

The Stench of Adventure Season 2: Episode 7 -  
Opportunity's  
Knockers **1**

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PROLOGUE - PROFESSOR MCGREW

**2** PROFESSOR  
Buttercup, do you know why I  
called you in to meet with me  
today?

BUTTERCUP  
Look, if this is about the dead  
mouse in the lecture hall I swear  
I had nothing to do with it.  
Sometimes mice die. It's the  
circle of life.

PROFESSOR  
No, it's-

BUTTERCUP  
And if it's about the scratched  
that appeared on the TA's arm  
last week, I also had nothing to  
do with it. Actually that's not  
true. I did, but he had it  
coming, so...

PROFESSOR  
I wasn't-

BUTTERCUP  
He tried to scratch my belly.  
Which was fine. But only for five  
seconds. I have a limit, ya know?

PROFESSOR  
So you let him scratch your  
belly?

BUTTERCUP  
Yeah sure why not. But only for  
five seconds.

PROFESSOR  
That's not what this is about.

BUTTERCUP  
Oh.

PROFESSOR  
It's about your test scores.

BUTTERCUP  
(disappointed)

Oh.

PROFESSOR  
You did remarkably well.

BUTTERCUP  
(Surprised)

Oh.

PROFESSOR  
Are you aware that you're an  
exceptionally talented engineer,  
Buttercup?

BUTTERCUP  
(instinctively)

No.

(self-editing)  
I mean, yes! Obviously I knew  
that. I'm very good at what I do.  
Obviously.

PROFESSOR  
I just wanted to congratulate  
you.

BUTTERCUP  
Oh. Um. Okay? Do you...do you  
usually congratulate students for  
doing well on tests?

PROFESSOR  
No, but your case is special.

BUTTERCUP  
Oh. Um. Why?

PROFESSOR  
You know. Because of your  
stature.

BUTTERCUP  
Because I'm...small?

PROFESSOR  
You know, little paws like that,  
we weren't sure you'd be able to  
make it through your first year.

BUTTERCUP

Oh.

PROFESSOR

You know, it's not very often we get cats around here. We have students from all sorts of planets - Lentrax, Lugawug, Zungdot, Spunglestrum. Even one memorable student from Florida, though admittedly we had to gently expel that student when we discovered they were illiterate. Ah, Florida. What a fascinating place.

BUTTERCUP

So you didn't think I'd do well...because I'm a cat?

PROFESSOR

Well not BECAUSE you're a cat, per say. It's just, you know. Cat's have a tendency to be very...

BUTTERCUP

Very what?

PROFESSOR

Well...

BUTTERCUP

Feisty? Unpredictable? Violent? Bloodthirsty?

PROFESSOR

Diminutive.

BUTTERCUP

So basically what you're saying is...

PROFESSOR

We thought, "oh this little kitty is going to become an engineer? That's cute?"

Pregnant silence.

PROFESSOR (CONT'D)

We didn't think you would graduate. But I suppose you proved us wrong!

BUTTERCUP

Want me to prove you wrong again?

**3**

PROFESSOR

What?

Sounds of cat violence. The magic of sound design comes into play.

INTRO AND THEME MUSIC.

SCENE 1 - PLANS

SCOTT

If everyone would please gather in the crew lounge, Theed has called a crew meeting.

ALL

(ad lib groaning)

SCOTT

Oh trust me, I know.

THEED

Thank you for coming everyone  
(Ad lib groaning.)

PUPPET

Just so you know how supportive I am, I interrupted a very important activity for this.

BUTTERCUP

I will regret asking this, but what was the activity?

PUPPET

I was super gluing sequins to myself because I wanted to be shinier.

CAPTAIN

That's a terrible idea.

4

PUPPET

I don't think so.

THEED

As you all know, Gerald and I are now besties.

GERALD

Our bond is forged in the fires of adversity.

THEED

And Gerald has a request for you all.

CAPTAIN

Really? Gerald? You want something from us?

GERALD

Yeah. There's a Renegades meeting on Spunglestrum and I wanna go.

CAPTAIN

Oh. Okay. That's easy. I don't know why you needed to call a-

GERALD

And I want you all to go too.

BUTTERCUP

Are you serious? No way! We barely escaped the police last time, and that was just because you were on board our ship. We're not implicating ourselves any further.

STELLA

It does seem like a bad idea...

SCOTT

I can confirm, it IS a bad idea.

STELLA

But...

BUTTERCUP

But? There is no but in this situation, Stella. Don't add a but.

