

JRATW S3 E14 - RSVP

Scene: 1 - EXT. GLEN - DAY

SOUND: A GENTLE BREEZE ROLLS OVER A FIELD. NEARBY TREE LEAVES RUSTLE QUIETLY WITH THE PASSING WIND. TANGO TUNES A STRING INSTRUMENT EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE.

NARRATOR:

Hello listeners! Did you miss me? I missed you! Did you miss our wanderers? Probably not as much as my *sultry* voice, but we wouldn't want to endanger my vocal cords, now would we?

And where are our wanderers now? Well, not in danger, for once. The sun is shining, birds are chirping, and Tango strums a banjo in a beautiful forest glen. It's a beautiful day, but a moment of rest means time to work on projects for Nico. And this one is a very important one.

SOUND: A FEW WIRES ARE MOVED AROUND IN JIM'S HEAD AS NICO TAMPERS WITH IT.

JIM ROBBIE:

Watch it, WATCH IT!

NICO:

You doing okay?

JIM ROBBIE:

I don't like my head being messed with!

NICO:

(PATIENT BUT ALSO IMPATIENT. THIS HAD BETTER WORK.)
I know, I know. But do you want to stop blacking out?

JIM ROBBIE:

(CRANKY)
UGHHHHH...

NICO:

Then we have to apply different techniques, and unfortunately, one of them is seeing if we **can** get some of those inactive wires running through the new battery I installed. You worked pretty well on the spaceship somehow even with the distance between you and Tango, so something's affecting that, right? Spite can't be the only fuel you run on.

JIM ROBBIE:

It's been working fine so far.

FREY:

(SILLY SPOOKY VOICE ON SECOND SENTENCE)

Spite is the ultimate motivator. It can even you back from the deeeaaadddd!

JIM ROBBIE:

See? Someone gets it.

NICO:

Hardy har har. Now shush. I just need to connect this wire here...

TANGO:

How's it going? Is Jim almost fixed? I.. I have the instruments tuned and everyone should be showing up soon! We don't want to be caught up in an experiment when it starts. That's just bad manners.

FREY:

What's even up with this shin-dig? I've never heard of it, and I've been around for a long, long, loong, loong, loong, loooooonnnnnnggggg time. No one's even here.

TANGO:

It's a summer festival! Apparently it's been a great crop season for a lot of towns, and when they have plenty they share it with lots of people as a big BIG party!

FREY:

But there's no lights! No pizazz! No razzle-dazzle! I'm down with a party in the woods guys, but usually it requires other people.

TANGO:

Nico's the one who woke up at the crack of dawn ready to work. We'd have even more reason to celebrate if Jim works! He can party without worry!

NICO:

Not if you all don't SHUSH! Can you all just-?
(BEAT/SLOWLY) ... Jim ... Do you still have coins in your head?

JIM ROBBIE:

(JIM ROBBIE IS ME. I WANT MONEY TOO.)

Money? Oh my god, we have money? We can BUY THINGS???

FREY:

How much, how much?! I demand a cut, I'm a part of this team! Thirty percent! Last offer.

JIM ROBBIE:

I'm bad at math and I know that's more than I would get if we split it evenly! It was in my head, I deserve the thirty percent- no! Forty percent!

FREY:

Finder's fee!

JIM ROBBIE:

You didn't even find it!

TANGO:

It's probably from when we use his head as a coin jar. I thought we spent all our money a while ago on supplies? How much is in there?

NICO:

It was jammed in a corner at the bottom... Hang on.

SOUND: NICO CAREFULLY DIGS INTO THE WIRING AND PULLS OUT A SMALL PLASTIC OBJECT

FREY:

A poker chip? Ooohhh, Jim, Jim Babe, Jim husband you've been gambling without me? You know that's against the law. I could bust you for that. No-body's allowed to gamble without their spouse, it's just not fair.

NICO:

Uh-huh. Yeah, that's nice, but it's going to have to wait 'till after this.

SOUND: NICO GOES BACK TO TAMPERING WITH WIRES, BUT THIS TIME THERE'S A FEW SPARKS WHILE HE WORKS.

TANGO:

No, it's from a while ago. How'd that even get in there? You got a new head after that. Like, months ago. How'd that even get in there? You got a new head after that whole thing with the battle of the bands concert a while ago.

