litter a scarred battlefield. ORCS and DWARVES go at each other with SPEARS, AXES, TUSKS.

CHYRON: Realm of Myth -- Year...Gurgleth

A HEROIC ORC throws off two DWARVEN ATTACKERS, slamming them together by their skulls. An axe goes tumbling backwards, STUBBING the armored green toe of --

TWO-STEAK

Owies!

TWO-STEAK THE ORC (big, green, menacing). Pacifist, wimp, and complete disgrace to orc culture. Think a living participation trophy. He rubs at his stubbed toe.

HEROIC ORC

Do something for once!!

A DWARVEN NINJA goes flying over his head.

HEROIC ORC (CONT'D)

AMBUSH!!!

Two-Steak has no choice but to grab the axe and SWING it at one of his attackers -- but it goes FLYING out of his hand. The Heroic Orc catches it in midair and slays the Dwarves.

TWO-STEAK

...I did something?

HEROIC ORC

I meant something useful! What were you thinking?!

TWO-STEAK

It's always 'what are you thinking? What are you thinking?' No one ever asks what I'm *feeling*. But the answer would be 'insecure'.

ORC SCOUT

Ballista! Down!

A massive BALLISTA BOLT comes down in front of Two-Steak. He lets out a SHRIEK and scoots outta there.

AT THE FRONTLINES

A crowned orc SMASHES a ballista bolt out of the air. King, warrior, and father of Two-Steak -- 3-PORK THE ORC.

3-PORK

Orcs! To me! Charge at our enemies! And why are they enemies?!

ORC SOLDIERS

Because they're different!

They CHARGE -- just as a massive ballista bolt comes CRASHING into their front line. 3-Pork is SKEWERED completely, a pole sticking out his chest. A MESSENGER kneels beside him.

MESSENGER

Your highness! We can probably fix this. You're gonna be fine.

3-PORK

Not fine...big pole in chest. Get...my boy...tell him...he must take the throne...use the Ironheart...to...to...

MESSENGER

3-Pork? 3-Pork?!
(but he's very dead)
Oh God. Our new King...him?

ORCISH KING

(briefly back to life)
FIND MY STUPID SON!

And if you thought he wasn't dead, another BALLISTA BOLT lands and POPS HIS HEAD LIKE A CHERRY.

MESSENGER
Where is the Wimpy Prince?!

The entire crowd of orc soldiers POINT BACKWARDS. Messenger rolls his eyes and gets moving.

A BOLT OF MAGIC LIGHTNING burns 3-Pork to a crisp.

AT THE BACKLINES:

Two-Steak watches the war from afar, metal CLANGING.

TWO-STEAK
Dad?! No!
(REVEAL: he reads a book)
Man that's a good story.

MESSENGER
Your Highness! Don't run away!

Two-Steak sees the Messenger and instantly runs away.

EXT. MAGICAL FOREST - MOMENTS LATER

Two-Steak runs like the wind, Messenger in pursuit.

MESSENGER
Two-Steak! Wait! Stop being a puss!

TWO-STEAK
Can't hear you! But rude!

A clearing ahead -- freedom -- SNAG! -- Two-Steak trips on a vine. He goes tumbling to the ground, skidding to a stop atop a sheer dropoff. The Messenger catches up, PANTING. He finds the EMPTIED CONTENTS OF TWO-STEAK'S BAG -- books.

MESSENGER
Running Away 101? Pacifism for Orcs? My Prince...these aren't the war manuals. Do you strike your enemies with them? Like a club?

TWO-STEAK
They're just regular books, okay! I like them. For reading. Not murder.
(Messenger GASPS)
Why are you even here? I told dad I shouldn't fight. I shouldn't even be here. I'm the only pacifist orc. I'm useless as a 3 tusked glorg.

MESSENGER

(exasperated sigh)

Sire...I agree. But you have no choice. King 3-Pork has been slain. You hold the Ironheart. You are, ugh, you're the king now.

THE IRONHEART: A knotty mash of metal that hangs off 2-Steak's belt. A sign of royalty. It CRACKLES with energy, like the magical storm over head. He grabs for it.

TWO-STEAK

Here, you have it! You're the king now! Congrats on the promotion!

MESSENGER

You know it doesn't work like that! You can't run from this. The blood flows through you. You have our Ironheart. You must take the crown. Don't worry, we can beat the wimp out of you. You've got no choice.

2-Steak looks behind him, off the cliff. It's a deep chasm, but he may make it across if he jumps. He eyes the gap.

MESSENGER (CONT'D)

Why are you eyeing the gap? Stop guesstimating!

TWO-STEAK

I can't go back! I'm different!

MESSENGER

Well grow up and start acting like everyone else! It's time to accept your destiny. Do something for once!

HEROIC ORC (FLASHBACK VOICE)

Do something for once...!

TWO-STEAK

Uch, fine. Let me just get my --
DOING SOMETHING AHHHH!

He turns and LEAPS -- trying to cross the chasm. Messenger PALES -- the Ironheart CRACKLES with energy -- the STORM above CRACKLES in turn -- he FLIES through the air -- WHAM!

A BOLT OF LIGHTNING STRIKES TWO-STEAK'S IRONHEART. He's VAPORIZED in an instant.

HIGH IN THE MOUNTAINS ABOVE:

The Shadowy Figure watches, crossbow and bolts in hand.

