

JRATW EP31 - Mailroom Mishaps

Delivered by

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Scene One: The Mailkid Outpost

1 SOUND: THE WIND SHUFFLES THE SPARSE TREE LEAVES AND LOOSE ENVELOPES

2 NARRATOR:

Only whistling winds and undelivered mail greets our Wanderers at this Mail Outpost. But hopefully, they'll find the answers they're looking for in the dark tunnels of the mail children.

3 SOUND: FOOTSTEPS IN GRASS, WAGON CLATTERING

4 JIM ROBBIE:

Wow, it's like they're little badgers. It's adorable. It's even got a flower arch above it.

5 FREY:

Are those postage stamps on the petals?

6 JIM ROBBIE:

I believe so!

7 FREY:

And what is up with the circle of sticks around the entrance?

8 NICO:

Probably to ward off bad spirits.

9 TANGO:

(SCARED)

Hey, are we really about to head down there? After what we found in that old house?

10 NICO:

If we wanna figure out why we haven't got mail in almost a month, then we certainly do.

11 TANGO:

But the house! Is no one else still freaked about that?

12 JIM ROBBIE:

(BEAT)

What if it's the mail kids that messed up that house?!

13 TANGO:

(GASP)

Oh my god, no, the poor mail kids!

- 14 NICO:
Oh, man, that would be bad.
(BEAT)
Buuut you guys are clearly stalling, and I'm gonna crack this case.
- 15 SOUND: NICO SHIMMIES DOWN INTO THE HOLE
- 16 JIM ROBBIE:
I thought you were a scientist, not a detective?
- 17 NICO:
(OFF-MIC, ECHO-Y FROM THE CAVE)
Investigation is just a soft science!
- 18 SOUND: THE WIND BLOWS HARDER, COLDER.
- 19 TANGO:
(SHIVERS, THEN SPEAKS)
It's getting dark, but I'd rather just huddle up in a tent than go down there! Aren't any of you guys spooked?
- 20 JIM ROBBIE:
I have to admit, it does seem pretty spooky - almost as spooky as that campfire story you told me once...
- 21 SOUND: SNAPPING SOUNDS POP BEHIND THEM JUST AS HE FINISHES TALKING
- 22 JIM ROBBIE: (cont'd)
AHH!
- 23 FREY:
Oh uh... sorry. Stepped on a bunch of the twigs.
- 24 NICO:
(STILL OFF-MIC AND ECHOING)
Wellp, so much for protection! You guys coming down here or what?
- Scene Two: In the Mailroom
- 25 SOUND: NICO GOES THROUGH MAIL AS TANGO AND FREY CROSS OVER INTO THE MAIL TUNNELS. FREY JUST HOPS DOWN, WHILE TANGO PULLS THE WAGON WITH THEM AND JIM CLATTERS.
- 26 JIM ROBBIE:
Ow! Watch what you're doing, Tango, I don't like being dropped!

- 27 TANGO:
 Sorry!
- 28 NICO:
 None of this is ours, but I'm still gonna open up some boxes in case we can use whatever's inside.
- 29 JIM ROBBIE:
 Hey! That is mail fraud!
- 30 NICO:
 It'd be mail fraud if I worked with these brats. This is just stealing. I wonder what's in here. Ah, boxcutter!
- 31 SOUND: HE OPENS UP A BOX WITH A SPARE BOXCUTTER LYING ON ONE OF THE WORKTABLES BUILT INTO THE CAVE WALL.
- 32 NICO: (cont'd)
 And, let's see what, hm, a "Mx. Salus" wanted to send.
- 33 SOUND: THE BOX JUST SCREAMS AS SOON AS IT'S OPEN AND THEN PROMPTLY SHUT.
- 34 NICO: (cont'd)
 (BEAT)
 Well alright, then. Screams. He was sending screams. A box of screams.
- 35 FREY:
 We don't know these tunnels are safe at all. We could just be walking into another trap, like with the squids.
- 36 TANGO:
 The house was abandoned!
- 37 FREY:
 And twice as unsettling! And I'm not hoping for a two outta three kind of deal with this. Tango, I think we should look as far ahead as we can.
- 38 TANGO:
 On it! Lemme just grab a lantern.
- 39 SOUND: TANGO GRABS A LANTERN, STRIKES A MATCH AND LIGHTS IT.
- 40 JIM ROBBIE:
 Hey, hey, hey, WHOA, SISTER!
- 41 FREY:
 (SLIGHTLY LAUGHING, OBLIVIOUS TO JIM ROBBIE'S FEAR)
 We won't be gone too long!

