

JRATW S3 E12 - STRIKER FARM

WARNING THIS EPISODE CONTAINS
DEPICTIONS OF BODY HORROR AND GORE

Scene 1: Escape Pod - INT. DAY

SOUND: THE POD'S ENGINES MAKING NOISE, THEN GRAVITY TAKING
PLACE, AND THE ESCAPE AND ALL THE INHABITING PEOPLE AND
OBJECTS RATTLING AROUND

TANGO:

(DISTRESSED)
FREY! FREY NO!

SOUND: AN ALARM IN THE POD GOES OFF

POD ALERT SYSTEM:

Warning, passengers! Rapid atmospheric entry in
progress! Please begin with the escape pod terrestrial
landing protocol.

NICO:

PLEASE TELL ME THIS THING HAS A DECELERATION PARACHUTE!

JIM ROBBIE:

HOW WOULD ANY OF US KNOW, NICO?

NICO:

I don't know, just PRESS AS MANY BUTTONS AS POSSIBLE

JIM ROBBIE:

WITH WHAT ARMS?

NICO:

(FRUSTRATED NOISES)

SOUND: HE STARTS POUNDING AS MANY OF THE KEYS AND BUTTONS
AND GETS A BUNCH OF WEIRD, ALIEN ERROR NOISES IN RETURN. HE
PRESSES THE LAST ONE,

POD ALERT SYSTEM:

Starboard engine engaged.

NICO:

Oh no...

SOUND: AND IT IGNITES, SENDING THEM INTO A SPINNING DESCENT

NICO: (cont'd)

OH NO!

TANGO:

(SCREAMS)

JIM ROBBIE:

NICO! LEARN HOW TO DRIVE BETTER

NICO:

(DISTRESSED)

CARS AND ALIEN VESSELS DON'T EXACTLY HAVE THE SAME CONTROLS, JIMOTHY!

SOUND: HE PRESSES THE BUTTON NEXT TO IT

POD ALERT SYSTEM:

Portside engine engaged.

SOUND: AND THE PORTSIDE ENGINE BALANCES OUT THE ROTATION OF THE POD-STILL FALLING THO.

POD ALERT SYSTEM: (cont'd)

Approaching descent point. If you would like, to begin with our onboard tutorial program, I will gladly initiate standard learner's procedure.

NICO:

How do I stop this thing?!

POD ALERT SYSTEM:

Pull the lever on the bottom-right side of the console. This will deploy the deceleration sail.

SOUND: NICO PULLS THE THING WITH A GRUNT, AND THE POD'S RATTLING STOPS AS THE SAIL IS DEPLOYED.

NICO:

(SITS BACK IN THE SEAT AND SIGHS SO HARD HIS SOUL LEAVES HIS BODY)

Let's never, ever, ever, **ever** do this again, Tango...

TANGO:

(IS NOW SUPER MAD)

Nico... WE LEFT FREY BEHIND

NICO:

(DEFENSIVE)

We didn't leave her behind, she tossed you in here!

TANGO:

(UPSET)

But we couldn't just leave her to die like that!

NICO:

We HAD to, Tango, and she's the one that... She accepted it.

TANGO:

(IS GENUINELY STUNNED)

.... Don't even look at me right now, Nico.

NICO:

(ANGRY AND ASHAMED)

I didn't ask her to sacrifice herself for us!

SOUND: THE POD SMACKS INTO THE GROUND, AND THEY ALL YELL IN ALARM.

WANDERERS (SANS FREY):

(YELLING IN ALARM AND CUT OFF BY THE IMPACT)

SOUND: RAIN SLOWLY BEGINS TO FALL ONTO THE METAL FRAME OF THE POD, AND THERE'S A MUFFLED BOOM OF THUNDER

POD ALERT SYSTEM:

Congratulations! You have now safely decelerated from an atmospheric entry! Would you like me to recommend other lessons for you?

NICO:

No, shut up.

SOUND: HE PUNCHES THE KEYBOARD TO SHUT IT UP

SOUND: THE RAIN PUNCTUATES THE SILENCE, THEN NICO MOVES AROUND THE POD, TRYING TO OPEN THE HATCH.

NICO: (cont'd)

Tango, Jim Robbie, are you okay?

JIM ROBBIE:

I'm doing fine as fine as... Well...

TANGO:

(bear growls)

SOUND: TANGO RIPS OPEN THE DOOR AND STALKS OFF

JIM ROBBIE:

TANGO! ... Tango, please don't go too far... Please.

SOUND: TANGO'S FOOTSTEPS STOP FOR A SECOND, AND SHE KEEPS WALKING

NICO:

Well... that's not an overreaction, given what just...

SOUND: NICO SITS DOWN

NICO: (cont'd)

(BREAKING)

Oh my god. Frey... She actually sacrificed herself for us. She thought we were worth it...

JIM ROBBIE:

...Are you gonna be okay?

