

JRatW S3 EP07 - Crater Crazy

Found next to the skeletal remains of
Shannon Sawyer, Jack Pevyhouse, & Zoe Embler

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Scene: 1 WINDSWEPT PLAINS: DAY

- 1 SOUND: WIND SWEEPS OVER TALL GRASSES, RUSTLING EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE.
- 2 NARRATOR:
With the radio station filled with skeletons far behind them, the Wanderers continue to walk the windswept plains without a town in sight... But it seems like our band of heroes have other plans.
- 3 JIM ROBBIE:
I just want to say, this is a bad idea. A very bad idea. At a bad time.
- 4 FREY:
We haven't seen a single building since we left the station. Nico, are you sure this is the best time-
- 5 NICO:
It's only noon, we have plenty of time. The flat terrain should give us a pretty accurate reading. We just have to find the maximum distance that Tango can be away from Jim is before he stops working. Just hold onto him.
- 6 FREY:
Uh...okay?
- 7 SOUND: TANGO HANDS JIM TO FREY.
- 8 NICO:
Ready Tango?
- 9 TANGO:
Right! ... So, um... I just walk?
- 10 NICO:
Just keep walking, slowly, until I yell for you to stop.
- 11 JIM ROBBIE:
You know, this might be good in the long run, but currently, I am not happy about this.
- 12 NICO:
Just keep talking, Jimmy. Go, Tango.
- 13 SOUND: TANGO TAKES SLOW STEPS THROUGH THE GRASS, GETTING FURTHER AND FURTHER AWAY.

- 14 NICO: (cont'd)
(OVER THE SOUNDS OF TANGO WALKING FADING INTO THE DISTANCE)
I know you don't like this Jim, but I need as much data as possible.
- 15 JIM ROBBIE:
Oh really? Your fancy-shmancy science can't figure this out without putting me through more black-outs?
- 16 NICO:
Science isn't magic. It's trial and error.
- 17 JIM ROBBIE:
It shouldn't be when I'M the subject of the crazy experiments! Doesn't stuff go wrong in this kind of stuff? You know, wire-mix ups, reprogramming, memory-loss, mutilated pieces that don't fit back anymore. What if any of that happens to me-
- 18 JIM ROBBIE: (cont'd)
(STARTS GLITCHING AT THE END)
- 19 FREY:
Whoah okay, there he goes.
- 20 SOUND: JIM ROBBIE GLITCHES AND GOES SILENT
- 21 NICO:
(OVER/YELLING)
TANGO!
- 22 TANGO:
(OFF-MIKE/YELLING)
WHAT? ... OH YEAH!
- 23 NICO:
(YELLING)
STAY RIGHT THERE!
- 24 SOUND: NICO USES A MEASURING TAPE FROM WHERE FREY IS STANDING, THE APPROXIMATE RADIUS IS TWENTY FEET.
- 25 NICO: (cont'd)
Seventeen, eighteen... Twenty feet! Okay, so close enough to be visible in most situations, but any further and contact isn't as feasible.
- 26 FREY:
(Under) How did you find a measuring tape that long?

- 27 TANGO:
(UNDER)
Hey, you see that?
- 28 NICO:
Frey! Bring Jim over, we got our- HEY! TANGO! Where are you going?
- 29 SOUND: TANGO RUNS OFF FOR A MOMENT THROUGH THE GRASS, THEN STOPS
- 30 SOUND: FREY ALSO RUNS UP, CARRYING JIM. JIM COMES BACK ONLINE
- 31 JIM ROBBIE:
(CONTINUED)
- me? I don't want to get hurt in all of... Oh... I blacked out, didn't I?
- 32 FREY:
Sorry pal I'm afraid you had to much to drink last night and uh we eloped. Hey what do you think Los Nuevo Keys for the honeymoon or maybe The Poke' Noes? I'm partial to sunny locations... Hey Nico, do we really need to do this again? See, Jim and I have to be awake pretty bright and early to catch a boat to see a guy about a vow? I think we should find our honeymoon suite soon.
- 33 JIM ROBBIE:
... What?
- 34 NICO:
Okay, okay, enough of that. We've got the measurements, but we won't have to do more test like that until I've got my first system test ready... Buuttt Frey's also right... About the "finding shelter" thing, not the eloping thing. We can't do tests while creepy nightmare children are chasing us down.
- 35 TANGO:
But we don't have to worry!
- 36 JIM ROBBIE:
... Yes we do.
- 37 TANGO:
No we don't! Look over there!
- 38 SOUND: WIND PICKS UP OVER THE PLAINS AGAIN

39 NARRATOR:

(OVER)

Tango wasn't wrong. Over the tall grasses, in the distance, were buildings and the gentle plume of smoke from rooftops. A town inhabited. But how friendly is this town?

Scene: 2 CRATER-TOWN Ext. DAY

40 SOUND: GENERAL SMALL TOWN SOUNDS, A FEW GROUPS OF PEOPLE TALKING AND WALKING AROUND, ETC.

41 TANGO:

(EXCITED)

OH MY GOD! PEOPLE! MAYBE **FRIENDLY**-PEOPLE! No squops, no scary-eyed children, and no spooey skeletons! When was the last time we actually saw people?

