

The Kingery Episode 10x01 "Day of the Hot Spot"

ANNOUNCER: The following Pendant production contains mature subject matter. Listener discretion is advised.

GEPPi (quietly): You see, it is ze chocolate.

MADDIE (quietly, not paying attention): Mmhm.

[a slight bit of movement off to the side]

CAL(quietly): I spotted three behind the refrigerated case.

MADDIE (quietly): Matches my count.

GEPPi (quietly, but urgently): The stock is so rare, you see. Shipped from sector 93N at GREAT expense.

CAL (quietly, suddenly noticing Geppi): Cap? We gonna... do something about him?

MADDIE (quietly): Who?

GEPPi (less quietly): Zis is an insult! Things like zis never happened under the Ark-

MADDIE (quietly): Things like this ALWAYS happened under the Arkells! Now would you please shut the fuck up?!

[Tense music plays]

MADDIE (quietly): You see that, Cal? I think we've been made.

CAL (quietly): Small wonder with this chocolate starfish broadcasting our location.

GEPPi (furious, but confused): What is zis? What is meaning of, how you say, "starfish"? Geppi's is Kingery destination of choice!

[Bodies charging from across the room]

CAL: Incoming!

MADDIE: Geppi, get down.

GEPPi: If zis is the way ze police opera- sacre bleu!

[Geppi's shoved to the ground]

MADDIE: DOWN. Cal?

CAL (excited): Cap?

MADDIE (loving it): Full battery, Embers up!

[Two sci-fi blasters powering up quickly]

[They fire! Bullets on the way out, flames erupt on impact]

[Three people on the other side of the room return fire with normal guns]

GEPPi: No no no no no no no!

CAL: All right, who's next?

MADDIE: Ha! Missed, fucker.

GEPPi: No no no no no no no no no!

CAL: Blast!

MADDIE: Stop moving so I can shoot you!

GEPPi: Not ze Voracian crystal! And ze chocolate!

MADDIE: Take THAT, you candy-thieving douche-nozzle!

[One of the bodies across the room falls, smashes through a display case]

MADDIE (loudly over the din): ONE FUCKER DOWN.

CAL (loudly over the din): YOU'RE NOT WINNING THAT EASILY.

[One of the flame bullets hits a body across the room]

[The guy YELLS in agony and falls over]

[The flames are spreading]

CAL (small cough): Can't see through the smoke...

GEPPI (horrified): ZOSE BURNING DRAPES ARE FROM ZE SILK MINES ON RELLVIN 4!!
(crying)

[More gunshots]

MADDIE: You want these guys stopped, or you want them to clean out your entire business?

GEPPI: At zis rate I will HAVE no business!

CAL: Why don't you, uh, put the fire OUT then, Geppi? You're up to code, right? Hit the sprinklers.

GEPPI: Zat is not ze point. I-

MADDIE: Motherfucking hit the motherfucking sprinklers!

[Drawer opened, switch flipped]

[Sprinklers shoot on, spraying water everywhere]

GEPPI: On no, call ze police, they said. They will save you from ze bandits, they said. Who will save ME from ze police!?

MADDIE: Smoke's clearing...

CAL: Got a bead on the last one?

MADDIE (urgent): Cal, get down!

CAL (terrified yelp)

MADDIE: Gotcha.

[Maddie fires]

[The bullet whips across the room, thuds into a dude's chest]

[He erupts in flames]

[Maddie walks over to Cal]

CAL: Captain Gray? Is it safe?

MADDIE: That was quite the yelp.

CAL: At least allow me a moment of weakness before my impending death. Why'd you tell me to duck, anyway? This asshole wasn't anywhere near-

MADDIE: Final count? Boss, 2. Peon, 1. That puts me up by two in the weekly tally. You're buying me dinner.

CAL (charmed): You did me dirty, cap.

[Sprinklers shut off]

[Water dripping]

[They walk toward the door]

MADDIE: You're right. You're much more than a peon. More like... lieutenant peon. At least.

CAL: That's more like it. So, uh... what's this gonna cost me?

MADDIE: Oh nothing fancy. Just going to hit up Sarah's. Maybe get a synthesteak.

CAL: You're killing me! Her prices have gone way up since-

GEPPi (indignant): What! About! Ze damage!

CAL: You've got insurance, right?

MADDIE: Has to, part of Kingery code. You're not... violating code, are you Geppi?

GEPPi: (suddenly very amiable) No no. In fact I... have a very good policy, zat came in very handy when that 4W198N creature went nova on us a while back. Ze policy... covers...

[Geppi takes a few steps]

GEPPi (grunts)

[He smashes a case open]

GEPPi: ...all of this, and then some.

