

The Stench of Adventure Season 2: Episode 3 - A Moment **1**

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SCENE 1 - A MOMENT

Sid attempts to open the box.

SID

Wow.

STELLA

What?

SID

I got good news and bad news.
What do you want first?

STELLA

Bad news.

SID

Bad news is, it's locked.

CAPTAIN

So what's the good news?

SID

I get to go back and fucking
partayyyyyy

He leaves.

STELLA

Okay. Locked. That's not so bad.
We can figure this out. We can
find a way to open this thing.

CAPTAIN

Stella, do you really think
there's going to be something in
there that's going to help us get
out of a black hole?

STELLA

I mean, it has to right?

CAPTAIN

What do you mean, it has to?

STELLA

(not yet realizing
the direness of the
situation)

I mean, if it doesn't, then,
like, how else are we gonna get
out? We can't be stuck here
forever, right?

CAPTAIN

I don't know. I think we may just
have to make peace with the fact
that we are stuck here.

STELLA

You're not actually okay with
that, are you?

CAPTAIN

(clearly not)

Maybe. We could...make a life
here. Become simple farmers. Live
of the land.

2

STELLA

THIS IS A BLACK HOLE THERE IS NO
LAND.

CAPTAIN

Stella, only one of us is allowed
to lose it and I think it's
unfair that you decided it was
going to be you before even
consulting me.

STELLA

(getting unhinged)

We're gonna make this work. You
and me. We're a team.

CAPTAIN

We are?

STELLA

Sure we are. Remember how we had
a moment in the escape pod when
we got we were gonna die?

CAPTAIN

We did not have a moment. There was just a moment and we were both in it but we did not have that moment, we simply—

STELLA

That was a moment of genuine connection and you know it.

CAPTAIN

Connection requires two parties.

STELLA

You know that thing that you told me?

CAPTAIN

What thing? I don't tell you things.

STELLA

You know. About your brother...

CAPTAIN

I told you not to bring that up again!

STELLA

No you didn't.

CAPTAIN

Well I'm telling you now: Don't bring that up again!

STELLA

Okay, fine. I just feel like—

CAPTAIN

Can we just focus on unlocking the box, please?

STELLA

3

It's just got me thinking that while we're stuck in a black hole might be great time for us to, ya know...bond.

CAPTAIN

Bond? You want to bond? Right now?

STELLA

Sure! So let me ask you--

CAPTAIN

No. Don't ask me anything. How would you like it if I went around asking you about your personal history and your feelings?

STELLA

Actually that would be great.

CAPTAIN

It...would?

STELLA

4 Yeah. I mean, you never ask me
 5 questions. Unless those questions
 are like, "Stella, can you please
 stop humming that annoying song?"
 to which the answer is, no, that
 "annoying song" is '39 by Queen
 and it rocks and you know it, or,
 "Stella, did you accidentally
 infect Scott with a weird
 computer virus?" and the answer
 is yes because no one told me
 that in this universe Minecraft
 is the name of a computer virus,
 or "Stella--"

CAPTAIN

Okay, I get it. But why would you want someone to ask you questions?

STELLA

Because...then you get to talk about yourself. And everyone loves talking about themselves.

CAPTAIN

I don't.

STELLA

Yeah well you're weird. Most people do. And that's how friendships are formed.

CAPTAIN

I see. So you're saying you want to form a friendship?

STELLA

Yes. Obviously.

CAPTAIN

Oh.

(beat)

Well I don't.

STELLA

Are you serious? After all this, after we had a moment—

CAPTAIN

That was not a moment!

STELLA

And we could be stuck in the singularity of a black hole, possibly forever, or maybe forever doesn't even mean anything anymore because time and space don't work anymore, and you still don't wanna be friends?

CAPTAIN

6 I mean...I just don't think we're very compatible people.

STELLA

This is unbelievable!

CAPTAIN

Can we focus on the box now?

STELLA

Nothing makes me miss home more than this! And yes, I do mean my simulation home, to my non-simulation boyfriend who is dead and my non-simulation best friend who is also dead. Because at least they wanted to talk to me! I wanna go back to my dead boyfriend's apartment and eat a nice, comforting moon pie.

