

"BANANA CHAN"

EPISODE 1x22

DeClassifieds

By Alan Holman

INT. TENT - NIGHT

Two thirteen year old boys, BUSTER CHAN and CHIKAO SAWAMURA, sit on top of sleeping-bags in this flashlight-lit tent.

CHIKAO SAWAMURA (age 13) is almost chubby; he's 5'0", with short black hair, blue eyebrows, and blue eyes.

BUSTER

... then Ryone said it felt like his soul was being ripped from his body.

CHIKAO SAWAMURA

Wow. Ryone's future journal scares me! But Banana's also a victim, because she never asked for all of Ryone's attentions!

BUSTER

No. Ryone never asked to fall so deeply in love. It was nature. Mother nature's a bitch!

CHIKAO SAWAMURA

But Banana gave Ryone a fair shake!

BUSTER

NO, SHE DIDN'T!

CHIKAO SAWAMURA

Whoah.

BUSTER

I mean, she thinks she did, but that's the problem.

CHIKAO SAWAMURA

What do you mean?

BUSTER

It was weird: Whenever Banana wasn't around, Ryone was everything Banana said she wants in a guy.

CHIKAO SAWAMURA

What did Banana say she wants in a guy?

BUSTER

Nice, kind, caring, funny, playful, generous,
composed, balanced, rational, strong,
protective, sympathetic, chivalrous, heroic,
knight in shining armor kinda' guy.

CHIKAO SAWAMURA

Oh. I see.

BUSTER

Yeah, but when they were together, he'd get
weird, stressed, pushy, possessive, paranoid,
and ... other traits she said she doesn't like.
He loves her, but he's pushing her away ... but
why? He makes no sense!

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM, MAISON CHAN - NIGHT

937 crawls around the living room.

A CAT BURGLAR, carrying a bag of stolen cats, enters
through an open window.

937

Nice to meet you.

The CAT BURGLAR drops the bag of cats, flings open the
front
door, and runs away screaming.

Cats escape from the bag, and scatter out the front door.

CUT TO:

MONTAGE OF IMAGES: people having happy reunions with their
cats.

CUT TO:

INT. RESTAURANT - NOON

BUSTER and MRS. CHAN sit at a table, eating burgers.

MRS. CHAN
How'd you find out I'm not her mom?

BUSTER
Baka.

MRS. CHAN
Of course -- my drunken nephew. Do you know about the time-travel, time-limit?

BUSTER
I don't.

MRS. CHAN
Well, as you know, Baka mixed certain alcoholic drinks with holy water, and created that mixture which gave you -- its drinker -- the time-travel power.

BUSTER
I don't remember drinking anything.

MRS. CHAN
He created the mixture on my thirtieth birthday.

BUSTER
How'd my power run out?

MRS. CHAN
The first sip gives the power -- every other sip is useless. The power lasts exactly ten years -- you were three when you got it, and thirteen when you lost it! I was thirty when he invented the drink.

BUSTER
You've got the power!?!

MRS. CHAN
Yes. Well, no. I had it. It ran out earlier today. I've been using it sparingly, to provide for the household. Three out of six lottery numbers, every two weeks. But I was careless, and now -- more than a week before my birthday -- the time-travel power, not to

mention most of our savings, just ran right out. I haven't had a job in ten years.

EXT. TOP OF LIGHTHOUSE - NIGHT

RYONE and BUSTER sit atop the town's sea-side lighthouse, looking at the ocean.

RYONE

Why won't Banana tell me what her specific problem is with me?

BUSTER

I don't know. Maybe because you ask.

RYONE

Well, it's not like I'm a sexist guy who'd drink saké and watch sports in my underwear, and yell at her to stand chained to the kitchen sink, barefoot and pregnant, in a low-cut French maid outfit, handing me everything on a silver platter! I don't even like saké!

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN, MAISON CHAN - AFTERNOON

MRS. CHAN and BUSTER sit at the table, eating apples.

MRS. CHAN

That's it! That's the whole story. Now you know all about the time when Banana sacrificed her mystical powers to save the whole solar system!

BUSTER

Wow! Banana's bio is cooler than animé! Tell me more!

