Mage and Machine. Post Season 1 hiatus teaser.

[A brief snippet of the Mage and Machine theme plays.]

[Breakfast time at the Hall of Magic commissary. It's quiet, because folks had a late night.]

AGENT VELL: (weary sigh)

[Vell pours herself a coffee, sips it, pauses, sips again. The kind of coffee drinking you do when you're trying desperately to wake up for a long day.]

[Winlow can be heard talking on her phone while walking up.]

WINLOW: (in the middle of Talking To The Manager on the phone) No, that's not my problem. I need that -- uh, her *ladyship* needs that report now, not tomorrow. Not next week.

[Winlow walks right into Vell, spilling Vell's coffee]

WINLOW: (annoyed oof)

AGENT VELL: (oof, then the irritated noise of someone who's now covered in their own coffee)

WINLOW: (sternly) Vell! Why were you just standing there?

AGENT VELL: (stating the obvious for a superior) It's the coffee machine, Apprentice.

WINLOW: Whatever, just -- (to the phone) No, not you, why would I still be talking to you? Get me that report!

[Winlow hangs up her phone.]

[Vell grabs some napkins and tries to clean herself up.]

WINLOW: You should be more careful.

AGENT VELL: (with irritation) Yes, Apprentice Winlow. (beat) It's fine, I'm sure all this overbrewed dark roast will wash out of my suit somehow ...

WINLOW: I don't know why anyone drinks the commissary coffee, it's terrible.

[Vell pours herself another cup.]

AGENT VELL: Can't speak for anyone else, but some of us were up all night filing paperwork on a certain criminal we put away.

WINLOW: You're not the only one who worked last night, you know.

AGENT VELL: (dryly) So sorry, Apprentice. I didn't realize sending a teenager to her room took the same numer of forms as incarcerating a career felon.

WINLOW: Watch your tone, Agent.

[Mallory can be heard approaching, talking on her phone.]

MALLORY: I don't know what it's called, I just know it's tea and there was something ... lumpy at the bottom of --

[Mallory bumps into Vell, spilling the second coffee.]

MALLORY: (bumping-into-someone-accidentally noise)

AGENT VELL: (oof then the irritated noise of someone who's now wearing their SECOND coffee)

MALLORY: Oh my gosh I'm *so* sorry Agent Vell! I-I-I wasn't looking where I was going.

WINLOW: Is everyone oblivious around here?

AGENT VELL: (slightly less irritated -- she knows Mallory means well) It's all right, Apprentice Mallory. That's ... not my first coffee to hit my suit today.

[Mallory starts digging in her purse for a wand or something.]

MALLORY: (talking while digging in her purse) Wait, I can -- I can probably ...

where is it ... I'm sure I can clean that up with a little magic.

WINLOW: (small scornful laugh) You? You're more likely to accidentally set it on fire.

MALLORY: (stung) Hey!

AGENT VELL: *Enough*. (beat) If you two will excuse me, I have a very long day ahead of me so I'm just going to pour another cup and go hide in a corner where nobody is going barge into me.

[Agent Vell pours herself another cup of coffee as she speaks.]

WINLOW: Come on, Mallory. We'll let the agent drink her swill in peace.

MALLORY: (stage whisper to Vell) Sorry!

[The apprentices walk away.]

MALLORY: You know Winlow, you didn't have to be so ... rude.

WINLOW: Oh, toughen up.

[Vell starts to drink her coffee. After a sip or two there's a strange beep/chime sort of thing which startles Vell.]

[You guessed it, she spills her coffee.]

AGENT VELL: (startled noise, then the "are you kidding me" noise of someone wearing their third coffee)

[Vell just gives up and drops the empty cup on the floor.]

AGENT VELL: What in the hell was that, anyway? (beat) (puzzled) A ... message? Who in the world ...?

[Mage and Machine theme plays.]

Announcer: Featuring the voice talents of: Katy Milholland as Agent Vell Jordan Drayer as Apprentice Winlow Erin King as Apprentice Mallory

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Hammered dulcimer music by Vince Conaway at vinceconaway.com

Directed by Samantha Reed

Produced by Pendant Productions

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