SHADOWY FIGURE

Excellent.
 (holding up a fancy bolt)
 Good bolt.
 (holding up a normal bolt)
 Bad bolt.
 (beat)
 Excellent.

INT. INTRADIMENSIONAL SPACE - X

Two-Steak TUMBLES through the phantasmagoria of intradimensional space, COLORS and SHAPES bursting throughout. Scared shitless.

EXT. 12 FANTASY COURT - DAY

A slice of the 'burbs lifted straight out of Good Housekeeping. Till A BOLT OF FIRE goes shooting out a window.

INT. 12 FANTASY COURT - CONTINUOUS

Chaos reigns. An ELF, a WITCH, and a floating green ELEMENTAL (we'll meet them soon) throw a fit. A scared woman (JOY) hides under a table. But it's the last straw. She stands.

JOY

Oh cut it out all of you! I know you're all new and scared but this is no way to treat your new home! It's a one way trip from your realm to this one. I know it's stressful but there are rules! A system! And if you would stop destroying YOUR new house, I can tell you exactly what's going on here!

ELF/WITCH/ELEMENTAL

Fine / Whatever / I acquiesce.

Suddenly, TWO-STEAK THE ORC CRASHES STRAIGHT THROUGH HER ROOF AND INTO THE LIVING ROOM FLOOR. The hole SMOULDERS.

BLEATHER

So...what exactly's going on here?

Two-Steak pops up, SCREAMING.

JOY

...crap.

END COLD OPEN

ACT ONEINT. 12 FANTASY COURT - DAY

Two-Steak sits on the couch, icepack to his head.

JOY

Sorry, how did you get here again?
They didn't tell me to expect
another...guest.

TWO-STEAK

I was trying to leap across the
River of Blago...for no real
reason...when WHAM. Portal. Air.
Crash. Floor. Owies.

His fellow fantasy creatures look on, confused. Meet:

HUCK THE ELF (30s, muscular, bro) -- Crossfit incarnate.
Loves women, workouts, and wood. Like trees.

ELLE THE ELEMENTAL (ageless, ethereal, spacey) -- made of
weird rock (Yttrium), green, and floaty. Zen as hell.

BLEATHER THE WITCH (20s, ditzy, passionate) -- a firecracker,
never afraid to voice her opinion. Not the sharpest wand in
the workshop.

HUCK

So no trial or anything?

BLEATHER

You weren't exiled here?

Two-Steak looks around, confused.

TWO-STEAK

Gorglog, are you pranking me again?
I better not get stabbed this time.

ELLE

You are confused. It happens. The
portals can distort our memories. I
barely remember my trial.

EXT. ACTIVE VOLCANO - REALM OF MYTH - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

A GOTHIC TRIBUNAL sits atop an active volcano. Lava SPEWS out
the side of the mountain below. Leading the trial is a VALKOR
WEREWOLF, vile, regal, strong. Power went to his head decades
ago and found a nice home there.

Elle stands penitent before him.

VALKOR
 And you...Yttrium elemental. What even is that anyways? To your charge -- ahem -- being different and therefore criminal -- our unanimous ruling is...GUILTY. Pebbles, the punishment.

A HUGE DRAGON swoops in above them and breathes the word "EXILE" into the air with fire.

VALKOR (CONT'D)
 Throw her in the portal. Good work Pebble-Poo.

A portal SIZZLES to life over the volcano's caldera. Elle, emotionless, is grabbed by two Trolls and TOSSED in.

ELLE
 This is unpleasant.

BACK TO SCENE

ELLE (CONT'D)
 Oh. I remember it vividly.

HUCK
 We were all exiled for being misfits.

BLEATHER
 Which is like, totally racist.

EXT. ACTIVE VOLCANO - REALM OF MYTH - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Huck's trial. He stands exactly where Elle was.

VALKOR
 You can't even sing a spell? What kind of an elf are you? EXILE!

EXT. ACTIVE VOLCANO - REALM OF MYTH - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Bleather's trial.

VALKOR
 Your spells only light things on fire? That's just silly. EXILE!

BACK TO SCENE

HUCK
 So why are you a loser?

TWO-STEAK

I'm not a loser. This was an accident. I just...fell here.

ELLE

That sounds like the activity of a loser.

JOY

But the exile portal opens up in the attic. How did you end up...?

She gestures to the big holes in her floor and ceiling. They're already patched up a bit. Two-Steak looks outside.

TWO-STEAK

It happened so fast. But I remember water. Perhaps a nearby ocean.

ELLE

We should find the location of this portal. Perhaps it can lead us home. Where is the nearest ocean?

JOY

Jeez I hate to keep saying this, but there's no way back for you guys. It's a one way street. Do you have those? We have those. I can show you. But yeah you're stuck.

HUCK

No, I think Two-Steak is right. I came here by accident too.

BLEATHER

You just told us about your trial.

HUCK

Why does he get the easy out?!

Two-Steak tries to open a window but fails.

TWO-STEAK

This is not an easy out!

(to Joy)

Your doors are useless, human. That was aggressive. I'm sorry. But I'm a normal orc who doesn't like books, so no I'm not!

(beat)

I need to find that portal.

