

Brian's Path, Episode 3

by Alan Holman

BRIAN'S PATH

Episode 3: "Anton Snaps"

INT. HALLWAY, DUANE OAK PUBLIC SCHOOL - DAY.

CARA is talking to BRIAN.

CARA is an, orange haired, freckle-faced, 14 year old girl.

CARA

Monkeyboy said you wrote something for me.

BRIAN

No, I didn't!!!

CARA giggles.

CARA

You're addicted to me.

BRIAN's face turns red.

BRIAN

NO!!! It can't be!!! I'm not!!! Never!!!

BRIAN runs away.

CARA giggles.

INT. COMPUTER ROOM, DUANE OAK PUBLIC SCHOOL

The room is full of students playing DESCENT.

BRIAN

Hey! Do teachers know what you're doing?

STUDENT

The teachers say that multi-player video games build teamwork skills, and stuff.

BRIAN

Wow. I wish my school were like this.

INT. LIBRARY, SHADY BROOK HIGH SCHOOL

The computer room gang is sitting there.

CAP
So, how'd the trip go, Brian?

BRIAN
Duane Oak kids can use the school computers for learning, and we're getting gypped.

DARLA
Geez.

GABE
I've got people to sign my essay -- even teachers!

BRIAN
Puppies are sweet, innocent, frisky little bundles of happiness that deserve to be loved. They deserve all the love they can get. It is painful when the puppy you love bites you. I'm going to huddle in the corner and cry now.

DARLA
Brian, you're not making any sense.

MONKEYBOY laughs hysterically.

INT. MCDONALDS RESTAURANT

MONKEYBOY eats a cheeseburger, while talking on his large cell-phone.

MONKEYBOY
Hey Boris. Brian is having the dreams.

Pause.

MONKEYBOY
The trigger is a girl, Cara; she resembles one of the passengers from the Ark.

INT/EXT. GABE'S CAMARO/HIGHWAY

GABE is driving. MONKEYBOY is the passenger.

MONKEYBOY
We're killing Cara; she inspired Brian to write his anime.

GABE
Huh!?!

MONKEYBOY
Within the anime story is Brian's secret origin.

GABE
I get it now...If Brian finds out where he's from,
Boris' plans will be ruined!

MONKEYBOY
Maybe. But even I can't figure out the nature of
my entanglement with this Boris fellow.

INT. GYM, DUANE OAK PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL

GABE and MONKEYBOY are watching a volleyball game.

GABE notices that CARA is the girl who is flipping over the
score-cards.

GABE
Wow! See that cute girl flipping over score-
cards?

MONKEYBOY
That's Cara!

GABE
I cannot take part in the murder of such a
goddess. Or any murder, for that matter.

MONKEYBOY
My thoughts exactly. Screw Boris. I can't
kill. Let's go.

GABE
Agreed. I don't believe the Y2K bug will cause
too much of a problem anyway. It's the fake
Rapture in 2012 ... all those Project Blue
Beam holograms and stuff ... that's the real
problem.

INT. SCIENCE FAIR

MONKEYBOY, a twenty year old, fluffy boy with big ears,
stands in front of a science display titled: "Cause and
Effect."

An old, frizzy haired, googly-eyed science teacher, named MR. FRY, approaches, carrying a clip-board and a pen.

MR. FRY
Cause and effect?

MR. FRY drums the pen on the clip-board.

MONKEYBOY explains eagerly.

MONKEYBOY
The sign was made, and you read it -- that's cause and effect!

MR. FRY draws a pair of breasts on his page, and hides it from MONKEYBOY's view.

MR. FRY
Monkeyboy Curtis. You get an "F". Lack of effort.

MONKEYBOY curls up on the floor, in the fetal position.

MONKEYBOY
Idiots like you are why I'm still here -- that's also cause and effect.

MONKEYBOY gets off the floor, and brushes dust off of himself.

MR. FRY shakes his head, disgusted.

MR. FRY
You have effectively caused detention for yourself -- noon hours for a week. How do you like them effects, huh boy?