42 FREY:

I mean, technically that one mail-kid before she...Actually... Actually, apart from the cell in the sqown, I don't remember the last time I saw people? Has it really been that long?

43 NICO:

Uhh, you two might want to calm it down just a touch there before the staring people turn into glaring people trying to run us out of town. We've still got to find a place to spend the night. Inside.

44 JIM ROBBIE:

(STARTS COUNTING)

One, two, three, four, five-

45 JIM ROBBIE: (cont'd)

(KEEPS COUNTING UNTIL SOME DISASTER STRIKES)

46 FREY:

Why are you counting?

47 JIM ROBBIE:

(UNDER)

-six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen, twenty, twenty-one, twenty-two, twenty-three, twenty-four, twenty-five, twenty-six, twenty-se-

48 TANGO:

Jim, we're done experimenting with distance stuff... I.. at least I think we are? ... If you're counting how long it takes for you to glitch, I hate to tell you, but you're not going anywhere anytime soon-

49 SOUND: A FEW STREETS DOWN A CROWD STARTS YELLING, IT SOUNDS ALMOST LIKE THE SCUFFLE OF A BRAWL HAPPENING

(JIM'S COUNTING NUMBER MAY CHANGE DEPENDING ON HOW LONG NICO'S RESPONSE IS)

50 JIM ROBBIE:

Twenty-seven! ... Exactly twenty-seven seconds before something happened that we're going to get dragged into. I'm surprised I got that far.

51 TANGO:

Well, ugh... OKAY, so maybe we get in trouble sometimes, but we're still alive. And since you're being a smarty-speaker...why don't we just go and shorten the time!

52 SOUND: TANGO BOLTS OFF WITH JIM IN ARMS

53 JIM ROBBIE:

(YELLING)

Hey, HEY! TANGO! I WAS JUST- JUST TESTING A THEORY WITH THE COUNTING THING! NICO! IT'S SCIENCE ISN'T IT??? NICO BACK ME UP!

54 SOUND: JIM'S VOICE FADES AS TANGO ROUNDS THE CORNER, RUNNING INTO TROUBLE

55 NICO:

(EXASPERATED)

Annnddd... There she goes.

56 FREY:

(Laughs)

Scene: 3 CRATER-TOWN Ext. DAY

57 SOUND: A HUGE BRAWL IS ABOUT TO BREAK OUT, CROWDS YELLING AT EACH OTHER, ALMOST AT EACH OTHER'S THROAT.

58 SOUND: WIND SWEEPS OVER THE NEARBY CRATER, WITH THE OCCASIONAL DISTANT

59 SOUND OF RUBBLE FALLING TO THE GROUND BELOW

60 NARRATOR:

Indeed, it looks like the Wanderers have found themselves in the middle of a town divided as two crowds look ready for a stand-off. But the rest of the folks look... less pleased.

- 61 FREY:
TANGO! Tango! Hang on, hold on, Tango we can't just jump in without knowing anything and... and... Oooohhh my Emperor, that CRATER is HUGE! I... I can't even see the other side.
- 62 NICO:
Wow... There is no natural thing on Earth that could have caused that.
- 63 TANGO:
(STUNNED)
Leo and Martha-Anne.
- 64 NICO:
What?
- 65 SOUND: THE TWO CROWDS ROARS AGAIN, BUT QUIETS DOWN AS TWO FIGURES STARE EACH OTHER DOWN, BUT SOMEONE STANDS IN THEIR WAY
- 66 SOUND: OCCASIONAL SOUND OF STEAM HUFFING FROM METAL PORTS ON MICHELE'S LEG
- 67 MICHELLE:
- Out of the way, Addie! I'm going to pulverize that nuclear-jerkhead into atoms, here and NOW!
- 68 LUCAS:
HA! Your ideas are just as fried as your tech. I'D LOVE to see you try, little overheated teapot! This is gonna end with you getting beat with your own leg!
- 69 ADDIE:
(REALLY GUYS?)
LUCAS! MICHELLE! This is NOT the time, and not the PLACE for-
- 70 SOUND: THE CLIFFSIDE CRUMBLES. VERY CLOSE, AND VERY LOUD. THE CROWD YELLS
- 71 ADDIE: (cont'd)
(YELLING)
EVERYONE! GET BACK! BACK!
- 72 SOUND: THE CLIFF STOPS CRUMBLING AND THE CROWD CALMS
- 73 ADDIE: (cont'd)
Michelle! Lucas! You two need to move into somewhere else before you take the entire town with you!

- 74 MICHELLE:
(SNEERING)
This doesn't concern you.
- 75 SOUND: ANOTHER PUFF OF STEAM ERUPTS FROM MICHELLE'S LEG
- 76 NICO:
Woah, that prosthetic leg is amazing! The plates look like they contract like muscle and-
- 77 MICHELLE:
You cut right to the chase, don't you?
- 78 NICO:
(FLUSTERED)
Oh... OH! I'm- um... Sorry I didn't mean-
- 79 MICHELLE:
(LESS BITE FOR SOMEONE ADMIRING HER WORK)
Nah, I don't mind talking about this piece right here. Glad to see you tourists have good tastes in machinery. Designed and constructed this bad gal myself.
- 80 LUCAS:
Only you could with that mess of salvaged parts. Some of us ACTUALLY make something work without wasting water the town needs to **survive**. Radiation IS the gift that keeps on giving.
- 81 NICO:
(NO)
... Radiation?
- 82 NICO: (cont'd)
(UNDER/REPEATING RADIATION AS IF HE CAN'T BELIEVE SOMEONE IS THAT STUPID TO USE RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS)
- 83 TANGO:
Radiation? ... OH! Like the Glowball tournament! That was fun!
- 84 FREY:
(NO FLIPPING WAY!)
You were in a Glowball tournament?
- 85 TANGO:
You're looking at a Glowball WINNER!
- 86 FREY:
Wait, what ?... Don't winners die from radiation exposure, like, immediately afterwards?

