

"BANANA CHAN"

EPISODE 1x17

Hell Freezes Over?

By Alan Holman

INT. KITCHEN, MAISON CHAN - MORNING

BUSTER and MRS. CHAN eat breakfast.

937 rolls around on the table.

BUSTER
Where's Banana?

MRS. CHAN
Taking a walk.

BUSTER
I hope she's alright.

MRS. CHAN
There's nothing to worry about because a
protection spell was cast on her when she
was born.

BUSTER
Protection spell?

MRS. CHAN
Yes, random times when she gets mad, a
mallet, or a pillow, appear, in her grip, for a
short while, for her defense!

BUSTER
Really?

MRS. CHAN
Yeah. It's weird.

There's a knock on the door.

MRS. CHAN answers the door, revealing RYONE.

MRS. CHAN
Ryone?

RYONE
Is Banana here?

MRS. CHAN

No. But she's not far, and she'll be back soon.

RYONE

I yearn, from slightly afar, for the return of the beautiful girl who is just out of my reach.

MRS. CHAN

Although I love your endless rants about my daughter, my daughter finds said endless rants so creepy that you're not allowed in this house without her permission. So what's the purpose of your visit?

RYONE

The purpose is life! I don't feel alive unless I'm with Banana! Banana is my life! My feelings are on a spiritual level! I'm speaking of a love that ...

BANANA returns, and yells ...

BANANA

I'LL LOVE YOU WHEN HELL FREEZES OVER, SO SHUT UP ABOUT ME, AND LEAVE!!!

RYONE

Never!

A mallet appears in BANANA's hands.

RYONE runs away.

The mallet disappears.

MRS. CHAN

Banana. I guess it's time I told you the family secret.

BANANA

Family secret?

MRS. CHAN

The moon is your father.

BANANA
No, the moon isn't.

MRS. CHAN
Yes, he is. He walked you to school!

BANANA
Quit being annoying. The moon isn't my
father.

MRS. CHAN
Of course, it isn't. But it was so to the left of
insane that it distracted you from your anger,
didn't it?

BANANA
Yes. Good point. Thanks, mom.

BANANA and MRS. CHAN hug.

The phone rings, so BANANA answers the phone.

BANANA
(to phone)
Hello.
(pause)
Hello.
(pause)
Hello.
(pause)
Hello.
(pause)
The point of this would be what?

BANANA hangs up the phone.

MRS. CHAN enters.

MRS. CHAN
Who was it?

BANANA
Mr. Ono.

MRS. CHAN
He always hangs up when I say hello.

WIPE TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM, MAISON CHAN - DAY

BANANA and RAPHAEL are here, lounging around.

BANANA

Want some tea?

RAPHAEL nods.

BANANA exits to the kitchen.

BUSTER enters, and begins talking to RAPHAEL.

BUSTER

Hey, Banana -- who's your friend?

BANANA

Oh. This is Raphael from that space station I told you about.

RAPHAEL

Yes, I am. Hiya.

BUSTER

I'm Buster. Nice to meet you. Can you show me your space station?

RAPHAEL

That depends upon whether or not you know how to play tabletop role-playing-games.

BUSTER

I can learn!

RAPHAEL

Great! We're running low on good players!

BUSTER

Cool!

BANANA enters with three cups of tea. She gives one to BUSTER, and one to RAPHAEL -- she keeps the other.

BUSTER

(to Banana)
Raphael's taking me to see his space station!

BANANA
Coolers! I wanna come!

RAPHAEL
About that: you can't. We've realized that our particular group ... uhh ... there's no polite way to say it, and I want to still be your friend ... do I have to say it?

BANANA
No.

INT. ASTROMETRICS LAB, SPACE STATION TERRA

Star charts and computer displays fill this room; however, BUSTER and RAPHAEL sit beside a vent.

BUSTER
Why'd you take me to this room?

RAPHAEL
Put your ear against the vent.

BUSTER puts his ear against the vent, and hears muffled conversations.

NERDY VOICE #1
...potential in your genetic structure for...

NERDY VOICE #2
...scan my genetic substructure for inherited information which...

NERDY VOICE #1
...probes penetrated my limbic system as ordered by...

NERDY VOICE #3
... then she said, "You call THAT an anal probe?!"

BUSTER takes his ear off of the vent.

BUSTER

Interesting!

RAPHAEL looks happy.

RAPHAEL

Banana and myself spent hours in this room, listening through this vent to all the techno-babble that goes on in the cafeteria. She didn't understand most of it, but she thought it sounded cool, and I enjoyed anything that she enjoyed. Is she single?