NICO:

(PUTS HIS FACE IN HIS HANDS)

... Probably not. Humans get like this sometimes.

JIM ROBBIE:

(QUIETLY)

... I do too, you know... Frey --

SOUND: HE GLITCHES OUT, TANGO HAVING LEFT OUT OF RANGE, LEAVING NICO ALONE WITH HIS THOUGHTS

NICO:

... Yeah. I know.

Scene 2: Wheat Fields - EXT. DAY

SOUND: THE RAIN IS LOUDER NOW, AND THERE ARE THE SOUNDS OF IT IN A MEADOW. SOME THUNDER INTRODUCES TANGO'S FOOTSTEPS

TANGO:

(IS BREATHING HEAVILY AND BREAKING DOWN)

Totul e bun, totul e bun, it's gonna be fine... just breathe... breath (more pained) Breathe.

SOUND: TANGO FALLS TO HER KNEES

TANGO: (cont'd)

(YELLS)

I DON'T WANT TO LOSE ANYONE ELSE! YOU HEAR ME?!

SOUND: CLAP OF THUNDER

SOUND: FREY'S EYE WRIGGLES AROUND, THE OPTIC NERVE WRAPPING AROUND TANGO'S FINGERS

SOUND: SQUISHY EYE NOISES. IDK DUDE

TANGO: (cont'd)
 (CRYING)
 What??? Her eye... (angry with it) What? What are you
 looking at? (beat) Can you still see me, Frey?

SOUND: THE EYE WRIGGLES

TANGO: (cont'd)
 (DESPERATE LAUGH)
 I know you can't... but they didn't get all of you...

SOUND: THUNDER BOOMS AGAIN

TANGO: (cont'd)
 (STRAINED LAUGH)
 It's so weird, just staring into your eye. Just your
 eye, not any rest of you.

SOUND: SILENCE, THEN A BIG BOOM OF THUNDER... BUT IT SOUNDS
 DIFFERENT THAN THE OTHERS, LOUDER, MORE EXPLOSIVE

TANGO: (cont'd)
 Wha- (she gasps)

SOUND: THE ALIEN SPACESHIP IS FALLING FROM THE SKY! WE HEAR
 IT FALLING, THE ENGINE ON FIRE FOR A FEW SECONDS... THEN...
 BIG BOOM. SHE STARTS SPRINTING TOWARDS IT.

TANGO: (cont'd)
 A shuttle?

Scene 3: Pod Crash Site - EXT. DAY

SOUND: SPRINTING FOOTSTEPS, AND THEN TANGO STOPPING TO CATCH
 HER BREATH. NICO'S FOOTSTEPS FADE INTO HEARING SHORTLY
 AFTER. THE DAMAGED SHUTTLE CREAKS AND GROANS A BIT AND SOME
 OF THE RAIN STRIKES THE METAL

JIM ROBBIE:
 Tango! We heard the ship crash and we legged it over
 here! (beat, off-mic,) Well, Nico did...

TANGO:
 (ANGRY)
 If it's one of those aliens on that shuttle... If it's
 the one that...

JIM ROBBIE:
 (SIMMERING ANGER)
 If they're alive, they're going to pay, Tango.

SOUND: SHE LETS OUT ANOTHER BEAR ROAR AND RUNS OVER THERE

TANGO:

We can get in through one of the hatch doors!

SOUND: SHE STRUGGLES TO PULL IT OPEN

TANGO: (cont'd)

C'mon you stupid...

NICO:

Let me help!

SOUND: BOTH OF THEM GRUNTING AND PULLING THE DOOR OPEN, THEN SUDDENLY, IT SWISHES OPEN

NICO/TANGO:

(startled sound)

NICO:

I don't think that was us...

JIM ROBBIE:

(HOLY SHIT)

I got the laser ready to... To... Oh my-

TANGO:

... Frey?!?

Scene 4: Pod Crash Site - EXT. DAY

SOUND: SILENCE, THEN... WEARILY, AN ANSWER AS THE RUBBLE SHIFTS

FREY:

(COUGHING UP BLOOD)

Look, hey, hey, don't... don't worry! I'm okay! I'm okay, I'm okay don't worry.

NICO:

(STUNNED)

How... What... That... Okay, That's obviously a lie, come on, we're getting you out! Lift that metal!

SOUND: FOOTSTEPS OVER TO IT

TANGO/NICO:

(grunting)

TANGO:

(WITH EFFORT)

C'mon, Nico!

NICO:
 (PUT YOUR BACK INTO IT!)
 I'm trying!

TANGO:
 I got most of the weight, you can get the rest!

SOUND: METAL SHIFTING, BONES CRACKING SLIGHTLY, AND THEN
 FREY PROTESTING

FREY:
 (SLIGHTLY PANICKED, NOT WANTING THEM TO LOOK)
 O-okay guys, you helped, now please go away for a
 minute, I'll take care of the rest.