- 87 JIM ROBBIE:
Won, nearly died, but lived through sheer dumb luck.
- 88 FREY:
What how wait Tango you have got to tell me more I
fudgin LOVE Glow ball! I can't believe-
- 89 NICO:
(OVER/INTERRUPTING)
-RADIATION? Okay, can we all stop for a second and ask
WHY are you using RADIATION as an ENERGY SOURCE???
- 90 LUCAS:
(RUDE)
Because it is the most powerful material on this ball
of rock. It would have been able to drive train engines
across this land, until HER over-broiled
great-great-not so great grandmother stopped my
great-great-GREATEST grandfather from building that
train.
- 91 MICHELLE:
(UNDER)
YOUR waste-brained idiot ancestor would have never made
it to the East Coast before his own train blew up in
his face-
- 92 TANGO:
(OVER)
Great-great... WAIT! You two are relatives of Leo and
Martha-Anne-
- 93 ADDIE:
- Yes, they are. And **that** is the crater we should move
this argument AWAY from the EDGE of... NOW you two.
- 94 LUCAS:
I don't recall you running this town, Addie.
- 95 ADDIE:
No, no I don't. But you're not doing this for the town!
Everyone knows that. You two are constantly at each
other's throats over a HUGE MISTAKE when you have a
town to run- But you'd rather keep this blood feud
going
- 96 MICHELLE:
(LOW ANGER)
We look after our **own** just fine. So here's a question
for you if you care about this town's history and its
people, **who's side are you on?**
- 97 SOUND: MICHELLE STALKS OFF, AND HER CROWD FOLLOWS HER

98 LUCAS:
 (WALKING OFF IN A HUFF)

99 SOUND: LUCAS STALKS OFF WITH HIS OWN GROUP, LEAVING THE
 WANDERERS AND ADDIE ALONE NEAR THE CLIFFSIDE

100 SOUND: REMAINING TOWNSFOLK WHISPER AMONGST EACH OTHER BEFORE
 MOVING ALONG

Scene: 4 CRATER-TOWN Ext. DAY

101 ADDIE:
 I'm sorry all of you had to see that. I'm Addie, one of
 the left with any sense in this town... Who are you?

102 TANGO:
 OH! Well, I'm Tango, that's Nico, and Frey, and THIS is
 Jim! We're a group of musicians, just passing through!

103 SOUND: TANGO RATTLES JIM WHEN SHE MENTIONS HIS NAME

104 ADDIE:
 (AMUSED)
 Musicians? You guys got a show?

105 FREY:
 (FLUSTERED)
 I mean...well...I'm not in the band. I mean I play the
 drums and stuff but I'm not actually...in...the band.
 Why are you looking at me when you're asking this
 question? Look at the girl with cute face over there
 she'll tell you. (awkward laugh)

106 TANGO:
 We got a routine, and lots of songs! (Whispered, Tango
 knows where she is) We actually performed on a train
 before.

107 SOUND: DEAD SILENCE FROM THE GROUP, THE WIND PASSES OVER THE
 CLIFFSIDE.

108 ADDIE:
 ... What?

109 TANGO:
 (I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT THOSE OTHER TRAINS, I PROMISE.)
 A ghost train! It shows up to people who are lost
 sometimes and gets them where they need to go! We rode
 on it and got to perform for a bunch of fancy folk!

110 FREY:
 Tango, a ghost train? I can't say I've ever seen a
 ghost train. I mean I've seen a real train before and
 (MORE)

FREY: (cont'd)
that was plenty scary enough. (mutters to herself) Come to think of it I should really send a letter to my brother...

111 JIM ROBBIE:
Excuse, but I performed on that train too!

112 NICO:
You probably blacked out again, Jim.

113 JIM ROBBIE:
(INSULTED NOISES)

114 ADDIE:
Alright, alright, stories of haunted trains and so forth... Well, it sounds like one of you is already familiar with the old stories so I guess you don't need the tour.

115 TANGO:
No! No, I still want the tour! I didn't think anyone would try to make a town here!

116 ADDIE:
Well, those two were stupid enough to try. They built on opposite ends, and ended up meeting at the middle. History has a funny way of repeating itself... With a little less, "explodey destruction."

117 NICO:
So if they're both the town's leaders why don't they come to a compromise?

118 ADDIE:
Those idiots want to continue the railroad, but they're so caught up in their family's legacy they can't see what they're repeating. At least they'd rather argue 'till the sun comes up instead of building anything.

119 FREY:
(COUGH COUGH)
Speaking of which, Addie, is there a place we can stay the night? Indoors? I-I'm sorry if this comes off a little rude. We've been on the road for a while and-

120 ADDIE:
OH! Oh yeah, it's no problem... Frey, was it? Why don't you all stay with me tonight? Especially with all the disappearances.