STELLA

Well, I was still hoping to see if I could get my friends neural constructs from the politicians. And maybe the Renegades can help me do it?

BAZ

Right. And I promised I'd help you with that and I'm not backing out.

PUPPET

(encouraging them to  
fall in love)

Wow. How noble of you. How loyal.

BAZ

(genuinely offended)

I'm not noble or loyal. Shut up.

GERALD

I'm sure something can be arranged.

BUTTERCUP

Seriously? Accidentally associating with the Renegades almost got our whole ship spaghettified, and you want to go back to them?

PUPPET

I do!

BUTTERCUP

Why?

PUPPET

I loved the thrill of being a fugitive from the law! Adrenaline is my drug of choice!

BUTTERCUP

You're an android. You have no adrenaline.

PUPPET

In that case, drugs are my drug of choice!

STELLA

You don't do any drugs.

PUPPET

No drugs are my drug of choice!  
Say no to drugs!

CAPTAIN

This crew is a nightmare I can  
never wake from.

THEED

Are you coming Captain?

CAPTAIN

Absolutely not. I'm on the same  
page as Buttercup. Not to mention  
that we all have a job to do. Or  
did you all forget that we're  
still supposed to be collecting  
trash?

PUPPET

Huh. I guess between the police  
chase, the black hole, the  
funeral, and my own existential  
crisis about my role in the  
universe, I did forget.

CAPTAIN

Well I didn't. I am the captain  
of this vessel, and I'm going to  
make sure we get the job done.

BUTTERCUP

I'm with you Captain.

BAZ

Why not guys?

CAPTAIN

Oh I don't know, because it's a  
crime? Besides, we have more  
important things to do. Like our  
job. Someone's gotta collect the  
trash.

BAZ

Are we even getting paid anymore?



CAPTAIN

It's not about payment. It's about principles.

BAZ

And what principle are you following?

CAPTAIN

Don't...not pick up the trash.

THEED

I would love to come with you Captain.

CAPTAIN

Great!

THEED

But I can't. I have to go with my buddy Gerald.

CAPTAIN

What? Why?

THEED

I swore a blood oath of loyalty.

CAPTAIN

You did?

THEED

Well, not really. Snails don't have blood. It was really more of a slime oath of loyalty.

BAZ

No big deal. We split up. Theed, Gerald, Stella, Puppet and I will all go to the meeting. You, Scott, and Buttercup will all go to our next pick up location.

CAPTAIN

Fine.

GERALD

Fine.

PUPPET

Fine!

(Beat)

Sorry I was just feeling left out. I wanted to sound indignant too.

SCENE 2 - DROP OFF

Ship noises.

6

JORB

Gerald! Good to see ya, buddy!

GERALD

I brought Theed. He's newly radicalized and also my best friend.

THEED

You are the light of my life Gerald.

JORB

And is that Stella?

STELLA

Hey guys!

RENEGADES

Stella!

BUTTERCUP

(mockingly)

You kids be safe now. Don't play with fire-

JAUNDICE

No guarentees-

BUTTERCUP

Don't talk to strangers--

PUPPET

Awww I love talking to strangers!

BUTTERCUP

And if a strange man comes up to you and says he has candy in his van-

STELLA

Wait, someone had candy?

THEED

Who has candy?

BAZ

I want a tootsie pop!

PUPPET

I can't eat candy, but I can appreciate it as a concept. And as an adhesive.

BUTTERCUP

7 Wow. You people have the survival instincts of a dead fish. Good luck.

PUPPET

8 Thank you! Where's the candy?

JAUNDICE

Gerald! Thanks for bringing your whole crew along!

GERALD

Getting numbers is at the core of activism.

CAPTAIN

Not the whole crew, actually. We're just dropping them off. We'll pick them up around 8. They're not allowed to sleep over.

PUPPET

I forgot my inhaler.

BUTTERCUP

You don't have an inhaler.

PUPPET

Oh thank god. I was so scared for a second.

CAPTAIN

(firmly)

Good bye, everyone. If you topple the government while we're gone, just...oh, I don't know. Wear a helmet?

SCENE 3 - THE NEXT PLANET

NARRATOR

If Baz, Stella, Puppet, and Theed found out what planet they were missing, perhaps they would have regretted going to the meeting. Probably not though, because the it was Gurghuhwhurl, a planet that's main export is the green slime that just appears there for some reason. The slime industry is a particularly lucrative one unless you know which social media influencers to market to, so Gurghuhwhurl is on the whole a very uninteresting planet. And also, very sticky.

Ship landing.

