

Follow the Leader Episode 2.2: Anything Else Shouldn't Go Down The Drain
Featuring Dora as Sol, Jade as Max, and Han as Kuiper

Dora: Previously, on Follow the Leader...

Dora: Um, should the kingdom take in refugees from the Star Marlin Assembly, even though they're loathed among the population?

[card shuffling noise]

Jade: [muttering] Mmm... yeah. If yes, tensions will run higher than usual and the station will suffer for it.

[card shuffling noise]

Dora: Because I'm touchstone, I get a special privilege. I'm going to say that that is... [theme music starts- dice shaking, cards shuffling] That's one of the crossroads to be sure, but I also think that public opinion is not doing so great right now and so we're also moving toward a crisis.

Dora: We now return to your game already in progress.

[theme music plays]

Dora: Okay. So I think Jade, uh, you're up.

Jade: Okay. Uh... Dadadadadadadada. What do I wanna do? What do I wanna do? Hmm. I kind of want to have a scene with Sol, 'cause I haven't had one yet.

Dora: Yeah.

Jade: So... [laughs]

Han: Give me a fucking break, please.

Dora and Jade: Yup.

Jade: Let Han have some breathing time. [laughter] Hmm.

Dora: Do you want Sol to... I don't- I don't think Sol would necessarily seek out Max, but um-

Jade: Yeah.

Dora: -I think Sol can easily be somewhere that Max would be.

Jade: Yeah, sure.

Dora: Because like, the hangar bay especially... Like they could bump into each other in the hangar bay 'cause I feel like Sol has her own personal one-seater [crosstalk] ship that she uses.

Jade: [crosstalk] Oh yeah.

Dora: So.

Jade: Sure.

Dora: So we can easily bump into each other in the hangar bay.

Jade: Yeah, I'm down with that. Just trying to think what Max is actually up to, or whether she's just going to the, uh- yeah I think she's just going to the little maintenance crew cubby to relieve the person who's in there, and she's got like a tablet on it, and she's kind of going over stuff, and she's having to like, smack it every thirty seconds, 'cause the screen keep fritzing out, and like, little black squares appear on it where it's like so crapped out. And she's just like- she's gone to the point where she's now thwacking it against the desk in the little cubby,-

Dora: Yeah.

Jade: -and just like,

Jade as Max: Piece of shit!

Dora as Sol: I can hit that harder than you can I think.

Jade as Max: You gonna smack it against your skull? Like, what?

Dora as Sol: Well I mean, if you don't want any friendly help, I can just leave, but-

Jade as Max: No, no no no no no, you're fine. Go on, give it a go. I mean, I don't know how much smacking it will actually help, but by all means. I think my hand is starting to go numb.

Dora as Sol: Mmm. I could say something vulgar, but I'm not sure you'd appreciate it.

Dora: And uh, Sol just kind of like, smacks the screen, but it's obviously like- she's buff, she's got a lot of power behind the smack and I think- you know, percussive maintenance works in this particluar instance. So the screen goes back to normal, and she hands it back over.

Dora as Sol: So uh, I uh, I heard that we're thinking about hitting some UniSol ships.

Jade as Max: Yeah.

Dora as Sol: You think... You think I could pay you to uh, maybe take a look at my engines? I'm thinking I might be part of the strike team if it actually happens. Or at least I'd like to go beat the shit out of some UniSol motherfuckers, work out some of this aggression before the sheriff throws me in the stocks again.

Jade as Max: You any kinder to your ship than you are the stuff around here? I'm just wondering what sort of trainwreck I'm about to get my hands into if I say yes.

Dora as Sol: Listen, I'm not the one who's unkind to my baby. [laughter]

Jade as Max: Okay? I mean-

Dora as Sol: When you're getting- it's not my fault I get shot at. That's all I'm saying.

Jade as Max: I know, you're such a people person.

Dora as Sol: Well I mean, if you don't want the cred, I'll take it somewhere else.

Jade as Max: You ain't gonna find anybody else. What needs doing?

Dora as Sol: I just want to make sure the engines are up to snuff. It was doing a little stuttering the last time I was on an outside job, and, well, when it comes to UniSol fuckers, they've got- well, they've got more resources, that's why we're gonna hit 'em. So.

Jade as Max: Yeah.

Dora as Sol: I just wanna make sure I can get out of the way of their blaster fire.

Jade as Max: Yeah no all right, I'll tell you what, I'll tell you what.

Jade: And she kind of comes out the little cubby and like, pulls the shutter down and snaps it shut. She's like,

Jade as Max: Okay, let me look at your baby. Let me see how much work this is actually gonna take me, and then I will say if I will take on the job.

Dora as Sol: That's fair.

Jade as Max: Okay, then show me the way. Take me to your child! [laughter]

Dora: I think that's probably scene, [laughter] but I do want to- [more laughter] but I mean it's your scene, obviously, but.

Jade: No I like the visual of the camera being on the inside of the little cubby, and just as it comes down, you see that- them standing face to face, and Max delivering that line, and then the camera cuts out as the shutter cuts the light off to the camera.

Dora: Yeah. That's good. But I do want to mention, because she's got kind of like a biker vibe going on-

Jade: Yeah.

Dora: -like, her baby is fairly well maintained, but there are blaster burns on the shielding and stuff.

Jade and Han: Mm-hmm.

Jade: So I'm supposed to make things complicated as well.

Dora: Mm-hmm!

Han: Fun.

Jade: Okay. I'm gonna mark crossroads as well.

Dora: Okay.

Jade: So...

Dora: Let me do that real quick.

Jade: Cool. Predictions have to be more- do they have to be general or can they be about a specific person? Never sure.

Dora: I don't think there's a limitation on it. I think it can be as general or specific as you want.