A tear seeps down MONKEYBOY's face.

MONKEYBOY
Oh yeah?

MR. FRY assumes a confrontational pose.

MR. FRY
Yeah.

MONKEYBOY also assumes a confrontational pose.

MONKEYBOY

Yeah?

MR. FRY
Yeah.

MONKEYBOY
My mamma always told me: life is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're gonna get.

MR. FRY draws an upside-down cross on his paper, and gets an angry expression on his face; he directs his angry facial expression at MONKEYBOY; then, he rips the page from his clip-board, folds it up, and slips it into his own pocket.

MR. FRY
Don't quote Forrest Gump.

MONKEYBOY kicks his sign, in anger; it falls to the ground. MONKEYBOY regains his composure, and says...

MONKEYBOY
Me and Jenny: we was like peas and carrots.

MONKEYBOY grabs a carrot from his pocket, begins eating.

MR. FRY
I'm warning you! Don't quote Forrest Gump!

MR. FRY raises his fists, as if for battle.

MONKEYBOY puts his half-eaten carrot back into his pocket.

MONKEYBOY
Why not?

MR. FRY
Because you're in school.

MONKEYBOY
No duh.

MR. FRY
Focus on your job as a student, not on your hobby as a consumer of popular culture; that's for after school.

MONKEYBOY
I should make a Schindler's-List-type-list of all the people I should save from your NAZI-ass

dictatorship, Mr. Fry.

MR. FRY
Two weeks.

MONKEYBOY
I don't want to focus on school OR pop-
culture, but I'm trapped, like everyone else.

Behind them, a kid trips over MONKEYBOY's sign.

MR. FRY
I don't understand your constant need for
subversive motion.

MONKEYBOY
Cause and effect.

MONKEYBOY is pointing at the kid who tripped over the sign.
The kid is now nursing his shin.

MR. FRY
You're pitiful, Monkeyboy Curtis.

MONKEYBOY stops pointing at the kid, because MR. FRY
obviously doesn't care.

MONKEYBOY
This is so ironic. I should have taken Brian's
advice and built a temporary motion machine,
instead of this brilliant cause and effect
display, because Brian's calculations are
always correct.

MR. FRY
Perhaps you should have brought a machine
AS cause and effect -- you might have gotten
a passing grade.

MONKEYBOY clenches his fists.

MONKEYBOY
Perhaps I should effectively cause you to shut
up.

Mr. Fry laughs, and walks away, saying.

MR. FRY
Detention. Detention. Detention. One week in
detention.

MONKEYBOY
That's two!

MR. FRY
Three!

Monkeyboy yells.

MONKEYBOY
MR. FRY! I FOUND YOUR STASH!

CUT TO:

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

GABE rides his bike along a highway at night time, wearing a back-pack.

GABE'S THOUGHTS
I do not understand why a twenty page long, sourced and formatted essay, about our follied school system, would get me kicked out of school. It specifically pisses me off that I had to miss the science fair; I wonder how that went.

GABE continues to ride his bike into the night, until GABE passes over the horizon, and we look at a field of stars.

INT. SMALL NIGHT CLUB - NIGHT

On the stage, a long-haired, muscle-bound man, named KEV, beats-out beats from a drum-set which is labeled, "THE SEX WHISTLES."

KEV performs a drum-roll, then screams:

KEV
We are fabricated in a TV scene!

An obese woman, named ELLE, who is wearing a torn-up wedding dress, enters, picks up a yellow electric guitar, plays a fast rift which goes along with the continuing drum-roll. And she screams:

ELLE
Our real love can never hit the screen!

A spot-light illuminates a synthesizer. Then, behind the

synthesizer, there is a puff of smoke. When the smoke clears, BRENDT has appeared. BRENDT is an eight-foot tall black man, wearing a basketball uniform. BRENT begins to play a harmony, on the synth, which blends well with the drum-roll and the guitar.

And he screams:

BRENDT

Because after this, our characters are never seen!

The moment ANTON enters, everyone stops playing their instruments, and they look at him with their tongues sticking out and their eyes rolled back.