121 JIM ROBBIE:
Disappearances?

122 ADDIE:
(SPOOKY CAMP-FIRE VOICE)
Yeah, children disappearing and stuff. Some folks say the "spirits of Martha-Anne and Leo take children to build their new railways in the night." Almost as bad as the rumor of children making their OWN train cult.

123 JIM ROBBIE:
(FAKE MOCKING LAUGHTER)
... HAHA, FUNNY, AIN'T IT?

Scene: 5 CRATER TOWN Ext. DAY

124 NARRATOR:
As the wanderers follow Addie through the bustling town made of iron, steel, and other materials from a time long gone by, the tour of town takes them perilously close to the edge of the gaping crater. It's there that Tango notices something...

125 TANGO:
(REVERENTLY)
What... is that thing?

126 ADDIE:
That thing, as you put it, is a reminder of the mistakes that created this crater.

127 JIM ROBBIE:
Yea it looks like a really ugly statue is what it looks like.

128 NICO:
SHUT UP JIM. IT'S OBVIOUSLY IMPORTANT, TRY NOT TO BE A JERK FOR LIKE FIVE SECONDS.

129 JIM ROBBIE:
(ANGRILY SIGHS)
Fine.

130 NICO:
(WHAT IS ABSTRACT ART?)
What's it a reminder of? It looks like... two people fighting? Maybe?

131 ADDIE:
Well....not so very long ago there were two people. A woman named Martha-Anne and a man named Leo Fredericks...

(THE WANDERERS MOVE TOWARDS A STATUE OF TWISTED METAL IN THE SHAPE OF TWO PEOPLE, A MAN AND A WOMAN, WHO ARE LOCKED IN A LIFE AN DEATH BATTLE.)

132 SOUND: THE PLATFORM CREAKS OMINOUSLY AS THEY WALK ACROSS IT AND THE SOUND OF WHISTLING WIND GROWS ALMOST DISTURBINGLY LOUD.

133 FREY:
Leo Fredericks, the nuclear industrialist. Known for being a genius, a genius who was a ginormous jerk.

134 ADDIE:
Oh, so you've heard of him too?

135 FREY:
Yea...something like that.

136 TANGO:
Yeah! When Martha Ann was three she built a steam powered rocket and well, when she was seventeen she got a wild idea and decided, HEY! I'm gonna rebuild the TRANS CONTINENTAL RAILROAD.

137 NICO:
You're kidding me right when she was three?

138 TANGO:
(STORYTELLING VOICE)
Yea, three. But while, when Martha Ann was building her steam powered doodads, on the other side of the world Leo Frederickswas building his own railroad.

139 JIM ROBBIE:
You've told me this story a thousand times, and it **definitely** doesn't end well.

140 FREY:
Shhh, Jim!

141 TANGO:
While she created a steam powered train and set off building her half, Leo had built a nuclear powered train and was laying down his half of track. They met in the dark of night here. The moment they saw their enemy, they knew what they had to do! They had to joust - for the tracks and the glory! They readied their trains and powered them towards each other. Martha's train was smaller than Leo's nuclear monster, but she had an ace up her sleeve. She had packed the entire train with dynamite. The rest.. well-

142 ADDIE:
- They exploded. An inferno that laid waste to everything and everyone. When the dust cleared Martha-Anne, Leo, and the trains were gone, leaving nothing but the crater and a twisted pile of metal soaked in radiation.... This statue was created as a reminder of what happened. A reminder that-

143 NICO:
You can't trust trains.

144 ADDIE:
(IN AGREEMENT)
You can't trust trains..... Why don't we move on?

145 SOUND: THE WANDERERS LEAVE THE JETTY SLOWLY AND THE WIND HOWLS ANGRILY AS THE SCENE FADES AWAY.

Scene 6: ADDIE'S HOME Int. NIGHT

146 SOUND: THERE IS THE GENTLE HUM OF ELECTRICITY IN ADDIE'S HOME GIVING IT LIGHT. WATER RUNS FROM A FAUCET AS DISHES BEING RUBBED CLEAN

147 FREY:
(EATING)
Thanks for letting us stay here tonight, it's not a trouble is it?

148 ADDIE:
No trouble at all! Sorry I had to have you park your wagon closer to the crater. My little earthship might be entirely solar, but it can't make more room for everyone.