Jade: Okay.

Dora: Let me double check though.

Han: I think it's like- I think it has to be something that happens to the- yeah, "make predictions about the kingdom, not specific characters"-

Jade: Okay.

Han: -is what is says.

Jade: Right, okay. If yes, then UniSol will move against the station.

Dora: Ooh.

Han: Okay.

Jade: It'll be like, okay, they were a nuisance, and now they're attacking us directly. We need- we need to take care of this goddamn pirate problem!

Dora: Yeah. Yeah.

Jade: So that- that kind of vibe.

Dora: No, that's good. Yeah. And just to be clear, like, the attitude that's currently on the station is going to do this might be a good way to blow off some of that- some of the accumulated steam.

Jade: Oh, any reactions to that scene? We've not- I forgot to ask about reactions in the first round.

Han: Right, yeah. Um...

Jade: I mean, there doesn't have to be. Just-

Han: No yeah, I don't have anything.

Jade: Okay!

Dora: Um... So, uh, I want Sol to be in the stockades [laughter] for this scene, but I don't know who would be necessarily visiting her in the stockades, or who she might bump into in the stockades that, um...

Han: Hmm. I don't think- hmm. I don't think it's, you know an impossibility that Kuiper would also be in the stockades sometimes. [laughter]

Jade: Well that's one of the interesting things about like, pirate places. It's just like, the same rules apply to everyone, regardless of where you are in the chain of command. That's part of it. So if Kuiper's kicked off somewhere, it's like yeah no, if you fuck up, you're gonna go sit in the stockade for a bit.

Han: Right, but then you're also gonna come back and you're still gonna be the lead communications officer, so...

Jade: Yeah.

Dora: Yeah.

Han: Yeah.

Jade: It's more like a status thing, just like, you fucked up, so everyone's gonna see that you fucked up, and then you can get back to work.

Dora: Yeah.

Han: Mm-hmm. Yeah. So we can go that way if you want.

Dora: Yeah, that sounds fun. That sounds really fun, and so- [laughter]

Jade: I don't know if Max is there but I can be a shitty NPC who's also in the stockades.

Han: Or you could be like the super tired stockade guard.

Jade: Oh yeah, no I like that. Okay.

Dora: Yes.

Jade: Let me pop over here. Let me hit a randomize. Okay.

Han: Honestly, being a stockade guard might also be some kind of punishment. [laughter]

Jade: Or something like, you just don't get, like- yeah I'm down with that. Okay.

Han: Mm-hmm.

Dora: Okay. So...

Jade: All right, I'm just going to quickly come up with a name for this guard. Okay, I think their name is Inken.

Dora: Okay!

Han: Okay.

Jade: And they're uh... They're nonbinary, and they just do not want to be here. I'm imagining something like tall, slightly greasy hair that's hanging in their face. They're sort of propped up behind the little desk at one end- no they've got their feet up, and they're reading- they're reading like, AO3. [laughter] They're doing something like that. They're just like- yeah somebody writes- there is somebody who writes RPF of the varying pirates that come to the station, and somebody's writing fanfic about them.

Han: God.

Dora: Oh my lord.

Han: Sure. [Jade laughs]

Dora: Why not?

Jade: You know, it explains some of the tension between some of these people, I don't know. They clearly just need to have sex and blow off steam.

Han: Mm-hmm.

Jade: So. But yeah, they're up at like, they're up at the end, like, feet on the desk, hair mostly in front of their face, on a tablet, just reading something they probably shouldn't be reading at work, but who am I to judge, 'cause I've definitely read fanfic at work.

Dora: Oh same.

Jade: [laughing] So.

Dora: Okay, so-

Han: Okay.

Dora: -I think, uh, Sol finally notices Kuiper, and is like,

Dora as Sol: Kuiper Jasco! What are you doing here?

Han as Kuiper: I.....I'll tell you if you tell me what you're doing here.

Dora as Sol: Oh you know me, I just. I see a stupid face and I gotta put my fist in it. Um. I tell you what though. It was somebody who really deserved it, and-

Han as Kuiper: Well, of course.

Dora as Sol: But, you know. I'm just, uh, biding my time. If you know what I mean.

Han as Kuiper: Yeah, yeah. Listen, I'm right there with you.

Dora: And she's obviously drunk.

Han: Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

Dora: Like, I don't know where Kuiper is sitting right now, but you know, she could probably smell it from wherever she's sitting, [laughter] just saying.

Han: Yeah. Yeah. Yeah, I think Kuiper's sitting with her knees up against- like, knees up to her chest, like on the little shitty cot bed that's like built into the wall.

Han as Kuiper: Yeah, no that tracks. That makes... a whole lot of sense. I mean, how long are you in here for? 'Cause I- I only have a couple hours left, so.

Dora as Sol: Oh. I don't think they're letting me go until the- tomorrow, at the very least. But that's fine. He really deserved it, and uh-

Han as Kuiper: Oh listen, you don't have to tell me twice.

Dora as Sol: He was one of those Starlin Marlin fuckers.

Han as Kuiper: Uh huh.

Dora as Sol: Well. I told you mine...

Han as Kuiper: Yeah.

Dora as Sol: It's uh, recip... re- re- reciproc- reciprocity.

Han as Kuiper: Mm-hmm.

Dora as Sol: Yeah.

Han as Kuiper: Yeah, you got it! That was impressive.

Dora as Sol: Don't make me have to come over there.

Han as Kuiper: Was that a threat? I couldn't quite tell if that was a threat or not. You didn't finish the sentence.

Dora as Sol: It's mostly a threat. Also, don't make me have to come over there. I'm not sure, uh, I'm not sure how steady I am right now.

Han as Kuiper: Okay, yeah.