JIM ROBBIE:

(SLIGHT DISGUST)

Uuuuuggggghhhhh. I don't know what you put in my head most of the time. Just toss it. It's not like we're ever going back.

FREY:

Umm, hi, hello, interjection, yeah small pit stop on this little conversation, but I have a question? Which was what did you do to the casino you stole that thing from?

TANGO:

It started before the casino, actually! You see, we were wandering along a little road near the bridge that is for some insane reason paint the same color as a car that was for some reason melting into the swamp-

NICO:

Hey, Tango? Sorry, but we're going to have to cut the story short, beeccaauuussee-

SOUND: NICO SCREWS JIM ROBBIE'S PANEL BACK ON, AND FOR A MOMENT THE WIRES SPARK AND LO AND BEHOLD! THERE'S THE SOUND OF FUNCTIONING MACHINERY IN JIM'S HEAD! IT LEVELS OUT AFTER A MOMENT AND FADES

NICO: (cont'd)

(EXCITED)

HA! YES! Freshly installed power transformer, new wires, receivers, and a computer motherboard to boot! And it sounds like it's working! It's WORKING!

JIM ROBBIE:

Y-you're serious? There's... a computer inside me?!

NICO:

(SARCASM AT THE START)

Yes Jimmothy, I shoved a graphics card and monitor- NO! It has an empty memory and enough space on it to hold plenty of data plus a backup battery that's solar-powered and self-sustaining. So, I'm right, you'll be fully independent and won't black out if Tango's too far!

TANGO:

Jim! That's wonderful! Today you'll be able to see even more stuff and never have to worry if I'm too far! Tomorrow, working arms and legs!

FREY:

With all the walking, Jim would have legs for days. Hubba hubba hubby.

JIM ROBBIE:

I-... I won't blackout ever again?! Y-you're serious? Don't mess with me, Nico. You're sure?

NICO:

Only one way to test it! Tango, you're on.

TANGO:

You got it!

SOUND: TANGO STARTS RUNNING OFF THROUGH THE GRASS FURTHER AND FURTHER AWAY

TANGO: (cont'd)
(IMMEDIATELY)
Is it working?

FREY:
Run, Tango, run! Run like the wind. I love to watch her run.

JIM ROBBIE:
Oh my God, if this works you need to start on my other upgrades! I'm talking the whole thing, legs, arms, full body upgrade! Not my head. I really, really, really like my head. Someone's got to keep their head around here.

NICO:
She's almost at the limit. Keep going Tango! A little further. Further!

TANGO:
(YELLING FROM A DISTANCE)
Is it working?

JIM ROBBIE:
I mean it about those upgrades! Those robo-skeletons were pretty sweet with those hydrolom- hydraulamitic-... The things that make their bones move! If I could move like how they chased us, then I could be the biggest robot athlete in the entire----

SOUND: JIM STARTS GLITCHING, AND EVENTUALLY CUTS OUT

NICO:
(GODDAMNIT!)
NO! NO, NO, NO, NO!

TANGO:
(YELLING)
Is it working?

FREY:
Tango, you... You want to come back. It didn't work.

TANGO:
(YELLING/OFF-MIKE)
JIM! Oh, no! Jim! Jim, are you okay? Nico, is he saying anything?

SOUND: TANGO STARTS WALKING BACK, AND JIM REACTIVATES

JIM ROBBIE:

(SLOWLY REALIZING WHAT HAPPENED)

- I'd be able to get out of trouble when we walk into it! I could actually do something when ... When ... No. No, no, NO!

TANGO:

Jim... A-are you okay-

SOUND: NICO SHOVES JIM INTO TANGO'S ARMS AND WALKS TOWARDS A TREE. HE IMMEDIATELY STARTS KICKING IT.

NICO:

GODDAMNIT! GODDAMNIT! I HAD IT! I HAD IT!

FREY:

Nico, hey. Hey, bud. The tree didn't do anything-

NICO:

NO! Don't you get it? This was it! I have slaved over this for months. I want to help people with what I know and what I put my sweat, blood, and tears into. This was my last option. Don't you get it? There are no alternatives. There's no-

JIM ROBBIE:

(UPSET BUT COVERING IT)

Nico, it's fine.