TANGO:
 (ABSOLUTELY HORRIFIED, QUIETLY)
 Dumnezeu... Frey! Your leg!

NICO:
 (SHOCKED)
 Frey it's...

FREY:
 Nope, nope, don't tell me, I have a pretty decent
 imagination. I'll see it for myself. It's fine, you all
 can go away for a minute, just maybe like 15 minutes
 it's all I'm asking.

NICO:
 (TRYING TO BE GENTLE)
 Okay, yeah... um Frey... Your right leg is cut off mid
 thigh. It's... It's just sitting there alright...

FREY:
 (SCARED)
 Oh god... And the other one?

JIM ROBBIE:
 Crushed. Lots of... bones.

FREY:
 (MAKES A DISTRESSED NOISE)
 Okay, just like just let me take care of this please-

NICO:
 ABSOLUTELY NOT, FREY. I'm no doctor, but you're not
 just walking away from this one! What, you think you're
 gonna do, just pop your leg back on and you'll be
 fine?! i mean (Weak laugh) Oh boy, that's not... I'm
 just trying to keep it together honestly oh man.

TANGO:

Let's move the rest of this out of the way!

SOUND: THE REST OF THE DEBRIS IS MOVED OFF OF FREY AND THROWN INTO A CORNER, AND AS SOON AS SHE'S FREE, FREY STARTS TRYING TO CRAWL TO HER LEG

FREY:

(PAINED NOISES, COUGHS UP BLOOD MORE)

TANGO:

Frey, please, please don't move.

NICO:

She's lost a lot of blood, Tango...

FREY:

(INDIGNANT)

I just need to grab my leg. I'll be fine! I just need to get my leg, somebody scoot it over here, I'll be fine.

TANGO:

(WORRIED)

Frey, please stop saying that! You need our help!

FREY:

I. Will. Be. Fine! HA! Got it.

SOUND: FREY GRABS HER LEG AND PLACES IT WHERE IT SHOULD GO, AND FLESHY SOUNDS START AS HER LEG REATTACHES ITSELF.

NICO:

Oh my god, how is that... OMG how did you do that.

TANGO:

(COMPLETELY BROKEN SOUNDING)

Okay.

JIM ROBBIE:

That definitely does not look normal for you people!

SOUND: THE FLESHY NOISES STOP ONCE HER RIGHT LEG'S ALL BETTER

FREY:

(STRAINING)

One down, One to go...

SOUND: THE BONES IN HER LEFT LEG BEGIN SNAPPING BACK INTO PLACE WITH LOTS OF CRUNCHY, MEATY SOUNDS

(THE WANDERERS ALL LOOK ON IN HORROR AT THIS POINT)

FREY: (cont'd)
 (STRAINING NOISES, THEN ONCE HER LEG IS HEALED, SHE SLUMPS)
 Ughh... can we get off of this stupid friggin ship?
 I'll just bandage my leg and I will be fine.

NICO:
 (SHOCKED BEYOND SARCASM)
 I... Okay. You know, this day has been wierd enough,
 this might as well happen.

TANGO:
 Frey, I got you.

FREY:
 (WEAKLY PROTESTING)
 Look, Tango, I promise you don't have to do that, I can
 find something to lean on. Please stop staring at me.

SOUND: TANGO PICKS HER UP ANYWAY LIKE SHE WEIGHS NOTHING.
 THEY ALL START WALKING OUT OF THE SHIP

TANGO:
 (PICK UP SOUND)

FREY:
 (SHOCKED)
 ... Thanks.

SOUND: TANGO PICKS IT UP AND HANDS IT TO HER

NICO:
 I'll ummm.... get the bandages

SOUND: HE RUNS OFF TO GO GET THE MEDICAL SUPPLIES

FREY:
 (TIRED)
 Perfect.

SOUND: THEY LEAVE THE SHUTTLE AND WALK OUT OVER DIRT AND
 GRASS, AWAY FROM THE WRECKAGE

Scene 5: Wheat Fields - EXT.

SUNDOWN

SOUND: THE RUMBLE OF THE THUNDER IS A BIT MORE DISTANT NOW
 AS WELL AS THE RAIN. THE NEARBY WHEAT FIELDS SIFT WITH THE
 WIND AS BANDAGES ARE RIPPED AND WRAPPED AROUND FREY'S LEG
 THEN

NICO:
That should do it!

FREY:
Thanks, Nico

NICO:
No problem. But just try to keep in mind I'm a scientist, not a surgeon. Try not to pull something like that again, please for the love of my few strands of sanity left.

FREY:
Yeah, no promises.

TANGO:
(BEAT)
Frey... How-?

FREY:
(CUTTING HER OFF)
- Am I able to survive being atomized, put my broken bones back together, and reattach missing limbs, you know and lose like an entire person's worth of blood? Is that what you were gonna ask?

TANGO:
(HALF A BEAT)
Eh... yeah. That is exactly what I'm wondering.

