Night of the Living Jude

Written by

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MISOPHONIA WARNING: coughing, sneezing, sniffling, and other gross flu sounds. Timestamps of the worst offenders below, but people are sick throughout
0:08-0:54
11:36-11:40
26:08-26:13

THE VOICE OF VALUE VAULT

Store 236 contains content that may not be suitable for all audiences. Listener discretion is advised.

SCENE 1, INT. STORE

Vibey muzak plays but is almost drowned out by COUGH CUSTOMER demonstrating how he got his name

MORGAN
$21.36, I'd say cash or card but I don't want to touch your cash so please just use a card.

COUGH CUSTOMER coughs

COUGH CUSTOMER
Ok.

COUGH CUSTOMER coughs again, card reader beeps happily

COUGH CUSTOMER
Is that my receipt?

MORGAN
I'll put it in the bag, I'm not handing it to you.

Bag crinkles, COUGH CUSTOMER’s line is punctuated by coughs every few words

COUGH CUSTOMER
I get it. Thank you so much. I really need the cough medicine, and the cough drops, and the tea -

MORGAN
Yeah, sure, you're welcome, please get out.

COUGH CUSTOMER coughs, then gags

Muzak ends, camera beeps

AUBREY
(interview)

There is this *horrible* flu going around right now. High fevers, hacking cough, aches, chills, the whole nine. It's awful, and it's *here*. Nat's been out for a couple days.

MORGAN
(interview)
I'm pretty sure she's patient zero, actually. This shit rips through college campuses, so she's probably the one that’s infected this place.

AUBREY
(interview)
Yeah, so we were already down one, but now Oliver's asleep in the back. Usually we wouldn't worry about that, it's not weird for him to take a mid-morning nap, but I swear I heard coughing back there, so that would make two.

MORGAN
(interview)
Worst of all though, we had to send Jude home. She showed up all glassy eyed and sweaty, swearing she could still work.

AUBREY
(interview)
She made it two steps in the door before we shoved her back out.

Flashback, lower pitched camera beep, classical muzak plays, rustling as AUBREY, MORGAN, and KEN literally shove JUDE out the door

JUDE
LET ME WORK.

AUBREY
Jude, NO, you are SICK!

MORGAN
Stop shoving us and get out!

AUBREY
Don't make us hurt you!

JUDE
YOU CAN'T KEEP ME OUT, IT'S AGAINST THE LAW.

MORGAN
WHAT FUCKING LAW??

JUDE
THE MIGRATORY BIRD ACT!

KEN
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN, WHAT IS HAPPENING??

Lower pitched camera beep

AUBREY
(interview)
Sooo yeah. It's not been the best day.

Laid-back muzak plays

AUBREY
Alright, kids, we're down to three out here. That means we have one cashier and one stocker, then we'll need one pretend floor manager.

MORGAN
All you, mate.

AUBREY
Oh, that...you think? I don't know, I mean how is that fair to everyone else?

MORGAN
Because you've been here at least two years longer than anyone else?

AUBREY
Well, sure, but -

KEN
Plus you're the lead cashier.

AUBREY
I *guess* -

MORGAN
And I'm sure as hell not going to do it, so that leaves Ken. And it can't be Ken.

KEN
Yeah, that's a lot of responsibility. I'm happy to help wherever I can, but -

AUBREY
Don't underestimate yourself! What if we have Ken on the floor, then Morgan, you handle the register, and I'll do stock?

MORGAN
No. You're managing. Why are you being so weird about this?

AUBREY
I'm not being weird! I just want to make sure it's fair, that's all.

MORGAN
Trust me, it's fair. You manage, I'll take register, and Ken does stock. Deal?

AUBREY sighs

AUBREY
Fiiiine.

KEN
Morgan?

MORGAN
Yeah?

KEN
Does this mean I’m not doing balloons?

MORGAN
Tell you what, mate, if someone asks me for balloons, I'll come get you, sound good?

