

Banana Chan

34

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EXT. SPIRAL ROAD, TOP OF MOUNTAIN - EVENING

937 digs his claws into the rubber seat in front of where AUBERY sits on the rumbling motorbike. They gaze at the unguarded gate in front of the towering FORTRESS which looks like it used to be an old gothic-style cathedral ...

... which suddenly grows into a seventy-storey building.

AUBERY

What the hell?

937

Way weird.

AUBERY

My sister Kara is in there!

They look through the large open gate, and see that there's a moat between the gate and the fortress door.

937

Will we save your sister now, or what?

AUBERY

(nods)

Yup. Time for a rescue!

A tall, curly-mustached MAN, wearing very cool dark sunglasses, a green suit, and green top-hat, and a parachute, descends from the sky, lands beside AUBERY, and asks ...

MAN

Are they expecting you? Am I interrupting something?

937

Yes.

MAN

I'll pretend I didn't just hear a cat talk.

The gate closes.

MAN

There. I've distracted you. Tell me what you remember from your day, Mister Spade? Anything in particular stick out?

937 looks annoyed.

AUBERY

Yeah, your ugly mug. Now if you don't mind, you're in my way.

AUBERY parks the bike, gets off the bike, and stands in front of the gate.

MAN

It's closed. It's six forty-five. They close at six forty-five. Please please, Mr. Spade ... don't you remember anything particularly ... let's say ... cruel ... from your day?

937 looks confused.

The MAN smiles.

AUBERY

Let's see. Some chick tried to roast me. Got attacked by ninja-like henchmen. And I've said this already: your face!

MAN

Well, any normal person would remember the kid who got run over.

(smiles)

You ARE particularly cruel if you don't remember that ... haha ... so, guess what I'm going to ask you to do?

AUBERY

Run over? I'm not doing anything for you, so forget it!

MAN

The boy who got run over, and spatula'd off the ground, was not ground to chili meat after all. It was a robot filled with fake organs, as part of a prank for a new TV reality show called CRUELtv. Your reaction was worthwhile. I am a TV producer -- Mr. Three -- I need you to sign a release form so that we can use that footage, and your image, on the show.

937

What a waste of time!

MAN

I'll continue to pretend that a cat isn't talking to me.

937

Scram!

MAN laughs.

AUBERY

(sighs in annoyance)

I agree with the cat. Now if you don't mind, I have something important to do.

AUBERY knocks on the gate.

MAN

I can help you get over the gate. My briefcase is in my office -- it's in there.

Pause.

AUBERY

(skeptical)

What's the catch for you helping me?

MAN

The catch is that you sign the release forms in my office, so that I can use your image on my reality

TV show from earlier today.

937

This is stupid.

MAN laughs.

The ground begins rumbling ...

AUBERY

The hell?

MAN

Got me! I don't know!

MAN starts running down the road towards town, screaming...

MAN

EVERY MAN FOR HIMSELF!

The rumbling slows down a bit ... but continues in a way which doesn't seem too uncomfortable.

AUBERY

Hey, I thought ... bah whatever. I'll find my own way in. Stupid creepy mustache-guy.

The continuing rumbling opens the gate. AUBERY and 937 walk forward through the gate ... as they hear the MAN scream in pain behind them ...

937

What's he screaming about?

AUBERY

I'm too worried about Kara to care about anything else.

937

Okay. Although maybe we should have asked him why he knew your name.

AUBERY

(shrugs)
Maybe next time.

937

This is fun. I hope there's a next time. After this adventure, will we ever hang out again?

AUBERY

Maybe.

937

I hope so.

They ignore the MAN's screams -- they continue to the other side of the gate.

EXT. MOAT

Between the gate and the fortress is a moat -- a bridge over a river of boiling lava. The bridge is thin and shaking as the ground rumbles.

937 jumps onto AUBERY's shoulders, and clings, as AUBERY steps onto the bridge.

From a concealed loudspeaker somewhere, KOKEN's voice screams ...

KOKEN'S VOICE

(screaming loudly)

Lose your balance! Fall! Burn! Boil! Die!

AUBERY

(smirks)

Forget it!

