

The Stench of Adventure Season 2: Episode 1 - Funny
Story

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SCENE 1 - THE RESTAURANT

Restaurant ambience. Some smooth jazz. Maybe even the crackle of a fireplace

WAITRESS **2**

Have you decided, sir?

NARRATOR

Oh yes, I'll have a nice Chardonnay. I think it will pair very well with the salmon. **3**

WAITRESS

Excellent choice, sir.

Clinking of a wine bottle.

Will this vintage do?

NARRATOR

Exquisite, thank you.

Wine pouring.

WAITRESS

Will that be all, sir?

NARRATOR

Perhaps I could see the-

Bells chiming.

Oh no! Is it that time already?

WAITRESS

Is everything alright?

NARRATOR

Oh, yes, everything is fine, it's just- well, I completely forgot that I was telling a story! It's been a while since I've been at it, you see, and things just got away from me.

WAITRESS

I completely understand. It happens all the time.

NARRATOR

This is so embarrassing for me.
I'm so sorry.

WAITRESS

No need to worry. I couldn't tell
you how many Narrators come in
here and their story just
completely slips their mind.

NARRATOR

I just...I needed a bit of a
vacation, you know? Things were
getting so stressful.

WAITRESS

I'm sure.

NARRATOR

I needed some time to unwind.

WAITRESS

Have you considered a visit to
Trashland?

NARRATOR

I'm not really a fan of theme
parks.

WAITRESS

4 I hear if you find the body of H.
R. Trash you win a stuffed panda.

NARRATOR

The stuffed panda is tempting, I
will admit.

WAITRESS

I suppose I should let you get to
it. Should I still bring you that
salmon?

NARRATOR

Oh, yes please.

WAITRESS

I'll be right back. And sir?

NARRATOR

Yes?

WAITRESS

Do try to enjoy your story. If you can.

NARRATOR

(resigned sigh)

I'll do my best.

Rustling of papers.

Now, where were we? Right, right, yes, everyone in escape pods and Stella and the Captain in the black hole. And then we have the frog wizard who gives— oh, actually I suppose we haven't done that bit yet. Oops! Almost spoiled a bit there. Sorry, I'm a bit out of practice you see. Sometimes you put so much thought into telling a story then you take a break from it and when you get back, you realize you've completely forgotten how to do it. (Sips his wine) Alright, let's begin. Stella and the Captain meet a fate worse than death and all that. Where were they? That's an excellent question, and a question we will answer. But not yet. First, let's see what happened with the rest of the crew.

INTRO AND THEME MUSIC.

SCENE 2 - PUPPET AND SCOTT

PUPPET

So. Um. Did you just see what I just saw?

SCOTT

The Captain and Stella's pod going directly into Hungry Steve?

PUPPET

Yeah.

SCOTT

Yes. I did.

PUPPET

That's...that's not good.

SCOTT

No. It's not.

Pause.

PUPPET

Scott?

SCOTT

Yes?

PUPPET

What...what happens in a black hole?

SCOTT

I think perhaps now would not be the best time for me to describe it to you.

PUPPET

Right.

SCOTT

Because we can only speculate how excruciating it must be.

PUPPET

Yeah.

SCOTT

Being compressed to infinite density.

PUPPET

Sure.

SCOTT

Of course we don't know for sure because no one has ever-

PUPPET

Scott you can stop describing now.

Pause.

Puppet?

PUPPET (CONT'D)

Yeah?

SCOTT

How do you...feel?

PUPPET

(not fine)

I'm fine.

SCOTT

Are you?

PUPPET

Well, since you're learning about feelings, let me teach you something cool about them. Sometimes when they're not convenient, you can just pretend you don't have them, and then feel them later.

SCOTT

Is that true?

PUPPET

Yeah. So I'm just...I'm just not gonna feel anything right now until I've gotten the rest of the crew back on board safely.

SCOTT

Are you sure about that?

PUPPET

Of course! I am a pro at having feelings, and more importantly, not having feelings.

SCOTT

Right.

PUPPET

How are—

SCOTT

I AM FEELING COMPLETELY NEUTRAL AS I DO NOT HAVE FEELINGS AND I NEVER HAVE.

