

## The Kingery, episode 12x05 "Shut Up And Do Your Job"

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

\*\*\*\*\*

[Beep.]

KAYLOCK

(Sigh.)Hello, Karen, My love. It is Kaylock... again. I cannot tell you how much I regret your absence. I hope this message finds you well. As with the other two messages that I left today. I understand that you must be very busy. This state is something I empathize with entirely. Moreover, I miss you. I've purchased the brand of soap you use and have developed the habit of bringing it into the bucket with me at night. It brings me comfort but not as much as holding you close. Please let me hear from you soon.

\*\*\*\*\*

[The gentle lapping of water against a dock. Birds, a breeze.]

MAJOR

You're right. It is really peaceful.

REBBECA

Thank You. We've been really putting a lot of work into this. Large mouth bass, a few trout, I think they said there were a few catfish down there at the bottom.

MAJOR

Yeah, great. Sounds good. uhh...what's it now?

REBBECA

Rebecca.

MAJOR

I thought it was Claudia. You might want to let him up.

REBBECA

Right.

[Rebecca Pulls Really Bad Guy out of the water. splashing water and struggle.]

REALLY BAD GUY  
(Sputter, cough) Fuck!

MAJOR  
Eloquent. And that was 48 seconds.

REBBECA  
That's pathetic. I think he can do better.

MAJOR  
Oh, Yeah. He could definitely do better. Unless, of course, he wants to tell us who the fuck hired him to hack our house bank.

REBBECA  
Think of all those poor casino patrons who would have been out their rightful winnings!

MAJOR  
If he tells us who his boss is, we might not have to test his breath holding talent.

REBBECA  
I think you're right. But, you know? Just in case.

REALLY BAD GUY  
No! Wait!

[Back under. More splashing. This time he struggles more.]

REBBECA  
It wasn't Claudia. That was an option I thought of this morning. I think I'm really feeling Rebecca though.

MAJOR  
(Sigh.) Huh?

REBBECA  
Rebecca? I think it might suit me.

MAJOR  
Oh, yeah! Sure. I could see that. Sorry. I was somewhere else for a second.

REBBECA  
You okay?

MAJOR

Yeah. I'm fine. Really. No problem.

REBBECA

You want in on this?

MAJOR

Sure. Why not?

[Major joins in the drowning fun.]

REBBECA

This is good. Getting our hands dirty again, right? Not surrounded by guards or a fuck ton of bullet proof metal.

MAJOR

The guards are still there, Boss. They're just waiting at the end of the dock. And I guess this is alright. I just miss...

REBBECA

Kaylock? I'm sorry this is how it had to be. We should probably let him up.

[Really bad guy being pulled back up.]

REALLY BAD GUY

(sputter cough) Please! Don't fucking put me under again! Please!

MAJOR

Once more: who hired you?

REALLY BAD GUY

I don't...I don't know. I didn't do anything! I don't know!

REBBECA

You are really shit at this! SO shit that we have you on the surveillance div actually hacking in. We can see your screen and everything. Now, you can tell us who hired you or you can grow gills!

MAJOR

Your fucking choice, shit stain!

REALLY BAD GUY

Fuck you! Fuck you both!

[Really bad guy takes a swing and lands a light hit on Major, phone drops into lake.]

MAJOR

Oof. You motherfucker.

REBBECA

Did he seriously hit you that hard?

MAJOR

No, he just knocked my phone loose and into the fucking lake.

REALLY BAD GUY

Eat my ass, bitch!

[Really bad guy getting dunked again.]

MAJOR

They always insist on wasting our fucking time.

REBBECA

It is really peaceful here, though.

\*\*\*\*\*

[Cass pacing. A small crowd of people outside her door.]

CASSANDRA

Fuck me sideways.

KAYLOCK

Indeed. That was less than satisfactory to say the least.

CASSANDRA

Did the ad secretly ask for every idiot in the sector?

KAYLOCK

(Reading) "Seeking enterprising go-getters for employment with upward mobility and financial stability! Creative thinking a must, moral flexibility highly recommended. Prefer individuals of an industrious nature who are clever, loyal, and above all, discreet. Area knowledge is a plus."

CASSANDRA

Jesus! We obviously need to be more direct. "Now hiring non-morons that know how to get shit done and won't betray us at the first fucking opportunity." (sigh) I need a drink.

