

The Guild Season 3

by

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Knights of Good Productions, Inc.

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EPISODE 1:

1 INT. CODEX'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 1

Codex talks into her webcam, looking grim.

CODEX

I barely resurrected myself from that party. Bladezz destroyed Tink's character, Clara devastated Vork with betrayal and I was kinda dumped. Twice. I allowed myself a few pints of self-pity ice cream, old-lady butter pecan FYI, and I've decided to get us back in a great mood. How? The expansion to our game is coming out! "The Spires of Dragonor!" New continent, new powers, most importantly...new character hairstyles! I'm hoping it will heal some of the wounds in the Guild; help us focus on what matters, It's about the GAME, not each other! Dumb humans.

2 EXT. GAMESTOP - DAY 2

A long line of gamers outside a gaming store. At the front is a large camping tent. CODEX sits beside the tent reading aloud. Next to her, ZABOO sits on RILEY'S lap, PDA central. Loud make-out noises.

CODEX

(struggling)

...uh, and there are gonna be a lot of changes to warlock powers! It's gonna be way easier to summon your familiars...

RILEY

(grabs for Zaboo's pants)

I'm the only one who summons your familiars, right baby?

ZABOO

Oh yeah, innuendo'd. Hey, Bladezz?

Bladezz strolls up. He's wearing a Cheesybeard's uniform.

BLADEZZ

Yeah?

ZABOO

This making out with other humans
is unbelievable!

Riley and Zaboo go back to making out. Codex grimaces.

BLADEZZ

Is the store open yet? I got
fifteen minutes to get back to the
fry dipper.

CODEX

You got a job?!

BLADEZZ

To pay off the credit cards I ran
up for Tink. Working is soul
crushing. I can't believe adults
live like this.

Riley and Zaboo, heavily making out, tip over against Codex.

BLADEZZ (CONT'D)

What a waste.

CODEX

Um, Vork! You wanna hear about the
new metalworking recipes?

Vork pops the flap of the tent open. Inside he has kitchen
equipment set up. He's cooking and looks rather disheveled.

VORK

Not now. I'm making found-object
stew. Sidewalk living requires
hearty sustenance.

Vork picks up a half-eaten hamburger off the sidewalk.

CODEX

You didn't have to camp out 2 days
early. It's not like they're gonna
sell out. There will be plenty of
copies of the game.

VORK

It's a symbolic gesture, Codex. My
malfeasance as Guild Leader has
caused heartache, vagrancy and...
(glances at Zaboo)
...the possible spread of STDs.
Assuring our position as first in
line was a small thing I could do
to rebuild my credibility.

Vork closes the tent flap.

CODEX

Well, we're all excited to be the first to get the new expansion.
(re: Riley and Zaboo)
...some of us a little too much.

Codex heaves Zaboo and Riley off her. They break their kiss.

ZABOO

Your tongue is such a randy gymnast.

RILEY

I'll triple lutz your uvula.

ZABOO

That's actually figure skating.

RILEY

Get over here.

They go back to kissing. CLARA rushes up with a baby monitor.

CLARA

Hey Guildies!!! Sorry I'm late!
Took forever to find a children's department close by!

CODEX

Your kids are in a store right now without you?

CLARA

Not totally.
(into baby monitor)
Mommy's at the GameStop, I love you!

CODEX

Clara, that's a baby monitor, it only goes one way!

CLARA

I'll buy something when I pick them up. I'm not trashy. Where's Tink?

CODEX

Right there.

Codex points to a DIRTY HOMELESS ASIAN WOMAN.

CLARA
(whispers to Codex)
Whoa. Bladezz's payback hit her hard.

CODEX
Tink hired this...lady to sit in line for her. She didn't want to spend more time around Bladezz than she had to.

BLADEZZ
OMG what a drama queen! I'm 4 grand in debt from her lady demands! Who's the victim here?!

CLARA
(sniffs)
You smell like...oh, yeah!
GAAAAAARlic fries. Hehe.

BLADEZZ
Shut up!

Vork pops his head out of the tent and looks around.

VORK
Clara? I...er...you...

He gulps, pale and darts back into the tent.

CODEX
Hold on.

Codex goes into the tent with Vork.

3 INT. TENT - CONTINUOUS

3

Inside there's a small child's potty and a generator along with a slow cooker.

CODEX
Vork, are you OK?

VORK
(agitated)
Uh...seeing Clara has elicited feelings of extreme shame and panic. Not unlike my first experience at a pay toilet.
(recites to himself)
"Clear blue ocean. Clear blue ocean."
(looks up)
(MORE)

VORK (CONT'D)

I think I need to confront her,
seek insight into how I failed her
so miserably as a leader.

CODEX

(panicked)

Uh, no! Not a good idea. Don't
bait the trolls, right? Not that
Clara's a troll, but...I think it's
better that the Guild move on from
the other night, sans reflection.
I mean listen, I'm not entirely
comfortable watching Zaboo out
there writhe all over the Stupid
Tall Hot Girl, well, Riley...the
other one rolls off the tongue so
well...

VORK

(interrupts)

Remind me never to take you on a
road trip sometime. And by that I
mean DO NOT remind me because I
would not go. You talk a LOT.

CODEX

I know.

4

EXT. GAMESTOP - MOMENTS LATER

4

Codex pops out of the tent, bowl of stew in hand.

CLARA

What got mixed in his mouthwash?

Codex hands the stew to the Homeless Woman, who takes a bite
and spits it out.

CODEX

Nothing! Everything's great!

ZABOO

(between kisses)

Vork probably feels bad about what
happened between you guys.

(off Clara's blank stare)

You attacked and killed him over
and over when he didn't give you
that orb?

CLARA

Oh yeah...I forgot...

(angry)

What a jerk!

CODEX

(waves papers at Clara)
Clara! Here Clara! Did you see
the new Storm spells in the Mage's
Ice tree? They added a whole new
set of wind powers...

BLADEZZ

I've got some wind power to show
you...

Clara starts giggling but, after a few beats, stops.

CLARA

Come on Bladezz, you can't set that
up and not deliver!

CODEX

(false cheer)
Yay! Fart jokes! This is awesome!

Codex glances over and, on the other side of the tent, a
group has gathered in front of them in line. A KILTIED GUY
(FAWKES) in the group catches her eye.

KILTIED GUY

Thanks for holding our spot.

CODEX

Excuse me! You're cutting!

KILTIED GUY

That's right we are.

He grins and turns away. Off Codex, looking outraged.

FADE OUT:

EPISODE 2:

5 INT. CODEX'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

5

CODEX

So, the Guild is already on delicate ground, and a bunch of jerks cut in front of us in line! ILLEGAL! I would never do that!! Of course, one time I got caught holding the door open after an orchestra concert for 25 minutes straight, so I'm not really a good measure of assertiveness. Anyway, I'm staring at these guys and then I get an idea: Standing up for ourselves might be a good way to re-unify the Guild! I mean, it's easy to bond over hating something! The internet is total proof of that.

6 EXT. GAMESTOP - DAY

6

Codex stares at the group of line-cutters.

CODEX

Excuse me?!
(turns to Clara and Zaboo)
You guys, our line got cut!

Codex pokes Zaboo with her foot, but he ignores her, still making out with Riley. Clara gestures to the Kilted Guy.

CLARA

That guy's wearing a kilt! I hear they go commando under there. Oh, yeah!

Codex rolls her eyes and pokes her head into Vork's tent.

CODEX

Vork! People just cut in front of us in line, a whole group!

VORK

What the? Who, how...?!

Vork gets out of the tent holding a ladle and observes the five individuals clumped in front of the tent: The Kilted Guy, FAWKES; a tattooed tough guy, BRUISER; a Korean guy wearing a track suit, KWAN; an overdressed jerk, VALKYRIE; and a Goth girl in a wheelchair, VENOM. Vork steps over.

VORK (CONT'D)

Excuse me gentlemen. Ma'am. You may not have noticed, but the line forms behind us.

FAWKES

(surveys line slowly)
Actually, this line, it forms behind US.

BRUISER

Good one, Fawkes. Turn it around, drive it home.

He makes a hip thrusting motion.

VORK

To clarify: Your group should be behind all the others who arrived previously.

FAWKES

Why?

VORK

I don't understand the question.

VALKYRIE

It's only three letters, can't figure it out, dipwad?

Valkerie laughs and looks around for approval. He gets none.

VENOM

Bombed. Idiot.

VORK

You're asking me why, having just arrived, you need to be at the back of the line? Let me offer you an historical perspective: At the beginning of the common era, people attending events simply gathered en masse, clustered and clumped together in an unorganized manner. After several thousand years of this, they slowly gravitated towards the backs of individual fellows and began to stand behind one another in a horizontal fashion. Forming what they now commonly refer to as the "line".

(MORE)

VORK (CONT'D)

Going against that flies in the face of thousands of years of evolution, and encourages utter chaos!

FAWKES

What's wrong with a little chaos?
"A little rebellion now and then is a good thing" - Thomas Jefferson.

VORK

"A lot of order is a better thing!"
Vork, Leader of the Knights of Good!

Clara works her way behind Fawkes and tries to use the antenna on her baby monitor to lift his kilt. It almost works...but a voice squawks over the monitor, interrupting.

VOICE (O.S.)

Kids! Don't hang on that clothes rack!
Where's your mommy?

Clara snatches the monitor back and turns it down.

CLARA

Uch! Buzzkill.

TINKERBALLA walks up, absorbed in her phone. She looks up.

TINKERBALLA

Why aren't we first?! I paid stinky crack addict a lot of money to hold my place!

HOMELESS WOMAN

Meth addict! Crack is for losers!

CODEX

Here, I printed out all the new ranger pets for you...or not.

Tink slams Codex's papers to the ground and steps past her.

TINKERBALLA

You tools need to step to the back of the line! Our Guild was here first!

BLADEZZ

Yo, Tink. Lookin' bitter...

TINKERBALLA

(to Bladezz)
Go die in a fire.
(MORE)

TINKERBALLA (CONT'D)

(to Rival Guild)

You can't just cut!

FAWKES

Can't? But we did. And the world keeps spinning.

BRUISER

Yeah, so parlay peanut. The #1 Guild is #1 in line. Deal with it!

CLARA

Who says you're number one?

(to Fawkes)

And be honest: Are you naked under there?

FAWKES

Server stats. Axis of Anarchy rules. And yes, I am.

BRUISER

Deal with it.

BLADEZZ

Axis of Anarchy? You guys were the first on the server to down the Demon Lords of the Far Reaches!

VALKYRIE

And we'll be first to get the expansion, first to down the bosses, first to get the best loot.

KWAN

(in Korean w/subtitles)

Deal with it.

VALKYRIE

Uh, huh.

VORK

I was hoping to avoid this, but I'm afraid I'll have to ask the authorities to intervene. I'm going to fetch...the GameStop Manager.

Vork starts to go into the store, but as he crosses near Venom, she rolls backwards violently into Vork.

VENOM

Hey! Stop pushing me!

VORK

What?

The Guild looks confused. Fawkes knocks on the GameStop door and indicates to Venom. She rolls backwards quickly again.

VENOM

(wheels backwards again)

HEY! OH MY GOD, HELP!

VORK

Control your steed, woman!

Vork bends down over Venom as a GAMESTOP MANAGER runs out. Venom puts on a show.

VENOM

Sir, this man just assaulted me!
He almost rolled me out into
traffic!

VORK

I did nothing of the kind! I have
nothing but the deepest respect for
the handicapped. My father was
born without hind leg tendons!

FAWKES

(to Manager)

What kind of place is this?! This
poor, innocent, hot girl in a
wheelchair!

MANAGER

Miss, I'm so sorry, that's
unacceptable behavior! May I offer
you a T-shirt or a poster?

VENOM

(tremulously)

Oh I couldn't...yes I can. Do you
mind if me and my friends wait
inside with you? I'm so upset,
and...well, you know.

She looks obviously down at her wheelchair.

MANAGER

Of course, of course! Come in.

The Manager lets her and her other Guildies inside.

MANAGER (CONT'D)

Sir, back of the line. Your
friends too.

He goes in and locks the GameStop door behind them. The Guild stares after them for a beat.

CLARA

Why did you keep pushing her?

Vork enters his tent, gathering things up and begins handing Guild members various items.

VORK

I didn't push her! Do you think if I had telekinetic powers I'd be standing here? No! I'd be employed by the Navy to aim nuclear weapons more efficiently or by Hollywood studios to hang Wonder Woman aloft in her invisible plane!

HOMELESS WOMAN

You shoulda pre-ordered!

Vork hauls his tent towards the end of the line.

TINKERBALLA

Vork, you suck! A real leader woulda pushed her hard; in front of a semi or something!

CODEX

(trying to distract all)
Um, hey guys! There's a new centaur mount you can win if you get enough faction with the Rawney Centaur clan! A real centaur mount! That's cool huh?!

