

INN BETWEEN

Episode: Bonus episode, "Hit the Deck"

Transcript provided by Ria Couoh.

(00:00) INTRO:

HANNAH Hi, everyone! Hannah here.

This special episode of Inn Between is part of the Apollo Podcast App's Creator Showcase 2022, and there are so many more episodes to discover.

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We'll see you there, on Apollo!

With no further ado, let's go to the Inn!

AUDIO (00:25): INN BETWEEN THEME PLAYS IN THE BACKGROUND.

AUDIO (01:23): INN BETWEEN THEME FADES.

(01:24) HIT THE DECK.

AUDIO (01:25): BACKGROUND SOUNDS OF A TAVERN: CONVERSATION, TINKLING OF GLASSES AND CUTLERY.

ROSIE Supplies all gathered; drinks acquired... I'm not missing anything, am I?

ZARA No, just waiting on the boys and Knowles with the cart and horse.

ROSIE Great!

ZARA Now what are we supposed to do?

ROSIE Relax?

ZARA Not exactly our strong suit.

ROSIE Speak for yourself! I'm *great* at relaxing!

ZARA I'm not.

ROSIE Hey, I can help!

ZARA (*dryly*)

Can you?

ROSIE Sure. Let's play a game!

ZARA Look, Rosie...

ROSIE It'll be fun!

ZARA (*sigh*)

What kind of game?

ROSIE Did you see what I got in Delaroca?

SFX (02:03): HEAVY CLOTH SHUFFLING.

ZARA The... mushroom hat?

ROSIE No! This!

SFX (02:07): CARDS SHUFFLING.

ZARA (*flatly*)

An Oracle deck.

ROSIE Yes! Let me do a reading for you!

ZARA Oracle readings aren't a *game*! It's a legitimate form of Divination!

ROSIE You forgot the part about how it's *fun*?

ZARA If you look into the future, you might not like what you find!

ROSIE Well, not with *that* attitude!

SFX (02:28): CARDS ARE SHUFFLED.

ROSIE Come *on*, what else do you have to do with your afternoon?

SFX (02:33): CARDS ARE SHUFFLED.

ZARA (*groans*)

Fine.

ROSIE Yay!

Okay, it came with a little guide that has some sample spreads.

SFX (02:40): PAPER SHIFTS AS SHE TURNS THE PAGES OF A BOOKLET.

ROSIE So let's do... uhm... the past-present-future thing? Just three cards.

ZARA If you must.

ROSIE Hang on, I *have* to get into character.

ZARA That's not necessary—

ROSIE (*with exaggerated enunciation and excitement*)

So, you wish to know your future, young lady!

ZARA Not really!

ROSIE Mm, be careful what you wish for!

ZARA I *literally* just said that.

ROSIE (*dejected sigh*)

Buzzkill. Okay.

SFX (03:11): CARD IS SET DOWN.

ROSIE Ooh, what have we here? The Planted Seed!

ZARA *(tired sigh)*

Are we going to go *there*?

ROSIE *(as if reading)*

The rich soil of the Planted Seed represents nourishment and nurture, and the seed itself represents potential and growth!

So, the card for your past means that, throughout your childhood, you were given everything you needed to—

ZARA It's inverted.

ROSIE What?

ZARA It's upside down, Rosie. It reverses its meaning.

ROSIE *(softer)*

Oh. So, uh, so that means...?

ZARA No nurturing. No... boundless possibilities.

(dully)

Do the next card.

ROSIE Yeah, okay.

SFX (03:54): CARD IS SET DOWN.

ROSIE I am totally stoked for the Stoked Hearth.

ZARA Wow, really?

ROSIE Yes, really.

I like this one! Safety and home and warmth... and that's the card for the present! So, right now... Aw, Zara, that's so nice!

ZARA *Watch*, the future is going to be something *terrible*.

ROSIE (*cheerfully*)

Bet it won't!

SFX (04:19): CARD IS SET DOWN.

ROSIE Hah! I win! It's a good one!

ZARA The... Garden?