BUSTER

You two should get a room.

RAPHAEL blushes, and his glasses fog up.

NERDIEST VOICE IMAGINABLE

They assume our bug-like eyes decode naturally the simple patterns of their "pulsing quad line" broadcast messages; however, we must instead for that purpose utilize digital cameras, and holography; it's really quite fascinating!

WIPE TO:

EXT. FOREST, DAY

BANANA and RAPHAEL walk on a trail through a forest.

RAPHAEL

It's a beautiful day. Thank you for coming for a walk with me, Banana Chan.

BANANA

That's what friends are for!

RAPHAEL

Yeah...about that: I was wondering if we could be...more than friends...huh?

BANANA

Like, what are you after?

RAPHAEL whispers something into BANANA's ear. BANANA giggles, and says...

BANANA

Maybe when you're older, but now don't you have a space station to get back to?

RAPHAEL smiles, and nods.

RAPHAEL

I almost forgot about ...heh...You're a great friend, Banana.

RAPHAEL hugs BANANA.

BANANA gives him a little kiss on his cheek.

BANANA

Good luck at the space station. And good luck with all of your future adventures.

RAPHAEL

Thanks for all the luck. I think I'll be needing all the luck I can get. I also want to wish you luck.

BANANA

Me, luck? -- for what?

RAPHAEL

Good luck for ...for...being Banana!

They laugh. Banana even blushes a little, and gives him another peck on the cheek.

BANANA

You're ... just go now. Luv ya!

INT. BACK YARD, MAISON CHAN - EVENING

BANANA waves goodbye, as RAPHAEL flies the X-Wing into the sky.

BANANA wipes a tear from her eye.

BANANA

That freaky geekie has more chance with me than Ryone does. Raphael may be a nerd, but he runs an entire Space Station. What

does Ryone do that at all compares to that coolness?

CUT TO:

INT. BEDROOM - MORNING

Banana Chan sleeps, snoring.

Her clock-radio shows 6:59; when it flips to 7:00, the radio turns on in the middle of the news, waking her up.

NEWSCASTER

...and when area residents noticed the escape pods falling from the sky, the government had no choice but to declassify the existence of the space station. As remnants of the recently declassified top secret space station, and escape pods, burned up in the earth's upper atmosphere...

She turns the radio off, and falls asleep again.

INT. KITCHEN, MAISON CHAN - DAY

MRS. CHAN curls her left index finger under her chin as she watches the television news in concern.

NEWSCASTER

...and local teenager Raphael Nardesiak was fished from the wreckage, badly injured...

BANANA enters the room.

MRS. CHAN turns the television off.

MRS. CHAN

Banana. I'm sorry.

BANANA

What are you sorry for?

MRS. CHAN

When you said that you were on a top secret space station, I didn't believe you, and I punished you.

BANANA
Apology accepted.

MRS. CHAN
It's been all over the news.

BANANA
What has?

MRS. CHAN
The space station. I couldn't believe my ears
as the newscasters said that UFOs attacked
it.

BANANA
It's a staged attack. Google "Project Blue
Beam."

MRS. CHAN
What?

BANANA
I hope Raphael is okay!

MRS. CHAN
Your friend Raphael is among the survivors.

BANANA
That's a relief. But how do you know?

MRS. CHAN
He called. He's in the hospital, and he wants
you to visit him. Will you visit him?

BANANA
Yupperoonies!

BANANA exits.

INT. RAPHAEL'S ROOM, HOSPITAL

BANANA enters RAPHAEL's hospital room, and she gives
flowers
to him.

RAPHAEL
Thanks.

BANANA

Yo.

RAPHAEL

(profoundly sad, but not crying)
I can't believe they didn't warn us before the
attack! I almost gave my life for a psy-op!

BANANA

Awww...sorry. If it'll make you feel any better,
I'll visit you every day until you get better!

RAPHAEL

Yay!

INT. KITCHEN, MAISON CHAN - MORNING

BANANA, BUSTER, and MRS. CHAN eat waffles for breakfast.

MRS. CHAN

How's Raphael doing?

BANANA

He's slowly recovering.

INT. RAPHAEL'S ROOM, HOSPITAL - EVENING

RAPHAEL lays on the bed, talking to his visitor: BANANA!

RAPHAEL

My launching ground caused too much
radiation -- my bad. Some local citizens
started complaining about the humming noise
that our equipment made.

BANANA

Are you in trouble?

RAPHAEL

If I co-operate, and don't give away that it was
staged, I'm in no trouble whatsoever.

