

"PRINCESS POACHING"

THE DAILY GRIND

Written by

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**FADE IN**

**INT. CASTLE - VAULT - DAY**

The castle vault is quiet. A glowing crystal sits atop a pedestal in the middle of the room.

Suddenly, the walls of the vault are blasted open by an explosion. Three silhouettes stand in the smoke- ERIN, a human girl in her 20's, AXEL, a tiny axolotl with a Russian accent and a giant sword, and JAVNAULT, a cowardly dragon with a wizard hat on his tail.

The dust subsides and the gang enters the vault. Erin looks at Javnault with disappointment.

ERIN  
Could you have made that any louder, Javnault? *Christ.*

JAVNAULT  
*...Sorry.*

AXEL  
Why we not just use front door?

Beat. There is a front entrance right next to the giant hole Javnault made.

ERIN  
'Cuz they'd be *expecting* that, Axel. The plan was to sneak in, steal the power crystal and use it to charge my phone!

Erin holds up her phone. It's out of battery.

ERIN (CONT'D)  
So, let's *carefully grab it* and make our escape-

Javnault drops and shatters the glowing crystal.

JAVNAULT  
*Ah, man...*

A loud siren rings throughout the castle. The hole in the castle wall is closed off by a magic force field. There is no escape.

ERIN  
*-Or we can fuck ourselves in every conceivable way.*

**INT. CASTLE - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS**

Erin, Javnault and Axel run through the hallways of the castle looking for an exit. As they turn a corner, the QUEEN appears and towers over them.

QUEEN  
You, *wretched thieves!*

ERIN  
Hey, we're light vandals at best.

Axel steps forward with his chest up and sword in hand.

AXEL  
I speck *only* in strength. I draw  
sword- *you die.*

The Queen gasps at the sight of the sword.

QUEEN  
That sword... Are you the legendary  
heroes of Valencia?!

AXEL  
No, I killed them-

Erin covers Axel's mouth.

ERIN  
Yup. T-That's- we're... *exactly*  
*those people you said!* Mhm.

QUEEN  
Thank heavens you received my  
message! I'll inform you of the  
quest right away!

Erin, Javnault and Axel look at each other and shrug. The Queen exits and they follow.

CUT TO:

**INT. CASTLE - THRONE ROOM - LATER**

The Queen sits on her throne with Erin, Axel and Javnault standing before her.

QUEEN  
...And that's how our princess was  
kidnapped by those barbaric  
gamblers from the north.

ERIN  
Yeah, that's cool and all, but  
we're gonna need some fuckin'  
coinage to clean up this mess.

QUEEN  
If you're to save our fair  
princess, your reward shall be...  
*20 gold!*

JAVNAULT  
(excited)  
Okay-

ERIN  
(cutting off Javnault)  
*Hell no!*

Javnault makes an uncomfortable noise as he's shut down.

The Queen grabs an expensive looking pot next to her throne.

QUEEN  
...This ornate pot?

ERIN  
If I can't smoke it, what's the  
point?!

The Queen takes a phone charger out of her pocket.

QUEEN  
What about this... *uh...* ancient  
rope that fell from the sky?

ERIN  
Oh sick, a phone charger.  
(to Javnault and Axel)  
It's a thing from my world.  
Basically as vital as air.  
(to the Queen)  
Sure, bitch, we're in.

Queen  
Great. But you should know, this  
journey is not for those faint of  
heart. You must travel through the  
dark wood, across the barren  
wastes, and over the extremely-full-  
of-alligators swamp before you can  
even *hope* to reach the evil  
fortress of-

Erin and Axel are already in the distance flying on top of Javnault. They completely disregard the entire gauntlet of woods, wastes and swamps that lies between them and their destination.

QUEEN (CONT'D)

*Oh.*

**INT. BARBARIAN CAVE - LATER**

Heavy metal guitars wail as two enormous dinosaur men wrestle each other, surrounded by monsters and barbarians cheering raucously and throwing wads of money into the circle. An ANNOUNCER shouts commentary to the crowd.

ANNOUNCER

*Ooh! And Tricera-Dad takes the win!*

The crowd goes wild. The gang enters.

JAVNAULT

(disturbed)

What the *heckers*? What kinda horrible creatures could possibly enjoy this-

Erin and Axel are cheering in the crowd. Erin takes a swig of a large, alcoholic beverage and tosses gold coins into the circle.