[He picks up a couple boxes]

[He walks to Maddie, opens a box]

GEPPi: Chocolate, Ms. Gray?

[Chocolate removed from box]

MADDIE (eating): Ooh. Don't mind if I fucking do. Mm. Mmmm. This the stuff from 93N? Shit! I see why you were upset.

GEPPi: You know what, take ze box!

MADDIE: You sure?

GEPPi: I've no idea what you mean. My entire stock was lost in ze fire!

MADDIE: Thanks. Seeya 'round, Geppi.

[Maddie and cal walk away from the scene]

GEPPi (calling after as they go): But what is ze chocolate starfish?

[Door opens as Maddie and Cal exit the shop]

[Broken glass falls out of the door window as it closes]

MADDIE (eating again): Want some? Better get them now before they're gone.

CAL: No no, the more chocolate you eat now, the less you'll eat at Sarah's. My wallet thanks you.

MADDIE (eating another one, excited): Mmm. Oh, fuck, this one has a cherry inside!

[Soothing restaurant background noises]

[Light instrumental background music]

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[Silverware, plates, drinking glass noises from Maddie and Cal's table throughout]

CAL: You really shot Brannis?

MADDIE: No, Major did. I miss him, though. Or at least the guy I thought he was. It's weird to miss a version of someone that maybe only ever truly existed in your own head.

CAL: We all make errors in judgment sometimes. Don't be too hard on yourself.

MADDIE: I'll be okay. Until YOU take a bribe or I find out you're working for the Fifth, anyway. Then I'd have Major put one in you like she did Brannis.

CAL: I wasn't around much before she... well, I didn't know Major too well, but that seems right in line with what I do know.

MADDIE: I asked her to. Had to. I mean it wasn't like a hit or anything, but he was behind me, and...

CAL: How long you two work together?

MADDIE: Me and Maj?

CAL: You and Brannis.

MADDIE: Fuck. Years. I thought he was the one incorruptible person on the force.

CAL: Guess that turned out to be you.

MADDIE: And look what it got me!

CAL: A free dinner's not all bad, cap.

MADDIE: I can't remember the last time I actually sat down to eat.

CAL: That'd probably be... the last time you won the bet?

MADDIE: Last week? Jesus. Rustler gangs just haven't let up.

CAL: Can you blame 'em?

MADDIE: Can. And do!

CAL: This place's never been so busy. I mean it was always hoppin', but not like this. The hotels have been at capacity for months. Hell, the- the sports book alone is probably pulling down 10 mil a week, easy.

[Footsteps approach]

MADDIE: The Kingery's too tempting a target to resist right now, logically I KNOW that, but-

BRIGGS: Fifteen.

CAL (startled): Oh! Ms. Briggs!

BRIGGS: "Doc" is fine. Though I do less and less doctoring these days.

MADDIE: "Fifteen"?

BRIGGS: The sports book. It brings in about fifteen million a week. Not ten. May I?

[Briggs grabs a chair]

MADDIE: Do we have a choice?

[Briggs sits at their table]

MADDIE: You think I'm going to just sit here and talk to you?

BRIGGS: I think you're going to give me some shit.

MADDIE: Yeah, so let's save time and cut right to the point.

BRIGGS: I wanted to go over a few things regarding that incident at Geppi's.

MADDIE: He can file a complaint with the precinct if need be.

BRIGGS: Oh no no, no, he's very happy. His insurance is very good. Says he's going to add a second floor when the payment comes in. The problem is all the lost business while he waits for the insurance investigators and while the shop undergoes repairs.

MADDIE: You make 60 mil a month on the sports book, which is one small part of the entire Kingery, and you're worried about the candy store?

BRIGGS: The Fifth is concerned about all holdings across our varied and diversified portfolio.

MADDIE: You're really giving "mob rule" an entirely new meaning.

BRIGGS: There's no reason we can't get along, despite your past relationship with the Arkells.

MADDIE: Ancient history.

BRIGGS: So why be confrontational? You don't have to like me, I don't have to like you. But we both want the same thing, right? We want the people coming into the Kingery to be secure during their stay, until such a time as they safely return home.

CAL: Surprised you want them to leave.

BRIGGS: How else will they tell all their friends about us? Don't underestimate word of mouth.

CAL: It's not our fault bandits keep attacking, this place is minting money.

BRIGGS: And we've got it locked down like a fortress.

MADDIE: The rustler gangs don't know that.

BRIGGS: Maybe they would if you'd let some of them live.

MADDIE: You know how many of your customers they've already killed?

BRIGGS: The number escapes me, but our bank accounts feel their loss very deeply.

MADDIE: If we don't take them out on sight, more innocents are going to get hurt.