CAPTAIN

Gross.

Noise.

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)

What was that?

SID

What was what?

STELLA

Sid? When did you get back here?

SID

I heard you guys fighting and I wanted to watch in case it came to blows.

CAPTAIN

So you could stop us?

SID

So I could place bets.

CAPTAIN

Oh.

SID

I would bet on you, by the way.

CAPTAIN

Okay.

SID

Cos you're a horse.

STELLA

Did you hear that noise?

SID

I didn't hear a noise.

CAPTAIN

7 It was like a...
(imitates noise)

SID

Huh yeah maybe. I hear a lot of noises.

STELLA

Like a...
(imitates noise)

SID

Ummm yeah not really sure about that one. Oh hey, looks like the package is open?

CAPTAIN AND STELLA

What?

SID

That package you all were looking at. Yeah, it's open.

CAPTAIN

But how? That would mean we somehow unlocked it, and we didn't even figure out what kind of locking mechanism it uses. Unless one of us said some kind of password-

STELLA

(a realization)
Moonpies.

CAPTAIN

You're joking.

STELLA

It belongs to the Politicians, right? And they're the ones who made my world.

CAPTAIN

Sure, but what are the chances-

STELLA

This box must have been locked by the same two who programmed The Earth.

CAPTAIN

That seems highly unlikely.

STELLA

Well the box opened, didn't it?

CAPTAIN

Fair point.

STELLA

This could be it! This could be
the way out we've been looking
for! This could be!

Lifts lid.

CAPTAIN

Oh...

STELLA

Well that's...

CAPTAIN

Unexpected.

THEME SONG AND INTRO.

SCENE 2 - UH - OH

STELLA

There's nothing in here.

CAPTAIN

Nope.

STELLA

All that fuss. Sid getting thrown
out. Baz almost getting kicked
off. The police questioning us.
All over a box of-

CAPTAIN

Nothing.

STELLA

Well that sure does check out,
now doesn't it?

CAPTAIN

I don't follow.

STELLA

That seems to be the way my life is going, isn't it? Everytime I finally think I've got something good, it just gets ripped away, but aliens or by a black holes or something. Every time I have anything going for me, turns out, nope! It was just NOTHING ALL ALONG

CAPTAIN

Stella, I think you're being a little-

STELLA

8

No im not! I'm not being a little anything! I'm being A LOT fed up with this bullshit! What are we gonna do now, huh? We're trapped in this void full of - get this - NOTHING - and now we have a box full of - you guessed it - NOTHING - and now I'm starting to feel...I'm starting to feel...really really sad.

CAPTAIN

Stella, I'm sorry about your, um, sadness, but...

STELLA

Oh really? Well great, since you're sorry, actually everything is all better.

CAPTAIN

Really?

STELLA

No! I was being sarcastic you stupid horse!

SID

Wow. Bummer. Well, I'm gonna go back and party, dudes!

CAPTAIN

Sid, this doesn't bother you at all? This is the reason you got spaghettified And you don't care that it turns out there's nothing even in it?

SID

Maybe when I first got noodled- that's what we call spaghettification out here in the 'larity - I would have cared more, but the longer you stay here, the more things just slide right off ya. I just feel like, c'est la vie, ya know?

9

CAPTAIN

I don't know. What does that mean?

SID

Oh it's some garbage speak I picked up from one of the guys at the 'larity. Speaking of which, I'm gonna dash. Have fun with your box. Cowabunga dudes!

SCENE 3 - STELLA HAS A TANTRUM

NARRATOR

It would be nice to say that Stella took all this in stride, as she often did, and found a way to bounce back from the loss of what looked like her one possibility of escaping the singularity. However, that would be a lie, because Stella was not handling the situation particularly well at all. In fact, for lack of a better word, Stella fucking snapped.

10

CAPTAIN

Stella. Get out of the box.

STELLA

No!

CAPTAIN

You're acting like a child.

