

THE LAST MINUTE

EPISODE #102 - I WAS A TEENAGE CAVEMAN

Written by Ian Heinzinger

ianheinzinger@gmail.com

ACT ONE

INT. MIKE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Empty beer cans and bottles decorate the room. Clothes, scattered on the floor, lead to Mike in his bed.

BEGIN MIKE'S DREAM

EXT. MIDTOWN PARK - LAS ARIES - DAY

-- Mike sees the man in the park and moves closer to him.

-- He sees the man hold his head down and shake.

-- Mike reaches out and touches his shoulder.

-- The man looks at him with black eyes, filled with stars.

-- The man bolts upright and screams in guttural agony.

END MIKE'S DREAM

Mike's eyes pop open and he grunts. An arm drapes across him.

MIKE

Wha--oh, are you awake?
(she snores)

Mike moves her arm, sits up, winces, and holds his head. He stands, puts some shorts on, and pulls the cover up for her.

INT. MIKE'S KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

Mike stares at a picture of him and George playing chess. He puts two cups on the counter and pours some coffee in one. There's a knock at the door.

Mike takes a sip of his coffee as he walks through the

LIVING ROOM.

At the door, he looks in the peephole, and drops the coffee.

MIKE

Oh, what the--

Another knock.

MIKE (CONT'D)

--shit.

MARY MURPHY (O.S.)

I heard that. I know it's difficult for us, but I'm trying Michael.

MIKE

What uh, what are you doing here?

CLINKING AND JIGGLING COMES FROM THE HANDLE. The door opens.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Did you pick the lock? Ma, what--

MARY MURPHY

--Ain't nothing I ain't seen before. Put some clothes o... oh lord.

The woman from Mike's bed stands in the bedroom doorway wearing Mike's sheet, eyes wide like two full moons. She turns and closes the door.

Mary closes her eyes and takes a deep breath.

MARY MURPHY (CONT'D)

I'm not here to make any trouble. I'm here to see my son. Michael, I'm taking you to lunch to celebrate you going to school.

MIKE

Okay... can I... I'm... I'll call you in an hour.

END OF ACT ONE

SUPER: "14 YEARS LATER"

EXT. WILDERNESS - NIGHT

Ehg and ARG, 14, male, adorable and wide-eyed, sit by a fire. A symphony of stars blanket the night sky.

Ehg coughs blood into her hands. Arg gives her a shell of water. She grunts and pushes the shell toward Arg.

Ehg draws herself and Arg in the dirt. She smears her image, puts two fingers by Arg's image and walks them away.

Arg frowns, grunts, and coughs. He draws himself with her.

Ehg beats her chest and draws Arg standing and walks her fingers away again. She draws dots above Arg, touches him, and motions to the stars.

Arg frowns, grunts, and coughs. He looks at his mom with sad eyes. She gathers him in her arms, sways, and hums to him.

MONTAGE - ARG MOVES ON

-- Arg places a shell atop a mound of rocks.

-- Plains at day -- Arg coughs as he trudges forward.

-- Beach at night -- Arg coughs blood and falls on his back. He exhales as the stars above him fade out.

END MONTAGE

(time beat a minute back)

Arg coughs, falls on his back and stares up at the stars in a daze. He sees two figures above him and hears bizarre sounds.

Zazzy jabs Arg in the neck with a shot.

ZAZZY

That was easier than I thought. You didn't step on anything, did you?

Johnny checks the bottoms of his shoes. Zazzy cringes.

JOHNNY

Only kidding. Mindful, as always.

ZAZZY

Okay, well, back to the ship then.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. THE ARCHIMEDES - GALLEY - MOMENTS LATER

Zazzy puts a banana on the counter, turns and gets some peanut butter. She turns back and the banana is gone.

ZAZZY

Johnny, you can have a... Johnny?

Johnny walks into the galley.

JOHNNY

Yes?

ZAZZY

A banana.