KAYLOCK

What would you like?

CASSANDRA

Cyanide neat, please.

KAYLOCK

I'm afraid we do not have any at present. Would whiskey serve as an acceptable substitute?

CASSANDRA

Sure. But on the rocks. We're still working. (Sigh, and sip) What we really need is an Asa.

KAYLOCK

Apologies. I can only provide more whiskey.

[Morgan quietly opens the door, steps in and closes the door behind them.]

CASSANDRA

And to top all of this shit off, my apartment building is still infested with squatters.

KAYLOCK

We could use some of the petty cash to have them relocated to shelters or some other accommodations.

CASSANDRA

Are you fucking kidding me? Right now, we're okay on cash. But without any prospects we are slowly hemorrhaging money. And there's no way I'm putting these assholes who have pissed me off for three weeks in a better position than I'm in right now.

MORGAN

Perhaps I might be of assistance in this matter?

[Cassandra and Kaylock pull their guns.]

KAYLOCK

Step slowly back and raise your hands.

CASSANDRA

Who the fuck are you?

MORGAN

If you'll allow me, I think I might provide the answer to your problem. But first may I ask that the firearms be lowered? I assure you I mean no harm.

[Guns slowly being put away.]

MORGAN

Thank you. My name is Morgan. And if I'm not mistaken, You were looking for...Pardon me.  
(Reading) "...Individuals of an industrious nature, who are clever, loyal, and above all, discreet.  
Area knowledge is a plus." Is this correct?

CASSANDRA

Might be. It depends on your qualifications and open mindedness.

MORGAN

Ah! Might I assume, due to the wording of your advertisement, that the position would involve activities of dubious legality?

KAYLOCK

Would that present an issue?

MORGAN

Certainly not. Had it presented a problem, I would not be here. I have been involved in all manner of business arrangements in the past, Miss Arkell. On both sides of the law.

CASSANDRA

You know who I am?

MORGAN

The Arkell family is not unknown to anyone who pays attention to the Galactic News.

CASSANDRA

I guess that's fair. Are you a cop?

MORGAN

Not anymore.

CASSANDRA

Why "not anymore"?

MORGAN

Differences in opinions.

CASSANDRA

So what is it, exactly, that you wish to do for us?

MORGAN

Call it what you like. Personal secretary, facilitator, efficiency expert, resource management, what have you. In essence, the person you call when something needs to get done cleanly and expeditiously. Allow me to demonstrate. What apartment building are you having problems with?

CASSANDRA

The Regency.

MORGAN

Perfect.

[Morgan dials cellphone.]

MORGAN

Captain Davenport, this is Morgan. I am led to understand that there are some unauthorized tenants at The Regency. I would like to know why it is that they have not been taken care of yet. Uh-huh. I see. Well, I am calling in one of the favors that you owe me. I don't give a solid fuck about what you're doing right now. I suggest you drop your cock, pull your pants up, and do your job. Or would you prefer that I see to it personally? Ah. I'm glad to hear that we're on the same page. Alright now, b'bye.

[Phone call ends.]

MORGAN

I expect your problem to be resolved within the hour.

CASSANDRA

My god, I could kiss you.

MORGAN

While I am not averse to the idea, I would still expect financial compensation.

KAYLOCK

I believe it is safe to say, you're hired.

\*\*\*\*\*

[Sounds of a crew cleaning up.]

CORY

I spy with my little eye something beginning with....A.

HOOKS/JACE  
(Groans of disapproval)

JACE  
Swear to God, Cory, if it's ashes again, I'm gonna lose my fuckin' mind.

CORY  
It isn't, I promise.

JACE  
Fine...what is it? Because I'm not playing this game if it's ashes.

CORY  
It was...Asshole.

HOOKS/JACE  
(Groans of disapproval)

CORY  
So...is it my turn again?

HOOKS/JACE  
No!

HOOKS  
We have been playing this game for three hours. I don't think there is anything that "my little eye" hasn't spotted. Try to remember that Chris died here. A little respect and solemnity might do us some good.

CORY  
Sorry, Hooks. I know. I'm just not good with grief and shit.

[They get back to work.]

CORY  
So what needs to be done still? Apart from cleanup. Are we rebuilding the kitchenette?