ROSIE The *Verdant* Garden. Which, of course, means community, cooperation, and plenty, and all of that is in your future...

And I win!

ZARA You can't *win* at Divination.

ROSIE Mm, pretty sure I just did!

ZARA Also, there's no way that's right.

ROSIE Ugh, you are *such* a pessimist!

ZARA No, it's like... the combination of the Seed and the Garden.

ROSIE What about it?

ZARA (*unsure, as if trying to remember*)

It... means I need to plant something? That I... owe something to make the Garden happen?

(*to herself*)

What?

ROSIE It does? How do you know?

ZARA I went to wizard college, remember?

ROSIE They teach you how to read an Oracle Deck?

ZARA I told you! It's a legitimate form of Divination!

ROSIE Just... based on how resistant you've been to it; I wouldn't have thought it was up your alley.

ZARA *(through sarcastic laughter)*

Because I'm well-known for how *cooperative* and *unresistant* I am.

Besides, you were never forced to take classes on a subject you had no actual interest in?

ROSIE Fair enough. And I guess it's good it's not bogus because now I get to do my final interpretation.

ZARA No.

ROSIE What do you mean *no*?

ZARA I'm tired of this reading, I already know what it means, *this wasn't fun*.

SFX (05:46): DOOR CREAKS OPEN.

ROSIE Fine. I'll do someone else then, like...

Oh, Knowles is back! Knowles!

KNOWLES *(tiredly)*

Hi.

SFX (05:54): CHAIR SQUEAKS AGAINST WOODEN FLOOR.

ZARA I thought you were helping choose a cart and horse.

KNOWLES I did my bit! I... chose the cart. It's not my fault that Tode has to stop and talk to *every single horse* before he chooses one... among other animals.

ROSIE I thought you were going to a hostler.

KNOWLES Turns out, dwarves are *very* creative with what they consider a mount.

ROSIE Really? I know for part of the Egg Sack Festival performers would ride in on massive orb weavers, but I always figured it was a... ceremonial thing.

ZARA (*outraged disbelief*)

Excuse me?

KNOWLES For the sake of what's... left of my sanity, I'm going to pretend that entire sentence *didn't* just happen.

Let's just say it... wasn't my department, so I tapped out.

ZARA Are they going to be much longer?

KNOWLES As much as I would *like* to know, I have no idea.

ZARA Then maybe *I* can provide some insight!

SFX (06:52): CARDS ARE SHUFFLED.

KNOWLES (*interested*)

Is that an Oracle Deck?

ROSIE It sure is!

KNOWLES Fun! I'm always up for a reading!

ROSIE Great!

(*muttering*)

Okay, uhm... Well, I guess the past-present-future thing wouldn't work as well if you want insight into the horse and cart situation...

KNOWLES Aren't there other kinds of readings?

ROSIE What about like... uhm...?

SFX (07:14): PAGES TURN.

ROSIE Oh! A card for the situation and a card for each of the participants. That's a... thing, right?

ZARA Why are you looking at *me*?

ROSIE Is it a thing?

ZARA (*annoyed*)

Yes, it's a *thing*. Leave me *out* of it.

ROSIE Okay, cool!

(*clears throat*)

Who should we start with?

KNOWLES (*excitedly*)

Me! Start with me!

ROSIE Okay! So, this is the card for Knowles...

SFX (07:51): DRAWS CARD.

ROSIE We have... the Detailed Map. Reversed... Oops.

KNOWLES Oops? What's "oops?"

ROSIE The Map is like... leadership and direction, which would usually be exactly your thing, but...

KNOWLES It's reversed... because I gave up *the reins*?

ROSIE Was that a pun about horses?

KNOWLES (*innocently*)

Maaaybe.

ZARA (*groans*)

ROSIE So, this card makes sense!

KNOWLES Alright, so tell me something I *don't* know. What about Tode?

ROSIE A card for Tode!

SFX (08:19): CARD IS SET DOWN.

ROSIE We have the Wizeded Tortoise... Reversed. Uhm...

