

The Un-Commons

"Pilot"

Written by

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ACT ONE

EXT. THE COMMONS - DAWN

It's a 100-year-old building on an otherwise modern college campus. The stairs have indents where decades of students have walked. A few sleepy students trickle in.

ARWYN (20s), a neo-hippy in her tie-dyed shirt, hair pulled back with a bandana, dodges through an early morning Tai Chi class and heads into the Commons.

INT. THE COMMONS - DAWN

One side of the entrance are pool tables and arcade games, small group seating, and study rooms further down.

On the other side is an ice cream/coffee/snack shop "Drippity Doo", currently shuttered and closed, a kitchen door marked "EMPLOYEES ONLY" and further down is a cafeteria "Terrace Grill", also closed.

JOE (60s), a homeless dude in a red flannel shirt, peruses the hall, checking the trash. Arwyn passes him.

ARWYN

Morning Joe!

Joe gives her a strange look, unrecognizing. He hurries away from her. Arwyn unlocks the kitchen door and enters.

INT. THE COMMONS - KITCHEN - DAY

It's a shared kitchen between the "Drippity Doo" and the "Terrace Grill", with a door on opposite sides for each. Arwyn turns on all the lights, passes by two huge trays of fresh-baked pastries, and heads for the ice cream freezers at the back.

ARWYN

Carol? You still here?

She waits for a reply, then takes a small bottle of liquid breath mint drops from her bag, and puts it in the freezer behind some ice cream.

She puts on an apron, and clips a nametag with "Assistant Manager" underneath her name.

INT. THE COMMONS - DRIPPITY DOO - DAY

Arwyn exits from the kitchen and works her way down the storefront, turning on lights and machines, raising the counter security gates, hitting the coffee maker start button, all without even looking.

She pulls out an eco-friendly reusable coffee mug with a psychedelic pattern, and starts an espresso.

As she raises the gate at the ice cream counter, she notices the bright blue liquid in the dipper well (scoop rinser/receptacle). She snaps on a latex glove, reaches in, and pulls out an ice cream scoop. The metal's corroded, like Swiss cheese.

ARWYN
Mother trucker.

Arwyn checks all the ice cream scoops in the bright blue-filled dipper wells. All ruined. She throws them away.

Arwyn picks up the store phone, checks the contact list, and punches in numbers. She waits.

ARWYN (CONT'D)
(muttering to herself)
Carol, where are you?

She hangs up, and dials another number. It rings. An ANNOYING STUDENT walks up to the counter.

HANA (V.O.)
Hello?

ANNOYING STUDENT
Are you open?

ARWYN
(to Annoying Student)
No.
(to phone)
Did you fill up the wells with only
the cleaner?

ANNOYING STUDENT
You're making coffee.

HANA (V.O.)
What? I'm on my way to class right
now.

The Annoying Student picks out a juice and muffin from the coolers, and stands in front of the register.

ARWYN

Last night, when you closed, did
you fill the scooper wells all the
way up with blue cleaner?

(to Annoying Student)

We're not open yet.

ANNOYING STUDENT

You shouldn't be talking on the
phone.

HANA (V.O.)

I'll be in for my shift at four. I
don't remember-

ARWYN

You did. You didn't dilute the
cleaner, and now they're all
ruined. Do you realize how toxic
those chemicals are? Now you need
to bring us new ice cream scoops,
or I can't open.

HANA (V.O.)

I can't, I have class. Call Carol.

ARWYN

I tried, she's not answering.

HANA (V.O.)

Well, sorry. I'll be in at four.

Arwyn takes a deep, controlled breath, and sets the phone
down.

ARWYN

(to herself)

I am love, I am peace, I am love, I
am peace.

ANNOYING STUDENT

Hello?

ARWYN

Stop being a mindless consumer!

She grabs her coffee mug, and heads into the kitchen.

ANNOYING STUDENT

But I'm hungry.

INT. SOUTH COMMONS - KITCHEN - DAY

Arwyn takes a sip of her coffee, sets it down. She pulls out all the drawers, searching through utensils.

SLOTH (20s), tall, chill dude, enters, putting on an apron.

SLOTH

Hey Arwyn.

ARWYN

Hey Sloth. Do you know if we have any extra scoops somewhere?

SLOTH

Nope.

There's a knocking noise, and faint yelling.

ARWYN

Did you hear that?

SLOTH

Nope.

Arwyn pulls out a few large spoons, pie servers and other utensils.

ARWYN

Lemme know if you find some scoops.

She pushes all the utensils into her apron and rushes back out to the Drippity Doo.

Sloth opens his pocket, checking on his pet rat, VINCE.

SLOTH

You want to say hi to your buddies?

Vince nods. Sloth picks up small live traps (plastic boxes) around the perimeter of the kitchen floor. With his apron filled, heads out the Terrace Grill door.

In the empty kitchen, more knocking noises.

