comedy4cast #754: Batter Days Chapter 23: The Band Played On and On

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CHAPTER 23: INTRO

SOUND: COMEDY4CAST STING

MUSIC: STORY MAIN THEME IN AND UNDER.

CLINTON

This is comedy4cast, episode 755, "Batter Days," Chapter 23. Brought to you by the comedy4cast patrons on Patreon.com. Thank you.

You're invited to join Darren, Charlotte, Stan, and the other best-ofthe-best 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 23, "The Band Played On And On".

MUSIC: STORY MAIN THEME UP AND OUT.

NARRATOR

Previously, Cindy and Detective Haartte changed course. Princess is now heading to Dayton, Ohio, instead of Niagara Falls. Everyone following the bus

(MORE)

NARRATOR (cont'd)

noticed this route reversal. Kipper,
Mulligan and five of the remaining
artists driving motorized art pieces
were able to immediately switch
direction to keep up with the bus.
Goggles could not change course and is
headed towards Canada.

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

GOGGLES

I hope they still serve poutine, man.

NARRATOR

Captain Broughha and the Magenta Fedoras were also unable to alter course. A convoy of military vehicles headed for war games at the Canadian border surrounded the KRAWLR. Captain Broughha seemed unwilling to contact the convoy to explain their situation, preferring to maintain radio silence.

CHAPTER 23, SCENE 1: INT. BUS - EARLY MORNING

NARRATOR

As this chapter begins, Princess has just exited the highway, after entering Dayton's city limits. Detective Haartte has taken the wheel. The five remaining vehicles from The Tunnels are not far behind.

HAARTTE

Don't worry. I can shake them.

MUSIC: "ARTISTIC PURSUIT" MUSIC IN.

SOUND: SCREECHING TIRES AS THE BUS MAKES A SHARP TURN.

NARRATOR

The detective executes an intricate series of turns, zig zagging through the streets of the Gem City.

SOUND: SCREECHING TIRES AS THE BUS MAKES A SHARP TURN.

SOUND: HORNS HONKING.

CINDY

Like, hey, is that Wegerzyn Gardens?

HAARTTE

Sorry, kid, but there's no time now to stop and smell the PawPaw trees.

SOUND: MORE TWISTING AND TURNING ON SIDE STREETS

HAARTTE (cont'd)

2nd Street Public Market, huh? Maybe we can stop in on our way back, but not now!

NARRATOR

Haartte continues on his winding path, zooming past the Peace Museum, the (MORE)

NARRATOR (cont'd)

Schuster Performing Arts Center and the Packard Museum.

SOUND: EXTRA LOUD SQUEAL OF TIRES.

NARRATOR (cont'd)

After 20 minutes of complex double-backs and sharp turns, Haartte looks in the rear view mirror. There is no sign of the other vehicles. He swings Princess onto South Patterson Boulevard, the road that leads to Carillon Historical Park.

MUSIC: "ARTISTIC PURSUIT" SONG ENDS.

HAARTTE

There. See how easy that was? Not a single one of them is behind us.

CINDY

Like, no. They're in front of us.

SOUND: VARIOUS MOTORS FROM THE ARTIST VEHICLES.

HAARTTE

(without missing a beat)

But again, not behind us. At least they don't know where we're headed.

CINDY

Like, maybe they do. They're, like, turning.

SOUND: THE OTHER VEHICLE MOTORS FADE AWAY.

NARRATOR

Sure enough, the small group of vehicles was headed down an access road framed by stone walls. A plaque on one of the walls identified it as the entrance to "Carillon Park."

HAARTTE

That's our turn all right.

SOUND: DIRECTIONAL BLINKER.

SOUND: HIGHWAY SOUNDS DISSOLVE INTO TIRES AGAINST DIRT ROAD.

HAARTTE (cont'd)

But how did they know this is where to qo?

CINDY

Like, maybe that "Free Admission! Free coffee! Free balloons!" banner did it.

HAARTTE

Curse you, effective advertising!

NARRATOR

The entire access road is filled with giant, colorful banners.

