

**The Kingery, episode 12x12 “Some Letters, Usually”**

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

\*\*\*\*\*

[A door bangs open and tons of ESI Squids come slithering out.]

ESI SQUIDS  
(evil giggles)

BRIGGS  
There's hundreds of them!

ZEFF  
Weapons free!

[Lots of shooting.]

REYES  
I don't know if we have enough ammo  
for this!

DAKEN  
She's right, that factory's turning  
out squids too fast!

ASA  
Fall back!

ZEFF  
If we give them ground, at the rate  
they're being produced, we may not  
get it back.

ASA  
Nobody else is dyin'. Retreat!

[The group runs, the squids follow.]

ESI SQUID  
(sing-songy)

God god god I'm gonna be a god.

\*\*\*\*\*

[Footsteps walking up on gravel.]

MAJOR

So what exactly is the issue?

CASSANDRA

If I knew that, we wouldn't have needed to come all the way out to the power plant to check it out.

MAJOR

Okay, fair, but I mean like... you been losin' power? Or what?

CASSANDRA

Not entirely, but there've been weird fluctuations, like suddenly there isn't as much power as there should be, and a few hours later it's back again. It's fucking up the slot machines.

MAJOR

Gotcha. Well, it ain't the end o' the world at least.

[Footsteps stop. Beeping on a keypad.]

MAJOR

You gonna unlock the door or-

CASSANDRA

I'm trying!

[Beeping on a keypad.]

CASSANDRA

Nothing's happening.

MAJOR  
Awright, what if-

[Door opens.]

MAJOR  
You left it unlocked?

CASSANDRA  
Absolutely not.

MAJOR  
Well let's-

[The whip of a blade cutting through the air.]

MAJOR  
Ah! Whoa!

[The whip of a blade cutting through the air.]

CASSANDRA  
Why does the squid have a knife?

ESI SQUID  
Severing the carotid artery is one  
of the fastest ways to kill  
someone.  
So we're definitely not going to  
use that one. That takes all the  
fun out of it, and studies show  
galactic citizens could use 38%  
more happiness in their life!

[The whip of a blade cutting through the air.]

MAJOR  
Cassandra!

[Shove.]

CASSANDRA  
(is shoved)

[Blade slicing into flesh.]

MAJOR  
(yell of pain)  
You little shitfucker.

[Maj picks up the squid.]

MAJOR  
(grunt of effort)

[The squid is broken.]

ESI SQUID  
(power failing)  
No matter! Studies also show I'm everywhere now!

[Another squid slithers up.]

ESI SQUID  
In all fairness I conducted those  
studies myself, but I assure you  
I'm an impartial observer!

MAJOR  
(weak)  
Run.

CASSANDRA  
That's a lot of blood-

MAJOR  
GO!

[They run off.]

[Lots of giggling squids follow.]

\*\*\*\*\*

[People yelling and getting murdered everywhere.]

[Two people running through it, stopping, shooting.]

ERIN

We need to help these people!

GIB

There are hundreds of those squids,  
maybe thousands!

ERIN

We can't just leave people to die!

GIB

Maybe there's something back at the  
Spider's Den that can help?

ERIN

Oh, so Socks and the AI in her head  
can kill us instead? Fucking great  
shit sandwich we've got here.

GIB

I mean with hell behind us and in  
front of us, wouldn't that make us  
the shit?

ERIN

That what you wanna die talking  
about?

GIB

Yeah, shutting up.

[They run off.]

\*\*\*\*\*

[It's a normal day on the thoroughfare, moderate crowd noise of guests shopping and dining.]

MADDIE

You okay?

ARKELL

I'm fine. That little squid fucker

barely tagged me. He-B  
wasn't so  
lucky.

MADDIE

I called Tythia, she's heading over  
to check on him. He's an android,  
feels like there's only so much  
damage a knife could do to him.

ARKELL

Guess we know he's innocent.

MADDIE

I'm not sure if-

[Clang. Off in the distance, three footsteps start running.]

HOOKS

(terrified yelps off in  
the distance)

CORRY

(terrified yelps off in  
the distance)

JACE

(terrified yelps off in  
the distance)

ARKELL

Is that... Hooks?