INT. THE COMMONS - TERRACE GRILL - DAY

There's a station for salads, grilled foods, fried foods, and sandwiches, a soda fountain, and a cashier cube separating the restaurant section from the seating.

Sloth walks through with live traps, as IMPATIENT STUDENTS press their faces against the hall gate.

IMPATIENT STUDENT
Are you open yet?

Sloth ignores them, and exits out the back terrace door.

EXT. TERRACE - DAY

It's a large, paved seating area with a shuttered beer stand, and an empty bandstand.

Joe sits at a table, relaxing in the morning sun.

SLOTH
Hello Joe, what do you know?

JOE
'morning Sloth. There's ghosts in the basement.

SLOTH
Cool tip, bro. How'd you get out here?

Joe motions toward a manhole cover.

Sloth carries his little plastic boxes to a raised planter bed, and sets them down in a row. He opens them one by one, and mice run out into the plants. He and Vince both wave them goodbye.

SLOTH (CONT'D)
Hi Dusty. Oh, a new one? I'll call you Bob. Hi Misty. Hi Butch. Oh hi Mark.

A giant cockroach runs out of the last live trap. It stops and looks up at Sloth.

SLOTH (CONT'D)
Hey, you're not a mouse. I'm gonna call you Roachy.

The cockroach shrugs and runs away.

INT. THE COMMONS - DRIPPITY DOO - DAY

ROOFIE (20s) a puppy dog in human form, comes out of the kitchen to find Arwyn frantically ringing up a long line of customers.

ARWYN
You're late!

ROOFIE

I ate some bad mushrooms last night. I was puking my guts out until about an hour ago. Actually-

Roofie throws up in the trash can.

ROOFIE (CONT'D)

I'm good now.

Arwyn hands a chocolate chip scone and coffee to a DISGUSTED STUDENT.

ARWYN

That'll be eight-fifty.

The Disgusted Student hands her a few bills and change.

ROOFIE

Next customer?

Roofie wipes his mouth with his sleeve. A MOTHER with six kids approaches the counter.

MOTHER

I'll have 7 dishes of ice cream. A bubble gum, blue moon, mint chocolate chip-

ROOFIE

One at a time!

Roofie pulls a handle from the dipper well. It's a triangular pie server. He shows it to Arwyn.

ROOFIE (CONT'D)

Where's our scoopers?

ARWYN

Hana destroyed them with the cleaner.

ROOFIE

We can't use these.

ARWYN

Someone needs to be here. You want to head over to the other commons, and see if you can borrow some of theirs?

ROOFIE

There's another commons?

ARWYN

Yeah, the South Commons. They have an ice cream shop just like this one.

MOTHER

We've been waiting twenty minutes! Are you going to get us some ice cream or chat all day?

ROOFIE

I'll go get 'em.

Roofie tosses the pie server back in the well and leaves.

ARWYN

You said a dish of bubble gum?

MOTHER

And blue moon, mint chocolate chip, peanut butter jelly, cookies 'n' cream, orange custard chocolate chip, and vanilla.

Arwyn stabs the pie server into a bucket of bubble gum ice cream repeatedly, pulls out a triangular hunk of ice cream, and sets it in a dish on the counter.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

It's too pointy.

Arwyn takes a spoon, smooths out the edges, and puts it on the counter. The Mother seems pleased.

INT. THE COMMONS - TERRACE GRILL - DAY

The crew is prepping their stations. Everyone's wearing nametags. Sloth is on the grill.

JAMES (40s), in pajama pants, works the fryer.

LEYLA (20s), in full chef's gear, complete with fancy hat, slices tomatoes razor-thin at the sandwich station.

KRISTY (18), organizes toppings at the salad station.

ENZO (20s), pale and androgynous in steampunk attire, sets up the cash register.

NAOMI (20s), "Assistant Manager" on her nametag, speaks from the center of the room.

NAOMI

One minute 'til opening! They're having live music on the terrace tonight. Any volunteers for the beer stand?

Everyone raises their hands.

NAOMI (CONT'D)

Ok. It's the Monday before classes start, so we've got a whole batch of new freshmen coming in. Which means parents. Which also means more complaints. I'll be keeping track of each Karen complaint, and the person with the least complaints gets to work the beer stand tonight. Are you guys ready?

KRISTY

Heck yeah!

Kristy's enthusiasm is met with dull stares. She puts her head down and fluffs olives.

Naomi pushes open the entrance gate. Professors, students and parents swarm in.

An ATTRACTIVE STUDENT steps up to the burger counter.

ATTRACTIVE STUDENT

Can I get a veggie burger?

SLOTH

Sure thing.

Sloth slowly takes a patty from the grill, puts it on a bun, adds toppings, and holds it out for James to dump a mess of fries on top.

Sloth hands the burger meal across the counter. Vince peeks out of his pocket. The Attractive Student notices, but doesn't say anything.