VORK

As stimulating as riding a half-man would be, Tink is right. I hereby tender my resignation as leader of the Knights of Good.

Reactions all around.

CODEX

What?! Vork, you can't do that!

VORK

My stepping down will leave a power vacuum that can be filled by someone more willing, eager and responsible.

CLARA

Ooh, me me! I've always wanted to be a princess! I'll wear a crown every time we play, and every Friday I declare Funny Noise Day, so you hafta make a weird sound when you kill something.

(demonstrates sounds)

I'm feeling the power rush already!

VORK

As I said, someone qualified will step forward.

TINKERBALLA

I nominate myself to run the Guild. First item: I'll clean out the trash.

She looks pointedly at Bladezz.

BLADEZZ

Whoa, whoa, how are you qualified? As I remember, you don't even have a max level character!

TINKERBALLA

Only because you're an virtual MURDERER! How many avatar skins do you have in your hard drive closet?! Huh?

VORK

Tink, I claim full responsibility for what transpired between you and Bladezz. I am paying penance; it's all I can do.

Vork kneels to set down his tent.

TINKERBALLA

It's not good enough!

Tink shoves Vork with her foot. He falls very awkwardly.

VORK

I...ow?

CLARA

How 'bout Zaboo? He brought us all together when he was stalking you. That was something!

CODEX

Where...

She turns and Zaboo is being carried to the back of the line by Riley, their lips still locked. Bladezz continues to film them.

CODEX (CONT'D)

Zaboo! Give it a rest please! How do you feel about becoming new Guild Leader?

RILEY

Guild Leader? No way I'm sharing more of my little man than I have to. He's mine.

She starts biting his neck like a vampire.

ZABOO

Oh, holy...whatever the lady gnawing on my neck says. I vote for Codex. She's alone and has a ton of time on her hands.

CODEX

That's...hurtful but accurate.

CLARA

Everybody vote! The line's gonna move soon and I gotta pick up the tatertots and get back to the ol' socks and chain!

TINKERBALLA

What the hell did you just say?

ZABOO

(between kisses)

Vork, I need use of then tent, man. Booty Call'd.

VORK

Twenty dollars an hour, plus deposit.

Zaboo grabs money from his pocket, hands it to Vork and then he and Riley disappear into the tent.

BLADEZZ

Vork, endorse me. I'm your man.

VORK

I can't throw my support behind any one individual.

(starts to drone on)

I just hope the one who accepts, will hold the finest...

TINKERBALLA
Shut up. I vote for me.

CODEX
That makes one vote for each of us.
That's perfectly not helpful.

BLADEZZ
You didn't vote, genius.

CODEX
Oh. Um...I dunno...I guess I vote
for uh...me? Not that I'm amazing,
it's just, I dunno maybe not...?

VORK
Congratulations, Codex. You've
just accepted the greatest
responsibility in the history of
your life.

Vork takes off a weird necklace and places it on Codex.

TINKERBALLA
What!? ARE YOU KIDDING?!

CODEX
It's just until Vork retakes his
position! I'm not a leader, more
of a "maintainer". We'll still
work together as a team, right?

Under Codex's dialogue, the door to the Game Stop opens and
the Rival Guild exits. Tink looks over to them and back.

TINKERBALLA
So long, jerks.

Tink spins on her heels and strides up to Fawkes.

BLADEZZ
Is she flirting with him?! You
gotta be kidding. Dude is wearing
a skirt!

At the front of the line, the Rival Guild leaves. Tink goes
with them.

FAWKES
Let's take a walk.

At the back of the line the Knights of Good react.

CLARA

The line's moving! Yes!
(raises baby monitor up)
Kids! Checkout! Five minutes!

Clara moves forward as Codex remains staring after Tink.

FADE OUT.

EPISODE 3:

7 INT. CODEX'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

7

CODEX

Strange turn of events, you're looking at the new Guild Leader.
(mimes strangling herself)
OK, OK This is going to be good for me. I need something big to get my mind off...myself. Like my inability to connect with men, constant unemployment...my nose being weirdly lumpy...OK, I'm sad now, see? First item on my Guild agenda: Smoothing things over with Tink. Walking off like that was dramatic, but she'll be back. We've played together over a year, that means something!
(BEAT)
What does that mean, actually?

8 INT. VARIOUS OFFICES/BEDROOMS - CONTINUOUS

8

ZABOO

What's on the agenda? I'm juggling gaming and sexual obligations now. I need to make a firm schedule. GTD'D.

Codex is typing on her computer.

CODEX

Tink quit! Oh my God! All her characters are gone!

BLADEZZ

All of them? Even Tink 2.0, "The Early Levels"?

CODEX

Bladezz, don't make fun of that! You should have apologized to her!

BLADEZZ

The only thing that could make me do that is a cashier's check for the cost of that Caribbean Cruise I bought her! And then when I had the check in my hand, I wouldn't even say it! Psych.

Clara arrives at her desk. She speaks into the mic.

CLARA

Sorry! Had a hard time rounding up the kids. Found one of them sleeping on a shelf in the graphics card section. He's so mine!

(unwrapping game)

Loading!!! Three disks, wow! So much new content!

CODEX

Clara, Tink quit the Guild!

CLARA

Noooo! Did she send you a dagger with a note telling you how dumb you are?

CODEX

Why would she...YES! "Eff off idiot. xoxo Tink." How did you know?!

CLARA

One night we dished about our exit strategies. Mine is to wait until everyone is online and then scream into the mic, "Take that you Dungeoneering Bozos! Clara is ixnay on your uildGay nanymoreay!" And then g-quit.

ZABOO

Pig Latin? Really?

CLARA

It's the only foreign language I know.

CODEX

What are we gonna do guys? Tink was part of the team. We're a Guild. You can't just quit!

CLARA

Why don't you try calling her or something?

CODEX

What? Me? Why?

BLADEZZ

'Cause you're the Guild Leader now. Earn-your-title, yo.

CODEX

Um, I don't have her contact info...

ZABOO

I could help with that!

CODEX

No! No!

ZABOO

I'm doing it already.

CODEX

Uh, no! I mean, it just happened...she'll be back, we just need to give her some space, right?

Dubious looks all around. Codex's phone rings. She answers.

CODEX (CONT'D)

Hello?

9

INT. VORK'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

9

Vork is sitting in his car, ancient cellphone to his ear.

VORK

Codex, I've left a box of Guild Leader paraphernalia on your doorstep.

CODEX

You didn't knock?

VORK

Face to face? Twice in one day? It seemed unnecessary.

CODEX

Vork! Tink really quit the Guild. What should I do?!

VORK

I can't advise you, Codex. The minute I abandoned the mantle of Guild Leader I felt a lightening in my soul. Having five people depend on your calm guidance...it's overwhelming, giving so much of yourself.

CODEX

Uh, yeah, I can see how that weighed on you.

VORK

I'll be sporadically online for the next several days. The wifi is still not repaired in my office due to Bladezz's shenanigans, so I'm using this opportunity to explore humanity. I've abandoned everything familiar; my thought patterns, my methodologies, my sleepytime place. I'm going on the road.

Vork hangs up and looks around the car. There are wires strung about and his monitor is on the passenger seat.

VORK (CONT'D)

Lead me, oh wireless gods.

Vork starts the car and pulls away from the curb.

INT. CODEX'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

CODEX

OK, taking charge. I think we should all load up the expansion and then we can group up and, you know, go to the new lands together.

BLADEZZ

Thanks Officer Obvious. You want to come over and help me aim while I pee-pee too?

CLARA

Oooh, Tink would have such a good comeback to that! Come up with one Codex!

CODEX

Uh...something about "your momma?"

Lame!
CLARA

ZABOO
Pretty lame.

10 INT. RILEY'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS 10

Riley slinks over the bed towards Zaboo holding a French Maid's outfit.

RILEY

Hey, tiger. You like playing dress up? I have this French maid's outfit that's a real turn-on.

ZABOO

Heck yeah, put it on!

RILEY

(steely)

No, it's for you. YOU put it on.

ZABOO

Oh. Well, we're gonna get a few hours of the expansion in...

Riley's face transforms; She's livid.

RILEY

You'd rather play with the game than with me?

She grabs Zaboo violently by the hair and throws him back onto the bed. He yelps in pain.

11 INT. CODEX'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS 11

CODEX

(into mic)

Everyone, Vork's not going to be online for a while. Are we going to be OK on DPS, Zaboo? Zaboo?

12 INT. BLADEZZ'S GARAGE - MOMENTS LATER 12

BLADEZZ

No! We're gonna get our asses handed to us with two players missing!

DENA (O.S.)

Simon! Language!

BLADEZZ

Ah!

Bladezz turns to see his sister DENA sitting in a corner on the floor with a creepy overhead light shining down on her.

BLADEZZ (CONT'D)
WTF, Dena?! Why are you hiding
over there like goddamned Gollum?

DENA
Mom told me I was making too much
noise in the house.

BLADEZZ
She's being such a beeyach lately!

DENA
Dad dumped her. It had an effect.

CODEX (O.S.)
Does everyone have the expansion
loaded up? How do you check who's
ready to go on here...

13 INT. CLARA'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

13

GEORGE enter's Clara's office and stands next to her
computer.

CLARA
(into mic)
Something's wrong! It's not
finishing the installation!

GEORGE
Clara, I need to talk to you. I
was uploading those wedding
pictures to your computer...

CLARA
Oh my God, how many did you put on
here?! I don't have enough space!
This could ruin my install!

CODEX (O.S.)
Let's meet in Taryn Keep, that's a
good plan, right? Bladezz?

BLADEZZ (O.S.)
Just a sec!

14 INT. BLADEZZ'S GARAGE - CONTINUOUS

14

Horrible, loud bass guitar starts playing in the background.
Bladezz turns to see Dena playing with a large amp.

BLADEZZ

No! This is the Bladezz pad! Not cool! Mom!

Bladezz rushes out of the garage. Dena keeps playing.

CODEX (O.S.)

Why is no one accepting my invite?! Zaboo, are you there?

15 INT. RILEY'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

15

Riley has Zaboo pinned to the bed.

RILEY

Do you want the game or me? Game or me?

She alternates kissing him and whipping him with a corded mouse like a flail. Zaboo himself flails.

ZABOO

I like this, but I don't like it!
I like it, but I don't...Augh!

16 INT. CLARA'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

16

George leans forward over Clara, who's still clicking.

GEORGE

What did you do last weekend while we were gone? Anything you want to tell me about? At all?!

CLARA

Not that I want to tell you about.

CODEX (O.S.)

Where is everyone?! Bladezz?
Zaboo? Clara?

17 INT. VARIOUS OFFICES/BEDROOMS - CONTINUOUS

17

No one is paying attention. Zaboo is being roughhoused by Riley, Dena is playing in Bladezz's chair, and Clara...

18 INT. CLARA'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

18

GEORGE

I gave you a chance to tell me yourself. Remember that.

George grabs the mouse from her and clicks. Clara stares at a picture of her and WADE WEI kissing.

CLARA

Aww, look how cute...wait a sec...

(BEAT)

Ooooh, nuts!

FADE OUT:

EPISODE 4:

19

INT. CODEX'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

19

CODEX

People tend to disappear on me. One time I came home and my roommate had just moved out, no notice or anything. She also stole all my jewelry and the community futon, so maybe it wasn't me that was the problem there. Anyway, that wasn't a good start. None of that...Guild leadering I was trying to do. Without the two "hammers" of the Guild, Vork and Tink there, everything fell apart! So I just sat there organizing my character's outfits for two hours straight. I've never even done that with my own closet!

(BEAT)

That was a really comfortable futon. God she sucked!

20

INT. CLARA'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

20

George is wheeling a suitcase towards the door, but Clara is physically hanging on it, trying to stop him.

CLARA

Nooo, don't go to a hotel! Who's gonna take the kids to get vaccinations!?

GEORGE

(struggling with suitcase)
Clara, I put up with a lot, but this is the last straw!

CLARA

I told you everything stayed above the chin. Scout's honor!

GEORGE

You KISSED another man!

CLARA

I was really drunk and he had touched Chuck Norris! OK.
(formally)
How can we work through this and keep our marriage intact and stuff?

GEORGE

We need to spend more together.
Can you do that for me? For us?

CLARA

I can do that!

GEORGE

It means cutting back on your game.

Clara looks blankly at him for a few beats.

CLARA

Is that really what that means?

21 INT. CODEX'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

21

Zaboo enters Codex's bedroom.

ZABOO

Hey, neighbor! Got any Phrygian
Spore Dust I can borrow? Haha, get
it, because neighbors usually ask
for sugar but...

CODEX

Zaboo, why are you in my house?

ZABOO

I guess Vork went on vacation or
something because all the doors
were locked and I couldn't get in,
so I'm staying next door at
Riley's. Escaped for a gaming
break; that vixen is insatiable.

