

"BANANA CHAN"

EPISODE 1x03

The Arrangement

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BLANK SCREEN

YEAR ON SCREEN
2005.

WIPE TO:

EXT. SAKURA PARK - MORNING

BANANA (age 14) looks at a kite in the sky which has the word "Ryone" written on it.

We don't see the person who's flying the kite.

BANANA
(smiles)
If he survives my heartbreak, he's mine.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN, MAISON CHAN - AFTERNOON

BANANA and MRS. CHAN eat lunch.

BANANA
Hey, I've gotta ask you a question.

MRS. CHAN
Okay.

BANANA
Can we get a dog?

MRS. CHAN
Why do you want a dog?

BANANA
I saw this boy at Sakura Park.

MRS. CHAN
You "saw this boy at Sakura Park." Ooh, I like where this story is going.

MRS. CHAN laughs.

BANANA
(annoyed sigh)
I want to be his friend, that's all.

MRS. CHAN nods with a sarcastic smirk.

BANANA
He's also fourteen like me, and he seems like he'd be an interesting friend. But I need the dog because I'm shy, and a dog is an instant conversation starter.

MRS. CHAN
I can't believe you're already fourteen. You're getting to be that age where ...

BANANA
Don't finish that sentence, or you'll end up crying!

MRS. CHAN
Do you even know this boy's name?

BANANA
Yes. In fact, I do. It was written on his bike, his kite, and his backpack. His name is Ryone.

MRS. CHAN
His kite?

BANANA
He was flying a kite when I saw him.

MRS. CHAN
You like a boy who still flies a kite at fourteen?

BANANA
Yes ... as friends.

MRS. CHAN laughs teasingly.

BANANA
He looked like an interesting person who I'd like to talk to as a friend, that's all.

MRS. CHAN
I see.

INT. PET STORE - AFTERNOON

BANANA talks with a SALESMAN in a pet-store.

SALESMAN
Do you have any particular breed in mind?

She points at a cute dog (breed: CHOW CHOW), and says ...

BANANA
That one!

SALESMAN
That breed is called Chow Chow.

BANANA
And that Chow Chow is called Doggie!

BANANA cuddles DOGGIE -- they look happy together.

BANANA
Doggie -- if anything bad ever happens to you,
there'll be hell to pay.

DOGGIE barks. BANANA nuzzles her nose against DOGGIE's
nose. DOGGIE licks BANANA. BANANA laughs.

INT. BANANA'S BEDROOM - AFTERNOON

BANANA's taking a nap.

MRS. CHAN enters.

MRS. CHAN
Banana.

BANANA
Yes? What can I do for you?

MRS. CHAN
Doggie went hungry for HOURS! I fed him, but
Banana -- he's YOUR responsibility!

BANANA

Actually, he was a gift for you. He's your responsibility. Night night!

BANANA falls asleep.

WIPE TO:

INT. SKATING RINK - MORNING

BANANA sits in bleachers, watching people play hockey.

BANANA

(thoughts, voice over)

"Nowhere but our town is there an entire skating rink facility built underground."

RYONE (age 14) approaches.

RYONE HAZUKI (age 14) is a 5', somewhat muscular (thin), black-eyed guy, who wears baggy shirts, ripped jeans, and a yellow baseball cap over short dark hair. He also has almost vampiric canine teeth.

RYONE

Please carry my babies.

BANANA

Heya, Ryone! You have to pass my tests first!

RYONE

Thanks! ... I guess.

RYONE sits beside her.

RYONE

So ... have we met?

BANANA

No no. I know your name because I saw you flying your kite in the park.

RYONE

(embarrassed)

Yeah, and my kite has my name written on it. My dad used to write my name on everything when I was little. It's embarrassing.

BANANA
Your bike looked new.

RYONE
Well he wrote my name on that because it's expensive.

BANANA
That's a little weird. No one steals anything except time around here.

RYONE
Believe me, I know; it keeps people poor.

Pause.

BANANA
I did something useless the other day.

RYONE
Uselessness sucks. What did you do that was useless?

BANANA
Well it wasn't totally useless. That reminds me -- I didn't even tell you my name yet. I'm Banana!

RYONE
I'm Ryone.

BANANA
I know.

They laugh.

RYONE
(nervous)
Erm ... can I get you some popcorn ... cotton candy ... chocolate bars ... burritos ... egg rolls ... or maybe ... Chinese food ... or burgers ... or perhaps you'd like a cola or something to drink?