ANTON is holding a bass-guitar, and he plays an insane solo.

Then, in a sad, insane voice, ANTON says:

ANTON

Your brain dead children weep on this stage.

Now, we notice that the night club is packed with fans who have all lit matches.

The band begins to play a transient melody, which ANTON's voice harmonizes with, as he sings:

ANTON sings: "We played for fame/ The same old game"

Suddenly, the crowd begins to cheer, but then the music turns angry, as the fans begin to cheer even louder. Then ANTON screams, like a hissy-fitting child: "But we were gyped/ Our souls were ripped"

The music turns soft again, abruptly, and the crowd goes wild...

ANTON sings with a fake italian accent: "We lost that guilt which God had built / Not every Scotsman wears a kilt."

Then, the sound gets rockin, and insanely fast, as ANTON sings along with the beat:

"Fun with the gun was number one/ But two three four we lost yet more"

Suddenly, ANTON disappears in a puff of smoke, and ELLE rips off her wedding dress, revealing a skin-colored thong-

bikini, which is actually quite a disturbing sight on someone of her magnitude, and she screams, along with the music:

ELLE scream-singing: "In the way of my dismay/ Is the play we had today/ Very sad, it started bad/ But we had what we had"

And after another puff of smoke, ANTON appears on the stage, wearing nothing but a long, blonde wig (hair is tied in a certain way so that it covers his nether-regions.)

The audience goes wild.

The music turns into something classical sounding, and ANTON sings with an operatic vibrato in his voice.

ANTON opera-singing: "So now we run /Far from the sun/ What we forsook/ Evil had took"

Then, the music becomes a pre-recorded rap-beat, as their instruments catch on fire.

ANTON and ELLE drop their guitars. BRENDT begins to dance like a crazy old man.

KEV swings his ponytail in circles around his head.

The entire band joins together in singing the same rap song:

THE SEX WHISTLES rap: "Oh what we done/ Oh what we done/
We never won/ We never won/ We were a bat/ You forgot that/
Sweet treat we eat/ Blood and fresh meat/ We have a name/
and it's the same/ THE SEX WHISTLES!"

The rap-beat immediately ceases, as the audience screams enjoyment.

THE SEX WHISTLES bow.

Firemen enter, hose-down the blazing instruments, then leave.

The band wields their waterlogged instruments, and then they play a flowing, soft-rock melody.

ANTON sings: "Wow we actually did what we did/ I was barely even finished being a kid/ The bequest butterfly in the sky was you/ That constellation was made for two/ It's intriguing how someone with such an old soul/ Can feel so

young fighting an invisible troll/ But you were by my side,
and I had it all good/ No one would ever believe that we
would/ You're the girl I wanna fly away with/ No one
will ever understand what we did/ Because we kept our
Shamballa adventure well hid/ To tell you the truth, I never
understood what it was that we did./ Or why we kept it so
hid./ But we did what we did/ and it blows my freaking
mind."

The audience screams wildly; they love this band.

ANTON looks a little nervous to be wearing only that weird
wig.

ELLE whispers in ANTON's ear.

ELLE

You're shaking a bit too much. The audience
smells fear. Stay still, just like we rehearsed.

ANTON

Yeah.

ANTON looks calm, relaxed.

The audience is still applauding.

BRENDT plays a disco tune on his synthesizer, as the band
begins a disco dance, and a disco ball lights up the club.

ANTON sings a fast tune, and the audience gets into the
groove.

ANTON singing: "Disco ain't back/ So get rid of that/ You
ugly ugly gingerbread token star/ If I am disco, don't tell
me no / You break me soul and shake me hand/ When this is
over, we'll dance together / Rules weren't good for me / I
thought I could be free/ Disco ain't back/ So quit sniffing
that/ You ugly ugly gingerbread token star/ You've dragged
my heart away so far/ But life makes noises I ache to hear/
Give me another round of beer/ I thought I would be free/ It
wasn't close to free/ Disco ain't back/ So get rid of
that/ I haven't been who I am since way back/"

THE SEX WHISTLES chant: "Boo-yaka/ We're back'a/ It's all'a/
All right'a/ We playa/ All night'a/ Boo-yaka/ Boo-yaka/"

ELLE whispers to ANTON.