He flops onto her bed and opens his laptop.

CODEX

Awesome to hear. Now I have more
people to avoid in the hallway.

ZABOO

Hope this isn't awkward or
anything; me being right down the
hall, cavorting with 24/7.
Intercourse'd.

CODEX

No, it's great you moved on...so
incredibly quick.

ZABOO

Good, good. Because she's nothing like you at all. She's tall, confident...clean. She's super aggressive, nothing like the usual Anime porn I download...

CODEX

(interrupts)

I need to find a way to get Tink back in the Guild.

ZABOO

I can get you the chat channel info for the rival Guild.

CODEX

Oh, yeah, good idea! Just log on, no invitation and confront her.

(BEAT)

Ugh, anxiety attack.

Vork's voice comes over the speakers.

VORK (O.S.)

Codex?

22

INT. VORK'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

22

Vork is sitting inside his car, headset on, keyboard in-lap, playing. There are honking cars behind him.

VORK

I finally found an open wifi connection. Frustrating how untrusting people are in this world.

CODEX

Well, you're stealing the access they pay for.

VORK

I don't see your point.

VOICE (O.S.)

Sir? Are you still there?

VORK

Codex, one moment.

Vork leans out the window. Reveal that he's at a drive-through window.

VORK (CONT'D)

I'm still pondering my order.

VOICE

You've been sitting there for like, 15 minutes!

VORK

Those are the consequences of offering too many combo options!

CODEX

Vork! I'm gonna try to contact Tink by logging into that other Guild's chat channel. What do I say to get her to come back?

VORK

One second.

(leans out the window)

Question: were a colleague to depart the "Mr. Chick-n-Stuff Jr. And Friends" with bad feelings towards the organization, how would you persuade them to come back?

VOICE

Pull forward!

VORK

(into headset)

Codex, pull forward.

CODEX

Pull forward? What does that mean?

VORK

I have no idea. My current social encounter with a minimum-wage employee is not proving to be particularly edifying.

VOICE

Sir!

VORK

(out window)

I'd like 15 straws and 22 ketchup packets, happy?!

(to Codex)

My wifi is being cut off. I'll be online again soon.

23 INT. CODEX'S BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

23

CODEX

But Vork, I need help! What should I pull forward?!

Codex leans back in her chair, looking frustrated.

ZABOO

IM'ing you the Rival Chat info...now. Blooop'd!

CODEX

(to Zaboo)

OK, I'll just dive in and be polite, that should work.

(BEAT)

Why do I feel anxious, like I'm going to a party where I don't know anyone?

ZABOO

Because you're going to a chat channel where you don't know anyone.

CODEX

(nods)

Meta-social anxiety. That's sad.

Codex types on her keyboard.

24 INT. RIVAL GUILD CHAT - MOMENTS LATER

24

The rival Guild is in mid-battle.

BRUISER

What's the beef, Fawkes? I crit healed the motherfuck out of you! 7k, zow! I am so hard right now.

FAWKES

Soften it up because it doesn't matter, we just wiped again.

(calmly)

I want to know what the fuck happened. I swear you guys are just staring at a wall or some shit. Nik please translate this to Kwan: Your aggro sucks balls.

In Kwan's room, a pretty girl, NIK, who's massaging his shoulders, translates.

NIK

(in Korean)

Fawkes says he is not pleased with your offensive strategy. He claims you "suck balls".

KWAN

Quit talking nonsense you crazy bastard! Why do you think we are number one? Because I'm number one! Punk!

Nik nods and massages him some more.

VENOM

God I hate you guys. There isn't a natural disaster big enough to kill all the people I hate, including all of you.

CODEX

(interrupts)

Um, excuse me...

BRUISER

(violently)

Who the FUCK IS THAT?

FAWKES

Calm down, Bruiser. Some cockhead wandered into our chat channel.

CODEX

Hi! Uh, I'm the leader of the Knights of Good Guild...

VALKYRIE

I'm sorry, fuckwit said what?

ZABOO

(to Codex)

Don't say what.

Valkerie laugh at his own joke. Venom rolls her eyes.

BRUISER

That name just made my balls fall off.

CODEX

I apologize for that. I'm looking for our Guild member. Tinkerballa. Is she here?

FAWKES

Well, the only people here are members of our Guild, because this is our chat channel. Ergo, what the fuck are you doing here?

CODEX

She went off with you at the game store yesterday.

VENOM

Oh, you were with the bald nutsack who pushed me around? I'm Venom. I'm the one who CAN'T WALK!

CODEX

He didn't push you...

FAWKES

No, he didn't. She totally fucked with you and we won. The end.

CODEX

How can you say that like it's OK

FAWKES

The question isn't who is going to let me; it's who is going to stop me -- Ayn Rand.

CODEX

I just want to talk to Tink.

BRUISER

Seems like she doesn't want to talk to you. She's in the channel listening like a dumb mute.

CODEX

Tink?

TINKERBALLA

(rolling eyes)

Oh my God, what?!

CODEX

Hey! It's good to...you wanna come back to our Guild channel and talk?

TINKERBALLA

Fat chance, this is my new Guild now. They're just my style.

VALKYRIE

Your friend's moved up in the world; we're a more elite level of player. Be happy for her and hit the road.

CODEX

Tink, we didn't really get the chance to talk about your problems in the Guild, maybe...

TINKERBALLA

I'm through with you guys! I'm in this Guild now. Move on.

BRUISER

Your diplomacy just got smeared a shit-moustache, sport.

VENOM

Kick her off! We need to down this boss, or I'll set fire to my apartment and roast to death in this chair.

ZABOO

Do something!

CODEX

But...

FAWKES

Don't worry about Tink, you won't forget about her. She's with the Axis of Anarchy now, and no one fucks with our members and gets away with it. Cyakthxbyefuck.

Codex gets booted off. She reacts, outraged.

25

INT. VARIOUS BEDROOMS - CONTINUOUS

25

ZABOO

Wow, they certainly share Tink's love of f-bombs.

Codex stares at the screen, a little stunned.

CODEX

I guess Tink's really not coming back.

Bladezz' voice breaks through on the mic.

BLADEZZ (O.S.)
OMG, this isn't happening!

CODEX
(into mic)
Bladezz? What's wrong?

BLADEZZ
My secret is out! Somehow my Finn
Smulders modelling pictures went
public! Check out
finnsmulders.com!

Codex types and she and Zaboo gaze at the website.

ZABOO
Whoa, this website's awesome! You
look even more douchey here than in
real life! Haha, they LOLCatt'd a
few of your photos! I CAN HAZ
EUOTRASH?! Classic!

CODEX
(reading screen)
Contact admin@axisofanarchy.com.
That other Guild did this!

BLADEZZ
AND they sent a link for the
website out to my entire high
school email list! Then they
passed out my head on a stick as a
joke. Hundreds of them. All over
campus.

Bladezz holds up a cut-out Finn Smulders head glued to a
Popsicle stick.

BLADEZZ (CONT'D)
I'm ruined!

Dena starts playing bass on the other side of the garage.

BLADEZZ (CONT'D)
Dena, SHOVE IT!

FADE OUT:

EPISODE 5:

26

INT. CODEX'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

26

CODEX

Stupid Asses of Anarchy! Taking revenge outside the game like that?! What a skanky reality show move. Fine, Tink is moving on, the Knights of Good are moving on. I just posted a call for video applications on the official forums. I know there are plenty of cool people waiting to...um, one sec.

(reads from GL book)

"...align their Guild aspirations and play-styles with our own unique needs." I can't wait to be in charge of picking someone rather than someone picking me. This way there's no way I'm the one rejected!

(BEAT)

I'm an ego-half-empty kind of girl.

AFTER CREDITS, STRAIGHT INTO MONTAGE OF CONTEST RECRUITMENT VIDEOS.

QUESTIONS FOR CONTEST:

-Character Name(s)

-Class, Level, describe any special objects they have in-game

-Gaming experiences

-Three adjectives that describe themselves

-Gaming Goals

-Life Goals

-How Real Life job/hobbies help their gaming

-What do they expect from a Guild?

-What kind of player are they?

27

INT. VARIOUS OFFICES/BEDROOMS - DAY

27

The Guild watches the recruitment videos with awe, fascination and horror. Bladezz looks depressed.

BLADEZZ

Yeah, that was a buffet of humanity
I wish I'd never had to sample.

CODEX

(lamey)
Um, come on, a few of those
applications look...OK.

Clara is huddled in her children's closet, surrounded by toys
and obviously hiding out. Vork is online in his car.

VORK

The only opinion I will voice is
that I would not entrust any of
them with a gun in the event of a
domestic insurgence.

CODEX

That's your measure of a Guild
member? Really?

VORK

You barely passed.

CLARA

(whispering)
What's wrong with the guy who
talked poetry? Is he a senator or
something?

CODEX

One of these people has got to
work! We can't experience all the
new expansion content without a
full party! I want to PLAY!

CLARA

(yell whispers)
Me too!

BLADEZZ

Creepy whisper.

CLARA

(still whispering)
I'm in the closet hiding from my
husband. We're supposed to be
spending time together right now,
but I dunno how to interact with
him without a screen involved!
Let's just get Tink back and GAME!

CODEX

(snappy)

That's not an option! She's not coming back! Moving on!

VORK

I don't mean to criticize...

CODEX

Don't! If you're not gonna take back Guild Leader then don't say anything!

(BEAT)

Say something so I can infer that you're taking back this job now? Please?

VORK

No. In fact, I'm about to log off. I can't conduct my internet business comfortably when using a wifi access point named "Skuzz-Bucket-Lick-My-Pony-Butt".

BLADEZZ

"Skuzz-Bucket-Lick-My-Pony-Butt"?!
Ha! That's the first time I've laughed all day!

Bladezz's moment is burst as Dena pops up with Finn Smulders face on. He swipes at her.

BLADEZZ (CONT'D)

Dena! God I hate you!

28

INT. CODEX'S BEDROOM - DAY

28

Zaboo enters Codex's bedroom.

ZABOO

Hey ex-girlfriend! Need some quick advice. If you use handcuffs while fooling around, you're not supposed to leave the person tied up outside all night? Pretty sure that's not cool sextiquette.

CODEX

Um, except for some racy vampire literature I've read, no...Zaboo, if Riley's making you do things that make you uncomfortable...

ZABOO

No no! She's so pretty and she makes my genitals feel...really warm and nice, while the rest of my body screams in absolute pain. Conundrum'd.

CODEX

Definitely TMI.

(into mic)

What are we going to do, guys? We have to find another player! I'm willing to take anyone at this point!

CLARA

Oh my God. I just got the bestest idea! Oh, oh. Be right back!

Clara stumbles out of the closet.

CODEX

Anyone within reason. Not that Lord Bolio guy. You're right, fops are creepy.

29

INT. VARIOUS BEDROOMS - MOMENTS LATER

29

Clara pulls George into the office and leans into the mic.

CLARA

Guys, meet our new Guildmate!

Clara pulls George into a chair and sits down beside him.

GEORGE

You want me to game with you?!

CLARA

You said you wanted to do things together!

GEORGE

I was actually thinking salsa dancing. Or couple's therapy.

CLARA

(into mic)

This is my husband, George! But his avatar name is Mr. Wiggly.

GEORGE

Clara!

CLARA

They won't know that's my name for it!

(BEAT)

Unless I hold the mic open like that. Pleeeeease?

He sighs and presses the key really awkwardly, like it will break.

GEORGE

Um, hi. Clara's told me...nothing about you, but I look forward to...doing whatever it is you do together.

ZABOO

How much experience do you have gaming, Wiggly?

GEORGE

Um, I played Pong as a kid? This is in color I see.

BLADEZZ

What's Pong?

30

INT. CODEX'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

30

Zaboo hurls a little, Codex looks stunned.

CODEX

Uh, thanks Wiggly, but we need someone way more savvy...

RILEY (O.S.)

I leave you alone for one second and you run out of the stable? Bad Horse!

Riley enters, strides over, and pushes Zaboo by his face onto the bed.

ZABOO

Ow. Sorry. Sorry. I just came over to help Codex with some Guild business.

RILEY

What business?

Riley straddles him and starts kissing him on Codex's bed.

CODEX

Um, that's my bed...

RILEY

So watch or leave.

ZABOO

Uh...we actually lost Tink so we're
down a player.

RILEY

You are? You want me to play with
you, stallion?

CODEX

Oh...no...we, uh...

(into mic)

That sounds great, Mr. Wiggly!

Welcome to the Knights of Good!!!

(to Riley)

Sorry, we just filled the space.

Riley stares at her a long beat.

ZABOO

Awkward...

FADE OUT:

EPISODE 6:

31 INT. CODEX'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 31

CODEX

I'm not going to be defensive about my choice for the new Guild member! Uch, that sounded defensive. FINE! I admit it! I didn't want Riley in the Guild. I don't care if she plays games and would be an awesome addition, skill-wise. There are some people who I just don't want to interact with. A lot of those people happen to be taller, prettier and more charismatic than me. But in THIS instance I think made the best decision for the Guild.

