



DUX OF HAZARD

EPISODE 205

V. 3/21/22

Written by

Steve Conard

The Roleplayers

Javion Smith, Lexi the First, Meagan Karimi-Naser  
Stefan Pokorny

Based on CHALDEA by

Peter Adkison

## PREAMBLE

Omba had never been particularly fond of goodbyes (long or otherwise) and definitely was not fond of Ariadne's Artisans. They had been nothing but trouble since the day they met--a menace to ship and crew.

So, when Dux, "*the Guide of Ife*" was spotting waving frantically from the starboard shore.

DUX (O.S.)

1 Ahoy! 1

The responsibility Ariadne had placed upon Omba was *thank gods*, at an end.

INSERT TITLECARD: "Adiós. Au revoir. Arrivederci. Tokomonana. Good riddance!"

EXT. SOMARRIA - EVENING - ESTABLISHING

The green and ever more green Somarría jungle is thick and vivacious, choking wet and hot.

EXT. BOYONOGO RIVER - SHORE - EVENING

Snaggle chews fondly on Helios' leg as the ship slowly turns upriver and makes it's planned escape.

SNAGGLE

2 Fodder. 2

The beast drops a rat gift and flies to rejoin his master.

AGGEE

3 I'm going to miss that reptile,  
even if he did try and kill me. 3

RAINBOW

4 Ahhh, I didn't get a chance to say  
goodbye to Cooky. 4

BEDIA

5 It was rather rude how they  
frogmarched us off the ship without  
saying so much as a final goodbye. 5

HELIOS

6 No respect. 6

The man who had been waving madly from the shore approaches.









51                                   DUX                                   51  
 I am but a humble servant with deep  
 faith in my gods. Should I guide  
 you? Or would you prefer, I wait  
 another forty years?

Aggee shakes the man's hands.

52                                   AGGEE                                   52  
 Hello. I am Aggee. These are my  
 friends Rainbow and Bedia.  
                                  (waves to Helios)  
 53                                   This tall drink of water is Helios.                                   53

54                                   HELIOS                                   54  
 I am not afraid of water.

55                                   DUX                                   55  
 I imagine you are not.

56                                   AGGEE                                   56  
 I am also a guide. For hunters.  
 Out of Gravers Dig.

57                                   DUX                                   57  
 Ohh, Maxi trouble the Dig.

He bows and makes a 'you first' flourish to the jungle.

58                                   DUX (CONT'D)                                   58  
 You take the lead.

A sudden wind knocks a cluster of coconuts out of a nearby  
 palm.

59                                   AGGEE                                   59  
 No. No-no.  
                                  (scans trees above warily)  
 60                                   I would not wish to ruin your                                   60  
 quest.

Dux turns and walks toward the jungle.

61                                   DUX                                   61  
 You are all very chatty.  
                                  (scans setting sun)  
 62                                   I've wasted much time on this                                   62  
 quest. I am eager to see it  
 through so I may return to my wife  
 and children.

63                                   RAINBOW                                   63  
 You've been away from your family  
 for forty years?





Four glowing orbs: Red, Green, Blue, and Pink appear and hover above Bedia illuminating the jungle in rainbow hues.

RAINBOW

73 Nice choice. 73

SOMETIME LATER IN JUNGLE TIME

How long have they been slogging? Hours? A day? Two?

Each moment is as excruciating long and protracted as the last. The jungle dark hides light as well as time equally well it would seem.

Ariadne's Artisans trudge silently with only an occasionally smash and crash of plants as Helios hacks back the foliage with his axe.

HELIOS

74 This thing is awesome. When I get back to Gravers Dig, I need to get Cosmos to identify it. 74

AGGEE

75 It's an axe, Helios. Duh. (to Rainbow) 75

76 Hey Rainbow, how is your quest coming along? 76

RAINBOW

77 My quest? You mean my epic novel? The quest is a little open ended, you know. I can't finish my quest until all ya'll finish your quests. 77

BEDIA

78 Mine involves tracking down a beast, a great terrible beast that has gone bad. Ninsunu wasn't terribly forth coming what that meant. 78

DUX

79 You will know soon enough. 79

Dux stops at a large cactus plant laden with RED FRUIT. He picks one by one and tosses them to the others.

