

Night of the Living Jude

Written by
Mel Nichols

Copyright (c) 2025
store236pod@gmail.com

MISOPHONIA WARNING: coughing, sneezing, sniffing, 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

Fiiiiine.

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.