AUBERY maintains his balance all the way to the other side of the bridge.

The fortress door creaks open.

AUBERY walks through the door.

INT. LARGE AUDITORIUM

AUBERY and 937 enter, and pass an elevator which has a button that says "up". They ignore that elevator, and proceed into this room which is a theater, where aside for only one empty seat in the front row, a large audience of hypnotized, zombie-like people, fill thirty rows, while staring mindlessly at a closed curtain on a stage.

KOKEN'S VOICE
Bwa hahaha! Mwa hahaha! Kya hahaha!

AUBERY -- with 937 on his shoulder -- takes the empty seat,
and tries to look inconspicuous.

KOKEN'S VOICE
Gya hahaha!

AUBERY
(mumbling)
I wish she'd stop laughing ... or at least choke on
it.

The audience remains silent. The theater lights dim, but
the stage gets illuminated brightly. KOKEN's voice gets
louder ...

KOKEN'S VOICE
Nya haha! Bwaa-haaa-haaa-ha! G'fa hahaha!

The curtain opens, and a spotlight shines on KARA who lays
unconscious in the middle of an otherwise bare stage.

The audience stands and applauds.

KOKEN'S VOICE
N'ga hahaha! Fuwa, haha!

AUBERY
Kara! What did you do to my sister, you old hag?!
And shut the hell up, before I shove this blade
down your throat!

937
Aubery's heart is where it should be -- he's
protective of his sister.

KOKEN'S VOICE
Fwa, haha!

The applause gets louder.

KOKEN'S VOICE
Uwee heeheehee! Heh heh heh heh ho!

KARA vanishes in a puff of smoke ... as KOKEN appears in that place.

KOKEN

If you want to rescue her, you must do battle with me!

The audience applauds.

KOKEN raises her hands ... and AUBERY flies onto the stage, across from her.

AUBERY

Creepy.

KOKEN

I've got good news and bad news. The good news is that you've got a chance to rescue her.

AUBERY

That's good.

KOKEN

But the bad news is that it'll be a HELL of a lot easier to rescue her, if you can guess what number I'm thinking of; it's between one and ten. You can ask me three questions first, and then you'll have two guesses. For every wrong answer, I kill. If you answer wrong once, your sister dies. If you answer wrong twice, your sister dies and that cat dies.

937

Oh no!

AUBERY falls over animé-style ... then gets up, brushes dust off of himself ... and stands with composure.

AUBERY

That's your big test?

The audience slowly begins to leave the auditorium.

KOKEN

(laughing, making crazy noises)
Walka walka walka! Sploit! Whoo Hooo!
Groooooooooo ... darn it!

AUBERY
Okay fine. I'll play. Is it lower than five?

KOKEN
No.

A quarter of the audience has left. The audience continues to leave.

AUBERY
Does it start with an "S"?

KOKEN
Yes. You must guess now.

AUBERY
Hmm ... seven?

KOKEN
No! It was six! YOU LOSE!

AUBERY
Don't kill my sister!

KOKEN
I won't.

KOKEN smiles, and takes off her jacket, revealing a tank-top, and a green-glowing amulet around her neck.

KOKEN
You will. You can't defeat me unless you kill her.

AUBERY
What!?

Fifty percent of the audience is gone. The audience continues leaving.

AUBERY
Hey, you cheat! What happened to I get to guess twice?

The amulet around KOKEN's neck begins to glow much brighter. AUBERY covers his eyes.

AUBERY

And what's with the freaky amulet of glowy-ness?

KOKEN

HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA! Second guesses and truth are too fair for crazy evil people like myself!

KOKEN turns into a fifty foot snake, and sprouts twelve snake heads -- numbered 1-to-12, from left to right -- each with its own pair of arms. The amulet -- which now glows a bit brighter -- remains around snake head number 7.

AUBERY

That explains the amulet.

The audience is now seventy-five percent gone. The audience continues leaving.

937

(screaming)

Do something!

AUBERY

Like what? I'm not a sixty foot tall mongoose here!

937

I don't know. I wish this were an RPG, and we had summon magics ... like a water sprite named Sylph, or something -- that'd be cool.

