

"BANANA CHAN"

EPISODE 1x19

A Sea-Lion For A Princess

By Alan Holman

INT. BANANA'S BEDROOM - MORNING

MRS. CHAN opens the curtains, waking BANANA up.

BANANA jolts out of bed.

BANANA

What's the deal!?!

MRS. CHAN

Your friend Rubula's anxious to show you her latest invention. This is really important to her, so you'd better go to the science fair.

BANANA

Rubula's nobody's friend.

MRS. CHAN smiles.

MRS. CHAN

I made you breakfast.

BANANA

Yay! Breakfast!!!

BANANA runs downstairs...

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

BANANA scarfs down large piles of pancakes, toast, and eggs, in mere seconds, then runs outside...

INT. OMNIWARP ROOM, SCIENCE FAIR - MORNING

RUBULA stands in between two teleporter pads which are under a banner that says OmniWarp.

RUBULA (age 17) is a science nerd girl.

BANANA enters.

RUBULA

Come back in ten minutes for the

demonstration.

BANANA

This is just a bunch of snoring science
gobbledeegook.

RUBULA

I love you too, Banana.

BANANA turns around, and bumps into a handsome guy named
RAND. RAND's tall, muscular, and has a nose-ring.

RAND

Sorry for bumping into you.

BANANA

Me wanna find a pop machine.

RAND

I know where it is.

BANANA

Yay! C'mon!

INT. VENDING ROOM, SCIENCE FAIR - MORNING

A lot of vending machines are in this room.

BANANA drinks a cola, and RAND drinks a root beer.

RAND

I'm curious about your friend's invention.

BANANA

Shut up.

RAND

Why?

BANANA

Because I want to look in your eyes for a
while. Wow.

RAND smiles.

INT. OMNIWARP ROOM, SCIENCE FAIR - MORNING

BANANA and RAND get into the front row of the crowd of onlookers.

RUBULA
Hey Banana!

BANANA nods.

RUBULA
I'm ready to begin!

RUBULA points at the teleporter pad on her left, and says...

RUBULA
I'll need a volunteer to step onto this pad,
and...

Now RUBULA points at the teleporter pad on her right, and says...

RUBULA
...the volunteer will get teleported onto this
pad. It's harmless, easy, and fun! Any
volunteers?

No one raises their hands.

RUBULA
Any questions?

Everyone raises their hands.

RUBULA
Banana. What's your question?

BANANA
Will this work?

RUBULA
Yes.

The entire audience races to the teleporter pad, thus breaking it, which causes RUBULA to cry.

RUBULA
Waaaaaaaah!!!!

The audience disperses, except for BANANA and RAND.

RUBULA

It'll take at least a month to make another one.

RAND

Only?

BANANA accidentally trips over a wire, and a jolt of electricity jumps from the wire, onto RAND's nose-ring, and opens a portal which RAND falls through, and disappears. Then the portal closes.

BANANA

I was just starting to like him!!!

The portal opens up again, and spits RAND's nose-ring out.

RUBULA

You have to rescue your friend!

BANANA

Alright. How?

RUBULA

Take his nose-ring and trip over that wire again.

BANANA

Huh?

RUBULA

No time to explain! Hurry! I'll find a way to bring you two back!

RUBULA picks up the nose-ring, hands it to BANANA, and pushes her over the wire, which opens up the portal and sucks BANANA into it.

INT. THRONE ROOM, MIDEVAL KINGDOM - DAY

KING THRON, a big fat king, sits on his throne, talking to his COURT JESTER.

KING THRON

I've gotta go to the washroom. See ya.

KING THRON exits.

The PORTAL opens, spews BANANA out of it, then closes.

COURT JESTER

A witch!

BANANA

Hey!

BANANA slaps the COURT JESTER, which knocks him into a pillar.

BANANA

Nobody calls me a witch.

The pillar breaks in half, and...

EXT. MIDEVAL CASTLE - DAY

The castle crumbles to the ground.

EXT. RUINS, FOREST - DAY

Amid the ruins of the castle, RAND roasts marshmallows on a fire.