JOY

Yikes. Well. Normally we wait a bit longer to bring you folks outside. It can be shocking. Just...be careful. Us humans are mostly nice but we do have folk called scientists who will definitely kill and dissect you if they find out what you are. And they're the good guys!

HUCK

(beat)

Great speech Joy, wow.

EXT. PLAYGROUND - CONTINUOUS

A line of SCORCHED EARTH cuts through the green. A CRATER at its end. And inside...HALF OF TWO-STEAK'S IRONHEART. Shorn from the explosion. Still smoking.

TWO HUMAN SHADOWS cover it in darkness.

MYSTERY MAN

Is this what's making the signal?
What is it?

MYSTERY WOMAN

A gold mine.

(beat)

I dunno, like a pendant? But it reeks of magic. Grab it babe.

A GLOVED HAND enters the frame to pluck it off the ground.

INT./EXT. JOY'S VAN - CONTINUOUS

UP ON Two-Steak's half of the Ironheart, still clinging to his belt. The gang is all crammed into Joy's minivan. Two-Steak waves at a boy as his car passes. The boy CRIES.

JOY

Now! Few things about this world.
1. You don't look like...you. To the outside world, you just look like regular people. It helps you lay low.

BOY'S POV: Joy's car, filled with weird looking humans. A SCARY BIKER TYPE (Two-Steak) waves from the backseat. Whoops.

JOY (CONT'D)

2. No one knows about you. Far as this world is concerned, Fantasy Creatures are the stuff of...well fantasy. Don't blow your cover. If people find out you're real...like I said, the murder scientists are the good scenario.

BLEATHER

I will burn them alive.

JOY

3. No people-burning! And 4. There is no way back. Two-Steak, you may be special, but all of you exiled here...

(pointing at a sign)

Ooh! One-Way Street! Like I was saying! That should explain it.

(continuing)

Oh and 5. Have Fun! This is your life now. Seize the day! No one wants to spend the rest of their mortal years moping around.

HUCK

We don't have mortal years.

ELLE

I am older than time itself.

JOY

All the more reason! Now Two-Steak, where am I going? The nearest lake is Lake George, but that's about 20 miles --

TWO-STEAK

THERE IT IS!

They pass a PUBLIC POOL. Two-Steak points wildly.

TWO-STEAK (CONT'D)

There. Tiny ocean. I recognize the dirty waters and foul stench. This is where my portal pooped me out.

JOY

Oh yay! Your first day in the Suburbs and we're going to a public pool. This is so perfect! If only I had a boombox.

She SWERVES and heads into the parking lot.

EXT. PUBLIC POOL - PARKING LOT - MOMENTS LATER

Every spot is taken.

JOY

Oh there's nowhere to park. Welcome
to the 'Burbs baby!

EXT. PUBLIC POOL - BEHIND THE EQUIPMENT - SHORTLY AFTER

Two-Steak and the gang stare at the SCORCHED EARTH where Two-Steak came out of the ground. It looks like a butthole. Two-Steak JUMPS back onto it again and again.

TWO-STEAK

Take me back! Take me BACK!

ELLE

This appears fruitless.

JOY

Well...it does look like a portal
was here. This shouldn't happen...

TWO-STEAK

Of course there was a portal! Do I
look like someone who would lie?

BLEATHER

(looking at his tusks)
Like. Yeah.

Huck is staring through the fence at the babes at the pool.

HUCK

Yo why are we on the wrong side of
the fence? All the pretty ladies
are over there.

Bleather resents that. In the background, a SCHOOL BUS pulls
up and starts letting kids off.

JOY

Oh good, right on time.
(carefully, to Two-Steak)
Now, I'm not the biggest expert on
fantasy socio-politics, but...orcs
and dwarves don't get along, right?

Everyone REACTS. Definitely not.

TWO-STEAK

Only sworn enemies for eternity.
Our tribes have been warring for
millenia, often over trifles.
Surely you have no such conflicts
here.

JOY

No we got that too! But great. This
may be what we in the Fantasy
Halfway House biz like to call a
'growth opportunity'. AKA a bad
thing we pretend is good!

POV: Through the trees, we get a horror-esque POV of our
group. Someone, something, approaching.

JOY (CONT'D)

Because I might have failed to
mention that you're not the only
ones staying at 12 Fantasy Court
right now.

THE POV: even closer, now up in a tree.

TWO-STEAK

Don't tell me that we've got a --

PANACHE (O.S.)

(singsong)

Dwaaaaaaaaaaaaarf!

From the trees, PANACHE THE DWARF (400, scrappy, think Billy
Eichner) leaps to the ground with aplomb. He spots Two-Steak
and is instantly enraged.

PANACHE (CONT'D)

Joy Macmillan! What kind of two-
timing shady business is this?
Where's my ice cream? Why is there
an orc here? You lying minx!

Two-Steak GROWLS at Panache. The others watch in bated
silence. A standoff. Joy puts on a big fake smile.

JOY

The ice cream is inside. Time to
bond, right?
(tense beat)
Growth opportunity!

EXT. PUBLIC POOL - PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

A SHADY VAN pulls into the lot. Sonar-esque BEEPS echo from the inside.

MYSTERY WOMAN

They're here. Let's move.

MYSTERY MAN

Juuuust gotta find a parking spot first. Is that one?! Nope.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWOEXT. PUBLIC POOL - DAY

Slides and wavepools and shirtless suburbanites of all ages.
The gang waits in line for DIPPIN DOTS.