KNOWLES That's two reversals in a row. How did you shuffle this deck?

ROSIE The normal way!

KNOWLES (*dubious*)

Right. Sure.

The Tortoise feels like Tode, but...

ROSIE Yeah, it's reversed, so, as opposed to wisdom through experience, it's... foolishness through youth?

(*quietly*)

That—that's not right.

KNOWLES Are you sure it's not Castor's card?

ZARA There's another way to interpret it.

ROSIE Okay? How?

ZARA Like you just interpreted Knowles.

KNOWLES (*thoughtfully*)

So, usually wisdom is his thing, but he gave it up in favor of...?

ROSIE Whimsy?

ZARA Yeah, whimsy. Childlike wonder.

KNOWLES Now that sounds like Tode, especially where animals are concerned.

(beat)

(dreadful)

I don't like where this is going. What about Castor?

SFX (09:27): SHORT SHUFFLING NOISE. CARD IS DRAWN.

ROSIE For Castor...

Oh! Good news! It's the Raptor's Eye, attention to detail and eagle-eyed focus.

KNOWLES *(chuckles)*

At least one of us is being sensible.

ZARA *(dubious)*

Eh...

KNOWLES What?

ZARA Nothing.

ROSIE You can't just make a "ehhh" noise and say it's nothing.

KNOWLES Spill!

ZARA *(sigh)*

(slowly)

Look, the Raptor's Eye does mean focus, but the *dark side* of that is focus to the exclusion of the big picture. "Can't see the forest for the trees," kind of thing.

ROSIE Oh, that's definitely Castor. How do you know it's that interpretation?

ZARA Well, I don't know for sure until you draw the last card.

KNOWLES What are you waiting for?

ROSIE Okay! The card for the situation as a whole! Here we go...

SFX (10:20): CARD IS DRAWN.

ROSIE It's the... Two-Headed Calf.

KNOWLES Uhm... Is that... good?

ZARA *Hah.*

ROSIE It's not *bad*, per se, it's just like...

(with forced cheer)

A surprise! The unexpected!

ZARA The *absurd*. Sometimes the unnatural.

KNOWLES Unnatural is right. Statistically, two-headed anything doesn't happen unless something's gone *very* wrong.

ROSIE Wrong like what? Arcane Pollution or something?

ZARA Or mundane pollution.

KNOWLES That's a *thing*?

ZARA People are *very good* at screwing over the rest of nature.

KNOWLES *(nervously)*

Ugh, I don't like this at all. What does it mean for... us?

ROSIE We don't know that the surprise will be a bad thing!

ZARA *(exhausted)*

There's no way they're bringing back a horse.

KNOWLES What are they bringing back?

ZARA Cards aren't *that* specific.

ROSIE But they're specific enough to tell you that you need to plant a garden?

KNOWLES What is she talking about?

ROSIE Zara's reading gave her The Planted Seed and the Verdant Garden, and apparently that combo means that she... owes something in order to get some kind of future that's good?

KNOWLES Huh.

ZARA It isn't *exactly* what it meant.

ROSIE But it does mean that... I'm *amazing* at Oracle readings! Especially for someone who never went to wizard college.

KNOWLES Hey, maybe you've got some hidden magical talent after all!

ROSIE Ooh, maybe! If nothing else, I might've just found a new grift.

ZARA Absolutely not. There are already too many idiots out there using cartomancy as their hustle, I'm not about to let my *friend* be one of them. Besides, you're not that great at it if I can't figure out what the seed planting thing meant.

KNOWLES Oh, I know what it is.

ROSIE (*exaggerated offense*)

How dare you doubt my mighty power?

ZARA Wait, back up. Knowles?

KNOWLES I kind of want you to do another one.

ROSIE I *totally* want to do another one.

ZARA Knowles!

KNOWLES You really don't remember?

ZARA Remember *what*?

ROSIE Okay, the card for the past is...

SFX (12:34): CARD IS DRAWN.

ROSIE The Wealth of Shells.

KNOWLES Which clearly means... a fun day at the beach?

