

"BANANA CHAN"

EPISODE 1x18

Banana Of The Seven Seas

By Alan Holman

INT. MRS. CHAN'S BEDROOM, MAISON CHAN - NIGHT

MRS. CHAN, wearing her nightgown, turns a radio on, as a radio-play begins; its NARRATOR says...

NARRATOR
It's night time, listener.

MRS. CHAN turns the lights off, and lays on her bed.

NARRATOR
You lay on your bed, the lights are off, as the images flash through your head of the stories you are told by me; it's time for a RadioMovie.

MRS. CHAN closes her eyes and smiles gently, listening intently.

NARRATOR
Tonight's tale: "Stairway To Terror"

MRS. CHAN giggles a bit.

NARRATOR
In the pet store, Maureen Mackelbie, a thirty-six year old widow, searches for something to love.

Sounds of a pet store in the background, while a woman named MAUREEN talks with a SALESMAN.

MAUREEN'S VOICE
Oh this one's marvelous; what is it?

SALESMAN'S VOICE
It's a snapping turtle.

MAUREEN'S VOICE
I want it to stay this small.

SALESMAN'S VOICE
Well, you could kill it.

MAUREEN'S VOICE

I hate you! Why would you suggest killing such a wonderful creature?

SALESMAN'S VOICE

So you'll buy it?

MAUREEN'S VOICE

Yes, to keep you from putting it in harm's way!

SALESMAN'S VOICE

Works every time.

MRS. CHAN laughs, then continues listening to the story.

NARRATOR

Yes, Maureen, you buy the snapping turtle. That night, at your grandmother's funeral, you can't stop thinking about the turtle -- you hope it's alright.

With her eyes closed, some genuine concern enters MRS. CHAN's face as she continues listening to the story.

NARRATOR

You have no idea that Snappy has found the string to lower the stairwell to the trapdoor to the attic, and when his little turtle grabbers pulled the string, the stairwell descended on him, killing him instantly, making him a stain on your new carpet.

MRS. CHAN raises her eyebrows, drops her jaw, and continues listening, entertained.

NARRATOR

Also, that night, Maureen, your boyfriend died in a motorcycle accident.

MRS. CHAN begins crying sympathetically.

NARRATOR

Now, listener, gently open your eyes in the dark.

MRS. CHAN opens her eyes, and reaches for the light-switch, but the NARRATOR says...

NARRATOR

Please leave the lights off, listener.

MRS. CHAN retracts her hands from near the light-switch, and lies back on her bed.

NARRATOR

Lay down and wonder...

MRS. CHAN

Wonder what?

NARRATOR

...speculate about what might be happening to your loved ones right this moment!

Her eyes open wide, and little dark shadows (tricks of her eyes) dance in the room.

NARRATOR

Do you see the dark things floating in the air?

She nods slowly.

NARRATOR

Those aren't tricks of your eyes as you've been raised to believe -- Those dancing black things, and those floaters, are actually the tortured souls of your friends, your pets, your loved ones, and they want you to join them.

MRS. CHAN

(sarcastically)
Scary show!

NARRATOR

Goodnight, Mrs. Chan.

MRS. CHAN

HOLY COW!!! You knew my name?!

NARRATOR

Yes. But don't worry. This is a dream.

WIPE TO:

BLANK SCREEN

YEAR ON SCREEN: 1502

INT. PRINCESS BANANA'S CHAMBER, PALACE - NIGHT

PRINCESS BANANA sits in her chamber, moping.

PRINCESS BANANA is a beautiful sixteen year-old girl with orangish roots ... yadda, yadda, yadda ... she's BANANA CHAN, and her face is covered with bright white make-up with pink circles on her cheeks, and she wears a really expensive, floppy kimono.

The chamber is a grand place, designed like a cross-between a five-star hotel room and a dojo. The walls are paper, though...

Enter PRINCE BUSTER, a SIX year old male relation of BANANA's.