ATTRACTIVE STUDENT

This is the veggie patty, right?

SLOTH

Yep.

ATTRACTIVE STUDENT

And it didn't touch the meat ones?

SLOTH

Nope. I'm very careful.

She takes her food to the cashier, Enzo. Vince crawls back into Sloth's pocket.

JAMES

You were looking at her boobs, weren't you?

SLOTH

No.

JAMES

Yeah you were. She had nice boobs. They were all right. But it's her lips.

SLOTH

What?

JAMES

For BJs. The lips are what matters. Next woman who comes in here, check out her lips.

Sloth shares a disgusted look with Vince. Naomi's right behind James.

NAOMI

Your Karen Complaint tally is at one, James.

JAMES

What? No one complained.

NAOMI

We are all Karens on this blessed day.

LEYLA

Naomi, I've been working on a new sandwich. Truffle butter, shaved beef, roasted onions and a little homemade Bearnaise on top. Can I add it to the menu?

NAOMI

Did you ask Carol?

LEYLA

I haven't seen her today.

NAOMI

She must have left early. I'll ask
her tomorrow morning.

Leyla looks heartbroken. A knocking noise can be heard faintly below the crowd. Vince perks up, looks around, but no one else seems to notice.

EXT. SOUTH COMMONS - DAY

Roofie walks up to the building, looks back where he came from, and stares at the South Commons. It looks identical to the regular Commons, except it's flipped left to right - a mirror image.

INT. SOUTH COMMONS - DAY

Everything's on the opposite side of the hall, and the smocks and logos are different colors.

Roofie's suspicious. The customers are too quiet. The workers are doppelgangers to the ones back at the commons.

INT. SOUTH COMMONS - KITCHEN - DAY

Roofie sneaks into the kitchen, opening drawers.

WINNIE (20s), an Arwyn look-alike in a red baseball hat and sorority shirt startles him.

WINNIE

What are you doing back here?

ROOFIE

I'm just looking for some extra
scoops.

WINNIE

You can't be back here. Get out.

ROOFIE

I'm from the other ice cream shop.

WINNIE

What other ice cream shop?

ROOFIE

The one at the commons?

WINNIE

This is the commons.

ROOFIE
The North Commons?

WINNIE
I've never heard of it.

Roofie laughs. He thinks she's joking. She's not.

ROOFIE
We both sell the same ice cream.
It's the same name.

He holds up his apron.

WINNIE
Looks like a fake to me. Now get
out of here, before I call
security.

ROOFIE
No, we really need the scoops! All
ours got ruined in the cleaning
stuff. Just ask anyone else, I'm
sure they've heard of it. The
Drippity Doo at the commons.

WINNIE
(yelling)
Ronnie?

RONNIE, a Roofie look-a-like, pops into the kitchen.

RONNIE
Yeah, Winnie?

WINNIE
Have you ever heard of another ice
cream store at the North Commons?

RONNIE
No way, man. This is the only place
where you can get official Drippity
Doo ice cream.

WINNIE
This guy claims to work there.

RONNIE
Is this like a Slugworth situation?
He's trying to steal our secret
recipes?

ROOFIE

No man, we just need to borrow some
extra scoops!

Winnie picks up the phone.

WINNIE

Security? We got a crazy guy here-

Roofie bolts out of the kitchen.

The customers make a circle around him, point, open their
mouths, and SHRIEK at Roofie. Roofie swings his apron like a
windmill, punches an old lady, and sprints out the door.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. THE COMMONS - TERRACE GRILL - DAY

Naomi stocks packages of hamburger buns next to the grill as Sloth and James cook food. A MIDDLE-AGED WOMAN approaches the grill station.

MIDDLE-AGED WOMAN

Hey, I had some questions about the sides.

SLOTH

You can choose from fries, or we have fried onion rings, fried -

MIDDLE-AGED WOMAN

Can I just get fries?

JAMES

Sure can.

James hands her a basket of fries. Naomi watches.

MIDDLE-AGED WOMAN

I don't see a price for just fries. Does that mean they're free?

JAMES

I don't see a price on you. Does that mean you're free?

NAOMI

They're a buck fifty. James, get in the kitchen, slice up some tomatoes, and stop hitting on the customers. That's two.

James creeps off to the kitchen.

Vince peeks out of Sloth's pocket.

NAOMI (CONT'D)

Jesus flipping tables, why did you bring that rat into work again?

SLOTH

He gets lonely at home. And he sleeps all day anyway.

NAOMI

He's not sleeping now! Aren't you worried he's going to jump out onto the grill, or into the fryer?

SLOTH

No, he's a smart rat. Aren't you Vince? Yes you are.

Sloth feeds Vince a piece of hamburger bun. Vince grabs it and ducks back into Sloth's pocket.

NAOMI

That's one for you, Sloth. Don't let me see that rat again.

