

"BANANA CHAN"

EPISODE 1x23

Sawa-Style

By Alan Holman

EXT. FRONT LAWN, RAIN HIGH SCHOOL - NIGHT

MAIKO stands on the doorstep, crying -- she looks the same as she did the last time we saw her.

BUSTER approaches.

MAIKO runs to BUSTER, looking relieved.

BUSTER

I was hit on the head, and I...

MAIKO

Oh no, you poor boy! Really?

BUSTER

I'm afraid so, and I can't...

MAIKO

(interrupting)

Yes you can, because Chikao and 937  
packed your bags, so come on!

MAIKO grabs his arm, and runs into the school with him --  
he  
looks very confused.

INT. DANCE IN THE HIGH SCHOOL GYM - NIGHT

BANANA stands in a corner, bored, while eating candy, and  
checking her watch.

937 approaches.

BANANA dances with 937.

CUT TO:

INT. ARCADE - NIGHT

RYONE plays DDR.

The machine gives him compliments as he dances, to which he

keeps replying: "Thank you."

MAIKO approaches.

MAIKO

I tried to get Buster to join us, but he seemed kind of out-of-it. He didn't even seem thrilled that I returned.

RYONE

That's odd. And Banana?

MAIKO

I asked, but I've never seen her so shy. It made no sense how shy she got. I was actually offended. It's like she was making some kind of rude, wrong assumption about me, that she wasn't telling me about. I don't see why you like her so much.

RYONE

She's the best.

INT. CLASSROOM, RAIN HIGH SCHOOL - NIGHT

BANANA, 937, CHIKAO, and MRS. CHAN, sit in this otherwise empty classroom.

MRS. CHAN

I hope Buster arrives before they call our group to the ship for our introductions.

CHIKAO

I wonder if the other groups, in the other classrooms, are all as nervous as I am.

BANANA

Why so nervous, Chikao?

CHIKAO

Just a few minutes are left until the call to the ship, and where's Buster!?! His mom called us hours ago with the good news that he's out of the hospital, but where has he been since then?

BUSTER enters.

BUSTER

Uhh...what's up? Inside of which classroom is my group sequestered?

Everyone else laughs and cheers, happy to see BUSTER.

BUSTER

Are you my passenger cluster?

CHIKAO

(laughing)

Very funny! Glad you could make it, buddy!

Everyone takes turns hugging BUSTER -- he looks EXTREMELY confused.

BUSTER

I would have come sooner, but this Maiko girl wouldn't shut up about her day. I gather my name's Buster, huh?

Everyone else laughs.

MRS. CHAN

You're always the joker, Buster! Anyway, I'd better get going if I'm to cover the launch.

BUSTER

Cover the launch?

MRS. CHAN

During your coma, I became a reporter for RAIN TV NEWS. Gotta go!

Everyone says "bye", then MRS. CHAN exits.

BUSTER

What's going on?

BANANA

You are.

BUSTER

That coma was fun.

BUSTER lays on the floor.

BANANA

Uhh...okay, but if you're asleep, we'll carry you onto the ship, okay?

BUSTER shuts his eyes, while saying...

BUSTER

Yes... to whatever you're asking...whoever you are.

BUSTER falls asleep.

MRS. CHAN re-enters.

MRS. CHAN

(weeping)

I'll miss you all too much!

MRS. CHAN exchanges hugs with everyone, until she notices BUSTER, and points out...

MRS. CHAN

(confused)

What's this!?!

937

A relapse.

BUSTER opens his eyes, sits up, and says...

BUSTER

Good morning.

MRS. CHAN hugs BUSTER.

BUSTER

Thanks, Mrs...?

MRS. CHAN

You're welcome. Anyway, I've gotta get running ... again.

MRS. CHAN exits.

BUSTER

I've got a question.

BANANA

That explains why you're looking around like everyone has two heads or something.

BUSTER

Memory causes reactions to perceptions; thus, lacking memory, reactions reveal soul or instinct, so is instinct soul?

BANANA

YES!

937

NO! Instinct is of body, whereas soul is of intention and compassion.