FREY:
(COOLY)
Well, why can you turn into a bear?

TANGO:
The people in my village were always were-people.

FREY:
Mhm. And how is it that Jim Robbie was.... eh... born?

JIM ROBBIE:
(SARCASTIC AND DRAMATIC AND VERY JIM ROBBIE)
It was a dark and stormy night, thunder and lightning in the distance. The first thing I remember was Tango yelling, "IT'S ALLLIIIVVEEEEE!"

TANGO:
No, I rattled you around a bit after I put you together and you asked me who I was! And it was a nice sunny day!

FREY:

Yeah, okay, so the answer is sometimes weird stuff happens, and I just happen to be one of those weird unexplainable, unexplained things... I mean I know skirting around death or whatever you want to call it is one of the weirder things that-.

TANGO:

Okay, but that still doesn't explain anything. Were you born with this? Is it because of your eye? ... Oh, right! You might want that back...

SOUND: THE EYEBALL KINDA SQUIGGLES AROUND TANGO'S HAND AS SHE HANDS IT BACK TO FREY

FREY:

Oh, my eye! Thank you! Thank you, I wasn't sure if you were gonna keep it. Sorry, it's uh, the only part of me that's not original, so it doesn't come back if it ceases to exist. Uh thanks for that.

SOUND: SHE POPS IT BACK IN AND IT GETS SETTLED BACK INTO ITS PROPER PLACE

FREY: (cont'd)

There we go... And, no, Tango, it's not because of the eye. It's... well, it's a really really long story.

NICO:

How long?

FREY:

About four lifetimes.

NICO:

Ah. Could we get the annotated version?

FREY:

(THINKS FOR A BIT)

Uhh... An annotated version is still the long version. With a lot of like editors and like notes and stuff in the margins. You know, it's probably not gonna work but maybe we should not talk about my past which I'm not comfortable with and instead maybe figure out where we are? And or maybe find shelter and then maybe you can interrogate me or maybe forget that you actually wanted to ask that question in the first place, and then you'll forget about it? (Weak Laughter)

TANGO:

Yeah, this doesn't look like the field we were in before. Where are we?

NICO:

Wait... I think there's a sign over there? By that little road? If we can get our bearings we can find shelter somewhere. Frey, can you walk?

SOUND: FREY GETS UP AND MOVES A FEW STEPS

FREY:

Of course I ca-

SOUND: SHE STUMBLES, BUT TANGO SUPPORTS HER BAD SIDE

TANGO:

I got you.

SOUND: THEY START WALKING FOR A BIT TOWARDS THE SIGN

FREY:

Have I ever told you how much I appreciate how strong you are? Like, you destroyed the ever-loving crap out of a steel cage, turn into a bear, and can lift that overloaded wagon... I'm pretty sure you could bench press me.

TANGO:

Probably! ... Definitely.

FREY:

(FLIRTY)

Promise?

NICO:

(DEAR GOD THAT'S GAAAAAYYYYYYYY)

Oh my goodddd, can this wait until we figure out where we are? Oh jesus, time and place-

SOUND: EVERYONE STOPS DEAD IN THEIR TRACKS, STUNNED

TANGO:

(SHOOK)

Th... That doesn't look good... N-Nico? Frey? What does it say?

NICO:

(SHOOKER)

"Striker Farm..." It says Striker Farm... But someone else wrote on it too... Black-Eyed Children live here. "Stay away..." The words are all written at the bottom of the sign... Like a kid wrote it...

JIM ROBBIE:

(THE SHOOKIEST)

... I THINK WE CAN JUST TURN RIGHT AROUND. RIGHT? JUS LEAVE FOR ONCE.

NICO:

WHERE? We fell from THE SKY!

JIM ROBBIE:

WE TURN AROUND AND RUN!

TANGO:

B-but what about the mailkids? What about all the other kidnapped children? We said we would stop them! Someone's got to, right?

JIM ROBBIE:

Uuuuggghhhhhh, why is it always us? Can't someone else play hero for a day? I don't get paid enough for this!

FREY:

I mean we do need to travel without bloodthirsty devil children nibbling our ankles off while we try to sleep. And or, you know brutal murder...

NICO:

We're going to die. I can't believe I'm going to be murdered by children, this is how I'm going to go... And YOU already died once!

FREY:

(READY TO RUMBLE)

More than once, technically, and I got better. Let's get this over with and put some kids in time out. When the adults say it's time to go to be, IT'S TIME TO GO TO BED.

NICO:

Wooooaaahhh, slow down. We're not going in there without a plan. Not this time. There's a lot of these kids, and they don't like adults apparently.

JIM ROBBIE:

What about the nightmare crystals?

NICO:

The wh-

JIM ROBBIE:

Nico, I know you still have them.

SOUND: BEAT OF SILENCE

TANGO:

(WHY?)

YOU KEPT THOSE?

NICO:
I KNOW!