ROSIE (*quietly, a little uncertain*)

Shells used to be used for currency... This card means riches and privilege... especially old money.

ZARA Who are you reading for?

ROSIE I don't know! I'm... mostly going for the vibe. Hey, maybe it's me!

ZARA Knowles, tell me what I'm forgetting.

KNOWLES But this is so much more *fun*.

SFX (13:00): CARD IS DRAWN.

ROSIE For the present... the Wolf Pack, reversed. Hm.

ZARA Can you at least tell me if it's important?

KNOWLES (*amused, smug*)

Arguably, it's the *most* important.

ZARA (*dismayed*)

Oh my gods.

ROSIE So... the wolves mean power and strength in numbers, but if it's reversed... maybe trying to be a lone wolf?

KNOWLES (*almost laughing*)

You really have no idea what I'm talking about.

ZARA *No!*

ROSIE Or maybe it's strength... corrupted by hierarchy? Like tyranny?
Which ironically means less power.

KNOWLES You don't remember our *bet*.

ZARA What bet?

ROSIE (*worriedly*)

I don't think this reading is for me.

KNOWLES Stew on it for a second.

ZARA Wait, *that's* what you're talking about?

ROSIE And for the future...

SFX (13:54): CARD IS DRAWN.

ROSIE Oh... The Planted Seed again.

AUDIO (13:58): A SMALL PAUSE.

ZARA Who is this reading *for*?

KNOWLES What does *that* mean?

ROSIE It's like...

(*contemplative*)

Whoever this is has everything they ever wanted, and they use it to control other people, but soon something will happen to them that... I don't know, sets them up for growth?

ZARA That's a... good interpretation.

ROSIE I told you! I'm great at this!

KNOWLES Who *is* this?

ROSIE No idea.

SFX (14:30): DOOR CREAKS OPEN.

SFX (14:31): MUTED CROAKING. HEAVY, THUDDING FOOTSTEPS.

CASTOR That's what I mean! Alchemical ingredients like this don't just fall out of the sky every day!

TODE She says she's willing to trade some skin slime for whole fishes.

KNOWLES *(shocked fumbling)*

Uhm... I'm... Is that...?

ROSIE *Leaping Lolth.*

ZARA You've got to be kidding me.

SFX (14:48): CROAKING.

TODE Yes, these are our friends.

(warmly)

Friends, I'm pleased to introduce you to She-Who-Has-Gobbled-The-Most-Bugs-In-The-Bog. You may call her Gob.

She'll be our beast of burden for the trip.

KNOWLES *(high-pitched with horror)*

Gi-Giant frog?!

CASTOR I mean, that's kind of rude. What if I pointed at you and shouted...?

(fake, exaggerated horror)

Human person?

ROSIE I love her. This is the best possible surprise I could have asked for!

(cooing)

Hi, Gob! I'm Rosie!

ZARA *(delighted)*

You people are *insane*.

SFX (15:20): CROAKING.

TODE There's no call to be rude. She *can* understand you.

CASTOR Gob is intelligent and interesting *and* full of scientific discoveries!

ROSIE *And she's beautiful!*

SFX (15:33): CROAKING.

TODE She appreciates you saying so.

KNOWLES *(increasingly alarmed)*

We—we can't... have a frog-drawn cart! We *can't!*

TODE We thought you might react like this.

CASTOR *(steadily, as if practiced)*

Look, Knowles, we know you don't like animals.

TODE *(understanding, mimicking Castor's tone, they've practiced together)*

Gob will take some getting used to, and we understand that.

CASTOR *But* she's going to be a valuable asset to the crew, and we already like her.

TODE It would be rude to turn her away now!

CASTOR Just look at her! Look at that face!

TODE Look at that face!

SFX (16:08): CROAKING.

AUDIO (16:08): LONG PAUSE.

KNOWLES *(defeated)*

Please, for just a second, think about how frogs ambulate.

CASTOR By... jumping?

KNOWLES And *what* might happen to a cart if it is hitched to a creature that is jumping?