DUX (CONT'D)

80 This is dragon fruit. It's delicious and will keep you strong. 80

AGGEE

81 What, not god fruit? 81

A coconut hits Aggee in the head.

AGGEE (CONT'D)  
 (rubbing his noggin)  
 82 Owe! Duke is an interesting name. 82  
 Are you a warrior? A knight?

Aggee jumps into a fighting stance, fists up.

AGGEE (CONT'D)  
 83 You ever heard the expression, *Put* 83  
*up your dukes?* I was wondering if  
 perhaps it's a nickname?

DUX  
 84 I am a ranger. 84  
 (takes bite from fruit)  
 85 My name is spelled D-U-X. 85

Seeing Dux eat, everyone helps themselves to the juicy fruit.

HELIOS  
 86 If it comes down to a fight, we 86  
 will defend you.  
 (he farts with a grimace)  
 87 Pardon me. 87

Helios hot steps it into the jungle to relieve unwanted bowel pressure.

DUX  
 (calling after Helios)  
 88 The best way to survive a jungle 88  
 fight is to not get into one in the  
 first place.

RAINBOW  
 89 Are you a pacifist? 89

DUX  
 90 Living in the jungle for forty 90  
 years, I've learned how to protect  
 myself. Know this, if I die, you  
 will not escape here alive.

AGGEE  
 91 I definitely would. 91

Dux analyzes Aggee.

DUX  
 92 Okay, Mr. I'm a Guide Too. What 92  
 would you do to find your way back  
 to Gravers Dig?







116 AGGEE  
Where are you going. 116

117 HELIOS  
Poo-poo platter. 117

He bolts.

LATER

Wounds tended and mended and marching order set...

THEY MARCH.

Suddenly Aggee chan leaps forward, blocking...

118 AGGEE  
Dux, watch out! 118

(pointing at the ground)  
119 You're gonna wanna step around that 119  
pile of...

120 RAINBOW  
Ewwwww! 120

121 BEDIA  
Is that a cow pie? 121

122 AGGEE  
And fresh. 122

123 RAINBOW  
Is there cattle in this jungle? 123

124 DUX  
Not that I've seen. 124

125 HELIOS  
Actually, that was... 125

126 AGGEE  
HELIOS! Tell me it wasn't. 126

127 HELIOS  
I tell ya, that was one mean potion 127  
Cooky gave me, I think it might  
have actually killed my guts.

128 RAINBOW  
Poor, Helios. 128

129 BEDIA  
Maybe next time, take a dump a 129  
little further off the path.







	AGGEE	
149	Are we there yet?	149
	RAINBOW	
150	I think we're walking in circles.	150
	HELIOS	
151	I had more fun in Hades.	151
	BEDIA	
152	Well, aren't you a bloody ray of sunshine.	152
	HELIOS	
153	My ass... hurts.	153
	BEDIA	
154	Everything sucks and you can't convince me otherwise.	154
	RAINBOW	
155	I hate the rain.	155
156		156

END TRAVEL MONTAGE:

EXT. BOLD BOULDER BASIN - DAY

Bold Boulder Basin is an abandoned open mine pit the people  
of Ife quarried to build their legendary city.

Our travel weary travelers pull up for a rest, lazing against  
granite boulders.

	AGGEE	
157	Daddy. Can we do this again?	157
	DUX	
158	I do desire we may be better strangers.	158

Dux suddenly and violently ZIPS ACROSS THE GROUND...

Yanked HARD...

DRAGGED...

Flipped up and then down, bashed against the ground.

	HELIOS	
159	Dux is being attacked.	159

FADE TO BLACK:



- and Aggee attacking with hands and feet.

The narrator turns to the camera shaking his head sadly.

	NARRATOR (CONT'D)	
169	You know how edge weapons only do half-damage against skeletons? Aggee hasn't learned yet, hands and feet aren't affective against vines.	169

He turns back to the fight.

	NARRATOR (CONT'D)	
170	Let's see how this...	170
	(winces)	
171	Turns out.	171

	AGGEE	
172	Owe!	172

The narrator SHADOW BOXES along side Helios.

	NARRATOR	
173	It's about time our minotaur friend...	173

	HELIOS	
174	Argghhhh!!!	174

	NARRATOR	
175	There he goes. Enraged.	175

The narrator flinches, ducks, weaves as he witnesses Helios lose his cow mind. He chances a scared glance at the camera.

