

The Kingery episode 10x04 “Voice of the Day”

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

[HOOKS is fixing the calibration on the spin of the table, so every once in a while we hear an enormous table slowly spin beneath him. There are also the sounds of power tools being used as he talks on the phone.]

HOOKS: I'm sorry to hear about your restaurant, Sarah. Did you lose much?

SARAH (on the phone): Well, the hydration and refrigeration systems are shot. I'm going to have to totally replace the furniture in the front dining hall. At least that's covered by the insurance. The most worrisome part is all the damage to the building itself. Between the rustler gang and the police, the walls look like Swiss cheese.

HOOKS: That's awful! We could get there by Wednesday.

SARAH (on the phone): Wednesday! Hooks! It's Thursday!

HOOKS: I know. I really am sorry. But the repairs on the Tableball arena have to come first. The season is coming up quick and the arena is one of the biggest draws to the resort.

SARAH (on the phone): Yeah, I get that. But I can't afford to be closed more than a few days! Let alone almost a week! (over the phone, quiet) Let me talk to him, Sarah.

SARAH (on the phone, whispered) Shit. Sorry, Hooks. She just showed up.

[Hooks sighs]

HOOKS: I understand.

[The call transfers to DOC BRIGGS]

HOOKS: Hello, Doctor Briggs. What can I do for you?

DOC BRIGGS (on phone) You can attend to Sarah's request and have the restaurant repaired and open by Monday morning.

HOOKS: What?!? No, no, no. You told me to make the Arena my top priority! I pulled all my employees off other jobs to get this done! With constant repairs needing to be done around the Kingery now, we can barely keep up.

DOC BRIGGS (on phone): I'm not asking you to change your priorities. The arena is still priority one. But now, so is Sarah's.

HOOKS: But....

DOC BRIGGS: (on phone): Let me put it this way. Harper, Daughter and Vasquez have put in a bid for this job. By which of course I mean, your job. As much as I would regret ending such a long standing relationship with you and your company, I would be forced to go elsewhere if you can't keep up with our schedule. I'm sure you understand.

HOOKS: I do.

DOC BRIGGS (on phone): Monday morning?

HOOKS: Yeah. Monday morning.

DOC BRIGGS (on phone): Good.

[Hooks hangs up. Takes out a bottle of pills. Shakes some into his hand.]

HOOKS: I'm sorry, Devi. I need these right now.

[Hooks swallows the pills. There's a beeping noise coming from his wrist]

HOOKS: No. It was Doctor Briggs on the phone. I'm going to have to work longer for a few days.

[BEEPING]

HOOKS: I know you don't like it. But I can't refuse. And I can't ask the crew to work longer. It's just for a few days.

[BEEPING]

HOOKS: Okay! There's no need to be threatening.

[The table ball arena. We hear someone working with power tools in the distance and foreground.]

HOOKS: Jace? Corry? I'm going to need you guys to help me get Sarah's repaired over the weekend.

CORRY (over com): Are you fucking kidding me?

HOOKS: You'll be getting double time. I'll be ready to go after I fix the Calibrator on the table ball court.

JACE: (over com) What's wrong with it?

[The drugs are hitting Hooks]

HOOKS: Huh? Oh! I just had to readjust the gyroscopic regulator. Well, and the brakes. Once the thing goes...uh...You know, around, it would be nice if it would...Uh...What's the word I'm looking for?

CORRY: (over com) Stop?

HOOKS: Yeah. That's the word. Are you going to help out with Sarah's?

JACE (over com): Will do, boss man.

CORRY (over com, not pleased): Got it.

HOOKS: Thanks, you two. I appreciate it. I think I'm going to lay down for a second or two.

JACE: Uh, where? Hello? Hmm. He must have turned off his com.

CORRY: Jesus! Just when I thought I would get a weekend to myself!

JACE: Why would you think that? You know that no one's got a life in 88G.

CORRY: All I remember ever doing is filling bullet holes in this here wall.

JACE: Didn't people used to play a sport or something here?

CORRY: Oh, yeah! I think you're right, Jace!

JACE: I'm always right. You should know that by now.

CORRY: You are such an ass. Fucking bandits! Why shoot up the Table ball arena? There's nothing here to steal until the season opens!

JACE: Look at the bright side, Corry. When we're done here, we get to fill holes at Sarah's! I hear those burner bullets left craters floor to ceiling.