BUSTER

Shut that cryin' yap!

BANANA

No, I cry when I'm sad!

BUSTER

This paper-walled palace doesn't stop the sound of your incessant wailing very well.

BANANA

Can't a girl cry in her own chambers?

BUSTER

Not when the walls are paper thin.

BANANA growls.

BANANA

There's gotta be more to life than being pampered as a Japanese Princess, and wearing this white make-up with pink cheek make-up -- I LOOK LIKE A DARN GEISHA!!!

BUSTER
(laughs)
And you sure don't ACT the part either! I mean, they're supposed to be pleasant in behavior!

BANANA
GO AWAY!

BUSTER exits.

INT. THRONE ROOM, PALACE - DAY

KING CHAN, a man with the voice of REG CHAN (whom we'll meet on a later episode) - whose face we never see at all in this episode -- sits on the Moon Throne of The Village of Rain, talking to a man in his twenties named DUKE FRANKIE OF PORTUGAL.

KING CHAN
Why should I accept your offer?

FRANKIE
Because, sir, your so-called kingdom ...

KING CHAN
Watch your tongue, or I shall have it removed.

FRANKIE
Well sir, your kingdom doesn't span any further than this small port-village.

KING CHAN
I am aware of smaller kingdoms.

FRANKIE
Well, Rain doesn't have to be small. If you accept my offer, sailors will no longer overlook this port for favor of more important Japanese ports.

KING CHAN
If my port were extended, my ambition would grow until all of Japan would be mine, and I just can't do that.

FRANKIE

Why not?

KING CHAN

The Emperor has kami powers. I am afraid of how he would punish me for being true to my own unbridled ambitions.

FRANKIE

What is a kami power?

KING CHAN

You are not from Japan. As an outsider, there are many truths that you do not know.

FRANKIE

Are you saying that the emperor is some kind of a God?

KING CHAN

Yes. The emperor is a kami. And a kami is a God.

FRANKIE

What if the emperor was just an average person? Would you want to give your power extra reach?

KING CHAN

The emperor would expect me to surrender extra taxes to him, perhaps even my entire kingdom. I'm happy with my current situation in life. I don't need to buy your guns.

FRANKIE

Other ports are buying my guns.

KING CHAN

Those other ports aren't my enemies.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

PRINCESS BANANA is talking with the BARTENDER.

BARTENDER

(outraged)

YOU WANT TO BE A WAITRESS!?!?! IT'S
OUT OF THE QUESTION!!! WHAT WOULD
THE KING, YOUR FATHER, THINK!?!

BANANA
I don't know.

BARTENDER
A Princess is not fit to be a waitress.

BANANA
I know.

BARTENDER
A Princess doesn't do the filthy work of
untouchable commoners, and that's that.

BANANA retreats to a table, where she sits across from a
Portuguese sailor named OTTO.

BANANA
Are you the guy from the big ship at port?

OTTO
Yes, Princess. Why do you ask?

BANANA
Because I'm coming to where-ever you're
going, and that's final!

OTTO
I'll see what I can do about your request,
Princess.

INT. DUKE FRANKIE'S CHAMBER, GALLEON - DAY

DUKE FRANKIE talks to OTTO.

OTTO
Why did you run out of the King's chambers
without selling the guns?

FRANKIE
This port has no use for guns, no enemies.

OTTO
No enemies? How's that possible?

FRANKIE

It's surrounded by forest. The plants and trees shield this port from the view of everyone, even the rest of Japan.

OTTO

So how'd WE find this place?

FRANKIE

We were desperate...you know that.

OTTO

Oddly, this port gets a lot of visitors for a place that no one knows about. I wonder why that is?

BANANA enters.

FRANKIE smiles at BANANA, takes her hand, and says...

FRANKIE

Look what wandered into my ship.

BANANA blushes.

OTTO

She's Princess Banana. She invited herself.

FRANKIE

Are you sure this is wise?