AUBERY

This is no time for jokes!

937

Nonsense. It's always time for jokes. What's black and white, and green all over? A black and white painting that you spilled pickle juice on. Mmm ... pickle juice. Anyway, I do have some suggestions. The sword on your back, perhaps! Or the weapons in your belt! Earlier today, you just grabbed them so quickly, without even bothering to see what they are!

AUBERY

Oh yeah.

AUBERY browses the weapons in his belt; he has nunchucks ... a few different knives, including a weird switchblade that has a mysterious orange button beside the metal button which can flip it open. He still wears the samurai sword -- Sawa-Steel -- on his back.

The audience is 100% gone.

The amulet grows into an "energy bubble" containing Kara ... she stands inside the bubble, watching the situation with a concerned look on her face.

Head number 1 of the giant twelve-headed snake demon whips its tongue toward AUBERY.

AUBERY ducks, flips-open his switchblade, and tries to slice the tongue, but can only hold it back. So AUBERY tries his luck with the orange button on the switchblade, and suddenly the blade burns white-hot, and cuts the giant tongue with ease.

Snake head number 1 screams and vanishes. The rest of the snake demon retracts to its side of the stage, and begins weeping.

SNAKE HEAD #7
(weeping)
Stay back, or everyone dies!

The sound of Koken crying comes from inside the giant monster.

AUBERY
Hey 937. Any ideas on how to beat snake-bastard here?

937
With Kara in the amulet around its neck, and Koken in the monster somewhere, I don't know if killing the monster is the right course of action.

From inside the monster, KOKEN's voice shouts ...

KOKEN'S VOICE
You must free me from this curse, and I'll see to it that Kara is freed from that amulet! Before I revert back to being completely taken over by the

snake-demon, you must get the cup of ... MWAH!
HAHAHA!

AUBERY

Cut up what?! Life?! Death?! Prune juice?!

The monster stops crying, and its head number 2 flings its tongue toward AUBERY.

AUBERY leaps off the stage, ducks, scrambles under the seats, crawling to beneath the fifth row as luckily the tongue is only long enough to demolish rows one-to-four.

SNAKE HEAD #2

Hahaha!

The tongue retracts with a slight bruise.

AUBERY

Oh no! The cat was in the first row! Where is he? 937!?

937 peels himself off the wall, shakes his head, and says ...

937

S'alright!

Snake head number 2 whips its bruised tongue toward AUBERY.

AUBERY stabs the tongue with the white hot switchblade, cutting it off. Snake head number 2 vanishes. The monster slinks back to its corner, and cries, as Koken's voice says ...

KOKEN'S VOICE

The half-full cup ... it contains enough of a specific gene which they ... Hwhwhwhwh!

AUBERY

Hey! The more tongues I cut, the more info I get!

The monster stops crying.

Snake head number 3 whips its tongue toward AUBERY.

AUBERY slashes at the tongue; it flops off. Snake head number 3 vanishes. The monster starts crying. From inside the amulet, KARA screams ...

KARA
AUBERY! GET THE CUP!!! SHE HAS MY
NAME, BUT DIFFERENT!!!

KOKEN'S VOICE
Hwhhwhhw!

AUBERY
Where's the cup, Kara?!

KARA
It's in a basement!

KARA falls into a creepy open-eyed trance.

The monster stops crying.

Snake heads number 4 and 5 fling their tongues toward AUBERY.

COMMERCIAL BREAK.

AUBERY slashes at the two tongues, cutting them off in one quick swipe. Heads 4 and 5 vanish.

The monster starts laughing.

SNAKE HEAD #7
Nyeah -- hahahahahaha! You leave me no other
choice, but to unleash ... hahahahaha ... the ...
hahahaha!

The monster rolls on the floor, laughing hysterically.

AUBERY
Yeah, yeah ... keep laughin', chuckles! You're
gonna be deep-fried rattle-snake soon enough!

SNAKE HEAD #7
TIME HOP!

The entire monster disappears in a puff of smoke ... along with KARA!

AUBERY looks down. The floor is shiny.