SLOTH

Yes ma'am.

NAOMI

Just call me Naomi. You're making me feel old.

INT. THE COMMONS - DRIPPITY DOO - DAY

Arwyn scoops ice cream for customers with a soup ladle. She puts it on a cone and hands it to a FIT STUDENT.

FIT STUDENT

It's too big.

ARWYN

Free upgrade.

FIT STUDENT

I'm counting my calories. It needs to be the exact same size scoop as what's in the calorie guide.

ARWYN

We don't have our normal scoops today.

FIT STUDENT

Use a kitchen scale. You do have a kitchen scale, don't you?

Roofie runs in, looking terrified.

ARWYN

Where's the scoops?

ROOFIE

It's not a normal place! Everything was backwards! There was a girl there like you, but it wasn't you, a guy like me -

ARWYN

Did you take any of my breath mint drops?

ROOFIE

Huh?

ARWYN

In the freezer?

ROOFIE

No. Why? What's in the freezer?

ARWYN

Nothing.

ROOFIE

Aw, come on, Arwyn? Is it acid? Meth? GHB?

He dances around her flapping his hands.

Arwyn throws away the ice cream cone and pushes Roofie into the kitchen.

FIT STUDENT

Are you getting a scale?

INT. THE COMMONS - KITCHEN - DAY

Arwyn takes a deep breath before berating Roofie.

ARWYN

It's acid, but don't you dare touch it. I got a guy, Jason, who's stopping by later for it.

ROOFIE

Please can I have some? I can help you sell it.

ARWYN

This is a gift from the universe to bring us spiritual enlightenment, Roofie. Not some shit to get you high. You were supposed to get us scoops.

ROOFIE

I told you, it's a crazy backwards land! They didn't even know about our commons.

ARWYN

You didn't know about theirs.

ROOFIE

They're psycho. They tried to kill me. I'm not going back.

ARWYN

Fine. I'll do it myself. Go back out there and work. And don't touch my breath mints!

INT. THE COMMONS - TERRACE GRILL - DAY

Kristy stares at her salad toppings. The shredded cheese rises and falls, like it's breathing.

KRISTY

Leyla? Can you look at my cheese? I think it's alive.

Leyla puts together a fancy sandwich and hands it to a customer. She checks out Kristy's cheese.

LEYLA

Looks like normal cheese to me.

KRISTY

Does the air seem yummiier than usual?

Kristy licks the air. Leyla rolls her eyes.

A FRESHMAN BOY and his DOMINEERING MOTHER approach Leyla's sandwich station.

LEYLA

Hello, can I interest you in a special today? It's a French roll with truffle butter-

DOMINEERING MOTHER

No. We'll have two turkey sandwiches on wheat bread with cheese.

LEYLA

Ok, what kind of cheese? With
turkey I would recommend havarti,
Swiss, Muenster, provolone-

DOMINEERING MOTHER

American cheese.

LEYLA

I highly recommend the Muenster.

FRESHMAN BOY

Can I try it?

DOMINEERING MOTHER

No. You wouldn't like it.

The Freshman Boy shrinks under her shadow.

LEYLA

Okay. American cheese.

Leyla quickly whips together two sandwiches. She sneaks a slice of Muenster cheese in a sheet of deli paper. She hands the sandwiches to the Domineering Mother and Freshman Boy, the rogue cheese underneath his.

INT. SOUTH COMMONS - DAY

Arwyn approaches the South Drippity Doo counter as Winnie hands an ice cream cone to Joe.

JOE

Thanks, Winnie.

WINNIE

No problem, Joe. Come back anytime.

ARWYN

Hey Joe, what are you doing over
here? Our ice cream isn't good
enough for you?

Joe looks around, as if there's a small fly annoying him, and walks away.

ARWYN (CONT'D)

I can't figure out why Joe won't
talk to me.

WINNIE

Maybe because you're not real.

Arwyn seems genuinely taken aback, then composes herself.

ARWYN

No. Let's get serious now. You had your fun with Roofie, but we need to borrow a couple scoops. I know you've got four back there.

WINNIE

What happened to yours? Did you barter them for shampoo? Oh wait, that's right, you don't use shampoo, you damn hippy.

ARWYN

They got ruined, and it wasn't even my fault this time!

WINNIE

Good. I hope you get fired. And you're not getting our scoops. They're American made and too good for your Commie hands. Now get out of here, your stench is driving away the customers.

Arwyn quickly sniffs her pits.

ARWYN

It's not me. It's your aura. It's lime green, do you know what that means?

WINNIE

What?

ARWYN

It means you're fascist bitch, Winnie! Now give me those scoops!

Arwyn tries to climb over the counter, but Winnie tosses full ice cream buckets at Arwyn until she runs away.

INT. THE COMMONS - TERRACE GRILL - DAY

A PRETENTIOUS STUDENT approaches Kristy's salad station.