CHIKAO

What the HECK are you all talking about?

BUSTER

For example, a woman and her baby are confronted by a big bear. The woman runs away because she saw bear-attacks on TV; however, the baby plays with the bear because she's accustomed to playing with her stuffed bear.

BANANA

The woman would protect her baby.

BUSTER

(to CHIKAO)  
Do you get it yet?

CHIKAO

Yeah, but why are we talking about this?

BUSTER

BECAUSE I HAVE AMNESIA!!!

CHIKAO

You're joking, right?

BUSTER

Do I joke?

CHIKAO  
Sometimes.

BANANA  
Your jokes are weird!

BUSTER  
Really?

937  
Do you really have amnesia, Buster?

BUSTER  
Yes.

CHIKAO  
If you have amnesia, why do you know your name?

BUSTER  
Why not? The woman at the hospital told me to come here.

BANANA  
How much do you know?

BUSTER  
Our surname is Chan. It's Chinese.

BAKA appears in a puff of smoke.

BUSTER  
A DEMON!!!

BAKA  
This is like deja-vu all over again.

BUSTER  
IT TALKS!!!

BANANA  
I'll distract the n00b!

After a tiny struggle, BANANA takes CHIKAO out of the room; thus, BUSTER and BAKA are alone.

BUSTER

Who are you, DEMON!?!

BAKA  
I'm still your half-uncle.

BANANA and CHIKAO re-enter.

BANANA  
Mr. Ono's coming down the hall!

BUSTER  
What does all this mean!?!

BAKA  
It means I'll see you again in about ten months.

BAKA disappears in a puff of smoke.

BUSTER  
Hey! I wasn't finished with you, demon!

MR. ONO enters, and says...

MR. ONO  
Now assemble, in the soccer-field, for the launching ceremony.

The intercom broadcasts the PRINCIPAL'S VOICE.

PRINCIPAL'S VOICE  
I'm sorry to announce: due to a glitch in the navigation system, our launch is post-poned for seventy-two hours!

Everyone looks disappointed.

INT. RESIDENTIAL SIDEWALK - NIGHT

937 leads BUSTER home.

937  
I'm your diary. If telling you your life-story won't cure your amnesia, nothing will.

INT. LIVING ROOM, CHAN APARTMENT - NIGHT

BUSTER snacks on chips while talking to ROKO.

ROKO  
The glitch was a mixed-blessing.

BUSTER  
Uhh...good night.

ROKO  
Good night!

Pause.

BUSTER  
Mom, where's my bedroom?

CUT TO:

EXT. FLOWER-FIELD - NIGHT

Stars illuminate a nighttime-rainbow which shines upon the colors of BANANA's hair, as she lays on the field of flowers.

The moon reveals itself from behind the nighttime-rainbow.

BANANA yawns.

CUT TO:

BLANK SCREEN

WORDS ON SCREEN  
The next morning...

CUT TO:

INT. DOCTOR MELFIN'S OFFICE - MORNING

BUSTER talks to DOCTOR MELFIN.

BUSTER  
Can you keep a secret?

DR. MELFIN  
It's my job.

BUSTER

937 told me who I was -- I know the story, but I don't want that life, and those memories. Family and friends think I remember, but I refuse to remember. I'm relieved, and cleansed of that life. I'll grow up to be myself.

DR. MELFIN

You're content with just knowing your life-story, without remembering the experiences?

BUSTER

Definitely.

DR. MELFIN

Buster -- this is part of what we've been working to avoid.

BUSTER

But I feel great!

DR. MELFIN

You hated certain memories, but cherished others. Through the course of our sessions, you've developed into a well-rounded, well-defined character, but now you've invalidated all of your own hard work. In my professional opinion, you've become nothing more than a character-sketch.

BUSTER

I'm offended.

DR. MELFIN

Through the course of our sessions, the intensity of your night-terrors depleted -- we were making real progress! You've thrown that progress out the window for an easy answer!

BUSTER

But now that the night-terrors are completely gone, it's all good!

