

"BANANA CHAN"

EPISODE 1x25

The New World Order

By Alan Holman

EXT. BACK YARD, MAISON CHAN - MORNING

MRS. CHAN and REG stare at the koi pond.

MRS. CHAN
Mom kept journals.

REG
She also kept glass unicorns. Your mother
had an over-active imagination.

MRS. CHAN
Dad, you stomped on Lacy when she was
only a toddler!

REG
You believe that shit?

MRS. CHAN
I remember it.

REG
I was so happy to see her smile today.

MRS. CHAN
I don't want to risk being near you long enough
to find out if you're still a monster.

REG
Where will you go?

MRS. CHAN
Nowhere.

REG
I bought this house. I own it.

MRS. CHAN
You punched certain holes, in certain walls,
behind certain family pictures. You should be
in jail!

REG

I love you.

MRS. CHAN

You lost my love when you stomped on Lacy.
I AM happy to see you, however, but ONLY
because I missed you too much. I look
forward to enjoying this trip with you. But I
never want to see you again, after the trip.

REG

Then please quit bringing up this topic every
time we're alone! I swear, if you bring up this
topic one more time before the trip, you're not
going!

WIPE TO:

INT. ICE-CREAM RESTAURANT

BUSTER and RYONE eat ice-cream.

BUSTER has a notebook.

BUSTER

This book contains poems you'll write.

BUSTER gives the notebook to RYONE.

BUSTER

I've crossed-out what Banana finds creepy.

RYONE

How did you find out what Banana finds
creepy?

BUSTER

I spent some time with a version of her from
the future who realized that she should have
been with you from the start.

RYONE

But didn't your time-travel power run out?

BUSTER

Don't ask too many questions.

RYONE

Right! I can't thank you enough! Now all I gotta do is use the poems to get the girl!

BUSTER

No. Actually, she's not into poems. They flatter her at first, but then they confuse her until she doesn't know what to make of them. And if you persist, they creep her out.

RYONE

But she inspires them!

BUSTER

That's why it's ironic. So if you must use poems, use only those which the future version of Banana didn't cross out ... such as this one she liked, called Mellow Yellow.

WIPE TO:

INT. BUS DECK, THE ETERNAL OASIS - AFTERNOON

BUSTER enters from the elevator, and sits in seat PW.

BUSTER

Ha ha! I'm the first one here!

MAIKO enters from the elevator, and sits in seat PA (beside BUSTER).

MAIKO

Ha ha! I'm the second one here!

BUSTER

Hi, Maiko!

RYONE enters from the elevator, and says...

RYONE

(interrupting)
HEY KIDS!!! WHAT'S UP!?!

BUSTER

Pretty soon, us!

MAIKO

Excuse me. I'll be right back.

MAIKO exits into one of the washrooms.

RYONE

You really love Maiko, don't you?

BUSTER

Yup. She makes me happy.

RYONE

I'm only truly happy when Banana Chan is happy, especially when I'm the one who's making her smile. I'm the happiest when I can see that carefree smile of hers.

BUSTER

I understand, since that's exactly how I feel about Maiko. I would lay down my own life to save her from any discomfort. So let me give you some advice.

RYONE

Sure!

BUSTER

If you're unpredictable, you're interesting. If you're predictable, you're boring. Listen Ryone: She knows you like her, so she expects you to be nice and kind to her. So therefore, being nice and kind to her will BORE HER! Instead, lean back, relax, and tease her. Make fun of her! Keep it good-natured, of course. She'll find you more fun to be around!

WIPE TO:

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - AFTERNOON

REG addresses an audience from the stage within a port-a-stadium which shelters THE ETERNAL OASIS from the blazing sun.

We never see the audience...

REG

Welcome to the elite launching ceremony of

THE ETERNAL OASIS!

The audience applauds.

REG

Its passengers are guests who will tour facilities of the Jupiter Project, a project which aims to cease production of that harmful Jupiter radiation, whose reaction with Europa's oceanic salts, causes the acidic ice on which the Europa Observatory Complex sits; this goal will be achieved by constructing a tetrahedral base within Jupiter, which will not only counter Jupiter's natural radiation, but it'll create jobs by ...

