

Homeless
Episode 105: Kidney Thief

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BLACK SCREEN

DAVID (V.O.)
...From time to time...

-Fade In-

EXT. STREET- DAY

David is standing on a discarded milk crate on the edge of the sidewalk. Passersby take little notice.

DAVID
I need to tell you all what I know
because I cannot be the only one who
knows... I'll go insane...

David lets a smile slip across his face before he hides it again.

DAVID (cont'd)
As we come from the primordial soup
that was our first breath as a
species, he came before, he was the
basin, he created the volume for us
to swim in... He who is the father of
all disease has no name but his
symptoms live in all of us... His
awareness came before our own, he
realized we are the food and he
assimilated us all.
He has no fear of us. The need of us
that he had has since evaporated for
he is so integrated into our coding
that he is his own strand. One day,
when he desires, no, if he blinks,
you will know him... He shall be
revealed to you, his introduction
means your soon departure. His
appetite shall decide your schedule.
He does not do this maliciously...

David sees Kenneth walking by; Kenneth is ignoring his surroundings. Kenneth shows signs of "corruption"

DAVID (cont'd)
...But his children do.

David steps down and begins to follow Kenneth down the street.

EXT. CLINIC- DAY

Kenneth walks along street; David is in the background following. Kenneth turns and enters the clinic. David stops in his tracks and stares at the clinic; he doesn't want to get any closer but his suspicions have been confirmed.

David backs away before turning and walks away.

EXT. STREET- DAY

David walks down street; people glance as he talks to himself.

DAVID
 ...He smelled like 3rd Street on the top, but he had a different strain underneath... They're meeting, conspiracy? Maybe...

David stops in his tracks; Two Smokers are nearby and their smoke drifts his way.

DAVID (cont'd)
 I can't go into the clinic, that would be suicide... Need to watch for a while, take them down one by one, if I can't stop them... I can delay them...

David takes a deep breath.

DAVID (cont'd)
 ...Addiction always smells sweet...

David starts moving again.

INT. CLINIC ENTRANCE- DAY

Kenneth stands at doors and is looking out to the street; Sally, dressed in scrubs, walks up to him.

KENNETH
 He's gone...

SALLY
 Well he wouldn't come in here, that'd be suicide. What're you going to do?

KENNETH
 Watch him a while. Take him down if I get the chance...

SALLY
 If you do get the chance, it may be
 to our advantage to check how far
 along he is...

Kenneth ponders briefly, then nods yes.

SALLY (cont'd)
 ...I'll go get it.

EXT. RESTAURANT- DAY

Restaurant is within a building.

Maggie exits the restaurant, she's wearing a waitress uniform and carrying a "to go" Styrofoam container; she walks around the building to another building's alcove. She sets the Styrofoam down and then reaches into her pocket, she pulls out a five-dollar bill and leaves it under the container.

Maggie was so preoccupied that she didn't realize that David was standing behind her; she turns and gives an audible fright before realizing who it is.

MAGGIE
 Dammit David!

Maggie begins laughing.

MAGGIE (cont'd)
 ...You got me good.

DAVID
 I'm sorry.

Maggie keeps smiling.

MAGGIE
 No problem. What are you going to do today?

DAVID
 Spy mission. They've got a clinic, which means they've got power... I'll have to tread lightly though, I can smell them and I don't know if they can track me...

David realizes what he's saying as he sees Maggie's face trying desperately to absorb the information.

David frowns and looks at the ground for a long beat before he looks up at Maggie.

DAVID (cont'd)
I mean, I'm going to the park to have
a picnic... If only some careless
citizen had left out some food?

David looks at the Styrofoam; then to Maggie, then to the Styrofoam with an exaggerated expression of luck. Maggie does her best to try and smile.

DAVID (cont'd)
(winks)
What is this?

David reaches down and picks up the Styrofoam; as he does his timer goes off. Maggie frowns.

MAGGIE
Hell no! I want my full seven
minutes, brother.

David frowns at this.

DAVID
Tell you what...

David extends his hand out to her with the five-dollar bill.

DAVID (cont'd)
...I'll make it up to you by paying you
five dollars for the remainder of the
time.

Maggie, without hesitation, snatches the five-dollar bill from David's hand.

MAGGIE
Wrong... Something just feels wrong
about this transaction...

PASSERBY (O.S.)
Miss?

Maggie turns around and sees Passerby looking nervous.

PASSERBY
Are you okay? Is that man bothering
you?

Maggie shakes her "no" with a smile as she is going to say it is her brother but as she turns to look at him; David is walking away. Maggie turns and looks at the Passerby with an annoyed expression.

MAGGIE

Dammit! You owe me five dollars too.

PASSERBY

What!

EXT. BUS STOP- DAY

David is sitting at the bus stop and eating his fries; he is nearly done but stops mid-bite. He begins smelling, he nods as though to an invisible friend to acknowledge that the Vial has been set out. David finishes his last bite before getting up and walking away.

EXT. ALLEYWAY- DAY

David walks down alley and is sniffing about but can't seem to locate the scent in the air. He stops trying as he comes to three bricks stacked like a shelter; David cocks his eyebrow in confusion.