(reaches forward)

And I'm gonna watch this video back a few times to convince myself.

32 INT. VARIOUS OFFICES/BEDROOMS - DAY 32

Codex is playing on the computer, looking frazzled.

CODEX

Wiggly, don't run from the bad guys! Shoot them!

GEORGE

(into mic)

But it hurts when they hit me! Er...push to talk...

(holds button awkwardly)

But they keep hitting me! Clara, how does this microphone thing work?

The Guild hears this through their mics. Eyes roll.

BLADEZZ

O M G!

VORK

Mr. Wiggly! Concentrate DPS!

GEORGE

I don't know what that means, Spork!

VORK

VORK!

GEORGE

Sorry!

(to Clara)

Clara, I can't get my person thingie to move.

CLARA

(doesn't look)

You're doing great, honey!

George pokes the keyboard like it's alien device and whimpers.

ZABOO

Wiggly! Wrong way! Don't go near the Minotaur...AUGH!! He's pulled!

33 INT. BLADEZZ'S GARAGE - CONTINUOUS

33

BLADEZZ

And...now we're dead. Joy.

Dena, while playing her instrument, approaches Bladezz and plays "Night on Bald Mountain" in his face. He yanks the amp chord from the guitar and throws it across the room. She runs after it.

34 INT. VARIOUS BEDROOMS - CONTINUOUS

34

RILEY (O.S.)

Zaboo! REPORT!

Zaboo looks off-camera.

ZABOO

My lady calls. Hopefully she has something in store for me that's less torturous than this.

(BEAT)

Hopefully'd.

Zaboo gets up and exits.

CODEX

OK, everyone else take a few breaths. Clara, we need to have a little Guild chat. Sans Wiggly.

CLARA

He's not Spanish.

CODEX
WITHOUT him.

CLARA
Oh, OK.
(to George)
Sweetie, I printed you out some
game guides. Go have a look-see.
I love you!

GEORGE
I love you too.
(looks down)
This game has homework?

George leaves.

CLARA
I shoulda kissed that stunt guy
months ago! This is great!

VORK
Clara, you're wed to an
incompetent. Mr. Wiggly needs to
be ejected from the Guild. He
should never have been admitted in
the first place.

CODEX
Vork, you're entitled to your
opinion but until you're Guild
Leader again I'll say who's in and
who's out. Please.

VORK
(insulted)
Well, hello.

CODEX
I would like us all to discuss how
we can help Mr. Wiggly be...not so
utterly awful?

CLARA
He didn't accidentally turn off the
laptop this time, that's an
improvement!

BLADEZZ
Playing with the computer actually
on. Big step.

CLARA

If we don't play together, then I can't play at all, remember?! So there's your choice, buckos!

CODEX

We can't be down two players. He stays. For now...

A Rival Guild member's voice, VALKYRIE, butts into chat.

VALKYRIE

Hi, I'm applying to be a part of the Knights of the Good! Where everything is rainbows and applesauce and sunshine. You guys have a sharing rule, right? Love to be a member! Except that I wouldn't!

He laughs at his own joke.

CODEX

Who is this?

VALKYRIE

Vakyrrie from the Axis of Anarchy. See the little website I made for your little Guildie? I guess I'm most proud of the typography. I thought a font with seraphs would just really rub it in.

CODEX

What you guys did to Bladezz was totally low! We don't want to have anything to do with you!

BLADEZZ

Yeah, you had your revenge, now I'm bored. Goodbye.

VALKYRIE

(threateningly)

You'll be needing more than a group hug when the next twist of the knife turns, Bladezzey Wadezzey...

In his office Valkyrie spots someone and quickly tears off his headphones, acting guilty. The Guild only hears one side of his conversation.

VALKYRIE (CONT'D)

(nervous)

Oh hello, sir.

(MORE)

VALKYRIE (CONT'D)

I'm on with a client actually. Her damask came in, it showed up in coral instead of lavender like she asked so, drama!...What? Surfing the internet? No! There's a strict rule in the office and I'm really happy that you implemented it because I think we all need to focus...

(into monitor)

You guys are STUPID!

VALKYRIE laughs nervously and logs off. The Guild is puzzled.

CLARA

That sounded serious, that damask thing.

CODEX

You think they're gonna try something else?

VORK

As an individual who is not a leader, I have no opinion on the matter.

BLADEZZ

They can't force me lower on the High School totem pole. A cover band called "Smulders" played with the face-on-a-sticks during lunch period. I'll never get a date. Ever.

MOTHER (O.S.)

SIMON! Get in here!

BLADEZZ

AND my Mom's blowing a gasket.
BRB.

Bladezz exits.

CODEX

(sighs)

Zaboo was supposed to get Tink's info. I guess it couldn't hurt to try to track her down, see if she can stop this. Going AFK.

Codex stands and exits.

35 INT. VORK'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

35

A LITTLE BOY raps at Vork's car door. Vork is trying to ignore the kid.

VORK

Yes, thank you for obtaining the Harvest Elementary wifi key. Here's a small exciting toy. Now leave.

Vork passes the little boy a light bulb

LITTLE BOY

Is that a video game in your car?

VORK

Yes. Do you like video games?

LITTLE BOY

Yeah! Can I play?!

VORK

The cerebral cortex is underdeveloped in humans before puberty.

The Little Boy kicks the car.

VORK (CONT'D)

(confused)

Hey, that's my ride! How did I provoke such an attack?

LITTLE BOY

Because you're ugly and use stupid long words!

VORK

(thoughtful)

You've made some good points.

(stares at the kid)

I see the potential for male-pattern baldness in your scalp, something I experienced myself at your age. Do you find it affects your leadership skills?

LITTLE BOY

(touches head)

I'm bald?

A TEACHER runs up.

TEACHER

Alvin, who are you talking to...Why do you have all this equipment in your van?! Are you taping the children?!

LITTLE BOY

Miss Wagonner! He said I'm under-cortexed and balding!

VORK

(to kid)

It only gets worse. Good luck with the chicks!

Vork drives away.

36 EXT. RILEY'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER 36

Codex knocks on Riley and Wade's Apartment door.

RILEY (O.S.)

IT'S OPEN!

37 INT. RILEY'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS 37

Codex enters tentatively and sees Riley lounging on the couch, legs spread wide, playing on her Xbox.

CODEX

Oh, hi...

RILEY

You looking for Wade?

CODEX

No! God no...is he here?!

Codex starts backing out, a little freaked.

RILEY

No. He's up in Vancouver roundhousing Lorenzo Lamas. I'll never hear the end of it.

CODEX

Good, I was hoping to...never see him again. I just need to ask Zaboo something.

RILEY

He's out.

(LONG BEAT)

(MORE)

RILEY (CONT'D)
If you didn't get it, this:
(indicates face)
...bitch stare.

CODEX
That's...cool.
(BEAT)
OK, so I just gotta go...

Riley flings an Xbox controller over at Codex who spazzes as it flies past her. She scrambles to pick it up.

CODEX (CONT'D)
Ow. Hey I caught it!

RILEY
Play me.

CODEX
What? No...I have Guild Leadering to do...

RILEY
Not good enough for your Guild, not good enough to hang out with? News flash: I'm cooler than you. The rejection ladder goes the other way, nerdlet.

CODEX
What? No! I didn't reject you! We just filled the spot. Gosh.

RILEY
Like I wanted to play with you little RPG fairies anyway. When I game it's sit, shoot, kill. Let's go.

(BEAT)
Unless all those big bad buttons are too scary?

Codex looks taken aback, then gets a little fire in her.

CODEX
If you're gonna be snarky about it, I think I can spare a minute.

Codex is bent over, groaning, nauseated. Riley keeps playing.

RILEY

If you puke on my controller, I'll kick you in the head with my steel-toed boot. Ask Zaboo if you think I'm kidding. That boy bruises like a peach.

CODEX

You know, you're the first girl Zaboo's ever been with. You might wanna, you know, be a little more gentle with him. He's a really...

Codex looks up again, and gets another wave of nausea.

CODEX (CONT'D)

...ugh, who would program a game like that?! I would never run that fast down a hallway in real life!

RILEY

Here.

Riley leans over and starts massaging Codex's neck.

RILEY (CONT'D)

I know all the pressure points. For pleasure and pain.

CODEX

That actually feels better, thanks...

Codex smiles. The massage keeps going.

RILEY

You have such soft skin. Dungeon prisoner pale.

CODEX

Uh, thanks...so...

Massage starts to get awkward. And weird. And weirder...

ZABOO

(muffled)
Codex!!!

Codex scoots away from Riley. Relieved.

CODEX

(calls out)
Zaboo? Oh, thank you.

39

INT. RILEY'S BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

39

RILEY

(shrugs)

He was out, guess he woke up.

Riley unlocks the closet door and Zaboo is tied to the clothes rack, cell phone in hand. Riley rips tape off his mouth.

ZABOO

Ah! Thank you fresh air. I'll never forget to make you breakfast again.

Codex, shocked, looks between Riley and Zaboo.

CODEX

What's going on here?!

RILEY

I think it's pretty clear: He forgot to make me breakfast so I knocked him out and tied him up. Now it won't happen again.

ZABOO

Codex, Bladezz just texted me! Something got planted in his gym locker and the cops are at his doorstep! He could go to Juvie!

CODEX

The Anarchists strike again!

Off Codex's furious look...

FADE OUT:

EPISODE 7:

40

INT. CODEX'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

40

CODEX

"Someone" planted five pairs of nunchucks, a pack of ladies razors and a small kitchen blowtorch, you know the ones you use for creme brulee, in Bladezz' school locker. The school has a zero tolerance policy about weapons, even lame ones, so he could be in big trouble! And that tool face from the Asses of Anarchy had to log on and rub it in. A guy named "Valkerie"? I bet he's one of those guys who plays a girl character. I don't know why I say that like it's an insult...anyway, as Guild Leader I gotta stand by my Guildie. Who's in high school. Man, I'm so old now.

41

INT. VARIOUS BEDROOMS - DAY

41

All the Guild members are playing in their respective homes. Bladezz is very upset and Dena is playing bass loudly behind him.

BLADEZZ

...and my buddy saw a hot chick wheeling around the hallways, so they totally framed me!

ZABOO

Think they'd use a more inconspicuous mole.

VORK

Attractive women in wheelchairs have life-immunity.

CLARA

What a Butt-waffle move!! We gotta get them to stop this!

GEORGE

(interrupts)

Everyone, what are these experience points I keep hearing you talk about?

CODEX

They're what you earn in order to level your character, Wiggly. You guys, we have to contact the Rival Guild and...

GEORGE

(interrupts)

Level? Is that when you get in the ocean and swim a lot? Because I did that for two hours last night trying to build up muscle.

ZABOO

There was so much fail in that sentence I can hardly begin.

GEORGE

Fail?

CLARA

Honey, can go do 100 push-ups for me? I love it when you have firm abs.

George gets up and Clara watches him leave.

CLARA (CONT'D)

(into mic)

Okay, if we're gonna make fun of my hubbie, we gotta do it behind his back!

CODEX

Clara, he's not getting better!

CLARA

But I made him macros! As soon as I can get him to understand what that means, he'll be on auto-pilot!

VORK

Warning: If we continue to play with him, we have to accept that our median level of skill will nosedive. We will morph into, dare I say it...**casuals**.

Horrified looks all around. Bladezz starts to freak.

BLADEZZ

No! No, I won't do it. I'll quit first! I'm ruined in life, I can't be ruined in-game!

(to Dena)

(MORE)

BLADEZZ (CONT'D)
SHUT UP YOU'RE KILLING ME!
(really whiney)
I want things to be like they were
before!

Codex hears Dena's awful music through her speakers.

CODEX
Bladezz, turn the caps off!! I
have an idea. You up for a trade?

42 INT. CLARA'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

42

Bladezz, looking stressed, sits in front of Clara's computer next to George who's attempting to play.

BLADEZZ
No! I told you, as a hunter you
have to stay FAR BACK to attack!

GEORGE
Oh, I'm a hunter? Cool!

George makes a note on a pad. Bladezz rolls his eyes. Clara pops her head into the room, holding a full sundae.

CLARA
Is he helping? Are you finished?
I'm ready to get online now!

GEORGE
Sweetie, give us a few. Bladezz is
teaching me tricks to add to the
ol' arsenal.

BLADEZZ
Wiggly, you don't have an arsenal.
You're in a pit of newb and you
can't get out.

CLARA
You guys are so cute!

Clara pops out again. Bladezz looks at the computer screen.

BLADEZZ
You're fighting with a SPOON?
Seriously, this is gonna take
forever!

GEORGE
You're like the Dork Squad, right?
\$25 an hour?