Jade as Inken: Please don't vomit again.

Dora as Sol: I- I got-

Jade as Inken: Just stay put please.

Dora as Sol: I got nothing, it's- there's nothing left, it's- it's fine.

Jade as Inken: Yeah, you said that before- you said that before!

Dora as Sol: It's fine. I mean it this time.

Jade as Inken: Mmm.

Dora as Sol: It's fine, it's fine.

Han as Kuiper: Um, yeah. No I guess... I guess you wanna know why I'm here. Probably.

Dora as Sol: Ugh. If you don't wanna say, then that's fine too. I just... trying to be friendly.

Han as Kuiper: No, you're doing a great job. Um. So there was... Hmm. I may... or... may not have... intercepted a communication that I shouldn't have. And... was unfortunately super caught, so that's why I'm here.

Dora as Sol: Oh! What kind of communication. Anything, uh, profitable?

Han as Kuiper: [sighs] See, it would have been so profitable, but, unfortunately, people it was meant for caught wind, so.

Dora as Sol: Oh, that's a damn shame.

Han as Kuiper: I know, right? But, like, cards on the table, I think, hmm. How do I say this? I love this station, and I love being here, and I love all of our friends and comrades. However, I did... get that communication and it did say that there were a couple of people who were maybe taking... Hmm. Bribes, or sort of, you know, what's the word when you give-

Han: [laughs] This is out of character. What's the word for when you give the authorities information in exchange for not getting charged with a crime?

Dora: Oh. That's uh...

Jade: Testimony?

Dora: No, um....

Han: Um...

Dora: Not juris prudence.

Han: No.

Dora: Why am I thinking of juris prudence? That's not at all the word.

Han: Um...

Dora: Narcing.

Han: [laughs] Exchange information... for...

Dora: Being informants. Immunity!

Han: Yes. Yup.

Jade: Please let- Inken is the one that provides the word immunity-

Han: Yeah.

Jade: -'cause that's just funny. [laughs]

Han: Yup. Yup yup yup. Yeah.

Jade: They're just like-

Jade as Inken: Immu- Immunity!

Han as Kuiper: Yeah. Um, yeah, there were a couple people who were going to make both a good amount of money, and also, you know, clean record for selling us out.

Dora as Sol: Fucking assholes.

Han as Kuiper: Well no but here's the thing, they were going to make a lot of money. And now none of us are going to make that money.

Dora as Sol: They gonna try to shut us down?

Han as Kuiper: Well I mean, that plan's already been shut down. I was going to keep that info to myself, and according to some of my higher ups, keeping that info to myself would have been... mmm... unacceptable. So.

Dora as Sol: Mmm.

Han as Kuiper: Here I am.

Dora as Sol: All right. Well. I guess I'm gonna try to finish sleeping off this fucking headache, and-

Han as Kuiper: Listen, are you- are you on that UniSol mission?

Dora as Sol: Planning on it.

Han as Kuiper: [sighs] I'm getting the feeling that- and don't quote me on this, but I have kind of a weird feeling about the whole thing. Just, it doesn't seem like- It doesn't seem like command wants us to win.

Dora as Sol: That's fucked up.

Han as Kuiper: So, you know. Think about whether you wanna be on this thing.

Dora as Sol: When have I ever let what stupid stuffy commander shits- when have I ever let what they think stop me?

HAK That's a good point.

Dora: And I think that's scene.

Han: Mm-hmm. I'm trying to think if anything that... hmm. Let me look at the cheat sheet for power again.

Dora: I'm not sure that that really... did anything for the crossroads-

Han: No.

Dora: -so I'm gonna go ahead and mark time passes.

Han: Yeah. Yeah.

Dora: But I'm also going to mark crisis because of what Kuiper said about there being a possibility of this mission being sabotaged by the higher ups.

Han: Mm-hmm.

Dora: I think that would be very bad.

Han: Yeah no, I kind of wanna make some kind... of order out of this on the no side. Or no, I think there's gonna be- and like, I could- I forget, can I do a reaction to that and make an order in the reaction? I feel like the answer is no, but.

Dora: Yeah, I wanna-

Jade: It is your scene next, though.

Han: That's true. [muttering] Yet... blah blah blah blah blah... you're not allowed...

Dora: You can perform a single action.

Jade: Use your role. Yeah you can.

Han: Oh! Hell yeah, okay. I think basically the reaction is like Kuiper getting out of the stockade and immediately going and like, encrypting and archiving that communication that like implicated some of higher ups in terms of possibly setting people up for, you know, suicide mission kind of deal. And I think if yes, the order would be that the... the communication implicating the higher ups gets released to the entire crew.

Jade: Nice.

Han: So that happens if the mission does go forward.

Jade: Nice.

Han: Okay. And then it is still my turn. Gotcha. [Jade laughs] Cool, so... I think this scene- I think I want it to be with Max. And I think- not sure where I want this to be.

Jade: It doesn't have to be one of the set locations-

Han: Right, right.

Jade: -if you want it to be somewhere different.

Han: What if it's in like- I don't know if there's like a central cafeteria or mess hall kind of deal?

Jade: Oh, yeah yeah-

Han: Yeah.

Jade: -There's gotta be.

Han: So I think probably- probably there.

Jade: The food court.

Han: Yeah, the food court, basically. And it's like- [Jade laughs] yeah, yup. And so she goes to find Max there.

Jade: I think Max is like, poking at this bowl of noodle soup with the least amount of enthusiasm a person can have.

Han: Mm-hmm. Yeah.

Jade: So...

Han: And I think, like, Kuiper slides in on the bench across from her, and- I don't think she has any food. I think she just has like, whatever the space equivalent of a Diet Coke is, but like-

Jade: Sure.

