

**The Children of Room 56 -
Mini Episode: The Calm After a Storm**

Written by: Grey Kilgour and Alex Abrahams.

Script Editing by: Jordan Hendrickson.

Directed by: Alex Abrahams.

Audio Editing by:

Featuring:

Michael M as Chip Romero.

Alex Abrahams as Evan Pearce.

Grey Kilgour as Hyacinthe Pearce.

Livie Martin as Jessica Pearce.

Jordan Hendrickson as the News Reporter.

**Content warnings: injury, references to conflict and arguments,
implied death**

ALEX

Hi everyone! It's Alex. Just letting everyone know that there's a trailer for Scarlett Foster's podcast On Asphalt Bones at the end of this episode, so make sure you listen right until the end to catch that. There's gonna be links to podcast's Anchor page and their page on the [Listless] website in the show notes so you can find all the information quickly and easily.

Thank you, and enjoy the episode!

[THEME MUSIC]

SCENE 1

[EXT. THE STREET - NIGHT]

[CLICK]

[EVAN IS HOPPING ALONG THE STREET ON ONE LEG, AND CHIP IS PROPPING HIM UP.]

CHIP

Come on Evan! It's just a little further -

EVAN

Owwwwwwwwwwwww. It... it hurts.

CHIP

Well, maybe if my knight in shining stupidity hadn't thrown himself right into the mouth of a -

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EVAN

OH NO. Nope nope nope nope nope. Haha.

CHIP

What? Are you okay?

EVAN

My Ren is going to kill me.

CHIP

I'm sure they're not.

EVAN

[Deadpan:] Chip. Chippy. Chipotle-

CHIP

Not my name.

EVAN

- Look at me.

[BEAT. FOOTSTEPS CONTINUE.]

CHIP

Okay. Yeah, you've got a point there, actually. [Beat.] Ah!
Look, we're on your street. Nearly there. Your ren isn't going
to kill you! They're lovely! If anything, my mum will be killing
me. And aren't they a doctor? That kinda goes against the
Hippocratic Oath or whatever?

CHIP [CONT.]

[Helping Evan up the front steps:] Alright, one more step, there
we go. We're here! We made it!

EVAN

Would you do the honours?

CHIP

You forgot your keys?

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EVAN

Shut up.

[BING BONG! CHIP RINGS THE DOORBELL.]

CHIP

Are you ready?

EVAN

Not in the slightest.

[DOOR OPENS]

HYACINTHE

Evan Peace, What in the name of transgenderism have you done?

[EVAN LAUGHS SHEEPISHLY]

EVAN

[Sheepish:] Hi, Ren.

HYACINTHE

Evan.

CHIP

It was my fault, Dr. Pearce.

HYACINTHE

Really?

EVAN

No!

CHIP

Yes!

HYACINTHE

[Sigh.] Chip, dear, you *know* I don't believe you. [Beat.] Well,

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you'd better come inside. You both look exhausted. Shoes off.
I'll put the kettle on.

[CLICK]

SCENE 2

[INT. THE PEARCE RESIDENCE - KITCHEN]

[CLICK]

[KETTLE BOILING]

HYACINTHE

So. [Beat.] Are you going to tell me what happened?

EVAN

Uhhh... well... you see...

CHIP

Reeves Chaney...

EVAN

Catacombs...

CHIP

Oh, and the cult...

EVAN

Massive dog...

CHIP

Proper massive. Oh, and Evan's leg...

EVAN

Ouchie...

[HYACINTHE SIGHS]

HYACINTHE

Okay. [Beat.] You boys are clearly tired. I'm not going to get
anything out of you tonight, am I?

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EVAN

Nope!

CHIP

Probably not!

HYACINTHE

Alright. Evan, you'd better go to bed, love.

EVAN

I'm going, I'm going.