KEN
Oh! Yes! Thanks, Morgan!

MORGAN
Anytime.
(under their breath)
Not like I’m gonna deal with that shit anyway.

AUBREY
(interview)

Of course I should be the acting manager! I've been here for eight goddamn years! But I don't want to be anywhere near those germ sacks. I am going to Cabo next weekend for my college roommate's bachelorette party, and if I have to miss it because someone here gets me sick, so help me god, I will burn this place to the ground.

THEME

SCENE 2, INT. STORE

Chill muzak plays, NOSTALGIC CUSTOMER’s voice fades in, AUBREY’s responses are muffled

NOSTALGIC CUSTOMER
...and they used to sell these little homemade soup kits, everything you needed in one bag, just add water. Those were really nice. The wife and I used to pick those up anytime we were under the weather.

AUBREY
Mhm.

NOSTALGIC CUSTOMER
That's why I'm here today, she's home, sick as a dog. I know you don't sell those kits anymore, but I figured I could pick up a can or two.

AUBREY
Right.

NOSTALGIC CUSTOMER
I knew the family that used to run this place, you know. Good people. Such a shame the store got bought out.

AUBREY
Sure was.

NOSTALGIC CUSTOMER
It was better back then. Not that you all don't do your best, but a chain store just doesn't have the same heart. I miss the handmade touches. There were always these little crafts by the registers. Key

chains and pot holders and those little woven bracelets. I think the daughter used to make them, uh, what was her name…

AUBREY cuts him off, voice no longer muffled

AUBREY
Was there something I could help you find?

NOSTALGIC CUSTOMER
Oh! Right.
(laughs)
I'm sorry, you probably have things to do, and here I am, rambling on about the past. I was looking for soup.

AUBREY
That'll be in aisle 2 with the canned goods.

NOSTALGIC CUSTOMER
Thank you, dear. Oh, oh! And tea, where would I find that?

AUBREY
One aisle over, with the rest of the beverages. Right hand side, towards the front of the store.

NOSTALGIC CUSTOMER
Lovely. Honey too?

AUBREY
Back by the soup. Same side, but further up.

NOSTALGIC CUSTOMER
Thank you, you've been a big help. Here, have a hard candy for your trouble. Stay healthy!

AUBREY
Trying.

AUBREY’s phone vibrates

AUBREY
Hello?

JUDE is on the other end sounding congested

JUDE
Aubrey, hey.

AUBREY
Hey, Jude. How are you feeling?

JUDE
Much better, you all were totally right to send me home, and I took a nap, and I'm fine now! So I'll be in in about twenty minutes.

AUBREY
Absolutely not. Jude, if you so much as try to come through the door, I will have Ken carry you back to your car and stand there until you fall asleep again.

JUDE
Aubrey, it's *fine*, I just, I needed a little nap, and I took that, so now I'm good to go. I can totally come in to -

JUDE coughs

JUDE
I can -

JUDE dissolves into a coughing fit

AUBREY
Uh huh. You were saying?

JUDE
(still out of breath)
That doesn't prove anything. I just...breathed in some smoke?

AUBREY
Some smoke?

JUDE
Yeah, um. From...my...barbecue.

AUBREY
From your barbecue.

JUDE

Uh huh.

AUBREY
You sure that's the story you want to go with?

JUDE
It's - it's not a *story*, I - I woke up from my nap feeling so good that I decided to barbecue some ribs for everyone, so I'll just finish those and bring them over and we can all have a picnic. Do you...do you think you could make some potato salad?

AUBREY
I'm hanging up now.

JUDE
No, Aubrey wait -

AUBREY
Jude, I mean it. You are sick, and you need your rest. We will be fine without you.

JUDE sighs

JUDE
Ok, fine, just...just tell Morgan to stop it.

AUBREY
Stop what? They're just at the register -

MORGAN
(in the distance)
I SAID GET BACK. COUGH ON ME AGAIN AND YOU GET AN EYE FULL OF DISINFECTANT.

