

EPISODE 18: "TWO TRIPS AND A WRY (THE BALLAD OF ZAK WITH NO 'C')"

Caroline: Penny, it's time for your filling!

Penny: But Mom, I don't want a filling - especially not one from Dr. Dobner!

Caroline: If you didn't want a filling you shouldn't have drunk so much Mello Yello. And I'm sorry, but Dobner Dentistry is the only dentist we can afford. Remember, if you do it you get can get a giraffe flosser!

Penny: I'm unconvinced.

Caroline: Also, your tooth will just ache more and more. The pain will snowball.

Penny: Oh, alright.

(Penny and Caroline leave)

Bob: Where are you going, Garinator?

Gary: To Marcy's.

Bob: You're so predictable.

(Gary goes over to Marcy's)

Gary: Hey, Marcy, can we hang out?

Marcy: Sorry, but I've got to go mall shopping.

Gary: What?

Marcy: I need more cargo pants. All my old pairs are getting so tight they've lost the cargo effect.

Gary: Huh, okay. Can I hang out with Tomas?

Marcy: Oh sure. But I'll give you a warning - he's feeling a little nostalgic.

Gary: Oh, that's okay. I understand nostalgia.

(Gary goes to Tomas' room)

Gary: Yo, Tomas! It's Gary!

Tomas: (Opens the door) Oh, hey man, what's up?

Gary: Not a whole lot. I came because I wanted to hang out.

Tomas: Sure. Oh, did you realize it's snowing?

Gary: Yeah, just a tiny bit.

Tomas: It's exciting! I've never seen snow before. But at the same time, I'm not used to the cold. I've been feeling a little wistful about my old life in Honduras.

Gary: I thought you didn't like it because of the gangs and drugs.

Tomas: I mean, even a place with a lot of downs still has its ups...we had some nice neighbors, I got to see my abuela, the food was good...oh, speaking of the food, I brought some sealed-up packages of Honduran food for a taste of home. I'm thinking of opening one of them now. Do you want to look with me?

Gary: Oh, sure!

(Tomas opens up the package)

Tomas: This is a chiltepe pepper.

Gary: A chipotle?

Tomas: (laughs) No, a chiltepe. It's mostly in Honduras and other parts of Central America, that's probably why you've never heard of it. I'm thinking of making myself a salad and throwing some in there. Do you want that too?

Gary: Nah, I want to eat one of them plain.

Tomas: Why would you want to do that?

Gary: I'm going to record it and post it to YouTube. Who knows, it might make me famous.

Tomas: ...Interesting idea. But I'm warning you, it's really spicy.

Gary: I'll survive. (Gets his phone out and props it up on a chair)
Alright, here we go! (Bites into the pepper. The camera freezes. Cut to Caroline and Penny)

Dr. Dobner: Alright. You're here for your 4 o'clock filling appointment, correct?

Caroline: Yes, we are.

Dr. Dobner: Alright. I'll bring you right over.

(They go over to the chair)

Dr. Dobner: Now, as you can see I've already got all the equipment set up.

Penny: Oh...I kind of wanted some mental preparation.

Dr. Dobner: Hey, I've got a wisdom teeth removal appointment right after this, we've got to keep on a schedule. Unfortunately, our TV isn't working today.

Penny: So, no distraction?

Dr. Dobner: I've got puppets.

Penny: (sighs) Alright, no distraction.

Dr. Dobner: I will, however, give you some laughing gas to ease the pain and numb your brain.

Penny: What?

Dr. Dobner: Alright, there. I've turned on the gas.

(The camera freezes. Cut to Marcy)

Marcy: Alright...should I get "boyfriend," XL or XXL? Choices, choices, choices. Excuse me, sir, where is the fitting room?

Zak: You thought I worked here? I guess I am tall. I'm 17.

Marcy: 17-year-olds can work here.

Zak: Yeah, well, I'm a 17-year-old who doesn't work here.

Marcy: Do you play basketball?

Zak: I don't appreciate the stereotyping-

Marcy: Oh yeah, oops.

Zak: But I do play golf.

Marcy: Nice! Do you do anything else cool?

Zak: Well...I do draw cartoons. But I'm not sure if you'd like them.

Marcy: You're safe sharing one with me. If I like it I'll tell you how cool it is, and if I don't, well, I'll tell you what I do like and give you only constructive criticism. So, let's see what you've got, eh?

