The Kingery, Season 13 hiatus mini-episode 2 "Emotional Evolution"

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

[Sporadic coughing, shuffling, phones, and computers in the background, the sounds of the DMV of the future.]

ZEFF

(sighs)

Number 285 and three desks open, unbelievable...

[Zeff sits down.]

MASQUE

Do you mind? There are six other chairs in this row. Do you have any idea how many germs you have?

ZEFF

Even the Highly Evolved Masque can't escape the Sector 88G
Department of Vehicle Registration.
You know, I keep forgetting the
Spider's Den and the Kingery are
even in the same sector, and yet...
here you are. Ain't life a bitch.

MASQUE I don't like fans. Go over there.

ZEFF

Bullshit. You love fans. I saw your holos like everyone else. I even got one of your little sales pitch messages when I got back from Pine Ridge. Along with this little stack of notifications that I apparently owe parking tickets out my ass.

MASQUE

I don't need to hear any of this...

ZEFF

I think you do, though. Cause, see, the reason I'm sitting here right next to your Shenanigans-nightmare-inducing face is because I know you. And you knew a really good friend of mine. And she's dead now. Cause of you. And if I thought for two seconds that killing you would do any good... you'd already be dead, sweetie.

MASQUE

If you're referring to my former business partner, Socks made her bed, as the saying goes, and she had to lay in it. She was culled. Natural selection.

ZEFF

(unamused chuckle) See, that's why I can't fuckin' kill you right now. And that's why I'm gonna sit here instead and just act like we're two pals catching up.

MASQUE

Because... you naturally understand I'm not guilty of anything and therefore this conversation is pointless?

ZEFF

No, because I understand you don't think you did anything wrong. So it won't hurt enough if I kill you. Or torture you. Or... any of the other things I might be considering. Because the fact... you're broken.

You act so high and mighty, so "evolved" because you're replacing parts of you with technology. But at the end of the day, you're still a spoiled little brat on the inside. So... Nah. I'll just sit here next to you and, uh... do this.

[Zeff unwraps a cheeseburger.]

MASQUE

What is that. No. Is that... oh, is that real animal meat?
Are you going to masticate. In public? In front of Me?

ZEFF

Oh yeah, baby. Masticating in public is exactly the kind of shit an unevolved peon like me would do.

[Zeff takes a sloppy bite.]

ZEFF

Oh, it's so.... So juicy... and it tastes so good...

MASQUE

But, it's filthy! And primal! Why would you masticate when you could have a constant source of energy that doesn't require a complex and ultimately flawed chemical system to break that down!

ZEFF

Because it feels fucking amazing.
And for all your Evolved bullshit,
I am gonna make sure you know how
much I enjoy everything you hate.
Forever.

[Zeff takes another bite. And burps.]

[Masque leaps out of their seat.]

MASQUE

Excuse me! I-I need another number! 279, you have to be joking! I need to get away from this lunatic!

ZEFF

Yup... I'm gonna make you pay. And I am gonna enjoy every second of making you squirm.

[Kingery theme plays.]

The Kingery, season thirteen mini-episode 2, "Emotional Evolution"

Featuring the voice talents of:

Russell Gold as Zeff

And Adam Blanford as Masque

Sensitivity Reader, Kristine Chester

Written by Kathryn Pryde

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

Directed by Jillian Morgan

Assistant director Kaitlyn Kliman

Produced by Pendant Productions

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[Kingery theme fades out]