

Episode 3: Speak of the Dead

ANNOUNCER

And now, Episode 3: Speak of the Dead.

DESPAIR

No! Please, can't you pray about him or something? Please? Please?

ROWAN

He needs some spark of life left for me to do anything. I'm sorry. He's gone.

LOTUS

Can anyone sense where Artie is?

GARNETT

Oh no.

ARTIE

I'm over here. Hey! We've been through this. Still friendly.

GARNETT

Who's that with you?

ARTIE

This one, the one on the hill, and the other. They tried to rob Larkspur's wagon.

GARNETT

We saw the one on the hill. Where's number three?

ARTIE

Back that way. He's not going anywhere.

LOTUS

Are you hurt, Artie?

ARTIE

A little beat up. I gave Larkspur everything I had though, not that it did any good.

ROWAN

Thank you for trying. And now... What in the seven hells is he doing with black paint on his face?

ARTIE

They all have it. Black paint, ragged clothes, furs.

ROWAN

Let's see what his excuse is.

BANDIT #1 (making noise like a gag being removed)

Hey, spare a little healing for me, God-man?

ROWAN

No. What's the story with the face paint, eh?

BANDIT #1

Whaat? It's, you know, camouflage.

ARTIE

In the middle of the day? Were you playing dress up? Pretending to be orcs? Didn't anyone ever tell you that blackface is harmful? Especially to the one wearing it.

BANDIT #1

So what? We come out, shoot a couple arrows and scare the tourists. We were supposed to hit the wagon, not the old man.

ROWAN

(Over his shoulder) Hey, G? Would you bring that shovel from the back of the wagon, please? It's going to get some use.

BANDIT #1

Wait. What are you going to do to me?

ROWAN

Well son, it's going to go like this: I am going to bury my friend. Meanwhile, you get to go on a fetch quest and retrieve your two buddies. Then you are going to dig a hole while I ask you some questions. What happens after that is up to you.

BANDIT #1

Oh gods, please don't kill me!

ROWAN

Kill you? Son, I'm the only person keeping you alive. Without me, the Tabaxi would roll around in your guts like a kitten with a ball of yarn. I'm not sure but the Half-Orc would like some words with you about your cultural appropriation. The Tiefling? She would drag you to Hel so she could watch your brain melt out of your ears. And the Canadid? Well, he would probably give you

an hour head start and then chase you down to snort the fear that's sweating off you in sheets.

BANDIT #1

Don't let him eat me!

ARTIE

Aw shit, your skinny ass wouldn't dress out to more than a nasty stew.

ROWAN

Is there a fucking sphere of silence around me? I'm a Paladin. I am not going to kill you. You don't get off that easily. But if you try to run, they will make sure that you die tired.

GARNETT

Here you go, hon. Any chance I could use this one for my scratching post? I'm pretty sure I won't kill him.

ROWAN

No playing with your food. He has to go get his friends. Make sure he doesn't run away, please.

GARNETT

Oh, I will keep a very close watch. Let's go, kitten.

ROWAN

Alright, folks. Graves detail always takes longer than you think, so we're camping here tonight. Brother Lotus, I know you have somewhere to be, but if you grew up in this neighborhood, I would be grateful if you helped forage a bit, please?

LOTUS

I will, certainly. And I'm staying the night here, too.

ROWAN

That's very kind of you. Despair, there should be a canopy in the wagon. Looks like we might have some rain tonight. See if you can get that started, please.

DESPAIR

Yes, Sir Richard.

ROWAN

It's Ro... (sigh) It doesn't matter. Artie, unhitch the horses from the wagon and stake them out near the tree, please. I don't

want them wandering too far. There should be some feed bags in the wagon under the seat.

ARTIE (As close as you can possibly get to "OK, Boomer")
OK, Paladin.

ROWAN
Excuse me?

ARTIE
Yeah, you made a good guess with Lotus and the foraging. But playing twenty questions earlier, you didn't ask how I get by in the world. Hi. I'm Artie. Druid and herbalist. Lotus and I could forage together in half the time.

ROWAN
Yes, well I...

ARTIE
And then you asked a bookish outlander to assemble a camp tent by herself. And she's what? Fourteen hands tall and weighs maybe eight stone soaking wet if she had rocks in her pockets. She gonna be wrapped up like a canvas mummy.

ROWAN
I was only trying to even things out

ARTIE
While we're at it: I understood what you were asking but where I came from, horse is a delicacy. I have some skill in animal handling, but you might not like the result.