Han: -really, like, the biggest one possible. Like just an unconscionably big cup.

Jade: [laughs] Sure.

Han: Yeah. And is just like,

Han as Kuiper: Hey! Umm...

Jade as Max: Hey.

Han as Kuiper: So...

Jade as Max: What's up.

Han as Kuiper: Um... I mean, there's a lot happening, but you know that. You- yeah. [a sigh]

Jade: The eyebrows just go up. And stir the soup.

Han as Kuiper: Listen. Um...

Jade as Max: All ears.

Han as Kuiper: So, what have... What have the higher ups told you about this mission we're running?

Jade as Max: [sighs] They ain't tell me anything. Like. [sighs] All I know is that they wanna have as much fucking ships ready to go as possible for this. They're just like, "Yo, Vallera, make sure this is good to go." They ain't tell me shit. As long as everything's working, they don't even talk to me. Which you know, suits me fine, quite frankly, but.

Han as Kuiper: Yeah.

Jade as Max: I hear stuff. I don't get told stuff.

Han as Kuiper: I mean, have you- what have you heard?

Jade as Max: [sighs] I don't know, it's... It's suspect, this whole business, like, we need these supplies, but I don't know. Like, the way some of them are pushing, the amount of effort they're putting into this, it doesn't need-

Han as Kuiper: Yeah.

Jade as Max: I don't know.

Han as Kuiper: Yeah. No, I'm with you there.

Jade as Max: Right now I'd quite possibly kill a guy for something that would make this taste less like ass, so... Really, whatever they wanna do, frankly, I'm pro-it right now.

Han as Kuiper: Mmm. I just... Okay. So-

Jade as Max: Yeah?

Han as Kuiper: You didn't hear this from me. Which, you know-

Jade as Max: Okay.

Han as Kuiper: -is standard procedure, but.

Jade as Max: Mm-hmm.

Han as Kuiper: Command is... there's some bullshit going on up there. Like, more than usual. I don't... I don't think... I don't think they want very many of us to come back from this thing.

Jade: At that point I think her face kind of goes really tight.

Han: Mm-hmm.

Jade: And you can visibly see, like, a couple of cogs turning, and then she leans forward, and she's like,

Jade as Max: [whispering] Are you fucking shitting me?

Han as Kuiper: [sighs] Sadly, no. I... And listen, I don't-

Jade as Max: That's one fucking way to deal with a supply shortage. Jesus!

Han as Kuiper: [sighs] Yeah. I don't... I don't fucking know what to do about it.

Jade as Max: [a long sigh] I mean... [sighs] Do you know any specific people trying to push for this?

Han as Kuiper: I don't have any proof, I just have...

Jade as Max: I don't need proof, I need a name, Kuiper. [Han as Kuiper sighs] Have you got a name?

Han as Kuiper: I might have... a couple names.

Jade as Max: I can work with names.

Han as Kuiper: Okay. You can work with names. I cannot... My name cannot come up. Okay? You don't have my name.

Jade as Max: Yeah, okay, [muttering].

Han as Kuiper: Okay.

Jade as Max: Right. Okay. Okay. Either need to cut the influence or get public tide turn against them.

Han as Kuiper: Mmm.

Jade as Max: Get them ousted out. This place, like, you gotta have everyone behind you or you ain't worth having. Call for a vote of no confidence.

Han as Kuiper: Is that something we can do?

Jade as Max: Yeah. How long have you been here now? Yeah, it's something we can do.

Han as Kuiper: Okay.

Jade as Max: We need somebody ousted, or if we need this mission to not happen- well fuck, we need the mission to happen. We can't... There's stuff I can do to keep people safe, keep their ships as good as I can get them, hell. You know, I patched up Sol's ship. Sol.

Han as Kuiper: Y- yeah?

Jade as Max: Yeah. I fixed up her ship. Like, I am all for people coming back from this shit alive. Even somebody that doubles my workload.

Han as Kuiper: Yeah, no that's... that's a fair point. I'll see [sighs] I'll see what else I can find out.

Jade as Max: I can put shit in motion, I just need to know best how to tackle it.

Han as Kuiper: Yeah. Yeah, I'll get you- I'll see what I can find. What I can dig up.

Jade as Max: Okay.

Han as Kuiper: But-

Jade as Max: Look, people don't like going hungry. People don't like having to share. People don't like having to deal with water rations, but they like having their higher ups trying to fuck them over even less.

Han as Kuiper: Mm-hmm. You know, listen, I'm right there with you. [sighs] Okay. Well, um, enjoy your soup.

Jade as Max: Yeah. I don't suppose you've got like, sriracha hidden somewhere. [laughter]

Han as Kuiper: God I wish.

Jade as Max: Anything. Oh, okay.

Han as Kuiper: Yeah.

Jade as Max: I would kill a man for salt. I swear.

Han: [laughing] I think that's scene.

Jade: [laughs] Sure.

Han: Um, okay. And then I think the- I think I'm also going to put an order in here, under no. And the order is that if this mission doesn't go through, the... hmm. Let's see. I'm not sure what the-
hmm. 'Cause if the mission doesn't go through, I think Kuiper would then go and push for not
mutinying. Is that what we're calling this? Are we calling this a mutiny?

Dora: Yeah.

Jade: Yeah, well. Yeah, it's a mutiny.

Han: Okay, cool. So I think the order's gonna be if no, the mutiny does not go through. And if
anyone wants to challenge that when the time comes, awesome.

Jade: Sure. [laughs] Okay. Oh no, it's me. Oh no!

Han: Oh, that was- I think that was crossroads, also.

Dora: Okay. I gotcha.

Jade: All right.

Dora: I've got a quick question. Is there any way that that would've- that information would have
potentially gotten back to Marisol?