JOY

Dippin Dots! One of the greatest
treats the Suburbs have to offer!
How do they do it? No one knows!

ELLE

I sense supercooled nitrogen.

JOY

...maybe! But while we're all here,
I've got your first Suburb task. I
want everyone to make a friend!
Suburb folk love talking to
strangers. Try to make the most of
it. And remember -- you're not you!
But still be yourselves.

(beat)

Still working on how to say that.

A LINE OF MEN instantly appears behind Elle, trying to hit on
her. Huck flirts with passing babes as well.

HUCK

Wanna see my ocarina?

(ignored)

Wanna cut down some trees?

(ignored)

Wanna see my 9 pack?

Two-Steak stands in ruefully next to Panache. He GRUNTS.

PANACHE

You know it's not my fault the
digging didn't work. My Dwarven
super-nails can dig through
everything. Just not dimensions.

EXT. PUBLIC POOL - BEHIND THE EQUIPMENT - FLASHBACK

Panache finishes digging a deep hole where the portal was.
Two-Steak jumps in. Nothing happens. He glares at Panache.

TWO-STEAK

Why isn't this working?!

He lets out a TERRIBLE GROWL. He just can't be intimidating.

BACK TO SCENE

PANACHE

So when ya gonna come clean?

TWO-STEAK

I...what now?

PANACHE

You may fool these nerds, but not me. That growl was fake as my homeroom teacher's wig. They put me in high school by the way. Long story. Tragic. Oscar worthy.

(continuing)

But you're no 'regular' orc. You're the son of 3-Pork. You're the Wimpy Prince!

TWO-STEAK

I'm just a regular, brutish orc trying to get home to kill stuff. But I have heard of this so-called 'Wimpy Prince' and he strikes me as more of an intellectual.

PANACHE

Are you kidding?! That growl? You sound like a gay chihauha! You may not have been exiled like the rest of us, but you're as big a misfit as we are. Why are you lying to everyone?

TWO-STEAK

I'm not...doing that.

PANACHE

Sure. But any other Orc would've shanked me for that. Hey, you wanna live in denial, not my problem. Maybe you're really a fish! But you can't run from yourself forever.

(beat)

I'm gonna get more Dots.

Panache moves ahead in line. Two-Steak FUMES.

AT THE FRONT OF THE LINE:

Elle is thronged by FLIRTY BROS. Bleather tries to squeeze by to get some ice cream. She keeps getting PUSHED OUT.

BLEATHER
 Hi, can I have -- EXCUSE ME -- I'd
 like an order of -- PARDON ME --
 yeah, just a small -- GET AWAY FROM
 ME!!

An awkward beat as everyone stares at her.

BRO 1
 Wow, this girl is so much less
 chill than you are, Elle.

BRO 2
 Why aren't all girls like Elle?

BLEATHER
 She's made of rocks!!

HUMAN POV: We see Elle as a beautiful supermodel. They look
 at the normal Bleather like she's crazy.

BRO 1
 If she's made of stone, it's a
 stone I'd put my ween in.

Elle, oblivious, watches as a pool boy DUMPS CHLORINE into a
 pool mechanism. She waves.

ELLE
 Hello Chlorine!
 (no response)
 I do not like your elementals.

Joy nudges her way past the crowd, eating her DOTS.

JOY
 Hon...we don't have elementals on
 earth. That's just a pile of
 Chlorine they're dumping into the
 pool to keep it clean.

ELLE
 You mean...this is all there is?
 (she looks at the boys)
 But they are so impure here.

HUCK
 Hottie alert in the pool. She's got
 ears for days. Anyone wanna join?

He doesn't wait for a response. Elle and Joy share a look.

JOY
 They're impure everywhere.

EXT. PUBLIC POOL - PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

The van still circles, looking for a spot. BEEP. BEEP. BEEP.

MYSTERY MAN (V.O.)
Want me to let you out?

MYSTERY WOMAN (O.S.)
No. We're doing this together. As a couple goddammit.

MYSTERY MAN (O.S.)
Oh look, a spot! Nope. Motorcycle.

They keep circling.

EXT. PUBLIC POOL - WAVE POOL - CONTINUOUS

Huck makes his way through the waves and people.

HUCK
Cutie? Where'd you go?

He sees her -- UNDER THE WAVES. DROWNING.

HUCK (CONT'D)
Drowning babe! Help!

He looks around -- then dives in after her. He pulls her to the surface. She SPUTTERS.

DROWNING LADY
Oh my god my leg cramped and I just slunk right down there. I was gonna die! You saved me!
(to everyone)
This man's a hero!

Huck starts to take in the APPLAUSE, smiling. He carries her out and is high-fived by lifeguards.

AT A PICNIC TABLE:

Two-Steak munches on Dots in silence. Joy approaches.

JOY
Y'know you're never gonna make friends out here if you don't even talk to anyone.

TWO-STEAK
Surprise! I don't fit in anywhere.
Alert the scribes.

JOY

What about that one? She seems nice?

Joy points to a GIRL reading PACIFISM FOR HUMANS. Two-Steak instantly perks up. But Panache walks by --

PANACHE

Nice try Joy, but real orcs hate making friends, right Two-Steak? You prefer to brood with your own thoughts, contemplating murder and destruction. Not stupid stuff like reading books on Pacifism. Right?