JOHNNY

I'm not sure how to respond.

ZAZZY

I swear I had -- sweet laser beams!

Arg crouches in the corner, wide eyed, and eats the banana.

ZAZZY (CONT'D)

How did he get in here?

Johnny laughs and Zazzy cuts him with a look. He stops.

ZAZZY (CONT'D)

This is not --

(checks her time band)

-- not, nothing happened? The continuum is intact. Thank Jupiter.

We have to get him back.

She moves toward Arg. He growls at her and she steps back.

JOHNNY

Allow me. A banana, please.

Zazzy tosses him a banana. He kneels and holds it out to Arg.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

There is nothing to fear.

Zazzy mutters. Arg inches toward Johnny and takes the banana.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
 (hand on his chest)
 Johnny. Joh - nny.

ARG
 (hand on Johnny's arm)
 Gah - ee. Gahee.
 (hand on his own chest)
 Arg.
 (to Zazzy)
 Arg.

JOHNNY
 I believe his name is Arg.

Arg smiles wide at Zazzy. His eyebrows raise.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
 He would like to know yours.

ZAZZY
 (hand on her chest)
 Zazzy. Za - zzy.

Arg frowns and shakes his head. He opens his mouth wide.

ARG
 Aaah.

He looks at Zazzy, wide-eyed, with his eyebrows raised.

ZAZZY
 Sure. Close enough.

Arg claps. He sees the window and saddens as he walks to it. He stares out. Johnny walks over and touches his shoulder.

ZAZZY (CONT'D)
 What's wrong? Is he scared?

Arg slumps down and traces his finger on the floor. He pushes his finger down harder, looks around, and snuffles.

JOHNNY
 The peanut butter, please.

Zazzy throws him the jar and he catches it without looking. He smears it on the floor and runs his finger through it.

Arg's face lights up. He draws what his mom drew and coughs.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)
 His mother passed from illness.

Arg draws the dots over him and touches his chest. He stands up, touches his chest, then the window. He looks out.

ARG

Arg.

JOHNNY

I believe he should stay.

ZAZZY

I believe you are misbelieving. A caveman on a starship?

JOHNNY

He is here, the continuum intact. I do not believe in coincidence.

Zazzy sees Johnny's determination and Arg's puppy dog eyes.

ZAZZY

You're potty training him.

MOMENTS LATER.

Monica phases into the galley, sobbing.

MONICA

Why did his friend have to die?

JOHNNY

Sometimes, what we wish we could do, is just not meant to be.

MONICA

So not easy. I hope you guys --
(blinks)
-- is that a caveman?

Zazzy and Arg sit at the counter eating sandwiches. Zazzy puts her sandwich down and looks at Monica. Arg takes it.

ZAZZY

Did you tell Mike about Timms?

MONICA

We didn't quite get to that part.

Zazzy grimaces at Monica. She turns, sees her sandwich is gone, and slaps herself on the forehead.

END OF ACT THREE

TAG

INT. THE JIMI CHEESESTICKS EXPERIENCE - DAY

Mary and Mike sit quietly at a cheese-stick bar. Mike clinks his fork on his plate, rolling his cheese-sticks around.

MARY MURPHY

So...

Mike looks up then back down at his plate.

MARY MURPHY (CONT'D)

Who is she?

MIKE

You said we could sit quietly without getting into anything.

MARY MURPHY

That serious?

MIKE

It's not serious.

MARY MURPHY

Well, what's her name? You can give me that much.

Mike does some more clinking on his plate.

MARY MURPHY (CONT'D)

Michael?

MIKE

I mean, I'm sure she has one.

Mary closes her eyes for a moment.

MARY MURPHY

Okay, okay. I won't go there.

Mike sees Arg out the window. Arg looks at him, looks to the left, then runs to the right. Zazzy, Johnny, and Monica follow. Monica sees Mike, cringes, waves, and keeps running.

MIKE

Aw shit.

THE END