

comedy4cast #737
Batter Days
Chapter 5: The Waffle Truth

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comedy4cast #737: "Batter Days", Chapter 5, "The Waffle Truth"

CHAPTER 5: INTRO

SOUND: COMEDY4CAST STING

MUSIC: STORY MAIN THEME IN AND UNDER.

CLINTON

This is comedy4cast, episode 737, "Batter Days," Chapter 5. Brought to you by the comedy4cast patrons on Patreon.com. Thank you. Please consider joining Gary, Darren, Charlotte and the other people who support the show for as little as a dollar a month.

This year's original 31-chapter story is called "Batter Days" To hear it from the beginning, just go to comedy4cast -- all one word, with the number 4 -- .com/2022.

Now, here's Chapter 5, "The Waffle Truth"

MUSIC: STORY MAIN UP AND OUT.

NARRATOR

Previously, Danny Hillcrest let Cindy know that all 721 studios in The Tunnels had been booked. Cindy had opened the
(MORE)

NARRATOR (cont'd)

space up to artists of all kinds, who flocked to the space.

CHAPTER 5, SCENE 1: INT. MAYOR RORY'S OFFICE - DAY**NARRATOR**

As this chapter begins, Mayor Rory and Derrick are listening in amazement, while Cindy recounts her studies of four unique books. The dense folios were hand-written by Romeo Sykes. You may recall that he is the human who came to live with the Badger People. If not, just go back and listen to the 2020 Podcast-a-Day story "Main Street Undermined."

MAYOR RORY

Plug!

CINDY

Before they all left in 2020, Romeo documented everything made by the, like, Badger People. Including a whole lot of recipes.

DERRICK

Recipes?

CINDY

Like, the Badger People really love to eat. There's also information on all

(MORE)

CINDY (cont'd)

the, like, types of spheres he found down there.

MAYOR RORY

Now we're getting somewhere. While we still sit right here.

CINDY

Like, the Elderberry spheres are cool. But, the, like, Mocha and Kiwi ones could become a hassle.

MAYOR RORY

Hold on a Whole Foods minute!
"Elderberry," "Mocha," "Kiwi"?

CINDY

Like, I mean it. The Badger People really think about food a lot. They gave the colored spheres, like, names that match foods.

MAYOR RORY

This conversation is making me hungry. Fun fact: several parts of a Mayor's desk are edible. Continue.

CINDY

Like, the Purple spheres are Elderberry. They're the first ones I found.

SOUND: CRACKLE AS MAYOR RORY TAKES A BITE OUT OF HIS DESK.

SOUND: GRINDING OF WOOD AS CINDY CONTINUES TO SPEAK.

CINDY (cont'd)

They're sort of like giant glow-in-the-dark beach balls that light up The Tunnels. They also, like, absorb sound.

DERRICK

They're the ones that make music, right?

CINDY

Like, right on. The next ones, the "Mocha" ones, can roll around on their own. They look for, like, energy. The first one I saw drained the batteries on Princess.

MAYOR RORY

(swallowing)

Not cool!

CINDY

Like, they dump the power into The Tunnel's energy grid.

DERRICK

I'm beginning to get the picture.

CINDY

And then we found the, like, "Kiwi" spheres. They can also move around by themselves. They suck up moisture and,

(MORE)

CINDY (cont'd)

like, put it into the water supply for
The Tunnels.

DERRICK

This certainly does explain the power
and water problems we've been having
around town. I don't think we have a
choice, Mayor. We have to shut those
tunnels down.

CINDY

Like, whoa! Hold on, man. Chillax a
second. I might have, found something
that will, like, solve all this.

MAYOR RORY

(still munching a tiny bit)

Is it another fruit and or vegetable-
named sphere?

CINDY

Like, no.

MAYOR RORY

Good.

(swallows)

I'm not feeling hungry anymore.

CINDY

Like, this one is a golden-colored
sphere. The Badger People called it
"Waffle Batter."

MAYOR RORY

Batter up!

DERRICK

Another sphere! How can that help?

CINDY

Romeo wrote that he was worried about the spheres. He didn't think the Badger People understood the, like, dangers. So he asked them to make one more.

MAYOR RORY

That's crazy. If I break my Harlan Ellison action figure, I don't break my Stephen King one to fix it.

CINDY

Romeo said the Waffle Batter sphere can, quote -- control the other sphere types and take them to the next level -- unquote.

DERRICK

You think this Waffle Batter sphere can solve the problem?

CINDY

Like, yeah.