[FOOTSTEPS - EVAN LIMPING]

[AWKWARD SILENCE]

HYACINTHE

Chip, my dear, do you want a cup of tea before you go or-

CHIP

[Interrupting them:] Uh, sorry, can I stay the night? [Beat.] To look after Evan, I mean. I'll... I'll just worry if I go home. I wanna be there... I... I want to be here with him. Is that-

HYACINTHE

Of course. [Beat.] You'd better go after him. Make sure he gets into bed without hurting himself.

CHIP

You can count on me, Doc.

[CLICK]

SCENE 3

[INT. EVAN PEARCE'S BEDROOM]

[CLICK]

[EVAN STRUGGLES TO OPEN THE DOOR]

JESS

[From behind him:] Need help with that?

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[EVAN YELPS]

EVAN

Gods, you're the worst sister ever. Announce yourself next time!

JESS

[Smug:] I'm your only sister, so you're gonna have to deal with it, Ev. [Beat.] Need help with the door?

EVAN

Please. [Beat.] This house wasn't built for injured people.

[JESS LAUGHS]

JESS

Maybe stop injuring yourself, then. I don't think the house is gonna change anytime soon.

EVAN

I'm prone to injury, Jess. You know this!

[JESS OPENS THE DOOR FOR HIM]

JESS

I do. [Beat.] You're a clumsy bastard.

EVAN

[Light laugh.] Shut up. [Beat.] And thank you.

JESS

No problem. [Beat.] Ev?

EVAN

Yeah?

JESS

You are okay, aren't you?

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EVAN

Yeah. [Beat.] Yeah, I am. You don't have to worry about me.

JESS

Okay. Good. [Beat.] Go get some sleep.

[EVAN CLOSES THE DOOR]

[HE STUMBLES OVER TO THE BED AND COLLAPSES ONTO IT]

[CAT NOISES - THE PEARCES HAVE THREE CATS SO... YES THERE ARE CATS HERE]

EVAN

Ouch.

[CATS COMFORTING HIM NOISES]

[A KNOCK ON THE DOOR]

EVAN

Jess, I said I'm fine.

[DOOR OPENS]

CHIP

It's just me.

[ONE OF THE CATS WALKS OVER TO CHIP AND HE BENDS DOWN TO PET HIM]

CHIP (CONT.)

[To the cat:] Hey, little guy.

[THE CAT PURRS]

EVAN

What's going on? Are you okay?

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CHIP

Yeah, yeah, I'm gonna stay the night. Your ren said it was okay.

EVAN

Oh. Oh, okay. Are you sure?

CHIP

I'm sure. [Beat.] Now, move over.

[EVAN LAUGHS]

EVAN

You're so bossy.

[EVAN SHIFTS OVER IN THE BED]

[CHIP SITS DOWN ON THE BED NEXT TO HIM AND SNUGGLES DOWN UNDER THE COVERS]

CHIP

You good?

EVAN

Yeah.

CHIP

Evan.

EVAN

It hurts. It really hurts, Chip.

CHIP

You wanna go to the hospital?

EVAN

No.

CHIP

Ev.

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EVAN

If my ren finds out how much it hurts, they won't let me come out with you guys anymore. I mean, you know about my dad. You know how he...

[EVAN CLEARS HIS THROAT]

EVAN (CONT.)

They won't let me investigate anymore. Not if they know I get hurt. And then I'll be out of SPIS. And I won't see you as much and I-

[EVAN STARTS CRYING]

CHIP

[Soft:] Oh, Ev.

EVAN

I don't want to risk it, Chip. I want... I need to see my friends.

[CHIP SNUGGLES UP CLOSE TO EVAN]

CHIP

We'll always be with you. [Beat.] And Dr. Pearce doesn't seem like the type to ground you.

EVAN

I know. I just... I get anxious.

CHIP

I know you do.

EVAN

I can't help it.

CHIP

I know. [Beat.] But you'll be fine. We'll be fine. And we'll be together. All of us. Like a family. You're like my family, Ev. And I'm not leaving you, even if your ren grounds you for fifty

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years. Even if they ground you for a hundred years. Even if they... well, you get the point. It's gonna be okay.