LOUD applause.

REG

Ahem, as I was saying: the base -- will facilitate such "Europa Cleansing" operations as acid extraction, rocket-fuel production, ...

WIPE TO:

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - AFTERNOON

REG is still addressing an audience from the stage within a port-a-stadium which shelters THE ETERNAL OASIS from the blazing sun.

We never see the audience...

REG

...to explain Europa's natural resources to the pioneers of tomorrow. Any more questions?

Silence.

REG

Great! Each passenger will enter the ship after their individual introduction! One passenger, my daughter, has butterflies in her stomach, so she's opted out of being introduced.

The audience giggles a bit.

REG

In other words, forty-nine passengers will be named today, along with twenty crew members -- each a future name for a street, city, high school, planet, et cetera, I'm sure!

The audience applauds.

REG

The "Dark Sky" is a recently-declassified secret society of millions of people, from Japan, and other countries, who live and work at recently-declassified government-funded bases and facilities throughout, and slightly beyond, our solar system. As pioneers in this era of enhanced disclosure, The Eternal Oasis' passengers and crew have been awarded the honor of the first-ever GRAND TOUR of the now-defunct "Dark Sky." In other words, several "pit stops" have been added to the already-spectacular agenda!

The audience applauds.

REG

Since the beginning of The Dark Sky -- five thousand years ago in France -- when Baka appeared to our founding father in a cave, our biggest motivator has been what Baka told us, that the feeling you get when you help others is enough to transform a demon into an angel.
(pause)

Humanity will eventually overpopulate the earth. That sobering fact concerned The Dark Sky so much that ... well, long story short, we'd like to offer this speech as our public apology for certain myths, and this free trip for some of the fans of our work!

INT. BUS DECK, THE ETERNAL OASIS - AFTERNOON

Happy people fill one quarter of the seats, talking amongst themselves, having what sounds like a fun party! 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. So far, the passengers (and their seat numbers) are: BANANA (ZW), RYONE (ZA), ROKO (1A), MRS. CHAN (2A), DOCTOR MELFIN (4W), ALICIA (CW), and MAIKO (15A).

BANANA (ZW) and RYONE (ZA)...

BANANA
(laughing)
937's part cat, but ALL stomach! He's raiding the cafeteria.

RYONE
That food's gotta last!

BANANA
Don't worry. We can thank our lucky stars that they packed a lot of food, because they love us!

RYONE
Your hair looks so ...

RYONE rubs the tips of her hair.

RYONE
... soft.

BANANA closes her eyes.

RYONE kisses BANANA -- then she smiles and laughs, while blushing.

Then she gets angry ...

BANANA
HEY!

RYONE
(laughs)
This is great! You had to think about it for a second before you got angry! That means you actually do like me, but you're refusing to accept love from me for some other reason. Banana -- tell me that reason. Then we'll deal with it, overcome it, and be together!

BANANA

I keep rejecting you, because ... well -- it's not you, it's me.

RYONE

Banana. There's nothing wrong with you!

BANANA

And there's nothing wrong with you, Ryone, but, where guys are concerned, Ryone, you're my fourth choice.

RYONE

Yay! Only three rivals! I still have a chance! Are any of them on this trip?

BANANA

None of them are on this trip.

She pauses to think about it for a second, then she gives him a big kiss.

RYONE

Thank you, GOD!

BANANA laughs.

RYONE gives her a big kiss.

They laugh.

RYONE

Now please tell me the names of my three rivals.

BANANA

Oh Ryone, please don't ask that question.

RYONE

Pretty please?

BANANA

(sigh)
I don't know.

RYONE

Pretty please with a cherry on top?

BANANA
(laughs)
Okay.

They laugh.

BANANA
Your first rival is James Alyn. He lives and works in Rain.

RYONE
I wish I could destroy the town, and have you all to myself.

They laugh.

BANANA
Well, your other two rivals don't live in Rain. Second on my ladder is Dorian, an American. Third is Rob, who currently works in Tokyo. And then there's you.

