

"BANANA CHAN"

EPISODE 1x12

Androphobia

By Alan Holman

BLANK SCREEN

DATE ON SCREEN
November, 2008.

WIPE TO:

INT. BANANA'S BEDROOM, MAISON CHAN - MORNING

937 relaxes beside BANANA's bed.

BANANA enters, slumps onto her bed, plants her face into her
pillow, and starts to cry.

BANANA
(crying)
People are annoying! Avoid them at all costs!
Especially Ryone! Enough is Enough! I don't
like him -- never have, never will. So I want
him -- and all of his supporters -- to please,
PLEASE, leave me alone!

937
Who's Ryone?

BANANA
Who's Ryone!? You know what: I don't care
anymore! I am washing my hands of Ryone! I
will block him from my life! The reason is
because he did not do what I respectfully
asked him to do! On the rare occasions when
I see him, instead of talking about our many
mutual interests, he tells me how he feels
about me! And when I try to avoid him, he
sends me notes! And he has even told other
people how he feels about me! Our personal
matters should be secret!

937
(laughs)
This is how curiosity killed the cat.

WIPE TO:

BLANK SCREEN

DATE ON SCREEN

March, 2009.

CUT TO:

INT. ARCADE - AFTERNOON

BUSTER and RYONE play a videogame against each-other.

RYONE pauses for a second, and BUSTER wins the videogame!

RYONE

(laughs)

I fell for the oldest trick in the book.

BUSTER

What trick? You simply suck!

RYONE laughs it off.

RYONE

I wrote more poems about Banana.

BUSTER

We're here to play games, dude.

They continue playing their game.

INT. BUS - AFTERNOON

RYONE sits in the back of a crowded bus.

BANANA enters.

RYONE waves happily at BANANA.

BANANA sits in the front of the bus.

RYONE becomes determined ... he approaches BANANA, and sits beside her.

BANANA looks annoyed.

RYONE
Can we talk?

BANANA
Okay.

RYONE
I'm glad I saw you here today.

BANANA
I know. What's your point?

RYONE
I'm with you.

BANANA
Stop being annoying.

RYONE
I'm with you because you are a dreamer who
fixates on her own worlds, her own ideals --
ideals which invite...

BANANA
(interrupting)
Wait! What the hell are you talking about?

RYONE
Every moment with you is perfect; it enhances
my life!

BANANA
(frustrated)
Err ... keep it down, Ryone.

RYONE
You're a magical girl.

BANANA
Don't say these things.

RYONE
I have to say these things, because precious,
valuable, life-affirming moments are achieved
by simply spending time with you!

BANANA

You're insane.

RYONE

Insane with deep love for you.

BANANA

WHAT!?!

RYONE

No matter what you're told, your soul is very old.

BANANA

I'm what!?! No, I'm sixteen!

RYONE

You're autumn's leaf.

BANANA

Pardon!?!

RYONE

I know you think I'm strange. I also know a thousand years can pass, and I'll still love you. I glimpse your smile, and I soar beyond dreams. The day will come when you will come out of your shell, and trust me for a change. On that day, I will be your hero, your knight in shining armor. With every fiber of my being, I will offer more than words. I will protect you, and keep you happy. No rain can quench my thirst to see you again. My heart couldn't resist falling, like autumn leaves, once green with inexperience, like your eyes -- now red, with tears because I remain waiting, because you said the sky's pink, so I see our pink sky.

BANANA

Driver! Stop the bus!

The DRIVER stops the bus.

RYONE

Don't go!

BANANA stands up, and says ...

BANANA
Give me one good reason to stay.

RYONE
You're my confused soulmate, and I'm trying
to catch your heart. I love you.

BANANA sits down.

BANANA
Driver, continue driving. I need to ride this bus
anyway.

DRIVER
Do you want me to call the police on that
creepy guy?

BANANA
No. I've got mace if I need it.

RYONE
(offended)
I'm NOT creepy!

BANANA
Then why are you acting creepy?

RYONE
Because you're my soul's songwriter.

BANANA
Your ...soul's ... what?

The bus resumes driving.

RYONE
You're the flower who taught me to know
myself.

BANANA
Leave me alone!

RYONE
But I love you!

BANANA

(angry)
You're lying. You're toying with me -- playing
with my heart -- because I'm the nerd who's
always in the back of class, reading books!