937 runs up to AUBERY, moves his mouth, trying to say something, but all that comes out is an inaudible whisper.

AUBERY
937, what's up?

937 points his paw at the door.

AUBERY leans down to try to hear what 937 is saying.

937
(pained whisper)
Cara ... spelled with a "C" ... she's got a special cup ... I hoped it would never come to this ... the basement of my house ... we must go. We've gotta hurry to the cup, before it gets washed! Cara has a specific gene ... long story! We must hurry! By the way, we might have to put up with a birthday party -- I'm eight!

AUBERY grabs 937, puts that cyborg cat onto his shoulder, and heads for the door.

As AUBERY is just about to step out the door, rockets on all four corners of the fortress ignite, launching the entire fortress five thousand feet into the sky.

They look down at a mountain beside a deep ocean ... and the town, surrounded by forest. It looks smaller from this altitude.

AUBERY
How the hell are we supposed to get to your place now?

937
I don't know. Jumping into the ocean might be an option ... if we have a death-wish.

AUBERY looks at the elevator, and he pushes the "up" button.

AUBERY
Let's try the elevator ... we're going up anyways.

The elevator door opens. They walk into the elevator.

INT. ELEVATOR

A fancily-dressed OPERATOR holds a lever.

AUBERY and 937 enter.

OPERATOR

Which floor? One to seventy?

937

I didn't realize it was that tall.

OPERATOR

It looks a different size from the outside, does it? Well, I wouldn't know. I don't get out much.

AUBERY

Umm ... seventy?

OPERATOR

Going up!

The OPERATOR pulls the lever.

The floor disappears from under AUBERY and 937 ...

EXT. SKY, BETWEEN FLYING FORTRESS AND MOUNTAIN -

EVENING

Under the moonlit flying fortress, AUBERY and 937 fall towards the pool of bubbling lava, which is where the fortress used to be, on top of the volcanic mountain.

AUBERY wields the samurai sword -- Sawa-Steel -- and says ...

AUBERY

This is not my DAY!

937

I'd fall slower if I weren't clinging to you. But I can't let go, because I don't want to fall into a bubbling volcano alone. And because I have a crazy idea. Do you remember what Mikon told you to say?

AUBERY
Umm ... Sawa ... something or other, right?

937
We're falling fast!

AUBERY
Alright, okay!

937
I don't know what will happen. I just think it's our only option. It can't get worse than this, so hurry up!

AUBERY
Alright, okay!

937
I'm having second, third, and millionth thoughts against it, but try anyway!

AUBERY
Sheesh, pushy cat.

937
Sorry.

AUBERY points the sword at the moon, and shouts ...

AUBERY
MEGA SAWA FLAME!

An pillar of violet flames immediately appears between the sword and the moon. One side is on the sword, and the other side is tied around the moon like a giant bungee cord. It slows their fall until they land softly on the lip of the volcano.

But then the cord breaks, and suddenly AUBERY finds that he is pointing a long flaming bungee-whip of kinetic flame at the town!

AUBERY
This could be bad. What do I do cat?

937

Point the sword in any other direction! Hurry!

AUBERY
Like where. Ocean or forest?

937
NOT THE FOREST!

AUBERY
Ocean it is! I hope you don't short out in water.

937
What -- like a splash?

AUBERY swings the sword a bit and points the flaming whip at the ocean.

The retracting whip of fire snaps into the water.

The sword returns to normal.

The ocean boils for a few seconds.

Sea food now floats belly-up, on the surface of the ocean.

937
Now that I think about it, we could have used it to destroy that flying fortress.

There's a rumbling noise in the distance ... and it's not the volcano.

937
What do you suppose that noise is?

AUBERY
No clue.

937
It's not the volcano. It's coming from somewhere else.

AUBERY
Do you want to stick around to find out?

937
No.

They walk toward the winding road, and begin their trek down the mountain.

The rumbling noise gets louder.

937

It's coming from the ocean.

They look to the ocean, and see a 200 meter, tidal wave in the distance, heading toward the town.

937

It must have been caused by the sword!

AUBERY

Well shit.

