CW: This documentation contains references to previous bodily injury and workplace malpractice.

13. On the Same Page

The following audio recording is classified documentation for case H-57 with The Enclosure. Unauthorized access to this information will lead to immediate intervention. Progress further if proper clearance has been given.

Warning: This documentation contains references to previous bodily injury and workplace malpractice. Listener's discretion is advised.

Jared (sounding incredibly nervous):

Grove... Back, back- hey! Hey, come on in, hope you weren't waiting out there too long

Darius: (entering Jared's home, sounding a bit more comfortable than Jared:)

Oh no, not at all. I only knocked once, you're good.

Jared:

Need help with the bags?

Darius:

Nah, it's fine. Where should I put them?

Jared:

Over on the table's fine. Uhm... anything need to go in the fridge?

Darius:

Not immediately, nah... you alright?

Jared:

Yeah, yeah, I'm fine. I just, uh, wanted to talk about something before we... start cooking?

Darius (now sounding a bit more on edge): Yeah, shoot. What's up, Jared?

Jared:

(takes in a deep breath)

You're... voicemail. Uhm, I uh, was wondering if we could just get that outta the way first?

(a beat of silence passes before Darius is heard rummaging through a bag)

Darius, with a softer voice:

Sure. Here. It's... nothin' much, just a lil' letter I wrote for ya. I didn't think you'd want it first, heh.

Jared, taking the letter:

I've... kinda been thinking about what this could be ever since I got your voicemail. Not gonna lie, it's had me a bit anxious...

Darius:

Oh, Jared, I didn't mean to make you anxious... it's really nothin' big, we don't really gotta discuss it-

(a beat of silence passes again)

Darius:

... Jared?

Jared:

It's... okay, it's what I thought, uhm-

Darius (sounding a bit dejected): What.. you thought?

Jared:

Oh! No, no no no not like that. Gods, uhm. After your voicemail I was really concerned and confused, but I was kinda scared to just call you back, so I called my friend Jamie- you met Jamie a few weeks ago. She's great and much better with... *feelings*. She said she was pretty sure you like me, and I just... I'm *not* good with feelings. But I knew we had to talk about it *sooner* rather than *later*, butI've been anxious trying to figure out what to say and what to do, because-

Darius (still sounding a bit dejected, but forcing a smile):
Well... Jared, if you don't like me, it's-

Jared (rambling and stuttering in a panic):

No! No, that's the thing. I... do? Uh, like, I like being around you, I look forward to spending time with you, I'm *comfortable* around you. I... you mean a *lot* to me, as a friend and... also, I- I just, I don't *know* what romantic feelings *should* feel like, so I don't know if that's what *this* is. I don't wanna ruin what we have, whatever it is, but also I wouldn't be opposed to dating if that's what you want, and I just-

Darius (in a comforting tone):

Hey, hey. Jared. It's okay, breathe... we don't gotta change a thing. I guess I just thought it was only fair I tell you the truth... I like what we've got, too. I just felt like it was a bit... obvious, so I thought I should at least say something.

Jared:

(weak chuckle) Heh... obvious to everyone but me, it seems... I-... thank you, Darius. I appreciate it. I... you mean a lot to me, you really do, which is why I've been so nervous about changing... anything. I've... never been in a romantic relationship before, so I really just wanna... take it slow?

Darius (beaming):

That's fine! That's fine with me. As long as we're both comfortable, what's the harm, yeah?

Jared:

Right... and, uh, I should be more honest. I've... kinda kept a lot of things from you.

Darius:

... oh?

Jared:

Like, work. What I do for work. I- well, I'm a scientist, but not a biologist or anything. Uhm, I do more... classified stuff?

Darius:

(with a soft chuckle) yeah, those fancy government jobs and those top-secret cases. I mean, I guess I'm not too surprised.

Jared:

I actually am more of, uh, well, remember when I said I have a *passion* for cryptids and ghosts and stuff? My interest is actually a bit more... *professional* than that.

Darius (after a pause):

Okay... so, you study the creatures 'round here, like those kids that come knocking at night?

Jared:

Mhm. Yeah. That's... kinda why that day after the picnic I wandered around. Partially, anyways. I was investigating that river monster that's rumored to be out there (*awkward chuckle*) and yeah, it's out there... saw it with my own two eyes.

Darius:

... is that what you meant by 'hazards of life'? Are those scars from work?

(a pause from both of them)

Darius:

S...Sorry, I shouldn't have a-

Jared:

Yeah. It is. But don't worry, I've got *great* healthcare, they patch me up pretty well, heh... (*clears throat*) you can't tell anyone, okay? I... shouldn't have told *you*, but.. I've been dying to tell anyone at least *that* much of the truth and I trust you.

Darius: (with an audible smile)

Secret's safe with me, doc... now, c'mon, the eggs shouldn't sit out *too* long. Let's get cooking, okay?

Jared (also with an audible smile): Hopefully I don't burn anything this time

Darius:

You're getting better, I think you'll do great...

Credits:

"Jar of Rebuke" is created and produced by Casper Oliver, who also voiced Dr. Jared Hel Intro read by Nessa R

Darius Chapman was voiced by Vyn Vox

Credits are read by Ashlee Craft who has created the podcast's official graphics.

Episode was edited by Chelsea Finley

Episode was written by Casper Oliver and Jenny O'Sullivan.

Music was created by TheMenniss (spelled M-E-N-N-I-S-S), who you can find and support on Bandcamp, Spotify, and Twitch.

If you've been enjoying us, please consider leaving a rating, review, or comment wherever you tune in. You also can support us on Patreon or PodHero by following the links in our episode description.

And now, if you've been enjoying "Jar of Rebuke", a word from our creator:

Hello everyone, Casper Oliver here. Thank you so much for listening to our second interlude. This one was a lot of fun and I hope you all enjoyed. As you enjoyed, our schedule is still 1 minisode every 15th of the month and we will be here with Season 2 come June. So June 7th will be when Season 2 officially starts back with full length episodes twice a month. This does also mean our art contest/giveaway will be extended until June as well so if you post fanart using the #JarofRebukeFanart and tag the official Jar of Rebuke social media at the pages, you will be entered into a drawing for some free Jar of Rebuke merch including stickers, buttons, a poster, and a handwritten letter from myself. This is a free international contest, all we'll need is a way to contact you and an address to ship it to.

Also if you want more queer horror content then check out my twitch, <u>CasperOliver</u>, where we stream every Monday evening, a homebrew campaign. I'll put the link in the description below. It is myself, the voice of Dr Jared Hel, Jenny O'Sullivan, my assistant writer and voice of Dr. Jamie Evertt, Jason Larock the voice of the river monster and also an upcoming voice in season 2, and also Chelsea Finley our new editor and a voice coming up in season 2. We all play a queer heavy horror one shot where they all work to solve a mystery after all of them have died died and ended up in a pocket dimension. You can find them on Youtube by looking up Welcome to Nexilis. Be sure to follow us on social media, leave a review, submit your art for the art contest. This is the voice of Dr. Jared Hel, singing off, until next month.