NICO:

(BITTER. THERE'S A LOT OF MOOD HERE TONIGHT)

Really? Is it? Is it really fine? Are you happy with constantly blacking out? Are you okay with not knowing what happens to Tango's not close to you? Are you-

JIM ROBBIE:

Of course I'm not! But do you think I'm going to ask you to tear yourself apart over it?

NICO:

I'm not-

TANGO:

You haven't slept a lot the past few nights. I think you were mumbling stuff in your sleep about stuff. Like, knobs and buttons, and a transi-tramomo... transistometer? Something. It's fine if you're awake, but dreaming about work isn't a good sign. Especially if you make weird upset faces in your sleep.

JIM ROBBIE:

(STILL A BIT UPSET BUT GASP! GENUINE?)

I appreciate it, Nico. I really do. And yeah, I would LOVE for this to stop. I really would. But I don't even

(MORE)

JIM ROBBIE: (cont'd)

know how I work, and I'm me. You said it yourself, I run on magic, or spite, or friendship mumbo-jumbo guck. It ain't science, but I'm not asking for you to be a wizard.

NICO:

It's not just that! Radios are what I was born to work with. It's what I'm supposed to do with my life. If I can't even help anyone then... I mean - what is the point?

FREY:

Honestly, Nico. If Jim's got some mumbo-jumbo gumbo in him, then there isn't much else you can do, okay? If anything, you've helped keep Jimmy here functional, which some people would probably thank you for. It ain't perfect, but science isn't perfect. Trial and error is like... ninety-nine point nine repeating error.

TANGO:

You really need to unwind. We've been chased around for weeks by the Black Eyed Kids and you're worked up like we're still running.

NICO:

Oh, yeah, as if we're never chased around by our monster of the month.

JIM ROBBIE:

... He does have a point.

FREY:

Hey, salt bucket bros, how about you both like dial the angst down and chill out and listen to Tango? I, for one, am very ready to reclaim my party queen crown. I have been denied multiple times since I started hanging out with you guys and I will not let this opportunity rest. I am going to be the best there ever was.

TANGO:

Hey Nico, can you give the tree a break from your boots and come help me tune instruments.

SOUND: SOUND: BUSHES START RUSTLING, AND VERY, VERY HEAVY FOOTSTEPS APPROACH

NICO:

(GROANING)

You're still serious about playing? We haven't practiced ANYTHING! I don't even know what instrument you want me to-

SOUND: BUSHES RUSTLE LOUDER AND STOP AS THOSE FOOTSTEPS BURST INTO THE CLEARING. NICO STUMBLES BACK. CUE FREAK OUT. SORRY JAKE. OUR BRAND IS SCREAMING.

NICO: (cont'd)
- OH MY GOD!

Scene: 2 - EXT. GLEN - DAY

TAU:
What? What are humans doing here? This is a private party!

LINELL:
Tau? What's going on? We're at the right place, right? Are we too early?

TAU:
No, Linell, they were just **leaving**. Weren't they?

NICO:
Uuuhhh, yup! Yeah, I'm not going to argue with bigfoot and ... did ... Did that jackalope talk?

TAU:
(HOSTILE IN GENERAL)
Yes. This jackalope **did**. Ever been gored to death? I've heard it's a slow painful way to go. I wouldn't personally know.

LINELL:
Tau, be nice. You'll get into trouble again. What are you going to do if I'm not there to save your hide?

NICO:
(READY TO NOPE OUT)
Yeah, I'm good to go. Tango, Frey! Let's go! Like now! Let's Go Now people!

TANGO:
Hey! Wait, are you here for the party too?

TAU:
... Yes? But you're not. You're leaving.

TANGO:
Nu-uh! We were invited! Frey said so because it says so on this paper right here!

NICO:
... Tango ... Let me see it.

FREY:

Umm... Funny story, and I just need you to go with nme on this one, I just need you to follow along on this little thread that I'm throwing along here, but there is the possibility that we probably for sure lost it. When we were being chased at a farm by a group of crazy children. But we're good for it. We're totally good for it, I mean don't even worry though-

TANGO:

We didn't lose it! It's the one with the pretty symbol and the eye! It's kind of creepy, but the lines are really nice! Here!

SOUND: TANGO HANDS NICO THE LETTER. NICO READS IT FOR A MINUTE.

NICO:

... This is addressed to someone named "Champ." ... Frey.

FREY:

I must have ... misread it.