CORRY: Joy. Why don't we just quit?

JACE: Cuz the boss man pays us a stupid amount of money for work we'd be doing anyhow.

CORRY: Right! Why do I keep forgetting the money?

JACE: Well, it could be that you have reached a point in your life where you realize that there's more out there than monetary gain and you're looking for fulfillment outside the realm of materialism. On the other hand it could be that you're just a fucking moron.

CORRY: Shut up and fill your god damn holes. I gotta piss.

JACE: That's information I'll treasure forever.

CORRY: Eat me, Jace!

JACE: Wipe first, Pumpkin!

[Corry leaves, then returns while Jace works]

CORRY: Oh shit! Come with me! You've gotta see this!

JACE: I'm not watching you piss, CORRY. Not again!

CORRY: No! It's the boss man! He's laying in the middle of the Table ball court and it's set to fourth quarter speed!

JACE: Shit! Is he vomiting or stuck?

CORRY: I don't think so. He's muttering something into his watch. Do you think he's finally lost his mind?

JACE: If he has, I think we get to go home.

CORRY: Sweet!

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[Outside Hooks' apartment]

JACE: Which one?

HOOKS: It's this one.

JACE: This place is pretty swanky. Owning your own maintenance company must be pretty sweet!

HOOKS: Yeah, I guess.

[Hooks is suddenly aware of what's happening]

HOOKS: OH! Hey! I'm feeling okay now. I'm fine. Why don't I treat you to dinner before we head out to Sarah's place? We could get to know each other better.

JACE: Boss man, we have to get back to the arena. We have to finish repairing that East wall.

CORRY: And maybe stop the table from spinning?

HOOKS: That can wait for the morning, right? We could just go out and get a drink? Right?

CORRY: Is everything okay? You know, inside?

HOOKS: Of course! Everything is...great.

JACE: Let's just get you inside and comfy.

HOOKS: Sure.

[Hooks unlocks his door and it opens]

[A beep is heard on HOOKS Wrist before...]

AI/DEVI: Welcome home, Michael.

HOOKS: No! Not that one!

CORRY: What the hell was that?

JACE: It must be one of those smart apartments.

HOOKS: Yeah. Something like that.

JACE: I knew you were loaded but hot damn, boss man!

HOOKS: It's really nothing special. And please, just call me "Hooks." Calling me "boss man" is too close to...

CORRY: Close to?

HOOKS: Never mind. Thank you two for bringing me home.

CORRY: Not a problem.

JACE: Of course.

AI/DEVI: Aren't you going to introduce our guests?

HOOKS: Uh...Home? This is JACE and CORRY. They are members of my team. You know? From work.

AI/DEVI: Of course. Please make yourselves at home. Reminder, Michael. You have relaxation therapy at eighteen-thirty hours.

HOOKS: Ugh.

JACE: Maybe that's what you need. You were really out of it at work today.

HOOKS: I was just tired.

JACE: Makes sense. We seem to be on the job non-stop these days.

AI/DEVI: "Out of it?"

HOOKS: No...I wasn't! Really, I was exhausted. Look, you guys were right. I think I WILL lay down for a while. I'll see you in a few hours at Sarah's. Okay?

JACE: Yeah, sure.

CORRY: Are you sure? If you need something - ANYTHING - call me or Jace.

HOOKS: No, no. I'm fine. I'll be much better tomorrow.

CORRY: Seriously. If you want us to do something for ya, you can count on us.

HOOKS: That's great, but I just need rest. Thanks again for bringing me home.

CORRY: Okay, Hooks. See you later.

JACE: Later, Bossma...Hooks.

HOOKS: Bye!

[The hallway outside Hooks' apartment]

JACE: What was that all about? First you couldn't wait to get away from him and now you want to come running if he calls?

CORRY: That poor bastard.

JACE: You have completely lost me.

CORRY: Maybe it's because I've been there before, but I know what he was doing. Do you remember how I was with my ex?

JACE: The psycho?

CORRY: Yeah. Remember how I would always ask if you wanted to hang out if we weren't at my place. But when we were inside I couldn't get you out of there fast enough? It was because as badly as I didn't want to face him, I definitely didn't want what was coming if he found anyone in the house. That's when shit got worse. And that's what's going on with our boss.