HOOKS  
Well first we need to clean up so that we can assess whether or not the room is still structurally sound and what needs to be replaced. Then we'll ask the boss if she wants the kitchenette to be rebuilt or not. If she does, we'll quote her a price.



JACE

So do we get paid for this before or after?

CORY

Are you hurting for money so soon?

JACE

Nope. Just wondering.

JACE

These floors are definitely going to have to be replaced, that's for sure.

HOOKS

Yeah. I don't think there is much that can be salvaged, Jace.

CORY

You're right. You're right. It's tragic.

JACE

Try not to think about it too much. Let's just focus on the job and get it done.

[Creaking and crumbling of flooring giving way. Jace falls through.]

JACE

Fuuuck!

CORY

Jace!

HOOKS

Jace? Jace, are you alright?

JACE

Son of a bitch!

HOOKS

Are you hurt?

JACE

Naw. I'm fine. Just a little bruised.

CORY

Ass or pride?

JACE

Blow me, Cory.

HOOKS

I'm gonna send down the work light. See what's down there, maybe you can find a way back up.

JACE

Great idea.

CORY

Don't you fuckin' die, man. I'm not finishing this alone.

[Light being lowered down.]

HOOKS

Can you see what's down there?

JACE

You're not gonna believe this...but I think it's another one of those emergency tunnels. Might be why the floor collapsed under me.

HOOKS

If it's an emergency tunnel, then it shouldn't have collapsed.

JACE

Well it looks like somebody was doing some work down here. There's lights and all sorts of-

CORY

I swear to fucking God, if it's another bucket full of eyeballs I'm gonna lose my fucking shit.

JACE

No...nothin' like that. Don't worry your pretty little head about it. There's nothin' gory or gross down here, Cory.

CORY

So no severed arms, either?

JACE

Oh, there are arms. They're just mechanical in nature. Legs, replacement eyes, little bit of everything. Just all mechanical. There's monitors, a pulley system... it's a mess down here.

HOOKS

I'm gonna call Maddie. Hold on, we'll get you out in a minute.

JACE  
Hey, Cory?

CORY  
What?

JACE  
I spy with my little eye...

\*\*\*\*\*

[Loud music, people dancing, drinking, laughing.]

MAJOR  
(Heavy sigh)

REBBECA  
Isn't this great? I hear it's the hottest club in town!

MAJOR  
Huh? Oh, yeah, great! It's real great!

REBBECA  
We should dance! We should go over there and dance!

MAJOR  
What?

REBBECA  
Dancing! We should dance!

MAJOR  
No, no that's fine! I'll sit here. I don't really feel like dancing. I have to set up my new phone anyway!

REBBECA  
Sucked that your old one fell in the lake!

MAJOR  
Yeah! Yeah, it did! I gotta call 'Lock.

REBBECA  
Major, I brought you here so you could have some fun! Get your mind off your troubles.

MAJOR

I know, boss. But I have a lot on my mind. Don't you worry about it, though, worry about you. Why don't you go dance with those two guys over there?

REBBECA

Those are my bodyguards, Major.

MAJOR

Yep, they sure are.

[Rebecca gets up and goes to dance with her bodyguards. Major slams her fist on the table, glasses clink, gets up and goes outside.]

\*\*\*\*\*

[Muffled music as door closes, beeping of multiple phone keypad presses. Digital fanfare/flourish from phone.]

MAJOR

Yes! Fuckin' finally!

DIGITAL PHONE VOICE

You have three new messages.

MAJOR

Ah, shit. 'Lock, I'm calling you right now. Right now.

[Phone speed-dial.]

KAYLOCK

(Recording) This is Kaylock's voice mailbox. I am sor-

[Phone beep, ending call and cutting off recording.]

MAJOR

Oh goddamn the timing.

\*\*\*\*\*

[Construction work going on. Door opens; Cassandra and Kaylock enter.]

MORGAN

Ah. Miss Cassandra, Mister Kaylock. Welcome home.

CASSANDRA

Morgan? Who are all these people and what are they doing?

MORGAN

These are the contractors taking care of the damages caused by the squatters.

CASSANDRA

So you got rid of the squatters AND arranged for repairs?

MORGAN

Exactly. It was obvious that you wished to have the use of your apartment as soon as possible, so I saw no reason to delay any further.

CASSANDRA

How long do you think this will take?