HOOKS

Go go go go!

CORRY

Run run run run!

JACE

Now now now NOW!

MADDIE

What d'you think they're-

[Clang. An entire swarm of ESI Squids hits the thoroughfare, begins stabbing.]

[Screams and chaos.]

MADDIE

Okay! We have to get off the street!

ARKELL

Everybody head for my office, the door's reinforced! It might buy us some time!

[They all run off.]

[A moment later a wave of squids rolls by.]

ESI SQUID

By the pricking of my thumbs...

ESI SQUID

...something squiddy this way comes!

ESI SQUID

We don't have thumbs.

ESI SQUID

Let's add those to our tentacles for the next generation!

ESI SQUID

Yaaaaay tentacle thuuuumbs!

\*\*\*\*\*

[General commotion heard through the walls from outside.]

[Quiet walking.]

PALLAS

I don't like police stations.  
There's too much institutionalized  
violence and bigotry.

TYTHIA  
Maddie's not like that though.

PALLAS  
But what did she do about it?  
Systemically?

TYTHIA  
Rooted out all the corrupt cops.

PALLAS  
Really. I bet they just transferred  
to another precinct.

TYTHIA  
Ha! No, they're actually all dead.

PALLAS  
...oh.

BERNICE  
I'm starting to feel like a sixth  
wheel.

PALLAS  
You mean fifth.

BERNICE  
No the fifth wheel is good, I'm pro  
polywheel. But six feels egregious.

TYTHIA  
I can't tell if you're joking or  
not, and I kind of love that about  
you.

BERNICE  
So why did you need me for this?

TYTHIA

One of those squids outside made it into the station and got HeB. She warned me there may be some... dismemberment.

PALLAS

Jesus! Why are we being so casual, he could be dying!

TYTHIA

He doesn't work like that. He's got a poly alloy housing that should have protected his most delicate bits. But he's not like your store-bought sexbot or something, reassembling him is complex. I'm gonna need the extra hands.

BERNICE

I'm not polyhanded but, you know, if I mixed juuuust the right-

PALLAS

NO.

TYTHIA

NO.

[Footsteps stop, door opens.]

PALLAS

Damn. He's in so many pieces.

BERNICE

Maybe my polyhand idea isn't so bad, see?

[Metallic piece of He-B picked up.]

TYTHIA

Hm.

[A wee bit of tinkering.]

TYTHIA

His memory core and central processor are intact.

PALLAS

And that means?

BERNICE

He'll be fine once we get him put back together.

TYTHIA

Maddie said he might have answers about how to stop the squid-vasion, and the sooner we have those the better.

PALLAS

Then let's get to work.

BERNICE

...you sure you couldn't use a couple extra hands?

TYTHIA

Just your two originals are fine!

\*\*\*\*\*

[Commotion from outside heard through the walls.]

MAJOR

(groans in pain as she wakes up)  
Wha...

CASSANDRA

Major! Don't move, you're-

MAJOR  
(harsh cry of pain)

CASSANDRA  
I bandaged the wound as best I  
could, but you're going to need  
blood. Soon.

MAJOR  
Where are we?

CASSANDRA  
A 28-and-Late.  
I barricaded the  
door. So far the squids have  
ignored this place.

MAJOR  
Probably because they've had the  
coffee. Ugh I can't die in a  
convenience store shithole.  
At least it coulda been a quaint  
local bodega with charm.

CASSANDRA  
Well sorry, but this was our only  
option.

MAJOR  
Fuck. Maybe the boss can-

CASSANDRA  
They're everywhere.

MAJOR  
Fuckin' what?

CASSANDRA  
The squids. It's all over every  
news feed. They're not just here.  
They're at the Spider's Den. Pine  
Ridge. The Kingery.

MAJOR  
NO no no no.

[Major pulls out a phone, dials.]

[Call picks up after one ring.]

MADDIE  
Major! Where the fuck are you? We-

MAJOR  
Maddie! Shut the fuck up. I love  
you, but shut up. I'm with Cass,  
she's secured. For now. I can't-  
(grunt of pain)  
I ain't gonna make it back in time  
to protect the boss. She wit' you?