BANANA
There's always the water fountain.

Awkward pause.

RYONE
I'm not too thirsty.

Awkward pause.

BANANA
So ... how goes?

RYONE
I never know how to answer that question.
Please tell me how it goes with you?

BANANA
I'm fine.

RYONE
That's nice. I think I'm fine also. Except ...
I'm nervous for various reasons, and you're
totally cool and calm and collected.

BANANA
(annoyed)
I'm not trying to impress anyone.

RYONE
Why do you look annoyed?

BANANA
(thoughts, voice over)
"Because I got the dog so that I'd be able to
approach you with a conversation-starter, but
now you approached me and started a
conversation anyway, except you were a
hundred times more interesting before I ever
heard you talk. And I forgot to bring the dog,
as if it matters anymore anyway. And ugh ... I
can't explain it, but you're not as interesting
up- close."
(speaking)
I don't know.

RYONE
You don't know why you're annoyed? Well,
okay.

(thoughts, voice over)
"I had the courage to approach her, and now
I'm actually talking with her! Her name's
Banana! How cute!"
(speaking)
Banana is a very cute name.

BANANA
(smiles)
Thankies! Ryone's not too bad.

RYONE laughs while blushing.

RYONE
You wanna go out?

BANANA
We're already out.

RYONE
I mean -- for a date?

BANANA
No thank you, Ryone. You're a sweet guy and
all, but we just met, and I'm not ready for that
kind of commitment.

RYONE
One date isn't a big commitment.

BANANA
Don't be pushy.

RYONE
Sorry.

Awkward pause.

RYONE
Have I blown it?

BANANA
What?

RYONE
Never-mind. I say that too much.

BANANA
Say what?

RYONE
Never-mind. Never-mind.

BANANA
(gives him an odd look)
Is everything alright?

RYONE
Never-mind.

BANANA
So how's your family?

RYONE
Uhh ... I'm not sure what to say.

BANANA
(amused)
You are in a family, aren't you?

RYONE
Yeah.
(nervous laugh)
Of course.

BANANA
Are they doing well?

RYONE
(nervous, hesitant)
My dad's name is Goro. My mom's name is
Kit. I mean, my sister's name is Kit. And my
mom's name is Sen.

BANANA
Why are you sweating so much?

RYONE
I don't know. I'm just weird today, I guess.

BANANA puts her hand on RYONE's hand, and says ...

BANANA
Just relax, okay?

RYONE faints.

BANANA
Not that much.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE FLAT PLANE WE CALL EARTH

BANANA'S VOICE
My real name is Lacy, but nowadays all
Banana power is mine! -- yee-hee! And a
Chinese branch on our family tree is why we're
Chans.
(laughs)
So yeah, I'm Banana Chan!
(stoic)
But I used to be Lacy ...

CUT TO:

INT. CLASSROOM, RAIN PRIMARY SCHOOL - NOON

[FLASHBACK]

LACY (age 7) -- has waist-length orange hair. She sits at
her desk, alone -- eating her lunch, while reading a Sailor
Moon manga -- as every other student in the classroom
socializes with each-other.

Three girls -- YOSHI, MINAKO, and NOZOMI -- approach LACY.
They're laughing towards LACY ... but it's not a friendly
laugh.

YOSHI
Hi, Lacy.

LACY
Huh?

NOZOMI
She's so dense!

MINAKO
Yeah -- reading Sailor Moon? What a loser!

LACY
Leave me alone.

MINAKO
Sailor Moon is old!

YOSHI
Stay current!

LACY
What do you want from me?

MINAKO
Why are you always reading the same old
Sailor Moon crap?

YOSHI
Why are you a loser?

MINAKO
And you're butt ugly!

YOSHI
You don't even have two parents, and you
smell bad!

NOZOMI
Does your dad still construct moon-bases in
the moon?
(laughing)
It's true -- that's what you said!

YOSHI
And my mom says Lacy's mom's a ...

LACY
(crying)
LEAVE ME THE HELL ALONE!

As LACY puts her head on her desk, and cries into her arms,
all of the students in the entire classroom gather around
LACY's desk and everyone points and laughs at her.

CUT TO:

EXT. VIEW OF JAPAN FROM SPACE

BANANA'S VOICE

Japan has typhoons, tidal waves, and earthquakes! But weather was the least of my problems. Damn Yoshi, Minako, and Nozomi, were a nuisance. Those twerps made me cry every day. Mom got concerned, so we moved to Tokyo to get away. In Tokyo, I made a friend named Boden Powers ...