- 42 TANGO:
(DISTANT AND ECHO-Y)
I'll stay in range, don't you worry! I won't go too far!
- 43 JIM ROBBIE:
YES YOU WILL, THAT'S WHAT SCOUTING OUT STUFF IS BASED ON!
(FRUSTRATED)
Grrgh! Rraagh! Raga-fraggin' friggin'!!!!
(ANGRY ROBOT NOISES!)
WHY CAN'T I SHAKE MY FORKS IN FRUSTRATION?!
- 44 SOUND: NICO CONTINUES TO OPEN STUFF.
- 45 NICO:
Awesome, food!
(CLAPS HANDS TOGETHER AND CHUCKLES SATISFACTORILY)
- 46 SOUND: GLASS JARS CLINK AND RUSTLE A BIT AS HE PLACES THEM ON THE WOODEN WORKTABLES IN SILENCE. HE PAUSES IN HIS RUMMAGING AND LOOKS AT JIM.
- 47 JIM ROBBIE:
(BITTERLY)
What? What are you lookin at, Dr. Meatsack? You want a fork to go and eat that stupid jelly with?
- 48 NICO:
I wasn't about to ask, but now I got a whole bunch of other questions. Like, really, Dr. Meatsack? That sounds like a Nickel Age comic villain.
- 49 JIM ROBBIE:
Well, it's hard to think up insults when you're constantly being shut off because I can't be more than-
- 50 SOUND: HE CUTS OFF, QUIET.
- 51 NICO:
(BEAT)
Jim Robbie?
- 52 SOUND: THERE IS ONLY SILENCE.
- 53 NICO: (cont'd)
(BEAT)
He does hate when this happens, and it is pretty inconvenient. (beat)

Tango would probably be fine with some upgrades.
(BEAT)
Well Jim, I've got a surprise for you.

Maybe... Maybe there's some way I can use... Yes!

54 SOUND: HE RUNS OVER AND FISHES AROUND HIS KNAPSACK FOR A NOTEBOOK, CLICKING A PEN AND SCRIBBLING FURIOUSLY.

55 NICO: (cont'd)
(SCRIBBLING FAST, INFORMING AN UNCONSCIOUS JIM ROBBIE)
It's gonna take...some real creative ingenuity, buddy,
but maybe... I'm onto something.

Scene Three: Scouting Ahead

56 SOUND: DRIPPING WATER, DISTANT WIND FURTHER IN THE CAVE

57 NARRATOR:
As Jim takes an involuntary nap and Nico nurses an idea, Tango and Frey inspect their surroundings for anyone, or anything, that may be lying in wait for them.

58 SOUND: TWO PAIRS OF FOOTSTEPS

59 FREY:
I haven't seen anything so far, I think we might be okay. I don't know... Maybe we should keep going?

60 TANGO:
We should probably turn back - I'm definitely out of range of Jim by now.

61 FREY:
I'm sure he'll be safe with Nico!

62 TANGO:
(SHRUGGING)
Well, that's not exactly how it works, really, we kinda... have to be near each other?

63 FREY:
(GETS IT BUT NOT ENTIRELY)
Yeah, it's nice to have friends around.

64 TANGO:
Don't you have any friends?
(REALIZES WHAT SHE JUST SAID)
I mean, not that you're not likable or friendly or anything! I'd go nuts traveling alone... I did, honestly.