DR. MELFIN

No, it's not good! The sum of who you are has been erased; what remains is an idealized version of who you wanted to be. Ideals, as

you'll soon find out, are only ideals, because of irrational fears. You ...

BUSTER  
(interrupting)  
You talk too much.

BUSTER stands up.

DR. MELFIN  
Please don't leave. We've got a lot of work to do!

BUSTER walks away.

INT. BUS DECK, THE ETERNAL OASIS - MORNING

BANANA enters from an elevator, and is taken aback by the bright and happy little lobby before her -- she almost sits on the little couch, but then she gets distracted by the well of descending stairs beside the pair of elevators; however, she shakes her head, then walks forward from the tiny lobby, past a hallway with four non-gender-specific bathrooms (two on each side), then she's spellbound by a luxurious bus-like space! -- a space-bus with plenty legroom, where letters designate twenty-six left-side seat-pairs, and numbers designate twenty-five right-side seat-pairs; for example, the back window-seats are ZW and 25W, while the front aisle-seats are AA and 1A.

Each seat is within its own makeshift-cubic-bedroom -- walls can be summoned from overhead-compartments (there's also overhead space for carry-on luggage), and seats can retract into beds!

In the front is a door to the cockpit.

Breathless and elated, BANANA is undecided between the four middle window-seats: MW, 13W, NW, and 14W; she finally makes her choice: seat MW.

CUT TO:

EXT. RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD - MORNING

A PUPPY stands against a tree, barking at a branch where

RYONE shakes in fear.

RYONE  
(frightened)  
LEASH THAT ANIMAL!!!

The PUPPY rolls playfully in the tree-cast shade.

RYONE  
I'M TRAPPED!!!

The PUPPY walks on its hind-legs, with its tongue stuck out, while balancing a rock on its adorable button-nose.

A WOMAN, who is carrying a BABY, stops to look at the puppy.

The BABY reaches for the puppy, so the woman lowers the BABY -- the WOMAN laughs as the PUPPY stands up to lick her BABY's face.

RYONE closes his eyes in terror, as the WOMAN sets down her elated baby.

RYONE  
WATCH OUT, BABY!!!

The WOMAN points-and-laughs at RYONE, as the PUPPY falls asleep in her BABY's lap.

CUT TO:

INT. BUS DECK, THE ETERNAL OASIS - MORNING

...same as before.

BUSTER and MAIKO enter from the elevator. They're about as amazed as BANANA was.

BUSTER sits on NW (the seat behind BANANA), and MAIKO sits on NA.

CHIKAO enters, and says...

CHIKAO  
We'll miss lots of good TV.

BUSTER

Don't worry -- look at this...

BUSTER reaches up, and pushes a button which causes a wall to descend in front of him; on it is a television; he opens a compartment under the TV, and unfolds a keyboard!

BUSTER

Our favorite shows are in here, and movies that'll be released during our trip!

CHIKAO

COOL!

CHIKAO sits in seat 13A (across from BANANA).

CHIKAO

Buster, how'd 937 cure your amnesia?

BUSTER

I don't recall amnesia...

RYONE enters, and says...

RYONE

HONEY, I'M HOME!

BUSTER and CHIKAO heave synchronous sighs of relief.

BANANA

Ryone!?!  
(nervous)  
How'd you get on the list!?!

RYONE sits beside BANANA (seat MA).

RYONE

I hate dogs.

MAIKO

Why do you hate dogs, Ryone?

RYONE

Well...

BANANA

(interrupting)  
A few years ago, my dog Doggie hurt Ryone,

and now Ryone's afraid of dogs.

RYONE  
(complaining)  
No one's heard of a leash!

BUSTER  
Puppies are cute.

MAIKO  
BANANA! Where's Doggie now?

BANANA  
Dead.

MAIKO  
Rescue Doggie with time-travel!!!

RYONE  
NOOOOOOOOOOO!!!

BANANA  
Maybe after the trip.

REG CHAN enters.

REG CHAN (age 58) is a 5'9", thin, balding, short-orange-haired, green-eyed (with glasses), nerd.