TANGO:
(NICO WHY???)
EVEN AFTER they turned ta-

NICO:
(DON'T CALL ME OUT LIKE THIS)
I KNOOOOWWWWW!!! OKAY?

SOUND: BEAT OF SILENCE BEFORE FREY "GETS IT"

FREY:
... Oooooohhh, I think I see where you're going.

JIM ROBBIE:
Glad someone shares my artistic vision.

NICO:
What?

JIM ROBBIE:
You guys use them to get in. It's the latest and hottest fashion trend for kids wanting to join a cult. Adults aren't liked, but maybe teenagers can pass. Ms. Shorty Over Here Who Loses Her Legs could pass easy.

FREY:
(OFFENDED, BUT SHE CAN DISH OUT TOO)
And what are you? Some sort of self-esteem killing narcissistic prickly chip based teddy bear?

JIM ROBBIE:
... I'm the brains of this operation, and this is the thanks I get?

NICO:
Nope! No. No, no, no. I've had my share of bad luck with these things and I'm done. You hear me?

FREY:
But have you tried them recently?

SOUND: BEAT OF SILENCE.

FREY: (cont'd)
Riiigggghhhhtttt... But we're not in that cave anymore, there's no giant controlling crystal, and they're not all tangled in each other. Theoretically, as long as we don't mess with them too much, we should be okay.

NICO:

Don't you use scientific hypothesis against me!

FREY:

YEAH, WELL IF YOU CAN'T HANDLE WITH WICKED CHEMICAL BURN, MAYBE YOU SHOULD GO OVER TO THE EMERGENCY WASH STATION.

TANGO:

Do you have a different plan?

NICO:

... Wow, this is going to blow up in our faces. Can't wait to see how that shakes out.

TANGO:

That's the spirit!

Scene 6: Striker Farm Wheat Fields

- Night

SOUND: THE TALL WHEAT FIELDS SWAY IN THE NIGHT WINDS, A FEW CRICKETS CHIRP AS OUR TRIO WALK THE DIRT ROADS THAT WILL INEVITABLY LEAD TO DANGER.

TANGO:

Jeez Frey, you really are tiny! I barely fit into your Glowball shirt!

FREY:

Hey! Don't pull too hard on it, do you know how hard it was to get that, they only ever issued merch for that stupid game for like 2 years 50 years ago!

NICO:

(DEAD-PAN)

Yeah, fun, cool, hip, finger guns and all that. We're joining a joining a cult that's going to brainwash us into joining the hive-mind. Coolio... At least this stupid crystal hasn't fried my brain yet. Not a fan of headaches, by the way.

JIM ROBBIE:

At least we kiiinnndddd of have a plan. We just got to find that Marissa kid Billie was talking to and... I don't know, take away her crystal privilege and put her in time-out with no dessert?

FREY:

We'd cover more ground if we split up,

NICO:

NO! NO WE ARE NOT GOING TO SPLIT UP. THAT'S HOW YOU DIE, DON'T YOU KNOW THAT

SOUND: THE CRYSTALS AROUND THEIR NECKS RATTLE A FEW TIMES AS THEY WALK

SOUND: GRASS SUDDENLY RUSTLE, TWO KIDS RUN OUT. IT'S THE CHILDREN OF THE WHEAT!

WANDERERS:

(YELL IN PANIC, BUT GOTTA CHILL QUICK TO KEEP COVER)

NICO:

AAAA- OH! Uuuuhhhh... Heeeeyyyyy???? ... 'Sup?

TANGO:

Uhhhh, YEAH! Hey! How ya doin' fellow... kids?

BEK CHILD #1:

(WHISPERING)

Are they adults? They're really tall.

BEK CHILD #2:

(WHISPERING AND TALKING SMACK)

They're really short for adults... Maybe they're just some lost older kids that make bonfires and sing bad music?

BEK CHILD #1:

(WHISPERING)

We should probably tell Marissa.

TANGO:

Oh! Uhhh, UMMM, HEY! You guys have those cool eyes! Like, they're really, really neat!

BEK CHILD #1:

Aren't you afraid? Lots of people think they're scary.

TANGO:

No! They're like... Like the story of a kid who looked at the night sky every night, and one night the sky came down and wanted to see the world through his eyes. And.. said "I've been in the sky for so long, but I've never seen a flower up close, or watched a ladybug take flight. How do you see the world?"

BEK CHILD #2:

But that's not how it works!

BEK CHILD #1:

I like this story! So, what did they say?

TANGO:

"Enter my eyes, and we can walk together! We can see the flowers and the butterflies, and count the spots on lady-bug wings. You'll see everything and never be alone!"

BEK CHILD #1:

You're right, we never are.

JIM ROBBIE:

(QUEITLY/UNDER)

Looks like all that storytelling paid off. Haven't heard that one before.

NICO:

Umm... Sooo... You going to show us around, introduce us to the others?

BEK CHILD #1:

They could come to the ceremony!