WIPE TO:

EXT. TOP OF LIGHTHOUSE - NIGHT

RYONE and BUSTER sit atop the town's sea-side lighthouse, looking at the ocean.

BUSTER

Why can't I see the living-area?

RYONE

We're a big family. We're poor. And it's an uncontrollable mess.

BUSTER

Surely, it can be controlled.

RYONE

If you knew the situation, you'd know that it can't.

BUSTER

What's the situation?

RYONE

The situation is that I've wanted to invite Banana over to meet my family and have a meal with us, ever since the moment I met her. The fact that I've liked her for so long, yet I've never even invited her over for dinner, might make her wonder if I actually mean what I say when I say that I love her. And I do mean what I say. I do love her. A lot. So much that she's the only one I'll ever love.

BUSTER

So invite her. And if she doesn't accept the invitation, then wait a week, and invite her again. If she doesn't accept, invite her every odd week, until she finally accepts. Persist for as long as you love her. Show her that you're serious.

RYONE

I'd love to, but she can get scary sometimes.

BUSTER

I know. The first time I met her, she put me in the hospital.

RYONE

She's my hope for an escape to freedom. I only hope she doesn't take away my freedom to escape to hope.

WIPE TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM, MAISON CHAN - AFTERNOON

BANANA tells BUSTER a story.

BANANA

Mom got sick of seeing me come home from school crying all the time, so we escaped to Tokyo until I was eleven. When we returned, I was taller, and I had shorter, blonde-dyed hair, and I escaped into the name Banana, so that no one would know I was Lacy.

BUSTER

Did it work?

BANANA

It worked so well that those girls recruited me into their ... into their clique!

BUSTER

I know about the Emotion 16 Soldiers.

BANANA

That was us! And killing ... err ... disposing of that Magical Girl Supergroup, from "the inside", remains my shining achievement, because no one messes with Banana Chan, and gets away with it!

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM, MAISON CHAN - MORNING

BUSTER's sitting on the floor, holding the remote control, channel surfing.

BANANA enters, tries to snatch the remote, but BUSTER holds onto it as hard as he can.

BANANA

I wanna see what's on!

BANANA tries to pull the remote from BUSTER's hands, but BUSTER is too strong for her; he easily maintains his grip on the remote.

BUSTER

But I'm watching my show!

He pulls his hand, with remote, away from her, then runs toward the door and exits the house, WITH THE REMOTE IN HIS HAND!!!

BANANA gives chase.

EXT. EDGE OF TOWN/START OF FOREST - MORNING

BUSTER, holding the remote, runs into a thick forest -- BANANA's chasing him.

INT. FOREST - MORNING

BUSTER runs along a path, trips on a large rock, and falls flat on his face -- he begins crying in pain.

BANANA catches up to him as his nose begins bleeding, and she takes the remote from him then runs away with it.

BANANA

Like I said: No one messes with Banana Chan, and gets away with it!

WIPE TO:

INT. BUSTER'S BEDROOM, MAISON CHAN - NIGHT

BUSTER kneels down to say his prayers, as BAKA appears in a puff of smoke.

BUSTER

Please don't drop in un-announced anymore.

BAKA

I need to show you something.

BUSTER

I hate it when you say that.

BAKA wiggles his nose, causing both of them to disappear in a puff of smoke.

CUT TO:

INT. BUSTER'S CHILDHOOD BEDROOM, FUTURE ORPHANAGE - DAY

BUSTER appears on the bed.

BAKA appears above the bed.

BAKA

This is the original time-line, exactly one hour
after the Armageddon.

BUSTER

Armageddon?

BAKA

(nods)

Evil won, and destroyed every kind of life, even
afterlife.

BUSTER

WHOAH!!!

BAKA

As victory was declared by evil, I invented, and
slipped into time-travel.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN, MAISON CHAN - AFTERNOON

MRS. CHAN's sitting at the table, crying.

BUSTER

Why are you crying?

MRS. CHAN

I can't pay the bills.

BUSTER

Is this enough?

BUSTER gives a pile of cash to MRS. CHAN.

MRS. CHAN

YES!!! WHERE DID YOU GET SO MUCH
MONEY!?!?