BRIGGS: We certainly don't want that. We need those people. But The Fifth didn't supply your precinct with Ember Pistols just to have you turn around and burn our businesses down.

MADDIE: Regular bullets can't pierce the rustler armor. Without them-

BRIGGS: You ever take a hit from one of them? No, of course not. You'd be dead. That's the point. They worm their way into your flesh and burn you from the inside out. And I'd certainly hate for you to experience that firsthand. Sounds like a terrible way to die. Great! So keep the collateral damage down, and the rustler gangs on the ground, and we'll be peachy. Thank you!

[Briggs leaves]

CAL: She reminds me of this woman I know.

MADDIE: Oh yeah? Who?

CAL: This nice lady I thought was a doctor with tenuous crime family connections, who then turned out to be part of a no-longer-mythological different crime family and now seems to be in charge. Can't remember her name, though!

MADDIE (small laugh)

CAL: Seeee? Us lieutenant peons are good for something after all.

MADDIE: Don't flatter yourself. I'm just sleep deprived.

CAL: Rough nights?

MADDIE: I sleep fine... when I have the chance. It's the-

[Maddie's phone rings]

MADDIE: Well.

[Maddie answers her phone]

MADDIE: Captain Gray. No, not at all, I was just sitting at my fucking desk staring at the wall, wishing I had some work to do. Sorry. Got it. On our way.

[The call ends]

CAL: What are they hitting this time? Tableball Arena? Sparkle Pool?

MADDIE: Moonlight Garden.

[Maddie and Cal run out of the restaurant]

CAL: You know if we sit this one out, let Sarah's biggest competitor take the hit, her prices might come down.

MADDIE: Hilarious.

CAL: My salary's lower than yours and I keep losing these bets. Something's gotta give!

[Maddie and Cal draw their sidearms]

MADDIE: Hey, new week, new tally. Maybe you'll get off to a good start.

CAL: Either way, at least I get to watch murderous dickholes burn.

[Quiet background music]

[A door opens]

[Two sets tired footsteps scuff their way in]

[The door closes]

[Maddie flops onto her bed]

MADDIE (uggggh)

CAL: Thanks for, uh, letting me stay here. The commute home's so long I'd just have to turn right around and come back so...

MADDIE (muffled, speaking into her pillow): Stop talking.

CAL: You want to try that again, with 100% less pillow in your mouth?

MADDIE (muffled, speaking into her pillow): No.

CAL: Soooo do you want me to put a sheet down? Or should I just lay on down in my boxers, my swarthy junk separated from your sofa cushions by only a single layer of gabardine?

[Maddie rolls over]

MADDIE: Who the fuck has gaberdine underwear?

CAL: I need the heft. To hide the outline of aforementioned swarthy junk.

MADDIE (laughs): GOD shut up! Sheets are in the bottom drawer. Or maybe the top. Could be the closet.

[Cal opens a few drawers, finally pulls a sheet out of one]

CAL: You... don't know?

MADDIE: I usually sleep on the pull-out in my office!

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CAL: And this... pleases you?

MADDIE: It weirdly does. This gal loves police work.

CAL: "Gal"?

MADDIE: Gul? Gell? Ghoul? (more laughing) Oh but now I'm in a real bed. My beautiful poly-foam beeddddddd. Bed!

[Cal shakes out the sheet, lays it over the sofa]

CAL: Yeah, I'm gonna get the light. Night, cap.

[Light switch turned off]

[Cal takes a few steps and lies on the sofa]

MADDIE (almost asleep): No night cap, thanks. Too tired.

CAL (slow, rhythmic breathing as he begins to fall asleep)

MADDIE (slow, rhythmic breathing as she begins to fall asleep)

[Maddie's phone rings. And rings. And rings.]

MADDIE (mumbling into her pillow): Whozit. Go awaaaaay.

[Phone rings]

[Phone rings]

[Phone rings]

MADDIE (suddenly very awake and ANGRY about it): FUCK FUCK JESUS FUCK.

[Maddie presses a button on her phone]

CAL (groaning): Is it the station?

MADDIE (in shock/surprise, suddenly wide awake, all anger gone): It's Alyson.

[Low mechanical hum heard through thick walls]

[A quiet beeping across the room]

[A brief bit of movement on a metal bench]

ALYSON: (groggy, moans) The fuck?

[Alyson sits up]

ALYSON (groggy): Sure, nothing bad ever accompanies a strange beeping.

[The beeping stops and a mechanical door whooshes open]

[The mechanical hum is louder when the door is open]

[Two pairs of footsteps enter]

[Mechanical door whooshes closed]

[Mechanical hum is muffled again]

ERIN: Hi!