TANGO:

Ceremony?

BEK CHILD #2:

Why should we let them join?

SOUND: NICO RATTLES THE CRYSTAL PENDANT AROUND HIS NECK

NICO:

Well, a group of kids gave us these necklaces and told us to come here to uhh... Join the Black-Eyed Children? Soooo...

BEK CHILD #2:

I don't remember that. And non of the other kids told us. Marissa never shared it with us either.

BEK CHILD #1:

She's the leader, she doesn't have to.

FREY:

Why don't we meet her and she can decide?

BEK CHILD #2:

... Okay, but you gotta prove you can beat me.

FREY:

Oooooohhhhh! A challenge? What we got? Floor is lava with real lava? Dodgeball but we play it with grenades

(MORE)

FREY: (cont'd)
 instead of balls? What are we gonna do, play tag except every time you tag somebody they die? LETS DO IT.

JIM ROBBIE:
 (QUIETLY/UNDER)
 You really got to chill, there's only enough room for a couple resident hazards.

BEK CHILD #2:
 Four-square.

NICO:
 ... What?

BEK CHILD #2:
 You two! The guy with the beanie and girl with the cowboy boots, the really really wierd cowboy boots, why are you wearing cowboy boots? Well, you know, nevermind. You two against us!

FREY:
 (DISAPPOINT. SHE WAS GONNA KICK SOME BUTT)
 Aww...but I wanted to play. Lame.

TANGO:
 You're getting a beat down! C'mon Nico! It's your turn to play in the Danger Zone. And there's not even any of that radiation this time!

NICO:
 (DEAD-PAN AND SARCASTIC)
 Oooohhhh too bad, 'cause we haven't had enough time destroying our bodies with radiation.

SOUND: THEY RUN OFF DOWN THE ROAD, FREY TRAILING BEHIND WITH JIM

JIM ROBBIE:
 (WHISPERING)
 Soooo.... We break in, find this "Marissa" kid, and break her crystal?

FREY:
 (WHISPERING)
 I guess! Listen, We just gotta roll with those punches and keep getting back up. Keep your little radio-speakers shut too, I don't think the kids have caught onto you yet.

JIM ROBBIE:
 (WHISPERING)
 Shame, and I thought I was going to be the one in time-bomb Four Square.

FREY:

(AMUSED/WHISPERING)

You wanna be the ball, test me?

JIM ROBBIE:

(WHISPERING/DEFENSIVE)

... Find crystal, destroy crystal, pray it works, keep quiet. Got it.

Scene 7: Striker Farm EXT. NIGHT

SOUND: GRASSES RUSTLE AS EVERYONE APPROACHES THE FARM. A THUNDERSTORM BREWS IN THE SKY ABOVE AS WOOD OF THE BARN CREAKS AND GROANS. A FEW OTHER KIDS MILL ABOUT, TALKING AMONGST THEMSELVES. BUT IN THE BACKGROUND, A BALL IS PASSED BACK AND FORTH OVER TARMAC, RUBBER HITTING HANDS AS THEY PLAY.

NARRATOR:

Those Black-Eyed Kids put up a good fight in Four-Square, but they're no match for a girl with the brawn of a bear and a boy with a serve so sick and fly it could cut the tension in a room.

TANGO:

Yeah! Yeah, got it! NICO! IT'S COMING TO YOU!

NICO:

GOT IT!

SOUND: THE BALL BOUNCES HIS WAY AND NICO CATCHES THE BALL BEFORE THROWING IT TOWARDS THE SQUARES AGAIN.

BEK CHILD #1:

CORY! C'MON! GET IT!

SOUND: THEY FUMBLE, MISSING THE BALL AS IT HITS THE GROUND!

FREY:

(WHOOPING CHEERS)

YEAH! THAT'S WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT! CRUSH 'EM.

TANGO:

YES! WOOOO! Good game you guys!

BEK CHILD #2:

Yeah, yeah, you only won cause you're taller. If I was a couple inches bigger then-

SOUND: A LIGHTING BOLT SHOOTS ACROSS THE SKY, THE THUNDER RUMBLING CLOSE BEHIND. ALL THE KIDS SUDDENLY GO QUIET AND BEGIN TO RUSH TOWARDS THE BARN IN QUICK STEPS.

NICO:

H-hey! Where are all of you going? Hello? ... Hello???
They can hear us, can't they? ... Looks like all the
kids are going to that barn.

TANGO:

... We were just talking and they just up and left.
What gives?

FREY:

Thunderstorm? It might be raining soon-

SOUND: BIGGER THUNDER BOOM

SOUND: THE WANDERERS FOLLOW THE KIDS INTO THE BARN, THE
LARGE DOOR CREAKS OPEN AS FREY IS TALKING

FREY: (cont'd)

(TRAILING OFF)

... Yeah. I love getting electrocuted as much as the
next person. Let's follow what the little munchkins are
doing, and... And... What the ever loving heck is that?