BANANA enters the scene.

BANANA

Your nose ring sent me here.

RAND

Strange. It only does that in conjunction with temporal fields.

RUBULA enters the scene.

RUBULA

Exactly like the temporal field which powered my machine.

BANANA

(to RUBULA)

Can you get us back to our own time?

RUBULA smiles, and nods.

RAND

I want to stay here, in this time. I look exactly like their prince who recently went missing, so they think I'm him. Plus, their King just died in the wreckage, which makes me their new King. I've got it made!

BANANA

King of what? Your castle's completely destroyed!

RAND

They'll re-build; I know this. If I ever find the person who did this to my castle, though, I'll punch their lights out!

BANANA

(nervously)

Well, dude. It was pleasant knowing you...hehe...ehrm, myself and my friend'll be moseying on home now, to our own time.

RAND

Bye! It was ...pleasant knowing you!

RAND waves at BANANA as RUBULA takes a device out of her pocket, and pushes a few buttons on the device, which opens a portal.

BANANA and RUBULA jump into the portal.

INT. OMNIWARP ROOM, SCIENCE FAIR - MORNING

The portal opens, spits BANANA and RUBULA out of it, then closes.

RUBULA

It was you who destroyed his castle, wasn't it?

BANANA

You know me: good ol' Clumsy Banana!

RUBULA

I wonder if that had any effect on our time.

BANANA

What are you talking about?

RUBULA

Don't worry your pretty little head about it,
Banana.

BANANA

You know me: good ol' No-Worries Banana!

The room tilts a twenty degree angle to the left.

RUBULA

That was odd.

The room tilts a twenty degree angle to the right.

BANANA

I didn't notice anything.

EXT. EDGE OF THE WORLD - DAY

A large sailing ship, called the U.S.S. SCIENCE FAIR, sails
off the edge of the world, and falls into oblivion.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM, MAISON CHAN - MORNING

BANANA sits on a couch with her friend VIKKI.

BANANA holds a book.

VIKKI

That was a really good story, Banana!

BANANA

Thanks.

VIKKI

You're a really talented writer.

BANANA

Yeah, I am.

VIKKI

Read me another one, please!

BANANA

Sure! This one's called: "A Sea Lion For A Princess."

BANANA opens the book, and reads ...

[We see some of what she describes.]

BANANA

A long time ago -- before there were trees -- a young woman whose natural charm and unique radiance far surpassed even the beauty, grace, and splendid attractiveness, of ten thousand legendary Princesses of history -- legendary Princesses for whose hand in marriage epic wars have been fought -- legendary Princesses that were courted by the bravest and boldest men -- legendary Princesses who were strong and made their own choices about a lot of stuff.

VIKKI

Go on. I'm enjoying it so far!

BANANA

The bravest men fought for opportunities to present these legendary Princesses with the greatest gifts. The most legendary of these legendary Princesses -- a Princess better than all the others -- was named Lacy.

VIKKI

That's a nice name.

BANANA

Yeah. I've often thought of changing my name.

VIKKI

Continue your story.

BANANA

The Island of Yezo's most foolish young Chieftain was named Boden.

VIKKI

What made Boden so foolish?

BANANA

Lacy.

VIKKI

What did Boden do?

BANANA

Boden asked his friends what Lacy likes. And when he learned she likes Sea Lions, the foolish young Chieftain proclaimed to himself -- but he neglected to tell Princess Lacy -- that he would capture the best Sea Lion EVER, and bring a record of it to her ...

(laughs)

... or a DVD of it, or a video-tape ...

(seriously)

... either way, and no matter what, he would capture and bring the best Sea Lion EVER to her and declare his love in style.

VIKKI

What devotion!

BANANA

Yeah. But remember: He didn't tell her of his plans.

VIKKI

What a bone-head!

BANANA

Yeah. So with only his bare hands, Boden built the greatest boat to ever set sail. He called it the Rover. The Rover was a boat so sturdy that he couldn't tell if the sea was mad or not. So on the Rover, Boden set sail on all the seas, especially secret seas that only the bravest ever find!