ROWAN
Well, what was I supposed to do?

ARTIE
Here's an idea: Ask. None of us is smarter than all of us, war boy. Don't get me wrong, I'm in and I'll help. And you might need to let go a little, soldier.

ROWAN
I get it, alright? Everything you say makes sense. I've spent most of my life giving and taking orders.

ARTIE
I'm only planting a seed, you get to see how it grows. I'll go shuffle people. Despair can get some firewood while Lotus and I

forage. Then the tall folks can pitch the tent. And maybe let the non-carnivores handle the horses.

ROWAN

Sounds good. Thank you, Artie.

ARTIE

Yeah man, happy to help. Meanwhile, what are you planning to do, General?

ROWAN

It was Captain. And since it was my fuck-up; it's my grave to dig.

ARTIE

I'd like to share in that.

ROWAN

We only met you today. You don't owe him or us anything.

ARTIE

Well, I should've known they were coming. I should've paid closer attention when the wind shifted and the horses started getting nervous.

ROWAN

You know, in the service, we called that "shoulding on yourself." You did everything you could.

ARTIE

I did. And I would still like to help dig.

ROWAN

I'll let you know. But re-sort those tasks first, please?

ARTIE

Yeah, I'm on it.

SFX: A couple shovels full of dirt

DESPAIR

Excuse me, Sir?

ROWAN

Yes, Despair?

DESPAIR

I know that these were very bad people. And you keep telling me that you know I'm a good person.

ROWAN

And you're upset with how I threatened the bandit.

DESPAIR

And I... Hey! I thought Miss Garnett said reading people's minds was rude.

ROWAN

That wasn't telepathy, I could almost hear you flinch when I said it. Tell me this: You've just met us. Do you think that Garnett or Artie would actually do the stuff I said about them?

DESPAIR

No.

ROWAN

And I don't think you would torture him either.

DESPAIR

I mean, no?

ROWAN

Several times today, you've shown me who you are. You defended Garnett from the borc; and you offered her your amulet; and gods above, you cried real tears when we found Larkspur dead. But that bandit? He doesn't know any of that.

DESPAIR

You trust me because I cried?

ROWAN

If you can fake-cry that well, remind me to never play cards with you.

DESPAIR

But then how could you make all of those lies and threats up so quickly?

ROWAN

I never lie. But once upon a time, I got to visit one of the outer circles of Hel. It's called "boot camp," I'll tell you about it sometime.

DESPAIR

Ooo! I don't think I've heard of that one! (pause) Also, this would be my first round-world burial. I would like to help dig. Please.

ROWAN

I'll let you know. But talk to Artie about what to do first, please?

DESPAIR

Alright. Oh, and one other thing? Melted brains usually come out of the nose first, not the ears.

ROWAN

Thank you, Despair. I can honestly say, I will never forget that for the rest of my life.

DESPAIR

Wonderful!

LOTUS

Excuse me, Sir Rowan?

ROWAN

Yes, Brother? How can I help you? Do you want to tell me all the reasons you knew an attack was coming? Do you want to chastise me for using racial stereotypes? Do you want to add fuel to my nightmares? Do you want to help bury my employer who I abandoned to chase after a children's story? What?

LOTUS

I noticed that you comforted Artie for what he thought he should have done. And you heaped that same abuse on yourself for what you should have done. I noticed that you reassured Despair for your racial bluffs to the bandit. And you played into your class stereotypes to intimidate him.

ROWAN

Anything else?

LOTUS

I think you said all those things to the bandit because deep down you do actually wanted to harm him. So you forced yourself to say it all out loud as a way to convince yourself.

ROWAN

Angels and ministers of grace defend us. How did you figure that out?

LOTUS

I was thinking of the Teaching from the Second Celestial Journey.

ROWAN

No, wait. I don't need a sermon.

LOTUS

Book two, chapter twenty-one, verse one hundred and twenty seven: "It is possible to commit no mistakes and still lose. That is not a weakness. That is life." (1)

ARTIE

Hey, Sir Rowan? Can you come over here, please?

ROWAN

Sure, Artie. Thank you, Brother. I'll have to think on that.

ROWAN

What is it?

ARTIE

I was trying to get the body down when I noticed this. It looks like he, I dunno, tried to write a message.

ROWAN

You can't read it?

ARTIE

We are an oral tradition. I can sound it out, but it doesn't make sense.

ROWAN

Oh. Alright. It says "Nother"?