PRETENTIOUS STUDENT

I want a salad with fifty-fifty
arugula and kale, NO iceberg,
sliced radishes but ONLY if they're
smaller than the circumference of a
dime, garbanzo beans, but make sure
to rinse them first-

KRISTY

Just a second...

She eyes up the lettuce bins. Looks for a label.

KRISTY (CONT'D)

Leyla, which one's which?

LEYLA

(pointing)

This one's kale, this one's
arugula.

KRISTY'S POV: The lettuce wiggles like a million tiny green
fish. She picks up a leaf. It tries to swim away. She places
it in a bowl.

EXT. THE COMMONS - DAY

Roofie's got a huge line of angry customers as Arwyn speeds
toward the kitchen.

ROOFIE

I told you they're psycho, right?

Arwyn ignores him, and heads into the kitchen. Three IMPROV
STUDENTS entertain themselves in line.

IMPROV STUDENT #1

We're going to be late for theater
class.

IMPROV STUDENT #2

Yes, and... we'll tell the
professor it was because the
service here sucked.

IMPROV STUDENT #3

Yes, and... do we really need ice
cream?

IMPROV STUDENT #1

No blocking.

Arwyn pops back out with an apron full of live traps, talking on her cell phone.

ARWYN

Hi, I'm over here at the South Commons. SOUTH. There's just mice and rats running around everywhere. I think one has rabies. You better call the health inspector, too. They're serving food.

She hurries out of the building.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. THE COMMONS - TERRACE GRILL - DAY

The Domineering Mother waves a slice of Muenster cheese at Enzo. Her son waits in her shadow.

DOMINEERING MOTHER

What's this? I didn't ask for this!
I'm not paying for this! Take it
off my bill!

ENZO

I didn't charge you for it. Just
eat it. I don't care.

DOMINEERING MOTHER

No! I want my receipt. You
overcharged me.

NAOMI

We don't print receipts unless you
ask for one when you check out.
This is a college cafeteria-

DOMINEERING MOTHER

Give me a refund anyway!

NAOMI

Enzo, how much did you charge her?

ENZO

Twelve bucks for two sandwiches and
the chips. She's got the eight
dollars change in her hand.

The Domineering Mother shoves the cash into her purse.

NAOMI

The sandwich-chip combo is six
bucks. You weren't charged anything
for the cheese.

DOMINEERING MOTHER

I don't care. I didn't ask for it.
Someone gave it to my son without
my permission!

NAOMI

So he got a free sample...?

DOMINEERING MOTHER
Don't tell me how to raise my
child!

The Domineering Mother throws the slice of cheese at Naomi's face. It sticks to her forehead.

At the salad station, Kristy places a piece of kale in the bowl, which now has about 10 pieces of lettuce in it.

KRISTY
When do I stop? How do I know when
it's enough?

LEYLA
Are you kidding? It's not even half
full yet.

KRISTY
No way. There's like, a billion
pieces of lettuce in this bowl. How
am I supposed to count them if they
keep moving?!?

Leyla stares, open-mouthed, at Kristy's lettuce breakdown.

Naomi frisbees the slice of Muenster cheese into Leyla's mouth. Leyla takes a bite.

LEYLA
What? The kid didn't like it? It's
a great cheese with turkey.

NAOMI
His *mom* didn't like it.

LEYLA
So? He's in college. He deserves to
try a new kind of cheese.

NAOMI
Not if I have to be the one dealing
with a Karen complaint. That's one
for you. What's up with Kristy?

Kristy holds up two slices of radishes. She sweats and grits her teeth.

KRISTY
Are they bigger than dimes? I can't
remember what a dime looks like!

NAOMI

Kristy, can I see you in the kitchen?

KRISTY

Oh my gosh. Am I in trouble?

Kristy looks like she's about to explode.

NAOMI

Nope, let's get some juice, okay?

KRISTY

I effin' love juice!

Naomi guides Kristy into the kitchen.

INT. THE COMMONS - KITCHEN - DAY

Naomi and Kristy enter the kitchen to find James inhaling from his vape pen as he sits on the counter, watching porn on his phone. He hops off the counter and hides his vape pen and phone, still blasting a video.

JAMES

I had trouble finding the tomatoes...

NAOMI

James, go take over the salad station.

James hurries out, silencing his phone.

NAOMI (CONT'D)

I know half my employees are high at any given time, but I still need you to do your job.

KRISTY

I'm not high! I've never done drugs! I don't even drink!

NAOMI

Your pupils are as big as dinner plates, and you're incapable of estimating how much lettuce is in a bowl. Did Arwyn or Roofie give you anything?

KRISTY

I don't think so, I... what day is it again? How long have I been here?

Naomi heads over to the Drippity Doo.

INT. THE COMMONS - DRIPPITY DOO - DAY

Naomi finds Roofie inhaling from a can of whipped cream under the counter. There's a line of angry customers waiting.