BUSTER
I used to travel through time.

WIPE TO:

INT. CLASS, SCHOOL - LATE MORNING

MR. ONO gives a lecture.

MR. ONO
A few months ago, Planet X skimmed the rim of our solar system, causing a catastrophic global heat-wave which unbalanced the earth's social structure by melting most of the earth's poor people, not to mention some of the smaller polar ice caps, thus causing a longer-than-usual rainy- season, and flooding some...

WIPE TO:

INT. KITCHEN, MAISON CHAN - AFTERNOON

MRS. CHAN reads a newspaper.

BUSTER enters.

BUSTER
Any good news?

MRS. CHAN
DeathLerCoasters were recalled, and dismantled, because they were deemed unsafe.

BUSTER
Interesting...NOT!

MRS. CHAN flips a few pages of the newspaper, then says...

MRS. CHAN
That heat wave almost erased all crime-rates world-wide, so world governments are declassifying information about all sorts of neat stuff!

BUSTER
Like what?

MRS. CHAN

Since 2008, various governments have been declassifying information about UFOs, on a gradual basis until 2012. They've amped-up their efforts, and there's some really cool shit in today's newspaper, in section D.

BUSTER reads.

BUSTER

D for "DeClassifieds!" Cool!

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM, ALICIA'S HOUSE - MORNING

BANANA, and ALICIA, sit beside a table, chatting.

BANANA

If I never see him again, it'll be too frickin' soon!

ALICIA

Then don't read the newspapers; Rob inherited the Megalith Corporation.

BANANA wipes her eye, and says...

BANANA

What!?! How!?

ALICIA

I don't know. I didn't read the entire article.

BANANA

That jerk has to die!

WIPE TO:

INT. DOCTOR MELFIN'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

BUSTER consults DOCTOR MELFIN.

BUSTER

It was my banana peel! I've felt responsible for mom's death all these years. The beast -- the

dragon in my nightmares -- the dragon which has always been holding me back all these years -- has always been myself all along! I must slay the dragon!

DR. MELFIN
Too self-defeating. Try to talk it out.

BUSTER
With the dragon?

DR. MELFIN
Yes. Find out what it wants, then call me in the morning.

BUSTER
Can I ever slay the dragon?

DR. MELFIN
Accept it, befriend it, learn to live with it. Trust me on this one.

WIPE TO:

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

BUSTER walks through the forest.

BAKA appears in a puff of smoke.

BUSTER
What the deal with you anyway?

BAKA
I invented, and slipped into time-travel, as evil won the final battle, and destroyed all life, including afterlife. Now that the future consists of empty physical and spectral planes, my mission, as a free-agent in the universe, is to toughen-up the wimpy angels of this time, because good MUST have a fighting chance against evil in the final battle for the fate of the universe.

BUSTER CHAN
Huh?

BAKA
Also, I can criss-cross thru time-lines.

BUSTER CHAN
YOU CAN CATCH MY MOM WHEN SHE
FELL FROM THAT BUILDING!!!

BAKA
Good point.

BAKA disappears in a puff of smoke.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET, NEW RAIN CITY - NIGHT [CLIP FROM #8]

DR. TOFFEE is among a crowd of pedestrians who watch as ROKO's fall from the skyscraper's penthouse is interrupted when BAKA bites the collar of ROKO's shirt, and guides her descent into a "hellhole" that opens -- at the last second -- on the road.

[END CLIP]

INT. KITCHEN, MAISON CHAN - MORNING

Thirteen year old BUSTER CHAN enters.

BAKA, and ROKO, appear in a puff of smoke.

ROKO
Bust!

BUSTER CHAN
Huh?
(stunned disbelief)
Momma?

ROKO smiles.

INT. KITCHEN, CHAN APARTMENT - AFTERNOON

BUSTER has tea with ROKO.

BUSTER CHAN
Mom. Who's dad?

ROKO
A girl's entitled to her secrets.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM, CHAN APARTMENT - AFTERNOON

BUSTER sits on the couch, and BAKA flies through the room.

BUSTER CHAN
Thanks for rescuing mom.

BAKA
Anything for my favorite nephew.