EXT. PORT - DAY

The large GALLEON sets sail from the Kingdom of Rain, which is surrounded by forest.

INT. CAPTAIN'S WEIGHT-ROOM, GALLEON

DUKE FRANKIE lifts weights, as BUSTER enters.

FRANKIE

How'd a little rascal get onto my ship?

BUSTER

My ship. I won a game of SqueegiMon with that Otto thug, and so it's my ship, my crew,

my everything, so get off!

OTTO enters.

OTTO
He's telling the truth, Frankie. Get the 'ell off'a
this ship.

FRANKIE bows his head down and exits.

OTTO
I've always wanted to get rid of Frankie.

BUSTER
Are we Pirates?

OTTO nods.

BUSTER
Yay! I've always wanted to be the Captain of a
Pirate ship!

INT. BRIG, GALLEON

BANANA's -- tied to a chair -- argues with BUSTER.

BANANA
Why you dun gone and tied me to this chair?

BUSTER
I wanna to's why.

OTTO enters.

BUSTER
Otto. Take this ship to the Caribbean. I
wanna be the King of the Pirates of the
Caribbean.

OTTO
Good choice, Prince Buster.

BANANA
(to Buster)
Un-tie me you runt!

BUSTER un-ties BANANA.

BANANA
Good.

BUSTER
Sorry for tying you up like that; it was a way to
keep this thing interesting.

BANANA
I know. Now let's all play Pirates like good
little people.

They all laugh.

BANANA
And Buster, since you're the Captain, that
makes me the Admiral.

BUSTER
No.

BANANA
So what? Like I wanna control a stupid ship.

BUSTER
(to Otto)
Can we set sail soon?

OTTO
Uh-huh. The King finished furnishing us with
supplies an hour ago. He said to tell you two
to play nice on your vacation.

BANANA
YAY! I'm gonna get a tan in the Caribbean!
Yah-chah-chah!

BANANA dances.

A LACKEY enters, and closes the door behind himself.

LACKEY
Oops. I accidentally locked us in here.

OTTO
You locked us in here?

LACKEY

It shouldn't be a problem, though.

OTTO

This is the brig, you idiot. Now we're locked in a place where people aren't supposed to escape from, you lackey lackwit!

LACKEY

Sorry.

OTTO

Why'd you come in here in the first place?

LACKEY

(to Banana)

Ma'am. Knight Tom found out we were gun-running, and now his fleet of Portuguese ships is about to attack us.

BANANA

Who's Knight Tom?

OTTO

A guy who'd shoot at us if he found us.

The room shakes violently.

BANANA

What the heck was that?

OTTO

Knight Tom. He found us.

About a foot of water rises from a large crack in the floor.

BANANA

Are we sinking?

OTTO

Good to see that cute little head of yours has a brain. Yes, of course we're sinking.

More water creeps in, and they're up to their knees in it.

BUSTER

There must be some way out of here!?!

LACKEY
Sorry.

BUSTER, OTTO, and BANANA proceed to give evil glares to LACKEY.

More water creeps in, and they're up to their shoulders in it.

OTTO
The way I see it, there's only one way out.

BANANA
Huh's that?

OTTO
Death.

BANANA
How's death a way out?

OTTO
Think about it!

BANANA
I'm thinking about it, and I don't like it one bit.

BUSTER
Yeah, how can death solve our problem?

OTTO
If we drown ourselves, we can come back as ghosts, lift the ship onto shore, then go back into our bodies and fix the ship and pretend this whole thing didn't happen.

BANANA
That's the stupidest thing I ever heard, but it's worth a shot.

Pause.

BANANA
Just how ... waitaminute!

A minute passes by.

BANANA

NO! That's a stupid idea! I'm not gonna drown myself just because some crazy idiot's too blind to see that that's exactly what whoever was shooting at our ship wants us to do!

OTTO

Huh?