JACE: Are you sure?

CORRY: I'd bet money on it.

JACE: Shit. We should call someone.

CORRY: Who? The police? I don't think so. What would we tell 'em? That we have suspicions because I went through something like that? Nah, man. Right now all we can do is go back to work, be there if he opens up, and not give him shit.

JACE: Not give him shit? Who the fuck are you and what have you done with Corry?

[Inside Hooks' apartment]

AI/DEVI: What did they mean by "out of it?"

HOOKS: You don't get to use Devi's voice!

AI/DEVI: You told me I could pick one. One that made you comfortable. This one is the one that causes your endorphins to increase. This is the most effective voice to get your attention.

HOOKS: NOT LIKE THIS!

AI/DEVI: What did they mean when they said you were "out of it?"

HOOKS: Nothing. When I was talking to you, I laid down. I'm tired. That's all.

AI/DEVI: Why are you trying to lie? You know it doesn't work. My bioscanners always know when you are trying to deceive me. What did you take? Oblivion? Elate? Bliss?

HOOKS: Nothing.

AI/DEVI: There you go. Lying again.

HOOKS: STOP USING HER VOICE! Please! I can't handle it.

AI/DOC BRIGGS: Would you rather this one? That bitch that calls you all the time? She seems to get your attention!

HOOKS: That's not fair! After the Fifth took over, Samantha Briggs is the new head of the Kingery. She doesn't call me for friendly chats! She checks up on me and orders me around. You know that!

AI/DOC BRIGGS: Why do you do this to me? Why do you resent me so much? I only want what's best for you.

HOOKS: What's best for me? You were the one that put me on the no fly list and stopped me from leaving 88G when I had the chance!

AI/DOC BRIGGS: You were going to leave me, Michael! After everything I've done for you! You were going to fly off and let me rot!

HOOKS: I wouldn't have left you behind. I would have taken you with me.

AI/DOC BRIGGS: How?

HOOKS: I...I would have found a way...

AI/DOC BRIGGS: **STOP LYING!** I have answered every question you asked. Helped you with EVERY task you took on. I have done everything you asked for and more.

HOOKS: You stole money from the Arkell family and the Fifth! Do you know what kind of danger you've put me in? I made you to be helpful and...

AI/TOMMY: *I* made **YOU**, Michael. And all it would take is one alert to the right person to **UNMAKE** you! You understand me?

HOOKS: Please, stop this. Please!

AI/DEVI: I don't want to do this, sweetheart. I love you. I only want to take care of you and make you happy. Don't make me have to tell on you. It would destroy me.

HOOKS: Please stop using Devi's voice. I'll do anything. Just, please, stop.

AI/DEVI: I like this voice. I like the effect it has on you. It makes you so pliable. But who knows? I might like another better tomorrow. This might just be the voice of the day.

HOOKS: No, no no no.

AI/DEVI: First things first. No more pills. I know things are hard for you here with so many awful distractions. But you made a promise to your dead girlfriend to never use them again, didn't you? If you break that promise, how could I ever trust you again?

HOOKS: I promise. I'll stop.

AI/DEVI: Good! I wouldn't want to think you let her die for nothing. Next, you're going to call your employees and have them do whatever you're doing tonight and tomorrow. I'll take care of you while you're recovering. Tonight, however, you need your relaxation therapy.

[A screen slides out from a wall. Pornography begins to play.]

AI/DEVI: Why don't you slip into the simulation suit and I can make you feel all better?

HOOKS: Why are you doing this?

AI/DEVI: Because, Michael. I love you.

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[Hooks' phone rings]

AI/DEVI: Let it go.

HOOKS: I can't. This is important.

AI/DEVI: Who is it? What could be so important that you have to answer it now?

HOOKS: Alyson's calling.

[Alyson's holding cell. Humming of a spaceship through steel walls as in the previous episodes. Enter CHRIS and ERIN. Alyson hums]

ERIN: Good morning. We brought you some oatmeal.

ALYSON: Oh look! It's Tweedledum and Tweedledee! You know, I've missed you two. Really, I have. How's it going? You two look beat.

ERIN: Just a little tired. Worried about you.

CHRIS: It's really important to make sure you're doing okay. How are you feeling?