149 SOUND: TANGO EATING IN THE BACKGROUND, DISHES AND CUTLERY SOUNDS

150 TANGO:
(WITH A FULL MOUTH)
That's okay! YOUR FOOD IS DELICIOUS!

151 SOUND: FREY AND TANGO CONTINUE EATING IN THE BACKGROUND

152 ADDIE:
(AMUSED)
Glad you have more than enough room to appreciate it!

153 NICO:
Let me help with the dishes.

- 154 JIM ROBBIE:
(UNDER)
Oh no, now he's being nice.
- 155 ADDIE:
I just hope you don't mind the decor. I know its a bit...weird.
- 156 TANGO:
(MOUTH STILL FULL)
I mean sure you have a lot of weird signs all over the walls and those paintings of a trains are really creeping me out right now. But it's not that bad.
- 157 ADDIE:
(WITH CHAGRIN)
Call it a bit of regretful nostalgia. Someone's got to remember the awful end to that feud.
- 158 NICO:
It's ridiculous! Do they even know what they're messing with?! How have they managed to live so close to those those reactor cores so close and understaffed?!
- 159 ADDIE:
It's just the one reactor. The other cooling tower was renovated into apartments while Lucas is playing it safe in that old bunker his idiot ancestor built and a couple of his chosen few. (scoffs) Selfish jerk...
- 160 ADDIE: (cont'd)
And as for that steam mill of Michelle's, she's turned into a factory, inventing and teaching her followers all about the inner mechanisms of steam power. She guards it with these "Mechos" she made all on her own.
- 161 SOUND: SHE TURNS OFF THE SINK
- 162 NICO:
Huh. It almost sounds as though Lucas is all talk and bluster, and Michelle's really applying her craft. It's a bit regressive, but it sounds like she's got good work ethic.
- 163 ADDIE:
(NOT IMPRESSED)
I say they're both idiots who need to realize that neither of their ideas are any good in this town. Everyone knows and realizes it, but no one else wants to argue with those hotheads. We need as much water as we can get, and we have to get rid of all that radioactive nonsense before it does some irreparable damage.

- 164 NICO:
Exactly! Like, just jerry rig some solar panels... Like the setup you've got here! They're not hard to make in a pinch if you've got the right supplies!
- 165 SOUND: IN THE BACKGROUND TANGO AND FREY START GETTING TUCKERED OUT
- 166 TANGO AND FREY:
(DISCUSSION GETTING A LITTLE TIRED AND EVENTUALLY DOZING OFF. ACCOMPANIED BY THE OCCASIONAL SNORE OR SLEEPY NOISE AFTER.)
- 167 ADDIE:
I've tried to arrange town meetings, but they won't listen!
- 168 NICO:
Then maybe... what if their own people start thinking about it?
- 169 ADDIE:
What do you mean?
- 170 NICO:
I mean some old-fashioned espionage work! We sneak in as members of each group and raise some concerns, like the amount of maintenance and the huge cut into the water rations? Then we could mention that solar is a perfectly viable solution!
- 171 ADDIE:
(EXCITED)
At the very least, wind turbines!
- 172 NICO:
(EXCITED)
YES! That's is a perfect plan! ... What do you think, guys- Oh! (softly) They're asleep at the kitchen table...
- 173 TANGO AND FREY:
(SLEEPING SOUNDS A LITTLE LOUDER)
- 174 ADDIE:
(SOFTLY)
Aw, those poor darlings, they must've been tuckered out after all that food.
- 175 NICO:
(YAWNS)
Again, thank you for the carnitas.

176 ADDIE:

I'm just glad I could have some sensible guests over at my table. Now you better rest up too, Nico dear. Tomorrow's not gonna be easy, I just know it.

177 NICO:

(DOZING OFF)

I'm sure it'll all be... somewhat fine.

Scene: 7 COOLING TOWER APARTMENTS,

INT. Day

178 SOUND: UNDER THEIR TALKING, THE SOUNDS OF A NUCLEAR REACTOR CAN BE HEARD FROM THE TOWER NEXT TO THE CURRENT LOCATION

179 FREY:

Honestly, Nico, I still don't think this is a good idea at all.

180 NICO:

... Yeah, it's not the first time I've come up with a really bad idea after a sleepless night... But we might as well commit, right?

181 SOUND: A WORK WHISTLE IS HEARD

182 NARRATOR:

Disguised in borrowed clothes, Frey and Nico attempt to infiltrate and educate the Nuclearite cult.

183 FREY:

(SOURLY)

I look ridiculous in this weird dress. And what's with these weird test-tube bottles on this belt, and why does it flare at the bottom? I ... this is ridiculous.

184 NICO:

(REASSURING)

You look fine.

185 FREY:

You got it easy, all you had to do was wear shiny boots with your getup. I had to put on this monstrosity.

186 NICO:

The chrome boots are a nice touch... But I just want to know why you insisted on bringing a bat. Where did you even get that thing?

187 FREY:

(CHEERFULLY)

It's a souvenir from an 'Attle City Imperials Game! It is the best and most functional accessory I own.

188 SOUND: RADIATION GLOWY NOISE, SOMEWHERE A GEIGER COUNTER
CLICKS, ROBOT NOISES

189 SOUND: FREY GRABS NICO BY THE SHOULDER OF HIS COAT AND PULLS
HIM DOWN

190 NICO:
Oof! Frey!

191 FREY:
(SHUSH)
Shut up, Nico. Get down! Look!

192 NICO:
Is... Is that one of the Mechas Addie was talking
about? I guess Lucas just had to make some of his own.
They must be nuclear-powered-

193 FREY:
Nico! Shush! Seriously ... Look those worker mechs are
powered by small little fusion batteries in the front,
yeah?

194 NICO:
(CONFUSED)
Yeah....

195 FREY:
(TRYING TO SOUND CONVINCING)
Sooo... How about we cause a little havoc, you know? Go
out there, wreck a bot, show people how easy it would
be for one of them to malfunction and, you know, BLOW
UP!