ERIN

Put me down for Axel the Vanquisher! *Give 'em the pain train, bud!*

Axel jumps into the ring.

**INT. THE RING - CONTINUOUS**

Axel stares Tricera-Dad down.

AXEL

I have come to bring pain train.  
*Choo choo, motherfuck.*

**INT. BARBARIAN CAVE - CONTINUOUS**

Javnault approaches Erin.

JAVNAULT

*Erin! What about the princess?*

Erin rolls her eyes and makes a scale motion with both arms.

ERIN  
Save princess? ...*Gamble a fat  
stack on Axel?*

The scale moves in favor of "gambling a fat stack on Axel."

Erin points at Axel, who is slicing Tricera-Dad to pieces in the ring. Erin then turns back to Javnault and shrugs. She continues to drink and roar with the crowd.

Javnault walks away. He finds the Princess at the top of a balcony. He gasps! Javnault then takes his wand out and motions for a spell.

JAVNAULT  
Don't worry, princess I'll save you-

Javnault's spell destroys the pillar holding the balcony. The princess falls to the ground, unconscious. Her bones can be heard shattering. Javnault cringes.

CUT TO:

**INT. THE RING - CONTINUOUS**

Axel cuts Tricera-Dad's arm off in the ring.

ANNOUNCER  
*Ooh! First his kids, now his arm,  
what else could Tricera-Dad lose?*

Tricera-Dad lays defeated on the ground.

AXEL  
You no speck in strength.  
*Therefore, you are pussy.*

**INT. BARBARIAN CAVE - CONTINUOUS**

Javnault walks up to Erin with the princess unconscious on his shoulder.

ERIN  
(laughing)  
Oh, what the fuck you actually  
saved her?!

JAVNAULT  
NO SHE'S JUST SLEEPING. Let's leave  
now and not later...

ERIN

Uh, I've got a lot of money riding on Axel. There's no way we're leaving anytime soon.

Tricera-Dad uses his remaining arm to fire a magical blast at Axel. Axel flies out of the ring and lands on Erin, who drops dozens of wallets from her bag.

Various monsters and barbarians begin to take notice of the Princess on Javnault's shoulder, and the wallets surrounding Erin. They begin to crowd.

ERIN (CONT'D)

On second thought, let's dip out.

JAVNAULT

I thought you didn't care about saving the princess?!

ERIN

(deadpan)

It must be my infinite compassion showing.

The gang is cornered in the back of the cave.

AXEL AND ERIN

*Javnault!*

Javnault uses his magic to blast a hole in the wall. The noise and debris startle the monsters.

JAVNAULT

Wow, I-I actually used the right spell!

ERIN

I mean, it's the *only* spell you know.

JAVNAULT

*...C'mon, man.*

Erin and Axel hop onto Javnault and they fly away.

**INT. CASTLE - THRONE ROOM - LATER**

Erin, Javnault and Axel stand confidently in front of the Queen.

QUEEN

I thank you, heroes, for rescuing our princess. As promised, your magical cord of- hmm, I can't seem to find-

ERIN

Oh, the phone charger? I stole that earlier. I didn't think we were actually gonna help you.

Erin pulls out the charger.

ERIN (CONT'D)

(to Javnault and Axel)  
Come on, bitches. Adventure awaits... or whatever.

The gang exits the castle.

**EXT. CASTLE COURTYARD - CONTINUOUS**

The gang heads toward the castle gates.

ERIN

Wait, this isn't even the right charger. *Goddammit.*

As they walk, a loud crunching noise is heard. Erin, Javnault and Axel look down. The ground is littered with skeletons in princess attire.

AXEL

Heh. I approve of decoration.

Axel and Javnault continue walking. Erin stops in her tracks.

Erin has a sudden realization and looks back into the castle. The music swells and the camera shifts between Erin, the Queen and the princess. After several seconds, the Queen turns into a Lovecraftian monster and eats the princess, leaving Erin speechless.

Beat.

ERIN

(flabbergasted)  
Wow, l-look at the time-

Erin holds up her phone. It still has no battery.

ERIN (CONT'D)

Uh, gotta...



Erin awkwardly stops talking and catches up with Javnault and Axel, exiting soon after.

**FADE TO BLACK.**