NICO:

And you all called me out for mail fraud. At least those belonged to me. You're going to get us all arrested!

TAU:

(ANGRY BALL OF FLUFF)
Are you kidding? Champ's letter fell into human hands? One of the water sprites is coming and was going to help accommodate him for the party! What are we supposed to tell him? What happened to the mail system?!

JIM ROBBIE:

Child cult is what happened. Less of the mail kind and more of the spooky black-eyed children dominating the world kind. We fixed that for you by the way. You're welcome.

LINELL:

That was you guys? We were worried that my village was going to lose sasquatch children to them! They're, They're gone?

TANGO:

They went back home, but everything's fixed! The mail kids are working on getting all that backed up mail out and other kidnapped ones are returning home.

LINELL:

Whoa, I-I can't think of anyone else who thought they could take on swarms of them and come out alive. You guys are like, heroes!

TANGO:

(FLUSTERED)

R-really? Uhh, I-I don't think that we-

TAU:

Calm down, Linell, they're not the ones who took down the Black-Eyed Children. They're just looking for an excuse. Either we bounce them, or this place will get flooded with humans who are just going to bother us.

FREY:

OH NO! You're NOT going to sit there and insult us, you little rabbit.

TAU:

(OH NO SHE DIDN'T)

Rabbit?!

FREY:

Yeah! We busted our butts saving those kids and nearly got assimilated into their stupid creepy child cult. Put credit where credit is due, or here's a thought find a better excuse.

TAU:

I don't need an excuse cause none of you have proof. And if you don't have that, then get out.

JIM ROBBIE:

Oh we got proof. We have the best storyteller right here to tell you all about it!

TAU:

That's not proof you backwards metal pile of junk!

JIM ROBBIE:

(FULLY OFFENDED)

HEY! It's true if you tell it like it is!

NICO:

Guys, we probably should go. We technically weren't invited.

TANGO:

B-but I want to tell the story! Like how we busted out of squid jail, and Jim Robbie rode on my back in Cratertown after I shifted! Oh, and when we found the place where the kids were harvesting crystals.

FREY:
(UNDER/WHEN TANGO SAYS SQUID JAIL)
Squail.

TAU:
Shifted?

TANGO:
Yeah! I turned into a bear and we escaped an angry mob,
right before the cliff collapsed, and... Oh, and! I'm
Tango. This is Jim Robbie. That's Nico. And that's
Frey!

LINELL:
And what's the rule of the party, Tau?

TAU:
... Cryptids only.

FREY:
So you thought you were going to kick us out because
you thought we were all humans? Well, hate to be the
bearer of bad news my dearest little new friend, but
I'm immortal. I'm human, but nothing can kill me! Not
drowning, not death by acid, not death by lightning,
not death from falling from heights, not decapitation,
not starvation. So I'm a cryptid by technicality,
thanks.

NICO:
... I can breathe underwater?

TANGO:
WHAT?

NARRATOR:
(SHOCKED AND THEN DISTRACTED)
WAIT, WHAT? NICO CAN- Oh, wait, hang on-

SOUND: THE NARRATOR SHUFFLES SOME PAPERS

NARRATOR: (cont'd)
Yup. There it is. Nico's great-great-great ect. ect.
grandmother was a mermaid. Says right there on the
family corral tree ... moving on.

NICO:
How else did you think I visited the merpeople cities
off of the East Coast?

TANGO:
I don't know! You invented a breathing thing for air?!
You make lots of inventions!

JIM ROBBIE:

I don't ... how?

NICO:

We had merpeople in my family! Why are you all so worked up over this? I'm the closest thing to "human" in this backwards family.

FREY:

Because you didn't tell us!

NICO:

When have we been in a situation where I had to say "oh guys, at least I'm not going to drown! Sorry about that."

JIM ROBBIE:

... Yet.

TAU:

(STOP, PLEASE JUST STOP)
I get it! I get it! FINE! Fine, you're all cryptids! Whatever! Everything's got some weird thing these days, I get it. Just shut up. (to LINELL) Linell, are we going to set up decorations before the Jersey Devil talks about how his decorations were better last year cause he had a fog machine? Chop, chop!

SOUND: TAU HOPS AWAY THROUGH THE GRASS. ANGRILY.