BLADEZZ
(instantly)
That's right. Cash.

Clara pops in again, sundae cup empty. Before she can speak, Bladezz cuts her off, grinning.

BLADEZZ (CONT'D)
Stuff it. This is gonna take
hours. Hours and hours.

43 INT. CODEX'S BEDROOM - DAY 43

Codex is tutoring Dena and playing on the computer at the same time. There's a metronome clicking on the desk.

CODEX
Do the scales, tap your foot to the
beat. I have Guild business to
attend to.

44 INT. VARIOUS OFFICES/BEDROOMS - CONTINUOUS 44

Codex puts on the Guild Leader necklace, clicks the computer and logs into the Rival Guild channel. They're playing.

BRUISER
Ding dong. Fresh meat.

FAWKES
We got a strange fuck in chat
again?

KWAN
(in Korean)
Tell the strange fuck to leave!

NIK
(translates into mic)
Kwan requests that the strange fuck
please leave.

CODEX
Hi. This is Codex from the Knights
of Good. You can't keep attacking
Bladezz like thus ...

FAWKES
"Can't"? Oh, in Anarchy-speak that
translates as "should." Nay, MUST.

CODEX
He could go to jail!

VALKERIE

We don't do anything half-assed.
The Anarchists use both cheeks!

BRUISER

Venom arranged to substitute teach
at his school. Sit back, admire
the skill level.

CODEX

Venom's a teacher?

VENOM

Art. I like to give kids an outlet
for their hate and misery.

CODEX

Tink, are you seriously OK with
this?!

VENOM

She's not here, and I'd rather take
a bath with a toaster than listen
this.

VALKERIE

Oh noes! My boot slipped!

Codex gets kicked offline.

CODEX

Uch! RUDE!

Codex tries to get back on the rival server.

CODEX (CONT'D)

THEY BLOCKED ME?!

(to Dena)

Ahh! Out of tune! Horrible!

DENA

Constructive criticism?

CODEX

Uh, put your finger in the middle
of the fret..

Dena starts playing again. Zaboo enters.

ZABOO

Bladezz's sister, hey! I'm your
MyFace friend!

DENA

Who isn't.

CODEX

Did you get any information on Tink?

Zaboo hands over a piece of paper.

ZABOO

Yes, I got her dorm address. Looks like she's pre-med, which is, quite frankly, scary.

CODEX

I guess I'll try to track her down, see if we can stop this. What's that around your neck?

Codex looks at Zaboo's neck. He's wearing a collar.

ZABOO

Riley gave it to me. Love token'd

CODEX

Is that a dog collar?

ZABOO

No. It's a human collar. It has my name and contact information if I get lost. Anyway, Riley likes you and would like to get to know you better. With me. In uh, non-traditional ways. He would like you to...I'm to relay a request for you to...join us in some carnal libations.

CODEX

In what?

ZABOO

(looks at Dena)

In our activities that are not so PG rated.

CODEX

I don't understand...

DENA

He's asking you for a three-way.

ZABOO

Yes, that's correct. The little one gets it.

CODEX
(to Dena)
Play!

Codex takes Zaboo aside.

CODEX (CONT'D)
Zaboo, I don't think this
relationship is healthy.

ZABOO
Oh, I get it. You're jealous.
Meow'd.

CODEX
No. That is the complete wrong
conclusion you should have drawn
from that.

ZABOO
OK, what should I draw from that?
Maybe all this lashing out, or
USING a lash, is because Riley
wants something I'm not giving her.
More romance, more feelings! Come
on Zaboo, think of something good!

Zaboo exits as Dena watches after.

DENA
That's not gonna end well.

CODEX
I can't be involved. I'm not
involved! I can't...
(into mic)
Why am I in charge here! Where is
Vork?!

45 INT. VORK'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

45

Vork is sitting in his car, playing the computer. He's
talking to someone outside the car in VERY bad Spanish. His
car is parked on a lawn between a GARDENER and a hedge.

VORK
(in Spanish)
This is the only way I can get four
bars. Quatro baros! Tell me, when
you look at me, what is it that you
think first? Three adjectives off
the top of your head.

Outside the car the Gardener is staring daggers.

GARDENER
(in Spanish)
Idiot. Get off. The lawn.

The Gardener starts his Leaf Blower and blows Vork in the face for a few seconds, then turns it off. Vork's hair is ridiculously poofed out around his head.

46 INT. BLADEZZ'S GARAGE - LATER

46

Bladezz enters his garage counting some cash and smiling. He looks up. Bruiser from the rival guild, wearing a cop outfit, is sitting in his chair.

BLADEZZ
Officer! What are you doing here?

Bruiser walks over to Bladezz and smirks. He leans in.

BRUISER
Greetings from Axis of Anarchy. I
just banged your mom.

He exits as Bladezz turns white.

FADE OUT:

EPISODE 8:

47 INT. CODEX'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

47

CODEX

I wondered why Bladezz's mom had this weird smile on her face when she picked up Dena. This situation is untenable.

(BEAT)

"Untenable"?! I've never used that word before. How about scary, disturbing and borderline illegal? It's crazy! Who would go to these lengths to besmirch someone over a game! Besmirch? That's another stupid word!

(BEAT)

I am PAYING to play this game and it's become my full-time, stress-filled job. It's discombobulating...disturbing...wha tever!

48 INT. VARIOUS OFFICES/BEDROOMS - DAY

48

In Riley's bedroom, Zaboo is donning a dress shirt, hair slicked.

CODEX

Bladezz, calm down and explain it slowly.

BLADEZZ

The big dude from the rival Guild BANGED MY MOM! I can't explain it better, I'm traumatized!

CLARA

Maybe he was bluffing. Can you prove it?

BLADEZZ

It's my MOM! Just thinking about PROVING it traumatized me again!

ZABOO

Bladezz, we've all seen our moms naked in many, many positions...

CODEX

Uh, no we haven't.

CLARA

Not really...

ZABOO (CONT'D)

OK. Forget I said anything.

CLARA

We should call the police or something, this is getting crazy sauced!

BLADEZZ

The dude IS a cop! He was in full uniform and everything.

CLARA

Oooh, cop uniform? Your Mom musta been an easy drop.

CODEX

Clara!

ZABOO

Sorry, Guildies but I must depart. I'm off to deepen my relationship. Form a lasting bond. Lady Schwag'd.

Zaboo logs off.

CODEX

Bladezz, I'm sending email to their admin account asking the other Guild Leader to meet in a private chat channel. Now. We're gonna settle this like adults or something. And this is the perfect time for Vork to take over.

49

INT. VORK'S CAR - DAY

49

VORK

Not yet, but you'll be pleased to know that I'm making personal progress. While cruising at 15 mph through affluent neighborhoods, I stumbled upon this; the perfect wifi connection.

There's a tap on the window. A MATRON, African-American and ballsy, is standing outside Vork's car. He rolls down the window.

VORK (CONT'D)

Is there a problem here?

MATRON

You're in my driveway.

Reveal that Vork, in his car, is indeed parked in a driveway.

VORK

Your wifi connection is, unfortunately, sporadic past the curb. Not to mention today is street cleaning.

MATRON

I don't know you.

VORK

Herman Holden, aka Vork. I'm a seeker of knowledge; of myself. The name of your wifi connection "Enlightenment" drew me here.

MATRON

(looks inside)

You're playing a video game. In your car.

VORK

I'm soul-searching but I have gaming obligations. Tell me, is there innate and unavoidable resentment of women against men in an authority position? When you look at me, how intense is your penis envy? On a scale of 1-10.

MATRON

Are you seriously sitting in my driveway, using my internet, asking me about penis?

VORK

Exactly.

MATRON

No, sir. I'm calling the police.

VORK

(sputters)

So much for "Enlightenment"!

(into mic)

I'll be online later, Guildies.

Vork removes his headphones, starts up his car and backs out.

50

INT. CHAT CHANNEL - LATER

50

Fawkes enters the channel. Codex scrambles to put on the Guild amulet.

FAWKES

Did someone request a private chat?
"All you need is confidence and
ignorance; then success is sure." --
Mark Twain.

CODEX

Hi...hi, I thought that the two of
us meeting could diffuse the
situation between our Guilds.

FAWKES

Sure you did.

Codex reads off a note pad she has by her computer.

CODEX

Point one: Bladezz is a kid, not
just an anonymous name on your
computer screen.

FAWKES

I know. Bruiser banged his mom.
That's about as un-anonymous as you
get.

CODEX

I was hoping we could resolve this
in a civilized manner.

FAWKES

I live by my own rules. I'm the
kind of guy who doesn't pay
attention when the gas tank tells
me to fill it. I fill it when I
fucking well please.

CODEX

If everyone treated each other like
that, no one would be safe
anywhere. People would be calling
roadside assistance all the time!
It would be chaos!

FAWKES

Life is PvP. In-game and out.
(BEAT)
PvP means Player versus Player.

CODEX

I know what PvP is! You've gone above and beyond getting revenge. Even Tink would agree.

FAWKES

She's not here. You didn't invite her. Because you wanted to see me. Alone.

CODEX

Wait, what?

FAWKES

Alright, don't admit it. Or acknowledge it. Maybe you're not even aware of it. Because your sexuality scares you. Embrace that fear.

CODEX

Sexuality doesn't scare me! I am very adequate in that..area and uh...Oh, I see what you doing with your Brainiac steam-rolling, trying to throw me off-track! Well, I've got news for you, Highlander, my brain's as good as yours, I just don't use it to bully people. Or quote things!

FAWKES

You think we're equals? OK, Guild Leader you just ordered the full Axis of Anarchy treatment. I want you to remember this moment. Because you just asked for something you definitely can't handle.

CODEX

Can I just call a do-over. Hello?

Fawkes logs off. Codex sighs and thinks for a beat. Then she grabs the slip of paper with Tink's address on it that Zaboo gave her and exits with a determined look.

52

EXT. BASKETBALL COURT - LATER

52

Tink is playing basketball on a small basketball court. She's good. Codex approaches. Tink looks up and panics.

CODEX

Tink.

TINKERBALLA

What are you doing here? Do you know my real name?! You know the medical school is always looking for cadavers.

CODEX

Calm down, Tink. I need to talk to you about your new Guild. I risked a lot coming out her, out in the sun. Any second I could start to burn.

Tink dribbles the ball away, Codex follows awkwardly.

TINKERBALLA

Is Bladezz all boo hoo about the Finn Smulders site? No one made him pose like a d-bag.

CODEX

You know what else they're doing? Planting weapons on him? Seducing his mom?

Tink looks alarmed for a second, then covers.

TINKERBALLA

Whatever. They see a play, they run with it.

Codex gallops awkwardly after Tink as she plays the ball around the court.

CODEX

This isn't a game, they're ruining his life!

TINKERBALLA

He ruined my life! The character he destroyed was closer to me than any of you Guild lame-os!

CODEX

The only reason you had fun with that character at all is because we're a Guild and we played TOGETHER! Even Bladezz was a part of that.

TINKERBALLA

I totally just saw a freckle pop up on your face. Real-time.

Codex covers her nose with her hand. Tink shoots the ball and lands it.

CODEX

Tell the Anarchists to back off. I can't promise we won't fight back!

TINKERBALLA

Psh. What are the "Knights of Good" gonna do with you as leader? Call them over for S'mores?

Codex gets an hurt, angry look on her face.

CODEX

What's wrong with S'mores?

TINKERBALLA

Two freckles just grew together. They're forming a pod. Run.

Codex runs off.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Zaboo and Riley stroll down into a wooded area. Zaboo is carrying a picnic basket, hand in his pocket. Riley carries a big black bag.

RILEY

Lovely day to play outside.

ZABOO

Yes my love. I wanted us to have a special outing; kindle the romance and recharge our health meters...or my health meter.

RILEY

Keep blabbing.

Zaboo sets down his picnic basket and Riley tosses her bag on the ground and starts rummaging.

ZABOO

(gets out a ring box)

You haven't seen it because we've been copulating so much, but I am a man with great romance in my heart. I brought a token of my affection to present. This is my commemorative gaming ring. It has a cave troll engraved on it.

(MORE)

ZABOO (CONT'D)

And I want you to wear it as a
symbol of our blossoming love.

RILEY

That's cool.

She shoots him point blank with the paint gun. He screams.

ZABOO

Aaah. Here, let me kiss...AAAH!
What the fu...zzballs.

She shoots him again.

RILEY

No kiss. Gimmie the ring. I'll
give you a 45 second head start.

ZABOO

For what?

Riley shoots him again.

RILEY

Run in a "Z" sweetie!

ZABOO

Hey, that wasn't 45 seconds!

Zaboo runs off into the trees.

FADE OUT:

EPISODE 9:

53 INT. CODEX'S BEDROOM - DAY

53

Codex speaks into her webcam, but it's during the day and she looks fancier than normal. She reads off a piece of paper.