TWO-STEAK

(caught)

Technically, we...grr...yeah that's how orcs are. I don't need friends. I don't need an ally in an emotional time. That's for...nerds.

JOY

Well there's no use being a gloomy gus is all. Look at Bleather. She's doing great.

They turn to Bleather, who doggedly approaches the men hounding Elle.

BLEATHER

Hey, what's up?

BRO 3

You're not the pretty one.

BLEATHER

You're missing out!!

(to the next one)

Hi, wanna be friends?

BRO 4

Why would I talk to you when there's a goddess right there?

BLEATHER

Stupid mortal!

(to herself)

Don't set them on fire. Don't set them on fire.

PANACHE
 (to Joy)
 I can't tell if she's pathetic or
 inspiring.

JOY
 Probably both!

EXT. PUBLIC POOL - PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

BEEP. BEEP. BEEP from the Van.

MYSTERY WOMAN (O.S.)
 Our first hit in years and we're
 trapped looking for parking!

MYSTERY MAN (O.S.)
 Ooh, a spot!
 (he pulls in)
 What are we bringing this time?

MYSTERY WOMAN (O.S.)
 The big guns.
 (beat)
 And the small ones. Just bring all
 the guns.

MYSTERY MAN (O.S.)
 Righto.

EXT. PUBLIC POOL - CONTINUOUS

Huck is being paraded around like a hero. Two-Steak tries to
 concentrate on his plight but keeps getting distracted. His
 toes tap so hard they MAKE A HOLE in the concrete.

TWO-STEAK
 Maybe more magic lightning
 could...? Oh but dragon's blood --
 No they don't have that here. A
 warlock could --

HUCK
 Suburbs rule! Woo!

TWO-STEAK
 --could--could--guh. I can't
 believe I miss the Realm. This is
 like Blood Rite all over again.

Joy pulls a pamphlet out of her bag. "THE SUBURBS AND YOU"

JOY

Look, I know it's not much, but I've been putting these together to help the newbies out with their transition. Maybe it'll do you some good.

TWO-STEAK

Thanks. This actually means a lot.

Panache SWATS it out of Two-Steak's hand.

PANACHE

Orcs hate to read! We just went over this! It's an insult to even show them a book, right Two-Steak?

TWO-STEAK

(so pissed)

I mean. Technically. In our realm.

Panache RIPS the thing to shreds.

PANACHE

Another day saved by Panache!

TWO-STEAK

Panache! I swear I'm --

Two-Steak tries to muster up the courage to say something, but he can't do it. He's still the same guy inside.

TWO-STEAK (CONT'D)

Guh. I'm going somewhere to meditate. I mean punch stuff. Self-control is for the lesser races.

(sotto)

Goddammitshitwoosah.

He STOMPS away. Joy shoots Panache a look.

PANACHE

This is good for him. I promise.

(Joy stares HARDER)

Okay fine! I'll go talk to him.

Joy turns back to watch Bleather and Elle flail around with the boys.

JOY

I'm good at this.

EXT. PUBLIC POOL - BEHIND THE EQUIPMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Two-Steak kicks at the dirt around the portal-hole.

TWO-STEAK
 Stupid humans and portals and
 dwarves. I miss my swamp. I miss my
 dad. I even miss -- my Ironheart!

He grabs the heirloom and finds it shorn in half.

TWO-STEAK (CONT'D)
 No no no no no you can't be broken.
 No no no no. God dwarf it.

He looks all over for the other half -- the hole, the ground,
 a tree -- but no avail. He starts to SOB.

WOMAN (O.S.)
 Are you okay?

Two-Steak looks up. A pretty HUMAN WOMAN walks hand in hand
 with her BOYFRIEND. Two-Steak tries to man up.

TWO-STEAK
 Oh, yeah, I'm...allergies. Pollen?
 That's here too right? I'm cool.

WOMAN
 You sure? Because I think I see
 (pulling out a BLASTER)
Mythical scum.

It's the Mystery Man and Mystery Woman from before. Names:
ROGER (60s, retired, along for the ride), and **TALULAH** (30s,
 cutthroat, hellraiser). Fantasy Hunters.

From their POV, we see our creatures in their HUMAN FORM.

ROGER
 Babe this feels a little strong.

TALULAH
 It's them! I promise. Listen to the
 beepy beeps.

She pulls out her tracker. BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP. Two-Steak
 puts his hands up.

TWO-STEAK
 Please don't hurt me. I'm a
 pacifist.

TALULAH
Lies already, orc. I know your
kind. Nasty. Brutish. Violent.

TWO-STEAK
I'm different! I like books!

TALULAH
It's like you're not even trying.

She starts to CHARGE her laser. Panache appears from around
the corner.

PANACHE
Two-Steak! I'm sorry my
psychological warfare was so
effective and you took it
personally. I was just trying to--

A BLASTER right up in his face.

PANACHE (CONT'D)
Leave. I was trying to leave.
(feeling for her face)
Who am I talking to? I hate being
blind! I'm so blind!

TALULAH
Too late, Dwarf.

She ZAPS them both into unconsciousness.

TALULAH (CONT'D)
Get the van.