CAPTAIN

Unbelievable. It's like they've forgotten what their purpose is.

BUTTERCUP

Yes! Exactly!

CAPTAIN

We don't need anything else. No activists, no parents who don't care if you live or die-

BUTTERCUP

No family that's disappointed in you for ruining your one shot at becoming the first feline civic engineer-

CAPTAIN

Just...trash.

BUTTERCUP

Exactly.

CAPTAIN

We're on the same page.

BUTTERCUP

Totally.

CAPTAIN

And I am perfectly satisfied with this life.

BUTTERCUP

**9** Me too. And you can tell because of how much we talk about how satisfied we are.

CAPTAIN

Exactly. I am so happy to— Excuse me what the fuck is that?

BUTTERCUP

What?

CAPTAIN

Over there.

BUTTERCUP

Keep in mind there is a major height difference between the two of us.

CAPTAIN

What the hell is that thing?

BUTTERCUP

That looks like...oh shit.

CAPTAIN

This can't be happening.

BUTTERCUP

Oh it's happening.

CAPTAIN

Another garbage ship?

BUTTERCUP

That must mean...

CAPTAIN

**10** We've been usurped.

Suspense accent.

BUTTERCUP

What do we do?

CAPTAIN

We're going to have a firm talking-to with them is what we do. This cannot stand. This is our turf. Well, I mean, not really. This is a whole planet. But in terms of trash collections specifically, this is our turgf

FRIEND

Oh hey! Another horse! You don't get to see a lot of our kind outside of Chincoteague. Pleasure to meetcha, friend.

11

CAPTAIN

We are not friends. We are rivals.

FRIEND

Okay, whatever you want. So what can I do for ya, 'rivals.'

CAPTAIN

You stole our route.

FRIEND

Pardon?

BUTTERCUP

Our ship, the Raccoon, is scheduled to do trash pick up here.

FRIEND

Well Im afraid there must have been some kind of mistake.

CAPTAIN

Yes. There must have.

FRIEND

Our ship, the Skunk, is scheduled to do pick up here.

CAPTAIN

Your ship is called the Skunk?

FRIEND

Sure is! Named after J.T. Skunk,  
greatest trash collector this  
side of the western spiral.

CAPTAIN

I'm sure as a fellow garbage  
collection vessel captain you can  
understand—

FRIEND

Oh, on the skunk we don't like to  
use that kind of hierarchical  
language. Don't call me Captain.  
Just call me: Friend in Chief.

CAPTAIN

Um..is that your name?

FRIEND

Sure is.

CAPTAIN

Okay, um, Friend. Surely you can  
see how distressing it is that we  
show up to this planet on our  
route, only to find that you've  
already taken it.

FRIEND

Of course I can understand! We'll  
get all this squared away, don't  
you worry. Let me just talk to  
my gang on the Skunk real quick.  
EileenMachine!

EILEEN

Hi there!

FRIEND

Will you check the schedule for  
me? Make sure this is the right  
location for us today?

EILEEN

Of course it is, Friend in Chief.  
I am a top-tier AI and I never  
make mistakes. Ever.

WATERLILLY

**12** What's going on, Friend?

FRIEND

Oh nothing. This cat is our mechanic, Waterlily. Waterlily, these fine people are from another trash ship called the Raccoon.

WATERLILY

Hi there!

BUTTERCUP

Fuck you.

WATERLILY

Okay.

FRIEND

Eileen, would you check and see where one of us went wrong here? Where should the Raccoon be right now?

EILEEN

I'll check on that. One moment.

### 13 Opportunity for awkward ad lib.

EILEEN (CONT'D)

According to my records, the Raccoon has been suspended for criminal activity.

CAPTAIN AND BUTTERCUP

What?

FRIEND

Now that can't be right. Surely there's some mistake.

EILEEN

No. I don't make mistakes. These records are pulled directly from the Intergalactic Trash Collection Board.

FRIEND

Hm. Sounds like if you have a problem, you should take it up with them.

CAPTAIN

Okay. We will!



WATERLILY

Good luck!

BUTTERCUP

We don't need it!

WATERLILY

I'm sure you don't. Still, good luck!

BUTTERCUP

Stop saying that!

WATERLILY

Okay.

(Beat)

Good luck!

BUTTERCUP

AHHHHH

FRIEND

We'll be seeing you!

CAPTAIN

You won't, though.

WATERLILY

We might!

BUTTERCUP

Better not.

FRIEND

(to Waterlily)

They seemed lovely.

BUTTERCUP

No we didn't. Shut up.