REG  
(interrupting)  
Hi kids!

RYONE  
Who are you to call us kids?

REG  
I'm this ship's designer, plus I'M BANANA'S  
FATHER!

BANANA's jaw drops, as she wipes away stray tears, and screams...

BANANA  
BUT YOU CAN'T BE DADDY!!!

COMMERCIAL BREAK

MRS. CHAN enters, with a nervous facial expression.

MRS. CHAN  
He is ... dad!

REG  
Hmm... yes, I'm Banana's father.

MRS. CHAN  
And mine!

REG  
I'm sorry?

MRS. CHAN  
Banana! My name isn't Ko, and I'm not your  
real mother! I'm your sister Plantane, from a  
future time-line!

RYONE  
(laughs)  
I think you've taken those odd stories Banana  
writes a little too far.

BANANA nudges RYONE's side, and says ...

BANANA  
Shut up, Ryone. And mom ... I guess it was  
unavoidable that you'd end up telling me the  
truth, eh?

MRS. CHAN  
Yeah.

MAIKO  
Banana, you're taking the news -- that your  
mother isn't actually your mother -- quite well.  
But we're your friends, and we'll support you if  
you need to cry.

RYONE  
Yeah, Banana. You must have a million  
questions for her. Not to mention, a million  
questions for your father who just returned.

BANANA

Naw. I'm good.

Awkward pause.

REG

Don't you want to know where I've been for your entire life?

BANANA

No. I know already. You were on the moon, building this ship. You work for a top secret construction company, and that company is going to merge with another company because of an arrangement which ...  
(looks down)  
... an arrangement which I don't condone.

REG

You don't?

BANANA

No, I don't. Not in the slightest.

REG

But you and ...

BANANA

Shush. No speaky about this.

RYONE

What are you two talking about?

BANANA

None of your business, Ryone, so drop it.

RYONE

Okay.

INT. KITCHEN, MAISON CHAN - MORNING

BANANA, MRS. CHAN, and REG, sit around the table.

MAIKO and RYONE watch from a corner of the room.

REG

(to MRS. CHAN)

You look so much like Ko. When I saw you, I

knew you weren't Ko, but I was wondering how it was possible.

MRS. CHAN  
What gave it away that I wasn't Ko?

REG  
I was told about the car accident.

MRS. CHAN  
How's that possible?

REG  
The car was sabotaged. Ko did not pass the psychological screening, and it was determined that she couldn't be trusted to keep silent about certain things ... things that are finally being declassified. Knowing about this hurt my heart terribly.

MRS. CHAN  
I should show you where she's buried.

REG  
Please.

INT. SAWAMURA DOJO - MORNING

This is an average dojo ... aside for the stacks of mangas at every corner of the room ... and the walls have posters of fighters from different mangas.

BUSTER and CHIKAO stand in the middle of the room.

BUSTER  
That tree in your yard ...

CHIKAO  
We call it Menshu.

BUSTER  
Why?

CHIKAO  
Because it's Menshu. Let me begin teaching you the basics of the Sawamura Five Finger Soul Style of Kung Fu.

BUSTER

Who was that kid at the gate?

CHIKAO

He's my little brother Mikon -- why do you ask?

BUSTER

He looks like you ... only younger.

CHIKAO

He's my brother.

BUSTER

Oh. About that tree you call Menshu -- why is it ... ?

CHIKAO

(interrupting)  
Tree-talk later. Style now. You've told me that you've had some training before ...?

BUSTER

Yes. I've trained in Wu Chow Chow Fu.

CHIKAO

Ah yes. Dog. Can you show me a move?

BUSTER barks.

CHIKAO

(nods)  
Well done.

BUSTER

Why has Sawa-Style earned the nickname "Five Finger Soul"?

CHIKAO

You put your entire soul into five fingers when the style is used to its fullest potential.

BUSTER

Is it even possible to put your entire soul into five fingers? Or is it only a myth?

CHIKAO  
It's real -- I assure you! Let me show you a  
projectile!