BUSTER CHAN
(singing)
Chan-cha-cha-cha-CHAN!

BAKA vanishes in a puff of smoke.

COMMERCIAL BREAK

RYONE enters, carrying a bouquet of flowers.

BUSTER CHAN
What are you doing here with those flowers?

RYONE
Do you think Banana will like them?

BUSTER CHAN
No. She's allergic to flowers.

RYONE drops them into a garbage can.

RYONE
Buster. Are the stories true?

BUSTER CHAN
Which stories?

RYONE
Those vastly weird stories which Banana tells
sometimes -- the ones in which you're her
grandson from the future.

BUSTER CHAN

Yeah. And I was suddenly thrust into the past -- a past which is your present. A place where my feelings constantly contrast due to these unfamiliar surroundings.

(laughs)

Of course those stories aren't true. Why would you think they're true?

RYONE

Because your cat can talk. And because of that global heat-wave thingy. And because Rob was arrested for a plot to take over the world. If these things can happen in our world, then surely a kid can travel from the future.

BUSTER CHAN

You're delusional.

BLANK SCREEN

DATE ON SCREEN: December, 2010.

CUT TO:

INT. BANANA'S BEDROOM, MAISON CHAN - DAWN

BANANA CHAN (age 18) is 5'10", with longer blonde hair (with equally longer orange roots), and the hair on the bottom of the back of her head is dyed, with watercolors, in a rainbow pattern.

She pops out of bed, runs in frantic tight circles, creating a mini-whirlwind which blows a few pop-music posters off from her wall, onto the floor, then she nearly faints, lays on her stomach, amidst the fallen posters, where she weeps silently.

CUT TO:

INT. BUSTER'S BEDROOM, CHAN APARTMENT - MORNING

BUSTER CHAN (age 14) is a wiry, 5'8", kid with short brown hair and orange eyebrows. His face is skinny, but not tight as if he were muscular, because he's not muscular -- he's gangly, awkward, and not well proportioned; in other

words, he's a typical fourteen year old boy. His wall displays clusters of posters about video-games, basketball, and skate-boarders. His floor is littered with video games, sports-equipment, and snacks.

BUSTER's mother, ROKO, enters; she's a beautiful woman in her mid-forties, but she looks younger, as if she were only in her twenties. She has shoulder-length blonde hair, and wears a purple sweater and blue jeans.

ROKO
Good morning, Buster.

BUSTER CHAN
Good morning, mom.

EXT. RAIN HIGH SCHOOL - MORNING

BUSTER stands beside his locker, watching hundreds of students flow past.

BUSTER's best friend CHIKAO approaches.

CHIKAO SAWAMURA (age 14) has grown to 5'4" since we last saw him.

BUSTER CHAN
I miss Maiko.

CHIKAO
My advice: If you know what's good for you, don't allow yourself to miss her as much as Ryone misses Banana.

BUSTER CHAN
Truer words have never been spoken.

CUT TO:

INT. LIBRARY, RAIN HIGH SCHOOL - NIGHT

CHIKAO and BUSTER study math books.

CHIKAO
Thanks for the math help.

BUSTER

You're welcome, Chikao.

CHIKAO
Now let's go home.

They head toward a door with a large window, and they try to exit, but the door WON'T OPEN!

CHIKAO
WE'RE LOCKED IN!

BUSTER
Don't panic.

CHIKAO
Okay. What should I do instead?

BUSTER
I don't know. Maybe sleep.

CHIKAO
Good idea.

BUSTER
Yeah, it is.

CHIKAO
Good night.

CHIKAO falls asleep.

BUSTER throws a book through the window, then reaches through it to open the door from the other side.

BUSTER
I'm sorry, book, but when you gotta go, you gotta go...

INT. HALLWAY, RAIN HIGH SCHOOL - NIGHT

BUSTER exits the "men's room", and walks in the dark hallway, until he sees a note sticking half-in the mail slot on the PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE door. He can see a part of the note which says, "From THE ETERNAL OASIS."

BUSTER
The Eternal Oasis?

BUSTER takes the note, and reads it...

