WHAT WE DO IN THE SHADOWS

"DUNGEONS & DRAGONS" (SPEC)

Written By

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COLD OPEN

INT. MANSION LIBRARY - NIGHT

Laszlo reads a book peacefully.

LASZLO (PRE-LAP)

Ever since we were ex-communicated by the Vampiric Council, we've been spending a lot more time at home.

Behind Laszlo, Nandor pulls a book from the shelf, scans a few pages, SLAMS it closed, and puts it back on the shelf. He repeats this several times. Laszlo's eyes roll.

LASZLO TALKING HEAD

LASZLO

We're all trapped in a prison of our own making. Which isn't as fun if you've already bedded all your cellmates.

INT. NANDOR'S ROOM - NIGHT

Nandor writes in his journal. As he dips his quill, he overhears Nadja SPANKING Laszlo through the walls.

NADJA (O.S.)

Say 'please' if you want another.

LASZLO (O.S.)

Please! Oh my! Spank you very much!

NANDOR TALKING HEAD

NANDOR

If any of us get caught in Vampire territory...

Nandor gestures a knife slicing his throat.

NANDOR (CONT'D)

But at least if they cut my head off, I wouldn't have to listen to Nadja's "training" anymore.

NADJA (O.S.)

LOUDER!

EXT. GARDEN - NIGHT

Nadja sips blood out of a goblet. Guillermo steps outside with a bag of fast food and it CRINKLES as he eats. Guillermo SLURPS his soda from a straw. Nadja stomps away.

NADJA TALKING HEAD

NADJA

Six-hundred years--I've never met anyone so fucking annoying!

INT. MANSION - LOUNGE - NIGHT

Nandor, Laszlo, and Nadja glare at each other in silence. Colin Robinson walks down the hall on his way out.

LASZLO

Where do you think you're going?

COLIN ROBINSON

I'm going to see my friends.

NANDOR

What do you mean see your friends? We're ex-communicated, remember?

COLIN ROBINSON

I'm not going into Vampire territory. I have friends outside our community, you know?

COLIN ROBINSON TALKING HEAD

COLIN ROBINSON

I meet with different groups almost every day of the week.

B-roll of Colin Robinson putting people to sleep at various clubs, meetings, and events.

COLIN ROBINSON (V.O.)

Monday is Scrabble, Tuesday is Toastmasters, Wednesday is Stamp-Trading. I'm currently looking for something to do on Thursdays...

INT. MANSION - LOUNGE - CONTINUOUS

Nadja looks at Colin Robinson accusingly.

NADJA

Outside of the Vampire community? HA! If I ever become that desperate for friends, please stake me!

COLIN ROBINSON

Excuse me, but some people enjoy my company. You'd understand if you weren't so selfish and anti-social.

The Vampires look at each other dumbfounded.

NANDOR

Colin... how did you make friends?

COLIN ROBINSON

We've lived here for 100 years; about time you try new things, find a hobby, get an afterlife...

Colin Robinson wraps a scarf around his neck and heads for the door. Before he exits, he turns around.

COLIN ROBINSON (CONT'D)
Or you could stay cooped up in here
till you end up killing each other!

Colin Robinson exits. The Vampires mope.

NANDOR

His friends probably only like him for his money.

LASZLO

Or his body! At least all of our friends are genuine.

Guillermo enters with a deck of cards.

GUILLERMO

You guys wanna see a magic trick?

NADJA

Laszlo, bring me a stake.

LASZLO

Fret not, my love. We're going to make some new chums tonight!

The Vampires all leave. Guillermo frowns to the camera.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

EXT. HOWARD'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Guillermo knocks on the front door of a large suburban house.

GUILLERMO TALKING HEAD

GUILLERMO

With everyone trapped at home, Nandor has agreed to give me an extra night off every Thursday. I finally have time to start playing Dungeons & Dragons again.

INT. HOWARD'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

HOWARD, an archetypical Dungeons & Dragon player, escorts Guillermo into an empty living room.

GUILLERMO

Am I early?

HOWARD

Yes, but we haven't a moment to spare! The others will be here soon and the chamber is not yet ready.

Howard guides Guillermo to the closet full of folding chairs.