CASTOR *(beat)*

(with dawning realization)

Oooh...

TODE Oh dear.

ROSIE That would be a... pretty bumpy ride, I guess.

KNOWLES If it worked *at all!*

(sigh)

Look, if Gob wants to come with us, she can—

ROSIE Okay, good, because I love her now, and we're best friends, and I couldn't take it if we had to get rid of her.

CASTOR Can't just get rid of your friends!

(quickly)

Also, the hostler said no refunds.

KNOWLES I'm not a *monster!* I'm sure... Gob and I...

(unsure)

Will... be... close chums... once I... get to know her.

SFX (17:10): CROAKING.

TODE *(good-naturedly)*

She says she likes the look of you!

KNOWLES *(scared)*

Like in a food way or...?

CASTOR Oh, speaking of food, I'm starved!

TODE Yes, why don't we have some lunch?

SFX (17:21): CHAIRS SQUEAK AGAINST WOOD FLOORS, HEAVY THUD.

KNOWLES As long as you get an actual horse afterwards. Someone's got to pull the cart we just bought.

CASTOR Of course.

ZARA Hey, Knowles.

SFX (17:32): COIN CLATTERS.

ZARA Here.

KNOWLES Pleasure doing business with you.

TODE What's this?

ZARA Knowles bet me that Rosie and I would be friends by the end of the summer.

CASTOR Oh, yeah, I forgot about that.

ROSIE *(offended)*

You bet on my love?

KNOWLES In a manner of speaking.

ROSIE *(smug)*

And I won?

KNOWLES I mean, I won, but, in a way... so did we all!

ZARA Ugh... so cheesy.

CASTOR It's true, though!

TODE I hope you like it with us, Gob!

SFX (18:03): CROAKING.

CASTOR Hey, is that an Oracle Deck?

ROSIE Yeah! You want a reading? I'm phenomenal at it, even Zara thinks so!

ZARA I never—

TODE What's an Oracle Deck?

ROSIE (*excitedly*)

Step into my office!

AUDIO (18:17): BACKGROUND SOUNDS OF TAVERN FADE AWAY.

(18:19) OUTRO:

AUDIO (18:20): INN BETWEEN THEME PLAYS IN THE BACKGROUND.

(18:24) CREDITS:

HANNAH This episode, "Hit the Deck", was created with the support of Apollo. Download the Apollo podcast app for all the best fiction podcasts have to offer.

"Hit the Deck" was written by Hannah Wright with cowriter Lucille Valentine and directed by Hannah Wright with assistant director William Wright. The show is produced and edited by Katherine Ayers.

Arcane consulting by Lucille Valentine.

The voice of Castor is Caleb Del Rio. The voice of Zara is Quin Leigh. The voice of Tode is Anthony Morales. The voice of Rosie is Lucille Valentine and the voice of Knowles is JV Hampton-VanSant.

Our theme song is by Eli Hamada McIlveen and our artwork is by Gabrielle Buxman. Our transcriber is Ria Couoh.

Transcripts for this and every episode can be found on our website, thegoblinshead.com.

Find and follow us on Twitter, [@inn_between](https://twitter.com/inn_between). Or support us on Patreon, at patreon.com/thegoblinshead.

If you like the show, predict a character arc of season five using your own tarot deck. Or leave us a review.

We'll see you soon!

AUDIO (19:34): MUSIC ENDS.

HANNAH This episode was written in the traditional territory of the Arapaho, Cheyenne, and Ute peoples, as well as the traditional lands of the Timucua people and the Seminole tribe. The episode was edited in the unceded territory of the Salish, Kootenai, and Kalispel peoples.

(19:54) POST-CREDITS:

HANNAH Hi, everyone! Hannah again.

I really hope you enjoyed this special bonus episode, which we could not have made without the help of the good folks at Apollo. We're only one of the scads of creators featured in the Apollo Creator Showcase! You have to check out everyone else's work. Go to apollopods.com/inn to see all the magnificent audio drama the showcase has to offer.

We'll see you on Apollo!

EPISODE ENDS.