	NARRATOR (CONT'D)	
176	That's a whole-lota damage, son.	176

ON OUR HEROES

The giant vine monster dies. THUNK. Hits the ground on top of Dux.

	HELIOS	
177	And stay down! Yeeahh!	177

BACK TO NARRATOR

	NARRATOR	
178	Dux looks...	178
	(searches for adjective)	
179	Bad. I'm sure Bedia can save him.	179
	(MORE)	

NARRATOR (CONT'D)

(jerks a thumb)

180 I'm outta here. 180

ON BEDIA THE COMBAT MEDIC tending to Dux, mumbling discombobulated and incoherent.

DUX

181 Last night was a helluva jamboree, 181  
because I've got a raging hangover.

Helios ain't feeling well either, his stomach rumbles like an erupting volcano and he BURPS AND FARTS in unison.

HELIOS

182 It's déjà poo all over again. 182

He runs.

RAINBOW

183 Same shit, different day. 183

BEDIA

184 Oh, no. 184

Everyone exchange worried looks for their poor friend.

HELIOS (O.S.)

185 You might hear something or smell 185  
something unpleasant, but its off  
the path.

DUX

186 Keep me down wind, please. 186

LATER

Helios returns wincing, walking gingerly, rubbing his tushie.

BEDIA

187 Helios. Are you okay? I can look 187  
at--

HELIOS

188 My--? No-no. You are not looking 188  
or touching. No spells down there  
either.

RAINBOW

189 We need to talk about your diet. 189

HELIOS

190 I think I contracted Mad Cow in 190  
Hades.

191 AGGEE  
You weren't in Hades, Helios. 191  
Hades was a figment in your mind.

192 HELIOS  
Well, something aint right--my guts 192  
be churning hot like the Tinderbox.

193 AGGEE  
Maybe it was something you ate. 193

194 HELIOS  
Probably that blood gruel. Cooky 194  
isn't exactly a Michelin star chef.

195 BEDIA  
You ate his gruel? 195

196 HELIOS  
Yeah, after the ordeal in Hades, I 196  
was famished.

Rainbow can't believe what's she's hearing.

197 RAINBOW  
Oh my... are you kidding? That 197  
gruel is fuel. Meant for his pet.  
Fluffy. A Cthulhuian horror  
offspring of Yog-soth.

198 AGGEE  
What's a Yog-soth? 198

199 BEDIA  
Cooky did allude to the crew 199  
getting gruel poisoning once.

200 HELIOS  
Cooky is bad cook. 200

201 RAINBOW  
Cooky isn't a cook at all, he's the 201  
ship's navigator. I thought you  
knew that.

Everyone shakes their heads, learning for the first time.

202 RAINBOW (CONT'D)  
He's a telepath. He tells Fluffy 202  
when and how to move the ship.

203 HELIOS  
Makes sense why gruel taste so bad. 203

204                                   RAINBOW                                   204  
 You should have requested my shark  
 fin soup. It's a delicacy, going  
 in and out.

205                                   BEDIA                                   205  
 C'mon Helios. Use your nose next  
 time. That hellish fume should  
 have been warning enough. The  
 bilge rats won't eat that shit.

Dux moans and falls over. Bedia immediately leaps to his  
 side checking vitals.

206                                   BEDIA (CONT'D)                                   206  
 He's worse than I thought. I need  
 to go deep into my spells.

Everyone gathers into a circle, quiet so that Bedia can work.

The sorceress casts PRAYER OF HEALING. The long incantation  
 powerful healing touch seeps into everyone over ten long  
 minutes.

After the prayer service, EVERYONE is feeling better, even...

207                                   RAINBOW                                   207  
 Dux going to be okay?

208                                   BEDIA                                   208  
 It was close, but he will survive.  
 We should leave him alone to rest.

A WHILE LATER

Ariadne's Artisans sit casually around a large campfire,  
 except Helios who--

You know? Doing his business behind a nearby tree.

Rainbow has her nose in her journal writing.

209                                   RAINBOW                                   209  
 Helios, would you like me to bring  
 you some aloe vera paste? It's  
 soothing to the touch.

210                                   HELIOS                                   210  
 Don't look at me. Go away!

211                                   AGGEE                                   211  
 (to Dux)  
 Are you sure we're heading in the  
 right direction?