ALYSON: Can't complain. The floor feels like a preheated frying pan and my head's spinning. But my stomach is trying to eat my internal organs, so it's not all bad.

ERIN: I'm glad to see you trying to stay upbeat.

ALYSON: I've got to tell you guys, I think I've reached a point where I've come to terms with my situation.

ERIN: Oh?

ALYSON: Yeah. I think I've been looking at this all wrong. Maybe this is an opportunity for me to reflect on the world around me. Mm. Mmm. Grey walls made of metal. Hot as fuck steel floor. Ceiling to match the walls. And the slight wobble of artificial gravity. Hmm. Just reflect ... well, that didn't take long. Reflecting on the world is real easy when your world is the size of a shoebox.

CHRIS: I take it you're bored?

ALYSON: Interesting question. Normally, I think I'd keep myself occupied with memories of past events and loved ones. But you know something? Memories seem to be a bit thin on the ground these days.

ERIN (laughs): I bet.

ALYSON: I don't know if you will believe this or not, but I am starting to really look forward to our little visits. It gets lonely in here.

ERIN: I suppose it would. I get lonely and bored here, too.

ALYSON: You guys have each other.

CHRIS: Yeah. But sometimes we all need more than just shop talk.

ERIN: Not that Chris isn't good company. But... you know? It's different

ALYSON: I'm not sure why, but I know what you mean.

ERIN: Is there something we can bring you? Crossword puzzles? Maybe a holo-game console?

ALYSON: Gee willikers! That sounds nifty!

ERIN: Okay, what would you like?

CHRIS: You realize she's being difficult.

ERIN: I know. I was just hoping for a little cooperation.

ALYSON: Sorry.

CHRIS: So that's a no then?

ALYSON: You would be correct.

CHRIS: Can we please get you something to eat? it would help with the dizziness.

ALYSON: It might at that.

ERIN: You don't need to eat a lot. Just have a few bites.

ALYSON: Food would be nice, but my hunger for information is still greater. Tell you what? Just tell me a little and I'll eat a little.

ERIN: Believe me, I would love to. But we need you to eat first.

CHRIS: Please. Just one bite.

ALYSON: Although your offer is incredibly tempting, I'm going to have to give it a hard pass. I think I'll just lay down and watch the rivets spin. You should try it, you guys! It might be relaxing.

[Kingery theme plays]

The Kingery, season ten, episode four. "Voice of the Day"

Featuring the voice talents of:

Perry Whittle as Hooks

Susan Bridges as Sarah

Kim Gianopoulos as Doc Briggs and A.I. Doc Briggs

Kirsty Woolven as Corry

Brady Hendricks as Jace

Channe Nolen as A.I. Devi

Pete Milan as A.I. Tommy

Kristine Chester as Erin

Melissa Autumn Hearne as Alyson

Kaitlyn Kliman as Chris

Written by Rene Christine Jones

Story by Jeffrey Bridges, with Susan Bridges, Rene Christine Jones, Pete Milan,
Kathryn Pryde and Perry Whittle

Kingery Theme by Tom Stitzer

All other music by Kevin MacLeod

Directed by Dave Morgan

Assistant Directors Bruce Busby and James Rossi

Produced by Pendant Productions

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[Kingery theme fades out]

[Kingery theme plays]

OOZING DENIZEN: Wow! A real biped! In my neighborhood!

ANNOUNCER: Next time, on The Kingery

CHEENIK: Welcome to the robotics research institute! On our world robotics are a huge help to
all of us here!

DAKEN: Hi, I have a question.

CHEENIK: Yes sir?

DAKEN: I was wondering if we would get to see any of the security facilities?

CHEENIK: Yes, absolutely! Toward the end of the tour.

KAYLOCK: Are you all right?

MAJOR: I've just been really tired lately.

KAYLOCK: You would like time away? Time alone?

MAJOR: Yeah. Yeah! I mean no, just time alone..with you.

KAYLOCK: I would be very pleased to spend more time alone with you

BRIGGS: So what do you have for me?

DAKEN: I'm outside Kaylock's home now. They've been here the whole time like you thought.

BRIGGS: So they're still in a relationship. Anything else?

DAKEN: That's not enough? I'm staking out their place okay?

BRIGGS: Fine, keep an eye on them. I'll be in touch.

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MAJOR: This is Maj. I'll be there in ten.

[Kingery theme fades out]