65 FREY:
Ehhh, it's... it's been a while. I travel a lot.

66 SOUND: AWKWARD SILENCE. TANGO KICKS A PEBBLE

- 67 TANGO:
I'm sorry for asking, if I brought up any bad memories.
- 68 FREY:
Nah, nah, it's okay, Tango! It's just, you know, I've spent a lot of time in, uh, Squid Prison and then before that... Lots of stuff! I really do mean it, I'm happy to be here.
- 69 SOUND: FREY TAKES A PRACTICE SWING
- 70 TANGO:
(A SMILE IN HER VOICE)
That's great! I thought the whole "constantly always arguing and getting into trouble" thing would make you think twice!
- 71 FREY:
Nah, nothing like that!
- 72 SOUND: SHE TAKES ANOTHER PRACTICE SWING AT THE CRYSTALS
- 73 TANGO:
What are you doing?
- 74 FREY:
I'm gonna break off some of these gems growing in the wall there.
- 75 TANGO:
With your hand?
- 76 FREY:
Oh, no, with this hammer I found in the wagon!
(SHE FLASHES CHARLIE'S HAMMER THAT SHE GRABBED FROM THE WAGON)
- 77 TANGO:
Wha- HEY! HEY, HEY!
- 78 SOUND: FREY BEGINS SMASHING AS TANGO REALIZES WHAT SHE'S USING
- 79 TANGO: (cont'd)
(VERY DISTRESSED)
STOP IT, STOP, YOU GIVE ME THAT **RIGHT NOW!**
- 80 SOUND: FREY DROPS IT LIKE IT'S MADE OF FIRE
- 81 FREY:
(CONFUSED AND SORRY)
It's just a hammer!

- 82 TANGO:
(ANGRY AND FAILING TO HIDE TEARS)
It was CHARLIE'S!
- 83 SOUND: SHE SCRAMBLES TO PICK IT UP FROM THE GROUND, DUSTING IT OFF, IGNORING THE CUTS THE CRYSTAL SHARDS GIVE HER. SHE SHUDDERS FROM AN OVERFLOW OF MEMORIES.
- 84 TANGO: (cont'd)
(CRYING)
She gave this to me. She wanted to make sure I was okay and safe by myself with this.
- 85 FREY:
(AWKWARDLY)
Hey, hey, c'mon, I shouldn't have taken it, I... I didn't know it was special to you.
- 86 TANGO:
(sobs)
- 87 FREY:
I, I'm sorry about taking it! I just didn't know it was special to you...
- 88 TANGO:
Of course you didn't, you don't know ANYTHING about me! You can't just come in and cozy up with us!
- 89 SOUND: SHE RUNS BACK TO THE CAMP.
- 90 FREY:
(TO HERSELF)
Oh, jeez, Frey Stoker. You messed this one up. You messed this one up bad. Awh jeez.
- Scene Four: Back at Camp
- 91 SOUND: NICO'S STILL SCRIBBLING AWAY, EXCITED
- 92 NICO:
Alright, if I get permission from Tango, I could plug this into his radio and give him control of some ball-joint legs all wired up with similar circuitry. Crude, but it'd work. I think. Probably.
(BEAT)
It'll need a couple trial runs, I'm sure, but I got ya.
- 93 SOUND: AN ELECTRIC SHOCK CRACKLES THROUGH JIM - TANGO'S BACK IN RANGE!

- 94 JIM ROBBIE:
(CONTINUING WHERE HE LEFT OFF)
-like, twenty feet away from her! It's ridiculous, I tell you, I'm like some sock puppet made out of spare parts and I can't even WALK. And she's tried to get me to walk, and it was demeaning!
- 95 NICO:
(SMIRKING)
You're fueled by pure anger, I think that's the source of your power.
- 96 JIM ROBBIE:
And you're fueled by... food! And water! Shut up!
(beat) What're you smirking at, Nico?
- 97 NICO:
(SMIRKING EVEN MORE LIKE A BIG DUMMY)
Juust cooking up some experiments.
- 98 JIM ROBBIE:
(THE TINIEST BIT TAKEN ABACK)
Ah... well, don't be lookin' at me when you say the "e" word like that.
- 99 SOUND: FOOTSTEPS APPROACHING FROM THE DISTANCE
- 100 JIM ROBBIE: (cont'd)
Oh hey, glad you're back with us, how was it out the-
oh JEEZ!
- 101 SOUND: AS HE'S BEING A SARCASTIC JUNK, TANGO THROWS CHARLIE'S HAMMER INTO THE WAGON IN FRUSTRATION, MAKING LOTS OF LOUD HAMMER NOISES AND SHAKING THE WAGON
- 102 NICO:
(SENSING AN OBVIOUS AURA OF ANGER)
What's up?
- 103 SOUND: TANGO DOESN'T SAY ANYTHING, JUST GRABS HER SLEEPING BAG AND CURLS UP IN IT FOR THE NIGHT, COCOONED IN IT.
- 104 JIM ROBBIE:
Well, I'm pleased I can talk again, but now Tango's pretending to be asleep and madder than... well, I was about to say "bear," but. I mean, she's curled up and she's always been a heavy sleeper... Yeah, I guess "bear" is an accurate descriptor for her.
- 105 NICO:
She threw that hammer, I didn't even know she'd even taken it out.