JIM ROBBIE:

(CALLING AFTER TAU)
Hey! HEY! I'M A ROBOT THAT DOESN'T RUN ON ELECTRICITY! AM I CRYPTID?! HEY! HEY, JACKALOPE! I'M TALKING TO YOU!

LINELL:

Sorry about him. Tau's been a bit stressed trying to organize this, especially with the mail system out of order this year.

TANGO:

We could help set up! It might make it easier on both of you with more hands.

LINELL:

That's alright. Tau would be kicking himself in the tail for months if he let "humans" with heavy quotation marks set up the party the year he was on decoration duty. But if we need help, I'll let you know.

TAU:

(OFF-MIKE)
LINELL! Linell, I don't have thumbs!

LINELL:

I'm coming, I'm coming Peter Fluff and Rage.

SOUND: LINELL WALKS AWAY WITH THEIR HEAVY FOOTSTEPS THROUGH THE GRASS TO LINELL AND BEGINS TO PUT DECORATIONS IN THE TREES.

NICO:

Well... This turned out ... interesting.

FREY:

Okay, I might have goofed, but it's all good!

NICO:

How's this good? We weren't invited, we stole someone else's RSVP, and for the cherry on our hot mess sundae, you insulted the host!

FREY:

He insulted us first! "They're just looking for an excuse." I've skinned plenty of animals in my life, but I can make room on that list for a jackalope hat.

JIM ROBBIE:

I don't think Linell would appreciate us gutting her friend ... But I wonder what rabbit taste like?

TANGO:

... Heroes?

JIM ROBBIE:

No. Tango. I don't think rabbit tastes like people... I mean, I wouldn't call us "heroes" considering we kind of stumbled into everything and nearly died every single day.

TANGO:

B-but we did help people!

FREY:

Yeah, and now we get to tell the story. Better start putting it together before the party starts.

TANGO:

(EXCITED)

I-I need to grab my banjo! This story needs some music to set the adventure! Here, hold Jim!

FREY:

See, Nico? Everything worked out. We still get to party, and now we don't have to worry about music practice. Tango's a one-man show.

NICO:
... I guess.

Scene: 3 - EXT. GLEN - DAY

SOUND: THE PARTY IS IN FULL SWING. VARIOUS CRYPTIDS HAVE COME FROM FAR AND WIDE TO ATTEND. SOMEONE OF THEM SOUND HUMAN, OTHERS SPEAK IN HISSES OR GROWLS. BUT IT'S ALL PLEASANT CHAT... FOR THE MOST PART.

NARRATOR:

Now this is party! All the spooky creatures across the country gathered together with plenty to celebrate! Even the Hide-Behinds have come out of hiding to have a little fun! ... Oh, but I think some other guests might be a little party shy.

SOUND: FREY WALKS THROUGH THE FIELD, WEAVING THROUGH CROWDS

FREY:

Sorry, excuse me, OW! That's my foot OKAY! (YELLING)
Nico? Nico! Thank goodness I thought you'd gotten eaten a while ago.

NICO:

Am I sitting on a buffet table with an apple in my mouth? No. I'm standing over here. You see this cup? This red cup filled with ... some alcohol? ... I think ... I'm obviously drinking and having a great time.

FREY:

Are you telling me that you're hiding out here in this corner so that you don't have to hear the literal Jersey Devil complain about how there's not enough cheese in this cheese and wine spread and listen to him moan and complain about how the decorations lack finesse and refinement, and you're not over here because you're actively avoiding Jim and Tango because you couldn't fix Jim's problem?

NICO:

Yes.

FREY:

Really.

NICO:

(BITTER)
Sorry if I'm going to be a bit upset about this, Frey. Especially after the amount of work I put in ended up with no results at all.

FREY:

Listen, You have every right to be upset, but I think you might be taking this a little bit personally. It's not your fault. I mean Jim's the one who can't function with Tango not around and he's got enough decency to put on a nice face and be polite to you for the effort that you put into it, meanwhile you're over here sulking in the corner when you could be enjoying this party, which I know you would enjoy.

NICO:

(DEEP SIGH)
... I know.

FREY:

C'mon, man. We should at least make the effort to listen to Tango's stories, I mean, we're in them.

NICO:

Someone's going to have to fact check it. Tango can get a bit, uhh, dramatic with her stories.