ARTIE

Another what?

ROWAN

I have no idea.

DESPAIR

Excuse me? I also have a question, please.

ROWAN

Umm, sure. What is it?

DESPAIR

Goodman Larkspur said he dealt mostly with metals, yes?

ROWAN

Yeah, he hired us to escort his wagon to the smithy at Gauntlet Station.

DESPAIR

That's the strange part. There's a little tin, some copper and silver, and a few ingots of cold iron (shudder), but from what I can tell, the wagon is mostly full of lead.

ARTIE

Lead? What in the world would they use lead for?

DESPAIR

The one person who could tell us is dead.

- I N T E R M I S S I O N -

ANNOUNCER

And now a word from our sponsor: Hogglesbogger's Wonder Emporium.

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ANNOUNCER

We now return to: A Paladin's Bargain.

- R E T U R N -

ROWAN

Gods above and devils below! Hold still!

BANDIT #1

This ain't right, man! It's inhuman!

ROWAN

Fun fact: "Inhuman" suggests that Humanity is a paragon of virtue and the other races are somehow less than us. That is provably false. The word you might be looking for is "cruel." But given the circumstances, you've got no room to talk, son.

BANDIT #1

But we didn't mean to kill him.

ROWAN

Wrong. Intentions mean nothing; actions are what count. You shot that bow; you killed him. You only ever point a weapon at what you want to destroy.(2)

ARTIE

Hey there! Dinner's almost ready.

ROWAN

I'm finishing up here. Artie, that smells amazing! Is that your auntie's stew?

ARTIE

Ish? Stew takes forever, man. So it's close but not quite. I had some herbs and spices saved for a special occasion. We found some tubers and roots that are close matches, and Miss Garnett caught some rabbits.

ROWAN

What about Despair?

ARTIE

She's crying about the rabbits.

ROWAN

What?

ARTIE

Yeah, apparently she only eats vegetables. This is going to sound like a weird question.

ROWAN

You know, after that, you could say anything and I won't think it's weird.

ARTIE

Garnett says you got some batshit on your back at the cave. Is it purple, by any chance?

ROWAN

I take that back! Sorry, Artie. They didn't get any on my front. But can't you tell?

ARTIE

I can smell something is there, but man, my people are color blind.

ROWAN

Oh! I'm surprised that that surprises me. Uh, I can't really get the breastplate off quickly. Hey you!

BANDIT #1

What do you want, God-man?

ROWAN

Is there purple shit on my back?

BANDIT #1

Is this some sort of prank? Yeah, there's something purple on your back, sure.

ARTIE

Great! Now for the really weird part.

ROWAN

Hold on, that wasn't the weird part?

ARTIE

Could I get some of that before you wash it off... Please?

ROWAN

One day I will stop asking questions I'm afraid to know the answers to. But today is not that day. Why?

ARTIE

The Aurgelmir mountains are home to a rare species called the Gygax Bat. One of the ways you can tell they're Gygax Bats is that their guano - their batshit - is bright purple. Our stories say it adds a little zhuzh to spells that use guano as a component.

GHOST OF LARKSPUR

Rowan.

ROWAN

Did you hear that?

ARTIE

Hear what?

ROWAN

Nothing. But yeah, you can take it now if you want.

ARTIE

Thanks! Let me get my sickle.

ARTIE

So, what's going on? Sounded like you were arguing with the kid?

GHOST OF LARKSPUR

He killed me.

ROWAN

What? Oh, our guest disagreed with his evening accommodations.

ARTIE

I mean, you did make him bury his friends and then staked him out over the grave.

ROWAN

I didn't stake him out. He has room to move.

ARTIE

Room to move with his feet bound and his hands tied behind his back? He's a man at his leisure, sure.

BANDIT #1

Yeah! You tell him, dog-boy!

ROWAN

And your suggestion would be?

GHOST OF LARKSPUR

Revenge me.

ARTIE

I'm just sayin man. Three would've filled that grave easier than two.

BANDIT #1

On second thought...

ROWAN

Absolutely not! Tomorrow, we take him with us to the Station and hand him over to the Magistrate.

ARTIE

Rowan. Did your order forbid helmets in combat? Do you think a judge is really going to take my word for what happened?

ROWAN

It'd be your sworn testimony in a court of law.

GARNETT

Ro! Something's wrong with the horses!

ARTIE

And how many Canidae has this backwater judge seen, eh? How many who were not in chains?