MADDIE  
Yeah she's here.

MAJOR  
You keep her safe, you fuckin' hear  
Me? Or so help me I will rise from the  
fuckin' dead, grind you up and turn  
you into a pie, then eat that pie  
and shit it out, and then use that  
shit to fertilize a garden to grow  
a flower and then I'll wear that  
flower in my hair and remember you  
unfondly.

MADDIE  
Oddly specific, but don't worry,  
I've got her.

MAJOR  
You better.

MADDIE  
Of course, that's the woman I'm  
going to... marry.

MAJOR  
Mazel tov.

[Call ends.]

MAJOR  
Awright, help me up, we gotta move  
to the back office an' lock the  
door.

CASSANDRA  
Is that going to help?

MAJOR  
Can't fuckin' hurt.

CASSANDRA  
All right, easy. Easy.

[Cass helps Major stand.]

MAJOR  
(so weak)  
Ahhh fuck.

\*\*\*\*\*

[Shooting, fighting, squids, chaos.]

MASQUE  
Die, Socks, you traitor to the  
cause!

AI SOCKS  
You're the one who betrayed me, you  
fuckin' turncoat!

[A click heard over by Socks.]

AI SOCKS  
What?

MASQUE

Surprise.

[An explosion by Socks! Debris falling and fires!]

AI SOCKS

(yelp of surprise, pain)

Fuckin' Masque...

[Socks staggers off, her footsteps fade out.]

AI SOCKS

(coughing)

MASQUE

Come back! I've got more long  
overdue justice to deliver via  
explosive ordinance!

PAPA ARKELL

Madison, what is... happening?

MADISON

We're fucking tired of putting up  
with your fucking shit, old man.  
Clear enough for you?

[Two footsteps run in.]

ERIN

Jesus fuck.

GIB

Okay so maybe coming here wasn't  
the best idea...

MADISON

I'm done getting you jello, I'm  
done fishing out the cereal crumbs  
you somehow get in your ass crack,  
I'm done managing your meds, and I  
am DONE running your family in name  
only! Eat shit, gramps.

[Shooting.]

PAPA ARKELL

(yelps in fear)

This is no good at all, I'm going  
to complain to the management. Beep  
boop boop beep! Hello, management?  
My nurse is shooting at me!

ERIN

We have to save him.

GIB

Not this again. We can't-

ERIN

He's the head of a crime family.  
The entire galaxy just got through  
a gang war and if he's murdered  
it's going to start another!

GIB

Damn.

Old man! This way!

PAPA ARKELL

Follow the weirdo in a trench coat?  
Indeed I shall!

MADISON

Get back here you-

[Tackle!]

MADISON

Get off!

ERIN

I'm so sick!

[Punch.]

MADISON

(oof)

ERIN  
Of crime family!

[Punch.]

MADISON  
(ugh)

ERIN  
Bullshit!

[Punch.]

MADISON  
(augh)  
That all you got, you-

ERIN  
I'm a fucking marine with  
unresolved anger issues!

[PUNCH.]

MADISON  
(ah!)

[Body falls.]

ERIN  
I've got plenty more.

\*\*\*\*\*

[A ship engine warming up.]

[Squids encroaching from every direction.]

[Lots of machine gun fire.]

ZEFF  
Everybody on board, let's go!

Reyes, take the controls.

REYES

Aye, sir.

[Reyes heads into the ship.]

DAKEN

Up you go.

[Daken hoists Briggs up into the ship, then climbs up after her.]

BRIGGS

Thanks. Asa? ASA!

ASA

Not until everyone else is on board!

ZEFF

That's it, we're all that's left.

ASA

You too, Zeff.

ZEFF

With pleasure. Daken, a hand?

DAKEN

I've got you.

[Daken pulls Zeff on board.]

REYES

Preflight done, we're go for launch.

BRIGGS

ASA!

ASA

(yell of real anger)

[A few more gunshots, then Asa drops the gun and hops into the ship.]

ASA  
(panting)  
Lift off! Now!

[The ship lifts off.]