937

I hate people who swear. But I'll let it slide this time, because of the situation. And what a situation it is! Although that wave is still very far away, it's pretty big! And according to my calculations, it'll only get bigger! Also, I calculate that it's still got twenty minutes until it'll reach the town. But there's a speck of good news in the fact that this mountain is high enough that we can survive if we stay put. But the townsfolk will all suffer a horrible tsunami!

AUBERY finds that motorbike on the road.

They get on the motorbike, and 937 says ...

937

I see you've made up your mind. That means we've got twenty minutes to somehow save the the town. I don't know how we'll do it, but I believe that, if we work as a team, we can do anything!

AUBERY nods.

937

So what are we waiting for, Aubery? Let's go!

AUBERY

There's something I should do first.

937

What?

AUBERY points the sword -- SAWA STEEL -- at the flying fortress which is above the ocean.

AUBERY

Not Mega, but Large Sawa Flame!

A cord of flame extends, from the sword, towards the fortress. AUBERY swings the cord of flame a few times until the fortress falls from the sky, and forms a DAM. The tidal wave hits that dam, and then the water subsides.

AUBERY

Now we don't have to worry about the tidal wave.

The cord of flame retracts back into the sword, and AUBERY puts the sword onto the holder on his back.

937

I would have never thought to do that.

AUBERY

That's because I'M the hero of the story.

937 jumps onto AUBERY's shoulder, and AUBERY starts the motorbike, and they speed towards the town.

937

The floating demon head we saw back at my house, is a friendly demon. He's my father, actually. And he's a time-traveler. He can follow things called "spectral scents" in order to find out where that big monster "time-hopped" to. And my friend Cara, whose name sounds like your sister's name, except it's spelled a bit differently, was the girl who was laying on the couch in my basement when we went there.

AUBERY

I remember a cup nearby her. That must be the cup from the clue. The liquid in that cup must hold the key to defeating that monster.

937

Agreed.

Suddenly, like an echo of what the monster said earlier, we hear the words: "TIME HOP." Those words reverberate throughout the area.

AUBERY

What the hell?

AUBERY stops the motor-bike, and looks towards the sky over the ocean. The multi-headed Snake Demon which they fought earlier -- minus the heads that were cut off -- appears in the sky, where the fortress was, and the Snake Demon screams while falling into the ocean.

When the Snake Demon hits the water, there is a small splash. Then two bubbles rise from the water -- one carrying KOKEN, and one carrying KARA.

AUBERY rides the motorbike toward the shoreline, as the bubbles float towards the shoreline.

EXT. SHORELINE - EVENING

AUBERY and 937 arrive at the shoreline on the motor-bike, as KOKEN and KARA arrive at the shoreline in the bubbles.

The bubbles burst.

KOKEN

The spell is broken! I'm not possessed by that evil spirit anymore! Thanks!

AUBERY

Don't mention it. It wasn't any inconvenience.

KARA hugs AUBERY, while saying ...

KARA

Thank you, big brother!

AUBERY

Yeah.

AUBERY pushes his sister off of him. KARA laughs. Then 937 laughs. Then KOKEN laughs. Then AUBERY laughs.

CUT TO:

EXT. SKYLINE, NEW YORK CITY - MORNING

AUBERY and KARA sit in the passenger seat of an X-WING which enters the city.

American Fighter Jets arrive behind them, and begin shooting at them, dogfight style.

AUBERY

Damn. They think this is a UFO.

KARA

What will we do?

AUBERY

I know.

AUBERY flies the X-WING into space, where the Jets can't follow them.

EXT. HIGHWAY, ENTERING NEW YORK CITY - EVENING

AUBERY and KARA walk towards the town.

KARA

It was nice of those nerds at that Top Secret Space Station to pay us for recovering their stolen X-Wing, but why couldn't their Bunjee-Gondola land us closer to the city?

AUBERY

I don't know. And I don't care. Let's go home, and forget about this crazy adventure, and it's even crazier resolution.

KARA

Agreed. For the past few days, nothing has made any sense to me -- like some crazy, contrived animé.

AUBERY

I know the feeling.

END OF EPISODE