- 106 JIM ROBBIE:
The hammer... oh...
- 107 NICO:
What?
(REALIZES)
Ohhh.
- 108 SOUND: FOOTSTEPS. FREY WALKS INTO THE CAMP

(SIMULTANEOUSLY)
- 109 NICO: (cont'd)
What happened?
- 110 JIM ROBBIE:
WHAT DID YOU DO?!
- 111 FREY:
I DON'T KNOW! I just... I found this hammer in the wagon and when I tried to use it, she started crying and saying it belonged to someone named Charlie and I tried to apologize! And how was I supposed to know whose it was! It's just a hammer!
- 112 JIM ROBBIE:
YES! IT'S TOTALLY AN ORDINARY HAMMER!
- 113 FREY:
WELL THEN WHAT'S THE ISSUE?
- 114 JIM ROBBIE:
BECAUSE IT'S CHARLIE'S!
- 115 FREY:
I DON'T KNOW WHO THAT IS!
- 116 NICO:
(FIRMLY)
Both of you, quiet!
- 117 SOUND: THEY STOP YELLING. TANGO'S SLEEPING BAG SHUFFLES, MAKING SLEEPING BAG NOISES.
- 118 NICO: (cont'd)
Tango's... asleep, and Charlie is a sensitive subject for her.
- 119 JIM ROBBIE:
She's not asleep, but yes, that's a bit of a recent issue.

- 120 NICO:
 Alright, you know what come on let's take a walk.
- 121 SOUND: THEY WALK PAST THE WAGON AND CONTINUE WALKING THROUGH THE SCENE
- 122 FREY:
 Well, who was she?
- 123 SOUND: AWKWARD PAUSE
- 124 JIM ROBBIE:
 Well, me and Tango found her dragging a boat on the shore, and she thought we were ghosts or something like that, and then after I got smacked with an oar, we became best friends. She said she was a big deal engineer from Chicago, and that she just had to go back. That it was calling back to her, or something.
- 125 NICO:
 And I met them by stealing Jim Robbie away from Tango! I was a totally different person back then, literally!
- 126 JIM ROBBIE:
 And Charlie was there to help Tango out when we got split up.
- 127 FREY:
 Oh.
 (BEAT)
 Was uh... uh... Did they.. uh? You know? Have a thing together?
- 128 NICO:
 What like, breakfast?
- 129 FREY:
 No, no! I mean was there anything between them! Like, were they a couple? Is Charlie her ex-girlfriend or something?
- 130 NICO:
 OH, DUDE, NO
 (LAUGHING)
- 131 JIM ROBBIE:
 (LAUGHING)
 Yeah, no, oh, god, no way, man!
- 132 FREY:
 (KINDA SMILING)
 Oh, so, Charlie wasn't interested in her, huh?

- 133 NICO:
No, no, she wasn't interested in *any* of that kinda stuff, she was ace as heck!
- 134 JIM ROBBIE:
Oh, yeah! Like Harold, that street magician dude! He was crazy about Charlie.
- 135 NICO:
Hey, guys I think its time to head back to the wagon. But yeah, no, she said she was more interested in the cheese than a relationship!
- 136 FREY:
(SOMEWHAT RELIEVED)
I still feel bad about upsetting Tango like that. I should've asked before grabbing it.
- 137 JIM ROBBIE:
Well, just apologize to her next chance you get, since she's "sleeping."
- 138 SOUND: THE GANG RETURNS TO THE WAGON AND AUDIBLY SITS BACK DOWN AROUND THE FIRE.
- 139 NICO:
Well, to hell with it, do you wanna look through more mail?
- 140 FREY:
(BEAT)
Yeah, okay!
- 141 SOUND: THEY START DIGGING THROUGH AND LOOKING FOR THE NICEST LOOKING BOXES TO OPEN. AS THEY MOVE ABOUT AND TALK, SMALL, IRREGULAR FOOTSTEPS GET LOUDER AND LOUDER OVER THERE TALKING
- 142 FREY: (cont'd)
Oh, could you hand me that boxcutter?
- 143 NICO:
Yeah, yeah, here's a spare!
- 144 FREY:
Hey, Thanks! Found anything interesting yet?
- 145 NICO:
Mm, preserves from somebody's grandma. Strawberry and peach and some peanut butter!
- 146 FREY:
Ooh, That'll be good!

