

Welcome anyone! This is one of our unfinished episodes. The script is mostly unrevised, so any grammar check/sensitivity reading will have come after. You may see some highlighted parts, which are usually notes to check accuracy or pronunciation notes for our cast. Here, you get to see our writer's stream of thought, so please be kind and remember that what you see in the final product is never a first draft! With that, please enjoy!

## **EPISODE 10 - TRAVELLING THEOLOGIST**

### **Synopsis / General Notes**

- Travelling folklore nerd in the Empire, travels between small towns to collect folk stories for a compilation, writing them in a book.
  - And is a travelling storyteller as well, in some towns (depending on the culture) is also a storyteller and will tell folk tales on request
- Short descriptions of theologist travelling, and three little vignette stories
  - Stories within story
  - Written in an oral story style, as if we are with Micah listening to someone tell a story.
- The stories:
  - Gunmetal Steve variant
- Dude crosses border (explain how he does it)
  - Easy enough when you're just one person, just gotta find the right spot
- Small town info:
  - Small towns don't have walls, so it's not as difficult
  - Like 500 ppl max
  - Military convoys pass through and do checkups, but overall things are a bit more lax... you have less protection but also more freedom. Easier to dodge the draft.
  - Some towns are friendly to him and maybe know of him from previous visits, some are very suspicious of outsiders

### **Plot**

- Quick framework set-up of Micah listening to a story from Old Grandpa Man (super war-torn and hardy) in [COUNTRY]. Old man is a bit wary/suspicious of him.
- *Story: tale of some feature of the town/land formation/etc, which the Old Man talks about how it came to be. Something very specific and regional.*
- Micah moving to next town - going over the border, describing the risk a little bit. (Probably puts on different clothing)
- Micah is now in new town, staying w/ Mom & kids who are hosting him. Kids are like "can we hear gunmetal steve story again mom??" and he's like "can I listen & take notes?". Mom: "Surely you've heard the story of gunmetal steve". Micah: "I want to hear YOUR gunmetal Steve, you'd be surprised how many variations there are"

- *Story: Gunmetal Steve story*
- Short man VS nature paragraph moment between this and last story.
- Goes to a town he's been in before, Gandalf moment, meets that character he's known for a while and they tell him a new story.
- At the end: he has a conversation w/ someone from a small town Near Surrigen where he mentions he's headed over the border next.
  - Other person is like "hey, that's dangerous" and tells him that Surrigen is in a rough spot lately
  - And he's like "Exactly! For many of these towns it may be now or never." and he tells them about his bunker just in case
  - This other person is someone he's met before, and seen every once in a while as they grow up, and now they're in their late teens or early 20s.
  - End on this, not a story.

### Character

- Micah [placeholder] is the travelling theologist
- Early 40s
- From a small town in Camnesse
  - Grew up on lots of folk stories from family and community
  - At one point some military dudes came through and one of them was like a Storyteller™ from a totally different small town, who had all sorts of variants on his usual stories and totally new ones, and he was like *Woah*
  - Then the town was destroyed. Micah escaped, maybe bummed around for a bit, and then set off on his Quest to preserve stories.
- Draft dodger lmao.
  - The census records and stuff were destroyed when his town was bombed, so he just claims he's done his service (but hasn't)
- He's been collecting stories for a good while, at LEAST a decade put possibly almost 3
- He's like Gandalf!!!
- He has a bunker/base somewhere, and every once in a while he goes and hermits there, and copies out the stories so that if he dies, they're still there. He tells a few select/scattered people about it, and the passcode, so they can recover them after his death.

### Episode 10: Empire

- Radio: Traveling theologist collecting stories
- Bugs: Alice centric episode. Canonize Alice being aro. Gunfight? Gunfight!
- Alice is sent on a mission to find out if there is more phlegethon gas in a military base type thing up north(?). Establish (in passing?) that The Spider & that ex-cop did join the revolution in Steveston. (but they're too high profile at this point to do this mission)
- Alice finds the fuckin war mechs <3
- Alice is on comms with Bluebell as she does this secret mission, to stay in touch and because Bluebell has blueprints for the base or something. Alice explains what she's doing but they also

talk about feelings and stuff. Alice mentions very clearly that she does not experience romantic attraction, Alice talks about her conflicting Teddy VS Vesper feelings.

BEGINNING OF SEGMENT [1]

**[PATHETIC JUMPING NOISES]**

**ALICE.** Again with the windows!

**BLUEBELL.** (*Over comms:*) Sounds like these ones are higher this time.

**ALICE.** There isn't even a box I can stand on.

**BLUEBELL.** I guess being small enough to fit through tight spaces means you're unable to reach them sometimes.

**ALICE.** Can you stop for a moment while I-

**[ANOTHER JUMP: SHE CATCHES THE WINDOW THIS TIME]**

Okay! Okay, now I just gotta lift myself up...

**[SOUNDS OF STRUGGLE]**

**[THUD!]**

And she sticks the landing.

**BLUEBELL.** Now that you're inside the facility I need you to keep me updated on all the moves you make.

**ALICE.** What? This is supposed to be a stealth mission.

**BLUEBELL.** Snakebite insists that it's protocol.

**ALICE.** (*Sighs:*) Well, I'm walking down the hall.

**[SHE STOPS]**

I reached an intersection, so I'm stopping to look in all directions.

**[PAUSE]**

The coast is clear. I'm going to the left.

**[FOOTSTEPS]**

I'm walking down the hall again.

**[PAUSE]**

There's another intersection-

**BLUEBELL.** *Alice.*

**ALICE.** What! I'm doing what you said.

**BLUEBELL.** You don't need to be that thorough.

**ALICE.** I found some plans but... Bluebell, these don't look right.

**BLUEBELL.** What do you mean?

**ALICE.** We're looking for experimental chemicals, right? This all looks like mechanics.

**BLUEBELL.** Maybe it's the equipment to actually make the stuff?

**ALICE.** I don't know, maybe. All this stuff is so complicated I can barely tell what it's supposed to be about.