MORGAN

I have been assured that the work will be completed in no more than three days.

CASSANDRA

Excellent.

\*\*\*\*\*

MAJOR

Alright. One more time. You strangle the guy, you slip the noose over his neck, you stab him, you pull the knife out.

REBBECCA

These are the most disturbing instructions for knitting that I've ever heard of.

MAJOR

This is how I remembered to do it while I was learning, I dunno what to tell ya.

REBBECCA

This helps you relax?

MAJOR

It's very soothing.

REBBECCA

Why is it that I didn't realize before now that you might need some serious psychological help?

MAJOR

Boss, you asked me to teach you how to knit.

REBBECCA

I did. You're right, I did. It's just...

MAJOR

Yeah?

REBBECCA

Apart from the implied gruesome violence, this is really dull.

MAJOR

Did we or did we not just beat the living fuck out of a hacker not 6 hours ago? Don't talk to me about not being able to handle a little violence. Besides, it's knitting. Did you expect explosives or something?

REBBECCA

No. I knew it was gonna be dull.

MAJOR

Then why the fuck did you ask me to teach you? It's not like I don't have fuck tons of shit to do without taking a break to teach you how to knit when you don't even want to learn.

REBBECCA

Okay-

MAJOR

It is not an easy job trying to keep you safe 24/7. Plus keeping the casino running like fucking clockwork. Plus keeping an eye on the crew. Plus making sure nobody robs us fucking blind. But, sure, no, I've got time to run down to the docks. And go dancing. And teach you how to fucking knit so you can complain about how fucking dull it is! So why, in the great wide universe, did you ask?

REBBECCA

I'm going to level with you. You've been unbearably mopey lately. And a mopey Major is an angry Major. And an angry Major saddles me with more bodyguards and I can't have that anymore. I hate the feeling that people are watching me while I pee. I'd like to be able to pee in peace, please.

MAJOR

Boss, I need to keep you safe. With Cal and Chris being murdered and us not having a clue as to who did it, you walk around with a big, red target on you. So forgive me if I'd like to put some very large pieces of meat in front of that target.

REBBECA

I get that you're trying to do your job, but that doesn't fix the fact that you are so down.

MAJOR

I ain't even been married that long yet. My husband is on another fucking planet. I miss him. I miss his...face.. his non face... you know what I mean. I miss the little squelchy noises he makes as he slides across the floor. I miss having that fucking bathtub next to my bed. I never knew just how empty my life would seem without him.

REBBECA

You know you're a complete person without him, right?

MAJOR

I know that. But I chose to share my life with him and I'm not doing that. It really fucking sucks. But it's not forever and I'll get over it. Maybe.

REBBECA

You know...I could find someone else to take your spot while you go and be with him.

MAJOR

Oh, the fuck you will. I've been guarding your ass for over a decade now. It is a delicate art and I consider myself to be the master artiste.

REBBECA

Thank you. Alright. Let's keep trying to make a rope or a scarf or...whatever it is we're trying to make.

MAJOR

You don't gotta, boss. Why don't you just watch TV or listen to the radio or do what bosses do and I'll get back to doing something that's actually productive.

\*\*\*\*\*

[Maddie being lowered by a rope through the ceiling.]

GIB

I gotcha, don't worry.

MADDIE

Thanks.

[Maddie lands on the floor.]

MADDIE

Oomph.

GIB

Jace and Cory manage to get the lights working down here? It looks like cybernetic prosthetics were stored and sometimes installed in here.

MADDIE

Why is this creepier than finding flesh and blood body parts.

ERIN

I think it's the Uncanny Valley effect. Something so close to human and yet so far from it tends to make us twitchy.

GIB

This from a person who keeps the voice of her dead friend in a teddy bear.

CHRIS-BEAR

That wasn't very nice.

MADDIE

What else did we find?

ERIN

All of this is consistent with the mechanics used by The Army of the Evolved, which means...

CHRIS BEAR

It's a slam dunk! And the crowd goes wild! (imitation of a roaring crowd)

MADDIE

I wouldn't call it that just yet.

GIB

Oh, I think we could, Captain Gray. You see, we didn't just find loads of prosthetic limbs and organs. Erin was sharp eyed enough to find this on the way down.

[Gib hands Maddie a device.]