STELLA

So what if I am?

CAPTAIN

I- wll- Please don't?

STELLA

Maybe I am a child. What's wrong with that? Sometimes we should be allowed to act like a child if we're feeling upset.

CAPTAIN

I don't agree with that. I think whenever you start to sense that you're feeling like a child you need to push that part of you deep down and never acknowledge it.

STELLA

I don't want to do that! Also that sounds unhealthy!

CAPTAIN

I'm very healthy.

STELLA

Are not.

CAPTAIN

GET OUT OF THE BOX.

STELLA

NO.

CAPTAIN

You are wasting both of our time.

STELLA

(mocking)

"I'm a horse and I'm too impatient to let Stella have her sad time in the box"
That's what you sound like right now.

CAPTAIN

No it's not.

STELLA

Yes it is. That's exactly what you sound like.

CAPTAIN

Stella please.

STELLA

Until you can give me a reason I am not! Getting! Out! Of this! Stupid! Bo-

Bang.

11

AHHHHHHH

CAPTAIN

Stella?

Mechanical noises.

Stella?

12

Lid being taken off of box.

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)

13

Sid! Sid!

SID

What's goin on?

CAPTAIN

She's gone.

SID

14

Yeah I'm pretty gone myself if I'm gonna be honest. I just did so much cocaine off some snails ventricles.

CAPTAIN

First of all, I'm going to need you to stop telling me things. Every time you open your mouth it is unsettling. Second of all, I mean Stella has disappeared.

SID

So she was in the box and now she's not in the box?

CAPTAIN

Precisely.

SID

Have you considered that maybe she got out of the box?

CAPTAIN

She couldn't have gotten out of the box, I was watching the lid. There's only one lid.

(Beat.)

Wait. Can a box have two lids?

SID

I ask myself that question everyday.

CAPTAIN

What?

SID

Just ignored me I'm coked up.

CAPTAIN

She could have gone through a different lid. But...

Mechanical clinking.

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)

Huh. There does seem to be some kind of lever here. Sid. Will you do me a favor?

SID

Totally.

CAPTAIN

I'm going to get in this box. If I do not come out of the box, you'll have to come get me.

SID

Yeah totally I can do that.

CAPTAIN

AHHHH

SID

Aw I feel like I was supposed to do something but I don't remember what it was. Oh well.

SCENE 4 - THE OTHER SIDE

Some freaky sound effects as Stella and the Captain are transported. Sound of reaky little blue rat creatures.

16

STELLA

Where are we?

CAPTAIN

Zungdot. I'd recognize those furry blue rat creatures anywhere.

STELLA

OH MY GOD what the hell are those?

CAPTAIN

Furry blue rat creatures. I just told you.

STELLA

Do they bite?

CAPTAIN

Yes, but only as part of a mating ritual. So don't try to flirt with them and you'll be fine.

STELLA

Okay. Cool. Great. Nice. How did we get here?

CAPTAIN

Don't you see? It's not what the package contained, it's the package itself. It's like a...portal of some kind? And that little lever inside. You must have accidentally pressed it, and the other side of the box opened and let you out here.

STELLA

But the box that we just came out of and the box we went into...are they different boxes?

CAPTAIN

Or the same box simultaneously existing in two separate places in the universe!

Suspense accent.

STELLA

Wait. What if this is not the only place the box connects to. What if we could travel other places too?

CAPTAIN

Maybe we can.

STELLA

Wait. This is great. So we just have to keep going in and out of the box until we find the rest of the crew!

CAPTAIN

Stella. No. We just have to use the box to get somewhere where we can hitch a ride to the rest of the crew.

STELLA

But we don't even know where they are!

CAPTAIN

Yes I do.

STELLA

You do?

CAPTAIN

Yes. I'm the Captain. Obviously I know where the escape pods are programmed to go.

STELLA

You never mentioned-

CAPTAIN

Well we were in a black hole, so
it didn't really matter-

STELLA

It's just this whole time you
could have said-

CAPTAIN

Can we just use the box please?