ROWAN

I would vouch for you if it came to that!

ARTIE

Oh, so my word and my honor only count when I have a Human around to say I'm a good boy? What do you think would happen if it was Despair who spoke up for me? Ooh! Let's get Lotus to testify on my behalf and see how that boosts my Persuasion ability! This is absurd.

ROWAN

It's not absurd, it's the law.

ARTIE

From where I'm at, it's hard to tell the difference sometimes. But seriously: if, by some miracle of charisma, the Magistrate

takes your, my, and our word collective for it. What then? What's the punishment out here for killing a long-time merchant serving the community? If that kid is lucky, they'll hang him. I'm saying, I can make it quicker and more painless than what they will probably do to him.

DESPAIR
Help!

ROWAN
What is it

GARNETT
Sweet mercy grace.

SFX: The low moaning of an undead Larkspur

DESPAIR
It's Goodman Larkspur?

GARNETT
That's not him anymore, honey.

LOTUS
I heard someone scream and OH! That is something new!

ROWAN
How did he get raised?

ARTIE
Don't look at me!

DESPAIR
Why is he just... staring at us? He looks like he wants to go but he can't.

ROWAN
His back is to the hillside and we're blocking his way. The bigger question is, why isn't he going through us?

GARNETT
Not helping, Ro.

ROWAN
No, seriously. He hasn't moved since we ran up. If he wanted to, he could rip through us. Hold on. Let's all take a big step back.

DESPAIR

He's! Oh, no, he only took a step too?

ROWAN

Now two steps back.

DESPAIR

Two! He took two steps! But what does that mean?

ROWAN

Some holy symbols create a sort of bubble of protection around the wearer. In the Guard, if we stood in the right way, we could trap the revenants. It turns them in circles. Despair, you're wearing that necklace from the temple, yeah? Artie, I can see yours.

DESPAIR

Yes, it's right here.

GARNETT

Good guess, hon.

ROWAN

And they still pack a punch this many years later. Unfortunately, that won't make the next part any easier. We're going to have to de-animate him.

DESPAIR

Oh! I don't like the sound of that! But you're right. We have to do it for him because I would want you to do that for me.

ROWAN

They grow up so quickly. I don't have any flame spells like that ready. Lotus? You lit that torch earlier?

LOTUS

I'm sorry, Sir Rowan. I can't light anything that large or, well, that moist. Oil?

ARTIE

All I have is cooking oil and not nearly enough for that.

DESPAIR

If he's a revenant, can't you turn him?

ROWAN

That won't destroy him, only make him angry. He'd charge through our line and become someone else's encounter. That's irresponsible on our part. We need fire to destroy the body and end this now.

ARTIE

I can throw a flaming sphere.

DESPAIR

No. I can do this. Do you still have your ability to heal today, Sir?

ROWAN

Yes, why?

DESPAIR

Miss Garnett, please hold this for me. I'll be right back.

GARNETT

D! Get back!

GARNETT

He's down! Get away from there!

ROWAN

What the seven hells was that all about?

DESPAIR

That spell only works if they hurt me first. And there are nine hells, not seven.

ROWAN

You keep teaching me things, young lady. Do you want the help?

DESPAIR

Between this and the door? Yes, please.

ROWAN

O mickle is thy powerful grace. (4)

DESPAIR

(screams)

DESPAIR

You healed me but wow that hurt. Maybe next time I'll just rub some brimstone on it.

ROWAN

I'm sorry, I didn't realize.

DESPAIR

I guess there's a difference between damage and pain. I hope that side-effect of my arrival wears off soon.

LOTUS

That was very brave of you, Miss Despair.

DESPAIR

It was very stupid of me, but thanks.

ROWAN

Well, it worked. And as Saint Murphy teaches us, "If it's stupid and it works, it's not stupid." Well done, kiddo. Oh, and your nose is bleeding.

DESPAIR

Thank you.

GARNETT

Any ideas about what raised him?

BANDIT #1

Hey God-man? I could use a little help here, please!

ROWAN

Be quiet. The grownups are talking.

BANDIT #1

No really, there's something wrong over here. The dirt is moving!

ROWAN

Fresh graves do that. h shit. We have two more, people!

GARNETT

Where?

GARNETT

Looks like we have company. Good thing you left out a snack.

ARTIE

Two more revenants. As quick as they're raising, the kid will be up in a few hours.

ROWAN

But what in the blue blazes is raising them?

GARNETT

First things first. Despair, stay back.