MAYOR RORY

All right. I can give you 72 hours to fix this, Cindy. But, if you can't, I'm
(MORE)

MAYOR RORY (cont'd)

going to need you to turn in your badge
and your gun.

CINDY

(puzzled)

Like, okay? Thank you, Mayor. I'll,
like, get to work. Like, goodbye.

SOUND: FOOTSTEPS.

SOUND: DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES.

MAYOR RORY

Wow. That was crazy, right?

DERRICK

It sure was. A Waffle Batter sphere that
controls Elderberries, Mocha and Kiwi?

MAYOR RORY

No. Not that, brother. I mean that we
didn't get a musical number.

DERRICK

Oh. Are you going to sing now?

MAYOR RORY

Nah. I'll just hum along with the
transition sting.

MAYOR RORY hums along with the music.

MUSIC: SHORT TRANSITION STING.

CHAPTER 5, SCENE 2: INT. GEN. KALAMITY'S OFFICE - DAY**NARRATOR**

Meanwhile, at Camp Parmenter, the small base General Kalamity has established in Middling Fair, the General is in his office, speaking with a subordinate.

KALAMITY

Soldier, what's the status on Operation: Bus Buster?

SOLDIER

(uncomfortable with the name, since he thinks of the bus as a human)

Sir, I really wish we could come up with a better name for this project.

KALAMITY

(also unhappy about the project)

Yeah. I hear you. I asked Washington for alternatives.

SOUND: RUSTLE OF PAPER.

KALAMITY (cont'd)

"Operation: Transport Tear Down"?
"Operation: KRULR Killer"? "Operation:
Bus Salad Surgery"?

SOLDIER

All winners, sir.

(MORE)

SOLDIER (cont'd)

(sighs)

I'm actually done. I hooked up the new batteries to the solar collectors on the bus. Cindy just has to drive Princess out of The Tunnels every few weeks to keep them charged. So, as soon as Captain Broughha and his team finish up, Princess will be set to be decommissioned.

KALAMITY

Outstanding, soldier. Look, I know that, as cool as our new KRAWLR is, that old bus is something special. I wish there was...

SOUND: KNOCK ON OFFICE DOOR.

KALAMITY (cont'd)

Come...

SOUND: DOOR OPENS.

KALAMITY (cont'd)

In. Ah, Captain Broughha, We were just talking about you.

Captain **BROUGHHA** is an officer in his late 30's. he is as focused on his duties as Kalamity was when he first arrived in middling fair. training has sharpened Broughha to a razor's edge. He sees nothing other than the mission and only looks out for the welfare of his elite task force, known as the Magenta Fedoras.

BROUGHHA

Permission to speak freely, sir.

(MORE)

BROUGHHA (cont'd)

(finally noticing SOLDIER)

In private.

SOLDIER

That's okay. I have cleanup work to do
in The Tunnels, sirs.

KALAMITY

Very well. Dismissed, soldier.

SOUND: DOOR OPENS.

SOUND: DOOR CLOSES

KALAMITY (cont'd)

Now, Broughha, what's on your mind?
Obviously not procedure.

BROUGHHA

Sir, those new security protocols you
have in place over at The Tunnels are
making work for my Magenta Fedoras
difficult.

KALAMITY

(quietly pleased)

Really? And what work is that, exactly?

BROUGHHA

The same as always, sir. My team was
tasked with delivering the KRAWLR to you
and then decommissioning the KRULR.

KALAMITY

And you, and the rest of your Magenta Fedoras, have been here for months! My man says his work on Princess, uh, the KRULR, is done. And he's just one man. What's taking the three of you so long?

BROUGHHA

For one thing, sir, that sad bucket needs a lot of work done to it.

KALAMITY

I see. Go on.

BROUGHHA

And we have not been able to locate the special PH98 Philips-head screwdriver that was entrusted to us for this assignment. A good soldier never leaves a tool behind.

KALAMITY

I can believe that you know a thing or two about tools.

BROUGHHA

Thank you, sir. In addition, the town Rabbi has not responded to my request to attend the impending decommissioning to certify it as kosher for Passover.

KALAMITY

All very reasonable excuses, of course.

BROUGHHA

While my team powers through them, I would like to, again, sir, formally request the opportunity to examine the sphere documentation that the civilian, Cindy, has in her possession. Sir, the power of those spheres could be of great value to the military.

KALAMITY

And, every time I've made your request, Captain, Cindy has declined. I can't force her to share the information.