The entire band hold microphones as a pre-recorded tune plays.

They sing in different parts, like a dialogue.

BRENDT
This is it.

KEV
Our past has caught up with us.

BRENDT
No more shit.

ANTON
At last it's all about us.

BRENDT
Now is now.

ELLE
Act fast the light will turn out.

BRENDT
Then was then.

ANTON
Soon is when time'll run out.

BRENDT
Do you know?

KEV
Choices are to be made now.

ANTON
How'd it go?

THE SEX WHISTLES
Can't let memory fade now.

The lights fade. The crowd goes wild for THE SEX WHISTLES.

We notice a person in the audience whose shirt says the word "PLANT" on it. He looks fake-mad.

PLANT
You're nothing more than an artless,
fabricated, money-making machine!

The band looks angry, so they start playing angry music, the lights go up, the crowd goes wild, as ANTON begins to sing.

ANTON singing: "You're nothing more than an artless, fabricated, money-making machine/ You're just a whore, and your talent is faked by a sound-processing machine/ It's true: I can't harbor any respect for you/ But when I ask, I hope you respond "I do"/ You're nothing more than a pop star/ But I love you just the way you are/ Just a lean teen queen, fabricated by a machine/ But walking with me is where I hope you get seen/ I don't harbor any respect for you/ But when I ask, I hope you respond, "I do"/ You're my eye candy displayed for record company money honey/"

ANTON

We are THE SEX WHISTLES. Take us nightly with a glass of water. We may cause drowsiness, itchiness, loch-ness, and/or a second head named MERV; for some reason, it's always named MERV. And you'll never see anything quite like us, except for us, again. Good night.

INT. ENGLISH CLASS, SHADY BROOK HIGH SCHOOL - MORNING

MONKEYBOY sits in his desk, as MR. BEND talks.

MR. BEND

So, since this is a first-period class, I'm usually laxidazical when it comes to lates; however, for you Monkeyboy -- who was expelled -- I'll make an exception. Why the hell are you here, anyway?

The INTERCOM vents MR. BRUTUS' voice into the classroom.

MR. BRUTUS

Monkeyboy Curtis. Main office. NOW!

COMMERCIAL BREAK

MONKEYBOY

...

MR. BEND

Monkeyboy. Weren't you listening?

MONKEYBOY

Hu'wah?

MR. BEND
You were called to the office, Monkeyboy.

MONKEYBOY
Oh?

MR. BEND
Go to the office, Monkeyboy.

MONKEYBOY
Not without my lawyer present.

The students laugh.

MR. BEND
Oh? You're in trouble?

MONKEYBOY
Yeah. And it's not my fault either.

MR. BEND
Sharing your situation with the class.

MONKEYBOY
I would, but I don't know which thing he found out about.

Some students giggle.

MONKEYBOY
Did he find out that I skipped detention? Or maybe he found out about one of the other things...

MR. BEND
Just go to the office. You were called.

MONKEYBOY
Without a lawyer, I won't.

MR. BEND
Fine. Have it your way. But I can't have you in my class, knowing that you're supposed to be punished for something.

MONKEYBOY
Spare?

MR. BEND
You're going to leave, and I'm going to mark

you absent, unless you go to the office.

MONKEYBOY
Fine.

MONKEYBOY gets up.

INT. MAIN OFFICE, SHADY BROOK HIGH SCHOOL -MORNING

MR. BRUTUS talks to MONKEYBOY.

MR. BRUTUS
Why do you always get in trouble?

MONKEYBOY
It's never my fault, though.

MR. BRUTUS
You keyed my car.

MONKEYBOY
A car's a car - scratches don't stop a car!

MR. BRUTUS
I can't allow ...

MONKEYBOY interrupts, loudly.

MONKEYBOY
I CAN'T ALLOW THIS CONVERSATION TO
CONTINUE WITHOUT A LAWYER PRESENT!