DESPAIR

You don't have to tell me twice.

ARTIE

Step back everyone, I got this.

ROWAN

That was... I... Gygax batshit?

ARTIE

Gygax batshit.

ROWAN

That's more than a little zhuzh.

ARTIE

Yeah! Wait until my aunties hear about this!

ROWAN

Artie, I owe you an apology for what I said before. You're right. But hey, I guess you saved him the trial after all.

ARTIE

More importantly, this prevents us from getting our brains eaten in the middle of the night.

ROWAN

Good point. And good aim by the way. It doesn't look like anything else caught fire beyond that impact crater.

ARTIE

Well, you know, I once heard a wise man say, "You only point a weapon at what you want to destroy."

ROWAN

That guy was an idiot. But if there was any place to test your zhuzh, it would be right here. Gods above and devils below.

GARNETT

What is it?

ROWAN

Before he died, Larkspur wrote something on the seat of the wagon. I thought it said "nother" like a-nother. But look: "Not here." Do you think he meant "don't bury me here"?

GARNETT

Is there some sort of curse? Oh, sweet mercy grace.

ROWAN

Whether there is or not, the new rule is the same as the old rule: Don't die.

- I N T E R M I S S I O N -

ANNOUNCER

And now a word from our sponsor: Fuzzy Butts Warg Rescue.

MRS. WIGGLES

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ANNOUNCER

We now return to A Paladin's Bargain.

- R E T U R N -

ROWAN

Where is everyone?

GHOST OF LARKSPUR

Rowan.

ROWAN

Garnett? Where are you?

GHOST OF LARKSPUR
How could you do this to me?

ROWAN
Artie? Lotus? Despair?

GHOST OF LARKSPUR
You did this to me!

ROWAN
What the?!

GARNETT
Hey, baby. You ok?

ROWAN
Did I nod off again?

GARNETT
Did you get any sleep last night?

ROWAN
Doubt it. Those were the first revenants I've seen in a while.
And I can't stop wondering who raised them.

GARNETT
I'm sorry, honey.

ROWAN
Eh, thanks. I lived with it for so long, but the further I get
from that life, the more messed up I see it was.

DESPAIR
What was it you used to do, Sir Rockford?

ROWAN
Rowan. And that's another story for another beer. Where are the
others?

GARNETT
Lotus is scouting ahead. He's excited to get to the monastery,
but after last night, he wants to make sure we get to Gauntlet
Station.

DESPAIR
And Artie said he had to see a man about a dog?

ROWAN

Ew... That expression doesn't sound the same coming from him.

ARTIE

But you know, the look on your face was totally worth it.

ROWAN

Yeah, you got me. Not that it's any of my business, but I'm guessing you were checking scent trails for your pack mates?

ARTIE

Yes, and yes. Signs still point to Gauntlet Station.

ROWAN

I hope they're close. And hey, we plan to be around for a few weeks. Give us a shout if you want some help on the rescue. You've got my sword.

GARNETT

And my bow! (5)

DESPAIR

And what are you three talking about?

ROWAN

It's an old story from another time. But hey, you're doing a great job guiding those horses, Despair. Have you done this before?

DESPAIR

No sir! Artie taught me a few tricks for handling animals, but they talk in their heads like I do, so it's easy. There are no regular horses where I live. Only occasionally herds of wild nightmares.

ROWAN

Night... Any information in Larkspur's ledgers, G?

GARNETT

Yes and no. He's been doing this metals run to Gauntlet Station for a very long time. At a significant markup, I might add.

ROWAN

How much?

GARNETT

So much that he does no other business. Also, from what I can tell, things are really pricey in the station. I don't know how long our fee will last us.

ROWAN

Are we going to be alright?

GARNETT

We should. His lockbox has our payment plus a little.

ROWAN

Are you considering taking from our recently deceased employer?

GARNETT

I'm saying that we still have expenses to cover before we deliver this cart to the smith. Our fee plus a little cream will finance the next phase; we can put the rest in the bank while we find a few gigs around town. If there's no work, we return Larkspur's profits, cart, and horses to his family in Deepwater, minus expenses and plus discovery.

ROWAN

Not the side quest I was planning on, but yeah. That sounds like the right thing to do. Thank you, my dear.

GARNETT

Or... We complete the contract, sell the horses to the livery, an adventurer, or the butcher shop, whoever pays more, then run away to somewhere warm. Seriously, that markup was steep.

ROWAN

You knew who I was when you married me.