AUBREY
Oh god they're standing on a counter threatening people, Jude, I've gotta go! MORGAN! NO!

AUBREY hangs up, camera beeps

AUBREY
(interview)
This is gonna be a *really* long day.

SCENE 3, INT. STOCK ROOM

AUBREY
Oliver, buddy, you gotta go home.

OLIVER
Huh? Is that you, Theseus?

AUBREY
Nope, just me. Aubrey. Your non-mythical coworker.

OLIVER
Oh. Aubrey. I was having this dream where I was flying high above the clouds. I was soaring in a clear blue sky. It was beautiful. But it was hot. So, so hot.

AUBREY
Uh huh. That's called a fever dream, Icarus, and that's exactly why I'm sending you home.

OLIVER
No, I...I can't. My boxes...they need me.

AUBREY
Your boxes will be here when you get back.

OLIVER
I can't abandon them.

AUBREY
They'll understand. The boxes wouldn't want you to suffer.

OLIVER
...you're right. You'll handle unpacking the rest of these?

AUBREY
I'll have Ken do it.

OLIVER

Oh, perfect. He's got the right energy for it. Thank you. Tell the boxes I'll be back soon. Start with the rest of the frozen.

AUBREY
Mhm, got it.

OLIVER
Then the refrigerated.

AUBREY
Makes sense.

OLIVER
And don't put the glassware next to food storage. You might think they'd get along, but they do not.

AUBREY
Whatever you say.

Fabric rustles

AUBREY
Here's your jacket, get out of here. Did you drive?

OLIVER
Yeah, but I'm gonna call my partner to pick me up. Everything's all swirly.

AUBREY
That sounds like a good idea.

Camera beeps

AUBREY
(interview)
You know how in the beginning of apocalypse movies you have that moment where everyone can sense that something bad is coming but they can't really grasp how bad it's really going to be? Yeah. That's about how I feel right now.

SCENE 4, INT. STORE

Jaunty muzak plays

KEN
Alright. Pencils go here...pens go here...ooh, we got the big packs of crayons again! I'll have to grab one when my shift’s over.

Box rustles, KEN addresses the camera

KEN
I used to love back to school shopping. The shiny pens and pencils, the smell of a new notebook, all those fun folders?? It was the best. And restocking school supplies is almost like back to school shopping! Now where do I put the binders...aha! Top shelf!

COUGH DROP CUSTOMER
Excuse me, are you -

COUGH DROP CUSTOMER snorts

COUGH DROP CUSTOMER
- completely out of cough drops? There aren't any on the shelves.

KEN
Well, you're in luck! We moved them up front to our 'feel better' display. Everything you need to feel better, all in one place!

COUGH DROP CUSTOMER
Ah. Great, thanks.

KEN
Have a good day!

KEN'S phone vibrates

KEN
Huh. Jude! Hi! How are you?

JUDE sounds more fevered than her last call

JUDE
Ken! Hey, Ken! I’m - I'm good! I'm -

JUDE has another coughing fit, then gasps

JUDE
- I’m *so* good!

KEN
That's great to hear! You get some rest?

JUDE
SO much rest. Like, the most sleep anyone's ever gotten. I - I slept for 17 hours

KEN
Oh! Uh. But it's only 11AM -

JUDE
Hey! Hey, hey, hey, hey. Hey. You wanna know a secret, Ken?

KEN
Ooh! Yes. Oh, but not if it's something bad. Or if it's about someone else. Or if it'll make me sad. Or -

JUDE
Ken, listen, I - I - I don't have a lot of time -

KEN gasps

KEN
YOU'RE DYING????

JUDE?
What?? I - no, I'm - I’m not dying, but Aubrey's gonna figure out who you're talking to and take the phone away so I have to talk real fast.

KEN
Ohhhhh! Geez, Jude, you scared me. And don't worry about Aubrey, I have an excellent poker face. So what's the secret?