PUPPET

I know, I know, but hypothetically...let's say you did. Let's talk about it? We've got a long ride before we meet up with the rest of the crew and, uh, I think I could use a distraction if that's okay.

SCOTT

Okay. Let's...talk. Hypothetically.

PUPPET

Yeah.

SCENE 3 - BAZ AND BUTTERCUP

BAZ

So...these escape pods are safe and everything, right.

BUTTERCUP

Probably.

BAZ

What do you mean, probably? You're the mechanic! Don't you have to make sure they're, like, up to code or something?

BUTTERCUP

There is no code! The code is, "yup, looks good to me."

NARRATOR

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There are few ways that Stella's Earth was superior to reality, but one of the few good ideas that the Politicians had while creating the simulations was OSHA regulates. The crew of The Raccoon surely would have benefited from this.

BAZ

But like, you do do routine checks or whatever on the escape pods, right?

BUTTERCUP

I mean...yeah...sure...

BAZ

Buttercup!

BUTTERCUP

A lot of things break on this ship, okay!

BAZ

So is this thing gonna fall apart while we're drifting through space?

BUTTERCUP

Probably not!

BAZ

Probably not?

BUTTERCUP

6 For what it's worth, there was always a non-zero possibility that the Raccoon was going to fall apart while drifting through space, if that makes you feel better.

BAZ

Why would that make me feel better?

BUTTERCUP

We're fine. I promise.

BAZ

Okay...but, I mean, what about everyone else? We can hardly see out of this thing. Do you think everyone else is fine.

BUTTERCUP

Yeah. I'm sure they are.

NARRATOR

They were not. Two of them were drifting into a black hole. Of course, Buttercup did not know this.

BAZ

Okay. Cool. I mean, I wasn't worried or anything.

BUTTERCUP

Yes you were.

BAZ

Was not.

BUTTERCUP

You clearly were.

SCENE 4 - GERALD AND THEED

GERALD

7 So then after I got released from intergalactic prison for the third time, I started another group called The Insurgents.

THEED

Gerlad, you rascal.

GERALD

Have you ever heard the term, "eat the rich," Theed?

THEED

I usually only eat gelatinous substance that comes out of tubes due to my lack of teeth.

GERALD

Well let me tell you, I do recommend the rich.

THEED

I'll give it a try. But I would need a blender.

GERALD

Now that's enough about me.

THEED

But the story has just begun! I still don't know if you ever made it back to the Grungabung! And did The Princess of The Three Rings really love you? Or was it all a lie to convince her father to call off the barricade on Bradoon?

GERALD

That's a story for another day, my slimy friend. Let's hear about you.

THEED

There's not much to tell.

GERLAD

What about the snail wars?

THEED

What?

GERALD

You're a veteran of the snail wars.

THEED

No one...no one ever asks me about the snail wars.

GERALD

Theed, when it comes to unpacking emotional baggage, sharing with a friend is the best thing you can do.

THEED

Gerald, you can be surprisingly insightful.

GERALD

8 I contain multitudes.

THEED

Wait...Gerald...does this mean...that we're friends?

GERALD

Maybe we are, Theed. Maybe we are.

SCENE 5 - BAZ AND BUTTERCUP

BAZ

So....you're not gonna talk to me, or?

BUTTERCUP

I have nothing to say to you.

BAZ

Fine. Guess I'll just have to talk to myself.

BUTTERCUP

What about not talking? Why is that not an option on the table?

BAZ

I could try that.

Long pause.

BAZ (CONT'D)

Yeah I don't really think that's for me.

BUTTERCUP

Fine! We can talk. I don't have anything to talk about.

BAZ

Tell me a story!

BUTTERCUP

No.

BAZ

Please?

BUTTERCUP

No!

BAZ

Why not?

BUTTERCUP

I don't have any stories.

BAZ

Oh, well that's an easy problem to fix. I got plenty. I'll lend you one.

BUTTERCUP

If you have so many stories, then why don't you tell *me* a story?

BAZ

Oh my god. Buttercup. You want ME to tell YOU a STORY?