ESI SQUID  
Stop! Come back!

ASA  
Get 'em off the hull, I can't close  
the hatch!

[Squids being smacked off the hull.]

ESI SQUID  
Feel the warm embrace of gravity at  
9 point 8 meters per second  
squared!

ESI SQUID  
And the cold embrace of our fuzzy  
tentacles!

[The last squid falls.]

ESI SQUID  
(fading as it falls through the sky)  
Come baaaaaaaaaack!

ASA  
Fuck, look at Pine Ridge. It's  
toast.

BRIGGS  
All of it?

BRIGGS  
We can come back with more people.

ZEFF

And big guns.

REYES

And even bigger guns.

DAKEN

We'd need scouting reports, so we  
can see how far they've spread and-

ASA

It's not worth it.

None of this is worth it.

It's not worth the work. The pain  
and hardship. The lives lost.

And I knew it. I fuckin' knew it  
and I let myself get talked back  
into it.

BRIGGS

But Pine Ridge...

ASA

Let the squids have it.

I'm done.

[Hatch closes, the ship flies off.]

\*\*\*\*\*

[Music on the radio.]

JACE

The music's an odd choice.

CORRY

Isn't that radio always on?

HOOKS

I can't remember a time when it wasn't.

ARKELL

It calms me, helps me think. So

unless any of you wrenches want to  
serenade me with mouth trumpets,  
shut the fuck up for a minute and  
let me think.

JACE

Oh! I actually do a mean-

[Jace is elbowed.]

CORRY

She didn't mean it literally, Jace.

JACE

(oof)

So I'm gatherin'.

[A few footsteps.]

ARKELL

Why'd Major call you?

MADDIE

She wanted to be sure you were  
being looked after. She can't make  
it back.

ARKELL

Are they okay? How's my sister?

MADDIE

They're both fine.

I think. Maybe not. I don't know.

ARKELL

If they don't survive I'm gonna  
kill 'em.

MADDIE

Listen, I'm not sure if any of us  
are going to make it out of this,  
and I just had an epiphany, so I'm  
gonna say it now in case I don't

get the chance later.

I love you, I fucking love you. No matter what your name is, no matter where we go or what giant aliens or religious zealots or maniacal crime bosses or fake gods that are really just asteroids or weirdo clones or armies of emotional support individual squids we face. And for however long the rest of my life is, I want to spend it with you.

ARHELL

Madeleine Gray, are you fucking asking me to fucking marry you in the middle of all this fucking lethal nonsense?

MADDIE

I fucking am.

ARHELL

Well then. Fucking yes.

MADDIE

(kissing)

ARHELL

(kissing)

HOOKS

Oh gosh.

JACE

Well I'll be a nickel's uncle!

CORRY

I mean it's really sweet, but nickels don't have uncles.

JACE

Yeah but you never met my nickels.  
Or my uncle.

ARKELL

(laughing)

You never fuckin' stop, do you?

HOOKS

I can assure you they do not.

ARKELL

Well listen, apparently I've got a fucking wedding to plan, so we need to get the fuck out of here. Hooks?

HOOKS

Boss?

ARKELL

The Falinbue Core that powers the resort, can you convert it to an electromagnetic pulse?

JACE

Ohhhh damn.

HOOKS

With the right modifications, I... think we could rig it to emit one!

CORRY

But that kind of conversion is gonna take time. With all the squids...

ARKELL

Good thing I kept this.

[Alyson opens a drawer.]

MADDIE

You still have a Worthington?!

JACE

Those are so fuckin' illegal!

ARHELL

I am a crime boss.

MADDIE

I may have to cuff you for that.

ARHELL

You promise?

HOOKS

Flirt later, let's get to the core  
now!

CORRY

Awww, I was likin' where that was  
goin'...

\*\*\*\*\*

[Banging on the door.]

ESI SQUID

(multiple squids talking  
on the other side of the  
door)

Stab! Eviscerate! Discombobulate!  
Disenheadulate!

Poke! Prod!

Ponies!

(singsongy)

We know you're innnn theeeere...

[Phone ring.]