RYONE
I'm not like that!

BANANA
Why would anyone love me? Why would you
love me?

RYONE
Because you're the endless dreamer, whose
dream I share!!! Endlessly!!!

BANANA
You don't know my dream.

RYONE
That's right! See -- you know me more than I
know myself!

BANANA
I don't want to talk to you any more.

RYONE
Then I'll carry on the search for your heart.

Pause.

BANANA
You're being serious, aren't you?

RYONE
Totally.

BANANA
Why?

RYONE
Because I totally love you, and I don't know
why.

BANANA
What is love?

RYONE
Love is the jagged enemy of hate.

BANANA
(laughing)
How poetic!

RYONE
I'm a poet.

BANANA
(giggling)
How cute!
(annoyed)
I mean ... I hate you.

RYONE
I'll do anything for you!

BANANA
Can I borrow some money?

RYONE
Yeah, sure! Anything for you, my dear!
Here's all I've got!

RYONE gives her some money.

BANANA
I can get used to this.

RYONE
Let's get used to each-other!

BANANA
Okay, poet. What do you want from me?

RYONE
(nervous)
Uhh... can we ... go for coffee ... or
something?

BANANA
Sure! As long as you don't call it a date.

WIPE TO:

INT. FAST EDDIE'S COFFEE SHOP - AFTERNOON

BANANA and RYONE sip espresso.

RYONE

Twas a strange expression of secret art that made this happy, cozy, attractive reality of me with you.

BANANA

You've got a way with words.

RYONE

Yes. I get away with a lot of 'em!

BANANA

Is it a genetic gift?

RYONE

(blushing)

I hope so.

BANANA

Why did you blush just then?

RYONE

Because life is an unpredictable, strange island.

BANANA

Interesting thought.

RYONE

Life, though grounded in reality, is so bizarre that it's unlike anything that any one person could imagine.

BANANA

If life is so bizarre, can it even exist?

RYONE

(happy)

Yes! It exists because we're presented with it!

BANANA

By whom?

RYONE
Ourselves.

BANANA
Why?

RYONE
Because we're explorers.

BANANA
Of what?

RYONE
The uncharted island which is life.

BANANA
(laughing)
Impressive!

RYONE tries to kiss BANANA ... but BANANA reflexively punches RYONE in the face. He falls onto the floor, with a bleeding nose.

BANANA
Oh damn! Sorry! I'm sorry! I really am sorry, Ryone!

RYONE
(angry)
You hit my freaking nose!

BANANA
Well, if you're gonna be angry, I'm gonna be home. Sayonara.

BANANA runs away.

CUT TO:

INT. BANANA'S BEDROOM - MORNING

A robot butler named ROBBIE opens the curtains, thus waking BANANA up with the sunlight.

BANANA
YOUCH!

ROBBIE
Sorry.

BANANA
What time is it!?!?

ROBBIE
9:20 A.M.

BANANA
You were supposed to wake me up at eight! -
why didn't you?

ROBBIE
You were ...heavenly...a beautiful sleeper.

BANANA smashes ROBBIE's head, thus killing him, while
screaming...

BANANA
YOU DOLT!!! I'M TWENTY MINUTES LATE
FOR MY FIRST DAY OF FISHERMON
TRAINING!!!

INT. HALL, FISHERMON SCHOOL - MORNING

BANANA frantically runs through the hall.

BANANA
Professor Salmon's nowhere to be found! Me
wantie fishie!!!

BANANA opens a door, sees PROFESSOR SALMON sitting on a
toilet...

PROFESSOR SALMON
Banana!

PROFESSOR SALMON dies of a heart attack.

BANANA shuts the door.

BANANA
YUCK!!!

Pause.

BANANA
PROFESSOR SALMON!!!

She re-opens the door, sees him lying on the ground, dead.

BANANA
Oh my gawk!

PRINCIPAL GINARY approaches BANANA.

PRINCIPAL GINARY
You killed him!!! But why?

BANANA
No, I didn't. He was...

BANANA throws up.

BANANA
He was seasick!

PRINCIPAL GINARY
Seasick?

BANANA
Yes! And so am I!

PRINCIPAL GINARY
That won't help you where you're going.

BANANA
Seasickness ain't supposed to help anyone;
that's its nature.