BUSTER
(reading)
"To Rain High School Principal. Sign-up sheets will be delivered for Project Columbia on Friday Morning. Surprise your students with the announcement at 10:30AM, on Friday morning. The first fifty names signed-up in your office will automatically qualify for the expedition around the planet Jupiter."
EXPEDITION AROUND THE PLANET
JUPITER!?!

BUSTER puts the note back in the mail slot, and screams enthusiastically...

BUSTER
A SPACESHIP TRIP!?! AWESOME!

EXT. DOORSTEP, MAISON CHAN - NIGHT

MRS. CHAN is in a daze while looking at the moon.

BANANA approaches.

BANANA
MOMMIE!

MRS. CHAN faces BANANA.

BANANA
WHAT KIND OF MAN IS DADDY?!

MRS. CHAN turns around, and begins shedding tears.

BANANA gently grabs hold of MRS. CHAN's shoulder.

BANANA
I need to know...

MRS. CHAN wipes the tears from her eyes, then looks in BANANA's eyes.

BANANA looks shocked.

MRS. CHAN holds BANANA's trembling hands, and speaks.

MRS. CHAN

He is an orange-haired, green-eyed man who, at the age of twelve, postulated a mathematical formula which created blue-prints for an eleven-dimensional map of the universe.

BANANA

Wow.

MRS. CHAN

His project won second-prize in the Primary School science fair, and earned his initiation into a top-secret space-cadet program.

BANANA

Dad was a space cadet?

MRS. CHAN

Yes. In 1967, your father -- at age fifteen -- led the first top-secret mission to the moon.

BANANA

Bullplop.

MRS. CHAN

It's true. Secret missions are his life.

CUT TO:

FEILD OF STARS

Words scroll up the screen, like on STAR WARS.

STAR WARS SCROLL

"In mid-September, 1967, a secret mission, led by Reg Chan, sent three Non-Terrestrial Officers to the dark side of the moon. Before landing, they discovered that an audible solfeggio chant, which sounds like church music, provides a cymatic cadence that resolves the moon's place in the universe. As they departed from the moon, their ship sprayed a purple disinfectant gas, and wind, to re-arrange the rocks and dust, and thus erase

evidence of their top secret visit. Also top secret was the fact that Reg lost the moon rocks that he was supposed to bring back for the set of the staged elements Armstrong's 1969 Apollo mission, so Reg was sent on a field mission to Antarctica in late 1967 to find replacements. What follows is the declassification of the top secret parallel space program. Welcome to ...

(new paragraph)

The Eternal Oasis.

BLANK SCREEN

YEAR ON SCREEN: 1967

CUT TO:

INT. SPACE SHUTTLE

Three young astronauts, REG CHAN, NORBERT NAKASAKA, and THOMAS SOULIN, lay back in this space shuttle as it prepares for launch.

REG CHAN (age 15) is a 5'8", average sized astronaut with long, thick orange hair, green eyes, and an awesome space-suit with a logo that says "Dark Sky."

NORBERT NAKASAKA (age 15) is a 5'3", athletic astronaut with short brown hair, brown eyes, and an awesome space-suit with a logo that says "J.S.D.A."

THOMAS SOULIN (age 15) is a 5'3", athletic astronaut with short black hair, black eyes, and an awesome space-suit with a Saskatchewan flag as its logo, over the motto: "Land of Living Skies."

REG CHAN

Why do I feel like a penguin?

THOMAS SOULIN

I don't know, Chan, maybe because you're crazy.

NORBERT NAKASAKA

We're all crazy -- crazy to be going on this

mission!

They laugh.

CUT TO:

EXT. SECRET JAPANESE PROVING GROUNDS - DAY

In a blaze of powerful technology, the shuttle is launched.

CUT TO:

INT. SPACE SHUTTLE

...same as before, except the crew must scream in order to be heard over the rumbling rockets.

REG CHAN
BLAST OFF TO ADVENTURE!!!

CUT TO:

EXT. DARK SIDE OF THE MOON

A capsule lands on the surface.

REG CHAN, wearing a space-suit, exits from the capsule, and steps onto the surface.

REG CHAN
Tell the Americans to go ahead with their
Apollo program! The moon is safe!

WIPE TO:

BLANK SCREEN

YEAR ON SCREEN
2010.