#### SCENE 4 - THE MEETING

JORB

Welcome to this very important planning meeting. Jaundice and I are very happy to have you here.

BAZ

What's going on? Why did you want so many of us here?

**14** JORB  
We're planning...direct action.

Suspense accent.

STELLA  
Cool. What is that?

JORB  
It's when you take matters into  
your own hands.

THEED  
I don't have hands.

JORB  
You can take matters into your  
own...flesh foot.

THEED  
Okay.

Squish.

THEED (CONT'D)  
Mmmmm my flesh foot is full of  
matters.

STELLA  
Okay but what does that actually  
mean?

JORB  
As you know, we have a suspicion  
that the Politicians are hiding  
something. A terrible secret.

JAUNDICE  
Well, terrible for them. Pretty  
great for us.

JORB  
So we're conducting an  
intelligence operation.

STELLA  
Oh. I've never been very  
intelligent. And I've never been  
really good at playing Operation. **15**

JAUNDICE

It means we're breaking in and stealing stuff.

STELLA

Oh! That's not at all what I thought that meant!

BAZ

That's, uh...kinda ambitious, dontcha think? I mean you guy, are what? Two people?

JORB

Three. Don't forget Bill.

16

BILL

Hi. I'm Bill. I'm forgettable.

JORB

But that's why we had Gerald bring some guests!

BAZ

Well, lucky for you, I am a master of breaking in places. I bet you guys are happy you didn't throw me out of an air lock, right?

THEED

I am. The scarf you knitted me does wonders for my homeostasis.

STELLA

Wait, Baz. You're seriously into this?

BAZ

Sure. This seems like the perfect opportunity to get your friends back, right? When opportunity's knockers—

STELLA

You mean when opportunity knocks?

BAZ

What? No? Why would opportunity knock? Opportunity is an abstract concept, Stella.

17

STELLA

Yeah, I know but like— wait, how can an abstract concept have knockers.

BAZ

Use your imagination, Stella! And more specifically, use it to imagine the personification of opportunity. And the personification of opportunity has big tits.

STELLA

Why?

BAZ

It's just an expression!

STELLA

That's not an expression.

JORB

So who's with us?

GERALD

I thirst for justice.

JORB

I'm assuming that's a yes.

GERALD

It is.

THEED

Where Gerald goes, I go.

PUPPET

And where Theed goes, I go! Partially out of loyalty, and partially because I glued myself to your shell.

THEED

That's fine.

BAZ

Stella? If you're in, then I'm in?

STELLA

Really?

BAZ

Sure.

STELLA

Then...okay. Sure. If we're all  
doing it, then yeah. Why not?  
Let's...take down the government.

JORB

Great! Taking down the government  
is at the core of activism.

STELLA

Is it?

**18**

JORB

Sometimes.

SCENE 5 - PERSUASION

Ship landing.

BAZ

Hey guys! How was trash  
collection?

CAPTAIN

It didn't happen. The Starship  
Skunk replaced us on our route  
until we can go to the  
Intergalactic Garbage Collection  
Board and clear our name.

PUPPET

So that's where we're going next?

CAPTAIN

Yes.

PUPPET

Okay, so about that...

JORB

Hey guys!

CAPTAIN

What is this?

BAZ

We said we'd give the guys a  
ride.

BUTTERCUP

What guys? A ride to where?

THEED

To the heist.

CAPTAIN

19

What? No. We are not dropping anyone off at a heist.

BAZ

Oh, of course not! We're participating in the heist.

CAPTAIN

Absolutely not. No. Not happening.

BUTTERCUP

We're trying to get to the board and get our name cleared. Aiding as heist is the exact opposite of that!

STELLA

I think technically we're not aiding the heist. We're, like, doing the heist.

CAPTAIN

Stella! Not you too!

STELLA

Listen, I never considered myself a heist kind of person—

PUPPET

I did. I knew I was born for the spy life.

STELLA

— but if this is the only way for me to get Dan and Mel back? Then it's worth it.

BAZ

Yeah. And I made Stella a promise. And I don't go back on my promises.

Beat. Everyone laughs.

BAZ (CONT'D)

Okay fair. But I won't go back on THIS promise.

CAPTAIN

What makes your promise to Stella so special?

PUPPET

I think I know.

BAZ

Puppet I swear if you don't shut your wooden mouth I will sic Jaundice on you.

JAUNDICE

I like fire.

PUPPET

(intimidated)

Heh. Okay.

BAZ

Think of it like...a fun little adventure! A game! A gamble even!