PRINCIPAL GINARY
For talking back to me, and for killing
Professor Salmon, our school's greatest
FisherMon trainer, you BANANA CHAN, must
WALK THE PLANK!!!

EXT. PLANK, MAIN DECK OF FISHERMON SCHOOL - DAY

BANANA stands at the edge of the plank, looking at the
shark-infested waters below.

PRINCIPAL GINARY holds a sword to BANANA's back, and he
says...

PRINCIPAL GINARY

There's no turning back now, delinquent!
Jump!

BANANA

I'm not gonna jump.

PRINCIPAL GINARY

Please.

BANANA

Since you said "please."

BANANA jumps into the shark infested waters.

CUT TO:

INT. THRONE ROOM, UNDERWATER CITY

Many sea creatures watch as KING MERMAN, a merman (duh),
questions BANANA.

KING MERMAN

How did you breach security of the Kingdom of
Atlantis?

BANANA

How am I breathing water?

KING MERMAN

I ASK THE QUESTIONS!?!

BERTHA, a butch masculine, yet somehow female mermaid,
enters.

BERTHA

Stop questioning her, father!!!

KING MERMAN

Bertha, my butch masculine daughter, DO
NOT order me around while I'm questioning a
prisoner!

BERTHA

She wasn't invading my bedroom! I rescued
her from the sharks!

BANANA

Huh? I've never been in her bedroom ... am I dreaming?

KING MERMAN

The rule remains: no humans in Atlantis.

BERTHA

Dad! Quit calling this place Atlantis! Our city is Parsius!

BANANA vomits.

KING MERMAN

Gross. But wow this human girl is beautiful.

BERTHA

Yes. Her eyes as green as the Emerald Tablets of Thoth. Dad, can I keep her?

KING MERMAN

It's up to her. Banana, would you like to live the rest of your life with my daughter Bertha?

CUT TO:

INT. BANANA'S BEDROOM, MAISON CHAN - MORNING

BANANA wakes up, screaming.

BANANA

AAAAAAAH!!! Lesbian mermaids!

Pause.

BANANA

Still tired.

BANANA goes back to sleep.

WIPE TO:

EXT. WEIRD SKY

BANANA and RYONE fly hand-in-hand through a weird sky.

RYONE

I'm sorry. I'm insecure that I have the abilities to do justice to our ambitious passion. In order to give our love the mystique it requires, I'd have to study parts of your mind that I currently have no knowledge about. And I thought I'd have the time for that, but I don't. Our drama's an elaborate magical spell for the freezing over of hell, but can we please just give up and get together? I need to hold you.

BANANA

We can do this. Giving up is not an option.

COMMERCIAL BREAK

RYONE

I don't think I have the spiritual stamina to play Ryone to your Banana for any longer.

BANANA

Since we've conceived our personalities, we've had the resources to complete the task.

RYONE

You're too compelling.

BANANA

I'm as compelling as you need me to be.

RYONE

I dislike that we have to wait until Hell freezes over until we can be together.

BANANA

I hope you don't feel betrayed by me that I asked you to wait for me, for so long -- I promise I'll be worth the wait.

RYONE

I know it's weak of me to send you, absolutely every day, letters about my love for you, and I'm sorry, but I really can't wait until Hell freezes over.

BANANA

No worries. It'll happen one of these days.

RYONE

I'm glad we've rationed enough time for this meeting of souls.

BANANA

We won't remember this when we wake up, but I'm glad too, actually.

RYONE

Rationing this time does stall my progress, so therefore I shouldn't do this often, even though we must do this always.

BANANA

Perhaps. But Ryone, the only thing I'm sure of is that you've gotta be the one who tells the story of how you made me freeze hell for our love.

RYONE

Why not just freeze hell now?

BANANA

I can only blow the freezewood in a frostic blitz, to freeze hell, once you've proven your absolute loyalty by completing your way through this awesome story.

RYONE

I hope I can.

BANANA

Never give up.

RYONE

I can't give up. I wish the fact that I can't give up was enough.

BANANA

Ryone, maybe you need to prove that you can't give up. We will not remember this dream, and our story will continue.

They embrace, and kiss.

INT. BANANA'S BEDROOM, MAISON CHAN - NIGHT

BANANA sits on her bed, reading a book.

BUSTER enters.