Scene 8: Striker Farm INT. NIGHT

SOUND: RAIN PITTER-PATTERS OFF THE ROOF OF A MASSIVE BARN,
BUT THERE IS A FAINT ELECTRICAL HUM IN THE AIR COMING FROM A
MASSIVE SPIRE THE CHILDREN CONGREGATE AROUND

NARRATOR:

Our Wanderers have found the home of the Black-Eyed
Children, and they have found the heart of their cult.
In the center of the largest barn stands a massive
black spire, so massive that it is larger than the
building itself. And through the gap in the ceiling is
the dark cloudy sky. The storm is only getting worse.

NICO:

Hooolllllyyyy, uhh... Cory, right? Wh-... What is that?

BEK CHILD #2:

It's the Spire. Duh. It's what connects us all
together.

TANGO:

I-... A-are you guys sure it's safe? I mean... It looks
pretty dangerous.

BEK CHILD #1:

Of course it's fine! Don't worry about it Marissa says
it fell from the sky and she found it! If you have a
crystal, and you touch the spire, you join the other
kids! You'll be able to hear everything we hear, and see
what we see.

SOUND: THE TWO BLACK-EYED CHILDREN RUN OFF, LEAVING BEHIND
SOME VERY VEERRRYYY CONCERNED WANDERERS IN THE DUST

JIM ROBBIE:

... So... We have to somehow destroy **that?** That giant thing that's bigger than a building?

FREY:

... Yup.

JIM ROBBIE:

... Do we have a plan?

NICO:

... Nope.

JIM ROBBIE:

Great, the usual.

TANGO:

I-it... We'll think of something! Th-the ceremony thing the kids keep talking about isn't happening right now, right? S-so we have time! All we have to do is... Is... Wait, is that-?

FREY:

Billie?

Scene 9: Striker Farm INT. NIGHT

BILLIE:

(SHOOKETH)

Wh... What? Y-YOU? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!

TANGO:

Billie? What are you doing-? ...No, nevermind, you live here.

BILLIE:

(PANICKING)

Y-you guys really REALLY shouldn't be here! You need to leave! Right now!

JIM ROBBIE:

Hate to tell you, but we've been told that many MANY times before. And many MANY times it didn't work.

BILLIE:

Please! Please leave! She can't see you! If Marissa see's you we'll all be in big trouble! ESPECIALLY you guys! Marissa really REALLY doesn't like adults.

FREY:

Look, none of the other kids suspected a thing, Billie! Those two are the Monarchs of Foursquare and I'm the Foursquare knight carrying the Foursquare fool! She won't know.

JIM ROBBIE:

(UNDER)

Hey!

BILLIE:

YES SHE WILL! SHE'LL TAKE ONE LOOK AT YOU AND KNOW!
She'll see your shadows! And-

TANGO:

Shadows? What do these shadows have to do with anything?

NICO:

... Wait... Do you mean see our future?!

BILLIE:

She sees what people will turn into! Please-

SOUND: THE CROWDS OF CHILDREN AROUND THEM GET A BIT WHIPPED UP THEN FALL SILENT.

BILLIE: (cont'd)

I-I gotta go! But you guys need to leave! Now! Please, **please** leave before Marissa sees you.

SOUND: BILLIE RUNS OFF INTO THE CROWD

NICO:

... You know, maybe we should at least stay out of sight? You know, observe from a safe distance?

FREY:

Where? It's a giant open barn. There are kids crawling literally all over the place. It's not like we can hide anywhere in other than plain sight.

JIM ROBBIE:

Well, I'm fine cause, you know? The not human... Umm... Wait, do they steal souls? Cause I'd rather keep mine in my body.

TANGO:

We're not going to use you as bait, Jim... I guess we'll have to wait and see what happens? If we know how all of this works, then we can stop them! There's got to be something we can do.

NICO:

But do we know how to stop them?

SOUND: BEAT OF SILENCE. NO ONE HAS AN ANSWER.

Scene 10: Striker Farm INT. NIGHT

SOUND: ANOTHER CLAP OF THUNDER ROARS OUTSIDE, ALL THE CHILDREN FALL UNDER A HUSH. EXCEPT FOR A FEW, WHO SOUND RATHER UNHAPPY ABOUT ALL OF THIS.

MARISSA:

Everyone, listen. Can you hear me?

CHILDREN:

(ALL SPEAKING AS ONE)

We hear you.

MARISSA:

Today we have more kids that will join us! We grow stronger and stronger the more of us there are! We will be better than those who hurt us, and no one will ever hurt us again. We are never alone.

CHILDREN:

(SPEAKING AS ONE WITH MARISSA'S LAST LINE)

We are never alone.

MARISSA:

Billie? Where's the new kid?

BILLIE:

H-here.