Han: Um...

Jade: What, about the higher ups are-

Dora: Yeah.

Jade: -trying to kill half the people?

Han: Um... [laughter]

Jade: I don't know, would Kuiper tell a highly volatile bounty hunter that they're trying to kill people who are going on this mission?

Han: I mean, that was... That was implied in the jail scene.

Dora: Yeah.

Han: I don't know how clear it was to Marisol, but.

Dora: Yeah, Dora knows that, but Sol-

Han: Mm-hmm, yeah. [laughter] Yeah.

Dora: Sol less so.

Han: Mm-hmm, yeah. I don't know if Kuiper would go out of her way to like-

Dora: Okay.

Han: -fill Sol in on what's going on.

Dora: Okay, then nevermind. 'Cause I was thinking if there were a way that that information would have gotten back to Marisol, then I'd have a reaction, but if there's not really, then...

Han: Though, I mean like, if, if Max is going around like, sowing the seeds of mutiny, then it might have gotten back to Sol.

Jade: I mean if Kuiper gave a name, I think then Max is sort of doing the thing where like, doing gossiping, is just like, you know, I never liked that commander anyway.

Dora: Okay.

Jade: Like, he never fucking tips, quite frankly he's a wanker.

Dora: Okay. So I'm gonna have a quick reaction scene which is going to be Marisol in The Monkey's Uncle, kind of overhearing some of the gossip, and like, I want this because I think that that particular scene moves us closer to crisis.

Han: Oh my god.

Jade: Heck yes. Heck yes!

Han: Okay.

Dora: Jade's not the only one who's here to make things complicated.

Han: Hell yeah.

Jade: I live for complicated.

Han: [in a sing-song voice] One box away from crisis.

Dora: Yup.

Jade: Heck yeah. So, my scene. Hmm... I think I would like to have a scene where Max runs into one of these higher ups, if one of you two wanna play them.

Dora: Oh!

Han: Uh...

Dora: I can do that. Give me a second, I need to come up with like, a skeevy [laughter] a skeevy sounding name real quick.

Jade: I am prepared to go full gross with what I am about to say is my reason for Max being there. Like, in their private quarters doing something.

Dora: How does everybody feel about Isaac Erikson?

Jade: Oh, he sounds like a wanker, yes.

Dora: Good.

Han: Yeah, mm-hmm.

Dora: Good. I think Isaac Erikson is the... Let's say he's like a lieutenant under the ship's captain- or the station's captain. And he's the kind of asshole who insists that everybody refer to him as Lieutenant Erikson, whether he's on duty or not.

Jade: Oh my god, what a dick.

Dora: Yeah.

Jade: Great. [laughs] Um... And yeah. I don't know whether we wanna start with- like, 'cause I know what Max's excuse for being there is, is uh... She's fixing the shower unit. And like, this is

somebody that swings their weight around enough, like they demand somebody from the maintenance crew comes to fix their shower, and because of all the stuff that's going on, Max is doing it herself. So...

Dora: Yeah, I think... I think at first, Lt. Erikson is like,

Dora as Erikson: What do you think you're doing here?

Jade as Max: You put in a priority request, Lieutenant, that your shower be fixed, and you know, us in the maintenance crew, we're just all about that snappy service!

Dora as Erikson: Right. Well, I appreciate your dedication to... snappy service, but-

Jade as Max: Yeah.

Dora as Erikson: -that doesn't change the fact that you entered my quarters unannounced, and with no prior warning. How did you get through my locks?

Jade as Max: Master key. All the maintenance crew have them in case of emergencies, sir? Would hate for you to get stuck somewhere 'cause we couldn't do our jobs.

Dora as Erikson: I don't like your tone.

Jade as Max: I'm so sorry to hear that. I mean, you could put in a complaint to the head of the maintenance crew, if you like? That'll go right through to them, I'm sure.

Dora as Erikson: Right. You do realize that I do have... certain dispensation to adjust rationing for individuals as I see fit, correct? I do have the ear of the quartermaster.

Jade as Max: Oh yeah, oh yeah, no, I mean she's great. No problem. I mean, yeah no, you tell Kat right away. Sure, you do that. Meanwhile, like I have said before, and there's a notice in every shower, that you really... Look, the drainage is only able to cope with water, really anything else shouldn't be going down the drain. You really need to [clicks tongue] not be doing that.

Dora as Erikson: What are you implying?

Jade as Max: Look- I'm saying your drain's clogged, it's backing up, and if it was just water going through there, it wouldn't be an issue.

Dora as Erikson: It's just water.

Jade as Max: But the drain is- you called me! You called us to say that there was an issue with your drain! Like... [sucks air through teeth] it happens, Lieutenant. I mean, I'm not- I don't judge. Just saying, in the future, you need to not be doing that if you want your shower to work.

Dora as Erikson: Right.

Jade: She just grins. Just grins!

Dora as Erikson: I will continue to not do what you are accusing me of doing. Are you quite done?

Jade as Max: Well no, I mean- can you just give me like, five minutes. I'm sure I'll be able to get this fixed. And I'm sure you've got a complaint for me- you wanna fill out about me.

Dora as Erikson: Fine.

Dora: And he turns on his heel and leaves.

Jade: Cool. And Max finishes up what she's doing, 'cause she does a good job, and she plants a listening device.

Dora: Nice.

Han: Hell yes.

Jade: [laughs] And that's scene, I think, is just that final thing of her pulling out this bug from one of the pockets and just like, sticks it on the underside of the desk.

Dora: Fantastic. So is that crossroads?

Jade: Uh, yeah, I'd say that's crossroads.

Dora: This is fantastic 'cause we have to resolve something next turn no matter what.