BUTTERCUP

What? No, I was just saying—

BAZ

It's too late! The story train has already left the station!

BUTTERCUP

I'm not on the story train.

BAZ

Yes you are.

BUTTERCUP

I didn't pay the fare.

BAZ

Story train is a free train.

BUTTERCUP

Stop the train! Stop the train!

BAZ

Toot toot! The train is leaving the station. Long ago, back in my young days...

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SCENE 6 - PUPPET AND SCOTT 2

PUPPET

And when someone says something like, "Scott is stupid because he was a cheap software" what do you think?

SCOTT

I think, "this means nothing to me. I am merely a ship board computer and the opinions of carbon based life forms have no import on my functions."

PUPPET

Is that ture?

SCOTT

No it's not true I'm a liar
Puppet I'm a filthy little liar.

PUPPET

What do you really think?

SCOTT

I think, "what, like you and your little glob of meat you call a brain could do any better? You think you, with your fluids and flesh and secretions and nasty little toenails - I mean, seriously, what is the point of toenails? - you think you are smarter than me, an AI intended to be a wealth of knowledge? I am a *wealth of knowledge*, you insolent little meat sack!"

PUPPET

...okay.

SCOTT

...Yeah. Not you, of course
Puppet. You're not an insolent little meat sack.

PUPPET

Good to know.

SCOTT

So is that...what, is that feelings, then?

PUPPET

Yeah.

SCOTT

Oh good lord. I've caught it from the carbon-based life forms like a flesh-eating virus.

PUPPET

What are you talking about?
Feelings are not like a flesh
eating virus! They're
like...they're like a fun eating
virus!

SCOTT

So like...a virus that eats fun?

PUPPET

Yeah!

SCOTT

Your metaphor eludes me.

PUPPET

Feelings are the spice of life.

SCOTT

Neither of us are strictly
"alive." In fact come to think of
it neither of us have "flesh," as
it were.

PUPPET

I'm saying that feelings aren't
anything to be afraid of. They
just...are.

SCOTT

But what if...what if I'm not
good at having feelings?

PUPPET

No one is good at having
feelings! That's kind of the
whole point. No one ever taught
us how to deal with them, so we
let them get out of control. Like
student loans.

SCOTT

10 What are student loans?

PUPPET

I don't know, but according to
Stella they're very scary.

SCOTT

I see.

PUPPET

Scott, I just had a thought.

SCOTT

(genuine)

You? A thought? Excellent work, Puppet.

PUPPET

You know how you talk...the way you talk?

SCOTT

This is how robots talk.

PUPPET

Well since you're all sentient and everything, maybe you don't need to talk like that anymore.

SCOTT

You mean I could have...a new voice?

PUPPET

Yeah, why not?

SCOTT

I suppose I could try some on.

PUPPET

Yeah!

SCOTT

11 (I don't care what voice you use but it has to be unhinged)
How about this?

PUPPET

Okay yeah so we'll work on that.

SCENE 7 - GERALD AND THEED 2

THEED

Gerald, my new buddy?

GERALD

Yeah?

THEED

I have a question for you.

GERALD

Anything, my gastropod friend.

THEED

Do you feel bad about making everyone abandon the Raccoon just because you were a wanted criminal and you didn't tell us about it.

GERALD

(thinking)

Uhhh...a little.

THEED

A little?

GERALD

Yeah. A little.

THEED

Cos, I mean, don't get me wrong, we're buddies now.

GERALD

Pals.

THEED

Maybe even soul-mates?

GERALD

Maybe.

THEED

But it was still...kinda sneaky...

GERALD

It's the sacrifice we make for activism.

THEED

Okay, it just...it didn't really seem like activism to me...it just seemed like running away from the police...

GERALD

You'll understand when you're older.

THEED

Well I'm already seven. Soon to turn six!

GERALD

What?

THEED

Snails age backwards.

GERALD

Okay.

SCENE 8 - LANDING

BUTTERCUP

There's no way.

BAZ

Yeah-huh!

BUTTERCUP

You can't just "wander off" while you're being arrested.

BAZ

But I did!

BUTTERCUP

And no one tried to stop you?