CODEX

My name is Codex. As the temporary Guild Leader for the "Knights of Good" I am posting this call-to-arms against another Guild: the Axis of Anarchy. And before you comment, yes, I'm a girl and yes I play the game. Uh, despite our attempts to make peace, this other said Guild has continued to attack one of our members out of game in a skeezy fashion. I appeal to the community to take a stance against harassment and injustice and join us in asking the Axis of Anarchy to stop messing with us like jerks. Thank you for helping us make our world a better place to game.

She smiles awkwardly for too long into the camera.

54 INT. VARIOUS OFFICES/BEDROOMS - DAY

54

The Guild is playing. Dena is playing in the background at Codex's. Zaboo is nursing himself with an ice pack.

CODEX

Oh my god. Aah! Dead again! Nooo!

BLADEZZ

This is insane. We can't do anything in-game anymore!

ZABOO

Now that Axis of Anarchy has put a bounty on our heads, no, we cannot.

CODEX

I thought confronting them was the right thing to do!

BLADEZZ

Broadcasting to everyone in the game that they're basically cooler than we are? Hell, if I'd seen that video, I'd be ganking me too.

Dena stops playing.

DENA
(to Codex)
He's right.

She goes back to playing.

CODEX
I don't understand how they keep
finding us in the game so easily!

GEORGE
People have been messaging me,
offering to help us out, but when I
tell them where we are, no one
shows up!

ZABOO
Who's messaging you?

BLADEZZ
(clicking)
Wiggly, where did you get all that
badass armor? You didn't have that
when I was showing you the game
ropes.

GEORGE
Some guy and his girlfriend hooked
me up.

CODEX
Hooked you up in exchange for what?

GEORGE
Knowing me? A really nice Korean
man and his girlfriend.

CODEX
It's that Anarchist!

DENA
A mole. Classic warfare technique.

CODEX
Oh my God, Wiggly! You've been
spying for the other team!

CLARA
Hey, step off! My husband might
play like Helen Keller, but he's
not two-faced!

CODEX

He's admitted giving out our location to everyone in the game and he's tricked out with bribes!

GEORGE

I was leeting on my own!

ZABOO

Dude, that's not a verb.

CODEX

That's it! You're out!

CLARA

Whaaaaa?

CODEX

I'm sorry Clara but I gotta stand for something as Leader! Mr. Wiggly is no longer a Knight of Good.

GEORGE

Now listen here, I'm too old to get kicked out of anything! Clara, and I are leaving.

CLARA

Yeah! Wait, what?

George stands.

GEORGE

You heard me. I tried this so we could spend more time together. You can't keep playing by yourself if I'm not welcome.

CODEX

Clara, don't leave!

CLARA

(upset)

I...I have to!

She stands up, then leans back into the mic, tearful.

CLARA (CONT'D)

"Take that you Dungeoneering Bozos. Clara is ixnay in your uildGay nanyoreay."

(to George)

Honey, I guess I'm all yours.

She grabs his hand and they exit.

VORK

That could have been handled better.

CODEX

Shut up, Vork! You dumped this in my lap and all you've been doing is back-seat leading! Well, I'm through with it!

VORK

(wounded)

Codex, you of all people, turning on me as well?! Do I truly have the power to snap your gentle spirit? I must be a monster. Need...alone...now.

Vork logs off.

BLADEZZ

Great. Vork's gone, Clara's gone. Guess I'll hit the road, pack a backpack. Street kids always look like they're having fun, like it's an apocalypse or something.

Bladezz gets up and exits.

55

INT. CODEX'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

55

Codex takes in this turn of events.

CODEX

They've done it. They've destroyed us. We have nothing left.

DENA

"...a small force is but booty for one more powerful." Sun Tzu, The Art of War.

CODEX

Why is everyone quoting stuff?!

(BEAT)

The Art of War?

DENA

I do dioramas of Civil War battles as a hobby. You went on the offensive, but weren't able to withstand the provoked onslaught.

CODEX

(BEAT)

I'm just gonna go with this. What should I do?

DENA

With your forces weakened, you gotta attack their weakest link.

CODEX

Well, I already tried Tink and the Guild Leader, the one dude's a cop, other guy doesn't speak English, wheelchair girl's just mean...so...damask guy!

DENA

What's damask?

CODEX

Ha! See, you don't know everything.

56

INT. VORK'S CAR - DAY

56

Vork is parked in an alley/seedy street. Outside his window is a TRANNY HOOKER. Vork looks extremely depressed.

VORK

You ever get the feeling that people just don't like you? Knowing that, how can I ever be Guild Leader again?

TRANNY

Who cares. When I moved onto this street, all the girls hated me. But I wanted us to be known for something, did some viral marketing, and now we're the go-to corner for whatever nasty business a dude could want. Leading ain't got nothing to do with being liked. It's not a popularity contest.

VORK

What do you think about me?

TRANNY

On sight I kinda hated you. But I'll take money from anyone.

VORK

I'm not paying you anything.

TRANNY

Then I really hate you.

VORK

Embrace the hatred. That's certainly easier than changing who I am.

TRANNY

Gimmie a hot dog.

Vork reaches over and pops up a hot dog and bun from a Hot Dog and Bun toaster oven and hands it over, thinking.

VORK

It might be time to go home.

57

INT. CUBICLE - MOMENTS LATER

57

Valkyrie sits at his desk, on the computer, looking a little furtive. Codex and Zaboo peek over the cubicle.

CODEX

Thanks for coming with me.

ZABOO

No worries. My every waking moment is a humiliation, I can't let the assault go unanswered anymore!

CODEX

What are you talking about?

ZABOO

This situation. He's alt-tabbed...go, go!

Codex and Zaboo rush around the cubicle wall.

VALKYRIE

(caught off-guard)

Heyo...

Zaboo grabs the keyboard.

ZABOO

You are disarmed, sir!

VALKYRIE

(panicked)

What are you doing here? How did you find me?! Leave before my boss sees you! You're so uncoordinated!

Zaboo leans over to the keyboard and presses some keys.

ZABOO

Rathweed Plains. I know it well.
Farming for Heatherwood?
Interesting workplace assignment.

CODEX

If you don't stop harassing
Bladezz, we're gonna tell your boss
how much you love playing games at
work.

ZABOO

(typing)
913 hours played from this IP
address. Own'd.

VALKYRIE

No, I can't lose this job. I'm
passionate about fabric! Please!
How am I supposed to stop my whole
guild from messing with you guys?
I'm not their keeper!

ZABOO

I dunno. How are you gonna not
scream when I take these...
(looks at monitor)
Bracers of the Anret'ka off your
character...

VALKYRIE

(suddenly concerned)
Hey now...

ZABOO

And drag them off and...hold him
Codex! DELETE THEM!

CODEX

Uh...Zaboo...

Codex, confused, quickly moves to hold Valkerie down. Zaboo clicks. Valkerie tries to keep his outcry quiet.

VALKYRIE

Noooo...

ZABOO

(getting crazier)
Keep going Codex. Close the Iron
Maiden!

CODEX

Um, OK, so what's the Anarchist's next move?

VALKYRIE

I...I can't...

ZABOO

Oooh, pretty Pauldrons of the Duel Dragons going...POOF. Bye Bye'd!

Valkerie whimpers like he's in horrible pain.

VALKYRIE

(quiet but intense)

Those pauldrons had adamantium sockets!!

CODE

Just tell us and we'll stop! Your leggings will be safe!

ZABOO

(clicking)

Uh, oh. No they won't. There goes your 5 piece set bonus my friend! Who's helpless now?! Lock me in the closet?! I'll show you!

Zaboo grabs a nearby jacket and tries to smother Valkerie with it.

CODEX

Zaboo! Stop it! You're acting crazy!

ZABOO

I'm not puny! I'm well proportioned for a man my size!

Zaboo rushes back over to the keyboard and clicks furiously. Codex is very confused and freaked out but goes with it.

CODEX

(to Valkyrie)

Um, you'd better tell me what we can do to make this stop! He's obviously freaking both of us out.

VALKYRIE

(breaks)

Nothing! We'll never give up.

(MORE)

VALKYRIE (CONT'D)

At our LAN party we're gonna start listing things we can do the rest of you. In real life! It's out of my control!

CODEX

Where's the LAN party? When!?

VALKYRIE

(near tears)

Tomorrow! Charlie's internet cafe. Back room. 2pm.

Zaboo clicks the last time.

VALKYRIE (CONT'D)

Noooo, not my longsword!

He starts sobbing. Zaboo dusts his hands.

ZABOO

I guess our work here is done.

Codex lets Valkyrie go and he collapses onto the desk. She rushes over to the monitor.

CODEX

He's naked. You killed his outfit.

ZABOO

(in Valkerie's face)

Tell them to be ready, we're coming for them.

Zaboo exits, Codex stares at Valkerie a beat before following.

58

EXT. OFFICE BUILDING - MOMENTS LATER

58

Codex catches up to Zaboo, grabs him and spins him.

CODEX

(livid)

Zaboo! What we did to that guy...I'm sure there's a UN mandate somewhere against it! What were you thinking?!

ZABOO

I...I dunno, I just got out of control. The power, his pain, it was...intoxicating.

(BEAT)

What's happened to me?! NOOOO!

Zaboo runs away dramatically.

CODEX
(brokenly)
And then there were none.

FADE OUT:

EPISODE 10:

59

INT. CODEX'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

59

CODEX

It's official, I broke the Knights of Good. Clara and Tink quit, stupid Vork is AWOL, Bladezz is going underground, somehow, and Zaboo digitally waterboarded someone. It's over.

(BEAT)

What am I gonna do? I don't wanna have to meet NEW people! New people means awkwardness, flailing around for common topics, an invitation to coffee, even though both of you know you're not gonna follow up. Ever. Why did this have to happen! I like the people I had before!

60

INT. CODEX'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

60

Codex is lying on her bed staring at the ceiling. She reaches a hand over to her keyboard without getting up and presses a button.

CODEX

Hello? Anybody?

Silence. Her hand drops, defeated. Beat. Vork enters.

VORK

Codex...

CODEX

Ah! Vork!

(sits up)

You made me Guild Leader and I ruined everything! Jerk!

Codex throws a pillow at Vork and collapses on the bed again.

VORK

I understand your hostility, more than you can imagine. In the past few days I've made discoveries about myself, Codex. More precisely, \$13.00 worth of gas in discoveries.

CODEX

What did you find, dare I ask?

VORK

People don't like me. I elicit repugnance and resentment in humans from all walks of life. I believe one person compared talking with me to, quote...

(reads paper)

"Shaving my privates with a dull, rusted cheese grater." End quote.

CODEX

I'm sorry.

VORK

Don't be. I now know why I am, in fact, a great leader.

CODEX

Because people hate you?

VORK

Bingo. I can wield that unification like a glove: Act as a benevolent overlord, so to speak. Henceforth, I've ended my journey and have arrived to take back Guild Leader. YES!

CODEX

Well, it's a little late. The Anarchists are meeting today. They're having a LAN party today and they're gonna plan how to destroy all of us OUT of game! There's no reason to try to put us back together because they'll just break us again!

VORK

Then we settle this the Napoleonic way: Two armies face to face. The guerilla warfare must stop. We will not be defeated. Evil must be toppled. WE HAVE THE POWER...

CODEX

This is a techno song, right?

VORK

Marshall your weapons. Let's rally the troops!

Vork grabs Codex's monitor and starts to leave, but it's still hooked up so all the crap on her desk flies onto the floor. There's an awkward beat.

CODEX

I'll clean that up later.

They exit.

ZABOO (O.S.)

Dudes, I can't help you.

61

INT. RILEY'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

61

Codex and Vork stand next to Zaboo who's on the couch, playing Xbox. The sound effects coming from the TV are giggles and other annoying childish sounds.

ZABOO

I can't be trusted. The impish and adorable Zaboo you knew is no longer.

SFX from TV: Cartoon voices yell "Loop-Dee-Loops!". Vork and Codex look at the screen.

CODEX

What are you playing? Is that "Sir Loop-A-Lot"? That game is for four-year-olds.

ZABOO

(in despair)

I thought it would cleanse my soul, but there are so many pastels and penguins! Makes my inner demons wanna make those happy animals DIE! DIE DIE DIE!

He pounds the controller. SFX giggles from the TV. Zaboo continues playing.

VORK

Zaboo, stop wallowing. The Guild needs you.

ZABOO

Lies! No one needs a broken warlock.

CODEX

You're not broken! It's Riley, she did this. I told you she wasn't good for you!

Game SFX: Cartoon voices sigh, "Looooove."

ZABOO

Riley's the only woman who's loved me back! We're cloven, or whatever. You didn't want me, so stop trying to break us up!

CODEX

I'm not trying to break you up! That's ridiculous!

Game SFX: Cartoon Voices sing "Happytime!"

ZABOO

(turns to TV)

Shove it, Loop-A-Lot!