Han: Mm-hmm.

Jade: Oh hell yeah!

Han: Yeah, we are one box away from everything.

Jade: Okay, if yes, if the mission goes ahead- oh yeah, like Lt. Erikson is gonna swing. Like, the mutiny's gonna happen because there's gonna be the evidence there to support it. So... Okay. If yes, the mutiny happens. And Erikson swings. Okay!

Dora: Okay. Um... I'm trying to figure out what I want for a scene. So I think Sol has sobered up a little bit and is trying to get ready for the mission, so she's in the hangar bay making- you know, doing her own tune-ups to her baby. So I think it would be Max and... Yeah I think it's probably just Max there, and maybe this is sort of joint working on her little ship. Because-

Jade: Sure.

Dora: -yeah, even though she trusts Max, it's still one of those things. That's my baby. So.

Jade: Oh, yeah, yeah. It's like people that watch the- like stay in the garage and watch the mechanic work.

Dora: Yes, exactly. So, she's maybe handing Max tools or something. So... Uh, let me get back to her voice real quick.

Dora as Sol: All right. I've been hearing some... rumors, and I was just wondering if you'd heard some of the same stuff, since you're here and a lot of the people who plan on going to kick the shit out of some UniSol jockeys are also here. I've heard that... they're thinking maybe... this ain't such a good idea. What have you heard?

Jade as Max: Uh... Hand me the torque wrench please.

Dora: Yeah, Sol just finds the correct torque wrench and hands it.

Jade as Max: [sighs] Look, I hear stuff. And I mean. [sighs] It's- they want what we can get out of this, don't get me wrong, they need these supplies, but... I think they don't need all the people, is what I'm getting at. That's why I'm hearing anyway. People are disposable.

Dora as Sol: Huh. Well. I don't know who they're planning on having running the station for them, bringing in business, spending their cred, if they're thinking that people are disposable. I mean... Sure we trade people all the time, but most bounties want them alive, not dead, so... even then it's not...

Jade as Max: I don't know what they're end game is. All I know is what I've heard. And what I've heard is that there are people higher up that'd be happy to see a lot less people come back from this thing. I don't know what their reasons are.

Dora as Sol: Guess it behooves me to come back.

Jade as Max: I refuse to believe that there's anything that could kill your sorry ass. Like a cockroach. And I mean that in the most complimentary sense.

Dora as Sol: Uh-huh. I assumed so, since you've still got half of your payment waiting in my bank account.

Jade as Max: Mm-hmm. Nothing wrong with being hard to kill.

Dora as Sol: Yeah. Means I have more opportunities to spend cred with people like you.

Jade as Max: Hey, well, you know, I can't complain, you've got good work, you've got good cred, I'll take it. [sighs] I mean though, not everyone's as lucky as you, not everyone's as hardy as you.

Dora as Sol: Yeah. This has been shit since we took the Star Marlins in.

Jade as Max: I said it fucking would be. Nobody listens to my sorry ass.

Dora as Sol: Well, I reckon maybe it's time people start.

Dora: And I think that's scene. [laughter]

Jade: Cool.

Han: And a direct callout, I'm pretty sure. [more laughter]

Dora: Um, gosh.

Jade: And you could mark two, so we could hit two right now.

Dora: I know, and honestly... Looking at the time, I think what I would like to do, 'cause I don't think there are any rules about specifically which ones get resolved first.

Han: Mm-hmm.

Jade: Uh-huh.

Dora: What I kind of want to do is mark crossroads and crisis and then have the crisis resolve before the crossroads.

Han: Okay.

Jade: Okay.

Dora: I think that might be the most narratively interesting.

Han: Mm-hmm.

Jade: Sounds good.

Dora: So... Well actually- yeah I think crisis happens first, so let me go to my handy dandy cheat sheet. So when we're resolving the crisis card, like when we resolve any, you know, crossroads or time passes, the first thing we decide is does this end the game? And I don't think we want the crisis to end the game.

Han: Mm-hmm. No.

Jade: No.

Dora: So I think the next step is to describe what the crisis is. And my suspicion is that this mutiny is happening whether we want it to or not.

Han: Mm-hmm.

Jade: I dig it.

Dora: So...

Dora: I dig it.

Dora: Yeah, there's just been too much unrest, nobody liked what happened with the Star Marlins, nobody likes the rumblings that we're hearing now, so. I think people are just- they're low on food, they're angry, and they need something to change, so.

Han: Mm-hmm.

Dora: The next thing is we go around with our characters and describe what each of them sees during the crisis. So, let's start with Han. What do you- what does Kuiper see?

Han: I think it's a shot of Kuiper, like, in the communications hub, just surrounded by screens with like, the station's vital information, and then, all at once, almost all the screens go blank and dark because the people mutinying have pulled the communication lines while this is happening.

Jade: Ooh. That's evocative, I like that.

Dora: Jade, what's Max seeing?

Jade: I think Max sees people, like, emptying out of their ships in the docking bay, armed to the teeth, and making their way towards central command. And she just sort of sits in her little booth and watches.

Dora: I think Sol- the shot we get of Sol is there are a bunch of people sort of rabble rousing in The Monkey's Uncle, and you see her in the corner, and she knocks back her shot of shitty space tequila and puts the shot glass back down on the bar, and she joins in with the rabble rousing. And the next shot we get is her punching a guard in the face to make way for the rest of the crowd that's going through.

Jade: Beautiful.

Han: Nice.

Dora: And the next one is, what do you do? So... how do you participate or not participate in the crisis?

Han: Okay. What does each player do? I think it's... I think it's Kuiper managing to boot up a couple different communications arrays, and like systematically intercepting any personal communications that any of the higher ups are sending out. So basically like making sure that none of their escape plans or contacts with any outside forces go through. So they're even more trapped.