He starts laughing.

RYONE enters.

RYONE
Long time no see, buddy. How goes with the
space station?

BANANA
Ryone?

RAPHAEL
Ryone's a friend of mine. Do you two know
each-other?

RYONE
Yes.

BANANA
Ryone. How did you know about Raph's
space station?

RYONE
Hey Banana, I'm glad you're here. I wanted to
tell you something.

BANANA
Of course you did. You always want to tell
me something.

RYONE
Yes. So anyway. I want to say that I got so
obsessed with trying to put my feelings into
words, that the words themselves obfuscated
the most important part.

BANANA
Obfuscated?

RAPHAEL
What are you two talking about?

A NURSE enters.

NURSE
Raphael.

RAPHAEL
That's me!

NURSE

You've shown much improvement. There's no reason for us to hold you here any longer, Raphael! You're free to go!

BANANA hugs RAPHAEL.

The NURSE exits.

RAPHAEL
So ... Banana and Ryone ... how do you two know each-other?

RYONE
The first time I saw her, I realized that ...

BANANA
(interrupting)
Excuse us for a second please, Raphael.

BANANA pulls RYONE out of the room, into a hallway.

INT. HALLWAY, HOSPITAL - EVENING

BANANA chats with RYONE here.

BANANA
Ryone, I'm warning you: just leave now.

RYONE
(laughs)
You're being funny.

BANANA
Don't come near me, or any of my friends.

RYONE
(laughs)
Silly kid. Cute as a button, but silly as hell. I still love ya' though, always will. Now I'm going to re-join my friend Raphael, and you're free to join us.

RYONE re-enters the room.

BANANA follows him.

INT. RAPHAEL'S ROOM, HOSPITAL - EVENING

RAPHAEL lays on the bed.

BANANA and RYONE enter.

RAPHAEL

Although the nurse said I'm free to go, I want to lay here for a while.

BANANA

I know the feeling.

RYONE

I heard you were in the hospital, so I came as fast as I could. What is up, man?

RAPHAEL

My space station got blown up.

RYONE

Wow. Well, at least you're alright, and that's what matters most, buddy.

RAPHAEL

Please give me a minute with Banana, if she doesn't mind.

BANANA

I don't mind.

RYONE

Okay, buddy.

RYONE exits.

COMMERCIAL BREAK

RAPHAEL

Banana. When I was twelve years old, I saw you defeat the "eater of worlds", and I thought you were the coolest.

BANANA

That's a secret, so please be quiet. Ryone is in the hallway; if he hears us, I'll punish you.

RAPHAEL

He saved the universe.

BANANA
Say what?

RAPHAEL
It's his secret. He saved the universe twice.

BANANA
If it's his secret, then it's none of my business.

RAPHAEL
He hasn't told you because he wants a girl who loves him for who he is, rather than for what he's done, and what he's capable of doing. Regardless, I think both of you would benefit a lot if you share those stories with each-other.

BANANA
Get it through your thick skull: I don't care about Ryone's story, and I don't care about Ryone.

BANANA exits.

EXT. HALLWAY, HOSPITAL - EVENING

RYONE stands in the hall.

BANANA approaches.

RYONE
Going home?

BANANA blushes a little, and says ...

BANANA
Yeah.

RYONE
It's late. I'll walk you.

BANANA smiles at RYONE, and says ...

BANANA
Sure.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

It is raining very hard.

RYONE holds an umbrella that he shares with BANANA.

RYONE

I like to make eggs in the microwave.

BANANA

(laughs)

That was so random!

RYONE

What do you want to do with your life?

BANANA

Get paid for something I enjoy doing.

RYONE

I get that. But what do you want to do with your pay?

BANANA

Make time for things I enjoy doing.

RYONE

And then get paid for those things?

BANANA

(laughs)

Yeah.

RYONE

I just want to love and be loved.

BANANA

Don't we all?

RYONE

What I've always wanted more than anything is to have kids of my own. You can love them, and they love you back; it's "love and be loved."

BANANA

Change the topic.

RYONE

Why? My parents made so many mistakes with me and my siblings. I think it'd be the perfect criticism of them if I'm the perfect parent myself. I mean, not to spite them, but ... I don't know ... I just want that more than anything, and I want that with you more than anyone else.

BANANA

Ryone, we're sixteen. We're too young to talk about kids.

RYONE

It's just "talk", Banana. You're never too young to just "talk" about anything.

BANANA

What if the other person in the conversation doesn't want to talk about the topic?

RYONE

Some topics are important.

BANANA

That's true.