MR. BRUTUS
Fine. I'll play by your rules. You have one
day. Get a lawyer in a day, or else you're
automatically suspended for three days.

INT. MR. BEND'S ENGLISH CLASS, SHADY BROOK HIGH
SCHOOL - MORNING

MONKEYBOY re-enters, handing a note to MR. BEND.

MR. BEND
Wow. I don't believe it: You actually went to
the office.

MONKEYBOY
That's what the note would lead you to believe.

MR. BEND chuckles.

MR. BEND

It also says on the note that you're expelled.
You shouldn't be here, Monkeyboy.

MONKEYBOY

I like your class. They'll have to force me out.

MR. BRUTUS' voice is on the INTERCOM.

MR. BRUTUS

Please pardon the interruption; however, I would like to ask all teachers to escort their students to the big gym for a surprise motivational assembly. We're awarding Lunette Luanne with a special surprise bursary because she is such a good girl. The rest of you could learn a lot from her life-story, which we're going to show in a slide-show presentation. Her face must be so red right now.

MONKEYBOY

This makes me sick. They're only celebrating Lunette because her mom's giving head to the principal.

MR. BEND

Monkeyboy! You can learn a lot from Lunette Luanne; she's a straight-A student.

MONKEYBOY

She's a straight-A condescending bitch!

The class is shocked.

MONKEYBOY

She acts like she's all better than everybody.

MR. BEND

Lunette Luanne IS better than you.

MR. BEND begins to lead the students out of the classroom; however, MONKEYBOY flees out of the room, through the hall, in a different direction.

CUT TO:

INT. PEP RALLY, SHADY BROOK HIGH SCHOOL

In the middle of the auditorium, a slide show, about all of LUNETTE LUANNE's academic achievements, is being presented. LUNETTE LUANNE is blushing.

The preppies, and the sports people, are applauding loudly, cheering LUNETTE on. Most other people look like they wish that they weren't there.

DARLA sits with her African-American pal CHANTANE, bored. CHANTANE notices that teachers are not allowing anyone to exit until it's over.

CHANTANE
Escape denied.

DARLA
Our moments will come later, when she's trailer park trash. She'll be addicted to soap operas, while her disgruntled ex-football-hero husband berates her for bein' a lazy-ass bitch.

CHANTANE
But she's different from us; she's not lazy.

DARLA
Not now, but in five years: her choice to be a stay-at-home mom, instead of a college student, will catch up to her, and she'll...

CHANTANE
That's wild speculation, Darla; admit it.

DARLA
I hate her.

CHANTANE
Agreed.

INT. BOY'S WASHROOM, SHADY BROOK HIGH SCHOOL -

MORNING.

MONKEYBOY is alone in the washroom, sitting next to the sink.

MONKEYBOY
I can't believe they're honoring that bitch.

ANTON enters, wearing black gloves, and carrying his guitar case; his face is looking beet-red with anger.

ANTON
I'LL SHOW THEM ALL!!!

MONKEYBOY
What will you show them?

ANTON notices MONKEYBOY. Frightened, ANTON jumps, and reveals a beautiful electric guitar in his guitar case, which he picks up, and starts doing a solo (which is magically amplified, as he sings ...

ANTON
(singing very well)
"Strife and stress, and the rest can rest in peace/
Because joy and laughter are my release/ I will
rock and roll / life won't take no toll out of me."

INT. DOCTOR STEPHAN HARDING'S OFFICE - DAY

ANTON enters STEPHAN's office.

STEPHAN HARDING is a flamboyant homosexual middle-aged neurologist.

ANTON puts his guitar case on STEPHAN's desk, and he sits down at the guest-chair. STEPHAN sits at his big chair, and eyes the guitar case suspiciously.

STEPHAN
Why did you book this appointment?

ANTON
Disappointment.

STEPHAN
I beg your pardon?

ANTON
To skip an assembly. They're honoring an idiot today.

STEPHAN
Idiots always get the highest honors.