147 JIM ROBBIE:
Uh... guys...

148 SOUND: SOUND OF SOMEONE SHUFFLING TOWARDS THE CAMP

Scene Five: An Employee

149 FREY:
It's a kid. It's...

150 SOUND: THE KID, JULIE, WALKS FORWARD. EVERYTHING ELSE IS SILENT.

151 JIM ROBBIE:
It's Julie.

152 SOUND: SLEEPING BAG SHUFFLES AS TANGO SITS UP.

153 TANGO:
Julie?

154 FREY:
What's wrong with her eyes?

155 SOUND: MORE SLEEPING BAG SHUFFLING AS TANGO STANDS UP AND REALLY LOOKS AT JULIE.

156 TANGO:
Her eyes? Oh!

157 SOUND: FOOTSTEPS AS TANGO AND NICO (NICO'S A LITTLE SLOWER THAN TANGO'S) APPROACH JULIE.

158 NICO:
Julie are you-

159 VOICE: JULIE SCREAMS.

160 SOUND: JULIE SCRAMBLES BACK, ALMOST FALLING OVER.

161 JULIE:
No, no, no, no...

162 TANGO:
Julie, what's wrong?

163 JULIE:
Stay away. No closer. No closer. No, no, no, no...

164 NICO:
Sure, okay, we can do that. But can you tell us what's wrong?

165 JULIE:

(VOICE SHAKING)

They- They come... They travel by sw- by the swarm. No one can stop them. No one. No, no, no, no.

166 JIM ROBBIE:

(WORRIED)

Swarm?! Is it more bugs?

167 FREY:

It's okay Julie, it's okay, it's okay. Julie, just calm down.

168 JULIE:

Frey! What are you doing with Tango and-

169 JULIE: (cont'd)

(GASP-GROANS.)

No, no, no, no...

170 JIM ROBBIE:

Who are they?

171 JULIE:

The other children. The children with-

172 VOICE: JULIE GROANS AGAIN.

(JULIE GRABS AT THE PENDANT SHE'S WEARING UNDER HER WORK SHIRT, FLICKERING WITH LIGHT BEFORE GOING DIM AGAIN.)

173 NICO:

What is that Julie?

174 FREY:

It looks like the crystals that I smashed with the hammer!

175 JULIE:

They put it on me- and the others. We didn't want it. We don't want it, but they don't- they wouldn't listen. The ones- the ones who came to make us all-

(PANTING.)

No, no, no, no, no, no...

(GROANS.)

Make us all like them, they wouldn't listen. They said we had to...

176 NICO:

(UNDER.)

Who are them?

177 FREY:

Julie sweetie, calm down, are they still here?

178 JULIE:

We tried to fight. We tried, we tried, we tried... But most of us changed as soon as they put them on us. Some could fight it, but it's so hard. We can't do it for long. It doesn't last. And they want us to change. All of us.

(GROANING)

They came looking- Looking for any of us that got away. They're going to come looking for me.

179 TANGO:

How can we help?

180 JULIE:

(SNAPPING)

You can't. You can't stop them. No one can.

(GROANS)

They can't be stopped.

181 JIM ROBBIE:

What do we do then?

182 JULIE:

I don't- I don't know. Nothing. Nothing but hide. None us could fight. We're still trying but... I- I should go. I should go before... Before they find me, before I- before I-

(GROANS WEAKLY, SHE'S RUNNING OUT OF ENERGY TO FIGHT.)

183 VOICE: WHISPERS FROM FURTHER IN THE TUNNEL, THOSE OF HER FELLOW MAILKIDS

184 WHISPERING VOICE:

Julie, come here... We miss you, Julie.