RYONE

Well, what do you enjoy doing?

BANANA

Having fun.

RYONE

We all enjoy having fun, but what do you want to do as a career?

BANANA

I have some goals. What about you?

RYONE

Well, I have goals, but I set them before I fell in love. Now I don't care what I do, as long as I do it for you.

BANANA leans her head against RYONE's shoulder, and says ...

BANANA
You're hopeless, Ryone.

WIPE TO:

EXT. ROOFTOP, MAISON CHAN - AFTERNOON

BANANA and BUSTER lay on the roof, watching birds.

BUSTER
That science fiction movie I rented last night was awesome.

BANANA
I disagree. It was stupid. But you are entitled to your opinion.

BUSTER
It wasn't stupid! It was the smartest film I'd ever seen!

BANANA
Then you're stupid.

BUSTER
So what you're saying is: "I don't agree with a word you say, but I'll defend to the death your right to say it"? - eh?

BANANA
No, what I'm saying is: "I don't get what you say, but that's okay, because I don't have to listen anyway!"

BUSTER
Yeah, you do, because the film carried an important message about the human soul.

BANANA
"A person's soul looks like that person's house when that person isn't expecting company."

BUSTER
Fascinating. So, in your opinion, the soul is a

reflection of self?

BANANA

The soul IS self.

BUSTER

I believe that a complete soul is two people,
and I believe that each person must find, and
marry, their soulmate.

BANANA

You sound like you've read some of Ryone's
poems.

INT. NIKO DOJO - DAY

ASHANA NIKO practices martial arts (nothing too fancy), as
BANANA watches from the corner.

BANANA is crying.

ASHANA stops practicing, approaches BANANA, and asks...

ASHANA

Why so sad now, Banana?

BANANA

Lotsa things make me sad.

ASHANA

I can teach you to suppress your emotions,
control them!

BANANA

But emotions are who I am!

ASHANA

Stop letting emotions run your life! Follow
your mind!

BANANA

My mind's crap! Emotions guide me! Happy
is a radar for more happy! Emotions make me
human!

ASHANA

The mind makes you human.

BANANA

My mind would turn me into a boring robot!

ASHANA

Volatile emotions are flaws.

BANANA

Flaws are traits! I don't wanna be trait-less!

ASHANA

Skills are traits!

BANANA

Emotions know what you want.

ASHANA

Skills are what I want.

BANANA

Emotions are what I want.

ASHANA

YOU are what I want.

ASHANA kisses BANANA.

INT. BANANA'S BEDROOM, MAISON CHAN - DAY

BANANA cries into her pillow.

MRS. CHAN enters.

MRS. CHAN

Are you depressed because you don't have a boyfriend?

BANANA

Huh?

MRS. CHAN

Why so sad?

BANANA

My friend Ashana Niko kissed me.

MRS. CHAN

So?

BANANA
SHE'S A GIRL!

Pause.

MRS. CHAN
Consider it a compliment!

BANANA shakes her head.

MRS. CHAN
(laughing)
I find this funny. Sorry. Good luck.

MRS. CHAN exits, and BANANA continues crying.

BANANA
(crying)
I'm sad because the kiss was spectacular. I've
gotta kiss a boy -- any boy -- and make sure
I'm not ... not that there'd be ... GAY!

MRS. CHAN
Get a job. Make some money. Meet a guy.
Go out on a date. At the end of the date,
kiss.

CUT TO:

INT. RESTAURANT - DAY

BANANA's working, taking an order from a muscular soldier
named THORN IRONSIDE.

BANANA
Fries for you?

THORN
No, but I'd like your phone number.

BANANA blushes.

BANANA
(giggling)
No fries for you! Number for you!

We see time-lapsed images of BANANA and THORN talking for a long time, as the line-up gets long. Then...

A MANAGER approaches.

MANAGER

You're fired, Banana Chan!

EXT. STRAWBERRY PATCH, MORNING

BANANA and THORN pick strawberries in a beautiful countryside valley.

THORN

Are you always this funny?

BANANA

Funny? I didn't say anything!

THORN

Oh...really? I thought I heard the sound of comedy...

BANANA

Nope...

THORN laughs.

BANANA shakes her head as if she doesn't share his sense of humor.

INT. KITCHEN, CHAN HOUSEHOLD - EVENING

MRS. CHAN and BUSTER eat poutine.

BUSTER

This stuff is addictive!

MRS. CHAN

And bad for the heart.

BANANA enters with THORN.

BANANA

I'm pleased to introduce Thorn Ironside, a soldier.