NAOMI

Roofie, did you give Kristy drugs?

Roofie exhales, his head bobbing to a beat.

ROOFIE

Yeah man, Kristy. Who's Kristy?

NAOMI

She's a freshman I have working the salad station. She's high on something, and I'm guessing you or Arwyn are responsible.

A ROID RAGE STUDENT slams his hand on the counter.

ROID RAGE STUDENT

I've been waiting ten minutes for a mocha! Where is my coffee?

ROOFIE

Oh shit, that's why I got out the whipped cream.

Roofie pops up from under the counter, squirts some whipped cream on a mocha, and hands it across the counter.

ROOFIE (CONT'D)

Here you go, sir.

The Roid Rage Student swipes his card so hard, the credit card machine splits in two.

ROOFIE (CONT'D)

Ok, Arwyn... yeah Arwyn went to get some scoopers. And I've never met anyone named Kristy in my life, so...

NAOMI

And you two weren't storing
anything in the kitchen? Brownies,
chocolates?

ROOFIE

Definitely not a little bottle of
breath mints in the freezer.

Roofie does an exaggerated wink.

INT. SOUTH COMMONS - DAY

Arwyn waits just inside the door, keeping watch. She spots a
HEALTH INSPECTOR and two CAMPUS SECURITY approaching.

She moves alongside the line for the Drippity Doo, opening
live traps as she goes.

SORORITY GIRL

Hey, there's mice all over the
floor!

BIOLOGY PROFESSOR

Rats, too. The rats are not only
larger, but have smaller ears in
relation to their body size.

The customers scream and scatter. Winnie and Ronnie run into
the kitchen, then run out to the hall with buckets. They try
to capture the mice, but are unsuccessful.

INT. SOUTH COMMONS - KITCHEN - DAY

Arwyn sneaks in. She opens the door a crack to check out the
Drippity Doo storefront. Winnie and Ronnie talk to the Health
Inspector and Campus Security out of earshot.

INT. SOUTH COMMONS - DRIPPITY DOO - DAY

Arwyn shuffles along below the countertop, her apron still
filled with empty live traps. She reaches up and pulls two
scoops out of the dipper wells. She thinks, then grabs the
other two. She scoots back out through the kitchen door.

INT. THE COMMONS - TERRACE GRILL - DAY

Sloth's got a grill full of burgers going, and a line of
customers waiting. James makes a salad. Leyla's bored.

LEYLA

Hey Sloth, need any help?

SLOTH

You want to set up some buns with the tomatoes and lettuce in 'em?

LEYLA

Sure.

She sets out paper plates, and starts prepping them.

LEYLA (CONT'D)

I wanted to ask you, did you go to cooking school or something?

SLOTH

No, why?

LEYLA

I've worked really hard trying to match all the right ingredients, curating a good selection of cheeses and meats, and you're the one with all the customers.

SLOTH

It's just burgers, man.

Sloth slowly puts the cooked burgers on the buns. Leyla quickly finishes them off with ketchup and onions, and passes them out to customers.

Sloth starts new burgers cooking. Leyla watches.

LEYLA

So what do you do differently? Even me and James, we don't get the customers you do.

SLOTH

I make 'em with love.

LEYLA

Tell you what. We'll do an experiment. You make one with love, and then make one chock full of spite. We'll try 'em both and see if they taste different.

SLOTH

Okay.

Sloth puts two more patties on the grill. He stares at one patty. Furrows his brows. Holds his breath. Closes his eyes. Growls and makes fists.

He laughs and returns to normal.

SLOTH (CONT'D)
Sorry, I couldn't do it. I just
love all my little patties.

He tenderly flips them.

INT. THE COMMONS - KITCHEN - DAY

Naomi supervises Kristy as she sits on the floor, drinking orange juice from a sippy cup.

NAOMI
So how many of those breath mint
drops did you take?

KRISTY
I dunno. I just put in my mouth,
and squirt!

NAOMI
Why on Earth would you use random
breath mints you found in a
freezer?

KRISTY
I didn't have time to brush my
teeth this morning.

Arwyn walks in triumphant, but her joy fades when she sees Naomi and Kristy.

NAOMI
It's about time! Where have you
been!?!

ARWYN
I was getting ice cream scoops...?

She pulls them out of her apron.

NAOMI
Did you leave a certain little
bottle in the freezer?

ARWYN
Oh, shit.

NAOMI

Yeah. You need to babysit her until this wears off. Poor girl never even had a drink before. Stop selling on the job!

ARWYN

I wasn't selling. Jason's a shaman, I was contributing to his-

NAOMI

Nope, don't wanna hear it. I'll give the scoops to Roofie. You take care of her.

Arwyn hands Naomi the scoops.

ARWYN

All right, Kristy. You want to help me set up fairy houses around the kitchen?