STELLA

OW! One of the rats just bit me.

CAPTAIN

Tell it you're flattered but
you're just not looking for
anything serious right now. Let's
go.

They go back in the box.

SCENE 4 - GOOD BYE SID

SID

Oh hey! You're back out of the
box! I totally forgot you guys
were in there!

CAPTAIN

Sid, this is going to sound very
strange, but Stella and I are
going to jump in and out of this
box repeatedly.

SID

Cool.
(beat.)

CAPTAIN

You're not....at all curious why?

SID

Nope.

Beat.

STELLA

Okay well we're gonna tell you.
We think this box is gonna get us
out of here.

SID

Cool.

Beat.

CAPTAIN

Do you want to come with us? Back to the Raccoon?

SID

Nah. I'm good.

STELLA

Are you serious? You prefer life in the center of a black hole where time and space are meaningless? Out there you could be back with the crew! With Buttercup! Working a job! Living life!

SID

Listen, back before I got noodled, I used to think all that was important. Then I discovered life in the singularity. Yes, time and space aren't real here, but when you think about it, were they ever really really to begin with.

STELLA AND CAPTAIN

Yes.

Both ad lib stuff like "yeah that's like a huge part of science and physics actually."

SID

My point is, I felt for so long like my life was about one thing. Then my life was gone and I got a new life. Now Im...I'm kinda free.

STELLA

I get what you mean Sid.

CAPTAIN

You're sure you're not coming? The crew misses you.

STELLA

Buttercup misses you.

CAPTAIN

And we didn't think it was possible for Buttercup to miss anyone.

SID

Yeahhhh that's gonna be a pass. But hey, if you ever need someone in the middle of the singularity of a black hole, you know a guy. Tell Buttercup I'm sorry. And uhhhh. Tell Baz we're cool.

CAPTAIN

Oh. Really?

SID

Yeah.

CAPTAIN

Even though she tried to kill you.

SID

Yeah it's kinda whatever.

CAPTAIN

Well...it was nice to see you again Sid.

STELLA

Yeah it was nice to meet you.

SID

17

Yeah, it is nice to meet me. I'm a pretty cool guy. Any way I'm gonna go vibe with fleshbeasts back in the party so....see ya.

CAPTAIN

Sure...see ya.

Scene 5 - Random Encounters

NARRATOR

And so the Captain and Stella,
 unsure of how to actually steer
 the box, kept jumping in and out
 and seeing where it took them,
 each time some other random
 location in the universe. It was
 a long a and tedious process, so
 there is no point in chronicling
 the whole thing. But it sounded a
 little something like this:

18 A montage of all the wacky places that Stella and the Captain
 pop up in. I can script this, but I think it would be fun if
 Grace and I just improvise this and we see where it goes.

CAPTAIN

Wait! Stella! There! ITS! **19**

STELLA

It's what?

CAPTAIN

It's ITS!

STELLA

It's?

CAPTAIN

ITS. The acronym for
 intergalactic taxi service.
 There's a transit center right
 there.

STELLA

Okay I mean you could have just
 said that.

CAPTAIN

All we need to do is order a taxi
 to the location of the pods.

STELLA

But we don't have any money.

CAPTAIN

We don't know that.

STELLA

What?

CAPTAIN

Stella, the thing about the intergalactic taxi service is that it's intergalactic. It goes to just about every planet we know of. So they have to take all kinds of currency. You just have to keep popping into different taxis until you find one that you can pay for.

Walking.

STELLA

That sounds stressful. I have a hard enough time just trying to order something from a restaurant and I always panic when I have to tell them I'm allergic to tree nuts, even though probably there not going to be any tree nuts in the macaroni, what if I order the macaroni and then they put tree nuts in it and I go into anaphylactic shock? That would be, like, so embarrassing. They'd be like, "ugh, what an idiot. She ordered macaroni and didn't tell anyone she was allergic to tree nuts?" And I would be all like, "I didn't know there would be tree nuts in the macaroni!" but I can't say that because I'm dying of anaphylactic shock-

20

Car door.