JUDE
I feel so good that I'm gonna come to work.

KEN
Oh. Uh...are you sure that's -

JUDE

You - you can't, you can’t tell Aubrey, though. She - she wouldn't understand, she's...she’s not trustworthy like you. You're the only one I can count on.

KEN
Aw, Jude, that's really nice but...I don't want you to take this the wrong way, but are you sure it's the best idea to come in now? I think Aubrey might’ve been right about you needing a day off.

JUDE
Ken. My friend Ken. Dear, sweet, kindhearted Ken. You wouldn't betray me, would you?

KEN
No, of course not, I just -

AUBREY
Ken, who are you talking to?

KEN
Uh...no one! It's just...Ken! No, wait, shoot, *I'm* just Ken.

Footsteps as AUBREY approaches and snatches the phone

AUBREY
Jude!

JUDE
AHHH.

JUDE hangs up

AUBREY
Unbelievable.

Footsteps as AUBREY walks away, school supplies rustle as KEN continues stocking, KEN sighs

KEN
Alright, let's see...big notebooks on this shelf, small notebooks right above ‘em...loose leaf paper on the bottom.

KEN keeps restocking, humming to himself, then coughs

AUBREY
(from a distance)

Was that a cough???

KEN
Um, yes?

Footsteps as AUBREY returns

AUBREY
Ken, I swear to god, I will send you home so fast.

KEN
I'm fine! It's just dry in here!

AUBREY
Hm. It is dry...but if you keep this up you are out of here. I will throw you through those doors so fast, just ask Jude and Oliver!

KEN
Ok, ok! I get it! No more coughing!

AUBREY
Good. I'm watching you, Kendall.

KEN
Um, Aubrey? You know we live together, right?

AUBREY
So?

KEN
So if I have it...you probably already do too?

AUBREY
You shut your mouth! I do *not* have the flu! I am as strong as an ox!

KEN
(under his breath)
And twice as stubborn...

AUBREY
What was that?

KEN
Nothing, nothing!

AUBREY
That's what I thought.

SCENE 5, INT. STORE, MORGAN'S REGISTER

Flowing muzak plays

MORGAN
Your total today is 15 dollars and 90 cents. Cash or card?

MUG CUSTOMER
15 dollars? That's not right.

MORGAN
The till says it is. Are you arguing with the till?

MUG CUSTOMER
Scan these again.

MORGAN
Fine.

Scanner beeps three times

MORGAN
Huh. Look at that. 15 dollars and 90 cents. Cash or card?

MUG CUSTOMER
That isn't right! How the hell did you even come up with that number?

MORGAN
Well, like I said, the till’s the one that comes up with it, and it does that by scanning the bar code and matching said bar code to the item in our system, which then gives you the price. First time in a store?

MUG CUSTOMER
Well the register is wrong.

MORGAN
Ummm, I don't think it is. I wasn't the best at maths, but this seems pretty simple. Three mugs, five dollars apiece, so that is fifteen, then 6% sales tax, which comes out to 90 cents, so...15 dollars and 90 cents.

MUG CUSTOMER
There's the problem! These mugs are three dollars each!

MORGAN
...nope. Five dollars. I can see the display from here.

MUG CUSTOMER
Uh. But...but they used to be three dollars!

MORGAN
And now they're five. Corporate must've upped the price. They do that sometimes.

MUG CUSTOMER
That is ridiculous, you can't just change the price without telling anyone!

MORGAN
Do you know how a business works? I'm pretty sure they can. Plus, we did tell you. On the sign. You know, the one that has the price on it?

MUG CUSTOMER
So, what, you're just going to force me to pay a higher price even though I had no idea the price had changed??

MORGAN
Well, I mean, no one's going to *force* you. You could just put them back and leave. I'd be ok with that option. I get paid either way.

MUG CUSTOMER scoffs

MUG CUSTOMER
You really think these are worth five dollars each?

MORGAN
Me personally? Nah. But I don't set the prices.