CUT TO:

INT. FAST EDDIE'S COFFEE SHOP - NIGHT

BANANA and MRS. CHAN sit here, drinking coffee.

MRS. CHAN

Baka told me he gave you the infamous time-travel concoction; how'd you like it?

BANANA

Meh.

MRS. CHAN

So where'd you go?

BANANA

Baka showed me around. Turns out my son is a General!

BAKA appears in a puff of smoke.

BAKA

I'm a demonic advisor to good. They call me General Baka! Evil WILL NOT win The Final Battle ... not if I can help it.

WIPE TO:

INT. CLASS, SCHOOL - MORNING

BUSTER sleeps through the PRINCIPAL'S intercom announcement.

PRINCIPAL'S VOICE

The first fifty names on the sign-up sheet in my office will get to be real life astronauts!

As BUSTER sleeps, the classroom empties.

CUT TO:

INT. PSYCHIATRIST'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

BUSTER confides in DR. MELFIN.

BUSTER

So, I slept through the announcement.

DR. MELFIN

Well, I...

BAKA flies into the room.

DR. MELFIN
A DEMON!!!

DR. MELFIN faints.

BAKA
Buster! Find Banana, and tell her about the sign-up sheet, because I gave her "The Time-Travel Juice" before my one-time ten-year dose ran out. So now that Banana's got ten years of time-travel ability, you two can sign the entire family up for the spaceship trip!

BUSTER
AWESOME!!!

INT. LIVING ROOM, ALICIA'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON

BANANA and ALICIA sit here.

BANANA
Did you hear about the...?

Someone knocks on the door.

ALICIA
Hold that thought, Banana.

ALICIA opens the door, revealing BUSTER.

BUSTER
Hi.

BUSTER enters, takes off his shoes, and sits with BANANA and ALICIA.

BUSTER
Banana. I need you to use your time-travel power to give us an unfair advantage with regards to the passenger list for that ...

A chunk of roof falls on BUSTER, knocking him into a coma.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROAD - MORNING

RYONE runs toward the school.

RYONE

I can't believe what they said on the radio! An actual space-ship trip! I must hurry to the high school, and get my name that passenger list, before it's too late, and all the seats get taken!

BANANA -- wearing a clever disguise -- appears in a puff of smoke, and trips RYONE -- then she disappears in another puff of smoke.

RYONE

Darn! I give up!

CHIKAO shows up; he's also running towards the school -- he effortlessly picks up RYONE, and runs -- carrying RYONE -- towards the school.

CHIKAO

It's called team-work, friend!

INT. PSYCHIATRIST'S OFFICE - NIGHT

DR. MELFIN enters, and BAKA flies into the room.

BAKA

Banana put your name on the ship's passenger list.

DR. MELFIN

WOW!

BAKA

Take good care of Buster...if he wakes up on time.

DR. MELFIN

Wakes up on time?

BAKA

He's in a coma.

DR. MELFIN

Oh no!

CUT TO:

INT. FAST EDDIE'S COFFEE SHOP - MORNING

MRS. CHAN and ROKO share polite conversation.

ROKO

I've never felt so much relief as when the doctors said that Buster'll wake up any day now.

MRS. CHAN

What crashed into Alicia's house anyway?

ROKO

I don't know. I think that house is simply too darn old; it's falling apart. Anyhow, did you know that Banana and Alicia formed a music group called Sentimental Dreamworld?

MRS. CHAN

No, I didn't. I've been working too much, but that's neat!

INT. HOSPITAL - NIGHT

ROKO sits beside BUSTER's bed.

BUSTER wakes up.

ROKO

You're finally awake!

BUSTER

Huh?

ROKO

You slept for days!

BUSTER

Really?

ROKO

I don't know why, but I had flashbacks to when you were a baby, and I sat in a rocking-chair, crying while holding you and watching television news about ...

(sniffle)
...certain stuff.

BUSTER
What are you talking about?

ROKO
(interrupting)
Certain stuff. But we can't talk about that stuff
now, because everyone's waiting for you at the
dance!

BUSTER
Dance?

ROKO
Everything will be explained to you at Rain
High School.

END OF EPISODE