HOWARD (CONT'D)

We have 7 weary travelers joining us upon the hour and they all shall find refuge at my mom's coffee table.

GUILLERMO

Sure thing, Howard.

HOWARD

Ahem. In these quarters, you must remember to address me as your "Dungeon Master."

GUILLERMO

Sure thing... Dungeon Master.

GUILLERMO TALKING HEAD

GUILLERMO

It's nice to get a break from taking orders from Nandor all day.

INT. HOWARD'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Guillermo is arranging the chairs around the room. Howard is laying down on the sofa watching television.

GUILLERMO

Dungeon Master, I know I'm the new guy around here, but I've actually been playing since high school.

HOWARD

(absent-minded)

Uh huh.

GUILLERMO

I still have my old binder of campaigns. There's one I've always wanted to run called "The Perils of Avarice"

HOWARD

Uh huh.

GUILLERMO

After you wrap up your campaign, do you think I could take over as Dungeon Master and run the next campaign?

HOWARD

Uh huh.

GUILLERMO

Really? I can be the next DM?!

Howard sits up.

HOWARD

Wait, did you say you wish to usurp my throne as Dungeon Master? But you still much to learn, my squire.

GUILLERMO

Technically, I've been playing longer than you have.

HOWARD

Avast! Do not talk back to your Dungeon Master.

GUILLERMO

I'm sorry.

HOWARD

You're apologizing to...

GUILLERMO

I'm sorry, Dungeon Master.

HOWARD

That's better. Now I must warn you that the mantle of Dungeon Master takes a lot of hard work.

Howard takes a bite from a powdered donut.

HOWARD (CONT'D)

(mid-chew)

If you really want to get a taste, I'll make you a deal: set up the room, maintain the score sheet, and go pick us up some beers. I'll wrap up my campaign tonight and you run "The Pearl Necklace" next week.

GUILLERMO

Deal!

Howard lies back down on the sofa.

HOWARD

Great... now move this sofa so it doesn't block the hallway.

GUILLERMO

You're still laying on it.

HOWARD

It's fine; just don't block the TV.

INT. MANSION - NIGHT

Nandor, Nadja, and Laszlo huddle around the receiver of an old phone. ARJAN, the leader of the werewolves, answers.

ARJAN (V.O.)

Hello?

NANDOR

Hey, buddy, how's it going?

ARJAN (V.O.)

Who is this?

NANDOR

It's Nandor the Relentless. I've got the whole crew here. Say "hi!"

LASZLO NADJA

Evening, old chap!

Woof woof!

ARJAN (V.O.)

Okay... what do you want?

NANDOR

Just calling to see what you and the pack were up to. Full moon tomorrow... any fun plans?

ARJAN (V.O.)

We're going hunting. But don't worry, we'll be out of your way.

NANDOR

Nonsense; you're never in our way!

LASZLO

Perhaps we could tag along. Make it a caravan of proper villains!

ARJAN (V.O.)

No, I don't think so.

NANDOR

May we ask why not?

ARJAN (V.O.)

Because werewolves and vampires are immortal enemies... we hate you.

NANDOR

Let's put that in the past.

ARJAN (V.O.)

I'd hang out with a bunch of vacuums before I hung out with you.

The Vampires look at each other confused.

LASZLO

I'm afraid that reference has flown above our heads.

ARJAN (V.O.)

It's like if you hung out with a bunch of garlic.

Nadja hisses.

NADJA

Bad dog!

LASZLO

Are you sure we can't interest you in sniffing our bums?

DIAL TONE. Nandor hangs up the phone.

NADJA

That was so demeaning! He's right, you know. Everyone hates us! Arjan and the Werewolves, Wallace the Necromancer, the Vampiric Council.

LASZLO

We could always see what Lilith and the witches are up to...

Nadja glares at Laszlo.

NADJA

Why the hell would we do that?

NANDOR

I guess we have no other choice but to make **human** friends...

NADJA

Well, let's not throw out the witch idea so soon.

NANDOR TALKING HEAD

NANDOR

I've had human friends before. They have such small, simple pleasures like candy, beads, "microbrewing." Still, it can be nice to watch them get fat and grow old!