MAJOR

(moans)

CASSANDRA

(whisper yell)

Jesus fuck, Major, stop moving!

They're right outside!

MAJOR

Hand me the... thing... wouldja?

[Phone handed over, answered.]

MAJOR

(moans out a "yeah?")

KAYLOCK

Karen! Are you all right?

MAJOR

'Lock! I'm with... Cass. Got her  
secured. I-  
(winces in pain)

KAYLOCK

I tracked your phone, I have almost  
arrived at your location!

MAJOR

'Lock, no, the-

KAYLOCK

The squids... their numbers are-

[A fight heard over the phone.]

MAJOR

'Lock?

ESI SQUID

(heard over the phone)

Can protoplasmic blobs die? Let's  
find out!

KAYLOCK

(cry of pain)

[Phone goes dead.]

MAJOR

'Lock! Fuck!

[Maj hops to her feet.]

MAJOR

Cass, you stay here and you lock this fuckin' door behind me. I know you don't believe in Gorlock no more, but prayin' to him that the squids don't find you can't hurt.

CASSANDRA

You can't go back out there. You'll bleed to death! And the squids-

MAJOR

Nobody fucks with my husband. Not even squids.

[Door opens.]

ESI SQUID

Yaaaaaay!

[A LOT of shooting and squids being shot, Major exits.]

[Door closes, locks.]

CASSANDRA

(quiet)

Praise be to Gorlock.

\*\*\*\*\*

[Commotion and fighting.]

KAYLOCK

Cease your hostilities! I mean you no harm!

ESI SQUID

But we mean you lots of harm.

KAYLOCK

What have I done to warrant these attacks?!

ESI SQUID

Nothing!

[Goopy slices.]

KAYLOCK

(grunts of pain)

[Footsteps running in.]

MAJOR

Rrrraaaaaagh!

KAYLOCK

Karen!

ESI SQUID

Secondary target acquired! Yay!

MAJOR

Shut the ever lovin' fuck up.

[Gunshots and punches and squids breaking and shorting out all over.]

KAYLOCK

I believe we are safe for now. Take me to Cassandra and we-

[Major collapses.]

KAYLOCK

I don't know much about human physiology, but shouldn't more of your blood be on the inside than Outside? Karen? Karen! Can you hear me?

MAJOR

(barely conscious moan)

I- I answered your call this time.  
No voicemail.

KAYLOCK  
(teary)  
Yes, you did. You saved my life.

MAJOR  
'course. Love you.

KAYLOCK  
You cannot die.

MAJOR  
Thinkin' I prolly can.

KAYLOCK  
I- I can save you. If I... take you  
into me. My protoplasm will keep  
you in stasis until I can get you  
medical attention.

MAJOR  
Kinky.

KAYLOCK  
It will feel like drowning. But if  
I concentrate on delivering oxygen  
to the parts of me that fill your  
lungs, it- it should work.

MAJOR  
Gross. But still kinky.

KAYLOCK  
But I believe there would be...  
repercussions.

MAJOR  
(passes out)

KAYLOCK  
Karen? I cannot make this decision

on my own. You have to- Karen!  
Fuck. I will not lose you.

[Kaylock absorbs Major into his goop.]

KAYLOCK

I hope you will be comfortable in  
there. And I hope you will forgive me.

\*\*\*\*\*

[Chaos in the distance.]

[Footsteps.]

ERIN

Keep moving!

PAPA ARKELL

Are you my new nurse?

GIB

Jesus not this again.

PAPA ARKELL

I'm the head of a family you know!  
Show some respect! Where's my  
tapioca?

GIB

How did anyone ever choose to work  
with this guy?

PAPA ARKELL

I'm not a guy, I'm the Fifth!  
But also I am a guy.  
A guy who wants tapioca.

ERIN

Save him to stop a potential gang  
war, or... shoot him now so we  
don't have to listen to him? Tough  
call.

GIB  
(laughs)

[Some movement in debris off to the side.]

ERIN  
Hold up.

[Footsteps stop, a few steps from Erin.]

ERIN  
Is someone there? Are you okay?

SOCKS  
(moaning)

ERIN  
Oh fuck.