MUG CUSTOMER
Ugh. *Fine*. I guess I'll pay your fifteen dollars and ninety cents.

MORGAN
Glad to hear it. Cash or card?

MUG CUSTOMER
Card. Here.

Card swipes

MUG CUSTOMER
(muttering)
Highway robbery.

Card reader chimes happily

MORGAN
Here's your receipt, and your bag with your five dollar apiece mugs. Hope they're everything you've ever dreamed.

Footsteps as MUG CUSTOMER leaves the store, door opens, bell dings, bag rustles, mugs shatter

MUG CUSTOMER
(from outside)
Dammit!

Bell jingles, door closes MORGAN's phone vibrates five times, JUDE sounds even more delirious

MORGAN
Wot?

JUDE
Morgan! Hey!

MORGAN
Uhhhh...who is this?

JUDE
Who is...what do you mean who is this, it's Jude!

MORGAN
Ohhh. Sorry, mate. Not got your number saved.

JUDE
Morgan, we've worked together for three years.

MORGAN
Yeah, well. What do you want anyway? You're supposed to be resting.

JUDE
I *did* rest, thank you, and I'm feeling much better. I just wanted to check on my pals! My comrades! My homies!

MORGAN
Yeah, I'm gonna need you to never, ever say that again.

JUDE
Ok.

MORGAN
And you are not fooling anyone, Jude. You sound like someone packed your sinuses with clay, and you really think you can be on your feet managing a store in that state?

JUDE
I can, because I am more powerful than you can begin to imagine.

MORGAN
Mhm. And just how high's your temperature right now?

JUDE
My temperature is exactly as it should be, thank you very much.

MORGAN
Uh huh. When's the last time you took it?

JUDE
Never, because fevers were invented by Big Pharma to sell thermometers.

MORGAN sighs

MORGAN
Of course they were.

JUDE
I'm serious! It's a conspiracy that reaches the highest levels of society. They're trying to divide us from within. Distract us from the real issues by making us argue over what the 'correct' temperature is when, really, there's no way to

know! Not when there’s so many variables to take into account, and you! You have fallen for it. You ask me what my temperature is, wanting it to meet their standards, but there's so little data on trans health! I - I'm on hormones! For all we know, a hundred and two could be a perfectly normal - oh, fuck.

MORGAN
A hundred and two??? Is your temperature a hundred and fucking two right now?

JUDE
...nnnooo?

MORGAN
HRT doesn't stop your insides from boiling, you know.

JUDE
Aha! That's where you're wrong! I'm pretty sure estrogen gives me resistance to fire damage.

MORGAN
Ugh. Give me strength, Jude...

JUDE
Or...wait, is that testosterone?

MORGAN sighs

MORGAN
Jude.

JUDE
No. No, no, no, it’s definitely estradiol.

MORGAN
JUDE.

JUDE
What?

MORGAN
Go see a doctor!

JUDE

NEVER. It's my fever, and Big Pharma can't have it!

JUDE hangs up

MORGAN

Oh my god.

MORGAN sighs

MORGAN

Good lord, her entire brain's gonna be porridge.

Door opens, bell jingles, footsteps approach

AUBREY

The taco place was closed, so I got us some ramen.

Bell jingles, door closes

AUBREY

Soup felt like a good idea for today. Where's Ken?

MORGAN

I sent him home while you were out getting lunch. He started singing to the balloons.

AUBREY

That's not *that* weird.

MORGAN

Well, no, except he was singing in German.

AUBREY

Ken doesn't speak German.

MORGAN

Exactly. So I made him take his temperature, and he had a pretty high fever. Which is not a conspiracy invented by Big Pharma, no matter what anyone tells you.

AUBREY

I take it you talked to Jude?

MORGAN

Yep. Did you know that estradiol

makes you immune to fire damage?

AUBREY sighs

AUBREY
Of course it does.