THORN bows.

MRS. CHAN and BUSTER continue eating their poutine.

MRS. CHAN
Do you want some poutine, Thorn?

THORN
No thanks. That stuff'll kill ya.

BANANA
I like that stuff.

THORN
Oh, then I like it too.

BANANA
But you just said that you don't like it.

THORN
I was lying.

BANANA
I don't like liars.

THORN
Then I wasn't lying.

BANANA
Get out of my house.

THORN
Fair enough.

THORN exits.

WIPE TO:

EXT. DOORSTEP, MAISON CHAN - MORNING

A young man named RAKASA NOMIKROM rings the doorbell.

BANANA emerges from the house, and says...

BANANA
Umm...what brings you to my house?

RAKASA
I need a spare tire -- it's important.

BANANA
Umm, Buster's got one; I'll get it.

BANANA enters the house.

Seconds later, BANANA emerges from the house again, carrying a spare tire.

BANANA
Here!

She gives the tire to RAKASA.

RAKASA
Thanks! The name's Rakasa. Do you wanna come for coffee with me sometime?

INT. COFFEE SHOP - MORNING

BANANA and RAKASA talk to each-other while drinking coffee.

BANANA
I'm ... arranged to be married to a guy I hate.

RAKASA
Oh no! Are you telling me the truth?

BANANA
Sadly, yeah. I am, actually.

RAKASA
I just remembered something. Gotta go!

BANANA
Goodbye then!
(kisses his cheek)
Thanks for the coffee ... even though coffee makes me gag.

RAKASA exits.

BANANA
Jerk.

INT. KITCHEN, MAISON CHAN - AFTERNOON

BUSTER chats with BAKA.

BAKA

Those atrocities for which you seek redemption were not your fault, Buster, because the NINjAs had you brainwashed.

BUSTER

Good point.

BAKA

Yeah.

BUSTER

I should celebrate.

BAKA

How?

BUSTER

Dance Dance Revolution!

CUT TO:

INT. ARCADE - AFTERNOON

A huge crowd is in total drooling, slack-jawed awe, as they stare in amazement, at RYONE's perfect DDR skills.

The machine explodes.

RYONE steps off the platform.

RYONE

That was nothing. Didn't even break a sweat.

The crowd falls over.

BANANA approaches.

BANANA

Hey, there you are! Ryone, don't take this the wrong way, but ...

BANANA kisses RYONE.

RYONE faints.

BANANA
(smiles)
Yummers!

BUSTER enters the area, and notices the broken DDR machine.
So he falls to his knees and screams ...

BUSTER
NOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!!!

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN, MAISON CHAN - EVENING

BAKA chats with BANANA.

BAKA
Banana. I turned invisible and learned that all
those "prank calls" were made by Mr. Ono.

BANANA
I know, and I've got something more important
on my mind.

BAKA
Like what?

BANANA
I'm going out.

BAKA
Where?

BANANA
To the pond.

CUT TO:

BLANK SCREEN

MR. ONO'S VOICE
I mean to tell her -- I really do -- but I don't
have the courage. I don't. And when I do have

the courage, something always happens, and I'm afraid I'll wait until it's too late to explain my feelings. I think she has the same feelings. Maybe she doesn't. What if she doesn't? What would I do? How should I continue?

CUT TO:

INT. BUSTER'S BEDROOM, MAISON CHAN - NIGHT

MRS. CHAN sits on the corner of BUSTER's bed, as he lays in SqueeGiMon pajamas.

MRS. CHAN
Sleep well tonight, Buster.

BUSTER
Thanks. By the way, I've been meaning to ask: Where's Banana go every night?

MRS. CHAN
You've asked this already.

BUSTER
Oh yeah, I forgot. But why does she go to that pond?

MRS. CHAN
To ponder.

BUSTER
Meditation?

MRS. CHAN
Yeah.

WIPE TO:

EXT. TOWN-SIDE POND - NIGHT

Under the full moon, BANANA sits in a town-side forest, on the edge of a rock, meditating, with her bare feet dipped in a pond.

She sets her gaze on her square-shaped home-town -- Rain,

Japan -- which is surrounded by an east-side seaport, and three sides of lush, green forest.

BANANA

I kissed Ryone today. It was yummy. Now that his dream came true, maybe he'll leave me alone. There's only one guy for me, and he's James. He took my mind off Boden.

(sigh)

No one can take my mind off Boden.

BANANA sighs ... yawns ... lays on the rock ...

BANANA falls asleep, with a smile on her face.

The moon smiles at her.

END OF EPISODE