196 NICO:
... You sure? We might end up poisoning everyone.

197 FREY:
We don't have to break it open, come on pal, just
destroy the mech and the core will just sit in there,
exposed. One good hit to it and...

198 SOUND: FREY CLAPS HER HANDS TOGETHER... AS QUIETLY AS
POSSIBLE

199 FREY: (cont'd)
(CONT.)
- BOOM! Exploding mecho! Fires everywhere! People
poisoned! Small children wail in despair as the fabric
of society falls down around their ears.

200 NICO:
(INTERRUPTING)
- Jeeze Frey I get it. I get it! ... But I guess that does make sense? Scare 'em a little and remind them how close those things are to disaster. It might...work.

201 FREY:
So you in?

202 NICO:
(NOT LIKE THEY GOT A DIFFERENT PLAN)
..... Okay I'm in.

203 FREY:
(GETTING PSYCHED UP)
Time to batter up, ya radiator!

204 NICO:
Oh god, oh god, I'm gonna die of radiation poisoning. And not the fun way... THERE IS NO FUN WAY OF DYING BY RADIATION POISONING! No, I'm not gonna get cool superpowers from radiation, I'm going to DIE!

205 SOUND: THE RUSHING OF FEET AS NICO AND FREY CHARGE AT THE MECHAS BAT

206 NICO/FREY:
(Battle cry!)

207 SOUND: BAT AND A WRENCH HITTING METAL AND DISTRESSED MACHINE NOISES THAT FADE INTO THE HISSING OF DAMAGED COOLING VENTS THAT CONTINUES INTO THE NEXT SCENE

Scene: 8 MICHELLE'S MILL Int. DAY

208 NARRATOR:
As Frey and Nico brave the battle against radioactive foes, a lecture is being held at a steam mill not too far away. But where are Tango and Jim?

209 SOUND: HISSING BECOMING MORE STACCATO, GEARS MOVING AND A STEAM-ENGINE CHUGGING.

210 EL:
And that, little sunbeams, is how you can utilize vinegar best to clean your engine's inner workings! And if you put in enough cinnamon, you can make it smell nice!

211 CITIZEN:
But what if you put in too much, won't it mess things up?

- 212 EL:
Mmmmmm.... Naaaah, I'm sure it's a-oka-
- 213 SOUND: STEAM ENGINE SPUTTERING AND CLANKING AND CLICKING AND THEN FALLING APART.
- 214 EL: (cont'd)
(EMBARRASSED)
O-okay, that's enough for my presentation today,
goodbye!
- 215 MICHELLE:
(INCREDIBLY UNIMPRESSED)
Yes, thank you to the newest member of our community,
El Sunbeam.
- 216 SOUND: HER PROSTHETIC LEG HISSES
- 217 MICHELLE: (cont'd)
(CLEARS HER THROAT)
- 218 MICHELLE: (cont'd)
(SPEECH! SPEECH! SPEECH!)
Fellow steamers and gearheads, today brings us another beautiful turn of the earth... And another day closer to the fall of those atomic annoyances, those half-life morons! Our tech may be older, slower. BUT! It is patient, calculating. It is our character! Our **pride!** We are hard workers! Mechanical geniuses! And each set of hands is one to light the fire in our chassis! Our steam clouds will show the rise of our way, our growth and progression, and we will build! That! **Railway!!**
- 219 MICHELLE: (cont'd)
(SPEECH! CONT.)
YES! Yes, we will build our glorious steam-train, and we'll leave our radioactive counterparts glowing and stagnant in their own towers while our bustling town grows into a city! A hub of trade and commerce! We will become the place where the origins of our new steam-powered America started, not with me, no, dear friends, but with Martha-Anne's idea, and with the drive and passion of the citizens of this town!
- 220 SOUND: CROWD CHEERS AND WHOOPING AND APPLAUSE AND SUCH, FOR A GOOD WHILE, THEN JIM SPEAKS UP
- 221 JIM ROBBIE:
(SOMEWHAT FAINT OVER THE LAST FEW NOISES OF THE CROWD)
What about **solar?**
- 222 SOUND: CROWD WHISPERER IN CONFUSION AND INTRIGUE. A FEW OTHER VOICES REPEAT SOLAR

- 223 MICHELLE:
(GRITTING HER TEETH)
What. **About. IT?**
- 224 JIM ROBBIE:
Well, it... doesn't use up lots and lots of water that could be used for agriculture and sanitation, or used as drinking water!
- 225 MICHELLE:
(GETS A BETTER LOOK AT THEM FROM UP AT THE STAGE)
Wait a **minute**... It's one of those newcomers! The pretty lady with the robot! ... He's not steam-powered at all!
- 226 EL:
(SURPRISED)
Newcomer? ... WAIT! Tango?! JIM?!
- 227 TANGO:
Uhhhhh...
- 228 JIM ROBBIE:
El? What are you doing here? Aren't you currently trying to shoot small animals out of a ridiculously large cannon somewhere in the desert?
- 229 TANGO:
Yeah! What're you doing outin these parts? Last I saw you, you were trying to shoot us out of a cannon... That we broke.
- 230 EL:
(FLUSTERED AT THE START)
W-well... Uh, YOU SEE! After the... **incident**, I really started thinking. Really thinking. What was the meaning of life? Was joining the sun with the earth really such a great idea after all? I mean, they must have been separated for a reason right? So **I** started wandering TOO! And my righteous feet led me to the edge of this crater. I found these people, this town, and my heart soared! I finally found something that gave me meaning! The sun was here in the hearts of men! The righteous power of steam and sun will free us all from our chains!
- 231 TANGO:
You should hang out with Addie, she likes the sun! Her house even uses solar power!
- 232 EL:
(THOUGHTFULLY)
I... I do still love the sun...