Camera beeps

MORGAN
(interview)
I'm actually sort of having fun today. Sure, the customers are disgusting, and I'm definitely gonna get the flu, but this is the most entertaining Jude's ever been.

SCENE 6, INT. STORE

Jazzy muzak plays

AUBREY
For the last time, they do not make a cold medicine that doubles as an energy drink, and, frankly, the fact that you would be willing to put such a substance into your body seems like a cry for help. The non-drowsy is up front.

ENERGY DRINK CUSTOMER
Fiiiiine. You have energy drinks too?

AUBREY
...I feel like answering that would make me an accessory to something, so I'm not going to.

Camera beeps

AUBREY
(interview)
It's been just Morgan and me since about 2:00. Lucky for us, Ken's 'feel better display' means that most customers are in and out very quickly, but any time we save there will be lost cleaning up whatever arts and crafts project he left in the break room.

MORGAN

(interview)
He said he wanted to make get well cards for Oliver, Nat, and Jude.

AUBREY
(interview)
And he needed that much glitter??

MORGAN
(interview)
I didn't question his process.

AUBREY
(interview)
If he weren't running such a high fever, I swear I'd take it all home and dump it in his bed.

MORGAN
(interview)
Good lord.

AUBREY
Too far?

MORGAN
Way.

AUBREY
Yeah, you're right, I'd never be able to live with myself.

MORGAN
(interview)
Plus, you know it would get everywhere. You'd be cleaning it up for a year.

AUBREY
True. I did hear from Nat. She got the all clear from her doctor and should be back tomorrow, so that's some good news at least.

THE DOCUMENTARIAN
(interview)
Oh, good to hear. And you two are still feeling alright -

MORGAN and AUBREY cut him off

MORGAN
(interview)
OI.

AUBREY
(interview)
Ah ah ah! We close in two hours. Do *not* jinx us.

Same jazzy muzak plays, AUBREY’s phone rings for a video call

AUBREY
Jude, what have I told you about - woah. Uh, Jude? You don't look so good.

MORGAN
Yeah, don't take this the wrong way, but you look like every character in every zombie movie who tries to hide the fact that they've been bitten and then inevitably infects their entire camp.

JUDE sounds exhausted and very out of it

JUDE
Yeah, I uh…

JUDE has yet another coughing fit

JUDE
I think you guys were right. I'm definitely sick.

AUBREY
Yeah, no shit. Why are you calling?

JUDE
I just, uh...I think this is the end for me. And I just wanted to say that I've…
(coughs)
...valued our time together. That's...that's not a...that's not a pun. But you know how much I love puns. And I know the store will be in good hands with you, Aubrey. You're strong. Stronger than I ever was.

AUBREY
Jude, you're not dying, it's just the flu. If you would drink some fluids and get some rest like I've been telling you to, you'd feel much better.

JUDE
No, I - I think this is it.

AUBREY
Jude...

JUDE
Tell my wife I love her.

MORGAN
(under their breath)
Jude has a wife?

AUBREY
No, she does not!

JUDE
Yes I do! I - she's right - hold on, uh, lemme go find her, hang on…

MORGAN
You sure, Aubs? She sounds pretty certain.

AUBREY
I'm positive. We've worked together for four years now, I'm pretty sure I'd know if she was married. She's just feverish and flying on cold medicine.

JUDE
Aha! Look! Wife.

MORGAN
Huh?

AUBREY
Jude, honey?

Yeah?

AUBREY
That is a thermos.

JUDE
Yeah, but -

AUBREY
Jude, we need to go. Get back in bed. I'm not gonna answer your calls anymore. Bye!

AUBREY hangs up

MORGAN
I want whatever she's on.

Camera beeps

MORGAN
(interview)
See? Bloody hilarious. Although I'm not sure why there were two of her
(beat)
Ah, shit.

SCENE 7, INT. STORE, AUBREY'S REGISTER

Tranquil muzak plays, AUBREY sounds exhausted

AUBREY
That'll be $3.18 for the tissues. Cash or card?