BROUGHHA

(very frustrated)

Yes, sir.

KALAMITY

Why don't you relax a bit, Captain? Maybe you and the rest of the Fedoras should go into town and take in a movie?

BROUGHHA

Yes, sir. Is there anything else, sir?

KALAMITY

(giving up)

No. That will be all. Dismissed.

BROUGHHA

Yes, sir. Thank you, sir.

SOUND: DOOR OPENS.

SOUND: DOOR CLOSES.

KALAMITY

(to himself)

Why do I get the feeling that he's
hiding something?

CHAPTER 5, SCENE 3: EXT. OFFICER'S HQ - CONTINUOUS

SOUND: DISTANT TRAFFIC FROM THE NEARBY STREETS OF MIDDLEING
FAIR.

NARRATOR

Meanwhile, outside.

BROUGHHA

Go see a movie? Kalamity is clearly not
taking this seriously. I'm going to get
those books, as I promised General
Disarray, no matter what. Perhaps I
should walk off some of this
frustration.

BROUGHHA WALKS IN MARCHING TIME.

BROUGHHA (cont'd)

(singing in a marching
drill cadence)

*Why won't they let me
Why won't they let me
Why won't they let me just have those
books?*

(MORE)

BROUGHHA (cont'd)

I am just doing

I am just doing

Doing my job and a little bit more.

SOUND: MORE SETS OF FEET HAVE BEEN JOINING IN.

CHORUS OF VOICES

Why won't they let you

SOUND: FOOTSTEPS STOP.

BROUGHHA

(speaking)

Who was that?

(silence)

Apparently no one.

SOUND: FOOTSTEPS RESUME.

BROUGHHA (cont'd)

(back to marching drill
cadence)

I want out of this one horse hick town.

CHORUS OF VOICES

*You slowed down work just to stick
around.*

BROUGHHA

I had no choice, I have work to do.

GENERAL DISARRAY WILL BE REFERRED TO AS GENERAL "DISMAY" FOR THE REST OF THE SONG. THIS WILL PLAY OUT MORE LATER IN THE STORY.

CHORUS OF VOICES

Or General "Dismay" will bust you.

BROUGHHA

But no one here will help my mission.

CHORUS OF VOICES

You mean the one that's your addition?

BROUGHHA

I boasted that I'd get those books out.

CHORUS OF VOICES

You gave your word and left zero doubt.

BROUGHHA

General "Dismay" is waiting.

CHORUS OF VOICES

So get those books or be berated.

BROUGHHA

I need to show I'm not a screw up.

CHORUS OF VOICES

Or your career will be all chewed up.

BROUGHHA

Why won't they let me.

They should just let me.

Give me those books and I'll be gone.

CHORUS OF VOICES

*You should just take them.
 You should just take them.
 It's easy peasy, one, two, three.*

SOUND: THE ADDITIONAL SETS OF MARCHING FEET BEGIN TO FADE
 AWAY.

BROUGHHA

*I should just take them.
 I should just take them.
 I need to come up with a plan.*

CHORUS OF VOICES

*That's all your idea.
 That's all your idea.
 You didn't hear it from all of us.*

BROUGHHA

(noticing other footsteps
 are gone)

*Where are you going?
 Where are you going?
 Wait, were you all just in my head?
 Sound off. One. Two.*

(pause, then speaking, far
 less sure of himself)

Sound off. One. Two?

SOUND: FOOTSTEPS STOP.

CHIEF

Sir, were you talking to someone?

BROUGHHA

(pulling it together)

No, Chief. There is no one here but me.
As you were.

CHIEF

Yes, sir.

CHAPTER 5: OUTROMUSIC: THEME IN AND UNDER**NARRATOR**

Can Cindy find this mysterious Waffle Batter sphere in time? Why does Mayor Rory have a collection of author action figures? And what is the deal with Captain Broughha? To find out more, be sure to come back for Chapter 6, "Creative Riding"

MUSIC: THEME UP AND OUT.**CLINTON**

In this episode, the part of Cindy was played by Bonnie Kenderdine. The Soldier was played by Kreg Steppe, from the Technorama Podcast, chuckchat.com/technorama, and The Topic is Trek podcast, thetopicistrek.com. And the Narrator was played by Gary J. Chambers, garyjchambersvo.com.

(MORE)

CLINTON (cont'd)

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And remember, to hear the story from the beginning, just go to comedy4cast -- all one word, with the number 4, dot com/2022.

But for now, That's it. We're done, done, done, done, done. Bye bye.