WIPE TO:

EXT. ELABORATE BATTLEFIELD - MORNING

BUSTER and CHIKAO face each-other, ready for battle.

BUSTER  
Sawa Fire!

A fireball flies from Buster's hand ... and burns CHIKAO to  
a crispy pile of ashes.

BUSTER  
WHAT THE HELL HAVE I DONE!?

CHIKAO falls from the sky, and lands, standing on the pile  
of ashes.

CHIKAO  
That was a Sawa-Clone!

BUSTER  
Wow.

CHIKAO pulls a samurai sword from thin air, and slices off  
BUSTER's head. BUSTER falls to the ground in a gory,  
bloody  
mess.

CHIKAO  
Sawa-Revive!

BUSTER appears in a flash of light, good as new!

BUSTER  
Wow! What a technique! How did you do  
that?

CHIKAO  
I can do whatever the hell I want to do.

BUSTER  
Anything?

CHIKAO

Well ... almost anything. Sawa-Flight!

CHIKAO starts flying.

BUSTER

Cool! Sawa-Flight!

BUSTER starts flying.

BUSTER

Can I teach this stuff to Maiko?

CHIKAO

No.

BUSTER

What!? Why not!?

CHIKAO

Aside for members of the Sawamura family,  
only you -- and a boy named Aubery who lives  
in New York -- have the special quality which  
allows you to gain Sawa-Style.

BUSTER

Interesting. What is this "special quality" that  
I have?

CHIKAO

I'll explain later. Sawa-Power!

CHIKAO's hair turns golden and spiky.

BUSTER

Sawa-Power!

BUSTER's hair turns golden and spiky.

They erupt into an intense battle -- a flurry of punches  
and kicks which look cool while not inflicting any damage.

Then they land on the ground, and they return to their  
normal hair-colors.

BUSTER

Sawa-Style is cool.

CHIKAO  
Yeah.

BUSTER  
I'm awesome.

CHIKAO  
I'm super-awesome.

BUSTER  
I'm mega-fantastic-super-awesome.

CHIKAO  
I'm ultra-hyper-super-mega-awes-tastic!

BUSTER  
(laughs)  
Awes-tastic isn't a word!

WIPE TO:

EXT. TOWN-SIDE POND - MORNING

MRS. CHAN and REG approach that rock where Banana likes to sit at night and ponder.

REG  
So she's buried around here?

MRS. CHAN  
Under that rock. It's tough for me to come out here, but Banana comes here every night, to think.

REG  
And to be close to her real mother, I suppose.

MRS. CHAN  
No, I don't think Banana has any clue that her real mother is buried here. I think it's just a coincidence that Banana picked this spot for her nightly meditations. But on some level, I don't know why, but I felt relieved when Banana began coming out here at nights.

INT. KITCHEN, CHAN APARTMENT - AFTERNOON

BUSTER and ROKO eat sandwiches.

BUSTER

Chikao agreed to train me in the Sawamura  
Five-Finger Soul Style of Kung-Fu!

ROKO

That style is insane.

BUSTER

You know about it?

ROKO

I know that the Sawamura school is the  
laughingstock of this town's Martial Arts  
schools, because their scrolls are cartoon-  
doodles.

BUSTER

I've seen the style; it's impressive.

ROKO

Is my cooking impressive?

BUSTER

Ah yes, of course!

ROKO laughs.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM, MAISON CHAN - AFTERNOON

BANANA shares noodles with REG.

BANANA

...and so that's why I was the oldest girl in  
Rain Middle School.

REG

This trip should make you appreciate the value  
of a good education.

BANANA

Oh, I appreciate education fine; it's just the

hours I don't like.

EXT. FOREST - AFTERNOON

MRS. CHAN and REG walk on a path.

MRS. CHAN  
Are you back for good?

REG  
Sure!

MRS. CHAN reacts happily.

REG  
And I'm tagging along on THE ETERNAL  
OASIS!

MRS. CHAN reacts sadly.

REG  
Why so sad?

MRS. CHAN  
I'm not a passenger.

REG  
Don't worry! They'll let me add you to the list!

MRS. CHAN's cell-phone rings -- she answers it.