TISSUE CUSTOMER
Oh, uh, I've got cash, here.

Cash rustles and coins clink, cash register beeps as TISSUE CUSTOMER sneezes four times in a row

AUBREY
Jesus Christ, can you at least cover your mouth??

TISSUE CUSTOMER
What?

TISSUE CUSTOMER sniffs loudly

AUBREY
God, never mind, it's too late anyway. Your receipt's in the bag, please just go.

TISSUE CUSTOMER
Thanks.

AUBREY
You can thank me by leaving.

Footsteps as TISSUE CUSTOMER leaves, door opens, bell jingles, door closes, AUBREY sighs

AUBREY
So close.

Footsteps, AUBREY flips a switch, muzak stops. Footsteps as AUBREY returns to her register, we hear several beeps and the cash drawer open. Cash rustles as AUBREY counts it. She sneezes.

AUBREY
Oh, god dammit.

Footsteps, AUBREY knocks on a door, it echoes as it opens

AUBREY
Hey, boss.

THE MANAGER
Aubrey.

AUBREY
(sniffs)
Here's the closing paperwork. I think it's right, but it all started to blur together so I can't be sure.

THE MANAGER
Thank you. I'll review everything.

AUBREY
I also did not complete the cleaning checklist. I mean, I sprayed all the counters and registers and doors with disinfectant, but that's it.

THE MANAGER
That's alright. I can take care of it.
(beat)
You don't look well, Aubrey.

AUBREY
Oh, I am not. My head is killing me.

THE MANAGER
And the others?

AUBREY
Sent them all home. Morgan almost made it through the day, but they spiked a fever like an hour ago, so I was the last one standing.

AUBREY coughs several times

AUBREY
Sorry. Not that you have to worry about catching this. Not being human has its perks, huh?

THE MANAGER
Yes, my imperviousness to your germs is certainly an upside.
(beat)
Someone sneezed on you?

AUBREY
Several times.

THE MANAGER
I see. Would you like me to take care of them for you? I understand that the flu can be quite serious in some cases. It wouldn't be likely to raise any alarms.

AUBREY
Nah, that's alright. It was super gross, but I was already sick. I wouldn't hate if his tissues turned to sandpaper, though.

THE MANAGER
Consider it done.
(beat)
You're going to miss your trip.

AUBREY
Seems that way.

THE MANAGER
I'm sorry to hear that.

AUBREY
Eh, who needs four days at an all-inclusive resort with a swim-up bar anyway? You need anything else? Because otherwise I'm gonna pick up some pho on the way home, and then Ken and I are going to marathon the trashiest reality TV we can find.

THE MANAGER
No, that's all. Get some rest, Aubrey.

AUBREY
Thanks.

AUBREY leaves, the door echoes as it closes

CREDITS

Bouncy muzak plays

THE VOICE OF VALUE VAULT
Thank you for joining us for today’s installment of Store 236.

This episode, Night of the Living Jude, was written and directed by Mel Nichols, with sound design by Sam Stark, and vocal cuts by Erin Grassie.

It featured Hera Alexander as Jude, Lindsay Zana as Aubrey, Kirsty Woolven as Morgan, Michael E. Freemantle as Ken, Harley Ronan as Oliver, Interiority as The Documentarian, and Amy Young as The Manager.

With Quill Turner, Bryan Sfara, Katrina Pecina, Lauren Tucker, Ari Ingalls, and LoserCee as the customers.

Store 236 was created by Mel Nichols. The show is produced by Interiority, with additional story development by Hera Alexander and Amy Young, production assistance by Julia Lynn Sepúlveda, scoring by Amy Young, and graphic design by Jon Stollberg.

If you enjoyed today’s episode, you can rate and review us on your favorite podcatcher, follow us on Bluesky and tumblr at store236pod, or support us at patreon.com/store236.

If you didn’t, sandpaper tissues.

Thanks for listening.