CODEX

(turns to TV)

So annoying!

VORK

Absolutely maddening. Zaboo, if you choose not to accompany us, then we must move on without you. And you'll be dead to me as a human being. And were I in a situation where I had to choose between saving you or a dog who I had never met before from drowning, I would do my best to drown you myself in order to save the strange unknown dog, who I would not even care to keep after rescuing, but would, afterwards, place in a non-abusive foster home. Good day.

Vork and Codex start to leave. Game SFX: "Awwwwwww."

ZABOO

Alright! I'll help you but remember: Zaboo is no longer. I'm half the player I used to be. Just call me Zab. Or Boo. Yeah, that's cool. Call me "Boo".

VORK

No.

Come on.

CODEX

*
*

Zaboo presses a button and gets up. As they exit, Game SFX: Cartoon voices say, "Tootle-loop!"

Clara lies on the couch, BABIES bouncing on her. She's despondent. George sits near her as they watch the TV.

GEORGE
Honey, you OK?

CLARA
(robotically)
I love spending time with my
family. This-is-so-much-better-
than-gaming.

One of the kids hits her in the face with something. She doesn't even react.

GEORGE
Come on kids, let's make mommy a
snack.

George and the kids exit.

CLARA
(calls out weakly)
I love snacking with my family.
This-is-so-much-better-than-gaming.

There's a knock at the door.

63

EXT. CLARA'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

63

Codex, Vork and Zaboo stand on the porch. Clara gapes.

CLARA
What are you guys doing here? Go
away before Wiggly sees you!

ZABOO
Clara, you're a dog. Like, a
drowning dog. I'm gonna drown
you...I'm gonna kill you and you're
gonna learn...how does this go?

VORK
What? Clara, I've taken back Guild
Leadership again. The Knights of
Good is my intellectual property.
I've trademarked the logo and hope
to turn it into a legitimate
business someday. Possibly a
delicious breakfast cereal.

CLARA
Ooh, marshmallow Zaboos!

ZABOO
Can I be cinnamon-flavored?!

CODEX

That has nothing to do with anything.

(to Clara)

Clara, we need you. We're going to Charlie's internet cafe and we're gonna confront the Axis of Anarchy. We're gonna save the Guild.

CLARA

I...I can't.

(looks into house)

I've hung up my Mage robe. I'm a housewife now. For my marriage and stuff. I absolutely totally can't go.

CODEX

But Clara...

CLARA

OK!

Clara grabs her laptop and a note pad nearby and scribbles a note.

CLARA (CONT'D)

Gaby!

GABY comes running up. Clara hands her the piece of paper.

CLARA (CONT'D)

Go hide somewhere and when daddy gets worried and comes to find you, give him this.

(off Codex's look)

I made the effort to resist, that's all that counts, right?

They all exit.

64

INT. VORK'S CAR - LATER

64

Codex, Vork and Zaboo are packed into Vork's car. Bladezz stands at the passenger side door dressed in a sea-green bow tie and matching shorts: Spats and a club jacket. Ridiculous.

CODEX

Nice outfit.

ZABOO

Yeah, nice outfit, man!

BLADEZZ

I was about to go undercover at a polo club in Argentina! Old internet buddy. Blunderbuss!

CODEX

What?

Zaboo leans forward from the back seat.

ZABOO

You know, in-game gun, low level? Hunter weapon, looks like an old shotgun! Shotgun'd!

BLADEZZ

(to Codex)

Give up the seat. I called it.

CODEX

Fine!

Codex rolls her eyes but gives Bladezz the front seat.

65 EXT. WAREHOUSE - MONTAGE

65

Cool music peaks. The Guild struggles to get their equipment out of the car. "Geared up", they walk in a line across a parking lot, Tarantino-style, all carrying computer equipment. Slow-motion continues as they try to figure out how to get in the doorway with all their computer equipment, who enters first, etc. Coolness negated.

66 INT. WAREHOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

66

Long tables are set up with computers on them in a warehouse. The Rival Guild is playing. They all look up as the Guild enters. Close, stylized shots. Vork steps forward.

VORK

Let's do this.

FADE OUT:

EPISODE 11:

67 INT. CODEX'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

67

CODEX

Man, it felt good to be back together! I think being in the Guild fulfills one of my secret wishes: To be in a gang. I mean, I know they do bad things; things associated with gang-like behavior, but it's kinda cool to have that exclusive connection with other people. We could invent secret handshakes, wear matching outfits, meet for brunch at the "hideout"...hmm, it's starting to sound more like a book club.
Upshot: These dudes were going DOWN!

68 INT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

68

The Knights of Good stand opposite the Axis of Anarchy.

FAWKES

Well, well, well. If it isn't the Knights of Goob.

VORK

You are.

Confused looks.

VORK (CONT'D)

This insurgency must stop. We battle to end this. Here and now.

ZABOO

Guildo a Guildo.

VORK

(to Zaboo)

Don't help.

FAWKES

A challenge? We accept. Terms?

Vork walks over and wipes off the whiteboard menu and starts writing on it with a dry erase he whips out of his pocket.

CAFE WORKER

Hey! That's our menu!

VORK

I've formulated a simple system of 24 elimination rounds. Initial pairings will be determined by using US census data from the 1990's.

(whips out white board marker)

It should take about six hours, whereby...

FAWKES

Screw that. Immediate play. Battle Royale.

VORK

Fine. But winner declared winner.

FAWKES

That's fucking obvious.

CODEX

(steps up)

If someone from our Guild wins, you guys have to leave us alone, forever.

FAWKES

And when we win?

VORK

Our Guild will cease operations. The Knights of Good will be but a noble blip in gaming existence. And I'll return to playing Chinese Checkers with various neighborhood children.

Horrified reactions from The Guild (also reaction from Tink).

FAWKES

Deal.
(to Valkerie)
Set us up.

VALKERIE

Absolutely. Muhahahah.

Valkyrie glares at Codex and Zaboo and huffs off.

VORK

Guildies, a moment.

Vork takes his Guild aside.

69

INT. WAREHOUSE LEFT - MOMENTS LATER

69

VORK

I don't know what's about to transpire, but I do want to prepare you for this: Hearts may be broken. Avatars will surely die.

ZABOO

FYI, that dude in the track suit, Kwan, I looked him up. He's a champion Starcraft player. Makes millions playing in Korea. Ringer'd.

CODEX

He has a hand masseuse.

They look over and Nik is massaging Kwan's hands.

ZABOO

They're the man's instruments.

BLADEZZ

I could use a masseuse for my instrument.

CLARA

(calls out)

Tink! We need a zinger! Man, I miss her.

Cut to Tink, staring at them from the other side of the room.

GEORGE (O.S.)

Clara!

George strides over to the group, looking angry.

CLARA

Uch! Gaby's such a bad hider!

GEORGE

Is this really your decision?
Choosing a game over our marriage?
I can't believe you left without telling me!

CLARA

You wouldn't have wanted me to go,
and I wanted to go! Why go through the motions?

ZABOO

She's got a point.

GEORGE

Can you give us a moment?

The Guild disperses, leaving Clara and George together.

CLARA

Wanna make out to make up?

Valkerie approaches Codex, who's setting up her computer:

VALKERIE

Just so you know, I have to play on my alt character, Artemis, because my main has NO EQUIPMENT!

CODEX

I'm really sorry about what happened, it got completely out of control and we just...Artemis? So you play two girl characters?

VALKERIE

Yes, is there something wrong with that? I play two girls, I like looking at girls I'm a girl...loving guy.

(BEAT)

I like your shoes.

In the corner, Clara and George are still arguing.

GEORGE

They kicked me out! Where's your loyalty?!

CLARA

It's OK They don't think you're a straightjacket anymore!

GEORGE

You mean a Turncoat?

CLARA

Yeah, that!

(calls over to Vork)

Vork, Wiggly's in the clear, right?

VORK

As recently reinstated Guild Leader I'm willing to assume your nefarious activity wasn't deliberate, that you were just an idiot.

CLARA

How awesome is that?

Bladezz and Bruiser choose computers near each other.

BLADEZZ

I'll be enjoying this. Finally meeting you on equal ground.

BRUISER

Equal? Your dick could fit in my ear canal.

BLADEZZ

Zing, shield that.

Zaboo is set up opposite Venom.

ZABOO

I just wanna say I really admire people who overcome adversity. My aunt plays the piccolo without a pinkie finger.

VENOM

If you talk to me again I'll cut myself where I can't feel anything and bleed out all over the carpet.

ZABOO

Gotcha'd.

Back to Clara and George.

CLARA

I can't stop crying!

GEORGE

You're not crying. You're shaking your bottom lip.

CLARA

OK, let's get through this and I promise...this will be the last time I'll game.

GEORGE

It has to be, Clara. Otherwise your word means nothing! I can't participate in a shell of a marriage!

CLARA

Oh, I love chocolate bunnies!

GEORGE

How did that just happen? That sentence?

CLARA

They're hollow when you eat them. Duh. Come on. I gotta game.

They exit.

INT. WAREHOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

The Guilds are finally lined up facing each other. George stands over Clara's shoulder. Vork sits opposite Kwan and Nik. A waitress drops a glass of water off to Vork.

WAITRESS

Your tap water, sir.

KWAN

(in Korean)

Tell the bald guy I'm going to smash him into the ground. I'm number one in everything.

NIK

Kwan says that he...

VORK

(in Korean)

I am ready and able to challenge you. May the moon glow on you in your hour of need.

Kwan looks at Nik, who shrugs. Fawkes looks at Codex, who's stationed opposite him.

FAWKES

Nice view. "Beauty that dies the soonest has the longest life:" Bertha...

CODEX

I don't care.

FAWKES

3-2-1...begin!

The room is filled with crazy fighting sounds from all computers. Outcries from all pairings as people get hit, adlib protests, etc.

Tink and Bladezz, nearby each other, are battling.

TINKERBALLA

Sweet justice. Killing you will be the best part of my week.

Bladezz answers with little energy, not himself.

BLADEZZ

You've made it clear in every way: If I died the world would be a better place. I got it.

TINKERBALLA

(perturbed)

When I kick you and you take it, not so fun.

Venom looks sad and is talking to Vork.

VENOM

Why can't they let me be myself and play a disabled avatar?

VORK

Re-designing Medieval towns to accommodate the handicapped would certainly impact the game aesthetic. For instance; ramps in dungeons would limit the rubble graphics...Ah! Dead!? Already?!

VENOM

Blah, blah, you're dead, baldie.

Across the table Valkerie dies. He pitches a little tantrum.

VALKYRIE

No SIR! UNGH! Honey mustard. Son of a nugget!

ZABOO

That's some lame tourettes, dude.

George is standing over Clara's shoulder as she plays.

GEORGE

Remember we were supposed to be taking the kids to the park today? I can't believe I'm sitting here watching you sling tornadoes at elves!

CLARA

Nag nag nag! When did you turn into such a stick-in-the-mud?

GEORGE
Sick-in-the-mud?!

CLARA
Yeah! When was the last time we
woke up in a strange bed asking,
"Where are we?" "What concert were
we at?"

GEORGE
We have a family! Is that what you
think I've become? Boring?!

CLARA
Yeah! And while we're at it, I
hate that cell phone holster you
wear all the time! It's so dorky!

KWAN
(in Korean)
The lady has a point.

NIK
(translates)
The lady has a point.

Codex works hard to hit Tink, who's sitting across from her.

CODEX
Ah! Crap! You're so dodgy. I
can never get close to you. The
game is such a metaphor for life.
Tink, whatever happens, we really
did miss you.

TINKERBALLA
Why do you have to be so nice? I'm
STABBING you! God, I hate you
sometimes!

Down the table Bruiser throws up his hands, killed by Zaboo.

BRUISER
What the FUCK!?!

ZABOO
Eat that, biceps! Clara, I'm
coming to you, hold on! Damn, it
feels good to be Zaboo again!
Confident, crushing my opponents
with class and justice. I'm the
George Clooney of RPG's.

George looks furious. He shoves Clara over and takes over
her computer.

GEORGE
(to Clara)
I'll show you! I can take risks!
Move over!

George starts mashing buttons vigorously (out of anger at Clara, trying to mess her up). Kwan looks surprised and dies. He stands completely flabbergasted.

KWAN
(to George in Korean)
No one uses those tactics with your
class, it is sheer idiocy!

NIK
(to George in English)
No one uses those spells with your
class, it is sheer idiocy!

GEORGE
(tough)
Sheer idiocy is my gaming
specialty.

CLARA
Oh my gosh! Guildies! Wiggly took
out the ringer guy! He's not a
newblet anymore!

FAWKES
He what?! Anarchists, waste that
guy!

From Clara's computer, a death cry.

CLARA
Oops.

Zaboo is back to his old self, playing awesome.

ZABOO
Who's next? I'm on a roll...OUCH!