(somber)

But it's best not to get emotionally attached... It spoils your appetite.

INT. HOWARD'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Guillermo takes notes on a table surrounded by Howard and FIVE D&D PLAYERS.

HOWARD

(narrating)

A zombie rises from the grave. It lunges at Gorp. How do you proceed?

D&D PLAYER 1

I cast a bolt of lightning!

GUILLERMO

Wait, electricity doesn't affect zombies. Cast a binding spell instead.

HOWARD

How would you know that?!

CUT TO:

EXT. GARDEN - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Zombie-Topher tries to drown Guillermo in the koi pond. Nandor pulls Topher off and throws him into the pond. Topher is electrocuted, but is unaffected by the electricity.

CUT BACK TO:

INT. HOWARD'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Guillermo steals a look at the camera.

GUILLERMO

Just something I heard on a podcast...

D&D PLAYER 1

Okay, I'll cast a binding spell.

Howard rolls a die.

HOWARD

(sighs)

... it's effective. The zombie is unable to attack.

The players all celebrate. Player 1 high-fives Guillermo.

GUILLERMO TALKING HEAD

GUILLERMO

My character's name is Gandor the Persistent. I am an Undead Warrior who gains power by draining the blood of my enemies.

Guillermo holds up a sketch that looks just like Nandor except he's wearing glasses and a knit sweater.

GUILLERMO (CONT'D)

I rule my island with compassion instead of fear and my men adore me because I always keep my promises.

EXT. KNITTIN' KITTENS - NIGHT

In an unassuming strip mall, the only shop that is still open is "KNITTIN' KITTENS." Their logo features a *Bastet* playing with a ball of yarn.

NADJA TALKING HEAD

NADJA

Before I became a vampire, I was a tailor. I know, I know, but don't worry; I'm not one of those women who loves clothes... I just hate poorly-dressed men.

INT. KNITTIN' KITTENS - NIGHT

Nadja admires the quality of some fabrics. Laszlo pulls on a ball of yarn endlessly. Nandor holds two knitting needles like daggers and stabs at the air.

GERTY, a sweet old lady, approaches Nandor.

GERTY

Oh my, what a strong lad!

Nandor puts the needles back on the counter.

NANDOR

You think so? That was nothing. If I had my real daggers, it would be truly fearsome.

GERTY

I don't doubt it! I'm Gertrude but you can call me Gerty. This is my shop.

Nandor graciously bows to Gerty.

NANDOR

I am known as Nandor "The Relentless" but you may call me Nanny. This is my friend, Laszlo.

Nandor beckons Laszlo over.

GERTY

My my, what did I do right in my past life to be so lucky as to meet two handsome, young gentlemen.

LASZLO

(chuckle)

Careful, Miss Gerty. If I was 300 years younger, I'd have half a right mind to buy you a drink. And I don't think my better half, Nadja would like that very much.

NADJA

Did I hear that this store is your property?

GERTY

Yes, it is. It was given to me by my mother and it was my grandmother's before that.

NADJA

A matriarchy of merchants... very nice.

GERTY

What brings you darlings here?

LASZLO

I'm afraid you've caught us under most unfortunate circumstances. We find ourselves without diversion or congression this evening. Could you help us with either?

GERTY

You've come to the right place!

Gerty leads the Vampires into:

INT. KNITTIN' KITTENS - BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

The walls are made with limestone and it is lit only by candles and torches.

GERTY

Sorry for the tomb-like atmosphere. This is an old building.

NANDOR

... It's perfect!

INT. HOWARD'S HOUSE - LATER

Howard closes his notebook.

HOWARD

The Evil Wizard collapses... but with his dying breath, he reaches for the sky and says "avenge me... brother."

The D&D group is amazed but Guillermo is perplexed.

GUILLERMO

Wait a second. Brother?

HOWARD

That's right. Next week, The Evil Wizard's Brother will strike back!

D&D PLAYER 2

Another boss! This campaign just keeps on giving!

GUILLERMO

I thought you were wrapping up your campaign tonight.

HOWARD

What do you mean? This campaign is just getting started!

GUILLERMO

YOU PROMISED!

The rest of the players take notice of the argument.