FREY:

(NO ONE'S A DRAMATIC BITCH LIKE FREY)
Oh, you mean like, "And Frey, her wings flung far and wide, gracefully descended from the hulking wreckage of the juggernaut. She looked down upon the world and her stunning beauty, her beautiful hair, and her amazing eyes, glinting with just the smallest spark of cunning looked upon the world. And all who saw her were amazed by her glory. And Lo, did she gently touch upon the ground and look to me and say in an enchanting beguiling voice, 'Sup'"

NICO:

Great fact-checking skills, Hyperbole from Hell.

FREY:

(DAMN RIGHT)
I try.

Scene: 4 - EXT. GLEN - DAY

SOUND: MORE CROWD NOISES, BUT THEY'RE A BIT MORE SUBDUED AS TANGO TELLING HER STORY FADES IN ABOVE THE NOISE.

SOUND: FREY AND NICO WALK TO THE GROUP GATHERED AROUND TANGO

TANGO:

- And so, Billie, the second-in-command for the Black-Eyed Children, left us in the cave. We didn't know where to go, what to do, or have any clue how to stop the children from causing more destruction. But

(MORE)

TANGO: (cont'd)
days of wandering without rest in sight made us tired.
Nico had kept the crystals from the town of Candlewick,
but I wanted to help, so-

NICO:
- So you thought crawling all over me to grab one of
them was the best idea ever and it shocked us out of
our bodies.

TANGO:
NICO! SPOILERS!

FREY:
Boy, oh boy, oh boy. You're at that part already? How
much ground did you cover in your story?

TANGO:
I only started at the Saline Mines Diner in the
tornado! It would take weeks for me to get through all
our other adventures.

FREY:
You ever tried?

JIM ROBBIE:
She has. Please, **please** don't ask her to. I can't do
it. Not again.

TAU:
Believe me, we won't.

LINELL:
I would!

TANGO:
But I'm already in the middle of a story! I'll have to
tell everyone about our adventures out west running
from a vengeance seeking vampire, later!

TAU:
You faced off against a vampire and lived?

JIM ROBBIE:
We didn't so much throw down so much as he gave up and
fought a giant bloodthirsty bug he made a deal with.

TAU:
Now that's a little more up my alley. Were there any
gunfights?

TANGO:

Oh yeah! I got shot ... and got better, eventually.

NICO:

Well, if you're telling stories about us, mind if we sit and correct you?

TANGO:

I've been telling the truth!

NICO:

(UNCONVINCED)
Uh-huh.

SOUND: NICO AND FREY SIT ON THE GRASS WITH THE OTHERS

TANGO:

Where was I?

FREY:

Oh Oh, You were at the part where you and Nico got into a silly little fight in the cave.

TANGO:

Oh! Right!

TANGO: (cont'd)

(UNDER/THIS BIT IS A BIT LONG SINCE IT'S MONOLOGUING. JUST NEED ENOUGH TO REACH THE NEXT SOUND CUE)
So! Nico's right, I did kind of rush into trying to grab those crystals. But after a few moments of struggling with them they shocked me and Nico! The next thing I knew I was on the ground, everything hurt, and I was staring at myself!

Somehow, the crystals had switched our bodies! We were confused, and scared, but Frey had it together and put her foot down. But tempers were high, and we both said ... we said some nasty things. Eventually, Nico wandered off in my body deeper and deeper into the caves. After talking to me and Jim, Frey went after him.

But I ran into someone in the caves. No one else but the kids should have known about them, but this stranger walked over to me and started flirting with me! ... I think? Turns out someone has a crush on Nico! And not just anyone. Oh no, he has magic powers, he is the prince of parties throughout the ages. He was a demigod!

JIM ROBBIE:
(OVER)
How you holding up, Nico?

NICO:
(OVER)
I should be asking you that.

JIM ROBBIE:
(OVER)
I'm doing fine.

NICO:
(OVER)
You know, you can at least be a little upset about this. I know you're not mad at me.

JIM ROBBIE:
(OVER)
... I don't know if I should be mad. I'm not very nice when I'm mad.

NICO:
(OVER)
Really? I had no idea! How long have you had this bitter temperament? Tell me about your childhood.

JIM ROBBIE:
(OVER/STARTING OUT DRAMATIC AND ENDING WITH BITTER)
Well, I was an only child who came into the world without a roof over my head- I get it. I don't need your sarcasm either.

NICO:
(OVER)
Sorry.