Zak: (chuckles) Well, okay. Here's one I've got with me right now. Heh, it's not one of my best, but uh -

(Marcy stares at it for a second, and then starts laughing very hard)

Marcy: That's sidesplitting!

Zak: I made someone laugh!

Marcy: (continues laughing) Now I'm cramping!

Zak: (heroically) I made someone cramp!

Marcy: (continues laughing) Shoot, I think I'm cramping a bit too much. Where's the bathroom?

Zak: Right that way!

Marcy: Thanks!

Zak: Now I made someone go to the bathroom! Three dreams fulfilled!

(Meanwhile)

Tomas: Gary, are you okay?

Gary: Hmmmmmm...I'm not sure how to answer that at the moment.

(In Gary's mind. Animated sequence)

Gary: Where am I?

Tree: You're in Everything-Talking Land!

Gary: Huh?

Tree: There are only three ways to get here - one, by achieving nirvana, two, by going through a black hole, and three, by biting into a raw chiltepe pepper!

Gary: Well, I came the third way.

Tree: Yeah, that's most people. So, uh, make yourself at home, and feel free to talk to whoever you please.

Gary: Alright, sounds like a plan, uh, what's your name?

Tree: I'm Tree-y.

Gary: Gotcha! I wonder who I should talk to first - the bush, the rock, the cloud? Choices, choices, choices. Oh, I'm getting hungry. Hey, bush, what's your name?

Bush: George.

Gary: Alright, George Bush, do you know any good eats around here?

Bush: Sorry, no.

Gary: Can I pick one of your berries?

Bush: Are you kidding me? That's disgusting!

Gary: Alright, I'll look somewhere else. Hey, apple tree, what's your name?

Appletree: Johnny.

Gary: Alright, Johnny Appletree, do you know anywhere I could find something to eat?

Appletree: Unfortunately I do not.

Gary: ...Can I pick one of your apples?

Appletree: Of course not, that's nasty!

Gary: Well, okay.

(Next, with Penny)

Caroline: Penny, can you hear me?

Penny: Um...let me think about it.

(In Penny's mind. Very hokey sequence - a band of monkeys playing on a mysterious stage)

Monkey 1: Alright, we're the Desert Monkey's, and we'd like to do a rocking little number, from our latest film! It's called, "Differently."

(They proceed to play my song "Differently" in its entirety)

(Back with Marcy)

Marcy: Alright, I'm back.

Zak: Perfect! While you were gone I had time to make 5 new cartoons!

Marcy: Nice! Lemme see!

Zak: Alright. Here's the first one-

Marcy: (laughs hysterically) Okay, okay, I think we can only do one at a time. They're just too darn funny. Five minute break, okay?

(Cut back to Gary)

Tomas: Ah, Gary, I knew this would happen if you tried eating one of those plain!

Gary: What?

Tomas: I'll tell your dad. We'll figure something out, okay, buddy?

Gary: Don't leave me, Mr. Grapevine!

Tomas: Don't worry, I'll get him. (Tomas calls Bob) Mr. Jones?

Bob: Hey - wait, is this Tomas? Hola!

Tomas: Mr. Jones, you know I can speak English, right?

Bob: Alright, alright. So, what's up?

Tomas: Your son is having an awful reaction because he tried eating a chiltepe pepper whole.

Bob: What kind of pepper?

Tomas: It doesn't matter. Just, please come when you can.

(Bob comes over. He looks around on the first floor)

Bob: Are you here, guys? Are you there? Where are you?

Tomas: We're up here!

(Bob stands outside Tomas' room)

Bob: Do I have the right room?

Tomas: Yes, come in!

(Bob comes in)

Bob: So, what happened exactly?

Tomas: Welllll, I got out some of my sealed food from Honduras, Gary wanted to try a pepper, and he wanted to try it plain so he could do a video, and then he became delirious.

Bob: Hmm...what he really needs is a shock to the senses. I'll go get some cold water.

(Bob splashes cold water on Gary)

Bob: Splish splash splosh! Gary, are you back to reality?

Gary: Where are you going, Sweet Potato?

Bob: It didn't work! I've got one more idea. (Pulls up "Won't Get Fooled Again" by The Who)

Gary: Please...just one, Peter Pepper!