COMMERCIAL BREAK

BUSTER

Banana's right. Whoever shot at this ship obviously wants us to drown. You guys were blinded by thoughts of Banana when you conceived that ill-conceived plot about drowning. And I was blinded by attention deficit disorder. So it's a good thing that Banana, our lowest common denominator, realized that drowning ourselves is not the answer.

BANANA

I did?

BUSTER nods.

BANANA

I'm smart.

OTTO

So what IS the answer, little boy?

More water seeps in; it's up to their necks.

BANANA

Hey hey hey. Notice how water's bubbling in here like it's got time before every buncha water, or something?

OTTO

What are you saying?

BANANA

I'm saying that it might mean something.

BUSTER

Banana's right. The fact that water's coming in at intervals, instead of a steady stream, means something.

BANANA slaps the back of BUSTER's head.

BANANA

That's what I just said, you stupid denominator! It means something must be blocking the hole, or whatever it is, where water's coming from, at intervals.

BUSTER

If we can predict the length of the intervals, we could swim through the hole to the cargo deck and then find a stairwell to the upper-decks, and then find a way off'a this ship.

BANANA

Nah. Sounds too much like work. I wanna sleep.

BANANA falls asleep, and begins doing a back-float on top of the water.

OTTO

I'm no longer attracted to her; she's an idiot.

BUSTER

Huh? I was busy thinking about my Rain Cloud Card in my pocket; it must be soaking wet!

OTTO

Rain Cloud Card?

BUSTER

It's a magical card I captured; there's a buncha them in the world. The Rain Cloud Card, when used properly, evaporates all the water in a fifty-meter radius of where I'm standing, and forms it into a rain-cloud high in the sky.

WIPE TO:

EXT. BEACH, DESERTED TROPICAL ISLAND - MORNING

OTTO, BUSTER, and BANANA are sitting around a campfire, cooking a pig on a spit.

BUSTER
(to Banana)
And then you woke up as we were carrying you, and swimming for dear life, and then you fell asleep again, in our already-tired arms, and then after over-exerting ourselves even more, we swam for safety at this deserted tropical island.

BANANA
So now we're on a deserted tropical island?

BUSTER nods.

OTTO
That's what the little shrimp just said, dear. Need ye repeat he?

BANANA
Yeah.

BUSTER
I'm not repeating it a seventh time.

BUSTER stands up, stomps his feet.

BANANA
Wasn't there a fourth person in our group?

BUSTER
When the pig's ready, call me. I'll be in that tent we erected.

BANANA laughs.

OTTO
Why are you laughing, dear?

BANANA
If you call me dear one more time, I'll pop you one in the jaw, y'hear?

OTTO

None of us get along with one-another.

BANANA

What are you talking about?

OTTO

We're bound to have some crazy adventures on this wacky island. Only time will tell...

BANANA points at a ship in the distance.

OTTO

Oh, a ship. Great. We're rescued. I can't wait to get away from the two of you, and onto a ship with fellow sailors.

BANANA

From the looks of it, it's heading towards us; they obviously see us.

OTTO

It'll take that ship mere minutes to reach us from that distance. That ship belongs to Knight Tom; he's the same guy who sunk that ship which we were trapped in the brig of.

EXT. BEACHSIDE, ISLAND - DAY

BANANA, OTTO, and BUSTER are being chased down the beachside by several hundred angry sailors.

BANANA

Why do I always get into these messes?

BUSTER

Because you're a klutz!

A halo appears above BANANA's head for a second.

BANANA

Sure, blame me.

A large demon face named BAKA appears above everyone, and breathes fire upon the angry sailors, killing them all; thus rescuing BANANA, BUSTER, and OTTO.

BANANA

What the hell?

BAKA
Exactly.

WIPE TO:

EXT. CAMPSITE - NIGHT

BANANA, BUSTER, and OTTO, sit around a camp-fire.

OTTO
Me thinks it's a bit too nippy out here for my
tastes.

Pause.

BANANA
I'm gonna go for a walk. Bye, boys.