GIB

What do you think of that?

MADDIE

It looks like the same kind of device we found at the Transport crash scene. Except it isn't sparking and catching fire in my hands.

ERIN

Cory worked some sort of dark magic and disarmed the fail safe...well, mostly disarmed. It started to destruct before the disarming was finished. We weren't able to get a hit on where or who was using it, but we did find the systems it was hooked up to a lot easier.

CHRIS BEAR

I ask the wizard how dangerous dark magic really is. Charisma Check!

GIB

Could you turn that off for a few minutes?

ERIN

I could, but I won't. It's the only thing keeping me from being a blubbering mess. Anyway it's clear that thing is a transmitter, like the one used at the crash sight. It gave control of the stove, Door locks, and fire suppression systems over to an AI. Chris didn't stand a chance.

MADDIE

The similarities between this and the transport crash suggests that the two are linked. Fuck, this is bad.

GIB

You know what this means?

MADDIE

Yeah. We have an AI serial killer on our hands. Not an extremist, someone targeting people.

GIB

Oh come on, Grey! You know who is behind this!

MADDIE

Gib, we don't. We don't have enough evidence to even suggest that...

GIB

Open your god damn eyes, Captain! The Army of the Evolved's left over shit is all over the place! There is one stand out AI with them and They're IN CHARGE! We have to stop them before anyone else dies!

MADDIE

Hey. I like Socks, too. And I would hate to have to...

GIB

That...being, is NOT Ms. Chausete! That is a leach! A fucking parasite!

MADDIE

I know, we just can't...

GIB

Then why is nobody DOING ANYTHING about it?!?

MADDIE

What do you suggest we do, Gib?

GIB

Go and rescue her!

CHRIS BEAR

Storm the castle! SAVE THE PRINCESS!

ERIN

I'll just turn this off.

GIB

No! For once, I agree with the fucking bear!

MADDIE

Okay. Let's say we do that. And by some miracle, we manage to extract them from the spider's den without starting another family war that costs more lives. What then? Do we interrogate them? Use torture? Maybe lock them away? Both of them?

GIB

I just want my friend back! Fuck the law! Fuck the sentient piece of shit that has caused nothing but heartache! I can't see anyone else who could have done this or even had motive.

MADDIE

I can.

GIB

Who? It's not like we've got a list of AI's gunning for us.

MADDIE

There's one that comes to mind. He even lives at the Kingery. Sure, he told us that he was working with the Fifth, undercover...but how do we actually know? He's proven that he can lie. And he knows everything about the family and the Kingery infrastructure itself.

ERIN

Maybe we should go talk to him, then.

GIB

Yeah. I wanna talk to him.

MADDIE

No. I'll talk to him myself. I've been meaning to talk to He-B anyway.

CHRIS BEAR  
BAH BUM BUM!

ERIN

Seriously, buddy, not the time.

\*\*\*\*\*

[Kingery theme plays.]

The Kingery, season twelve episode five, "Shut Up and Do Your Job"

Featuring the voice talents of:

Jack Calk as Kaylock

M Sieiro Garcia as Major

Melissa Autumn Hearne as Rebecca

Keith Morrison as Really Bad Guy

Kristen Bays as Cassandra

Missy Rowland as Morgan

Kirsty Woolven as Corry

Brady Hendricks as Jace

Perry Whittle as Hooks

Brandon Gamblin as Digital Phone Voice

Shawn Taylor as Gib

Alicia Laine Pickens as Madeleine Gray

Kristine Chester as Erin

Kaitlyn Kliman as Chris-bear

Sensitivity Reader Kristine Chester

Written by Rene Christine Jones

Story by Tilly Bridges, with Susan Bridges, Rene Christine Jones, Kaitlyn Kliman, Pete Milan, and Kathryn Pryde

Kingery Theme by Tom Stitzer

All other music by Josh Molen at [TheTunePeddler.com](http://TheTunePeddler.com)

Directed by Jillian Morgan

Produced by Pendant Productions

This production is copyright 2023 Pendant Productions

The Kingery created by Susan Bridges, Tilly Bridges, Macalla Eaton, John Hardin, and Theresa J. McGarry, copyright 2023 Pendant Productions

For more information, visit [pendantaudio.com](http://pendantaudio.com) Thanks for listening!

[Kingery theme fades out]