GARNETT

Come to think of it, we could look for a surgeon at the Station. See if we could get that ten-foot pole extracted out of your...

ROWAN

Ha. Ha. Ha. So, what sort of time are we making?

GARNETT

Best as I can tell, we're about an hour out from the Station. I've been seeing bits and pieces in the distance. Once we get around this bend, we should be able to see it clearly.

ROWAN

It's so strange. The stories made it sound like this was one giant forest, but now it looks like farmland with trees as filler.

DESPAIR

Oh look! Brother Lotus is coming back and he's in a hurry.

ROWAN

What in the seven hells..

DESPAIR

Nine.

ROWAN

Gah. What in the NINE hells has him running so fast? What's wrong, Brother?

LOTUS

HEY YOU GUYS! Something's wrong at the Station! I think something's happening at Gauntlet Station.

GARNETT

What did you see?

LOTUS

Well, everything looked fine at first, but then there was this horn and a big covered wagon came racing out of the front gate!

ROWAN

Interesting. Maybe some threat in the east?

LOTUS

No, the guards on the walls started shooting at the wagon!

GARNETT

So an internal problem became an external. But there's no way some flunkie wall guard would hit a moving target like that, even with a longbow.

LOTUS

No! They were firing CATAPULTS! And ballistas!

ROWAN

Ballistae.

GARNETT

Not the time, hon.

ROWAN
What?

GARNETT
Read the wagon, Ro. Go on, Brother.

LOTUS
They just kept shooting at the wagon until it was out of range but they never hit it.

ARTIE
We're coming up on that bend, let's see.

GARNETT
Well, there she is: Gauntlet Station.

DESPAIR
Wait. That's a castle.

ROWAN
It's a small castle. Hold on. Lotus, you could see that much detail with the wagon and everything from here?

LOTUS
I've always had really good eyesight.

ROWAN
That's amazing.

LOTUS
What?

ROWAN
I said that's

LOTUS
Ha ha! I got you!

ROWAN
Is it Paladin Piñata Day? Save me from Half-Orcish dad jokes.

LOTUS
I had to get something from the Human side of my family.

ROWAN
Ouch.

DESPAIR

And what's that?

GARNETT

A posse on horseback riding out? Mighty brave of that leader.

DESPAIR

How can you tell which one is the leader from this distance?

GARNETT

A bunch of matching blue cloaks and one bright red one? It's storybook posturing "This way, no one can see me bleed!" but it also paints a big red target on his chest.

LOTUS

Do you think we should run ahead and help?

ROWAN

That posse will be long gone before you get there, Brother.

ARTIE

Besides, the town guard is going to be on high alert. If we all come running up in our furried, tailed, and tattooed selves, those ballistAE will likely shoot first and ask questions later.

GARNETT

You're not wrong, Artie. As it is, we're going to show up driving a cart that's been coming here for decades without the man who's been driving it for decades. We need to talk about how we want to handle a bunch of bow-string happy guards who just got caught with their pants down.

ARTIE

I may have an idea.

GARNETT

Well, whatever it is, we need it quickly. I can help, but you should know: Mister Tall, Bald, and Handsome here cannot tell a lie.

ARTIE

Whoa, like at all?

ROWAN

I can bluff a bit, but otherwise no.

ARTIE

But I mean, what about-

GARNETT

Artie, believe me, I've tried. I risk killing him every time I ask, "Does this dress make my tail look fluffy?".

ROWAN

You see this tattoo over my voice box? Yeah. Lifetime geas. If I'm lying, I'm dying.

DESPAIR

Oooh, those are nasty.

ARTIE

Okay, in that case, I think I know someone who can help us, but you're going to have to trust me.

ANNOUNCER OUTRO

- O U T -

- (1) "It is possible to commit no errors and still lose." parody of Star Trek: The Next Generation "Peak Performance (Season 2, Episode 21). Copyright 1989, Paramount Pictures.
- (2) "Only point a weapon at something you want to destroy." Second rule of firearms safety in the "round world."
- (3) "One day, I will stop asking questions..." loving homage to Order of the Stick (www.giantitp.com/comics/oots0188.html) Copyright 2005, Rich Burlew.
- (4) "O mickle is thy powerful grace." adapted from Romeo and Juliet, Act 2, Scene 3, by William Shakespeare. Public domain
- (5) "You have my sword, and my bow." parody of Lord of the Rings: Fellowship of the Ring. Copyright 2001, Warner Brothers.