RYONE
Well, those other guys aren't here, so ...

BANANA gives RYONE another huge kiss!

BUSTER enters from the stairwell, stands in front of the elevator, and looks at the back of MAIKO's head, while thinking...

BUSTER
(thoughts, v.o.)
Congratulations, Ryone and Banana!

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - AFTERNOON

REG addresses an audience from the stage within a port-a-stadium which shelters THE ETERNAL OASIS from the blazing sun.

We never see the audience...

REG
Now we must pay homage to the mythological characters whose nomenclatures inspired our

perceptions of our destination.

(contemplative pause)

No? Actually, that idea bores me. Let's just start the count-down now, starting at t-minus ten minutes, okay?

The audience laughs and cheers as REG climbs a rope-ladder into a hatch on the bottom of the ship.

CUT TO:

INT. BUS DECK, THE ETERNAL OASIS - AFTERNOON

...same as before.

REG enters from the elevator, and announces:

REG
EIGHT MINUTES LEFT!

Everyone applauds.

REG
(concerned)
This deck seems empty.

MRS. CHAN
(to REG)
What do you expect?

REG
I don't know. I know everyone's onboard.
(sigh)
I just thought we'd all meet in the bus deck for launch.

MRS. CHAN
You never spoke up about that.

MRS. CHAN (2A) moves to 2W.

REG sits in 2A, beside MRS. CHAN (2W).

BUSTER approaches them.

BUSTER
Hiya, Reg!

REG
Hey Buster!

BUSTER's eyes dampen.

BUSTER
Reg. This is the happiest day of my life!

REG
I know.

FADE TO:

INT. BUS DECK, THE ETERNAL OASIS - AFTERNOON

...same as before (except REG has left the room).

REG'S VOICE
(on intercom)
Attention all decks. There's been another
delay.

Everyone's disappointed.

REG'S VOICE
A little girl forgot her teddy bear. We'll be
ready for launch in a few minutes.

CUT TO:

MONTAGE OF IMAGES: Around the world, large audiences view
the launching ceremony on large televisions.

WORDS ON SCREEN
Six hours later...

CUT TO:

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - EVENING

As powerful rockets push THE ETERNAL OASIS toward space, we
hear BUSTER's voice.

BUSTER'S VOICE
Clutching safety talismans, we ascend beyond
the highest mountains, and our world stands

envious of this day we've won, but will the need to explore prove our humanity as its own tragic flaw?

EXT. SPACE

THE ETERNAL OASIS escapes from earth's atmosphere.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROOFTOP, MEGALITH TOWER, TOKYO - NIGHT

ROB PISO stands atop this huge, complicated skyscraper.

ROB PISO (age 18) stands very tall, at 7'0" -- beneath his long black wavy hair, and imposing red contact lenses, this guy who's bulging with muscles, wears a long dark jacket, leather pants, and designer boots.

His long, black jacket, flaps in the wind.

ROB
(screaming)
IF I CAN'T HAVE HER ...!

CUT TO:

EXT. TOWN OF RAIN - NIGHT

Lightning crumbles the sky, as a THERMONUCLEAR DEVICE free-falls heavily, from thundering-clouds.

After its long, heavy free-fall, the THERMONUCLEAR DEVICE penetrates the center of its target: the rooftop of MAISON CHAN.

In a bright snap, the town, and its surrounding forest, are a crater.

EXT. ROOFTOP, MEGALITH TOWER, TOKYO - NIGHT

ROB PISO's long, black jacket flaps in the wind, as he stands atop this huge, complicated skyscraper.

A fresh breeze blows, as he says, through his satisfied grin...

ROB

... THE WORLD CAN'T HAVE HER! Banana Chan! I love you! I want only two things -- to be with you, and to make you happy! But you don't love me. You even told me that you never want to see me again! Never means I'd spoil your enjoyment of Heaven, so -- for your sake -- I have to go to Hell! This is my way of sacrificing my happiness for yours!

ROB prepares to jump.

BAKA appears in an exploding fireball.

BAKA

Boo!

ROB runs away.