KRISTY

Oh boy!

INT. THE COMMONS - TERRACE GRILL - DAY

Joe wanders in, checking out the ceiling.

SLOTH

Hey Joe, your usual?

JOE

Sure, sure.

LEYLA

Everything all right?

JOE

There's ghosts in the basement.

LEYLA

Hey Enzo! Joe says there's ghosts in the basement. You and your LARPers didn't leave anything down there to scare him, did you?

ENZO

Doesn't sound like a prop we would use. I'm scared of ghosts.

LEYLA

You? Don't you dress up as a vampire on weekends?

ENZO

It's a fashion statement. Frankly, I'm offended that you would think my lifestyle has anything to do with spectrophilia.

LEYLA

Sorry. Today I learned...

Sloth hands Joe a burger. Joe walks out past the cashier stand, as Enzo checks out a FRESHMAN GIRL and her MOM.

MOM

Hey! That guy didn't pay!

ENZO

It'll be fourteen dollars.

MOM

Why do I have to pay? He didn't have to pay.

ENZO

I didn't see anything.

MOM

I want to talk to a manager!

FRESHMAN GIRL

Mom, you're embarrassing me.

Naomi walks out from the kitchen.

NAOMI

I'm an assistant manager, is there something I can help you with?

MOM

I just saw a vagrant walk out of here without paying!

NAOMI

I'm sorry, sometimes that happens.

MOM

Well if he's not going to pay, why should I?

NAOMI

Do you want your salads or not?

MOM

Yes, but-

NAOMI

Then pay for it.

The Mom's face gets redder, but she swipes her card and leaves.

NAOMI (CONT'D)

That's one on you, Enzo.

ENZO

But I didn't do anything.

NAOMI

You're my first line of defense. Be my anti-Karen wingman. Make up something about Joe having a lifetime membership. But if I have to deal with them, it's on you.

INT. THE COMMONS - KITCHEN - DAY

The drawers are pulled out with aprons draped over them, making a fort. Arwyn and Kristy lounge on bags of hamburger buns inside, listening to music. There's a faint moaning noise. Arwyn turns down the music.

ARWYN

Did you hear that?

KRISTY

No, what was it? Should I be scared? Is it bad?

Arwyn turns the music back up, and pats Kristy's head.

ARWYN

Nope, you're safe. Completely safe. You know, there's an actual career path of being a trip sitter. My friend Jason's a shaman, and he guides people on their spiritual journeys.

KRISTY

You're a she-shaman?

ARWYN

These days we just call them all shamans regardless of gender.

(MORE)

ARWYN (CONT'D)

But this could be my first step
toward being a professional sitter.

KRISTY

A she-shaman shitter.

Kristy giggles hysterically. Arwyn waits for it to subside.

ARWYN

Now this usually comes before the
trip, but an important part of your
journey is setting an intention.
Some people seek change in their
life, or want to better themselves.

Kristy ponders.

KRISTY

I wish I could breathe fire.

ARWYN

Why would you want to breathe fire?

KRISTY

Fire's cool!

Hana walks in, her path blocked by the drawer fort.

HANA

What the hell is all this?

ARWYN

Chill, you're harshing the vibe.
We're going to talk about those
scoops, later, but for now, go help
Roofie out front.

KRISTY

Can we get fire?

ARWYN

Sure.

Arwyn and Kristy crawl out of the fort and exit to the
Terrace Grill. Hana crawls through the fort.

Arwyn pops her head back in through the door.

ARWYN (CONT'D)

And don't take any of the breath
mints in the freezer. Or eat or
drink anything that's not part of
our inventory. Ever.

INT. THE COMMONS - TERRACE GRILL - NIGHT

Sloth flips a burger on the grill while Arwyn and Kristy watch. Dripping fat ignites, sending a fireball up. Kristy squeals with delight.

Joe wanders back toward the counter.

ARWYN

Hi Joe!

Joe gives her a funny look.

SLOTH

Hey Joe, you need another burger?

JOE

Nope, just a couple fries would be nice. You guys clear out that ghost yet? It's keeping me from doing my rounds.

ARWYN

You want me to go check it out?

SLOTH

Leyla and I were going to after work.

The knocking returns.

JOE

You guys hear that?

ARWYN

I've been hearing it all day.

Joe ignores her.

ARWYN (CONT'D)

Joe, it's me, Arwyn. I've said "hi" to you every day for the three years I've been working here. I work at the Drippity Doo? I've given you free ice cream like ... a zillion times?

JOE

I think you guys have a ghost problem up here, too. There's one making noise over there.

Joe spins a finger in Arwyn's direction.

ARWYN

Dammit, Joe, I'm a real person.

KRISTY

Mommy stop fighting!

ARWYN

Let's go sample some ice cream.

Arwyn pulls Kristy back into the kitchen.

Naomi checks the clock.