185 JULIE:

(HORRIFIED)

Vincent?

186 WHISPERING VOICE:

Please come home, Julie, don't you miss us? We can't be without you...

187 JULIE:

N-No!

188 JULIE: (cont'd)

(TO TANGO)

Stay here. Hide. Don't- don't let them find you. Don't let them know you're here! I'll go, maybe they'll follow me.

189 TANGO:
 But Julie-

190 SOUND: TANGO RUNS FORWARD, GRABBING AT JULIE'S ARM.

191 TANGO: (cont'd)
 (screams) Her eyes, they're solid black!

192 SOUND: TANGO SCRAMBLES TO GET AWAY WHEN JULIE'S EYES STAY SOLID BLACK.

193 JULIE:
 (PANTING.)
 I should go. Stay here...

194 VOICE: JULIE GROANS

195 SOUND: JULIE BREAKS INTO AN ALL OUT RUN AWAY FROM EVERYONE.

Scene Six: Time to Sleep.

196 TANGO:
 (SHAKY AND OUT OF BREATH.)
 We should...get out of here.

197 NICO:
 On it.

198 FREY:
 Me too.

199 JIM ROBBIE:
 Those boxes look heavy, you should put them behind the door. And use those blankets that Nico found to shove around the door. So they can't see the light.

200 NICO:
 I'd be afraid the boxes would fall. Even you would get banged up if that happened, some of that stuff is heavy.

201 FREY:
 We should sleep in shifts. Just in case something happens.

202 JIM ROBBIE:
 And what do we do if something does happen?

203 NICO:
 There has to be some kind of second exit. In case of emergencies.

- 204 FREY:
Won't that just mean they have another place to come in from?
- 205 NICO:
That's why we hope they don't find it.
- 206 JIM ROBBIE:
(SARCASTIC.)
Oh, yes, that sounds like a solid plan.
- 207 NICO:
If you have better ideas feel free to share.
(BEAT.)
Yeah. So hoping and keeping watch it is.
- 208 TANGO:
I'll take first I guess, I don't think I *could* go back to sleep right now.
- 209 NICO:
Okay. Switch off when you get tired though, I'm not sure about you, but I want to be out of here as soon as the sun comes up.
- 210 FREY:
I'll take first shift with Tango. Ah, I mean... only, if you're okay with that.
- 211 TANGO:
That's fine.
- 212 JIM ROBBIE:
Wait, wait, wait. Does that mean I'm on shift with Nico? That doesn't sound like a very good plan.
- 213 NICO:
What? Why?
- 214 JIM ROBBIE:
You were mentioning the "e" word earlier. Someone else should be up to make sure you don't try anything that you shouldn't.
- 215 NICO:
I wouldn't do anything!
- 216 JIM ROBBIE:
You have in the past. Someone should be there to make sure you don't try it again.

- 217 TANGO:
Jim, Nico's not going to do anything to you. And even if he did try something all you would have to do is scream and we'd wake up.
- 218 NICO:
Exactly. Besides, I don't want to do anything bad.
- 219 JIM ROBBIE:
I don't think you thought you were doing anything bad last time either.
- 220 FREY:
What exactly did you do to Jim?
- 221 NICO:
It's a long story.
- 222 TANGO:
Are you two going to get sleep or are you just going to sit there and argue?
- 223 NICO:
She's right. We ought to be going to sleep, not bickering about things that don't matter-
- 224 JIM ROBBIE:
(INDIGNANT. UNDER.)
Don't matter?!
- 225 NICO:
-because they're not going to happen.
- 226 JIM ROBBIE:
Yeah, well, we'll see about that.
- 227 NICO:
I'm going to sleep.
- 228 SOUND: NICO'S FOOTSTEPS AS HE WALKS AWAY. A COUPLE SECONDS LATER THE SOUND OF HIM UNROLLING A SLEEPING BAG AND CLIMBING INTO IT.
- 229 NICO: (cont'd)
Good night, everybody.
- 230 TANGO:
Sweet dreams.
- 231 FREY:
Night.

Scene Seven: Chatting

232 SOUND: OCCASIONAL SOUNDS OF NICO SHIFTING IN THE SLEEPING BAG, OR JIM ROBBIE GOING STATIC-Y (ROBOT SNORES). OTHERWISE SILENCE FROM TANGO AND FREY.