VIKKI

And the Princess still knew nothing of his efforts?

BANANA

Absolutely zilch. Boden speared many Sea Lions, but when he finally found the best Sea

Lion EVER, it got away ... but Boden tried again, and again, and again -- much to Lacy's unknowing -- until he reached Shamballah, the capital city of Agharta, where several young women caught Boden's fancy; they tempted him to stay. But every time he remembered the Princess's smile, and the feeling of pure joy he got when-ever he heard her voice, he found the strength to resist them and persist towards Lacy ... the girl he vowed to save himself for, even though she had no idea at all that she was his heart, his absolute reason for living.

VIKKI

That's so the best!

BANANA

By this time, Boden had firmly believed that he had no choice but to bring an awesome Sea Lion to the Princess, to prove his value to her. What he didn't know was that the Princess would have seen the devotion in his eyes and fall in love with him on the spot. But the Princess only saw him when the topic was other things. So she never heard that passion in his voice and saw that fire in his eyes ... he expressed that passion whenever she was not around, because he was too afraid to expose his biggest weakness to her in person, since she could use that weakness to crush him.

VIKKI

An amazing power.

BANANA

Boden collected his memories of the Princess into poetry for a while, until his little sister, who was a crew member on the Rover, called his poetry "useless", and said it'd never work to get the girl, so -- because she herself was a girl -- he believed her, so he pessimistically threw his writings overboard.

VIKKI

Oh no!

BANANA

It's probably for the best. If the Princess is anything like me, she doesn't like too many poems.

VIKKI

I love them.

BANANA

Boden couldn't get Princess Lacy out of his heart. No matter what he did, his mind always wandered to thoughts of her, and hopes and prayers for her. And he always wished he could be there to make sure she's happy and healthy and cozy and stuff. So he always found motivation to continue to try for her, regardless of how bleak the situation looked.

VIKKI

Aww ... why didn't he just go and talk to her?

BANANA

He was shy ... plus, she moved and they didn't have phones or phone books back then -- plus, even if she wasn't too cool for a listed number, he was the kind of guy who although he could express great love in writing, as soon as she picks up the phone, he'd panic and hang-up -- so it was impossible.

VIKKI

So what did he do?

BANANA

He returned to Shamballah in the Empire of Agharta, where he recycled his memories of the Princess into specialized questions about women, and he presented his survey to all of the young women of those lands. They liked to talk about themselves, so they indulged him, and -- through trial and error -- he filled in the blanks in a personality profile about the Princess, so that when he found the Princess again, if she accepted him, he could use that profile as reference to get her the perfect birthday presents for the rest of her life.

VIKKI

What kind of questions were on his survey?

BANANA

It's complicated. But long story short, he figured out a method by which he didn't need to be near the Princess in order to learn more about the Princess.

VIKKI

That's kinda' creepy, but his heart was in the right place.

BANANA

Without fail, everything he learned about the Princess, he loved. And even when his information was inaccurate, he loved the fact that she inspired him to undertake such a creative endeavor. So, with pure devotion in his heart, Boden set sail again, searching secret seas and charted seas, in search -- yet again -- for the best Sea Lion EVER! -- so that one day, he could give her the gift, and then learn, and love -- the truth about the Princess. And he knew that the real Princess wouldn't be like the imaginary one he created with the survey. The imaginary one was only to remind him why the real one was worth fighting for. And he needed a reminder because the temptations of the world were strong. He also remembered that he loved everything he did know about the Princess, so the survey-made profile existed only because he was really really really bored and lonely on the voyage. Not to mention an escape, because his dad and sister pestered him a lot.

VIKKI

That's funny.

COMMERCIAL BREAK

BANANA

While sailing, a note that was tied to a bird told him that three or four other manly men were spending time with the Princess at a

club that had a cool obstacle course. The note indicated the location of the club, and he really wanted to try the cool obstacle course, so he sent some messages, to that club, on that bird. But one of those guys must have blocked the messages from reaching Lacy, because he heard nothing from Lacy. But the next thing you know it, Royal Guardsmen were trying to arrest Boden. But Boden was the manliest man, so he always escaped them, even when it meant pretending to be spineless.