JIM ROBBIE:
(OVER)
It's ... It's okay. It's not okay. But it is. You know? Maybe this is just how it's going to be, and I have to deal with it. Lots of you meatbags have your damage, and this is mine.

NICO:
(OVER)
Even if I can't fix the whole blackout thing, maybe I can give a go at your limbs. You know. If you want.

JIM ROBBIE:
(OVER)
You know how long I've wanted to stab someone with these forks?

NICO:

(OVER)

No, Jim. No one had any clue-

SOUND: AS TANGO GETS MORE EXCITED WITH HER STORYTELLING, HER HANDS GET A BIT WILD AND SHE KNOCKS INTO JIM AND GETS HER HAIR CAUGHT IN A LOOSE PART OF JIM ROBBIE'S HEAD.

TANGO:

(PAINED)

OW! OW! HAIR, HAIR, HAIR! HAIR CAUGHT IN YOUR HEAD!

JIM ROBBIE:

H-HEY! TANGO! CAREFUL! I don't want all my wires spilling out of my head!

SOUND: A FEW STRANDS OF TANGO'S HAIR SNAP AND GET CAUGHT IN THE PANEL AND SHE'S FREED.

NICO:

Huh. Guess I didn't screw one of those on right. Hang on, Jim. I'll get that fixed.

TANGO:

(GETTING EXCITED)

Hang on! Wait ... Wait! THAT'S IT! Anyone got some scissors? Or like, a really, REALLY good knife!

LINELL:

I have a whittling knife. I mean, it's meant for woodworking, but would that work?

TANGO:

Yeah! Don't worry, I'll give it right back!

NICO:

... Tango ... What are you thinking? Don't say blood magic. Please, don't say blood magic.

TANGO:

Ew! No, it's not blood magic! Why would you think it's blood magic? I just have an idea! A non-blood magic idea. Nico, can you get Jim's head open.

NICO:

Okay! Okay! Calm down. Let me grab my tools from the wagon.

SOUND: NICO PULLS SOME TOOLS OUT OF THE WAGON AND UNSCREWS A FEW SCREWS FROM JIM.

TAU:
What about the demigod? You can't just leave us like this!

FREY:
Oooohhh, did someone get deeply emotionally invested in the adventures of mere humans? I thought we were boooooorrrriinnnngggg?

TAU:
Shut your hate gullet.

NICO:
And it's open... I still haven't heard your plan yet.

JIM ROBBIE:
Uuuuhhhh, yeah. Not that I don't trust you, Tango. But I would like to know what's the plan when it has to do with my head.

TANGO:
Oh, I've got a plan.

SOUND: TANGO CUTS THROUGH A FEW LOCKS OF HER HAIR AND TIES THEM TOGETHER IN A SMALL BRAID. SHE SECURES IT IN JIM'S HEAD AND PUSHES THE PANEL SHUT.

TANGO: (cont'd)
There!

JIM ROBBIE:
... Did ... Did you put your **hair** in my circits?

TANGO:
Yup! Tied into a braid with a little bow!

NICO:
(EXHUSTED)
... I can't... I don't... No.

FREY:
... That's a hair-brained scheme, alright.

NICO:
(MORE EXHUSTED)
No.

TANGO:
Well you didn't try it! And that way, a piece of me is always with you, Jim!

FREY, JIM, NICO, AND TAU:

(GROANING AT THE MOST CORNY THING UTTER BY ANY MOUTH ON THE EARTH)

TANGO:

Oh shush, all of you! It's my turn to do experiments! Jim, keep talking. Nico, check my distance, or tell me if Jim blacks out.

NICO:

(DISGUSTED, BUT IT'S NOT LIKE HE HAS A CHOICE)
Uuuuuuggggggghhhhhhhhhhhhhhh fine. Fine, fine, **fine**.

SOUND: TANGO STARTS WALKING AWAY FROM THE GROUP, FURTHER AND FURTHER AWAY.

TAU:

We were in the middle of a story. So thanks for interrupting that, by the way.

NICO:

I didn't even say anything. Tango's the one who usually drags us into this stuff. Including your party with the help of our enabler here.

FREY:

I don't enable everything she does. She does just fine deciding for herself.

JIM ROBBIE:

She's right, you know. I mean, half-right since mail fraud started this one. Tango's been traveling for a long time, and I mean a long time. Not Frey long, but pretty long.

