

comedy4cast #752
Batter Days
Chapter 19: Bordering on Bewilderment

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comedy4cast #752: "Batter Days", Chapter 20, "Bordering On Bewilderment"

CHAPTER 20: INTRO

SOUND: COMEDY4CAST STING

MUSIC: STORY MAIN THEME IN AND UNDER.

CLINTON

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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 20, "Bordering On Bewilderment"

MUSIC: STORY MAIN THEME UP AND OUT.

NARRATOR

Previously in our story, an unexpected delay at the Ottertown Truck Stop placed Captain Broughha and the Magenta Fedoras in the same location as the artists chasing Princess, the converted 1976 Tiara Megacoach tri-axle school bus.

(MORE)

NARRATOR (cont'd)

And, although Goggles, one of the artists, did his best to throw Broughha off the trail, Kipper and Mulligan appeared to take the charade a bit too far.

CHAPTER 20, SCENE 1: EXT. DE-LUXE PARKING LOT - DAWN

SOUND: VARIOUS VEHICLES RUNNING IN THE BACKGROUND.

NARRATOR

As this chapter begins, dawn has broken and the artists are preparing to take their art-project parade of vehicles to the gas pumps. But Kipper appears dejected.

KIPPER

I'm sorry, Goggles. We messed it up again. Mulligan and I can't do anything right.

GOGGLES

It's cool, Kipper. The whole plan was just to mess with Broughha. You did fine.

KIPPER

Really?

GOGGLES

Don't sweat it, man. It's only rock and roll, right?

SOUND: GOGGLES MOTORIZED SURFBOARD REVS UP.

GOGGLES (cont'd)

Okay, everyone. Time to get going.

CHAPTER 20, SCENE 2: EXT. GAS STATION - DAWN

NARRATOR

Moments later, as the KRAWLR pulls into the station and parks at the pump...

SOUND: HATCH OPENS.

BROUGHHA

Fill 'er up so we can get out of this backwater pit.

STATION OWNER

Excuse me, Captain, But I think the folks behind you were here first.

BROUGHHA

This mission comes first.

STATION OWNER

Okay. Okay. Have it your way. No skin off my fingernails. I know you have to get going to those war games with Canada.

(MORE)

STATION OWNER (cont'd)

(catches himself)

That you don't know anything about. Now,
what'll you have? Regular unleaded or
regular unleaded?

BROUGHHA

Diesel.

STATION OWNER

You got it.

(yelling)

Next! You, on the surfboard. Pull on up.

SOUND: GOGGLE'S SURFBOARD MOTOR REVS, THEN STOPS.

BROUGHHA

What are you doing? I said fill 'er up.

STATION OWNER

Yes, you did. And I sure will. Just as
soon as the diesel truck gets here -- in
about an hour.

SOUND: DINGS OF FUEL PUMP DISPENSING GAS.

GOGGLES

In the meantime, dude, feel free to take
advantage of the Ottertown Truck Stop
de-luxe parking lot.

SOUND: LAUGHTER FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE CONVOY.

CHIEF (INSIDE TANK)

Sir, why don't we just commandeer some of their vehicles? I'm sure Washington will understand.

SOUND: SURFBOARD MOTOR STARTS UP AS GOGGLES MOVES AWAY FROM THE PUMP, THEN SHUTS DOWN AGAIN.

BROUGHHA

(caught off guard by the idea.)

Uh.

(trying to recover)

No, Chief. That would bring too much attention to the mission. Besides, once we refuel we can overtake their pitiful platoon in no time.

CHIEF

(puzzled)

Yes, sir.

STATION OWNER

Next!

SOUND: ODD ENGINE SOUND UP AND THEN SHUTS DOWN.

STATION OWNER (cont'd)

What's this contraption? A giant Rubik's cube on wheels, huh. Where's the gas cap?

SOUND: CLICKING OF MOVING TILES.

SOUND: SPRING.

STATION OWNER (cont'd)

Well plop some bacon and call me a blue plate special.

MUSIC: TRANSITION STING.

CHAPTER 20, SCENE 3: INT. KRAWLR - MORNING

NARRATOR

Finally fully fueled, the KRAWLR is back on the highway. With 10 Toes at the wheel, Broughha and Chief are planning their next move.

SOUND: RADAR PINGS.

BROUGHHA

(seething)

Trying to trick me by lying about that golden sphere. When we catch up with those artsy-fartsy...artists, they'll wish they'd never crossed paths with the Magenta Fedoras.

CHIEF

It was pretty funny though, sir. I mean, "Duran Duran." Who would fall for something like that?

BROUGHHA

Just exactly whose side are you on, Chief?

CHIEF

Side? I thought we were just on a mission to secure the Badger People books. Sir.

BROUGHHA

We are. But I have my eye on you, Chief.

10 TOES

Sir, KRAWLR radar shows we'll catch up with the artists in 15 minutes and the KRULR in 45. But there's a second group of vehicles approaching from the rear. They'll intercept us in an hour, current speed.