VIKKI

What do you mean "pretending to be spineless"?

BANANA

It's complicated. But the fact that they were after him was how Boden knew that one of those men in that club was his romantic rival, so it motivated Boden -- more than ever -- to return home to the Island of Yezo, where he sadly found Princess Lacy married to a different man ... one who was -- of course -- less manlier than him, since he was the manliest man in all the worlds. Boden -- who never retrieved the Sea Lion -- and never told her that he was spending all that time searching for a Sea Lion -- vowed to become a Living God so that he could protect her even when he wasn't near her. So after a quarter of a million prayers of devotion to Buddha, he did become a living God. Then he spent the remainder of his life in a monastery. Lacy and her husband lead a happy and prosperous life without knowing that Boden spent the rest of his life in silence, sending blessings to Lacy and her husband every day. That's why Boden was happy during the day ... but he cried every night. The end.

WIPE TO:

EXT. AREA WELL - MORNING

937 plays with a ball of string beside the well.

BUSTER jogs into the area.

BUSTER
Pizza time!

937
Yummy!

937 runs away, leaving BUSTER alone at the well.

There's a sound inside the well, so BUSTER puts his ear against it, and the sound is a rumble which gets louder.

BUSTER
Hmm...?

BUSTER looks into the well -- and it OVERFLOWS! Water sprays all over BUSTER, then it seeps away, leaving him soggy.

BUSTER
That was unusual.

BUSTER notices an oddly shaped amulet in front of his feet.

He picks up the amulet.

EXT. PHONE BOOTH - MORNING

BUSTER, still soggy from the well incident, holds the amulet in one hand as he makes a phone call.

BUSTER
(to phone)
...so I'm ... not feeling too well.

MRS. CHAN'S VOICE
You sound sick -- are you alright?

BUSTER
A little dizzy, but...

MRS. CHAN'S VOICE
Walk slowly. You may have a fever.

BUSTER

Yeah, thanks. I'll be home ... eventually.

MRS. CHAN'S VOICE
Take care.

BUSTER
Yeah. Bye.

BUSTER ends the phone call.

CUT TO:

INT. KNOCKO'S BEDROOM, SASHI HOUSEHOLD - MORNING

The wall is decorated with posters depicting the Miyazaki filmography.

BUSTER wakes up with a damp towel on his forehead.

BUSTER
Where am I?

KNOCKO enters.

KNOCKO SASHI (age 15) is a 5'4", very cute, very thin, blue-eyed girl, with waist-length blonde hair that flows down to the blue skirt of her "sailor-scout" school uniform. She carries a large purse over her shoulder.

KNOCKO
A few minutes ago, I got home to see you laying, amid your own vomit, against the side of my house -- are you drunk?

BUSTER
No, sick -- getting better, though.

KNOCKO
I carried you in here. Stay until you're well.

BUSTER
Thanks.

KNOCKO
You were holding an unusual amulet; I cleaned it and put it in a black box in the kitchen.

INT. BUSTER'S DREAM - MORNING

BUSTER dreams that he's being chased through a forest by a giant two-headed snake.

BUSTER
GET AWAY FROM ME!!!

SNAKE
Not until you give me the Amulet of Edotop!

Both snake-heads bite BUSTER's arms.

INT. KNOCKO'S BEDROOM - MORNING

...same as before.

BUSTER wakes up, screaming.

KNOCKO enters.

KNOCKO
What is it?

BUSTER
I had a nightmare.

KNOCKO
What was it about?

BUSTER
An evil snake wanted an amulet called
Edotop.

KNOCKO
Speaking of amulets...

KNOCKO takes the amulet out of her pocket.

KNOCKO
...I cleaned the one you brought here!

BUSTER
Great!

BUSTER sits up, and KNOCKO notices snake-bites on his arms.

KNOCKO
What are these? -- snake bites?

