

comedy4cast #754:
Batter Days
Chapter 22: A Recalculated Risk

Written by
Clinton Alvord

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podcast@comedy4cast.com

comedy4cast #754: "Batter Days," Chapter 22, "A Recalculated Risk"

CHAPTER 22: INTRO

SOUND: COMEDY4CAST STING

MUSIC: STORY MAIN THEME IN AND UNDER.

CLINTON

This is comedy4cast, episode 754, "Batter Days," Chapter 22. Brought to you by the comedy4cast patrons on Patreon.com. Thank you.

You're invited to join Steve, Bryn, Gary, and the other super-supportive folks who give this show a boost 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 22, "A Recalculated Risk"

MUSIC: STORY MAIN THEME UP AND OUT.

NARRATOR

Previously in our story, Cindy and Detective Haartte realized that Niagara Falls was not the correct location in which to search for the Waffle Batter sphere. They now believe the object is

(MORE)

NARRATOR (cont'd)

somewhere in Dayton, Ohio. Disgraced former Little Wicker Baskets executive Brax Higgins had provided a cryptic clue that the sphere is hidden at a tower. Hoping to get more answers, Buzz "Scoop" Crackerjack Thomas called Enron Penitentiary to set up another interview with Higgins. However, during a phone call with Warden Churr, Buzz learned that Higgins and Bad Note Billy were out on a roadside cleanup detail.

CHAPTER 22, SCENE 1: INT. BUZZ'S STUDIO - MORNING**NARRATOR**

As this chapter begins, General Kalamity is about to reveal what he calls "Plan B."

KALAMITY

I've been studying this map of downtown Dayton.

SOUND: RUSTLE OF PAPER MAP.

KALAMITY (cont'd)

There are plenty of tall buildings, that could be considered towers, but we can't search every one of them in the time we have left. We'll have to eliminate any building not meeting a 16-point criteria I have established.

SOLDIER

Sir, what about the tower at the...

BUZZ

(interrupting, completely
ignoring SOLDIER)

Hang on, General. Maybe Romeo Sykes
buried it there, under the pitcher's
mound at Day Air Ballpark.

SOLDIER

No, Mr. Thomas, I think that the best
place to...

KALAMITY

(interrupting, completely
ignoring SOLDIER)

Oh, that's a great tower -- if you're an
ant! If we have to pick one spot, it
must be somewhere at Kettering Tower.
That's the tallest building in Dayton.

BUZZ

I think you mean "Stratacache Tower."
Kalamity. Get with the times. They
renamed the building years ago!

KALAMITY

I see, Thomas. You think you know more
about Dayton than me.

BUZZ

Among myriad other things, General.

SOLDIER

(loud and forceful, tired
of being ignored)

Sirs! You're both wrong!

KALAMITY

(not happy with the
attitude)

What did you say, soldier?

SOLDIER

(calming down a bit)

Sorry, sir. But you're both forgetting
about the most famous tower in Dayton.
the Deeds Carillon. Right here, in
Carillon Park.

Pause.

KALAMITY

I was just about to get to
that option, soldier. I
simply wanted to exhaust all
the other possibilities
first.

BUZZ

That was going to be my next
suggestion. A good reporter
needs to think outside the
box too. Even if it's a
tower.

SOLDIER

Yes, sirs.

KALAMITY

Soldier, get Waffle One on the horn.
That bus is going to Dayton!

MUSIC: TRANSITION STING

CHAPTER 22, SCENE 2: INT. BUS - MORNING

SOUND: WALKIE-TALKIE CRACKLES ON.

HAARTTE

Roger that, base camp. Up, over, around,
down, here, there, everywhere. Out.

SOUND: WALKIE-TALKIE CRACKLES OFF.

HAARTTE (cont'd)

You heard the General, Cindy. It's time
for an action sequence. You need to
apply the break and tailspin the bus,
fly across the grass median and, with a
slow motion bounce, land on the
Southbound side of the highway.

CINDY

Like, I could also get off at this exit
coming up in, like, seven miles, safely
cross the overpass and, like, re-enter
the highway from there. And we should
also, like, put a new destination into
the GPS.

HAARTTE

You are zero fun, kid. You know that,
right?

MUSIC: TRANSITION STING.

CHAPTER 22, SCENE 3: EXT./INT. MOTORCYCLE - LATE MORNING**NARRATOR (OVER ENGINE)**

Fifteen minutes later, on the Northbound side of the highway...

MULLIGAN (OVER ENGINE)

Hey, Kipper Kipper.

KIPPER (OVER ENGINE)

Not now, Mulligan! I'm trying to pay attention to the road. That crazy rush-hour traffic we went through took out a lot of the other artists.

MULLIGAN (OVER ENGINE)

Okay, Kipper Kipper. But that bus over there, going South. It sure looks a lot like Princess.

KIPPER (OVER ENGINE)

(patronizing Mulligan)

Of course it does, Mulligan. And that cloud up there looks like an elephant.

MULLIGAN (OVER ENGINE)

Oh, yeah. Wow! It does.

KIPPER (OVER ENGINE)

Now, if you'll just...