BANANA exits into the forest, leaving BUSTER and OTTO
beside
the campfire.

BUSTER
There's still a Portuguese ship docked on this
island!

OTTO
We'll salvage it in the morning, lad.

EXT. TRIBAL LAND - NIGHT

BANANA's in a cage in the middle of a large clearing. A
large tribe, called the OOGA CHUGGA TRIBE, is dancing
around the cage while singing Classic Rock.

BANANA
Help me, someone!

Suddenly, a LARGE ANGRY DRAGON emerges from the forest,
and it flails its tail all over, sending the OOGA CHUGGA
tribe running in panicked circles.

INT. TENT, CAMPSITE - NIGHT

BUSTER and OTTO lay beside each-other, in sleeping bags.
An
empty, third sleeping bag, is between them.

BUSTER
Banana hasn't returned from her walk.

OTTO
Peaceful, ain't it?

BUSTER
Yeah, but I'm concerned about her.

OTTO
Why?

BUSTER
Because she's family.

EXT. TRIBAL LAND - NIGHT

The DRAGON tries to pry the cage open with its teeth, as
BANANA, inside the cage, screams for help.

BANANA
(crying)
Get me out of this cage, somebody!
(crying, screaming)
SOMEBODY, RESCUE ME!

CUT TO:

BLANK SCREEN

NARRATOR
No one rescues brats.

CUT TO:

INT./EXT. BUSTER'S DESCRIPTION

We see the things which BUSTER describes, as we hear
BUSTER's descriptions.

BUSTER'S VOICE
One of my clearest memories is of when two
angels had me select the people, paintings,

books, actors, machines, symbols, and other specific objectives and goals to encounter and accomplish throughout my life, in order to complete my life. I strayed off to examine one particular object: a big and thin, golden music box; its exterior was etched completely with symbols, such as a dove -- oh, and the only part of the exterior of the box that wasn't gold was a pearl angel that was right beside the dove. When I opened the box, and saw its thin, red-silk interior, invisible instruments -- or something inside the box, that I couldn't see -- began playing beautiful music, that was sad, rich of life, happy, and very scary, all at the same time, yet the music was always -- in a strange way -- beautiful. One of the angels behind me said four words I'll never forget: "The music is you." Two years later, I dreamed my mom lead me through a seemingly endless hallway, toward a talking Komodo Dragon named Riton, who said he was a Professional Soul-Stealer; he lived in a scepter that looked like two golden snakes holding up a strange blue crystal. He called the crystal "The Larnoc." I remember the word Larnoc, because Riton said it so loud that I still shudder whenever I bring myself to think about it. The nightmare ended when I was sucked into a cold, dead, colorless tunnel inside the Larnoc. I remember waking up in a hurry, with a high fever that jump-started something in my brain which transformed me into a super-smart toddler. I kid you not. I was only two years old, yet my memories, of everything since that day, are crystal clear. A few days later, my mom slipped on a banana peel, and fell out the window of our little house, which happened to be on the roof of a very tall skyscraper, because houses are on skyscrapers in the future. I'm from the future -- more than forty years from now. But now that I live in the present, I've gotta put up with that brat, Banana Chan!

CUT TO:

EXT. KITCHEN, MAISON CHAN - LATE NIGHT

MRS. CHAN is tired as BUSTER frustratedly complains about BANANA's misbehavior.

BUSTER

It was whimsical, for her own comfort, without stopping to consider that she'd hurt me! Then she drew all attention away from her own selfishness, by lying about my reaction!

MRS. CHAN

What'd she do?

BUSTER

It's like when my friend heard derogatory lies about me, from her, and loyalties were divided, thus compromising the cohesion of my friendship, and the family! It causes prejudices which subvert familial relationships and honest friendships to the point where now the parental figure must pick sides!

MRS. CHAN

What did she do?