BUSTER
Hmm...ouch, yeah; that's what they look, and
feel, like: snake bites. Maybe that's why I got
the fever.

KNOCKO
But why didn't I notice them when I brought
you in?

BUSTER
I don't know.

KNOCKO
Anyway, about that amulet: it's nice. Can I
have it?

BUSTER
No. It's mine.

KNOCKO nods, and puts the amulet onto BUSTER's neck;
suddenly, the snake-bites disappear, but his eyes turn red,
and flames begin shooting from his hands! The house is on
fire!

KNOCKO
EEK!

She takes the amulet off of his neck.

BUSTER
Strange. For a second, I was in the forest
again -- the forest from my dream. Why's your
house on fire?

KNOCKO
THE AMULET IS EVIL!!!

EXT. FOREST - MORNING

BUSTER holds a black box.

KNOCKO digs a hole with a shovel.

KNOCKO

The hole should be a few more feet deep
before we bury this thing.

BUSTER
Yeah. Knocko, tell me: do you believe in evil
spirits?

KNOCKO
I believe that people have spirits, and I believe
that people can be evil. Therefore, I believe in
evil spirits.

BUSTER
That amulet is obviously possessed by an evil
snake-spirit of some sort. When the amulet
was around my neck, a switch occurred -- the
snake-spirit entered my body, and I entered
the amulet. Sorry about your house.

KNOCKO
I think this is deep enough.

BUSTER throws the box into the hole.

KNOCKO begins covering the hole with dirt.

INT. BUSTER'S BEDROOM, MAISON CHAN - MORNING

BUSTER wakes up, fully refreshed.

BUSTER
What a beautiful morning. Boy am I glad to
have done away with that horrible, evil amulet!

Suddenly, KNOCKO runs into the room.

KNOCKO
IS IT IN HERE!?!

BUSTER
Is what in here?

KNOCKO
I chased the amulet into your house!

BUSTER
Huh?

KNOCKO

We met yesterday when you were sick at my house! Remember? My name's Knocko!

BUSTER

Oh yeah. Yesterday. Riiight.

The amulet flies into the room, and around BUSTER's neck; his eyes go red, and he shoots flames at KNOCKO -- suddenly, KNOCKO is a crumpled pile of burning flesh and bones.

BUSTER shoots flames, from his hands, at walls, and the house begins burning.

CUT TO:

INT. ASHANA NIKO'S BEDROOM, NIKO HOUSEHOLD - MORNING

Displayed on the wall are posters of famous female martial artists.

ASHANA, wearing black pajamas, sleeps on her bed which is beside an open window which overlooks the dojo in her back yard.

The dojo suddenly bursts into flames, thus jolting ASHANA from her sleep.

She sits up, notices the burning dojo, and screams...

ASHANA

THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING!!!

EXT. FRONT YARD, NIKO HOUSEHOLD - MORNING

ASHANA leaps from her house, and is stunned to see most of the houses, stores, apartment buildings, dojos, trees, and shrines, in her area of town, capped with fire, burning to the ground.

She's not alone in her shocked stance -- many folks stand in front of burning constructs, wondering what's happening to their town, and why, and who could be responsible for such a disastrous event.

ASHANA
(vengeful)
CATALYZED BY THE FLAMING BOSOM OF
THE BIRD OF FRIENDSHIP, I SUMMON THE
PHOENIX BOW SO THAT JUSTICE WILL BE
SERVED!

An orange bow manifests itself in her arms, and a pack of arrows appears on her back.

She takes a deep breath, then sprouts a pair of fiery wings, and takes flight.

EXT. MAIKO'S HOUSE - MORNING

MAIKO exits her front door, and is confronted by the shocking view of her neighborhood on fire.

MAIKO PENK is a young and thin, 5'2", blue-eyed girl, whose wavy red hair flows to the middle of her back. She wears a cute pink cape over the back of her school uniform.

With her jaw dropped, she says slowly...

MAIKO
I don't think I'll ... go... to school ... today.
(pause)
Besides...
(giggle)
...I'm not done my homework anyway!