ROGER'S POV: He and his girlfriend have just tazed two weird
looking humans. Kidnapping next. He weighs whether or not to
say anything. Indecision written on his face.

ROGER
Babe are you *sure* these are -- ?
(she ZAPS the taser)
Getting the van!

END ACT TWO

ACT THREEEXT. PUBLIC POOL - DAY

Huck gets a HUGE MEDAL hung over his neck. He double-fists big containers of Dippin Dots.

HUCK

Could this day get any better?!

EXT. PUBLIC POOL - BEHIND THE EQUIPMENT - CONTINUOUS

Roger and Talulah TOSS the unconscious Panache and Two-Steak into the back of their van.

INT. CREEPY VAN - CONTINUOUS

Two-Steak mumbles in his sleep. "Daddy I'm sorry" etc. Panache comes to. WIGGLES OUT from beneath Two-Steak. Catches his breath and tries to get his bearings. THUNK.

TALULAH (O.S.)

Are they waking up?

ROGER (O.S.)

They're out cold, babe. Can we go?
I think we kidnapped actual people.

TALULAH (O.S.)

Not people. That's the point.

Panache balks at the conversation. He stage-whispers.

PANACHE

Two-Steak! Wake up! Code red!

TWO-STEAK

(groggy)

Oh nurse I just had the worst
dream. I fell into the suburbs and
there was this terrible, loud, ugly
(seeing Panache)
Oh.

PANACHE

We gotta get outta here! These guys
are gonna cut us up like Joy said!

TWO-STEAK

Where did they go?

OUTSIDE

Talulah and Roger stand inside the dug out portal hole.

ROGER
You feel anything?

TALULAH
(very nearly a yes)
.....no.

BACK IN THE VAN

PANACHE
We don't have much time! You've
gotta break us out.

Two-Steak looks at their bonds. They're both roped down hard.

TWO-STEAK
I think you're getting me confused
with Garathor Ropebreaker. Want to
talk about your feelings though?

PANACHE
I'm gonna scratch you so hard once
I'm out of here. Actually...

Panache tries to claw at his bonds. The angle is awkward as hell. But Two-Steak is enraptured by something up front. Inside a glass enclosure. Glowing. The other half of his --

TWO-STEAK
Ironheart.

EXT. PUBLIC POOL - CONTINUOUS

Joy CLAPS as Huck is presented the Key to the Pool. Elle is carried in on the shoulders of RIPPED DUDES. Bleather has ACTUAL FIRE burning in her eyes.

ELLE
Bleather, would you like some of my
friends? I think I have too many.

GUY 1 GUY 2
We'll be her friend for you! Her? I guess!

JOY
Oh I'm so proud of you! You all
made friends! Well except for Two-
Steak. But was he really in my
column?

BLEATHER
Where'd he go anyway? I need
someone to complain to and maybe
set on fire.

ELLE

I sense his magical presence. It seems he's leaving this location.

JOY

Can you sense Panache? I'm hoping they didn't murder each other but also kinda hoping they did.

A car BACKFIRES -- and they turn to see THE FANTASY HUNTERS' VAN PULLING AWAY AND INTO THE STREET. Panache's head POPS UP in the front seat window before he's thrown into the back.

ELLE

Yes. That was Panache.

Joy is ALREADY PULLING THEIR MINIVAN up to the entrance.

JOY

C'mon people, go go go!

Bleather comes. Elle floats over. Huck is crushed.

HUCK

Awh man.

(re the Key)

I'm taking this though! Woo!

He bolts for the minivan, big key in hand.

INT. CREEPY VAN - MOMENTS LATER

Talulah drives up front, Roger beside her. Panache is THROWN into the back. THUD.

TWO-STEAK

Did you get the Ironheart?

PANACHE

(re his empty hands)

Yeah, they didn't suspect a thing!

C'mon! How about be an orc and actually do something for once?!

Two-Steak mounts his courage -- deep breath in -- and --

TWO-STEAK

Roar.

TALULAH

Did someone cough?! Keep it down back there!

TWO-STEAK

It didn't work. It never does. I couldn't scare a swamp squirrel. I'm not a stupid orc. I'm just a wimp who can't do anything.

PANACHE

Agreed. But you ARE an orc. Look at your tusks! Your skin! I see an orc! Who cares if you aren't a stabby murder guy like your bros? You can still be as Two-Steak as possible. As long as you're an orc, that's the orciest thing you can do.

TWO-STEAK

Hmph. That's not what my dad said.

PANACHE

Look, you're not the only one with a secret, okay. I'm the son of Lord Stolidus.

(beat. No reaction)

The Dwarven King? Your tribe's mortal enemy? Man you guys *don't* like to learn. Point is -- I understand. Stolidus never loved me. Only dirt and mead. Have you ever had mead? It's cloying! Ptah! Not even Joy knows. I told her I was a merchant's son. Me! Hah! Okay there you go. We're the same but different. We had a moment. Do your thing, my work here is done.

Panache leans back, content. Two-Steak takes all that in, thinking.

INT./EXT. JOY'S VAN - CONTINUOUS

Joy drives like a bat outta hell. Everyone holds on tight, scared shitless. She gains on the other van.

JOY

Gimme back my prisoners, scum!
(into the rearview)
Not prisoners! That's just slang!
(back to the road)
I'm gonna frickin kill you.