SOUND: A FEW OF THE BLACK-EYED CHILDREN BRING ANOTHER ONE FORWARD THAT STRUGGLES AGAINST THEIR GRIP

NICO:

(UNDER/QUIET)

I know that kid! They delivered mail to me when I was coming back down from the North.

MAILKID:

(FREAKING OUT)

Wh-why are you all doing this! Get this thing off of me! Let me go!

BILLIE:

... Marissa... They don't want to join.

MARISSA:

They have to.

BILLIE:

Some kids join on their own, you don't have to make them-

MARISSA:

And what if their shadow changes? What if it disappears? They'll turn bad or... Or they'll be gone. We're doing this so they'll be safe, like the rest of us.

CHILDREN:

(AS ONE WITH MARISSA)
-like the rest of us.

MARISSA:

... Billie?

BILLIE:

(NOT OKAY)
O-okay... (to the MAILKID) It... It'll be okay. Just go to the spire like she asks.

MAILKID:

Wh-what's going to happen?

BILLIE:

... You'll be okay...

SOUND: THE MAILKID APPROACHES THE SPIRE, AND TENTATIVELY TOUCHES IT. THE ELECTRIC SOUND GROWS EVEN LOUDER. A LOUD BOOM OF THUNDER ECHOES OUTSIDE THEN FADES. THEY TURN BACK TO THE CROWD

TANGO:

(GASPING)
Their eyes! Th-they're black!

NICO:

... And we're next.

CHILDREN:

(IN SYNCH, NOW WITH THE MAILKID JOINING THEM)
We are never alone.

MARISSA:

Who else wishes to join us?

BEK CHILD #1:

Oh! Oh! We met some kids who were willing to join!

MARISSA:

(A LITTLE EXCITED)
Really? We haven't had ones that wanted to join in a long time!

BEK CHILD #1:

Yeah! They're a little older, but they're pretty cool!
They're right over here!

JIM ROBBIE:

(UNDER)
Oh no...

SOUND: THERE IS A BEAT OF SILENCE. ALL OF THE BLACK EYED CHILDREN TURN TOWARDS THEM, THEN SPEAK AS ONE

CHILDREN:

(ANGRY WITH MARISSA'S VOICE)
... **You're adults.**

FREY:

(NERVOUS)
Uuhhhh, well I'm still a child at heart. No? Okay.

NICO:

We need to get out of here! NOW!

TANGO:

YEAH! YEAH! I HEAR YOU!

CHILDREN:

(AS ONE)
Don't let them get away. They need to be punished.

WANDERERS:

(SCREAMING AND RUNNING)

SOUND: AS THEY ATTEMPT TO RUN, THERE IS THE SOUND OF HUNDREDS OF BLACK EYED CHILDREN COMING AFTER THEM. THEY WILL NOT ESCAPE.

END.

NARRATOR:

SUNDAY SUNDAY SUNDAY, COME ON DOWN TO THE IRI ALEXANDER STADIUM TO WITNESS THE EVENT OF A LIFETIME, STIKER FARM BROUGHT TO YOU BY JACK PEVYHOUSE AND SHANNON SAWYER, WITH EDITING BY LAURA BRAMLETTE, DIRECTING BY ZOE VON EMBLER, AND FEATURING THE MUSICAL STYLINGS OF ROSEMARY DEROCHER, WITH THE THEME BY TOM RORY PARSONS. WITNESS MECHANICAL MAYHEM AT THE HANDS OF TANGO DRIVEN BY IRI ALEXANDER, THEN SIT BACK IN AWE AT THE AUTOMOTIVE ANNIHILATION OF NICO DRIVEN BY JAKE SONG, THEN WATCH THEM GO HEAD TO HEAD WITH THE BIG MAN HIMSELF JIM ROBBIE DRIVEN BY DANIEL LEHNEN FOLLOWED BY BY GASOLINE FUELED GROTESQUE GREGARIOUSNESS FROM FREY DRIVEN BY ZO VON EMBLER. THEN WELCOME SOME NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK THE DYNAMIC DUO SHANNON SAWYER AND MARTHA KELLY DRIVING THE

(MORE)

NARRATOR: (cont'd)

BLACK EYED CHILDREN. GO TOE TO TOE WITH BILLIE DRIVEN BY EMMA SHERMAN AND MARISSA DRIVEN BY CLARA NG. ALL WITH COMMENTARY BY YOURS TRULY GAVIN WATERS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT THIS AMAZING EVENT PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE A JIMROBBIEANDTHEWANDERERS.COM OR VISIT OUR PATREON AT PATREON.COM/JIMROBBIEANDTHEWANDERERS, OR VISIT OUR STORE AT CROSSROADSTATIONS.COM. AND REMEMBER TO SUBSCRIBE TO AND RATE OUR EPISODES ON ITUNES OR YOUR PODCATCHER OF CHOICE. REMEMBER FOLKS THIS IS ALL ON SUNDAY SUNDAY SUNDAY... what? what? what do you mean we don't know what day this is being posted?