BUSTER

She thinks she's being true to herself, and that a selfish lie isn't a lie, I think! Maybe she doesn't know that she's lying! Maybe she's lying whimsically, for her own comfort, without stopping to consider that she might hurt someone! Well it does hurt!

MRS. CHAN

What did Banana do?

BUSTER

Instead of preventing similar situations from happening in the future, with dialogue so we can compare and contrast our opinions, she continued her lies and even ignored me, and called me names! So, her obvious strategy is to lie and be selfish until there's such disarray that she can be selfish without having to lie about it!

MRS. CHAN

WHAT DID SHE DO?!

BUSTER

She broke her promises!

MRS. CHAN

What promises?

BUSTER

She promised she'd play the rest of this one RPG with me! She promised she'd draw certain characters from a particular story for me! And she promised she'd read and comment on a particular story that I've been writing!

MRS. CHAN

I'm sorry. I don't understand why this is important to you.

BUSTER

I can't believe it! You're on her side!?

INT. KITCHEN, MAISON CHAN - MORNING

MRS. CHAN eats breakfast with BANANA and BUSTER.

MRS. CHAN

The "sanctuary rule" is the most important; don't mess with it. And now there are five more rules under that.

BUSTER

Such as what?

MRS. CHAN

Rule 1: Don't insult anyone's intelligence. Rule 2: At the start of every argument, argue. At the end of every argument, hug. Rule 3: Don't purposely interrupt someone else's sleep unless the house is on fire. Rule 4: If you have the last word in an argument, it doesn't necessarily mean that you're right; it might just mean that the other person doesn't want to argue. Rule 5: No hitting, ever!

BUSTER

Good rules!

MRS. CHAN
Rule 3!

MRS. CHAN falls asleep on the table.

BANANA laughs.

BANANA
You're a brat.

BUSTER
I know you are, but what am I?

BANANA
(yelling)
SHUT UP!

BUSTER
Does yelling improve your quality of life?

BANANA
Shut up!

BUSTER
That's better, because instead of motivating me to sympathize with your situation, yelling subverts its own purpose by causing me to forget, ignore, and/or defy you entirely, because I don't appreciate being yelled at!

BANANA
You're so annoying.

BANANA slaps BUSTER.

BUSTER
You've hurt me. I'm your grandson. You've hurt your grandson.

BANANA slaps BUSTER.

BUSTER
Grandmother.

BANANA

Don't call me that.

BANANA slaps BUSTER.

BUSTER
But grandma...

BANANA slaps BUSTER.

BUSTER
Granny?

BANANA slaps BUSTER.

BUSTER
Whether you like it or not, you're family, and
for that reason, I love you, but it's hard to love
you when you slap me, because you're
behaving like a child.

BANANA
I AM a child!

BANANA slaps BUSTER.

BUSTER
There are other ways to feel young than by
assaulting your grandson! Besides, assault is
against the law, so you shouldn't hit me under
any circumstances!

BANANA
You're so stupid. Quit being so annoying.

BANANA slaps BUSTER.

BUSTER
You've hit me again! For the same reason as
last time!

BANANA
Shut up.

BANANA slaps BUSTER.

BUSTER
The fact that you've hit for this reason before

proves that it didn't work last time. Next time,
instead of hitting, try NOT HITTING!

BANANA
I said SHUT UP!

BANANA slaps BUSTER.

BUSTER
I didn't want to say this, but if you hit me one
more time, you will learn the true nature of my
NINJA abilities.

BANANA
What NINJA abilities?

BANANA slaps BUSTER.

BANANA
Ooh, I'm sooo scared, hehe!

BUSTER karate-chops BANANA's head off.

Blood gushes from BANANA's neck.

BUSTER
Oops!
(laughs)
Another one bites the dust! That means it's
time for another potentially tragic try at
creating a perfect universe! Watch out new
time-line, because here comes Buster Chan!
Weee! This is fun!

BUSTER vanishes in a puff of smoke.

The universe vanishes in a puff of smoke.

END OF EPISODE