CHRIS: Can you stand?

ALYSON: Why the hell wouldn't I be able to? My crazy nightmares gonna make me weak in the knees now, too?

ERIN: Nightmares? That's not good.

CHRIS: It's not bad, either. Not in the report, either way.

ERIN: I know, but it's not good for anyone to have nightmares. Have a little compassion.

CHRIS: Jesus.

ERIN: We brought food!

CHRIS: I think it's a bit too early to mention the food.

ERIN: Chris, I'm just standing here holding the tray, what am I supposed to do... act like I walk around with it all day?

CHRIS: Maybe this isn't the right time to discuss that? Maybe you should have brought that up before we came in here.

ERIN: Well sorry, this wasn't exactly in the job description.

CHRIS: No, yeah, I know, we're just winging it. I get that.

ERIN: ...but we don't have time.

CHRIS: We don't have the time, right.

ALYSON: That's a hell of a show. You two kids take this on the road, or... what?

CHRIS: Come on. Up on your feet.

[Chris grabs Alyson's arm]

ALYSON: Get your fucking hands off me.

ERIN: Don't force her, come mon!

CHRIS: Well then set the stupid food down and help or something.

[Erin sets down the food tray]

[Erin walks over to Chris and Alyson]

ERIN: Can you try to stand? Please? We're here for support if you need us.

ALYSON: Support. Yeah, sure. Who the fuck are you?

ERIN: Please? Just... stand up?

ALYSON: I can do it on my own. Fuckers don't- (yelps)

[Alyson wobbles]

[Chris and Erin catch her, help her sit back down]

ALYSON: Why are my legs so weak? Also you got a furnace under the floor or something? It's like a fuckin' fire on my- Where are my shoes? Where are my clothes?!

ERIN: You've got a lot of questions!

ALYSON: You don't fuckin' say.

CHRIS: Would you give her the jumpsuit?

ERIN: I thought you had it?

CHRIS: Super. She's gonna have our heads.

ALYSON: That and a lot more if you don't tell me where I fucking am and what this- what is fucking going on and...(struggling to remember) ... uh...

CHRIS: Here it comes.

ERIN: Are you sure you don't want some of this food? It'll, um... it'll help. And it's cold, it's fresh out of the galley fridge! So that'll be nice.

ALYSON: Who... uh, whooo...

ERIN: Oh! I'm Erin. My friend here is Chris.

CHRIS: Not what she's asking.

ALYSON: Who... AM. I? What... the FUCK. IS GOING ON!?

[Mysterious music stinger]

[Kingery theme plays]

“The Kingery”, season 10, episode 1. “Day of the Hot Spot”

Featuring the voice talents of:

André Vernot as Geppi

Alicia Laine Pickens as Madeleine Gray

Christopher Gilstrap as Cal

Kim Gianopoulos as Doc Briggs

Melissa Autumn Hearne as Alyson

Kristine Chester as Erin

Kaitlyn Kliman as Chris

Written by Jeffrey Bridges

Story by Jeffrey Bridges, with Susan Bridges, Rene Christine Jones, Pete Milan, Kathryn Pryde and Perry Whittle

Kingery Theme by Tom Stitzer

All other music by Kevin MacLeod

Directed by Dave Morgan

Assistant Director Bruce Busby

Produced by Pendant Productions

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Thanks for listening!

[Kingery theme fades out]

[Kingery theme plays]

TRIPTI COPELY: I'm Tripti Copely with FeedSurge News, and this is the Kingery Road Resort and Casino.

ANNOUNCER: Next time, on "The Kingery".

TYTHIA: So, who here can prove they have free will? It's quite the question, right? I mean, we're all organics here, uh- we KNOW we have free will, that's what we're told all our lives. Or do we?

PALLAS: Still talking about your favorite subject, I see.

TYTHIA: I mean, it's a FASCINATING subject.

PALLAS: It's a GUILTY subject.

TYTHIA: I mean it would be nice, wouldn't it? To know who you were supposed to be, what you were supposed to do?

PALLAS: I'd rather be surprised.

TRIPTI COPELY: The question remains... why do people want to come to The Kingery to spend their time and money?

BRIGGS: This is a NEW Kingery, a BETTER Kingery, and now everything is wonderful!

TRIPTI COPELY: And where exactly IS Thomas Arkell?

TOMMY: Where IS Tommy Arkell? WHO is Tommy Arkell? ...WHEN... is Tommy Arkell- no that's just stupid. Stupid. What was I saying?

ANNOUNCER: Only at pendantaudio.com!

TYTHIA: Ariel, show me kittens.

[Kittens meowing]

[Kingery theme fades out]