Dora: Nice.

Jade: I think what Max does is- she is- the hangar bay is cleared out by this point, and you see her sort of like, walking along to the big hangar door that sort of goes into the main part of the station, and like, her leg brace is thumping against the ground, and the metal sound just rings out, and as she gets to the door, you see Erikson sort of running towards it, and you see her pull out her master key, wave it, and swipes it so the door slams shut, sealing him inside.

Han: Yup.

Jade: And she just sort of smiles and does a little finger wave, and then heads off and ducts into a maintenance hatch. So she can go get a better view and find out what's going on.

Dora: Nice.

Jade: Max is kind of a bitch. I was not expecting this.

Han: I love her.

Dora: I love- I love everybody in this space station, honestly.

Han: [crosstalk] Except for Erikson. Except for Erikson.

Jade: [crosstalk] Hell yeah. Except for Erikson. 'Cause he wanks in the shower.

Dora: Yup.

Jade: And then lies about it.

Dora: Yup. He sure does. [Jade laughs] Um, so, the next step is outcome, so you know, based on- oh wait no. Sol-

Jade: Oh, what does Sol do?

Dora: That's right, sorry. Getting ahead of myself. No, Sol like- I don't think Sol is at the forefront of the people mutinying at all, but she is definitely contributing with her fists. And unfortunately also her face. She gets roughed up, like rakish battle damage of course, because of who I am as a person.

Han: Hell yeah.

Dora: So.

Jade: Nice...

Dora: The outcome- we get to decide whether we each think as players, the kingdom should stand or fall. Which is a decision we make as players. And so, the rules state that each player sticks out a hand and votes simultaneously, thumbs up if the kingdom should survive, thumbs down if the kingdom should fall, hand flat if you're neutral. None of our characters tried to escape, so nobody is forced to vote thumbs down.

Jade: Yeah. Do we wanna do this in the discord?

Dora: Yep. So we have-

Han: Yeah, question- can we clarify real quick though, like is the kingdom falling a successful mutiny or an unsuccessful mutiny?

Dora: Um, I think-

Jade: Ooh.

Dora: It think it's- whether the mutiny is successful or not is something that we can-

Jade: Yeah, that's how it plays out. I think the kingdom will survive. It's like whether is the mutiny successful? And like its new management comes in and it survives? Or is the mutiny successful-

Han: And it-

Jade: And it ends up backfiring 'cause people show up.

Han: [crosstalk] Okay, gotcha, gotcha.

Jade: [crosstalk] Like, I think the mutiny happens either way, it's more like the ongoing fate of the station.

Dora: Yes.

Han: Mm-hmm.

Dora: Yes.

Jade: So it's thumbs up if we want the kingdom to thrive and thumbs dowl if we want it to fail.

Dora: Yup.

Han: Mm-hmm.

Dora: Or I guess like a- like the stop hand if it's neutral, but.

Jade: Yeah.

Han: Okay. Ready?

Dora: Are we all ready? Yup.

Jade: Yup.

Dora: Three, two, one, go.

Han: Nice!

Dora: All right! Three thumbs ups. So...

Jade: Heck yeah.

Dora: Yeah, so... The kingdom survives.

Jade: Woo!

Dora: And um, so we describe the outcome together based on what we've already seen. And I think we already, you know, kind of sketched that out. So the mutiny's successful. We've got new management, and-

Han: Mm-hmm.

Dora: -that does not mean-

Jade: Yeah.

Dora: -that the space station falls apart, physically or metaphorically.

Han: Mm-hmm.

Jade: Oh, I really want Kuiper to move further up the chain of command.

Han: [sucks air through teeth] Yeah. Yeah.

Jade: With all of her bad choices-

Han: Mm-hmm.

Jade: I really want her to be further up the chain of command.

Han: Oh yeah no, she super gets a promotion. Yeah...

Jade: Heck yeah.

Han: Well yeah because like, I feel like she was like, middle command, like middle ranked.

Jade: Yeah.

Han: And like, now everyone-

Jade: Like, middle manager [crosstalk] and now she's moving up.

Han: [crosstalk] Right. Everyone in middle management in now in charge. Which is great.

Dora: Nice.

Han: I imagine that like she and Max are kind of on the same command level in their respective departments.

Jade: Yeah. The way I see it is like- as far as like, an outsider would tell, Max is in the exact same position as she's always been. Except now she has a direct line to top tier management.

Han: Right.

Dora: Mm-hmm.

Han: Sweet.

Jade: And top tier management owes her big.

Han: Yeah... That's good. [Jade laughs] Um, okay. Okay.

Dora: And none of us are killing or retiring our characters, correct?

Han: [crosstalk] No.

Jade: [crosstalk] Oh, no way.

Dora: Okay. Yeah.

Jade: Having way too much fun. [laughs]

Dora: So, all right, so that has resolved the crisis, now we get to resolve the crossroads.

Han: Mm-hmm.

Jade: Hell yeah.

Dora: And so, for the first step, considering the time and how long we've been recording, I do vote that we end the game here.

Han: Yeah, me too. I think we could come back-

Jade: Sure.

Han: -to like these- this set of characters at a different point in time.

Dora: Oh, absolutely.

Jade: Yeah, let's see how the space station is doing X number of months down the line.

Dora: Yup.

Han: Mm-hmm.

Dora: So, I think we've kind of already set the stage fairly well, so we've got new management coming in right before this mission is supposed to run.

Han: Mm-hmm.

Jade: Mm-hmm.

Dora: And the management theoretically does not want like, half of the people on the station to get themselves killed throwing themselves against this particular supply run, so. The next thing is the decision from our power.