CUT TO:

EXT. PARK, TOKYO

Under a cherry tree, LACY (age 7) sits cross-legged in meditation's lotus position, while meditating with her eyes closed.

A silver haired boy named BODEN POWERS (age 7) chases a butterfly with a net when he accidentally stumbles over LACY.

LACY's face turns angry as her eyes turn red, and a storm erupts around her as she uses her fists to ferociously pound BODEN into the ground.

BODEN
(laughs)
That tickles.

LACY stops.

BODEN
Knocking into you was an accident. I was chasing a butterfly, but it got away.

LACY
Oh I'm sorry. It's just that, where I come from, no one ever knocked into me by accident; it was always on purpose.

BODEN
How can they?! You're too cute! Next time someone tries something like that, you call me, and I'll rush in to protect you.

LACY
That's fine. You don't need to.

BODEN
This isn't up for debate.

LACY smiles.

LACY
I'm lazy ... I mean Lacy ... by the way.

BODEN
I'm Boden. And I'm pleased to meet you.

LACY
No no, the pleasure is all mine.

They bow to each-other, very low.

CUT TO:

EXT. VIEW OF OUR SOLAR SYSTEM

BANANA'S VOICE
We were much more than friends. We were
soul mates. But we were only kids.

CUT TO:

YEAR ON SCREEN: 2002

CUT TO:

INT. LUNCH ROOM, HIGH SCHOOL - NOON [FLASHBACK]

BANANA (age 11) sits with a boy named BODEN.

BANANA (age 11) is 4'8" and almost tomboyish. She has orange hair that goes half way down her back, green eyes, and a tiny bit of freckles that are barely visible.

BODEN is an average-looking eleven year-old boy with short silver hair.

BODEN
I have to say it.

BANANA
I know. But when someone you tell ... it ... to

goes away, it's cruel, so ... whatever ... I love you, Boden.

BODEN
I love you too, Lacy.

They kiss.

BANANA
Now what?

BODEN
It doesn't hurt yet.

BANANA
I don't want it to ever hurt.

BODEN
Then don't go. It'll hurt.

BANANA
Can I just look at your face, Boden, for a few minutes ... or a long time ... before I have to go?

BODEN
Yes. It's all we can do.

They look at each-other's faces, while the conversation continues.

BANANA
I miss you already.

BODEN
Don't worry. You'll make new friends!

BANANA
I thought we'd be friends forever.

BODEN
So did I. This is too cruel.

BANANA
I wanted us to get married.

BODEN

Yeah, we want ours to be a life-long friendship anyway, so why can't we just get married at this age?

BANANA

I meant later, when we're adults. We're way too young just now, but I trust you, and ... this sucks.

BODEN

Then consider us engaged.

BANANA cries loudly, and BODEN wraps his arms around her to comfort her.

COMMERCIAL BREAK

BANANA

(cries)
No!

BODEN

I don't want to meet another girl. I've already met you. Let's be engaged!

BANANA

(cries)
No. I'm leaving Tokyo to return to Rain where I was born, and I won't ever come back to Tokyo, so I'm sorry. We deserve to be happy where-ever we are, so let's try to meet new people.

BODEN holds her tighter, and whispers in her ear ...

BODEN

(whispering)
I've already met you.

BANANA squirms out of his arms, and runs away crying.

BANANA

(crying)
Don't you dare come near Rain! Trust me. Don't follow me, or wait for me! I'm sorry for being harsh, but I have to leave you like this!

BODEN
(crying)
Why? This makes no sense! Why?

BANANA
Because ...
(crying)
... love doesn't make sense!

WIPE TO:

EXT. VIEW OF OUR SOLAR SYSTEM

BANANA'S VOICE
When I had to move back to Rain, me and Boden were devastated. I changed my name to Banana, leaving my real name in Tokyo, with him.

WIPE TO:

BLANK SCREEN

YEAR ON SCREEN
2005.

WIPE TO:

EXT. SAKURA PARK - AFTERNOON

BANANA (age 14) sits on a bench, watching kids play on the playground.

BANANA
(thoughts, voice over)
"I want to move back to Tokyo. For almost half the day, I didn't even think once about Boden. Something must be wrong with me, because Boden is the important person in my life, so why haven't I even been thinking about Boden at all lately?"