FREY:

Hey I have way more travel experience than all of you, alright.

JIM ROBBIE:

Could have fooled me. There's a lot of stuff you didn't know about before you met us.

FREY:

I didn't really... Travel far. And when I did it was for business.

NICO:

... Jim ... You still talking?

JIM ROBBIE:

What? Yeah I'm still talking! And speaking of traveling, UNDERWATER? How did you conveniently forget

(MORE)

JIM ROBBIE: (cont'd)
 about telling us you've traveled under the ocean! I
 thought you were just a hermit living in your car until
 you met us-

NICO:
 No way.

JIM ROBBIE:
 What?

NICO:
 (YO DAWG WHAT THE HECK?)
 ARE YOU KIDDING ME? ARE YOU SERIOUSLY KIDDING ME? I'M
 GOING TO EAT MY ENTIRE BOOT, GODDAMNIT!

JIM ROBBIE:
 WHAT?

NICO:
 SHE'S PAST THE LIMIT! SHE'S PAST THE RANGE FOR YOU TO
 WORK! WHAT THE HELL?! ARE YOU KIDDING ME?

JIM ROBBIE:
 ... Wait ... R-really?

FREY:
 She went into the trees. I can't even see her anymore.
 (YELLING) TANGO! TANGO IT WORKED!

TANGO:
 (DISTANT "WOO-HOO!")

SOUND: TANGO RUNS BACK THROUGH THE TREES AND THROUGH THE
 GRASS BACK TO EVERYONE

TANGO: (cont'd)
 IT WORKED! IT WORKED, IT WORKED, IT WORKED! Jim! You
 don't't have to worry anymore if we get split up! Oh my
 gosh! Oh, Linell! Here's your knife! I probably
 shouldn't have been running with it.

LINELL:
 Thanks! I'm glad you got your friend working. My sister
 used to have big memory blanks. They're not as dramatic
 as they used to be, but it's not good not remembering
 things.

JIM ROBBIE:
 It's not even that. I'm not... I **wasn't** there to even
 see anything. It was just dark. But... oh my god,
 Tango, you did it.

NICO:

(ABSOLUTELY BITTER)

Yes, yes she did. Through the power of friendship.
Hooray.

FREY:

I mean ... Tango **did** technically make Jim herself. It only makes sense that she'd fix this ... eventually.

JIM ROBBIE:

You know I'm going to hold you to giving me working arms and legs, right?

NICO:

Yeah ... yeah, I can start putting something together. After I take a power nap.

TAU:

If you're all done with being mushy and gushy with each other about feelings or whatever, I think we were in the middle of an activity? Something about Black-Eyed Kids and demigods?

TANGO:

Oh, yeah! We get distracted a lot. There's usually a lot going on. Now... Demigods... Right.

While this demigod was flirting with me because he thought I was Nico, Nico jumped on the scene with my body. I honestly thought he was going to start a fight. But the dude turned all super chummy. Turns out his name is Chad, or at least that's what he's calling himself. Apparently, he was dropping in to check on Nico and instead found me in his body.

We told him what happened and he tried to help... Well, kind of. He summoned this wine that was apparently wishing wine, but it flopped. If a demigod can't figure out what's wrong, then who can? So we started wandering the cave, finding bigger and bigger crystals the deeper we went ...

SOUND: TANGO'S MONOLOGUE FADES AWAY WITH THE REST OF THE SOUNDS FROM THE PARTY. A WASP BUZZES BY. FLITTING ON A TREE FOR A MOMENT BEFORE TAKING OFF INTO THE SKY.

END.

LAURA:

Thank you to listening to Jim Robbie and the Wanderers, Episode 14, RSVP was written by Shannon Sawyer. Jim Robbie and the Wanderers was created by Iri Alexander. The theme was done by Tom Rory Parsons, music by

(MORE)

LAURA: (cont'd)

Rosemary Derocher, and editing by Laura Bramblette. The Narrator was Gavin Waters, Jim Robbie was Daniel Lehnen, Nico was Jake Del Rio, Frey was Zoe Embler, Tango was Iri Alexander, Tau was Laura Bramblette, and Linelle was Shannon Sawyer. Visit our website at jimrobbieandthewanderers.com, check out our merch at crossroadstations.com, and our patreon at patreon.com/jimrobbieandthewanderers.