Bob: Oh my gosh, did you hear that? He wants a pepper!

Tomas: Yes, that's what he said. But he probably only means that in his fantasy.

Bob: That did remind me, another pepper might be just the sensory shock he needs!

Tomas: Are you kidding? That's what made him like this in the first place!

Bob: Well...you ever seen that episode of We Bare Bears where Ice Bear gets hit in the head, and he loses his personality, and then he gets hit in the head again, and he's back to normal?

Tomas: No, but I have read Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.

Bob: Huh?

Tomas: Anyway, I guess at this point anything is worth a try. Should I do it?

(Bob nods)

(Meanwhile, with Caroline and Penny)

(In Penny's mind again)

Monkey 2: And now we'd like to do a bluesy little jam titled, "Complimentarity!"

(They proceed to play my song "Complimentarity" in its entirety)

(On the outside)

Caroline: Penny, the procedure is over! Penny! Dr. Dobner, can you take her mask off?

Dr. Dobner: Oh, right! I must have...forgotten. Alright, the mask is off, Penny.

Penny: This song's better...

Caroline: What? There's no music playing.

Dr. Dobner: She must still be feeling the effects of the gas.

(In Penny's mind)

Monkey 3: Now we'd like to do our latest hit, "Girl Who Cares!"

(They proceed to play my song "Girl Who Cares" in its entirety)

Caroline: It sure is taking a while for her to come back to her senses.

Dr. Dobner: I have a confession to make - I used extra potent laughing gas. Sorry, we ran out of the regular. We've been losing business lately.

Caroline: And you're about to lose more, because we will no longer be seeing you! I'm sorry, but that's just amateur. When you're already struggling with getting customers, cutting corners like that just digs yourself into a deeper hole.

Dr. Dobner: Well, you're probably right.

(Back with Gary)

Tomas: Well, Gary, do you feel anything?

(In Gary's mind)

Gary: Please, Elder Beansprout, just give me something, anything to eat!

Elder Beansprout: I'm afraid I - FIRE!

(The whole animated world gets engulfed in flames)

(Back to reality)

Gary: I feel...hot! Scorching! Blazing! Whatever you just gave me - is the spiciest thing I've ever eaten.

Tomas: Yes, it was the Chiltepe pepper. You were trying to eat one raw, remember?

Gary: Oh yeah. The next time I try to do some dumb stunt like that for a viral video - just don't let me.

Tomas: I'll remember that.

Bob: Hey, maybe I would have better luck with this challenge. (Almost puts a pepper in his mouth)

Tomas: No!

Gary: Dad!

Bob: Heh, just kidding. Well, I'll just let you two finish up whatever you were doing before.

(Bob leaves)

Tomas: Gary, you want to try another one of my Honduran foods? A non-spicy one?

Gary: Sure! What's this?

Tomas: Pan de leche.

Gary: In English?

Tomas: Milk bread!

Gary: Interesting. (tries it) Delicioso!

Tomas: I think you mean "delicious."

Gary: Right.

(Back with Caroline and Penny)

(In Penny's mind)

Monkey 4: And finally, to close up our show for night, we'd like to play an old-time slow dancer...this one's called "When All Is Said And Done!"

(They proceed to play most of my song "When All Is Said And Done.")

Penny: (back to reality) I'm bored.

Caroline: That makes sense. You've been sitting in that chair doing nothing for the past 20 minutes.

Penny: I have?

Caroline: Yes, Dr. Dobner here gave you the wrong kind of gas.

Penny: Can we go home then?

Caroline: Of course, I've been waiting for *you*!

(They leave. Back with Marcy and Zak)

Marcy: Whew. We got through all of them. I'd better get going. Oh wait, I never got your name!

Zak: My name is Zak with no "C."

Marcy: Z-A-K. Got it.

Zak: What's yours?

Marcy: Marcy.

Zak: Interesting...is this place close to you?

Marcy: Well, I live in Falls Church, on Park Avenue.

Zak: No kidding! I live on that avenue too!

Marcy: Hey, we might be neighbors! What's your address?

Zak: (whispers in Marcy's ear)

Marcy: Oh my gosh, we live right across the street! I'll tell my parents about you, see if we can get together more often. Sound good?

Zak: Yes sirree Zak!

THE END