BUSTER
Yo, Banana. What's on your mind?

BANANA
I dunno.

BUSTER
That's typical of you. Reading?

BANANA
Looking at pictures.

BUSTER
You can't even read?

She throws the book at him.

He exits, laughing.

BANANA turns the light off, and begins crying.

BANANA
(crying)
Why am I so sad today!?! Ever since that
nap, I've felt so depressed, and I don't know
why! I hate this! Why am I so sad today!?!

BUSTER sticks his head in, through the doorway, and says ...

BUSTER
Let's go for a picnic in the morning; it'll cheer
you up!

BANANA
Sure!

WIPE TO:

EXT. SAKURA PARK - NOON

Red blossoms on a line of cherry trees bloom brightly,
reflecting the bright blue noon sky over the small but

crowded park called Sakura, in the small but crowded town called Rain.

BANANA and BUSTER sit on a blanket, eating foods from a picnic basket.

BANANA notices RYONE approaching, so she covers her face, and looks down, as she mutters ...

BANANA

Fate 'tis being EBIL!

(thoughts, voice over)

"I thought this was gonna be a peaceful picnic. But now Ryone's here. I knew I should have stayed home among my dust-bunny minions. I hope my hair looks sloppy. I'd do anything to repel Ryone."

RYONE

(thoughts, voice over)

"Her lovely orange roots at the top of her blonde head are so lovely! They're one of the many things about her which make her so unique and so lovable! Of course, I don't only like her hair. She's also got an awesome personality too! Plus, I love the way she carries herself. I love her shimmering green eyes, her voice, and how everything that she can possibly say in her voice makes me feel more alive than ever before! I love everything about her."

RYONE carries himself with a strong posture, and BANANA can't help but smile at him throughout this entire scene, even though she tries not to.

RYONE

Hello.

BANANA

Hey.

(thoughts, voice over)

"Wow! What a strong posture! He's carrying himself with purpose and strength; however, I must wipe this smile from my face, or I'll give him the wrong impression! But I can't stop smiling! ... and now I'm blushing!"

(talking)
He's Buster, and Buster -- he's Ryone.

RYONE
We met at the arcade.

BUSTER
Indeed we did. I beat you in a lot of games.
And when I tried to let you win, you kept
sucking!

RYONE
That's not true.

BUSTER
I know.

BUSTER stands up and bows to RYONE, as RYONE bows to
BUSTER.

BUSTER and RYONE sit with BANANA.

BANANA
(thoughts, voice over)
"Damn it! Ryone joined us! This freak's been
trying to get a date with me for two years! I
gave him a chance when we were fourteen,
and he screwed that up by letting Doggie fall
to his death from that high altitude! I know it
was an accident, but I want Ryone to just leave
me alone!"

BUSTER
Banana and Ryone -- where did you two
meet?

RYONE
At the underground skating rink.
(thoughts, voice over)
"Ah yes, that was the first time I saw her
beautiful face, her wonderful hair, and the
awesome way she shifts her head when she
laughs!"
(talking)
I was a nervous wreck!

RYONE laughs.

RYONE

But as time passes, I get more comfortable
around cute girls.

BUSTER

Rain has an underground skating rink?

BANANA

Only Rainies are weird enough to have one!

BANANA waves a "Rain, Japan" banner, as she cheers ...

BANANA

Yay, Rain! Yee-hee! Rainies will one day rule
the world with our not so awesome cousins
from Tokyo as our slaves!

RYONE

Actually Buster, it's an evolution of a space
that was originally built to be a bomb shelter.
It can still serve as a bomb shelter, actually.

BANANA

Oh, Ryone -- Buster and I are almost late for
an appointment.

BUSTER

No, we're not.

RYONE

Oh, she's just trying to evade me.

INT. LIVING ROOM, MAISON CHAN - AFTERNOON

BANANA watches as BUSTER finishes reading a note.

BANANA

He's a creep!

BUSTER

Of course YOU would think that -- YOU are
judgmental! Besides, his written language
says otherwise.

BANANA grabs the note from him, and says.

BANANA
These notes scare me.

BUSTER
Please tell me: do all girls fear honesty?

BANANA
Dimwit.

BUSTER
No please tell me. I need to know.

BANANA
Why?

BUSTER
'Cuz I've noticed women can express their emotions easier than men.