BUTTERCUP

If you're trying to appeal to my hunger for danger, it's not working.

Beat.

BUTTERCUP (CONT'D)

Okay it's working a little.

BAZ

It's like a game of Russian Roulette.

CAPTAIN

There is no positive outcome here. It's like Russian Roulette if all the chambers are loaded.

STELLA

That's not Russian Roulette, that's just...gun.

CAPTAIN

Stella, you are further proving my point.

STELLA

C'mon, Captain! You'll probably be really good at the whole heist thing. You're probably great at spy work.

CAPTAIN

Stella, I'm a horse.

STELLA

But you're a horse with lots of valuable skills!

CAPTAIN

Like what?

STELLA

Like...jigsaw puzzles!

Everyone gasps.

CAPTAIN

Stella, that was supposed to be a secret.

BAZ

You like jigsaw puzzles?

PUPPET

Scandalous.

STELLA

This is the perfect opportunity for you do something big! Dont you want a name?

CAPTAIN

That won't give me a name. I'll go from being Dead Horse to Horse that Toppled the Government.

BAZ

That's actually a pretty sick name.

CAPTAIN

That's not the name I want!



21

STELLA

What is the name you want?

CAPTAIN

I'm...I'm not telling you.

STELLA

Oh. Why not?

CAPTAIN

I don't know it just  
feels...personal?

STELLA

You know my name.

CAPTAIN

Yes and I might add it's a  
horrible name.

STELLA

Yes I'm aware you all hate the  
name Stella.

CAPTAIN

It's not really a name so much as  
a-

STELLA

Why won't you tell me your name?

CAPTAIN

Because it's not my name! Yet.  
And if I tell you...maybe it  
never will be.

JORB

So, is that a yes, or...

CAPTAIN

Why would that be a yes, Jorb?  
How does that possibly sound like  
a yes?

BAZ

Look, you may not have the name  
you want, but right now, your  
name is Captain. Because you're  
our Captain. And your crew- minus  
Buttercup - really wants to do  
this.

CAPTAIN

Oh, and if you were a captain and your crew wanted to jump off a cliff, would you let them?

BAZ

Uh, yeah.

PUPPET

Without hesitation.

THEED

Yup.

STELLA

Who am I to say no?

CAPTAIN

Buttercup, sidebar. You and I are the only people with any sense left on this crew.

PUPPET

Can't argue there.

## SCENE 6 - SIDEBAR

**22**

CAPTAIN

This is stupid right?

BUTTERCUP

Totally.

CAPTAIN

We can't do this.

BUTTERCUP

Absolutely not.

CAPTAIN

Good. Then it's decided. We-

BUTTERCUP

But...

CAPTAIN

But what?

BUTTERCUP

I mean, let's say we did go in there, pull off a cool heist, get those activists whatever they want, AND get Stella her friends...

CAPTAIN

Yeah?

BUTTERCUP

Those guys on the Starship Skunk would be all like, "wow, we couldn't do that."

CAPTAIN

Buttercup are you really suggesting we pull a heist out of spite?

BUTTERCUP

(bloodthirsty)

Yes.

CAPTAIN

You and I both know spite is a terrible reason to make a difficult decision.

(beat)

Who am I kidding you're right.

BUTTERCUP

Always am.

CAPTAIN

Buttercup?

BUTTERCUP

Yeah?

CAPTAIN

I don't generally discuss emotional topics with my crew, and I don't intend to start now. But..

BUTTERCUP

But?

CAPTAIN

Seeing another ship doing our job filled me with a boiling rage that words could not possibly express.

BUTTERCUP

Now you know how I feel all the time.

CAPTAIN

I hate it.

BUTTERCUP

Me too.

CAPTAIN

So...spite heist?

**23**

BUTTERCUP

Spite heist.

SCENE 7 - FINALIZING THE PLAN

NARRATOR

And so the crew of the Raccoon plotted their daring scheme. It was going to take wit, it was going to take bravery, and most of all, it was going to take a lot of Cheez-its. The Cheez-its were for Theed, who got hungry during the planning phase and asked if they could take a snack break. However during the snack break they refused to let anyone watch them eat because, as we all know, a snail eating is monstrous to behold.

CAPTAIN

**24**

Alright, I think we've figured it out. Now that we've gone over the plan in great detail there is no way for it to possibly go wrong.

BAZ

Are you ready for your first  
heist Stella?

PUPPET

Baby's first heist!

STELLA

Um. No. Absolutely not.

BAZ

Great! Let's do it.

THEME SONG AND CREDITS.