HOWARD

If you wish to consolidate power, there is only one way to do it!

Howard draws a sack of dice from his hip holster and lays it on the table.

D&D PLAYER 3

Dungeon Duel?!

HOWARD

Is that what you have come for? A Dungeon Duel?

GUILLERMO

(sheepish)

No.

HOWARD

You're saying no to...

GUILLERMO

No, Dungeon Master.

HOWARD

Very well. Then let's considered the matter settled. Next week, we shall resume the Wizard's Torment!

ALL PLAYERS

(in unison)

Huzzah!

GUILLERMO TALKING HEAD

GUILLERMO

I wonder what I'll get to be first: a vampire or a DM.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. KNITTIN' KITTENS - BASEMENT - NIGHT

The Vampires sit among the knitting circle with Gerty and THREE OLD WOMEN.

OLD WOMAN 1 watches Nandor knit white linen

NANDOR

... And then I loop it around and start again with this needle!

OLD WOMAN 1

That's a perfect purl stitch! You're a fast learner.

Nandor looks to the camera proudly.

NANDOR

You didn't have to say that.

NADJA TALKING HEAD

NADJA

When they aren't starting needless wars or begging for their lives, humans aren't so bad. I can't remember why I stopped associating with them in the first place.

Laszlo reads to OLD WOMAN 2 while she knits white linen.

LASZLO

(reading)

And this is why I sojourn here, Alone and palely loitering, Though the sedge is withered from the lake, And no birds sing.

OLD WOMAN 2

John Keats was such a thoughtful man.

LASZLO

That he was. A generous drunk as well! Always sharing spirits with the whole pub.

OLD WOMAN 2

I didn't know that he drank!

LASZLO

With the amount of whisky he put down, he didn't remember either!

GUILLERMO TALKING HEAD

GUILLERMO

It's clear that Howard is never going to give up his seat. So instead of taking this abuse for another 10 years, I have to ask myself: "what would Gandor do?"

INT. MANSION - DAY

Colin Robinson stares at a blank white wall. Guillermo walks up to him and taps him on the shoulder.

GUILLERMO

Hey Colin, can I--

COLIN ROBINSON

One sec, G. The paint is still drying.

Colin Robinson continues to stare at the paint on the wall. Guillermo shrugs to the camera and. Colin exhales.

COLIN ROBINSON (CONT'D)

Mmm, that's good stuff. So what can I do for you?

GUILLERMO

I need you to drain someone for me.

COLIN ROBINSON

You're asking me to use my powers for your own personal gain? What's gotten into you?

GUILLERMO

This is the new Guillermo. Doesn't it remind you of something a brave warrior would do?

COLIN ROBINSON

Quite the opposite. It reminds me of something Nandor would do. Who's the mark?

GUILLERMO

His name is Howard. He's the Dungeon Master of my D&D group.

COLIN ROBINSON

D&D?

GUILLERMO

Dungeons & Dragons. Howard said I could be the Dungeon Master, but he's going back on his word. If you take him out, I can step in as DM.

COLIN ROBINSON

DM? There's a lot of acronyms going on here...

GUILLERMO

Yeah, the game is full of acronyms, titles, and complicated rules.

Colin Robinson smirks hungrily.

COLIN ROBINSON

Consider me interested.

GUILLERMO

Great! I'm inviting everyone over this Thursday.

COLIN ROBINSON

Thursday? I have absolutely no plans that night... Count me in!

COLIN ROBINSON TALKING HEAD

COLIN ROBINSON

What can I say? I've always been a social butterfly.

INT. MANSION - DUSK

The Vampires eagerly wait inside the house.

NADJA

How much longer until the sun has fully set? Gerty is waiting for us!

NANDOR

Guillermo, come here at once!

Guillermo enters.

NANDOR (CONT'D)

How much longer until the sun goes down?

Guillermo peaks behind the curtain.

GUILLERMO

Maybe another 15 minutes... you guys must really like these new human friends, huh?

NANDOR

I don't know what you are talking about; I'd just hate to be rude by showing up late.

GUILLERMO

You're rude to me all the time...

LASZLO

That's only because we're comfortable around you, Gizmo. These are new friends and we want to make a good impression.