COMMERCIAL BREAK

INT. STAIRWELL, THE ETERNAL OASIS

937 sits on a windowsill, looking at SPACE STATION FREEDOM as they approach it.

SPACE STATION FREEDOM is a large, spinning, wheel-shaped mechanism.

937

(thoughts, voice over)

"Human eyes see this as a window, but my eyes see the room on the other side."

937 leaps down, and notices a vent between two stairs; with his claws, he removes the vent cover, then crawls into the vent, and puts the cover back onto the vent.

INT. VENTS, THE ETERNAL OASIS

937 crawls towards another vent cover, and peeks through it.

INT. YELLOW ZONE, THE ETERNAL OASIS

At floor level, 937 peeks from a vent into a room where 125 men and women, who have reptilian faces and reptilian eyes, sit in their own "Bus Deck".

Each reptilian wears a flag-pin from a different country.

A small sign on the wall says, "Yellow Zone."

REG enters "Yellow Zone", and addresses the reptilians.

REG

Esteemed delegates, please allow me the honor of your attention.

The reptilians pay attention as REG makes a speech.

REG

The agreed upon cities and towns world-wide have been destroyed by thermonuclear devices while witnesses on the fringes of those locations have been killed. Your technology is decontaminating the craters, and the public is being told that comets caused the craters. My company, Hazuki's company, and Megalith, are ready to follow your blueprints to design the new cities, in the New World Order.

The reptilians cheer.

REG

Exactly ten minutes after we dock with Space Station Freedom, the tourists will have all cleared the airlock, and that's when you will be expected at the airlock. The celebratory feast is already prepared for you in the cloaked wing of the space station.

The reptilians cheer.

EXT. SPACE, BETWEEN EARTH AND MOON

THE ETERNAL OASIS docks with called SPACE STATION FREEDOM.

INT. BUS DECK, THE ETERNAL OASIS

The passengers gaze almost droolingly at the intercoms from which REG's voice is distributed throughout the deck.

REG'S VOICE

Our tour of Space Station Freedom will go ahead as scheduled, but I'm about to tell you some very sad news. We're lucky we launched when we did, because I'm told -- and the pictures I've seen are available on your computer monitors -- that ... well, look for yourselves.

A collective gasp fills the room as the passengers look over computer images of the crater that is where Rain, Japan was.

REG'S VOICE

It's true. Although we didn't see it, a comet destroyed Rain, Japan.

BANANA

(screaming through sudden tears)
Oh no, James!

Everybody cries.

REG'S VOICE

The Megalith Corporation is graciously replacing the town with a New City. They call it: New Rain City.

INT. AIRLOCK, THE ETERNAL OASIS

The tourists finish walking through the open hatch into the corridor of SPACE STATION FREEDOM, but 937 stays behind.

REG enters.

937

New World Order?

REG reveals a gun, points it at 937 ... click, click, click, click, click, click.

REG

You removed my bullets?

937

I also set timers on the docking pylons.

937 runs into the corridor, and vanishes around a corner.

The reptilians arrive.

THE ETERNAL OASIS disconnects from the SPACE STATION.
REG grabs hold of something in time, but the reptilians are
all sucked into space.

REG grabs a remote control from his pocket, pushes a
button, and the airlock door closes.

INT. CORRIDOR, SPACE STATION FREEDOM

REG has a conversation with a CREW MEMBER.

REG

They were in the airlock when it happened.

The CREW MEMBER hugs REG, and cries joyfully, into his
shoulder.

REG

The feast that was prepared for the reptilians,
is now for the tour group.

(thoughts, voice over)

"I will still kill the boy. With the reptilians out
of the picture, the New World Order will be
according to my vision, rather than theirs!"

WIPE TO:

EXT. THE SOLAR SYSTEM

We see THE ETERNAL OASIS cruise through space.

NARRATOR

The Space Tourists mourned the loss of their
home-town, but during their five-month voyage
to Europa, Buster had the most reasons to be
depressed. Buster loved Maiko, and wanted
nothing more out of life but to kiss her, but
Maiko had a new guilty secret -- a mysterious
new secret that made Maiko feel so guilty that
she couldn't even bring herself to simply look
Buster in the eyes.

