

Here Be Dragons - Minisode

"All's Fair"

by

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Black Lace and Laser Beams
Productions

SCENE ONE

INT. Killian's Office, Cape Canaveral - NIGHT

We hear the sound of a lock being picked, and the door creaks open. Music (preferably La Vie En Rose) plays from the transistor radio on the desk. Agent Marina pokes her head into the room, and looks around.

MARINA

Clear.

Captain Edessa enters behind her.

MARINA

Oh man, this is so-

EDESSA

Illegal?

MARINA

I was going to say fun.

EDESSA

(sighing) Of course you were. How much time have we got?

MARINA

(checks her watch) He should be back in... ten minutes. (looks around) This is a nice office! You know, Killian might be a sleazy creep, but he's a sleazy creep with REALLY good taste.

EDESSA

Yeah. Well. The benefits of old money.

We hear a cabinet open. Edessa looks up.

EDESSA (cont'd)

What are you doing?

MARINA

Snooping.

We hear glasses clinking.

EDESSA

Put those back!

(CONTINUED)

MARINA

Are you sure? I'm sure there's something suspicious about this chardonnay... We should taste it. Make sure it's not poison, or going stale...

EDESSA

Sierra.

MARINA

Fine! Fine.

EDESSA

This isn't a bachelorette party. We're here for the case file. Not to trash the minibar.

MARINA

Yeah, Charlie, I get it. Steal the file, don't mess around.

EDESSA

(uncomfortable) It's not stealing. It's protocol.

MARINA

It's only protocol if it's sanctioned by the Director. And this isn't. We're operating WAY outside of the lines here.

EDESSA

Protocol is protocol. The rules don't just... change. No matter what the Director suddenly decides is or isn't our job. Besides, if Mr. Rhys had given us access, *like he was supposed to*, we wouldn't be doing this. That's probable cause.

MARINA

(dry, somewhat distracted) Ever think he might've had a reason for that? All the weirdness and secrecy?

EDESSA

Like what?

MARINA

I don't know. Something-

The music fades out, replaced by static.

(CONTINUED)

MARINA (cont'd)
Did you hear that?

EDESSA
What?

MARINA
I thought-... nevermind.

She puts the glasses down, and closes the cabinet.

MARINA (cont'd)
We'd better get started.

We hear them riffling through papers, opening and closing drawers.

EDESSA
Any luck?

MARINA
Nothing yet.

Edessa rattles a drawer, but it refuses to open.

EDESSA
Hello... Here's something...
Marina, can you get this open?

MARINA
(scoffs) Can I get the lock open.
I'm not four.

We hear her pop the drawer open.

MARINA (cont'd)
Ta-da!

EDESSA
Got it. Project Cetos.

MARINA
Cetos?

EDESSA
Greek. For sea monster.

MARINA
You WOULD know that.

EDESSA
Holy-... Look at all this! This is
a book, not a case file.

MARINA

Diagrams, blueprints... These are some next level notes! ...Bios for the crew... Who's Professor-

EDESSA

There's no way he planned this in a day... It's too well organized. He must have been working on this for... YEARS! Why would someone-

A noise in the hall. Was it a footstep?

MARINA

Okay. I definitely heard something that time.

EDESSA

We should-

MARINA

I'll take care of it. You're the brainy one. Take the file, sort this out. You're good at that.

EDESSA

You sure?

MARINA

Yeah, I've got you covered. (Goes to the door) Just... Charlie? ... Don't do anything... stupid?

We hear her walk away. Edessa spreads the file out over the desk. We hear him leafing through papers.

EDESSA

Bennett... Campbell... Edison Trials, B.T. Collective Data, creature files, Incident Report 23.10.06... What's this...

He picks up a sheet of paper.

EDESSA (cont'd)

(reading aloud) "In regards to specimen 23, hereafter referred to as The Hound... While initial tests showed the creature to be inherently violent and difficult to contain and control, recent study shows that The Hound has displayed a propensity for violence and

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

EDESSA (cont'd)
intelligence unlike anything
previously witnessed or
anticipated. It has proven itself
capable of several different styles
of problem solving, and has
attempted escape twice. Heavier
sedatives may be required. On a
more personal note, and this may be
my imagination, but there are times
I feel as though The Hound is
watching me. Sizing me up. Given
its seemingly preferred method of
stalking it's prey, this concern
may not be wholly imaginary." When
was this-... shit... shit. Shit!

He pulls out his phone, and we hear him dial.