Suddenly, BUSTER CHAN, with eyes red, and flames shooting every which way from his hands, leaps in front of MAIKO, clinging onto the oddly-shaped amulet.

MAIKO
WHO ARE YOU!?!

BUSTER
BUSTER!!!

Suddenly, he drops the amulet, his eyes revert to their normal color (green), and he crumples down to the ground with an arrow in his back.

MAIKO
(crying)

BUSTER!?!

Weeping, MAIKO cradles BUSTER's dead body, and cries while kissing his forehead.

CUT TO:

INT. BUSTER'S DREAM - MORNING

BUSTER dreams that he's sitting on a bench in a forest.

BUSTER

This forest, inside the amulet, is a weird limbo in which I sense I'm more spiritual than body. An evil force has been released, from the amulet, into the unsuspecting world, and it's framing me for its crimes.

CUT TO:

EXT. RAIN TOWN SQUARE - MORNING

The fires have been subdued, and the survivors eat a feast for "ASHANA THE PHOENIX-WINGED HERO"

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT LAWN, RAIN MIDDLE SCHOOL - MORNING

Recognizable remnants of MAIKO's body lay in front of the school.

CUT TO:

INT. BUSTER'S DREAM - MORNING

BUSTER runs through a strange forest.

BUSTER

ANYONE!!!

Pause.

BUSTER

HELP ME!!!

Pause.

BUSTER
WHERE AM I!?!

Pause.

BUSTER
Crap.

BANANA appears in front of BUSTER.

BUSTER
Banana!?!

BANANA
Not like I had much else to do.

BUSTER
Huh? What's going on?

BANANA
I'm here to take you out of the amulet, and
rewind time so that you never find the amulet,
and then I'm gonna destroy the amulet before
you can find it. I must admit: it was awesome
to watch stuff burn!

BUSTER
How'd you get into here?

BANANA
Look, a distraction!

BANANA runs away, leaving a dust-trail behind her!

WIPE TO:

INT. KITCHEN, MAISON CHAN - MORNING

MRS. CHAN and BANANA eat cereal.

BANANA
I can eat seven or eight crackers in one
minute!

BUSTER enters, and sits down.

BUSTER

Oh. Hey Banana, you were in my dream last night! You stopped me from destroying the town!

BANANA

Yeah, I did.

WIPE TO:

INT. FAST EDDIE'S COFFEE SHOP - MORNING

RYONE chats with RANDOM MALE FRIEND.

RYONE

My name is Ryone Hazuki, and my prized possessions are dusty old, distracting memories of dreams of fading memories of thoughts of holding her closer than enemies, demons that laugh, from dark sides of my soul. Damn I'm wasting away. My memories keep getting carried away by the bird who flaps only wings of time. My only hope is for her return.

RANDOM MALE FRIEND

Wow! That was a brilliant poem!

RYONE

I know, but do you think Banana would like it?

RANDOM MALE FRIEND

I don't know.

RYONE

It's impossible to like anyone as much as I like Banana.

RANDOM MALE FRIEND

You're obsessed, man.

RYONE

Yeah, I admit: I'm obsessive about her. But I'm also obsessive about breathing, and I need her just as much as I need to breathe, so therefore my obsession is justified as the survival instinct that it is.

RANDOM MALE FRIEND
When will you be happy?

RYONE
There is only one way for me to be happy. I will be happy when I'm sharing genuine, paced, praised, worthwhile, steadfast, passionate, direct, adoring, coy, playful, important, ultimate, eternal love, with Banana, and no one other than Banana.

RANDOM MALE FRIEND
Oh.

RYONE
I spend a lot of time doing nothing but wishing she were near me.

RANDOM MALE FRIEND
You're too young for such thoughts.

RYONE
Will she ever be with me?

RANDOM MALE FRIEND
You're decent, smart, and above all: honest. You're dedicated and devoted. She'll end up with you if you stay the course.

RYONE
You think so?

RANDOM MALE FRIEND
If it'll make you shut up about this wussy love stuff, buddy.

END OF EPISODE