RYONE approaches.

RYONE
Heya, Banana!

BANANA
Hi, Ryone.

RYONE
I'm sorry about earlier.

BANANA
You fainted -- it's not your fault.

RYONE
That's right. Thank you.

BANANA
No probs.

RYONE
Can I sit with you?

BANANA
I guess so.

RYONE sits beside BANANA.

BANANA heaves an annoyed sigh.

RYONE heaves an "in love" sigh.

RYONE
How goes?

BANANA
Well, I noticed something. I noticed that I said "heya" the first time we met. And now you said "heya" now that we're meeting for a second time.

RYONE
(laughs)
Yeah, and you said "how goes" the first time we met. And now I said "how goes" now that we're meeting for a second time.

BANANA
Do you have any originality?

RYONE
(laughs)

Tons of it! Maybe you'll find out about it later ... if you're lucky. So stick around and find out, okay?

BANANA

Well ... I'm sorry but I'm kind of tired. Can we continue this later, or on the weekend?

RYONE

Sure. G'night.

BANANA

G'night!

BANANA stands up, and walks away.

CUT TO:

MONTAGE OF IMAGES: Banana spends the afternoon playing with her dog (breed: Chow Chow) named Doggie in her back yard.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN, MAISON CHAN - EVENING

BANANA eats supper with MRS. CHAN.

MRS. CHAN

You're very alert. Did you take an afternoon nap?

BANANA

No. I played with Doggie. Where were you?

MRS. CHAN

Out and about. I almost forgot -- we have a dog now! My money, that you borrowed from me, paid for him ...

BANANA

I'm good for it.

MRS. CHAN

I feed him, so therefore I named him Wu, so please stop calling him Doggie because that name is so childish that it brings shame to our

household.

BANANA
You're joking, right?

MRS. CHAN
Call him Wu.

BANANA
He's Doggie.

MRS. CHAN
Then we'll agree to disagree then. He's Wu when I call him, and he's Doggie when you call him. We'll have a very confused dog in the future.

BANANA
Maybe.

Pause.

MRS. CHAN
Did you approach that boy yet?

BANANA
Ryone approached me instead, and I didn't have Doggie with me.

MRS. CHAN
Wu. How'd it go?

BANANA
Not well. He's annoying. I thought he'd be cool, but he's suddenly so clingy. And everywhere I go, he just shows up and wants to talk, but he's got nothing interesting to talk about.

MRS. CHAN
Sounds like he's got a crush on you.

BANANA
I still think he'd make a cool friend if he'd just drop the whole crush thing.

MRS. CHAN

I'd like to meet him. Invite him over for dinner tomorrow, please.

BANANA

I guess there's nothing too wrong with that. Maybe I might invite him over for dinner. But maybe I might not, so don't get your hopes up.

MRS. CHAN

Right.

BANANA

(thoughts, voice over)

"I won't invite him, and hopefully she'll forget all about him and shut up about him soon, so everything can be normal again."

CUT TO:

INT. REC ROOM, MAISON CHAN - EVENING

This room has a couch, a TV, a lot of boxes, an air-hockey table, and a lot of random clutter.

MRS. CHAN follows a fly with a fly-swatter. The fly lands on an empty picture frame that hangs on the wall.

MRS. CHAN swings at the picture frame, but the fly gets away just in the nick of time. When the swatter hits the picture frame, a ninety-three page document falls from behind the frame.

MRS. CHAN picks up the document.

MRS. CHAN

What's this?

She reads the cover page of the document ...

MRS. CHAN

(reading)

"Covert arrangement to merge Reg Chan's Specialty Constructions with Edward Hazuki's Constructive Installations, by Method of arranged marriage between Lacy Chan and Ryone Hazuki"?

(pause)

So this is why ...

(pause)
Oh no, Banana's not gonna like this.

MRS. CHAN flips a few pages, and reads some random words ...

MRS. CHAN
(reading)
"... arranged to maintain a genetic program
that allows interaction between ..."
(pause)
What the hell?

MRS. CHAN flips a few pages, and reads some random
words ...

MRS. CHAN
(reading)
"... to preserve the leadership of the
Babylonian ..."

MRS. CHAN closes the document.

MRS. CHAN
I hope Banana and Ryone get along when they
meet each-other.

WIPE TO:

EXT. TOWN-SIDE FOREST - MORNING

BANANA stands here, flying a kite.