BROUGHHA

That must be the military convoy the gas station owner was talking about. The one for the joint exercises with Canada. I wish we were part of that. The KRAWLR would kick serious butt.

CHIEF

Sir, I can contact the convoy to let them know we'll be joining them after we have secured the books.

BROUGHHA

(quickly, sharply)

No!

(calming down a bit)

No. We don't have time for that. This mission is too secret. Do not contact the convoy.

CHIEF

(very puzzled)

Sir?

BROUGHHA

In fact, we are now on radio silence. And turn off the radar. I want the KRAWLR to go tech dark on their screens.

10 TOES

Are you sure that's a good idea, Captain?

BROUGHHA

This isn't up for a vote, 10 Toes. That's an order.

10 TOES

Sir, yes, sir!

SOUND: DESCENDING TONES AS RADAR SHUTS DOWN.

We need to run silent. I only wish we could also run deep.

MUSIC: TRANSITION STING.

CHAPTER 20, SCENE 4: INT. BUS - MORNING

NARRATOR

Meanwhile, on board the KRULR, A.K.A. Princess, Cindy is driving. The bus, with trailer in tow, is still en route to the Canadian side of Niagara Falls. Haartte is seated on the front bench, thumbing through the Badger People books written by Romeo Sykes.

SOUND: PAGES RAPIDLY FLIPPING.

HAARTTE

These things are a real snooze-fest. No sex, no violence. Just words and drawings full of numbers and arrows. It's like reading a book!

CINDY

Like, I've been thinking. Do you think we're, like, going the right way?

HAARTTE

What? Did you come to one of those confusing highway intersections? The ones where the highway and the exit ramp are the same size? They need to put better signs!

CINDY

Like, no. I mean, like, Niagara Falls.
We didn't have much to go on. What else
do we know about, like, Brax Higgins?

HAARTTE

Not much. I was there when he confessed.
But that was all about him trying to
take over the Little Wicker Baskets
Company.

CINDY

Like, we should contact Buzz and General
Kalamity to find out what they think.

HAARTTE

Negative, kid. I'm not about to trust
that turncoat reporter.

CINDY

Like, what is your problem with Buzz?

HAARTTE

Are you kidding? He betrayed us. He
blabbed about the Waffle Batter sphere
to everyone in The Tunnels!

CINDY

But, like, you were angry at him before
all that.

HAARTTE

Not sure what you mean, kid.

CINDY

Like, I...

HAARTTE

I mean, it's not like he mocked my entire profession by digging up evidence against Higgins.

CINDY

Like, yeah, But...

HAARTTE

Evidence I would have found... eventually...probably...with some luck.

CINDY

Like, don't turn an ally into an enemy. Remember what Abby did to Giles when he messed up. It was, like, all wasted energy until they worked it out. Besides, you don't want to, like, be responsible for creating a, like, super villain, do you?

HAARTTE

Would he have super powers?

CINDY

Like, maybe.

HAARTTE

Buzz "Scoop" Crackerjack Thomas with x-ray super speed. Nobody wants that.

CINDY

Like, it's my fault, too. I should have, like, really put my foot down. I'm sorry we didn't, like, wait longer for him to show up before we took off on this trip.

HAARTTE

That's a lot of apologizing, kid. I'm beginning to wonder if you're Canadian.

CINDY

Like, no. But I did, like, visit there once. The weird thing was, when I was, like, crossing the border, the patrol took a bottle of maple syrup out of my bag. They kept looking at it. It was like they'd never seen maple syrup before. They finally had to, like, pour it over some pancakes.

HAARTTE

I'm not sure if they were puzzled or just hungry.

CINDY

(a sudden revelation)

Hold on. If Romeo Sykes tried to cross the border with the Waffle Batter sphere, they would have, like, taken it from him.

HAARTTE

And border patrol will still have it!
And your maple syrup.

CINDY

No. Romeo crossed that border enough
times to, like, know that would happen.

HAARTTE

Which means...

CINDY

We're going the wrong way!

HAARTTE

We're going the wrong way!

MUSIC: TRANSITION STING.

CHAPTER 20: OUTRO

MUSIC: THEME IN AND UNDER

NARRATOR

If the bus has been headed towards the
wrong location, what is the right one?
For answers, be sure to come back for
Chapter 21, "Big Trouble In Little
Detroit".

MUSIC: THEME UP AND OUT.

CLINTON

In this episode, the parts of Cindy and
Chief were played by Bonnie Kenderdine;
10 Toes was played by Paul Barrie, from
(MORE)

CLINTON (cont'd)

the A Window to the Magic podcast,
windowtothemagic.com; the Station Owner
was played by John Bell, from the Bell's
in the Batfry podcast, (thebatfry.com).
And the Narrator was played by Gary J.
Chambers, (garyjchambersvo.com).

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music, by Clinton Alvord, copyright
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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.