ELLE

Are you going to ram them with our bodies?

HUCK

Don't do that! My body is amazing!
I'll even give you my key!
(to the key)
No, I didn't mean that baby. Shh.

BLEATHER

You can just drop me off here.

They WHEEL around a corner and all get THROWN aside.

JOY

What did I tell you about
seatbelts?!

INT. CREEPY VAN - CONTINUOUS

Two-Steak makes his move.

TWO-STEAK

Hey, uh, Talulah? That's your name,
right?

TALULAH

Don't talk to me, scum!

TWO-STEAK

I'm sorry. I'm just. I'm really
scared. This is scary, right?

A beat. Talulah is clearly on edge.

TWO-STEAK (CONT'D)

I bet you're nervous too. Hard not
to be. Is that even a little right?

Talulah stays tense. Silent. Roger looks back and forth at
the tied up humans in their backseat.

ROGER

What the hell is happening...

She shoots him a look. Then, to Two-Steak:

TALULAH

I said shut up! Of course I'm
scared! Mythical beasts like you
have no place in this world.
Ruining our lives, our homes, our
families. You've got your own
realm! Stay over there!

Roger takes all this in too.

TWO-STEAK

I really respect you sharing that with me, Talulah. It takes courage to be vulnerable. Thank you. It sounds like you've had some experience with us..."mythical creatures" before. Is that right?

(long beat)

Are there others? A way back?

TALULAH

Be quiet! I know what you're doing!

TWO-STEAK

I'm just trying to understand what's happening here.

ROGER

(looking out window)

Tal. I think there's a housewife following us in a minivan.

PANACHE

(sotto)

Bless that silly woman.

Talulah punches coordinates for 'SECRET LAB' into her GPS.

TALULAH

You'll find out soon enough, orc.

INT./EXT. JOY'S VAN - CONTINUOUS

The van ahead of them starts making moves.

JOY

Oh crap! They're onto us! Guys, what can we do?

HUCK

I can cut down trees.

ELLE

I glow in the dark.

BLEATHER

Holy shit! I can do something!

ELLE

But you only light things on fire.

BLEATHER

Which used to be a problem! Until now bitches. Joy, get me a clear line of sight on that van.

JOY

It's the one in front of us. We've been following it the whole time.

BLEATHER

Oh. Great.
(chanting, serious)
Aklareth dahaaris nikthos --

-- She starts to PULL FIRE from between her fingertips --

BLEATHER (CONT'D)

These words still just sound like gibberish to me.

(back to serious chanting)
Kolotec bactus --

INT. CREEPY VAN - CONTINUOUS

ROGER

Yep, they're definitely following us. Just looks like a frumpy girl sticking her head out the window but it's very suspicious.

TALULAH

You brought friends, huh? WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING?

TWO-STEAK

I didn't bring friends. I--I don't even have friends.

TALULAH

Don't be an idiot. Orcs are tribal creatures. You're just like the rest of those swamplords.

TWO-STEAK

No, I'm not. That's, ugh, that's the problem. I wasn't kidding. I've never had friends. Well, I had a small doll once. But I had to make it out of bones. I called it Murderdoll so that the other orclings wouldn't take it from me. But they still did.

(meek)

His real name was Carl.

Talulah listens, not objecting.

ROGER

The chick outside is doing some
sort of weird dance with her hands
now.

TALULAH

Honey. Focus.

ROGER

I'm really trying.

BEHIND PANACHE: Panache finishes whittling at his bonds with
his super-sharp Dwarf nails. He starts in on Two-Steak's.

PANACHE

Your skin feels weird.

TWO-STEAK

I have denticles. Like a shark.

TALULAH

Keep talking, Orc! I'm intrigued by
how...pathetic you are.

PANACHE

It's working!!

TWO-STEAK

I don't even want to be in this
realm, y'know? I came here by
accident. I was running away. From
a war. From myself maybe. I guess
I'm just scared everywhere. And
right now I'm scared that, even
though I hated him, I never got to
say goodbye to my dad. My last
words to him were the unprintable
Orcish curses.

(very real)

I just want to go home.

That hits Talulah. The words 'MY DAD' echo over and
over...she starts to drift across lanes of traffic when --

ROGER

Babe! Drifting! Pothole!

She SWERVES the wheel...but nothing happens.

TALULAH

What's going on?!

ROGER
Do you smell burning?

EXT. JOY'S VAN - CONTINUOUS

Bleather CACKLES as she MELTS THE VAN'S WHEELS to nothing.

BLEATHER
Fire, bitchezzzz!

INT. CREEPY VAN - CONTINUOUS

Panache cuts Two-Steak's bonds just as the VAN HITS THE POTHOLE. Everything goes ZERO GRAVITY as it does a full front flip.

PANACHE
(SLO-MO)
Nooooowww!

SLO-MO: Two-Steak SNAGS the Ironheart, PUNCHES out the back door, and LEAPS out with Panache.

TWO-STEAK
(SLO-MO)
Sooooo cooooooooooolll.

EXT. CREEPY VAN - CONTINUOUS

Two-Steak and Panache tumble to the ground. The van LANDS on its shattered wheels. It SCREECHES away, creating a trail of SPARKS. The gang rushes up but only see Two-Steak.

JOY
Oh thank god you're safe!

BLEATHER
You're so welcome! Wow!