MRS. CHAN  
(to phone)  
Hello?  
(pause)  
Because something came up, and I quit.  
(pause)  
Yes I can, and I'll be long gone by then.  
(pause)  
On THE ETERNAL OASIS, bye!

She abruptly ends the phone call.

MRS. CHAN  
That was fun!

MRS. CHAN and REG laugh.

REG  
Where'd you work?

MRS. CHAN  
At a TV station -- it was a dream of mine.

REG  
How'd you like it?

MRS. CHAN  
It was a dream come true -- and this is too.

REG  
You'd quit a dream job for one vacation?

MRS. CHAN  
It's a trip to space, Reg. I guess for someone like you, that doesn't mean a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, but most of us earth-bound folk would give anything for a space-ship trip! -- even if it means reuniting with a person who I never wanted to see again.

REG  
Oh no.

MRS. CHAN  
That's right, dad.

REG  
You seemed so happy to see me.

MRS. CHAN  
I can't help it. I do feel happy to see you. It's natural, I guess. But in my mind, I know that, because of the past, it's just not logical to forge a lasting relationship with you.

REG  
I'm confused. Do you, or do you not, want to join me on this trip?

MRS. CHAN  
I want to be on this trip. I'd want to be on this trip regardless of who else was with me. Just the idea of going to space makes it

worthwhile. So yeah, I'll be on the trip, and I'll be your friend on the trip. But after the trip, no matter how much bonding we do during the trip, you are no longer a part of our family after the trip.

REG

No matter how much bonding we do during the trip?

MRS. CHAN

That's right. What happens on the trip, stays on the trip. And dad, let's have some pleasant memories together on the trip, please. I would like that a lot.

REG

You're heartless.

CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT YARD, MAISON CHAN - AFTERNOON

BANANA notices BUSTER looking at a rock.

BANANA

Whatcha doin'?

BUSTER

I'm examining the biological constituents of this sedimentary rock, in order to determine its age.

BANANA

(laughs)

You're such a geek!

She sits beside him.

BANANA

I wanna be a geek too. Explain everything!

BUSTER

Alright. You see, a rock is sedimentary when it's layered with particles from sources such as plants, animals, and other rocks, et cetera. Biostratigraphy is to study the

biological layers. This will be useful on our trip, because...

REG approaches.

REG  
What's your deal, Buster?

BUSTER  
Huh?

REG  
I'm trying to figure out how you fit into this picture.

BUSTER  
What do you mean?

REG  
I mean, Banana and Plantane are my daughters, and Plantane told me that, due to a plague from the future, she's unable to have babies; meaning that you're not her son. So, since you're not her son, where'd your family resemblance come from?

BUSTER  
Did Ko ...err... Plantane ... umm ... did she tell you about the time-travel juice?

REG  
You're from the future too!?!

BUSTER  
Exactly. I'm your great-grandson!

REG  
Amazing!

WIPE TO:

INT. KITCHEN, MAISON CHAN - DAY

BUSTER and BANANA sit here, talking.

BUSTER  
I have no idea how time-lines work; in other

words, we could still be in danger from the NINjAs.

BANANA

I'd better travel to the future, to infiltrate their lair...just in case. It's in the twenty-forties, right?

BUSTER

Yeah, near the seaport, but DON'T GO!!! IT'S DANGEROUS!!!

BANANA vanishes in a puff of smoke.

INT. BACK ALLEY, CITY OF NEW RAIN - DAY

Many homeless people, and evildoers, dwell in this alley.

BANANA appears in a puff of smoke.

A scary looking guy, named THANAKI, approaches BANANA.

THANAKI

Hey girlie! Want a complete set of top quality fake IDs?

BANANA

(confused)

I...well...sure!

WIPE TO:

INT. KITCHEN, MAISON CHAN - DAY

BUSTER eats cereal.

BANANA appears in a puff of smoke.

BUSTER

Did you go to the lair of the NINjAs?

BANANA

(drunk)

I got side-tracked. G'night!

BANANA falls down.

END OF EPISODE