INT. STAIRWELL, THE ETERNAL OASIS

MAIKO looks out a window, at the moon as they pass it.
BUSTER approaches, looks at the back of MAIKO's head, and
thinks...

BUSTER
(thoughts, v.o.)
I'm fond of every second spent with her. I long
for the profound scent of her. I'm driven to,
and other ways, sent to her. I'll find no shame
in getting next to her.

BUSTER laughs.

MAIKO turns around.

MAIKO
Oh, hi Buster. How long have you been
watching the back of my head?

BUSTER
Long enough to get inspired.

MAIKO
I wish ...

BUSTER
(interrupting)
Your every wish is my command.

MAIKO
Give it a ...

BUSTER
Give me a kiss! Let it be a dance-hall for our
tongues!

MAIKO
What!?

BUSTER grabs her hands, and says.

BUSTER
Most sleepless nights, you appear in
daydreams of all conceivable situations. And,
speaking of sleep ...

MAIKO's eyes dampen.

MAIKO
Buster. We can't ...

BUSTER
... my family has told me that I don't snore at all, and -- in the end -- isn't that all that really matters?

MAIKO
Well, yeah ... only ...

BUSTER strokes her hands, looks into her eyes, and says ...

BUSTER
The gentle touch of our hands, through the joined sleeves of our sweaters, completes so much.

MAIKO
(giggles)
Buster -- we're not wearing sweaters. And don't you mean "so many"?

BUSTER
No. Not this time. Our touch completes so much.

MAIKO
So much what?

BUSTER
So much ...
(shakes his head)
... so many aspects of that couple of ex-singles who make up this single couple of lovers.

MAIKO pulls her hand away abruptly, and looks at the floor.

BUSTER
What's wrong?

MAIKO
Buster. You've gotta pull ... away.

BUSTER
But I can't resist your ...

MAIKO
Please, Buster. Don't talk like this now.

BUSTER
But ...

MAIKO looks sad.

MAIKO
Just go ... for now.

BUSTER
Until when?

MAIKO
Soon ... I promise ... soon.

BUSTER nods, turns around, and then walks away.

MAIKO begins weeping.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE SOLAR SYSTEM

We see THE ETERNAL OASIS cruise through space.

NARRATOR
Buster's every word became heart-breaking
poetry, which creeped Maiko out, until her
friends got concerned, and conspired to keep
Buster away from her, at all times.

CUT TO:

INT. STAIRWELL, THE ETERNAL OASIS

BUSTER looks out a window, at the moon and the Earth in the
distance.

BUSTER
(crying)
Memories of my darling fill my head with
daydreams of her standing forever here with

me.

MAIKO approaches behind him, and listens.

BUSTER does not notice that MAIKO is behind him. MAIKO gradually appears to get more and more frightened with every word she hears.

BUSTER

(crying)

My mistake was that I always concealed the blush upon my cheek whenever my princess would share an afternoon gaze, upon anything at all, with me.

MAIKO'S THOUGHTS

"No, Buster. You were adorable when you tried to put up a brave front."

MAIKO begins weeping silently -- BUSTER still doesn't notice her.

BUSTER

(crying)

My unspoken dream of ceaselessly escorting that girl throughout this drifting cloud called life inspired this strange behavior.

MAIKO'S THOUGHTS

"Dreams like true love shouldn't ever be left unspoken. Because you weren't brave enough to be totally up-front with me at the right time, I became more involved with something that adds an obstacle to our love. I do love you, Buster!"

MAIKO runs away -- so silently that he never noticed her.

Now BUSTER is alone again.

BUSTER

(crying)

I would move mountains, galaxies for her. She is my eternal oasis, my forever spring. If these words and tears don't transcend that gap, between her and I, my tears that I will cry will become yet another eternal oasis.