ELLE
Where is the tiny one?

Two-Steak rolls over. Panache is in his clutches, terrified.

PANACHE
I'm alive! I farted so bad but I'm
aliiive!

TWO-STEAK
Oh god it stinks! But I DID
SOMETHING!!

Two-Steak holds out the Ironheart! He holds the pieces close but doesn't connect them -- YET.

HUCK

Great. Uh. What is it? A key to a city? You one-upping me bro?

TWO-STEAK

Oh, no. It's a great Orc heirloom. It was forged aeons ago--

He looks around. There's a BIG crowd of people starting to form. He gets instantly self-conscious.

TWO-STEAK (CONT'D)

Uh. Should we go back home?

JOY

Ooh! You called it home! But yes. Don't want this on TMZ!

SINGLE SHOT of the Creatures from a Human POV. They all run into the van and drive off.

BLEATHER (O.S.)

What's TMZ?

INT. 12 FANTASY COURT - NIGHT

Bleather uses her fire-magic to heat tea for Two-Steak. He takes a sip.

TWO-STEAK

Wow. This is delicious. Thank you.

BLEATHER

I'm useful! Suck it mom! Suck it Glenda! Suck it entire graduating class of Whisper's School of Magic! Fireeeee.

Panache looks up from a magazine.

PANACHE

Can you be less excited? I'm trying to not get PTSD here.

JOY

Panache. Let her have a moment. We've all had tough days.

BLEATHER

(glaring at Elle)
Yeah. The worst.

Huck strolls back into the room, finishing a call.

HUCK

Just that nose stuff? Great. Bye!

(to the group)

Holy shit! The pool offered me a job! I haven't been offered anything in years! I mean besides that Unicorn sandwich but I think that was a joke. They didn't even ask if I could sing magic! Wahoo!

BLEATHER

Why is everyone doing better here than me? This is stupid!

JOY

Oh c'mon, we --

SHWOOOOP! BRIGHT GREEN LIGHT (akin to Portal Light) fills the room as Two-Steak puts the halves of his Ironheart together. They fuse perfectly.

BLEATHER

I'm sorry, WHAT did you say that thing was again? Cuz that looked like portal magic.

TWO-STEAK

It's an Ironheart. An icon of orc culture passed down for ages in my family. The...Royal Family.

PANACHE

(feigning surprise)

What? Royal family? This is NEWS! In fact. I have a confession, too. I am ALSO a Royal. No need to bow.

Panache proffers his hand -- a RUNIC RING upon it.

HUCK

Uh. Guys.

Huck fishes an BEJEWELLED OCARINA out of his back pocket.

HUCK (CONT'D)

I'm a prince too.

Elle removes a SECTION OF HER OWN BODY.

ELLE

Me as well.

Bleather pulls a RUBY PENDANT.

BLEATHER
Princess Bleather here...umm...

All eyes turn to Joy. She's just as shocked as the rest. A HUM fills the room. They all look around.

TWO-STEAK
Is that our -- ?

They all move closer and the hum gets LOUDER. *Their trinkets.* Two-Steak puts them all on the living room table. They start to GLOW.

BLEATHER
Call me crazy, but that looks like-

TWO-STEAK
Portal magic. Looks like there might be a way home after all.

Off the GLINT in everyone's eye --

JOY
(looking to the sky)
If they can hear us, I am so fired.

EXT. 12 FANTASY COURT - CONTINUOUS

TWO-STEAK (O.S.)
Now how does that make everyone
feel?

GROANS as we pull further away -- into the sky -- to --

EXT. ACTIVE VOLCANO - REALM OF MYTH - NIGHT

The Shadowy Figure from the opener watches the events at 12 Fantasy Court through a CRYSTAL BALL. He pulls back his hood, revealing his true identity.

VALKOR WEREWOLF.

VALKOR
You're not as stupid as the others,
are you, Orc? Well bring. It. On.

PEBBLES THE DRAGON lands in front of him and VOMITS.

VALKOR (CONT'D)
Oh Pebbles! Not on the new rug!

END ACT THREE

TAGEXT. CLIFFSIDE - NIGHT

The Fantasy Hunters' van rolls up to a cliff, still driving on the busted RIMS. CREAK CREAK CREAK. A MASSIVE ROCK rolls aside and reveals an entryway. They struggle in.

INT. TUNNEL - NIGHT

The Van drives and drives and drives. CREAK CREAK CREAK.

INT. SECRET LAIR - NIGHT

They park the Van in their lair -- completely decked out with high tech gear, blasters, specimens in jars, etc. As they step out --

ROGER
You want to talk about it?

TALULAH
So not the time.

INT. ELEVATOR - MOMENTS LATER

ROGER
Maybe they weren't --

TALULAH
They were.

And the elevator DINGS! Letting them into --

INT. ROGER AND TALULAH'S HOUSE - NIGHT

A perfectly normal living room. Just two Suburbanites living the American Dream. LAUGHTER echoes from across the street.

TALULAH
I hate whoever's having fun right now. Can you rub me down hun?
(Roger starts to MASSAGE)
I'm coming for you, Creatures.

We pull out from her HATE-FILLED EYES --

EXT. ROGER AND TALULAH'S HOUSE - NIGHT

And see the placard bearing their address:

13 FANTASY COURT

END SHOW