233 FREY:
I'm sorry [pause] about earlier.

234 TANGO:
No, it's okay, you didn't know that it was Charlie's hammer. You didn't even know who Charlie was.

235 FREY:
No, I didn't, but that's not really the point is it? I took something of yours without asking you who it belonged to, or if it was okay that I used it. I should not have done that.

236 TANGO:
Thanks.

237 FREY:
I'm sorry about the other part too. About losing Charlie, losing friends isn't fun.

238 TANGO:
She's not really lost. I know where she went. She went back to Chicago. I could go visit her if I wanted to.

239 FREY:
Yeah, I guess that would be nice. But visiting isn't the same as having them around all the time.

240 TANGO:
You sound like it's happened to you before.

241 FREY:
Yeah. I mean it probably happens to a lot of people. Something happens and their friends move away or get busy with a new job and they just kind of fade away, but I think it happens more often with people like us. People who travel.

242 TANGO:
I guess...

243 FREY:
I mean you can't just bring everyone you meet along with you! Most people aren't going to want to leave their homes and just wander around. It's not a life that suits everyone.

(MORE)

FREY: (cont'd)

Or someone finds a place that they really, really like. Like the people, like the environment, like everything about it. And even though traveling called to them at one point its all changed and they find that this new home is where they feel like they really belong.

Or like your friend, Charlie. She just decided that she couldn't keep going, that she had to go back home. It happens.

244 TANGO:

You make it sound really lonely.

245 FREY:

But it's not. Not really. I mean, you may not always have someone with you, but you're always meeting new people, seeing new places, learning wonderful new things. The people who stay around for a while, those are the best because you get to be with them when they experience all these new things and if they leave you know, you really know that being with them has made all of those things special. It's made all those people, places, things, and lessons unique and it's not a loss. It's just a different kind of beginning.

246 TANGO:

Yeah. I guess I never thought of it like that though. I was alone for a while at first, before I made Jim, but things have definitely been better since I have.

247 FREY:

(SNORTS)

Okay, I'll take your word for it, he doesn't exactly seem like the best company.

248 TANGO:

He is a little prickly-

249 FREY:

(UNDER HER BREATH.)

Yeah, a little.

250 TANGO:

-but he's a good friend deep down. He's a good tin can.

251 FREY:

I'm glad.

252 TANGO:

Is that why you wanted to come with us? Because you used to travel, but all of your friends stopped traveling?

253 FREY:

Yeah, in a nutshell. That and I didn't really want to wait around and see how long it took the squid's to find me again, those squops are darn good at finding. It's kind of surprising really.

You all seem like good people so I figured why not join you? It wasn't like I had anywhere that I really wanted to be. And it was time to move on.

254 TANGO:

And we dragged you right into some kind of mess with creepy kids.

255 FREY:

Eh, I probably would have found something similar myself. There's always something going on. That's what I like most about traveling, nothing's ever boring. What about you, what's your favorite part?

256 TANGO:

(PAUSE.)

Probably meeting people, but I really do like that nothing's ever really the same too.

257 FREY:

Well, I'm glad I could be a part of your favorite part. Uh.. anyway, now we just need to wait for the sun to come up so that... uh, we can get out of here.

258 TANGO:

(JOKING.)

Eh, we'll see how lucky we get.

259 FREY:

Yep. That's all we really can do, wait and see.

260 NARRATOR:

Remember kids, don't take what doesn't belong to you. That's a felony, Jim Robbie and the Wanderers was created by Iri Alexander, with tonight's episode Mailroom Mishaps being written by Jack Pevyhouse and Kelsey Leigh. With directing by Zoe von Embler, editing by Laura Bramlette, the theme by Tom Rory Parsons, and music by Rosemary Derocher. Starring Gavin Waters as the Narrator, Aleksandr Wilde as Jim Robbie, Zoe von Embler as Frey, Jake Song as Nico, and Ashley Rubertt as Julie. If you would like to support our show, please visit jimrobbieandthewanderers.com, or visit our patreon at patreon.com/jimrobbieandthewanderers, and please remember to subscribe to and rate our episodes on itunes, and google play.