EVAN

Okay. [Beat.] I think I'm going to go to sleep now. You should too.

CHIP

Now who's bossy?

EVAN

Shut up, I'm tired. [Beat.]

CHIP

Night, Ev.

EVAN

Night, Chipotle.

CHIP

Goodnight, Evan.

[FABRIC RUSTLES AS EVAN LIES DOWN AND PULLS SOME OF THE DUVET OVER HIMSELF]

[EVAN IS ASLEEP. CHIP IS VERY MUCH NOT. HE SITS AWAKE, THE CATS PURRING AROUND HIM, LISTENING TO EVAN SNORE]

[A FEW SECONDS PASS AND HE SIGHS]

CHIP (CONT.)

Right. Looks like sleep isn't happening tonight.

[HE GETS OUT OF BED]

[CLICK]

SCENE 4

[INT - THE PEARCE HOUSE - THE KITCHEN]

[CLICK]

[HYACINTHE IS STIRRING THEIR TEA]

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HYACINTHE

[Surprised:] Oh, hello! I thought you'd gone to bed. Need anything? Another blanket? I know our house is rather drafty -

CHIP

I'm alright, Dr. Pearce. I just can't sleep.

HYACINTHE

Oh. Oh. Do you want to... talk about it? I'm no therapist, but -

CHIP

I think - yeah, actually. [Beat.] But, look, you've got to promise not to tell my mum.

[HYACINTHE LAUGHS]

HYACINTHE

[Softly:] Of course. It'll be our secret.

CHIP

[Relieved:] Thanks, Doc.

[Beat. Hyacinthe sips their tea.]

CHIP [CONT.]

[Unconvincingly:] Well, we have exams this summer, you know? That's... that's stressful. And I'm not sure what I want to take for A-Levels yet, and...

[HE COMPLETELY TRAILS OFF]

HYACINTHE

That's not all, is it?

[BEAT.]

CHIP

Mum and I are arguing a lot.

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HYACINTHE

Oh.

CHIP

Yeah. She - she wants me to quit doing SPIS [Beat.] Not forever!
Only this year, while I'm doing my exams, but... she thinks my
friends are a bad influence. And she wants me to decide what I'm
taking for A-Levels, and decide what I'm doing with my entire
life, right now! I'm only 16! It's stupid.

[BEAT.]

HYACINTHE

Is it really "stupid", or is it just something you're scared of?

CHIP

[Slowly:] I'm scared that - if I quit - she won't let me back
later. Not until I finish my A-Levels. [Beat.] But Sam and Calli
are graduating next year, and I don't know if they'll still be
able to join, and without Sam we won't have a leader, and...
[Beat.] I was hoping that leader might be me.

HYACINTHE

Oh, Chip, you'd be marvelous. [Beat.] You know, my parents were
always pushing me to get married young, start a family... I
thought being a doctor was a respectable enough career for them.
Apparently not. But I learned one important thing, Chip, one of
the most important pieces of advice that I can give: your mum
will always try to say she knows what's best for you. Sometimes
she'll be right, mostly she'll be wrong, but only you can
decide. You're a smart man, Chip. Only you know what's best for
you. No-one else can tell you otherwise.

CHIP

[Emotional:] Thanks, Dr. Pearce.

HYACINTHE

It's no trouble. You know what they say: older and wiser. Might
as well share my wisdom with you, hm? And if not me, I know

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quite literally all the therapists in Spiritsford, if you want
professional advice -

CHIP

No, I'm - I'm alright, thank you. Just... thank you.

[BEAT. A LONG, AWKWARD SILENCE. HYACINTHE SIPS TEA. CHIP TAPS
THE TABLE.]

CHIP (CONT.)

I'm sorry, could I turn the radio on? I... I don't like the
quiet.

HYACINTHE

Be my guest.