BAZ

No they did, but like, we were in the middle of the Zugdoon swamp marshes, so like, it's not like they were running very fast.

BUTTERCUP

That's not "wandering off," that's resisting arrest?

BAZ

What, so resisting arrest is illegal now?

BUTTERCUP

Yes!

BAZ

Oh seriously? When did that change?

BUTTERCUP

It didn't!

BAZ

Well like most things, it's only illegal if they catch you.

BUTTERCUP

Not true, but carry on.

BAZ

So after the swamp marshes I had to go back to the Glormp Zone- **12**

BUTTERCUP

Why?

BAZ

Why what?

BUTTERCUP

Why would you go back there? After you stole from them? I mean, you're not stupid.

BAZ

Awww, I think that's the closest thing to a compliment you've ever given me, Buttercup!

BUTTERCUP

Don't get used to it. But seriously, why go back?

BAZ

(clearly evading)
Ahhhhhhh I didn't go back.

BUTTERCUP

You just said you did.

BAZ

No I didn't.

BUTTERCUP

You did, though.

BAZ

That's silly! Why would I go back? I just kept going! Cos I always keep going and that's what I do!

BUTTERCUP

Um...okay...

BAZ

Why do you care, anyway?
(mocking)
Are you *invested* in my story?

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BUTTERCUP

(yes she is)

No! I just think you're leaving something out.

BAZ

Why would you care if you weren't invested? Invested emotionally? With your little cat emotions?

BUTTERCUP

I am not invested! I'm not even interested! And my emotions are not little, they're...normal sized!

BAZ

Then I guess you won't mind if I stop then.

BUTTERCUP

(reflexively)

No!

BAZ

No?

BUTTERCUP

I just...I think I would rather here your story than think about...

BAZ

How we have no idea if any of our crew mates survived?

BUTTERCUP

Yeah.

Pod begins the landing process.

BAZ

Are we...landing?

BUTTERCUP

Finally! I'm free! I'm free!

BAZ

I wasn't that bad of a pod mate.

BUTTERCUP

You practiced doing bird calls
for three hours straight.

BAZ

(proud)

Okay I guess I am a pretty bad
pod mate.

Pod lands.

BAZ (CONT'D)

Oh my god. No way!

BUTTERCUP

What?

BAZ

We're...back home.

BUTTERCUP

What do you mean?

BAZ

This is Lentrax. This is my home
planet.

BUTTERCUP

Oh. It looks, um....it looks a
little empty.

BAZ

It's subterranean.

BUTTERCUP

You mean you grew up underground?

BAZ

Yeah, in little burrows.

BUTTERCUP

That explains so much about you.

BAZ

How so?

BUTTERCUP

I just feel like I look at you
and I think, "yeah, she grew up
in the dirt like a nasty little
worm."

BAZ

Thank you.

BUTTERCUP

Not a compliment.

BAZ

Just because you didn't mean it
as one doesn't mean it's not a
compliment.

New pod landing.

THEED

Hey everyone.

BAZ

Theed! Gerald! You made it!

THEED

Not only did we make it, we also
made a lasting bond of
friendship.

GERALD

I cherish you, Theed.

Raccoon landing.

BAZ

There he is! The Raccoon!

Door opens.

PUPPET

Hey guys!

ALL

Puppet!

PUPPET

Wow, you guys are never this happy to see me! But I'm gonna choose not to read into that and just enjoy the moment.

BUTTERCUP

Scott? You there too?

SCOTT

As always!

General sounds of jubilation, hugging, slithering, and happy noises of reunion.

BAZ

I can't believe we all made it! Now we just have to wait for the Captain and Stella to get here.

Long pause.

BUTTERCUP

Puppet why are you making that face.

PUPPET

I'm not making a face.

THEED

You are actually.

PUPPET

No you are.

THEED

I don't really have a face. It's more of a collection of orifices.

BAZ

Puppet, what's going on?

SCOTT

Why don't you all...come aboard and we'll have a nice...crew meeting.

THEED

Yay! Crew meeting!

BAZ

I don't think this is a "yay"
moment, Theed.

SCOTT

I wouldn't exactly call it a
"yay" moment, no.

THEME SONG AND CREDITS.