(MORE)

KIPPER (OVER ENGINE) (cont'd)

(spotting Princess)

Mulligan! Look. It's Princess. And it's going the other way!

MULLIGAN (OVER ENGINE)

(preoccupied)

Yeah, I know, Kipper Kipper. Hey, I think that cloud looks like a cupcake playing a trumpet. No. Maybe it's a fax machine. Whatever that is.

KIPPER (OVER ENGINE)

They tried to trick us! We need to turn around!

MULLIGAN (OVER ENGINE)

Don't worry, Kipper Kipper Kipper. Look at that sign. There's an exit coming up in seven miles. Oh. Look, that cloud is shaped like an umlaut.

NARRATOR

Kipper and Mulligan are not alone in spotting the bus. The half-dozen other vehicles remaining in the artist convoy start moving over into the right-hand lane to take the exit. All, that is, except Goggles.

MULLIGAN (SHOUTING)

Hey, Goggles Goggles! We need to turn around. Princess is going the other way.

GOGGLES (SHOUTING)

I know, Mulligan. But the steering on my surfboard is fried. It looks like I'm still going North to Canada.

MULLIGAN (SHOUTING)

But what if this road curves?

GOGGLES (SHOUTING)

Then I'll see you in Hel-ena, Montana. I've always wanted to see their Sculpture in the Wild! Later, man!

SOUND: GOGGLES SKATEBOARD ENGINE REVS UP AND FADES OFF.

NARRATOR

As Goggles disappears in the distance, the other vehicles begin their exit from the highway. Moments later, a truck carrying Department of Public Works personnel arrive. They block the exit with a large, illuminated sign. It reads "Exit work next 20 miles." With characteristic speed, the D.P.W. workers immediately begin their tasks.

SOUND: JACKHAMMERS, TRUCK BEEPING, OTHER GENERAL CONSTRUCTION NOISE.

NARRATOR (cont'd)

As punctual and efficient as ever!

SOUND: TRANSITION WHOOSH.

CHAPTER 22, SCENE 4: INT. KRAWLR - LATE MORNING (CONTINUOUS)**NARRATOR**

At that very moment, only a short distance behind the flock of moving art installations, the northbound KRAWLR comes within visual contact of the southbound KRULR.

10 TOES

Captain. Enemy target at 9 o'clock! 8 o'clock! 7 o'clock!

BROUGHHA

What are you mumbling about?

10 TOES

Look, sir! Over there!

BROUGHHA

So, that's their game, is it? Try to trick us by doubling back. Very clever. But not clever enough. Chief, use that exit coming up and turn the KRAWLR around.

CHIEF

Sorry, Captain. It looks like the exits are closed for the next 20 miles.

BROUGHHA

(laughs)

No problem. The KRAWLR can easily drive across the median to get into the Southbound lanes.

CHIEF

Isn't that illegal, Captain?

BROUGHHA

Are you questioning my orders, Chief?

CHIEF

No, sir!

BROUGHHA

Then make the turn, 10 Toes.

10 TOES

I'm afraid I can't do that, sir.

BROUGHHA

You, too, 10 Toes?

10 TOES

No, sir. Outside!

NARRATOR

Captain Broughha looks out the window and sees the unmistakable front grill of a Navistar M-RAP armored fighting vehicle, beginning to pass the KRAWLR.

(MORE)

NARRATOR (cont'd)

Turning to the opposite window, an Oshkosh M-RAP, also painted in U.S. Army olive drab, covers their field of view.

10 TOES

Did you call for reinforcements, sir?

BROUGHHA

(quickly)

Of course not!

(slower, more composed)

We don't need any backup. This is the convoy headed to the joint military exercises with Canada.

NARRATOR

Captain Broughha was right. Within seconds, the KRAWLR found itself deep inside the formation of military vehicles of all shapes and sizes.

10 TOES

(as excited as a kid)

Awww. They think we're one of them. Can we go to the war games with them, sir?

BROUGHHA

No. As fun as that sounds, we need to complete our mission. Chief, I want the KRAWLR positioned to get off the highway when we reach that open exit in...uh...

CHIEF

19 miles, sir.

BROUGHHA

The longest 19 miles of my life.

10 TOES

(still excited)

Oh! I think I see an M 1-33 back there!
And is that a M1 Abrams?!

MUSIC: TRANSITION STING.

CHAPTER 22: OUTRO

NARRATOR

That little detour will buy Cindy and Haartte a bit of time. But will it be enough? And what about Goggles. How's he doing?

SOUND: GOGGLES SKATEBOARD ENGINE FADES BACK IN FOR A MOMENT.

GOGGLES

Still hanging ten. It's all groovy, man!

NARRATOR

For answers to other questions be sure to come back for Chapter 23, "The Band Played On And On".

MUSIC: THEME IN AND UNDER.

CLINTON

In this episode, the parts of Cindy and Chief were 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); 10 Toes was played by Paul Barrie, from the A Window To The Magic podcast (windowtothemagic.com). And the Narrator was played by Gary J. Chambers, garyjchambersVO.com.

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

MUSIC: THEME UP AND OUT.