Venom, across the room, screams at the top of her lungs and closes her laptop.

VENOM
It feels so good to die.

Zaboo gets hit in the back with a paintball shot and then is yanked out of his seat. Riley looms over him holding a paintball gun.

ZABOO
Who's next?! I got my Zab back!

RILEY

Someone forgot that I like an
afternoon foot massage.

ZABOO

Whole-season-download...Riley?!

He gulps. Down the table, Tink kills Bladezz.

TINKERBALLA

(to Bladezz)

You're dead! Suck it, loser!

She stares at Bladezz, who just stares at his monitor,
morose. It bothers her.

TINKERBALLA (CONT'D)

Cry or something! Uch!

She covers, back to the game.

TINKERBALLA (CONT'D)

Looks like it's two against one.
Knights of Good are toast.

Clara stands and looks around.

CLARA

Codex, awesome! You guys, who
woulda thunk? Codex is the only
one left standing!

CODEX

Wait a minute! What?!?

FADE OUT:

EPISODE 12:

70

INT. CODEX'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

70

CODEX

You know when rabbits or squirrels or other...prey-like animals are in danger, and they freeze but inside you know they're totally freaked out, ready to dart at any moment or their little hearts will self-implode?

(some freaked-out faces)

That's what I was feeling when I realized that I was the only one left in that fight! I mean, how could life let that happen to me? Please, life! Don't do me any favors! I don't want to ever be the key to anything!

71

INT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

71

Continuous from last episode. Three players are left: Fawkes: calm and cool, Tink: conflicted, and Codex: spazzy.

CLARA

We've got Codex yes we do, we've got Codex, smell our poo!

CODEX

I can do this. I can do this. Oh God, please don't make me do this!!

A GRAPHIC OF CODEX'S HEALTH AND MANA BAR IS AT THE BOTTOM/SIDE OF HER POV SHOT THROUGHOUT THIS FIGHT. IT GOES UP AND DOWN BASED ON IF SHE'S WINNING OR LOSING.

The Guild looms over her shoulder, yelling out to her.

BLADEZZ

Codex!! He charged, shoulda been ready for that!

VORK

Codex, pick off the ranged attacker! Heal yourself, HEAL YOURSELF, WOMAN!

Zaboo turns to Riley, upset.

RILEY

Zaboo! My toes are still unstimulated!

ZABOO

No Riley. Look, you got me killed
and now the Guild is gonna lose!

CODEX

Thanks Zaboo!

RILEY

Raising your voice to me? You just
earned yourself a night locked in
the clothes dryer.

ZABOO

Been there, not doing it again!
I'm gonna be a man now and do what
I shoulda done a long time ago.

Zaboo turns his back on her, gets out his phone and types.

ZABOO (CONT'D)

Check my Tweet.

RILEY

What?

She gets out her phone and scrolls.

RILEY (CONT'D)

You're breaking up with me?!?!

CODEX

Guys! Make important life
decisions LATER!

CODEX'S LIFE AND MANA BAR JUMP LOWER.

FAWKES

(calls over)

You mean to run right into the tip
of my sword like that?

BLADEZZ

CODEX! A monkey could see you
should have Summoned a Divine
Herald there! What are you doing!

Tink yells over at Bladezz.

TINKERBALLA

You're the monkey, Bladezz! Why
they kept you in the Guild is a
mystery to the world!

BLADEZZ

The only mystery here is titled
"The Case of the Asian Wallet
Succubus!"

VORK

(into Codex's ear)
INSIDE VOICES FOR CODEX!

CODEX

VORK!!

CODEX'S LIFE BAR GOES LOWER. Clara is crying next to George.

CLARA

I can't believe you're making me
quit after this. Why do you hate
the game so much?!

GEORGE

I don't hate the game! I do take
offense at you kissing another man!

CLARA

That?! You dredge up the oldest
things!

GEORGE

When are you going to grow up? We
have three children now! Why do I
feel like sometimes it's four?

CLARA

MAYBE BECAUSE I'M PREGNANT!

GEORGE

YOU'RE WHAT!?

Codex panics. LIFE BAR JUMPS VERY LOW AND STARTS TO TREMBLE.

CODEX

EVERYONE SHUT UP! Oh, my God! One
hit point?! Noooooo!

VORK

She's flatlining! Hold on, Codex!

BLADEZZ

Come on Codex!

His voice echoes out and face recedes as a flatline sound
comes in. The world pauses. Choir music.

72 INT. CODEX'S POV - CONTINUOUS

72

Cut between Codex's POV shot and the computer screen. CODEX'S AVATAR gazes out at her (Felicia in Codex Avatar Costume on green screen with digital filters/FX).

CODEX'S AVATAR

Cyd Sherman! What's your problem?!

CODEX

Other than talking to my OWN FACE?! Oh man. I've lost it. Thank goodness I don't have any pets to leave behind.

CODEX'S AVATAR

You're moving me like a total spazz! Stop playing me like I'm YOU!

CODEX

I AM you!

CODEX'S AVATAR

You wish. Tell me: Who am I?

CODEX

My fairy god-self?

CODEX'S AVATAR

I'm who you are in-game, who you WANT to be. Confident, in-charge, naturally wavy hair. You're playing me like I'm CYD: twitchy, self-conscious, with the occasional cycle-linked pimple.

CODEX

Hey, that has nothing to do with gaming.

CODEX'S AVATAR

Just relax and be ME for a minute: Reality is kicking your ass right now.

CODEX

OK. BE Codex. I can do that. I guess...

CODEX'S AVATAR

Oh, and don't count on this ever happening ever again. I kinda glossed over it, but you're pretty close to insanity right now.

Codex's Avatar smiles, raises her staff and light comes out as Codex is...

73

INT. WAREHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

73

Back in real time.

CODEX

I'm back! Shield, heal, spam heal,
shield! My hair is naturally wavy.

Near Zaboo, Riley is livid.

RILEY

Nonononono. No one breaks up with
me. I do the BREAKING. Hearts,
limbs and not on TWITTER!

ZABOO

Yeah, well I thought 140 characters
was enough. Hashtag "sweetburns".

Riley grabs Venom's wheelchair and drags her over to Zaboo.

VENOM

What the...?

Riley grabs Venom by the back of the head and kisses her.

ZABOO

(watching)
Subscrib'd!

Codex is playing more self-assured. Calms herself.

CODEX

I'm owning this feeling, I'm a holy
goddess!

BLADEZZ

You're a holy freak show!

CODEX

OK, Bladezz, I'm going to
confidently lay this on the table:
The only reason we're even here
right now is because you and Tink
were acting like total jerks!

VORK

Well said, Codex.

CODEX

And YOU should have done something when the Guild started falling apart! But all you've been doing is whining and wandering around in your creepy ass van!

VORK

(stiffly)

I acknowledge your point. I apologize.

CODEX'S LIFE METER JUMPS

CODEX

Thank you. Bladezz, your turn.

BLADEZZ

What? No way! She broke my heart! She made me get a job!

TINKERBALLA

If you liked me so much, how could you DESTROY me?

BLADEZZ

I'm a man of impulse, I don't think crap through!

CODEX

Bladezz, just DO IT! Bladezz!

BLADEZZ

OK, I'll bite! SORRY!

TINKERBALLA

(shouting as well)

FINE! I'm kinda sorry too, so lets move on!

CODEX'S LIFE METER JUMPS TWICE

VORK

I'm glad we solved that.

BLADEZZ AND TINK

(to Vork)

I hate you!

VORK

As it should be!

FAWKES

(to Tink)

Stop with the advice column
bullshit and finish her off! I'm
getting eaten away with DOTs over
here!

BRUISER

Tainterballa has her jaw flapping
and her hand up her ass!

TINKERBALLA

Did you just call me a TAIN'T?

VALKERIE

Yeah. It's what we called you
behind your back. Tainterballa.

KWAN

(nods)

Tainterballa.

TINKERBALLA

(stands)

I didn't think this was possible,
but you guys are too douche-y for
me. Codex, take me down.

Tink backs away from the computer. Codex clicks and there's
a death sound.

FAWKES

What the fuck, Tink?

TINKERBALLA

(shrugs)

Like you always say. It's anarchy.

Codex smiles: CODEX MANA BAR TO FULL. Nearby, Riley
withdraws from kissing Venom.

VENOM

(face to face with Riley)

That was a hell of a long kiss.
Tasted like chaos.

RILEY

Kick banning this twerp and moving
on. Riley.

They shake hands and look at Zaboo.

VENOM

Venom.

They leave together.

ZABOO

OK, alright. That did not
emasculate me one bit ladies!
(re: his crotch)
Down boy!

Vork leans into Codex.

VORK

I think the Knights of Good are
good again. Nice job, Codex. Now
strip the skin off his face.

CODEX'S BARS BOTH JUMP TO FULL.

CODEX

Crit, Crit, Trinket Crit. Boom.

Yells of encouragement as Fawkes bottoms out and dies.

FAWKES

Are you skull fucking me right now?
You must be skull fucking me right
now because I can feel it right
here in this eye socket.

Codex jumps to her feet.

CODEX

Oh, my God! I did it. We won we
really won!

Zaboo joins the group.

ZABOO

YEAH!!!...what's happening?

CODEX

I owned him.
(to Fawkes)
I'm sorry but...no, you know what,
I am not sorry! I am confident!
That you ATE IT.

VORK

I assume your Guild will honor the
agreement that we agreed upon?

FAWKES

Yes. Our Guild has been tainted
enough.

Fawkes turns to Tinkerballa and stares.

FAWKES (CONT'D)

Anarchists, game over.

VORK

Everyone has to have a taint. It's anatomically required, so we rejoice in the presence of our taint.

(to Tink)

Tink, welcome back. Knights of Good, let's load up and head out. We have an expansion to play.

Everyone heads towards their computers, packing up.

George turns to Clara.

GEORGE

Clara, are you serious, we're having another baby?

CLARA

Well see, at first it was a game to see how big my boobs would get until you noticed. You know, soon I'll be playing out to here...

(types far from herself)

...or not. 'Cause I'm quitting.

GEORGE

I'm not gonna make you quit. I just don't want it to be an excuse for you not to spend time with me.

CLARA

We can still play together! I'll get little laptops for the kids...

GEORGE

Not gonna happen.

Bruiser approaches Bladezz as he's unhooking his rig.

BRUISER

Even though I was trying to destroy you by banging her, I really like your mom. Is it OK if I still date her?

BLADEZZ

Get those charges dropped, then I'll play it up a bit. I'll say how nice it is to have a father figure around or some crap like that.

BRUISER

Maybe we are kinda equals.

(BEAT)

In your fucking dreams.

They high five. Codex walks up to Tink, holding her stuff.

CODEX

Hey Tink. Hey I just wanted to say that after that fight, I feel like I can relate to what happened to you more. I mean, you really connected with your avatar, right? Maybe even talked to her?

TINKERBALLA

Talked to who?

CODEX

Your avatar?

TINKERBALLA

(gives her a weird look)

Codex, it's just a game.

CODEX

Right. Absolutely.

Codex crosses out. Zaboo, holding the ring, notices.

74

INT. FOYER - MOMENTS LATER

74

Codex sets her computer down, and takes a deep breathe. Kwan and Nik walk up (Nik is carrying his equipment).

KWAN

(in Korean)

Nice work back there. For a girl you're not a bad player.

NIK

Nice work back there. For a girl you're not a bad player.

*
*

CODEX

Well thank you. You know, you play something eight hours a day, you can't help but be a little...

Kwan reaches out and squeezes Codex's boob. A really uncomfortable silence. He and Nik leave as Zaboo walks up.

ZABOO

Did he just grab your boob?

CODEX

Yes.

ZABOO

Are you letting people do that now
or...

CODEX

No.

ZABOO

Oh, high five... Hey, look I know
you don't want to do me, and that's
cool. Actually Riley kind of put
me off women for quite some time.

CODEX

I'm glad you realized that she
wasn't good for you. Alone. I
didn't want to have to rescue you
again.

ZABOO

Rescue me?! Whatever.

CODEX

Really? OK, I'll leave you a few
ego chunks.

Codex smiles, relaxes with Zaboo for the first time.

ZABOO

Hey that's the first time you've
smiled at me without looking like
you were passing gas. But we did
it, we won so--

Fawkes walks up, interrupting the moment.

FAWKES

I'm spanked, you got me. So you,
me: drinks, 8pm. Renata's. I'll
see you there.

Fawkes walks away.

ZABOO

You're going to go out with that
guy? Seriously?!

CODEX

No. No! Absolutely not.

CUT TO:

75

INT. CODEX'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

75

Codex, asleep, rolls over and pulls the blanket over herself. Oh, wait, it's not a blanket, it's a kilt. What? She opens her eyes and sees FAWKES in bed with her. She sits straight up, covering herself with the kilt.

CODEX

Uh, oh!

FADE OUT: