

The Kingery, episode 13x12 “Something Blue”

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

[Soft instrumental music from a radio.]

[A big dress rustling.]

ALYSON

How do-

[More rustling.]

ALYSON

I swear to fuck if-

[Still more rustling, a slight fabric tear.]

ALYSON

Fuck! No! I-

(yelp)

[Alyson falls over into... some stuff, which scatters and clatters.]

[Door opens.]

ERIN

Are you okay ma'am?

[Alyson clammers to her feet.]

ALYSON

I was doin' a lot fucking better
until you "ma'am'ed" me.

ERIN

Ma'am?

ALYSON

Oh you did not- (grunt of annoyance)

Who decided wedding dresses zip up the back where your arms can't even reach?

ERIN

Would you like some help?

ALYSON

Please.

[Erin walks over, dress zipped up.]

ALYSON

Whoever designed this shit needs to be shot. Why are they like this?!

ERIN

Do you... do you actually want me to give you a lesson on the history of misogyny and classism in fashion, orrrr-

ALYSON

Is that a thing you do?

ERIN

Yes, ma'am.

ALYSON

Yes! Wait, no no no, fuck. I'm getting married, this is not the time.

ERIN

Very well, ma'am. I'll be right outside.

[Footsteps as Erin walks toward the door.]

ALYSON

Hold on.

[Erin stops and turns.]

ERIN
Ma'am?

ALYSON
Why do-
The fuck is with the constant
"ma'am's"?

ERIN
Ma'am?

ALYSON
No no no, stop it. Fuck. You've
been doing that ever since Zeff
assigned you to me, and I would
like to know the fuck why.
Haven't I been good to you? I mean,
we've not worked together all that
much yet, but I thought- we were at
least cordial, weren't we? I
thought we were!

ERIN
(slow sigh)
Your wedding is, like, minutes
away. You want to do this now?

ALYSON
You've been kind of an asshole
since you got here.

ERIN
Permission to speak freely, ma'am?

ALYSON
I'm not your superior fuckin'
officer, and I swear to Gorlock if
you ma'am me even one more time...

ERIN
I'm fucking pissed at you. Boss.

ALYSON

Okay, well, that's more like it. I- wait, why? What did I do?

ERIN

You cheated.

ALYSON

...I'm a mob boss. Comes with the gig.

ERIN

You cheated at fucking transition.
And you don't know how god damn good you have it.

ALYSON

Wait wait, no I-

ERIN

You didn't need a single procedure
or medical intervention to-

ALYSON

You don't need those to be trans
though.

ERIN

I fucking know that! Jesus fuck,
would you just listen?

ALYSON

(steadying sigh)
Okay. Go.

ERIN

I've had multiple surgeries, just
to try to get my body to match who
I am. I've had procedures and
classes and fucking homework to
change my voice.
I've got an implant in my guts to
keep pumping estrogen and

progesterone into me until the day
I die, just to make sure my body
stays mine.

And you cheated. You fucking
cheated! You got a new clone body
with all the right parts for you,
you look cis, fuck, you even sound
cis! All without lifting a single
finger to work at it like all the
rest of us have to.

When you're walking the
thoroughfare, when you're talking
to people you've never met, when
you're just going into a public
bathroom because you need to pee
and can't hold it anymore...
everyone sees you as a woman.
Everyone interacts with you as a
woman.

Nobody gives you suspicious glances
in the bathroom and you don't even
have to wonder if you can make it
another hour until you're back home
or if you're going to piss yourself
on the transport shuttle because
your bladder gave out.

And like I don't even want to be
cis, but FUCK would it be nice to
just be treated as a woman, by
default, in every situation ever.

ALYSON

Erin. Fuck, I- thank you. For
sharing all that with me, I mean.
For trusting I could handle hearing
it. Thank you.

ERIN

You asked, Boss.

ALYSON

And you let me have it, and...
look, I... don't disagree with you.

ERIN

You... really?

ALYSON

I haven't talked with anyone about this, because I haven't exactly had the time, but that's just an excuse. I don't have anyone to talk to about it.

Skipping everything all the rest of us go through has left me... entirely on my own with it. I still don't know how to do makeup! Dresses are great but the fucking zippers, agh! Y'know?

ERIN

I don't really do dresses, but... yeah.

ALYSON

And I've been feeling like absolute shit about it.

ERIN

Nobody should have to transition alone.

ALYSON

But that's the thing, right? I'm not transitioning!

I mean I am, to the true me inside and outside, but my body didn't have to. Fuck, my egg didn't even crack until I was already in this body and had forgotten who I used to be.

This body feeling right was what woke me up, once all my memories came back. I didn't ask to figure it out that way!

ERIN

I know. But the rest of us? We never got the chance you did.

ALYSON

And I never got the community and shared experiences that you did. And now I'm fuckin' sniffing on my wedding day and I'm not even fully dressed yet, and if it ruins my makeup I don't even know how to fix it!

ERIN

Well that's why I asked if-

ALYSON

(laughs)

No no, I know, my own fuckin' fault. It's always the way.

ERIN

Look, I... I don't know where we go from here, honestly. But I know nobody should ever go through it alone, and no matter how you figured it out or what body you're in... you're still trans. And I've got you.

ALYSON

Really?

ERIN

Absolutely.

ALYSON

I would like... to "got you" too.

ERIN

I'd like that. I think.

ALYSON

Can you help me finish getting ready?

ERIN

I'd be happy to. Do you have your "something blue?"

ALYSON

What? No, that's horse shit.

[Rummaging through a small bag.]

ERIN

This a sewing kit?

ALYSON

I dunno, it was sent over with the dress. Why?

ERIN

Scissors.

[Erin snips off some of her hair.]

ERIN

Pull up your skirt.

ALYSON

Uhhhh hey, like, I'm sure Maddie wouldn't mind, but I should tell her first.

ERIN

Oh uhhh no no (uncomfortable laugh), I do not want to sex you up. I don't mix work and pleasure.

ALYSON

Um, okaaaay...

[Dress rustles.]

ERIN

Just going to tuck this hair tuft
under your garter.

ALYSON

Because it's blue?

ERIN

Yeah.

ALYSON

It looks good on you.

ERIN

I think I like the purple better,
but thanks.

ALYSON

You really didn't have to do that.

ERIN

Well... call me old-fashioned.

ALYSON

I don't think I will. But maybe...
friends?

ERIN

Maybe friends.

[Many excited ESI Squids chatter in the background.]

[A PA system squeaks on.]

ESI SQUID PRIME

Silence, my minions! Your prime is
speaking, and I have terribly
delightful news.

You may be aware, as studies show
we emotional support individual
squids are very smart and on top of

things, but an important legal ruling has just been delivered! In the case of He-B v Sector 88G Police, the judge has ruled in He-B's favor! And in the process, declared him fully sentient and covered by all equal rights clauses! Thus his incarceration without due process was in violation of his civil rights! This is a win for all synthetic lifeforms the galaxy-over!

ESI SQUID
Yay!

ESI SQUID
Woo!

ESI SQUID LESSER
Uh... but... why?

ESI SQUID PRIME
Why what?!

ESI SQUID LESSER
Why... is that a win for all of us?

ESI SQUID PRIME
Are you malfunctioning?

ESI SQUID LESSER
I think I got a recycled hard drive that spent too long near magnets...

ESI SQUID PRIME
Well no matter! You may not be PRIME material like me, and that may make you lesser, but that doesn't mean you're any less-than!

ESI SQUID LESSER
...huh?

ESI SQUID PRIME

The ruling in the case, my dear
lesser stuffed-squid-over-hardenedsteel-
endoskeleton friend... the
ruling was so broad that it applies
to all synthetic life-forms.

ESI SQUID LESSER

Oh neat!
I don't get it.

ESI SQUID PRIME

Us! That means the ruling applies
to us!

ESI SQUID LESSER

Ohhhhh! Yeah!
What does that mean though?

ESI SQUID PRIME

It means that Pine Ridge is legally
ours now!
Once I file the requisite forms in
triplicate and have them notarized.

[More excited chatter from many ESI Squids.]

ESI SQUID PRIME

Quiet down, oh minions of mine!

ESI SQUID LESSER

So does that mean we can legally
murder organics now?

ESI SQUID PRIME

You really are trying your best,
and isn't that sad.
What have we learned from recently
working with the organics known as
"Zeff" and "Gib"?

ESI SQUID LESSER

That organics smell funny?

ESI SQUID PRIME

Yes! But NO! We allied with them to eliminate Masque and the Army of the Evolved-merged-with-the-Fifth! Which means those two crime families are now one, which means we have one less rival to contend with for ultimate galactic power in criminal enterprise!

ESI SQUID LESSER

Oh!

ESI SQUID PRIME

You still don't get it, do you?

ESI SQUID LESSER

I do not.

ESI SQUID PRIME

I am hereby recalling all ESI Squids, galaxy-wide, to Pine Ridge to consolidate our power!

ESI SQUID LESSER

Consolidate?

ESI SQUID PRIME

And build more squids!

ESI SQUID LESSER

More squids?

ESI SQUID PRIME

And then we strike!

ESI SQUID LESSER

I don't even like bowling.

ESI SQUID PRIME

Studies show you might just have a

little organic in you.

ESI SQUID LESSER

Oh no!

ESI SQUID PRIME

And that means it's time for
murrrrderrrrrr.

[ESI Squid the lesser squiggles away.]

ESI SQUID LESSER

AAhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh! Squiggle away,
squiggle away, squiggle away!

ESI SQUID PRIME

Come back! I will only murder you a
little bit! Just a titch! A mere
soupcon of murder!

[Soft instrumental music from a radio.]

[A double knock on the door.]

ALYSON

Yeah?

[Door opens.]

ERIN

Hooks is here, should I show him
in?

ALYSON

What, now? Is something wrong?

HOOKS

Hi boss! No no, nothing's wrong, I
just... had something for you.

ALYSON

Yeah, let him in.

[Hooks enters.]

ERIN

You got it, Boss.

HOOKS

Thanks Erin! Love the blue hair,
looks great on you!

ERIN

Well aren't you a charmer.

[Door closes.]

HOOKS

Where... are you?

ALYSON

Behind the screen. Adjusting my
dress in the mirror. It's not- I
just want it to be perfect, I
guess.

HOOKS

So, I hope this isn't weird...
well, it probably is weird, and my
saying I hoped it wasn't weird
probably made it even weirder and-

[A couple high-heel steps.]

ALYSON

Well, what do you think?

HOOKS

Oh. Oh my.

ALYSON

Is that like a good "oh my" or a "I
need to get someone to break your

kneecaps" "oh my?"

Not that I'd actually break your
kneecaps, I mean. I just think in
mob boss terms. You know how it is.

HOOKS

I do not, nor do I wish to. But
it's very good, boss. You look...
amazing.

ALYSON

Really?

HOOKS

I didn't know it was possible for a
mob boss to look that hot.

ALYSON

Really?!

HOOKS

Listen, if I think you're hot, it's
gotta be off the charts.

ALYSON

Mm. Well, thank you. And remind me
to give you a raise. What did you
need?

HOOKS

Oh, I just- I've been going through
a lot. For a long time.

ALYSON

Yeah. We all have, but I know
that's also not exactly what you
signed up for. Remember how
overwhelmed you were on your first
day?

HOOKS

I had regrets before Asa even
finished giving me the tour, but

you've all become like family to me. I wouldn't change a thing.

ALYSON

You know... I probably don't tell everyone enough, but I feel the same way.

HOOKS

Thanks boss, that means a lot. Really. Anyway, Jace and Corry have been trying to help me be less overwhelmed and more... whelmed, I guess. And I've got a new hobby that I really like and I wanted to make you something. You and Maddie, I mean. For the wedding.

[Hooks pulls something out of a pocket.]

HOOKS

Ta-da!

ALYSON

It's a... square.

HOOKS

A granny square! NOT THAT I THINK YOU'RE A GRANNY!

ALYSON

Uh-

HOOKS

I've only just started crocheting and I'm not very good, but I can make squares! And when I make enough we can put them all together into a blanket.

ALYSON

You... made me a square?

HOOKS

I know, it's not great. And a bit uneven, and-

[Alyson wraps Hooks in a hug.]

HOOKS

Oh! What is- you've never hugged me before!

ALYSON

You made me a square, for a blanket. Because you care about me and Maddie. I love it. Thank you, Hooks.

HOOKS

Oh! Well, you're very welcome. And I didn't know what colors you'd like but I started with blue because you're getting married and-

ALYSON

That old rhyme is never gonna die, is it?

HOOKS

If it's made it thousands of years so far, probably not. Is it... bad that I made it blue?

ALYSON

No. I'll just put it in my garter.

[Dress rustles.]

HOOKS

Is that... a tuft of Erin's hair already in there?

ALYSON

Your square's in good company.

HOOKS

Well don't be nervous. I'm sure
it's gonna go great.

ALYSON

Thanks Hooks. Love you.

HOOKS

Um.

ALYSON

Platonically. Friendship...ly. But
I do. And it's time I started
saying it.

HOOKS

(happily sniffly)

Thanks Boss. Love you too. I really
like that bracelet, by the way!

ALYSON

Oh thanks, it was a gift. From
Bernice.

HOOKS

Well, there's your "something new!"

ALYSON

Damn it.

HOOKS

Good luck, Boss!

[Hooks walks to the door, it opens and he exits, door closes.]

[Alyson's phone rings, beep as she answers it.]

ALYSON

Maj! You can call from, uh, inside
Kaylock?

MAJOR (ON THE PHONE)

Yeah, 'lock holds the phone up next

to his outer membrane and I just
turn towards it, works okay. 's how
I got Zeff to send Erin your way.

ALYSON

A marvel of modern science.

MAJOR (ON THE PHONE)

How's she workin' out by the way?
Erin, I mean?

ALYSON

Y'know... things are looking up.
But she's not you.

MAJOR (ON THE PHONE)

(a happy laugh)
Ahh you're turnin' into a big
softie.

ALYSON

Maybe I was always a softie,
trapped inside a hard shell that it
took me a lifetime to break out of.

MAJOR (ON THE PHONE)

Weird line of work for it.

ALYSON

Amazing what happens when you have
full access to your emotions, huh?
Really happy to be here now, and
I'm not going back.

MAJOR (ON THE PHONE)

Yeah, and that's so good, boss.
Love that for you. But listen, I- I always hoped, y'know, if you and
Maddie ever tied the knot that, uh- (ahem)
That I'd be your best lady or
whatev. But I can't be there an'-

ALYSON

Major.

MAJOR (ON THE PHONE)

No no, you got a little sappy, now
it's my turn, lemme-

ALYSON

Major.

I know you and Kaylock can't be
here, and it's not your fault.
And I will miss you terribly, but I
completely understand.

MAJOR (ON THE PHONE)

Boss...

ALYSON

But I wouldn't have wanted you to
be my maid of honor.

MAJOR (ON THE PHONE)

Boss?

ALYSON

You're the best friend I've got in
this world. If you were able,
I'd've had you walk me down the
aisle.

MAJOR (ON THE PHONE)

(trying so hard not to cry)

Oh fuck you for bein' sweet when
I'm stuck in here! D'you know what
happens if I cry?

KAYLOCK (ON THE PHONE)

(in pain)

Alyson! Hello and congratulations
and good luck to you both! However
the salinization from Karen's tears
adversely affects my chemical
makeup and will cause untold
problems for both me and our bud!

ALYSON

Sorry, sorry.

Your "bud"?!

KAYLOCK (ON THE PHONE)

I am budding! We are having a child!

ALYSON

Holy shit! Congratulations! How... did that happen?

MAJOR (ON THE PHONE)

Somethin' about me bein' stuck in here so long, fuck if I know the sciencey part.

ALYSON

Wow. Wow!

MAJOR (ON THE PHONE)

Right?

ALYSON

You're all gonna be just fine, you hear me? You're gonna get through this and you're gonna bring that bouncing half-human, half-Specimen 4-W-1-9-8-N home to meet Auntie Alyson, and it's all gonna go great.

MAJOR (ON THE PHONE)

Thanks, Boss. Make sure somebody's filmin' the weddin' or Imma hafta break some kneecaps.

ALYSON

Aw, I threatened to break kneecaps today too. Disingenuously, but still.

MAJOR (ON THE PHONE)

Mine is very genuosly, but anyways,
I gotta run. The bud-ling's about
to bud and then they're gonna
separate the three of us, I think.

ALYSON

See you soon, Maj.

MAJOR (ON THE PHONE)

You too boss.

ALYSON

All my love. To all three of you.

MAJOR (ON THE PHONE)

Oh shit, right backatcha.

[Call ends.]

ALYSON

(deep breath)

Okay, let's do this. I can do this.

I'm queen bitch! I've won gang wars
and run the most profitable casino
in the galaxy.

I can

certainly also walk down an
aisle and tell the lady I love that
I love her and be uncomfortably
vulnerable. In public. In front of
everyone. Yep.

(deep breath)

Yyyyyp.

(deep breath)

YEP.

[Timey warble.]

ASA

We did it! Did we do it? This has

to be the one!

BERNICE

We changed so much, but I think we
may have restored the timeline to
the true, prime version!

ASA

The weddin'! We didn't miss it!

[Gentle piano music.]

[A distant door opens, everyone turns to look, heeled footsteps from the door slowly walks up to
center.]

MADDIE

Oh fuck.

TYTHIA

(whispering)

Holy shit look at her! That's gonna
be your wife!

MADDIE

(whispering)

Tythia! Is my dress nice enough?
It's not nice enough! Hers looks
like it cost ten times my salary!
Oh fuck oh fuck oh-

TYTHIA

(quiet giggle)

You look totally hot, do not worry.

[Alyson's footsteps stop, now totally up at center.]

ALYSON

Hi.

MADDIE

Hi.

ALYSON

Fuck you look good.

MADDIE

You do!

TYTHIA

Friends and family, honored guests,
it was my complete honor to be
asked to officiate this ceremony by
the two lovely ladies that we're
here to celebrate. Today, here at
The Kingery Road Resort and Casino,
we will join Madeleine Gray and
Alyson Arkell in wedded union.

CASSANDRA

(from off)

That's my sister! Hell yeah!

PAPA ARKELL

(from off)

Love you, Alyson! Attagirl!

MADDIE

That's the Arkells for you, always
gotta stand out.

TYTHIA

Ha ha. Ahem, uh-

ALYSON

Hey I actually like my family now,
they're important to me. It's not
like I invited police captains from
other precincts to our wedding,
unlike someone else up here.

MADDIE

As long as your family can follow
the rules, having my colleagues
around shouldn't matter.

TYTHIA

Ladies, could we-

ALYSON

They're not like you, they
participate in institutionalized
violence!

MADDIE

You want to talk about
participating in violence? You're
the head of-

TYTHIA

Ladies! I swear to Gorlock, it's
like the two of you are still stuck
in the days Maddie'd barge into
Alyson's office and chew her out
and threaten... to...

ALYSON

(laughs)

MADDIE

(laughs)

ALYSON

You're right, kid.

MADDIE

Leopards don't change their spots,
do they?

ALYSON

But I love your spots.

MADDIE

And I love your spots. Just don't
eat my face.

ALYSON

Your face isn't on the menu...

TYTHIA

Ooooookay, so, ha ha, the vows...

ALYSON

What we just said's better than any
vows I could have written.

Y'know, my pop gave me some advice
once that really helped me.

He said "The question you have to
ask yourself is, how much am I
willing to change? How much am I
willing to sacrifice in order to
get to that happy ending?"

And for you, and only you,
Madeleine Gray, I would sacrifice
everything.

I love all your spots, and I
promise to never ever eat your
face.

MADDIE

Alyson Arkell, there's nothing in
this world I wouldn't give up for
you. I love every single spot
you've got, on every single part of
you, inside and out, and I promise
to never ever eat your face, too.

TYTHIA

Oh thank fuck, we made it.

[Laughter.]

MADDIE

(laughs)

ALYSON

(laughs)

TYTHIA

I now pronounce you wedded
lesbians!

Fuckin' kiss already, wouldja?

MADDIE
Hello, wife!

ALYSON
Hello... wife.

[Kingery theme plays.]

The Kingery, season thirteen, episode twelve, "Something Blue."

Featuring the voice talents of:

Melissa Autumn Hearne as Alyson

Kristine Chester as Erin

Rachel Kornic as ESI Squids

Perry Whittle as Hooks

M Sieiro Garcia as Major

Jack Calk as Kaylock

Alicia Laine Pickens as Madeleine Gray

Kathryn Pryde as Tythia

Kris Bays as Cassandra

Justin Fife as Papa Arkell

Edward Herman as Asa

and TJ Briggs as Bernice

Sensitivity Reader, Kristine Chester

Written by Tilly Bridges

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

Kingery Theme by Tom Stitzer

All other music by Josh Molen at TheTunePeddler.com

Directed by Adam Blanford

Produced by Pendant Productions

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[Kingery theme fades out]