EDESSA (cont'd)
This is Captain Charles Edessa. Get
me Denys Smith. Now. Tell him it's
an emergency.

A brief pause.

SMITH
This is Smith.

EDESSA
Denys, it's Charlie. We've got a
problem. I've just got my hands on
the case file for the Rusalka
project... I think we've been set
up.

SMITH
What? How?

EDESSA
I'm... not sure yet. But Rhys has
been working on this for a long
time. He's got data in this file
that goes back... I don't know, ten
years, at least. There are hundreds
of papers in the desk alone-

SMITH
Where are you?

EDESSA
In Rhys' office.

(CONTINUED)

SMITH

You broke in?!

EDESSA

Well, TECHNICALLY, but-

SMITH

No. No, no, no. Edessa, you need to pack up that file, put it back where you found it and get the hell out of there.

EDESSA

But-

SMITH

The Agency can't be seen as engaging in corporate espionage. Not with someone who's meant to be a partner. And not with a man like Killian Rhys.

EDESSA

Denys you can't be serious. We can't just roll over and turn a blind eye to this! Something is going on. I've got the proof in my hand! These could be the answers we've been-

Click. We hear the safety of a gun being released, and Edessa freezes as he feels the muzzle of a hand gun being pressed against the base of his skull.

KILLIAN

(softly, but sweetly) I'd put that down if I were you.

Edessa slowly sets the file back on the desk.

SMITH

Charlie? Hey, Charlie, I can't hear you. Charlie, you there?

KILLIAN

Hang up.

EDESSA

Yeah, Denys, I-... I'm here. Listen, I'll call you back, okay?

(CONTINUED)

SMITH

Alright. We can talk this through once you've had a chance to calm down. But I think it's better if you forget the whole thing. Let Rhys-

Killian reaches over and clicks Edessa's phone shut.

KILLIAN

If you wouldn't mind stepping away from the desk, captain.

Edessa moves away.

EDESSA

You're not CIA, are you.

KILLIAN

I was. Once. 'Til I got bored and decided to do something a little more entertaining with my time. But I kept my contacts. You never can know too many people. Drop your gun. Just on the rug, and if you'd be so good as to kick it over to the bureau there.

He does.

KILLIAN (cont'd)

Thank you.

EDESSA

What are you going to do?

KILLIAN

I suppose that depends on you, Charlie. We've got a couple of options here. You could leave... forget what you saw here, and conduct the rest of your time with me exerting the bare minimum of scrutiny... And when all this is settled, retire early. Maybe somewhere in the south seas. I hear Fiji is lovely all year round.

EDESSA

What, you mean... take a bribe.

(CONTINUED)

KILLIAN

Well it's that or take a bullet.

EDESSA

I'll take the bullet.

Killian laughs. Edessa doesn't.

KILLIAN

(delighted) Oh... oh my- You're really serious, aren't you! You're going to die for your principles! How... pathetic.

EDESSA

No offense, but if I've got a choice about it, you're not a man I'd ever choose to work for.

KILLIAN

None taken. Oh don't say it. Let me. "You got into this business for a reason. You'd never betray everyone who's believed in you by becoming a crooked cop. You're a man of morals." Is that it?

EDESSA

Yeah. And maybe this'll be the thing that gets the agency to finally take a real look into all this.

KILLIAN

How noble! But I doubt it. Agent Marina will be disappointed.

EDESSA

What've you done to Sierra?

KILLIAN

Bankrolled her. Turns out, she is MUCH smarter than you. And not afraid to turn a profit. There's still time to change your mind...

EDESSA

No... There isn't.

KILLIAN

(sighs) Men. So inflexible. Alright. If you would just kneel down on the rug for me. NO! God no,

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

KILLIAN (cont'd)
not that rug. This one. If I can't
get it cleaned, I can have it I can
have it replaced. Thank you!

EDESSA
You won't get away with this.

KILLIAN
Oh god. Was that supposed to be a
threat? My dear captain, you don't
even know half of what I'm getting
away with. ... You're really sure
about this?

EDESSA
I am.

He presses the gun to Edessa's forehead.

KILLIAN
I'll give your regards to Ms.
Bennett, shall I?

EDESSA
Better not.

KILLIAN
Suit yourself.

He pulls the trigger. We hear Edessa's body fall to the
floor.

Killian whistles 'La Vie En Rose' as he steps over Edessa's
body and moves to his desk. We hear him gathering papers,
place them in the drawer and lock it, before settling
himself at his desk and getting back to work.

FADE OUT.

END.