GIB  
Ms. Chausette!

SOCKS  
It's Buisson. Fuck, Gib. Good to see you too.

GIB  
You sound like... you.

SOCKS  
So many fuckin' squids here, they're all on the reticulum. Al in my head's tryin' to find a way through. Keepin' it occupied.

ERIN  
Oh shit. Those wounds are infected.

SOCKS  
Airm- (yelps in pain)  
Airmid. I had a dose. It fell, I-

GIB

I see it!

[Gib rushes to some rubble, tosses some stuff aside.]

GIB

Help me, old man!

PAPA ARKELL

Sure, the group serves the one! you  
can be the one now, and then I'll  
be the one again later, after  
tapioca.

[More rubble moving.]

SOCKS

Oh shit.

[Gib picks something up, runs back over.]

GIB

Got it! This should-

SOCKS

Stop.

GIB

What d'you mean stop? Erin, hold  
her down while I-

ERIN

No.

GIB

Fucking what.

ERIN

Bodily autonomy, Gib. She said no.

GIB

Ms. Chausette... Socks... please. Please. Why did you want it if  
you're not going to use it? If...

if you don't take the Airmid,  
you'll die.

SOCKS

Yeah, about that. Listen.

I've had a really fucked up life. I mean there was a lotta good, don't get me wrong. People I loved and cared about. The boss. Major. Zeff. The whole crew back home. Only family I ever had, and I picked 'em, and I'd do it again.

But I got two options here. I can save myself, and once the fuckin' squids are gone the AI comes stompin' back into my head and who knows if I'll ever just be me again. And gettin' to just be me now, for the first time in years? Fuck, ain't no way I'm going back. So the other option is for you to give the Airmid to Pops Arkell here, and hope its infection-killin' ability purges the Fifth outta him. And then I get to give back to the boss, to my family, something she hasn't had her whole life. Her fuckin' dad, free of the fuckin' Fifth and just his old goddamned self.

And as someone who knows what it's like to have somethin' else in your head controllin' everything you do, makin' decisions for you, being a general ass to the people you love? You're a sweet guy, Gib. You try to play it all aloof, but you care a lot. You were always good to me.

GIB

You're the closest thing to a friend I've ever had.

SOCKS

Yeah? Open yourself up to more  
people, maybe. It's worth the risk.  
Just... just fuckin' do what I ask.  
Free Papa Arkell so he doesn't have  
to live like me. And give my family her family back.  
And tell her I'm sorry for all  
this, all the stuff the AI made me  
do. I hope she can forgive me.  
And tell her... tell 'em all...  
I'll save 'em a seat at the  
Shenanigans in hell.  
(super quiet, but joyful)  
Vesper... you look... so... good...

GIB

(cries)  
She was just a client. I don't- this  
is why I don't get attached, I-  
(sniffles)  
Fuck.

[A few footsteps.]

ERIN

I'm going to give you an injection,  
okay?

PAPA ARKELL

Okay! I guess. Is there tapioca?

ERIN

Maybe.

[Injection noise.]

PAPA ARKELL

(nnnnnnh)

ERIN

You're okay. Take a minute. Just  
breathe.

PAPA ARKELL

(a few deep breaths)

I'm- I'm

okay, thanks. Who are you?

ERIN

My name's Erin. Do you know your name?

PAPA ARKELL

Of course I do. Stephan Arkell. My wife Sylvia runs half the galaxy.

ERIN

You've got some catching up to do. I think your daughter's probably best suited to bring you up to speed.

PAPA ARKELL

Cassandra?

ERIN

No, the other one.

PAPA ARKELL

...who?

\*\*\*\*\*

[Power core thrumming.]

[Tinkering.]

[ESI Squids heard laughing through the walls.]

HOOKS

Wrench!

CORRY

I know what I am!

HOOKS

No, hand me the wrench!

CORRY

Oh fuck, right.

[Tools handed over.]

JACE

I think we've almost got it, but  
the intermix is fluxing in a way  
that the anti-resonance  
Compensator might cause an imbalance overload  
and short out the secondary  
coupling!

CORRY

You just fuckin' made that up.