GUILLERMO

Speaking of new friends, I was wondering if I would have some guests over tonight.

NADJA

Of course! You know you're welcome to bring "guests" over whenever you want.

GUILLERMO

But these are actual guests; you can't eat them at the end of the night!

NADJA

What?! Who are you to make demands like this?!

NANDOR

Well Guillermo, we knew this day would come eventually. We are finally branching out of our comfort zone so who are we to keep you from doing the same. You may invite your guests to our home. We will do them no harm.

LASZLO

First the camera crew and now these new friends... we're getting soft. Or should I say merciful.

LASZLO TALKING HEAD

LASZLO

I must admit, I don't usually get along with humans; even when I was one! But these ladies are something special. I would never dream of eating them. They have a certain je ne sais quoi; I think it's anemia.

EXT. KNITTIN' KITTENS - NIGHT

The Vampires wait eagerly for the doors to open.

LASZLO

What's taking so long? They said the meeting would start at 7; it's already 7:02!

Old Woman 1 opens the door.

NANDOR

We're baaaack!

NADJA

Why are you the one letting us in? Where's Gerty?

OLD WOMAN 1

You haven't heard? Gerty passed away last night.

NADJA

What?! How could this happen?

OLD WOMAN 1

Complications with anemia.

Laszlo shoots a knowing look to the camera.

NANDOR

I can't believe this. I feel... I feel... grief?!

OLD WOMAN 1

I know, Nanny. Come in inside. We're all downstairs for the ceremony.

The Vampires follow her into the basement.

NADJA TALKING HEAD

NADJA

Now I remember why I don't hang out with humans anymore; they're so fragile. You hang out with them for like 80 years and they just die out of nowhere!

INT. MANSION - NIGHT

Guillermo opens the door for Howard.

GUILLERMO

Good evening, Dungeon Master.

HOWARD

Whoa! No way... you live here?

GUILLERMO

Now that you're here, we can get started.

Guillermo guides Howard into:

INT. MANSION - LOUNGE - CONTINUOUS

Colin Robinson and the five D&D Players are seated around a large table. The player seated next to Colin Robinson is already asleep.

D&D PLAYER 4

Howard, look at this place! Isn't it perfect?

GUILLERMO TALKING HEAD

GUILLERMO

Dungeons and Dragons in an actual castle? It's a no-brainer. I was born to be the DM!

INT. MANSION - LOUNGE - CONTINUOUS

Howard scoffs, unimpressed.

HOWARD

This would be perfect... if our campaign was set in the Gothic era! But since our quest is medieval, this room is just a distraction. Everybody, imagine a different setting!

D&D Player 5 shuts their eyes.

D&D PLAYER 5

Good idea, Howard!

Colin Robinson makes eye contact with Guillermo and gestures quizzically towards Howard. Guillermo nods.

COLIN ROBINSON

I don't believe we've met. I'm Colin Robinson, Guillermo's roommate.

HOWARD

Ah, a new adventurer! I am Howard, the Dungeon Master! Don't worry, you're in good hands. I taught Guillermo everything he knows!

Guillermo rolls his eyes at the camera.

INT. KNITTEN' KITTEN - BASEMENT - NIGHT

The old women are all dressed in white robes. Gerty's dead body lays on a stone slab in the middle.

NADJA

What the fuck is going on here?

LASZLO

Now now, darling. I'm sure there's a reasonable explanation for this. Perhaps some religious observance.

They wrap Gerty in white linen bandages and chant in an ancient language.

LASZLO (CONT'D)

What the fuck are they doing with Gerty's body?

NANDOR

Laszlo, please. Can't you see? This is how these women mourn.

Gerty slowly reanimates, sits up, and squawks nightmarishly.

NANDOR (CONT'D)

What the fuck is that thing?!

OLD WOMAN 2

The ceremony... it's working! Soon, we'll have our Gerty back.

NADJA

Mummies? Fucking mummies? Is that what you people are?

NANDOR

You were supposed to be our human friends.

OLD WOMAN 3

We thought you knew! After all, you're vampires.

NANDOR

You knew this whole time?

LASZLO

I'm sorry, but this is wrong. You have to stop. This is unnatural.