EXT. OUTER SPACE

The same rock which used-to be beside BUSTER's home-town is now in space. BUSTER sits on that rock, and cries. Tears slip from his eyes, roll down his face, and fall from both sides of his chin, until those tears form a pond that floats in space, into which he dips his toes, and PONDERs ... still crying into the pond; feeding it, until it is a rapid whitewater river that flows straight-foreword from the rock, directly toward even farther than his eyes can see.

BUSTER jumps into the river, and begins swimming toward the other end... of the universe.

BUSTER

My ancestors were stripped of names, and numbered, because they fought for their right to believe in what Reg so disrespects.

(pause)

And 937 just told me that he overheard Reg say that the arranged wedding was an elaborate hoax, a cover story, because the real purpose of our trip is so that Reg's super-evil organization called The Dark Sky, can take over the world by staging a miracle. I'm the guy they wanna throw into The Great Red Storms of Jupiter. Then a robot replicate of me is supposed to emerge three years later, and be their puppet. They genetically programmed me to love Maiko, and I'm going to sacrifice myself in order to save her life at a scripted event at the airlock. And she's known this all along. I hate and love her at the same time.

(laughs)

That's why I know what I have to do.

INT. AIRLOCK, THE ETERNAL OASIS

BUSTER stands at the airlock.

MAIKO approaches.

MAIKO

Buster!?

BUSTER grabs MAIKO'S shoulders.

BUSTER
(crying)
How could you take part in something like that!?

MAIKO
(crying)
It's my duty. My parents put me into this group when I was very young. Buster, I believed in their ideals for a long time.

BUSTER
They're like a weird religious and political cult! They want to take over the world!

MAIKO
I know, but the world could be in worse hands.

BUSTER
What are you talking about?

MAIKO
Their plan to stage a miracle so that they control an undeniable religion. I don't know all the details, but I know my role, and I've realized that I can't go through with it. Buster, I love you, and I didn't want you to be in that cell. I'm scared that the moment I've been preparing for might actually happen. Buster, you're perfect.

BUSTER
(crying)
I love you.

MAIKO
Even though this cult considers me their Holy Mother, you're the only one who's ever actually made me feel truly special. I want you to know that.

BUSTER
Holy Mother? What do you mean? If I'm the

guy who gets thrown into Jupiter and emerges three years later ...

MAIKO

It's not you who emerges. It's a robot. They kill you.

BUSTER

If they're gonna kill me, then is the robot gonna be the father? How's that possible?

REG enters from around a corner, and ties himself to a harness that straps him to a rope that's tied to a door-knob.

MAIKO

(to REG, nervous)

I .. thought Buster and I ... I thought we'd do this alone ... that was the plan, wasn't it?

REG

Both of you kids will open that airlock, and jump into the Great Red Storms of Jupiter. We are in position.

MAIKO

Et moi, Reggie?

REG points a gun at MAIKO, and says ...

REG

Jump.

BUSTER

What the HELL is wrong with you Mr. Chan!?

MAIKO

Why are you pointing the gun at both of us!?

BUSTER holds MAIKO in his arms, as she cries into his chest.

REG

Buster. Do you really want to hold her in your arms after how she betrayed you?

BUSTER

Shut up, you crazy psycho!

REG
I'll bet you're confused about what's going on --
wondering why I ...

BUSTER
(blows a kiss at Maiko)
Nah. I'm clear on what's going on.

BUSTER pushes a button which opens the airlock.

The vacuum of space, pulls them toward space -- but MAIKO uses her legs to hook herself to the side of the airlock, and she uses both of her arms to hang onto one of BUSTER's arms, as his entire body is outside of the ship -- he's dangling from the ship ... holding onto her arms.

MAIKO
Hold on!

BUSTER
Okay! Because maybe you're gonna be the
one that saves me! Because after all, you're
my ...

BUSTER notices that REG is aiming the gun at MAIKO.

BUSTER
DON'T SHOOT HER!

REG
The only way to stop me is to let go.

MAIKO
DON'T LET GO! I'LL PULL YOU IN!

BUSTER barks like a dog, and the surprise makes her let go of him and retract into the ship, and roll beside the airlock.

BUSTER falls into space.

REG pushes a button which closes the airlock.

END OF EPISODE