CINDY

(perplexed by what she's
 reading)

Like, more signs? "These Bells Toll For You"? "Keep calm and Carillon"? "Guest parking this way"?

HAARTTE

I think that one's meant for me.

NARRATOR

Detective Haartte parks the bus in a space, next to Kipper and Mulligan's motorcycle and sidecar.

SOUND: BUS COMES TO A STOP, BRAKES HISS.

HAARTTE

I don't like this. Once we start looking for the sphere, everyone is going to see what we're doing.

CINDY

Like, yeah. We need a brilliant plan.

HAARTTE

Mine was taking that winding route through Dayton. It's your turn.

NARRATOR

Cindy and detective Haartte exit the bus.

SOUND: BUS DOORS OPEN.

MUSIC: SMALL, INEPT BAND CAN BE HEARD IN THE DISTANCE,

ATTEMPTING TO PLAY THE OFFICIAL SONG OF OHIO, "BEAUTIFUL
OHIO."

CINDY

Like, I think we need to go this way.

SOUND: TWO SETS OF FOOTSTEPS FADE OFF AS CINDY AND HAARTTE WALK.

SOUND: KRAWLR ENGINE.

NARRATOR

As the two walk off, joining the others who are headed in the direction of the music, another vehicle rolls into the parking lot. It's the KRAWLR.

CHAPTER 23, SCENE 2: INT. KRAWLR - EARLY MORNING (CONTINUOUS)

SOUND: RUMBLE OF THE VEHICLE AS IT TRAVELS THROUGH THE PARKING LOT.

SOUND: PINGS FROM THE RE-ACTIVATED RADAR.

10 TOES

You were right, sir. They came in here.

CHIEF

Are you sure we won't get into trouble for skipping out before we got to the joint war games, sir?

BROUGHHA

We weren't an official part of the games. We just got stuck in the middle of the convoy. Our men and women can take care of those Canadians without our help.

CHIEF

Again, sir. Just war games, not a war.

10 TOES

Hey, Chief. There's a spot right next to the bus.

CHIEF

No, 10 Toes, that's an accessible parking space.

BROUGHHA

What's your point, Chief?

CHIEF

We're not supposed to park here.

BROUGHHA

Why? We need access to Princess and those books.

CHIEF

That's not what it means, sir.

BROUGHHA

It does today. Park in that spot, soldier. That's an order.

10 TOES

Yes, sir!

NARRATOR

Slowly, while Chief cringes at the thought of it, 10 TOES pulls the KRAWLR into the clearly-marked space.

SOUND: KRAWLR MOTOR STOPS.

SOUND: RADAR STOPS.

BROUGHHA

Now, the mission is simple. Break into that bus and secure the books.

CHIEF

10 TOES

Sir, yes, sir!

Sir, yes, sir!

BROUGHHA

And then find that golden sphere and secure that, too.

CHIEF

Excuse me, sir. When did that become part of the mission?

BROUGHHA

I, uh, got a text from Washington. They added that as a bonus. Now move out!

CHIEF

10 TOES

Sir, yes, sir!

Sir, yes, sir!

SOUND: ACCESS HATCH OPENS.

CHAPTER 23, SCENE 3: EXT. CARILLON PARKING LOT - EARLY MORNING (CONTINUOUS)

SOUND: HATCH OPENS.

MUSIC: BAND MUSIC CONTINUES IN DISTANCE.

NARRATOR

The Magenta Fedoras exit their armored assault vehicle. Broughha peaks around the back of the adjacent bus to see if anyone is in the vicinity.

BROUGHHA

(in a hushed tone)

Hold! Everyone is right over there.

CHAPTER 23, SCENE 4: EXT. SIDEWALK, CARILLON PARKING LOT - EARLY MORNING (CONTINUOUS)

MUSIC: BAND, NOW LOUDER, CONTINUES TOP PLAY. POORLY.

SOUND: BACKGROUND MUMBLING FROM CROWD.

NARRATOR

The Captain was right. Everyone was at the far end of the parking lot; their way forward blocked by a small marching band and people holding signs exclaiming "Welcome to Carillon Day!"