OLD WOMAN 2

That's rich, especially coming from a bloodsucker!

LASZLO

I may suck blood, but at least they didn't scoop my brains out from my nose! I can still read and write and appreciate poetry.

NANDOR TALKING HEAD

NANDOR

Mummies are unnatural. Even to the supernatural, mummies are super-unnatural! We vampires are cursed with unquenchable bloodlust. But these old raisins curse themselves for eternity just so they can walk around and choke people for fun? Blegh, disgusting!

INT. KNITTEN' KITTEN - BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

The Vampires flinch at Gerty's mummified form.

OLD WOMAN 3

If you're not going to help us, then leave!

Gerty squawks again. Nandor covers his ears.

NANDOR

With pleasure!

NADJA

Wait, before we go...

Nadja runs up to Gerty and rips her head off. The old women all scream in terror.

NADJA (CONT'D)

Fly!

The Vampires turn into bats and fly away.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. MANSION - LOUNGE - NIGHT

Guillermo eagerly watches Colin Robinson interact with Howard. Colin Robinson rolls a 20-sided die.

COLIN ROBINSON

14.

HOWARD

But don't forget, you get 2-point athletics boost.

COLIN ROBINSON

Right, the athletics boost... and why do I get that again?

HOWARD

Excellent question!

Meanwhile, the other five D&D Players look exhausted.

GUILLERMO TALKING HEAD

GUILLERMO

Things aren't exactly going to plan. It turns out Colin and Howard both share a passion for prosaic details.

INT. MANSION - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Guillermo pulls Colin Robinson aside.

COLIN ROBINSON

What's up, G? We're missing all the action!

GUILLERMO

What's up with me? What's up with you! What happened to our plan? You're supposed to drain Howard.

COLIN ROBINSON

Oh right, about that... Howard and I are on a roll right now, no pun intended. I'm learning a lot of rulings and technicalities from him. Maybe I could drain him next week...

Colin Robinson goes back into the lounge.

GUILLERMO

I can't believe I found the one guy that's even more boring than Colin!

Three bats fly through the door and transform into the Vampires.

NANDOR

Ah, Guillermo, perfect. Please fetch me some bleach for my eyes.

GUILLERMO

Master, is everything okay?

NANDOR

"Operation Friendship" was a failure. The grannies turned out to be mummies.

LASZLO

There's nothing more sinister in this world than mummies. All they do is squeeze the life from everything.

NADJA

So much for making new friends! Why don't we just take a piss in the Black Lagoon and call it a day.

Guillermo looks to the lounge and then back at the defeated Vampires.

GUILLERMO

If you want, you're welcome to play with me and my friends.

NANDOR

Why? So you can gloat that you have more friends than us?

NADJA

Okay, I'm serious this time--Somebody stake me!

GUILLERMO

I'm serious. Colin drained pretty much all of them so we could use some more players for Dungeons and Dragons.

LASZLO

Dungeons, you say?

NADJA

And dragons? What is the meaning of this?

GUILLERMO

It's a fantasy role-playing game.

NANDOR

Fantasy?!

NANDOR TALKING HEAD

NANDOR

I've never shared this with anyone before, but I am actually working on a fantasy novel. It's called "Echoes of the Spellcaster."

B-roll of Nandor struggling to write, including the scene when Nadja was spanking Laszlo.

NANDOR (CONT'D)

But I've had writer's block for the past two... centuries.

INT. MANSION - LOUNGE - LATER

The table is now occupied by Howard, Guillermo, Colin Robinson, and the Vampires.

HOWARD

We have three new adventurers on this quest. Ye should be warned that this campaign has already proved to be too arduous for five experienced players.

Howard gestures to the other D&D Players who have passed out and are strewn on various pieces of furniture.

LASZLO

Just read the card, virgin!

HOWARD

Very well... The Evil Wizard's brother, Hathos, emerges from the smoke. He summons a flaming orge that lunges after Laszlo.

LASZLO

I shall douse it with my humongous water cannon.

Laszlo rolls a 20-sided die.

LASZLO (CONT'D)

8.

COLIN ROBINSON

Not high enough. The flaming orge burns Laszlo for 30 health points.