BANANA
So?

BUSTER
I can write my emotions easier than I can speak them. Men have difficulties with expressing their emotions verbally!

BANANA
You're not a man. You're a little boy.

BUSTER
True, but one day I'll love a girl, and I will want to be honest with that girl. Will my maleness prevent me from being able to tell her how I feel?

BANANA
(laughs)
Your "maleness"? That's a new one!

WIPE TO:

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

Stars illuminate the recently-rained-on tarmac of the road,

Wake; it's a command.

RYONE

How?

BANANA stares at him, smiles. He blushes.

CUT TO:

EXT. DARK HIGHWAY - NIGHT

A down-hearted RYONE wakes up, and finds a water bottle beside him.

He drinks it.

INT. PUBLIC LAUNDRY ROOM - DAY

Many coin-operated washing machines line the walls, washing clothes.

Sitting on the long bench in the center of the room are BANANA CHAN and EGGBERT. EGGBERT is a fat guy with black hair, glasses, a goatee, and a t-shirt that has a picture of Banana Chan and the words "Number One Fan of Animé".

EGGBERT

So let me get this straight: you astral projected yourself into his head, and then hypnotized him to walk to a water bottle that you'd left there for him the other day?

BANANA nods and smiles.

BANANA CHAN

Yeah. And it was from the bottles under Buster's bed, and I catch him backwashing all the time.

EGGBERT

Yuck, backwashing's gross.

BANANA CHAN

Exactly. I dislike Ryone.

EGGBERT

Makes sense. But why was there a pile of

water bottles under Buster's bed?

BANANA CHAN

Yeah, it's Holy Water, because he's possessed by demons; it's a long story.

EGGBERT

Cool. Did you mention it on your blog?

BANANA nods.

EGGBERT

So he drinks Holy Water?

BANANA nods.

BANANA CHAN

Then the little scamp's demons spit it back into the bottle, but a bit always gets down his throat, and that little bit of holy water represses the demons for days per dose.

EGGBERT

Wow, I'd hate to be the grandmother of a kid who's possessed by demons. I don't mean to offend you, Banana Chan, but it must be tough for you to be his grandmother.

BANANA CHAN

I was lying about him being possessed by demons.

EGGBERT laughs.

BANANA CHAN

Why did you laugh?

EGGBERT

I was just thinking about how shocked you must have been when you found out that your future grandson was coming to live with you.

BANANA punches EGGBERT in the face, knocking him out cold, then she stands up, and exits the establishment.

INT. DARK PLACE - DAY

EGGBERT stands in a dark place.

Even though the place is DARK, the sun is above, illuminating only EGGBERT.

EGGBERT

Father, I'm dreaming about you again because a girl, whom I thought was my buddy, knocked me out.

THE SUN

Eggbert. I always tell you not to talk to people unless you're positive that they'll talk more than you, because you tend to go overboard with sharing your emotions with strangers, and involving them in your problems, until they do bad things to you such as hitting you, or charging you with something un-called-for, and sometimes knocking you out cold.

EGGBERT

Banana DOES usually talk more than me. I'm not sure where I went wrong in the conversation.

THE SUN

Have you considered that maybe this Banana girl is a meanie who can't see beyond her own thoughts into anyone else's heart?

EGGBERT

I've never thought of my friend Banana as being a meanie, but come to think of it: she betrayed me -- compromised our friendship.

THE SUN

I think you should teach the little witch a lesson.

EGGBERT

What kind of lesson, father?

THE SUN

You should put a curse on her.

EGGBERT

How? -- and what kind of a curse?

THE SUN

I've got just the thing. Maybe if she walks around in your pants for a while, she'll understand you enough not to hurt you.

EGGBERT

In my pants?

CUT TO:

INT. ARCADE - DAY

BANANA CHAN, in a crowded arcade, wearing her school uniform, plays a game about chopping heads off of politicians, called FUN FUN HAPPY JOY SIMULATION GAME.

BANANA CHAN

Why do I feel...chafed?

She puts her hand on the front of her skirt.

BANANA CHAN

OH MY GOD!

Her face turns beet-red with rage.

BANANA CHAN

I've got the maleness! How did I get a ... you know!?! If anyone finds out about this, my life is ruined!

RYONE enters.

END OF EPISODE