MULLIGAN

I wonder what's up, Kipper, Kipper. Is it Earth Day?

KIPPER

Hush, Mulligan.

MUSIC: SONG ENDS.

SOUND: POLITE APPLAUSE.

MARK BLUMCHEN is an outgoing, energetic young man. He loves his city and is proud to be the honorary "mayor" of the park.

MARK

Welcome, everyone! I am Mark Blumchen, honorary Mayor of Carillon Historical Park. On behalf of everyone in the Gem City, I'd like to welcome you to "Carillon Day!"

SOUND: SCATTERED APPLAUSE.

MARK (cont'd)

As a token of our appreciation, we'd like to present you all with a little gift.

SOUND: GENERAL MUMBLING FROM THE CROWD.

NARRATOR

A group of young children make their way through the crowd, handing each visitor a little wicker basket -- they're everywhere -- containing a small multiwinged airplane and a variety of other ordinary items.

MARK

Now now, these are no ordinary trinkets, that's a model of the original Wright Brothers plane. You'll also find a pass for the Dixie Twin Drive-In...

CHAPTER 23, SCENE 5: EXT. CARILLON PARKING LOT - EARLY MORNING (CONTINUOUS)

MARK (CONTINUED)

(now heard echoed, some
 distance away)

And a coupon good for one souvenir item -- valued at ninety-nine cents or less, in our gift shop.

NARRATOR

Somehow unnoticed, a young child has wandered through the parking lot and walks up to Captain Broughha.

LITTLE GIRL

Hey, mister. Mister!

BROUGHHA

(startled)

Ah! What is it?

LITTLE GIRL

Here's your basket, mister.

BROUGHHA

Oh. Uh. Thank you.

NARRATOR

As if from nowhere, a photographer pops up.

DAYTON PHOTOGRAPHER

This'll make a great picture for the park newspaper. Hold it, you two!

SOUND: CAMERA CLICK

DAYTON PHOTOGRAPHER (cont'd)

Got it!

LITTLE GIRL

And here's a basket for you. And for you.

CHIEF

10 TOES

Thank you.

Thank you.

LITTLE GIRL

You need to go over there, mister. The tour is about to start.

BROUGHHA

We don't need a tour of...

LITTLE GIRL

You gotta go, mister. Come on.

CHIEF

What do we do, Captain?

BROUGHHA

(trying to be subtle)

Better play along. We don't need to draw any attention.

10 TOES

Ten-hut!

SOUND: 3 SETS OF FOOTSTEPS ON PAVEMENT.

CHAPTER 23, SCENE 6: EXT. SIDEWALK, CARILLON PARKING LOT - EARLY MORNING (CONTINUOUS)

MARK

Ah! I see we have more honored guests. Welcome!

NARRATOR

Everyone turns to see Broughha and the Magenta Fedoras enter.

SOUND: CROWD NOISE COMES TO AN ABRUPT STOP.

SOUND: SMASH OF DROPPED BEVERAGE GLASS AGAINST PAVEMENT.

10 TOES

I think they may have seen us, sir.

MUSIC: TRANSITION STING.

CHAPTER 23: OUTRO

NARRATOR

Well, well. Everyone is now in one place. This could prove to be very interesting. Be sure to come back for Chapter 24, "An Exclusive Chided Tour".

MUSIC: THEME IN AND UNDER.

CLINTON

CLINTON (cont'd)

In this episode, the parts of Cindy and Chief were played by Bonnie Kenderdine; 10 Toes was played by Paul Barrie, from the A Window To The Magic podcast (windowtothemagic.com); Mark Blumchen was played by Grant Johnson (voicegranted.com); the Little Girl was played by Madison Hatfield; the Photographer was played by Scott Morris, from the Disney, Indiana podcast (DisneyIndiana.com). And the Narrator (MORE)

CLINTON (cont'd)

was played by Gary J. Chambers, (garyjchambers VO.com).

The song the band is playing is "Beautiful Ohio," by Mary Earl and Ballard Macdonald.

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

MUSIC: THEME UP AND OUT.