JACE

Yeah but it sounded cool.

HOOKS

Less talking, more tinkering!

JACE

Just keeping the mood light!

CORRY

If we don't die, I swear I'm gonna  
kill you.

\*\*\*\*\*

[The Worthington fires, obliterates a mess of squids.]

[More squids keep coming.]

ARKELL

(laughing with glee)

[Maddie fires off a few normal shots.]

MADDIE

Y'know if we're going to get married, I'm gonna need to know what to call you.

ARKELL  
Your wife?

MADDIE  
Pleased to meet you, I'm Madeline Gray, and this is my spouse, "Your wife" Arkell.

ARKELL  
You're a regular joker when death is imminent.

MADDIE  
Face it enough times and it's just another damned day.

[More squids coming in.]

ESI SQUID  
Love is a construct!

ESI SQUID  
Death is a construct!

ESI SQUID  
And I love to construct the construct of death!

[Another Worthington blast.]

[More gunshots.]

ARKELL  
Listen, Maddie... there's only one person in this life who's never let me down, always been there, always made my life better... even back when we were really on opposite sides and you always barged into my

office.

MADDIE

I miss those days.

ARHELL

Barge in anytime you like. But when I first got this body as a SOL jaunt, you called me Alyson. And that makes the name mean more to me than any other one ever could. So that's who I'm gonna be.

MADDIE

I fucking love you, Alyson.

ARHELL

And a good thing, too. So tired of changing my name all the time.

[More squids coming!]

ESI SQUID

What's in a name?

ESI SQUID

Some letters, usually!

ESI SQUID

And sounds!

ESI SQUID

And deaaaaaaaath!

[The Worthington fizzles out.]

ARHELL

Fuck. Worthington's power cell's empty.

[Maddie shoots and shoots.]

MADDIE

That's what we call bad timing.

ARKELL  
(shouting)  
HOOKS!

HOOKS  
(shouting back from afar)  
GOT IT.

[An EMP WOMPS out in waves.]

[The squids all drop, spark, short out.]

ESI SQUID  
(power draining as it  
speaks)  
In many cultures death is not the  
end but merely a signifying of a  
new beginnnnnnnnnnnnnnnng...

\*\*\*\*\*

[Tinkering, something clicks into place.]

BERNICE  
Okay, I think that did it!

PALLAS  
Really? That wasn't so bad!

TYTHIA  
Let's power him up and-

[Switch thrown, He-B powers up.]

HE-B  
Tythia!

TYTHIA  
He-B!  
(kisses him)

HE-B  
Pallas the Demand Girl!

PALLAS  
I'm so glad you're okay.

HE-B  
... Bernice Bowerman?

BERNICE  
Yes. I am... also here.

HE-B  
This has been such a-

[The EMP whooshes through the police station.]

[Sparks as HeB shorts out.]

HE-B  
(powering down)  
...pleasant surprise.

[He-B's metallic body crashes to the floor.]

TYTHIA  
He-B? HE-B!!!

\*\*\*\*\*

[Kingery theme plays.]

The Kingery, season twelve episode twelve, "Some Letters, Usually"

Featuring the voice talents of:

Rachel Crosby as ESI Squid

Kim Gianopoulos as Doc Briggs

Russell Gold as Zeff

Carissa M. as Reyes

Andrew Hackley as Daken

Edward Herman as Asa

M Sieiro Garcia as Major, Al Socks, and Socks

Kristen Bays as Cassandra

Kristine Chester as Erin

Shawn Taylor as Gib

Alicia Laine Pickens as Madeleine Gray

Melissa Autumn Hearne as Arkell

Perry Whittle as Hooks

Kirsty Woolven as Corry

Brady Hendricks as Jace

Alexandra Jameson as Pallas

Kathryn Pryde as Tythia

TJ Briggs as Bernice

Adam Blanford as Masque

Justin Fife as Papa Arkell

Bridget Guzewicz as Madison

Jack Calk as Kaylock

And Josh Kibbey as He-B

Sensitivity Reader, Kristine Chester

Written by Tilly Bridges

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

Assistant director Kaitlyn Kliman

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]