NAOMI

All right, kids. James wins the night with only two Karen complaints.

Naomi tosses James a key. He catches it one-handed.

JAMES

Eat it, losers!

He throws his salad tongs on the ground.

NAOMI

Put those in the sink and go open that beer stand.

James picks up the tongs, tosses them into the sink and yells "woooo" on his way out the back door.

EXT. TERRACE - NIGHT

A live band plays to a crowd of students.

James flings open the security gate, sets out the tip jar, and bobs his head to the music.

JAMES

Tips and chicks, tips and chicks.

A crack of thunder and lightning halts the festivities. A sudden downpour sends everyone running for the door.

James, drenched, pulls down the security gate and locks up.

INT. THE COMMONS - TERRACE GRILL - NIGHT

James pushes through the soaked crowd as he makes his way back to Naomi. He tosses her the key.

JAMES

You knew it was going to rain,
didn't you?

NAOMI

It's the only way to get you guys
to behave.

JAMES

Joke's on you. I smell like wet dog
now.

Naomi gets a whiff and cringes.

NAOMI

James, go home.

James yells "woooo" as he exits.

INT. THE COMMONS - STUDY ROOM - NIGHT

Arwyn, Roofie and Kristy sit by the window, eating ice cream
and watching the thunderstorm.

ROOFIE

So did Jason ever show up?

ARWYN

Nah, he's kind of a flake.

ROOFIE

So you don't trust me, but you
trust that guy to take people on
spiritual journeys?

ARWYN

I've seen you snort powdered milk.

ROOFIE

So? I'm fine.

ARWYN

Maybe it's a sign. I should be the
real shaman here. I did okay with
Kristy.

Kristy wraps an arm around Arwyn.

KRISTY

You're my favorite she-shaman
shitter.

A flash of lightning illuminates Winnie and Ronnie lurking in the darkness outside. They stare and point at Arwyn. Arwyn flips them the bird.

Sloth pops his head in.

SLOTH

You guys wanna come fight the ghost with us?

ARWYN

No, I will not "fight" a ghost. I will bring it spiritual peace so it will depart from this world, and move to the next.

(to Kristy)

You good now?

Kristy nods. Arwyn hops up and follows Sloth out.

INT. THE COMMONS - NIGHT

A few sleepy students make their way home. Sloth, Leyla, and Arwyn approach the elevator at the far end of the hall. They're armed with a spatula, meat tenderizer, and CBD oil spray respectively.

Sloth presses the elevator button. It dings, and opens up to an old-timey gate. They pull back the gate, and step in.

INT. THE COMMONS - ELEVATOR - NIGHT

They grow more nervous as the elevator lowers.

INT. THE COMMONS - BASEMENT - NIGHT

It's a scary-ass basement, with cracked brick walls, leaky pipes on the ceiling, a few light bulbs hanging from chains. Sloth, Leyla and Arwyn exit the elevator, weapons raised. They look down one endless hallway, then the other.

SLOTH

Hello?

A faint knocking noise comes from one of the hallways. They follow the noise, passing metal doors that look like they're from a maximum security prison.

They reach a metal door with a tiny window at the top, and hear faint knocking from inside.

LEYLA
What is this?

SLOTH
The walk-in freezer.

LEYLA
So nothing could be alive in there.

ARWYN
We're dealing with the un-dead.

Sloth raises his spatula. Leyla raises her meat tenderizer.
Arwyn holds up her CBD spray.

Sloth reaches for the door handle, and pulls.

A clump of human-shaped french fry cardboard boxes fall out
of the freezer. Everyone screams.

Sloth pokes the boxes. They move.

ARWYN (CONT'D)
Oh spirit, let me be your guide.
Let go of your burdens. Walk
towards the light.

Vince climbs out of Sloth's pocket, hops down to the box
pile, and pulls off the top box.

Inside is CAROL (60s), skin blue, icicles hanging from her
hair, her teeth chattering.

CAROL
(muttering)
Meddling kids.

ARWYN
Carol! Did you know what that bitch
Hana did to the scoops?

LEYLA
Are you all right?

They pull boxes off her. Her color returns to normal, but her
teeth still chatter.

CAROL
Almost died in there. Had to use
boxes to stay warm.

SLOTH
You were in there all day?

CAROL

I went down in the morning to bring
up more onion rings and chicken
patties. Why didn't you guys come
find me when you ran out?

SLOTH

Uh... we were really busy.

LEYLA

Super busy day.

They help Carol to her feet and walk her down the hall.

END OF ACT THREE

TAG

INT. THE COMMONS - TERRACE GRILL - NIGHT

The lights are off, and the restaurant is empty except for Sloth, who heads for the Terrace door.

He holds open the door as it rains outside.

SLOTH

Hurry up, everybody! You're gonna
catch a cold!

Mice, rats and a cockroach stream into the building. He closes the door and locks it.

END OF EPISODE