212 DUX You want to lead now, "Mr. I can find civilization."? 212

213 AGGEE Just saying, I feel like I've seen that tree before. 213

214 DUX You have seen it before, it's a Kapok tree. Western Somarria is smothered in them. 214

215 RAINBOW Still. I think we're going in circles. 215

216 DUX I already explained. I'm taking you the fastest route. And the fastest route between two locations is a straight line. Not a circle. 216

217 BEDIA A straight line is the shortest distance, not the fastest route. 217

218 DUX A straight line allows for maximum speed, compared to a journey on a curved path. 218

219 AGGEE Except if that straight line is blocked by shit trying to kill us. 219

Helios returns and sits.

220 HELIOS We should follow a crow. 220  
(off perplexed looks)

221 Crows always fly in straight line, my Pa-pa said. 221

222 RAINBOW I prefer to beeline... fast and true. 222

223 DUX Straight or curved, I doubt the gods of Ife want you here. 223

A coconut hits Aggee in the head.

224                                   RAINBOW                                   224  
                                   But the Anumians do.

                                  AGGEE  
                                   (shaking fist to the sky)  
 225                                   Who wins in a fight between a god                                   225  
                                   and an anumian?

226                                   RAINBOW                                   226  
                                   Depends upon which god and which  
                                   anumian, I suppose.

227                                   BEDIA                                   227  
                                   It's impossible to say. They are  
                                   powerful entities from two  
                                   different ages. The anumians from  
                                   the Age of Magic. Gods, obviously--

228                                   DUX                                   228  
                                   --The Age of Gods.

Bedia nods respectfully at the Guide.

229                                   AGGEE                                   229  
                                   What is an age?

230                                   BEDIA                                   230  
                                   I'm going to sleep.

FADE TO SLEEP... erm BLACK.

231                                   AGGEE (O.S.)                                   231  
                                   Yeah, but, which one is more  
                                   powerful?

EXT. THE NEXT MORNING - ESTABLISHING

The sky is visible over the clearing where the travelers  
 rested for the night. The trees have graciously parted to  
 give theme a reprieve from the cold and darkness.

ON THE TRAIL

Glorious light and warmth bathe the trail.

232                                   AGGEE (CONT'D)                                   232  
                                   I'm fully invigorated.  
                                   Reinvigorated even.

Indeed. Everyone is feeling chipper as they attack the  
 morning with zest and zeal.

It's a glorious day in the legion.



DUX

233                   A day in the Legion                   233  
                       is like a day on the farm.  
                       Every meal's a banquet!  
                       Ever paycheck a fortune!  
                       Every formation a parade!  
                       I LOVE the legion.

DUX DISAPPEARS...

INTO A MIGHTY SINK HOLE, that opened up beneath him like a  
 tiger trap.

RAINBOW BEELINES... fast and true, grabs his arm...

Dux' momentum pulls the dainty halfling over and down.

RAINBOW

234                   Help.   234

Helios massive mitts grab Rainbow and yanks him over too.

AGGEE/BEDIA

235                   Helios.                                       235

Aggee and Bedia grab the minotaur as his hooves go over.

Bedia casts an ICE SPELL, cementing she and Aggee to the  
 ground as anchor points.

The sudden plunge STOPS.

The five dangle in a long daisy chain over a gaping pit.

RAINBOW

236                   Pull us up. Pull us up.                   236

AGGEE

237                   We're trying.                               237

HELIOS

238                   They... are willy heavy.                   238

BEDIA

239                   It's a gravity well--we're all           239  
                       heavier.

AGGEE

240                   Helios, we really need to talk           240  
                       about your diet.

HELIOS

241                   Is this a bad time? I need to go.       241





264	DUX Welcome to Ife.	264
	The camera lifts, extreme wide angle on a vast Targonian ruined city built over lakes, rivers and waterways. The city once the jewel of Somarria is green with overgrown vegetation.	
265	DUX (CONT'D) Divine is the peace.	265
	A TITANIC ROAR BREAKS THE PEACE.	
		FADE TO BLACK:
266	AGGEE (O.S.) What was that?	266
267	HELIOS That scared the shit out of me.	267
268	DUX The world reverberated with such calls when Emperor Kordaava died. That's your guardian beast.	268
269	HELIOS Ahhhh... I think I'm feeling better.	269