BANANA
(thoughts, voice over)
"Darn Ryone. Now I wanna fly a kite. I wish
he'd just go fly ... away. Sheesh."

Her kite flies into a tree, and gets tangled in a high
branch.

BANANA
..ergh!

RYONE, wearing nothing more than gym-shorts, runs up to her.

RYONE
huff *puff* Tag!

(tags her)
You're it! BANANA I'M NOT PLAYING TAG!!!

RYONE notices the tangled kite.

RYONE
Want me to get it down?

BANANA gives him a condescending look, and says...

BANANA
You couldn't get it down if you tried!

A large BOOM shakes the entire forest, causing BANANA and RYONE to lose their balance and fall down, as a black cloud blocks out most of the sky.

BANANA
...wuh?

Two blue-faced aliens enter this area, and approach BANANA and RYONE; they are both freaked out by the blue-faced aliens.

BANANA AND RYONE
AAAAAAH!!! AH! WAAAAAAAOOWW!!!
WOWIE! WHOAH!

BLUE FACE #1
Do not be afraid.

BANANA AND RYONE
(terrified)
WOWIE!!! ZIGGY HO!!!!

BLUE FACE #1
It's probin' time!

BANANA and RYONE faint.

CUT TO:

INT. METAL ROOM

BANANA wakes up beside RYONE in a completely door-less metal room.

BANANA
...erp!

RYONE wakes up.

RYONE
GAH!!!

RYONE bangs his fists against the wall.

RYONE
GET US OUT OF HERE!!!

BANANA bangs her fists against the wall.

BANANA
RESCUE ME!!!

BLUE FACE #1 suddenly appears in the middle of the room.

BLUE FACE #1
It's really not so bad ... some people actually
enjoy getting probed!

BANANA and RYONE scream in fear.

BANANA
That's illegal!

RYONE
Yeah! That's illegal! We'll call the cops on
you if you do something like that to us!

BLUE FACE #1
Your earth cops have no jurisdiction where
we're going!

RYONE
Where?

BLUE FACE #1
The center of the earth!

RYONE and BANANA look confused.

A mosquito flies out of BANANA's pocket; BLUE FACE #1
notices it, and screams...

BLUE FACE #1
A BOORLAP!!!

BANANA slaps the mosquito, thus killing it.

BLUE FACE #1
I am forever in your debt for vanquishing that boorlap. They're diseased. I can't, in good conscience, probe you against your will.

BANANA
THEN TAKE ME HOME!!!

RYONE
And me too!

BANANA
HIM TOO!! -- I guess...

BLUE FACE #1
Yes ma'am.

WIPE TO:

INT. THEATER - EVENING

A large audience sits in a theater, watching a stage-play.

On the stage, BANANA and RYONE are on a corny set of an alien space-craft, and another kid wears the BLUE FACE #1 alien mask.

The curtains close.

The audience applauds.

The applause continues while BANANA, RYONE, and the kid wearing the BLUE FACE #1 mask, walk to the front of the stage, in front of the closed curtains. The applause intensifies as BANANA, RYONE, and the kid wearing the BLUE FACE #1 mask bow in unison.

The applause continues while MRS. CHAN makes her curtain call.

Then the applause intensifies to the maximum extent while the SALESMAN and DOGGIE make their curtain call.

BANANA

Thank you for watching Banana Chan episode three! I'm sorry that the end of this episode got so weird.

RYONE

Next episode is a total chick flick.

BANANA

Yeah. You can skip the next episode if you want to.

MRS. CHAN

Don't tell them to skip an episode.

BANANA

Okay. And just so you guys know, this scene isn't canon.

MRS. CHAN

Next episode is entirely canon, and you must not miss it.

BANANA

But I want them to miss it. It's embarrassing.

RYONE

Yeah, the next episode embarrasses me too.

MRS. CHAN

It's an important part of the story, and I have a really important monologue in it. Besides, what would our sponsors think if they knew that you were telling our audience to skip an episode?

BANANA

Good point. Without our sponsors, I wouldn't be able to enjoy my lifestyle of take-outs and buffets!

RYONE

A damn good lifestyle.

BANANA
Screw off, Ryone.

RYONE
What?!

MRS. CHAN
She's just kidding. We all love each-other.
Well, drive safely, audience! And be sure to
tune in next time, for another well-written
episode of Banana Chan!

They all bow, as the audience applauds louder.

END OF EPISODE