LASZLO

I'm dead!

NADJA

I'll handle it! Is the ogre a man? I'll castrate him where he stands!

Nadja rolls a 20-sided die.

NADJA (CONT'D)

12.

COLIN ROBINSON

Still too low. The flaming orge burns Nadja for 32 health points.

NADJA

But that's all the health I have!

GUILLERMO

I know what to do... Howard, I'll cast "monsoon" to summon the rain.

Guillermo rolls a 20-sided die.

GUILLERMO (CONT'D)

20!

COLIN ROBINSON

That's critical. It begins to rain on the flaming ogre--

HOWARD

Not so fast... Hathos casts a counter-spell.

Howard rolls a 20-sided die behind his screen.

HOWARD (CONT'D)

... Also a 20. Unfortunately, the rain clouds are blown away.

(MORE)

HOWARD (CONT'D)

The orge burns Gandor the Persistent for 50 health points!

GUILLERMO

Fifty?! That's too much damage! How did you roll another 20?!

Guillermo tries to peek at the die behind Howard's screen.

HOWARD

Do you question your Dungeon Master?!

Nandor takes offense to the way Howard speaks to Guillermo.

NANDOR

Hey! Watch your tone when you address MY Familiar. Only I can talk to him that way!

Nandor snatches the screen away from Howard. It is revealed that Howard actually rolled a 1.

COLIN ROBINSON

You cheated; what's the point to all these rules if you're not even going to follow them!

HOWARD

I am Howard, the greatest warrior on the island of Staten. Who dares call my honor into question?

Nandor stands up.

NANDOR

I am Nandor the Relentless, lord of the Al-Quolanudar, and primary leasee of this house. I am Guillermo's one true Master and I call your honor into question!

Howard backs into a corner.

HOWARD

Very well... it seems you've left me no choice... DUNGEON DUEL!

Howard draws a sack of dice from his hip holster and lays it on the table.

HOWARD (CONT'D)

Do you accept?

GUILLERMO

Master, please. You don't have to.

NANDOR

What the hell do you mean? I'm not scared of some geek named Howard. Of course, I'll accept.

EXT. MANSION - GARDEN - LATER

Nandor and Howard face off on opposite ends of the garden. Guillermo, Laszlo, and Nadja stand behind Nandor while the five D&D players stand behind Howard. Colin Robinson stands in the middle.

COLIN ROBINSON

On the count of three, you'll each make your move. Ready? One... two... three!

Howard tosses a pair of dice in the center of the garden but Nandor lunges towards Howard with superhuman speed and lifts him up by his collar.

HOWARD

What are you doing?!

NANDOR

What do you mean? This is a duel, is it not?

HOWARD

It's a d-d-dungeon duel... we just roll dice.

NANDOR

What? Even the way you duel is pathetic!

Howard pisses his pants.

NANDOR (CONT'D)

Ewww, gross!

Nandor tosses Howard aside.

NANDOR (CONT'D)

Guillermo, where did you put that bleach? I got the urine of a coward on me.

GUILLERMO

I'm on it... Master!

The D&D players rush to Howard's side.

LASZLO

Do you all really consider this cheating chicken to be your friend?

NADJA

You should be friends with us. We would never cheat you...

(sotto)

And probably never eat you.

ALL PLAYERS

(in unison)

Huzzah!

END OF ACT THREE

TAG

INT. MANSION - LOUNGE - NIGHT

Colin Robinson runs a Dungeons and Dragons campaign for Laszlo, Nadja, and the other D&D Players.

Across the room, Nandor and Guillermo pour over his binder of previous campaigns.

NANDOR

Guillermo, I had no idea you were so fond of fantasy. These characters are great!

Nandor admires Guillermo's sketch of Gandor.

GUILLERMO

Thank you, Master.

NANDOR

You know what? This gives me a great idea for <u>Echoes of the Spellcaster!</u>

GUILLERMO

Oh... I'll leave you to it, Master.

NANDOR

What? No, I want you to come with me! We can write it together!

GUILLERMO

Really?!

NANDOR

Well, I'll dictate. You write.

GUILLERMO

Works for me...

END OF EPISODE