[CHIP TURNS THE RADIO ON]

RADIO HOST

- And we hope the cardboard boxes will conclude their feast soon. In other news, this just in, Spiritsford Secondary School student Reeves Chaney has been expelled from the town after tormenting a group of marginalised students. After his latest round of bullying, the Eyes stared him down until he started crying like a baby, running around town, desperately trying to find a place to hide from the Eyes. It was no use, though, as he ran straight into one of Spiritsford's famous sentient trees, which very violently threw him over the gates and out of the town. May he never return. Onto our weekly clubs corner: Sarah from Knitting Club has announced a scarf and shawl sale. A pop-up shop will be outside the Library on Monday and Tuesday, but only when you least expect it -

[RADIO BROADCAST ENDS]

[BEAT]

CHIP

He's... he's gone.

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HYACINTHE

And good riddance. I'd have kicked him out myself. But... you don't have to think about him ever again. You're safe now.

CHIP

Yeah. [Beat.] Yeah.

[LONG BEAT]

CHIP (CONT.)

I still don't... I still don't want to go home. Is that okay?

HYACINTHE

Of course it is. [Beat.] You can stay as long as you like. I... I know Evan's special to you. And you're special to him, too. It's natural that you boys would want to take care of each other after such an ordeal.

[BEAT]

CHIP

It's... it's not just that, Dr. Pearce. [Beat.] I've always felt more at home here than I ever have in my own house.

HYACINTHE

[Slowly, carefully:] Well, you're always welcome here.

CHIP

Thank you, Dr. Pearce. [Beat.] I think I might go to bed now.

HYACINTHE

I think that's a good idea. [Beat.] And Chip?

CHIP

Hm?

HYACINTHE

You can call me Hyacinthe.

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[CLICK]

[END OF EPISODE]

ALEX

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In today's episode, you heard the voices of...

MICHAEL

Michael M as Chip Romero.

ALEX

Alex Abrahams as Evan Pearce.

GREY

Grey Kilgour as Hyacinthe Pearce.

LIVIE

Livie Martin as Jessica Pearce.

JORDAN

Jordan Hendrickson as the News Reporter.

ALEX

You can find us on Instagram, Twitter, TikTok and Tumblr @/room56pod and you can email us at thechildrenofroom56@gmail.com. Thank you so much for listening. We really appreciate it.

ON ASPHALT BONES TRAILER

A bell tolls three times.

SCARLETT

The [Listless] network presents...

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On Asphalt Bones - Trailer One..
A New Perspective.

INQUISITOR

This is the End.
An end, of sorts, perhaps,
But the End nonetheless.

Music starts. It is distant and reverberative.
Additional parts enter throughout.

A prophetic moment,
A turning page in a chapter,
A chord in a song;
A cadence at a coda.

There is an Eye.

It permeates the heavens,
Enormous and beautiful,
Its iris a shade beyond recognition:
The zenith of colour:
The last one.

STRANGE VOICE

(No more are needed.)

INQUISITOR

The clouds part around the space
Where this Eye protrudes.
It is not solitary, but...

STRANGE VOICE

(More.)

INQUISITOR

But a single organism in a system:
A system that is the End, but not an
end:
There are more of its kin,
Each beautiful beyond measure.
Flaunting of shape.
Devoid of boundary -
Affixed in the sky.

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Connected by a belt that shines
With an intensity

Music crescendos.

Characterised
And Inspired

By the Sun.

On Asphalt Bones theme plays.

WYLAN

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This episode was written by Scarlett
Foster, with audio engineering by
Scarlett Foster and Alanna Rogers, and
was directed by Sivan Raz, with
executive producers Alanna Rogers and
Scarlett.

This episode featured performances by:
Megan Scharlau as The Inquisitor

For more information, as well as show
transcripts and additional content,
please check our show notes, follow us
on social media @onasphaltbones, and
check out our website at
www.listless.ga.

Thank you for listening. And remember -
the Eye knows all. Glory to the Eye.
Long may the Eye prosper.

A short segment of the theme plays.

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SCARLETT

On Asphalt Bones Episode One will be released everywhere on October 6th at 4 PM British Summer Time and 11 AM Eastern Daylight Time.