STELLA (CONT'D)

AH!

CAPTAIN

What currency do you take?

TAXI DRIVER 1

21 Bnargins.

CAPTAIN

Never mind.

Car door.

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)

What currency do you take?

TAXI DRIVER 2

Self-esteem.

CAPTAIN

Stella do you have any self-esteem?

STELLA

Definitely not.

CAPTAIN

We're fresh out, sorry.

Car door.

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)

What currency do you take?

TAXI DRIVER 3

22

BLARGENSHPARNABAR.

TARGABARNNASHAR.

CAPTAIN

Sorry my Blargenshar is a little rusty.

Car door.

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)

What currency do you take?

TAXI DRIVER 4

If you want my taxi ride, you must solve my riddles five.

STELLA

I'm not great at riddles. Do you have sudoku or something?

CAPTAIN

Also five is a little steep. The going rate these days is three.

TAXI DRIVER 4

I just needed something that rhymed with "ride."

CAPTAIN

Well good luck finding someone with enough time to solve five whole riddles cos we're not biting.

Car door.

STELLA

Damn you drive a hard bargain.

CAPTAIN

Five riddles? He's trying to nickel and dime me.

Car door.

CAPTAIN (CONT'D)

What currency do you take?

23

OMINOUS TAXI DRIVER

Oh I can give you a taxi ride alright. At a price.

CAPTAIN

Yeah that's like...kinda the idea with taxis. So...what currency do you take?

OTD

Oh don't worry about that.

STELLA

That makes me worried about it.

OTD

I'll give you a ride now. And your payment will be...deferred.

STELLA

But what is the payment?

OTD

A favor.

STELLA

What kind of favor?

OTD

I don't know. I've deferred it! I don't know what I might need when I see you again. But when I do see you again...you will owe me. A favor.

CAPTAIN

Sounds good to me. Stella, get in!

STELLA

Um...I don't like this.

CAPTAIN

What?

STELLA

What is the favor is something...weird? Or like, nasty?

CAPTAIN

Stella, we already collect trash. We have the most weird and nasty job in the universe.

STELLA

What if they want us to kill someone?

OTD

(ominous laugh)

Oh that won't be necessary. All of my enemies are already dead.

CAPTAIN

See? No more enemies to kill. Now get in.

STELLA

Um. Okay. Fine.

They get in. Awkward taxi ride ambiance.

STELLA (CONT'D)

So. We're...we're actually making it back to the Raccoon.

CAPTAIN

We are.

STELLA

After...I actually have no idea how long we spent in the Singularity.

CAPTAIN

Well time doesn't work there in the same way it does here, so who's to say?

STELLA

It somehow feels like five minutes and five years at the same time.

CAPTAIN

There's a possibility that the whole crew is dead by now.

STELLA

Oh.

CAPTAIN

But the chances of that are slim.

STELLA

Really?

CAPTAIN

Oh, I have no idea. I just said that to make you feel better.

STELLA

Oh. Well. Thanks. I guess we'll find out soon, right?

CAPTAIN

We will.

More awkward silence.

STELLA

I'm sorry I called you a stupid horse.

CAPTAIN

It's okay. You were right. I am a horse.

(Pause.)

And sometimes...I am stupid.

STELLA

Don't say that.

CAPTAIN

Everyone is stupid sometimes, in their own unique way. You have your own personal brand of stupidity and I have mine.

STELLA

Yeah. I guess you're right.
(pause)

STELLA (CONT'D)

But I guess everyone has their own personal brand of smartness, too, right?

CAPTAIN

I suppose. Eloquence is certainly not yours, though, considering the fact that "smartness" is not a word.

STELLA

I'm trying to say...we actually did something really cool. We figured out how to get out of a black hole. Which no one else in the universe has ever done. That's gotta count for something right?

CAPTAIN

I guess it does. Maybe we could have solved those five riddles after all.

STELLA

Maybe we could have.

(beat)

But five was like, way too much, right?

24

CAPTAIN

Oh yeah. Way too much.

THEME SONG AND CREDITS.