- 233 MICHELLE:
(ANGRY)
AHM. YOU THREE-
- 234 JIM ROBBIE:
Hey, this is a private conversation, lady!
- 235 MICHELLE:
GUARDS! Get them. They're spies for Lucas, or Addie!
- 236 SOUND: CROWD GETS RILED UP
- 237 TANGO:
(PANICKED)
Time to go!
- 238 JIM ROBBIE:
This plan was the worst! Why can't we ever be diplomatic?! It's always, "Chase them! Get them!" Why is no one REASONABLE!
- 239 EL:
(GASP!)
Tango, the Mechos are behind you! Watch out!
- 240 SOUND: STEAM-BOTS COMING IN TO GET TANGO
- 241 TANGO:
(GROWLING)
NO! No! I got this!
- 242 SOUND: TANGO TURNING INTO A WERE-BEAR, THE CROWD GASPING, AND THEN, A BIG OL BEAR ROAR AND CRUNCHING METAL AND LITTLE ROBOT BITS GETTING EVERYWHERE.
- 243 TANGO: (cont'd)
(BEAR VOICE DISTORTED)
Owie, owie, hot robots! Hot, **hot, HOT!**
- 244 JIM ROBBIE:
(STRAPPED TO TANGO'S BACK)
HI-HO, TANGO! WHOO!
- 245 EL:
(DEADPAN)
Huh... I guess she turns into a bear.
- 246 MICHELLE:
(FLOORED)
WHAT?!

247 JIM ROBBIE:

Tango! El! let's get outta here!

248 EL:

... Okay. I guess my righteous feet did NOT lead me to the promised land.

249 SOUND: HUMAN AND BEAR FOOTSTEPS RUNNING AND FADING AWAY

Scene: 9 Cooling Tower Apartments,

INT. Day

250 SOUND: CROWD RABBLING AND SHOCKED AT THE DESTRUCTION, NICO BREAKING STUFF LIKE A REBEL UNDERNEATH FREY'S TALKING

251 FREY:

EVERYONE! Look! Nuclear power might last, but it's dangerous! It needs constant, CONSTANT maintenance, monitoring, and upgrades to keep it safe! This is RADIATION! RADIATION PEOPLE!

252 SOUND: NICO'S GRUMBLING AND DESTRUCTION GETS EVEN LOUDER

253 FREY: (cont'd)

(CONT'D)

And even... even then, it'll still... increase... Nico, are you doing okay?

254 NICO:

I'VE BEEN REALLY STRESSED OUT, THIS IS HEALTHY FOR ME.

255 FREY:

(HALF A BEAT)

Fair.

256 SOUND: HE GETS A LAST COUPLE HITS IN, THEN SITS DOWN, BREATHING HEAVILY

257 FREY: (cont'd)

(TO THE CROWD)

But look, you need a better source of energy, and it's just as easy to utilize and requires so much less maintenance than fusion power!

258 SOUND: THE CROWD KINDA MURMURS IN AGREEMENT

259 FREY: (cont'd)

(GESTURING TO THE OUTFIT SHE'S WEARING)

Besides, honestly, people, the solarpunk look is way more elegant than... this nonsense right here that I'm in.

260 NICO:
(CATCHING HIS BREATH)
I dig it, man.

Scene: 10 COOLING TOWER APARTMENTS,

INT. Day

261 SOUND: LUCAS ENTERS

262 LUCAS:
(WHAT THE FRICK FRACK DIDLY DACK IS GOIN ON?!)
Wh-... WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS! YOU TWO! WHAT DID
YOU DO???

263 FREY:
A demonstration of protest against an environmentally
unsafe source of power that should be disposed of
safely and as far away from this town as possible!
... Ya dingus!

264 NICO:
(TIRED)
Yeah... Go solar. Or whatever... Whooo boy...

265 LUCAS:
(ANGRY)
But... BUT.. BUT YOU TWO BROKE THEM! ON PURPOSE!

266 NICO:
... Oh... Yeah, I guess deliberately breaking them
isn't the best way to demonstrate how they malfunction.

267 LUCAS:
(ANGRY)
Trying to SABOTAGE my grandfather's legacy? GET OUT OF
HERE, YOU OVERCOOKED VEGETABLES!

268 FREY:
Not until you act like an adult and actually CONSIDER
using something else!

269 LUCAS:
(VERY ANGRY NOISES)

270 SOUND: THE REST OF THE DRONES COME IN CLOSER FOR THEM

271 SOUND: DROIDS START TO WIND UP OMINOUSLY.

272 FREY:
Uhh... Okay! FINE! Nico, c'mon! Let's go!

273 NICO:
(TIRED GROANING)

274 SOUND: NICO AND FREY GET THE HECK OUT OF THERE

SCENE: 11 CRATER-TOWN CLIFFSIDE,
EXT. Sunset

275 SOUND: STEAM ENGINES AT FULL SPEED AND NUCLEAR THRUMMING AS THE TOWNSPEOPLE YELL AND FIGHT. A FEW PEOPLE SCREAM AND FLEE

276 NARRATOR:
History repeats itself: Steam Power verses Nuclear! As Tango, El, and Jim Robbie flee from Michelle, they run into Frey and Nico, who are fleeing from Lucas. Two enemies meet half-way, fighting close to the point of no return...