DAVID

It's not there...

David bends over and picks up the top brick revealing an empty space.

DAVID (cont'd)

...What does that mean?

David kneels and places his nose to the brick; he sniffs.

DAVID (cont'd)

...Something else? No...

David leans back into a sitting on his heels position and stares at the wall. He decides to wait.

EXT. ALLEYWAY- NIGHT

David is sitting against the wall next to the bricks. He has gotten pale with a wetness about his brow; he is beginning to tremble slightly. He is tired and fading to sleep slightly but then his eyes open as he finds the scent.

DAVID
...back in business...

David struggles a little as he gets to his feet. He walks out of the alley.

EXT. STREET: MOTEL OPPOSITE STREET- NIGHT

David stares across the street to a motel. He has a look of uncertainty as he stands for a long time just watching the place; nothing feels right about this.

EXT. MOTEL- NIGHT

David is slowly walking outside the doors of the motel rooms; he sniffs each door as he passes while trying to look like just a normal guy out for a walk.

David gets to the door that has the scent he's looking for and gently reaches down for the doorknob; the door pushes open as he brushes the knob. He glances about wildly before he desperately lunges into the room to avoid further exposure.

INT. MOTEL ROOM- NIGHT

David closes the door behind him; he now takes in the room he is in, there is nothing out of the ordinary. He cautiously steps from the door and hazards a sniff; it is coming from the closed door of the bathroom.

David walks to the bathroom door and opens it.

INT. MOTEL ROOM: BATHROOM- NIGHT

The Vial and tag attached to it sits obediently on the closed lid of the toilet. David is relieved to see it and smiles at the apparent joke.

David walks over to the Vial and picks it up; he reads the note.

NOTE
They know who you are.

David takes in the words for a moment before he drinks the vial. He finishes the liquid in the vial and then glances over and sees the bathtub is full of water. He pivots and looks at the bathtub with more interest.

David's eyes go wide as he starts sniffing again; that wasn't the true vial. He clutches his throat as his "blacteria" begins rippling across his exposed skin; he falls to his knees and braces himself on the toilet. He opens the toilet lid and sees that the vial was in the toilet; that was how they camouflaged it.

David tries to stand as HANDS take hold of him; Kenneth helps to guide David into the tub. David is half submerged in the water, his eyes flutter open and he sees Kenneth.

Kenneth closes the toilet lid and sits down; he faces David.

KENNETH

Don't feel bad, we have been doing this for a long time. Where you apparently have some skill at physical combat, we would defeat you without it, on our terms...

Kenneth leans forward (revealing full corruption) and opens David's eyes wider to look into them; he is impressed with what he sees and leans back.

KENNETH (cont'd)

...The Alchemist is our actual enemy. But, he has made you stronger than the others... Which means he is evolving... And that information is worth your life.

Kenneth stands up and looks down at David in the bathtub; he is not vengeful nor remorseful.

KENNETH (cont'd)

Live. Die. Do both. This is the moment that we have shown you, you are not a threat to us. We have only taken notice of you because of your benefactor... And at this point, I may as well be talking to myself...

Kenneth exits the bathroom without looking back. David's eyes flutter to the back of his head as he passes out.

-Cut to Black-

BLACK SCREEN

Beat two seconds

-Fade In-

INT. JANET'S HOUSE: KITCHEN- NIGHT

Janet is washing dishes; Bill enters with dirty dishes and Maggie follows behind with the glasses.

BILL

Ma. What are you doing? It's Maggie's turn...

MAGGIE

Hey!

BILL

I did lunch last week.

MAGGIE

I wasn't even there.

JANET

I got it, you two calm down.

BILL

...Maggie started it.

MAGGIE

Hey!

Janet smiles at the love in the room; Bill places dishes on counter and gives her a kiss on the cheek.

BILL

...I have to leave.

MAGGIE

What! See Mom, he wasn't even gonna do dishes.

BILL

I know, I said it was your turn.

JANET

He's got you there...

MAGGIE

Hey!

Bill and Maggie do a mock slap fight as they pass each other; Janet turns from the sink to watch Bill go.

JANET

Be safe, Billy.

Bill smiles as he leaves the kitchen; Maggie walks up to Janet to help her with the dishes.

INT. JANET'S HOUSE: FOYER TO KITCHEN ENTRANCE- NIGHT

Foyer; muffled sound of voices speaking from kitchen.

Bill is putting his shoes on but stops as he hears Maggie and Janet talking. Bill stops and walks to the kitchen entrance but stays out of eyesight.

MAGGIE (O.S.)
He looked alright... He recognized me
and we talked for a minute...

JANET (O.S.)
About what?

MAGGIE (O.S.)
He was talking his gibberish first
but then he kind of recognized it and
changed the subject...

JANET (O.S.)
Did he ask about us?

MAGGIE (O.S.)
No...

Maggie seems to hesitate with the answer before she tries to save it.

MAGGIE(O.S.)
...But his dinger went off and he had
to leave.

Bill sighs as he walks back to leave the house

JANET (O.S.)
Maggie! Please don't talk about your
brother's dinger.

Janet and Maggie begin laughing to break any tension that may have been there.

-End