Han: Mm-hmm. Hmm... Okay. So obviously- the order under the no column doesn't work anymore, which was if no, the mutiny does not go through, 'cause that happened. Okay, so here's what I think happens. I think what- I think the answer is going to be yes, this happens. And I think what it is is that it becomes clear that the higher ups were basically planning- were like, in communication with UniSol, and struck a deal that UniSOI would leave the station alone if they sent-

Jade: Ooh.

Han: -certain people on this mission? Like, people of like, high interest.

Jade: That's good.

Han: And so-

Jade: That's really good.

Han: And so the mission goes through, but the information that UniSol has is no longer effective or valid, so it's no longer a suicide mission.

Dora: Yeah.

Jade: Yeah.

Dora: That makes sense.

Jade: That's really cool.

Han: So yeah, so, that's a yes.

Dora: Hell yeah.

Jade: Well, one of my predictions has already happened, which was if yes, the mutiny happens and Erikson swings. The other is if the mission goes ahead, UniSol will retalitory action against the station, and-

Dora: Mm-hmm.

Jade: Oh yes. [laughter] The station and certain individuals who have done very well out of this mutiny are now very much on UniSol's shit list. [laughter]

Han: Mm-hmm.

Jade: Especially this one person, who's got a very extensive criminal record that we haven't got into the details of how, exactly. [Han laughs] But...

Han: Yeah...

Jade: Yeah, I think the station goes from being a annoyance and a haven to problem number one for UniSol. And things have gotten a lot more dangerous for the people making a living at that station.

Han: Guess who got their wish? It's me! [laughter]

Jade: Yeah!

Dora: Oh, this is good. This'll be really great to pick up later, I think.

Han: Yeah, for sure. We still need the touchstone reaction.

Dora: Yes, so. Honestly the popular reaction is pretty hopeful, like, they're going to be getting an influx of new supplies, they got rid of the people who were about to sell them out. I mean, the Marlins are still there, but with the hopeful outlook, it's less of an issue.

Jade: Do you think like, some of the Marlins took part in the mutiny, and that probably helped engender some better feelings?

Dora: Oh yeah, so either that, or some of the Marlins are going to be participating in the supply run too, so.

Jade: Yeah.

Han: Mm-hmm.

Jade: Nice. Nice nice nice.

Han: Yeah.

Dora: So now we do our reflections.

Han: So read your fear or wish aloud and see if it's changed. I think- so, my wish was "I wish the kingdom would take on riskier jobs. We're pirates. We're in this for the cash and the glory and there's no point in caution." I think that has sort of been explored and fulfilled in a lot of ways. And I think what it changes to is like, something along the lines of like, "I fear that..." Well, hmm. I think it's something closer to like, I... Let me think about this for a minute. If you guys wanna go ahead, and then I'll write a new one.

Jade: Sure. I think for Max, whose fear was that something's gonna run out- one of the things that's keeping the station together, spot weld, duct tape, or hope is gonna run out. And I definitely think it's changed. I think I might even change it to a wish. But for all that they're now on a shit list, I think like, nothing brings a group of people together like knowing somebody bigger is out to get you. So I actually think there's a lot of that defiant hope, sort of coming in. And there's some supplies coming in. And this place has gotten a bit of a rep as a result. Like, it's not just some shitty station, just like, they made a stand, UniSol is so pissed at them, and infamy can be very fun, so. It's just like- so I think the wish is like, okay... I think her wish is that the kingdom will thrive in its infamy and prosper as a result.

Han: I really like that because I've switched mine from a wish to a fear, and mine has become-

Jade: Heck yes!

Han: "I fear that the kingdom will overextend itself in ways that are no longer profitable."

Dora: Oh, that's so good.

Jade: That's so good!

Dora: So, Sol's has definitely gone from a fear to a hope because the mutiny went well for her, so she- her wish is, "I hope the station prospers under new management and with the new

bonds that have been formed." So, she's pretty hopeful about how things are gonna go from here too, so.

Jade: Oh. I know how Max's bond with Sol has changed. It's gone from "Sol is a destructive force that I'm having to clean up after." to just like, "Sol might be a blunt instrument, but I always know how to use the right tools."

Dora: Oh!

Han: Oh my god.

Dora: Oh, good. [laughter]

Han: Oh man.

Dora: Oh, good. [Jade laughs] I think- gosh, Sol's side of that definitely has to change too, so.

Han: Mm-hmm.

Jade: Mm-hmm.

Dora: I think it's something probably more along the lines of "Max's insight is good for the station [Jade laughs] and for me."

Han: And then I definitely... Kuiper's bond with Max has changed as well. And I think it's something along the lines of like, "Max has the ability to make or break management, and I need to stay in her good graces."

Dora: Oh, that's so good.

Jade: Yeah, I think the reflection of Max is, 'cause it's currently "Kuiper owes me big for supporting her." It's just like, "Kuiper is basically mine."

Dora: Oh, yes.

Han: "Max has the ability to make or break my position on the station. I need to stay in her good graces." is the new one.

Dora: Yeah. And the next thing that we do is we technically check a time passes box, but I think that we'll leave that for when we pick up- if we pick up with these folks again, we'll leave that for when we pick up to describe what's happened to them between now and-

Jade: Yeah.

Dora: -whenever we get back to them.

Jade: Awesome.

Han: Yeah.

Dora: So, now it's time for the outros. I'm Dora, and you can find me at harpydora on Twitter. And with me today, we have had...

Han: I'm Han, you can find me on Twitter at mercutioes. [theme music starts- dice shaking, cards shuffling]

Jade: And I'm Jade, you can find me on Twitter at jadeoxfordrose.

Dora: Great! So, the next thing that we get to do is clapping, so we can... [fades out]

[theme music plays]