277 MICHELLE:
YOU MICROWAVED DUMBY! THE ROBOTS WERE MY IDEA, YOU DON'T HAVE AN ORIGINAL BONE IN YOUR BODY!

278 LUCAS:
YOU POMPOUS TWIT, I MADE YOUR DESIGNS BETTER! I **IMPROVED** THEM!

279 SOUND: MICHELLE'S PROSTHETIC HISSING INTENSELY

280 ADDIE:
(DISTRESSED)
ENOUGH! Both of you! STOP THIS INSANITY! You're only driving people away! H-HEY! I SAID STOP! PLEASE, LISTEN-

281 SOUND: NICO AND FREY RUN UP TOWARD ADDIE

282 NICO:
Where's Tango and Jim?!

283 ADDIE:
What did you all DO?!

284 SOUND: BEAR ROAR

285 JIM ROBBIE:
WHOO, THIS IS THE BEST DAY EVER! I DON'T EVEN CARE ANYMORE! C'MON TANGO! BEAR FIGHT!

286 EL:
(FEELING SICK/ALSO ON TANGO'S BACK)
I think I'm gonna huuuurl!!! WHY DID YOU MAKE ME CLIMB UP ON THIS WERE-BEAR'S BACK!

- 287 JIM ROBBIE:
(WHOOPING IN JOY)
Cause some people like FUN with their destruction!
Enjoy the ride!
- 288 SOUND: TANGO BEAR ROARS
- 289 NICO:
(RELIEVED)
Oh, thank Einstein, they're safe.
- 290 FREY:
(TOTALLY SHOCKED)
.... Bear... girl?
- 291 NICO:
(REALIZES THAT FREY'S NEVER SEEN BEAR!TANGO)
Oooohhhh, yeah, by the way she turns into a bear.. and
when she turns back she's going to be naked so... (to
Tango) TANGO, HEY! OVER HERE! WE'RE NEAR THE WAGON!
- 292 SOUND: BEAR FOOTSTEPS RUNNING CLOSER
- 293 JIM ROBBIE:
I think I've accepted how chaotic visiting new places
is for us! Laws are made to be broken! Survival of the
fittest!
- 294 NICO:
JIM! ENJOY YOUR ANARCHY LATER!
- 295 FREY:
(STILL KINDA SHOCKED)
But... Bear girl?
- 296 TANGO:
(DISTORTED)
Don't call me "Bear girl"...
- 297 NICO:
El?? What're you doing here?
- 298 EL:
(STRESSED)
I... I DON'T KNOW! Why did I leave the sun cult?! I
never asked for this!
- 299 LUCAS AND MICHELLE:
(IMPROVISED FIGHTING NOISES)
- 300 SOUND: LUCAS AND MICHELLE'S FIGHTING GETS EVER LOUDER AND
ROUGH, EACH WEARIED BY THE CUTS AND BRUISES AND BOTH ARE
SPORTING A BLACK EYE. THEN, SUDDENLY, A VALVE ON MICHELLE'S
LEG BURSTS, HISSING AND SPRAYING STEAM!

301 MICHELLE:
(Cries out in pain as her mechanical leg fails)

302 LUCAS:
(LAUGHS IN VICTORY)
AHA! I win, Michelle, I and the great Leo Fredricks
win, finally, after all these- OW! OW! HEY-

303 MICHELLE:
(Screams defiantly)

304 SOUND: AS HE BOASTS MICHELLE TACKLES HIM, THE CLIFFSIDE
CRUMBLES

305 ADDIE:
NO!! (SCREAMING)

306 SOUND: ADDIE FALLS INTO THE CRATER

(ALL SIMULTANEOUSLY)

307 TANGO:
ADDIE!

308 FREY:
ADI, NO!

309 JIM ROBBIE:
GRAB HER!

310 NICO:
ADDIIIEEE!!!

311 EL:
OH HOLY SUN! THE CLIFFS COLLAPSING!

312 SOUND: THE CLIFF COLLAPSES AND THEY ALL GET SENT, DOWN,
DOWN...

313 ALL: (SCREAM IN FEAR)

END.

314 NARRATOR:
Would you look at this exquisite masterpiece, the...
the subtle tones, the flow of motion, it's stunning,
it's beautiful. This Masterpiece was created by Iri
Alexander, titled Crater Crazy, with writing by Shannon
Sawyer, Jack Pevyhouse, and Zoe von Embler. 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
(MORE)

NARRATOR: (cont'd)

and El, Iri Alexander as Tango, Peter Lalush as Lucas, Maxximillian Defoe of Mollyville as Michelle, and Carrie Cotten as Addie. If you would like to support this beautiful work of art, please visit our official website at jimrobbieandthewanderers.com or visit our patreon at patreon.com/jimrobbieandthewanderers, and please remember to rate and subscribe to our episode on iTunes or your podcatcher of choice.

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