ANTON
I want to become a member of your university-level neurology class.

STEPHAN
You're cute, kid.

ANTON
I can pass your class.

INT. KITCHEN, MONKEYBOY'S APARTMENT - MORNING

BRIAN and MONKEYBOY are eating breakfast.

BRIAN
Why so glum?

MONKEYBOY
I'm see the chess board we're all on.

BRIAN
Can you tell me about it?

MONKEYBOY
You wouldn't understand.

BRIAN
Okay.

Pause.

BRIAN
This repetitive dream I say I have... even though it's just a story I'm writing ... well, it's very long, I think...I've been lying about having the dream ever since the first time I saw Cara. In actuality, I'm concerned about the fact that I don't dream about her ... I think I should dream about her, based on how my heart feels about her.

BRIAN exits.

MONKEYBOY calls BORIS on the telephone.

MONKEYBOY
Hello Boris. I couldn't bring myself to kill the trigger.

INT. BRIAN'S BATHTUB, MONKEYBOY'S APARTMENT - DAY

BRIAN lays in a bathtub, crying, holding a razor-blade in his left hand, hovering it over his right wrist.

BRIAN slashes his wrist, revealing complex circuitry.

BRIAN
What the hell?

The wound heals itself.

BRIAN
So it's true...

MONKEYBOY enters the room.

MONKEYBOY
Yes. Things you've written in your teleplays are coming true, Brian, at an alarming rate. You've shared way too many information with way too much people.

BRIAN
"Way too many information?"

MONKEYBOY
It's the end for you.

BRIAN
No!

CHERYL -- a 19 year-old woman with short, spiked blonde hair -- enters the room, brandishing a remote control.

CHERYL
Bye Brian.

BRIAN
Hey! You're that Cheryl woman who's sometimes in my dreams!

CHERYL presses a button on the remote control, deactivating BRIAN; he flops into the water. In other words: BRIAN IS DEAD!!!

MONKEYBOY
What do we do now?

CHERYL
We have to get rid of it.

MONKEYBOY
That robot knows way too much.

CHERYL

Those kids who read his scripts; we've gotta kill them all.

MONKEYBOY

Maybe that's a little too harsh.

CHERYL looks confused.

Police officer TRENT DAVIS enters, pointing a gun at CHERYL and MONKEYBOY.

CHERYL and MONKEYBOY are surprised by TRENT's appearance.

TRENT

That was all I needed to hear. You're under arrest, Monkeyboy Curtis and Cheryl Hendrix.

CHERYL

How'd you find us?!

TRENT slaps handcuffs on MONKEYBOY and CHERYL.

TRENT confiscates the remote control.

TRENT

What's this?

TRENT notices that BRIAN is under the water.

TRENT

You murdered him!!!

MONKEYBOY

What?! No we didn't. What are you arresting us for?

TRENT

A lot.

INT. THE BACK OF A POLICE CAR - DAY

MONKEYBOY and CHERYL are being taken to jail.

MONKEYBOY

What about court first, huh?

TRENT displays a baggie of marijuana.

TRENT

We'll take this one step at a time.

INT. MONKEYBOY'S APARTMENT

2 PARAMEDICS work on BRIAN.

PARAMEDIC 1

I can't find a pulse. He's definitely been dead for a while. All there is is circuitry in his open wound. He's not a he, it's a robot!

PARAMEDIC 2

Just a second. You mean to tell me that I'm in the scene at the end of episode 3 of Brian's Path, and we just discovered that the title character Brian is actually a robot?

PARAMEDIC 1

Yup. This will probably be important to the storyline.

PARAMEDIC 2

So how would you rate this series so far?

PARAMEDIC 1

I'd keep watching it.

PARAMEDIC 2

Me as well. I don't think the author means for the plot to be understandable. I think it's just a collection of scenes in a sequence to evoke a set of emotions in the viewer.

PARAMEDIC 1

Or maybe you're wrong, and there is a point.

PARAMEDIC 2

Well it's the end of episode 3, and all we really know is that Brian is a robot.

TO BE CONTINUED ...