



Episode 15: "Truth & Consequences"

(A raspy yet soft voice of a British man narrates over a black picture.)

[Narrator]

Children, please welcome...Happy Farmstead Friends.

(A small group of children clap and cheer as studio lights come on, revealing the Happy Farmstead Friends set. After a moment, Hairless Penguin comes out onto the grassy knoll stage, sans guitar. He waves at all the children while Dancing Bear comes out just after him, gliding backwards with the worst moonwalk you've ever seen. The clapping and cheering dies down as Penguin steps up to the microphone while Bear comes to a stop to catch his breath after moonwalking four feet.)

[Penguin]

Heya, farmstead friends!

[CHILDREN CHEER]

(Bear claps his big paws together like a big idiot.)

[Bear]

YAAAY!

[Penguin]

Well, we're still here, and we're still the SCW World Tag Team Champions!

[CHILDREN CLAP]

[Penguin]

Thank you, thank you. By the time Breakdown rolls around, that will mark *seven* months of us being the representatives of SCW's tag team division!

[Bear]

Seven months of happy, happy, fun, *fun!* *Hyuck!*

[Penguin]

And while we've been here for over *half a year*, we still have people questioning why exactly it is that we're even standing where we are!

[Bear]

Aww. Those poor people must not have had people like us to help them when they were little.

(Bear steps to the front of the stage and peers in close at the children.)

[Bear]

Kids, we call that "growing up in a broken home," and it's *very* sad!

[CHILDREN “AWW”]

[Penguin]

Precisely, Bear. Because, you see, anyone that had a proper role model growing up would see that we can't judge anyone just based on their appearance. Now, sure, Bear and I might look a little silly sometimes—

[Bear]

Hey, speak for yourself!

[CHILDREN LAUGH]

(Penguin stares at Bear for a few quiet moments. Slight disdain is detected under the eyes of the mask.)

[Penguin]

But that doesn't mean that we don't have strong *character*. And that strong character, along with our morals and values, is what has kept us on top for seven months. And a lot of people have learned that about us. Like, Ducky and the Taylors learned that. Holly and her Brand learned that. Kimmy and Wolfy learned that. Polly and her Playgirls learned that. And more.

[Bear]

Boy, we're such good teachers! *Hyuck!*

[Penguin]

And in all that time of teaching, Bear, I have to say that this is the first time that I think we've run into someone that actually did grow up in a nurturing environment!

(Bear steps back from the front of the stage and looks at Penguin.)

[Bear]

Uh...who?

[Penguin]

Well, Owen Cruze, of course!

(Silence.)

[Bear]

You mean Daddy Issues Cruze?

[Penguin]

Um...well, whatever issues he may have had with his father, it's clear that Orlando raised the boy well!

[Bear]

Then why did he change his name?

[Penguin]

Look, Bear, he changed it back now and—can you just let me make my point? My point is, Owen is the first one to realize the truth about us! The *truth* that even though we're children's entertainers and teachers, it doesn't mean that we don't have the hearts of champions. Owen looks beneath the masks. He looks beyond the songs. He sees the real us. The Tag Team Champions.

[Bear]

That's great! So, uh, lesson learned? Can we go home early?

(Bear begins to waddle off the stage, but Penguin reaches out and pulls him back in.)

[Penguin]

Not so fast, Bear.

[Bear]

Aww...

[Penguin]

We've seen Owen on his journey towards the truth ever since he came back as Owen Lee. He's learned a lot.

[Bear]

Maybe he's been watching us.

[Penguin]

The thing, though, is that he's still learning. See, he's all caught up in this thing about our beloved boss—

[Bear]

We love Lexy!

[Penguin]

No, not that boss—

[Bear]

We love uncle Shaun! Wait, do we?

[Penguin]

Bear, I'm talking about the big boss—The Big D.

[Bear]

Oh, so you can say *that*, but I get bleeped if I say [CENSORED]?!

[CHILDREN GASP/GIGGLE]

[Penguin]

Anyway, we've seen the big boss around here lately, and it's got everyone talking. Syren seems to think it's all about her, which is typical. Then you have Owen thinking that it's about *him* and

trying to prove that he's the focus of SCW's future even though he assaulted the big man not too long ago. *Everyone* has their theories as to why D is here, but only one side knows the truth.

[Bear]

Please tell me it's us.

[Penguin]

It's us.

[Bear]

YAY!

[Penguin]

No, Owen, Mr. D isn't here to keep an eye on you. I have it on good authority—Lexy—that the *real* reason he's here is that he's looking into expanding the Happy Farmstead Friends empire!

[CHILDREN CHEER]

[Penguin]

Because with his connections to the network, he can get us a foot in the door so that we're no longer restricted to airing on the internet only. Then, once we bring him and the network a mega-hit, you know what'll happen, right? No longer will the board be concerned about his senility, because they'll see that he's got a great eye for talent, which will once again put him into position to run things here!

[Bear]

Ohh, so if Mr. D is trying to get the Cruze's out of power, that means he's on our side!

[Penguin]

Honestly, the last time I saw Lexy's conspiracy board, it was kind of an information overload, so I'm not going to fully commit to that yet...*but* he definitely knows where the future of this company lies, and guess what?

(There's another brief silence as Bear looks around.)

[Bear]

Oh, did you actually want me to guess? That's not in the script.

(Penguin clears his throat.)

[Penguin]

Owen may be a big part of this company's future, but if you're looking for *the* future of SCW, then look no further than your World Tag Team Champions!

[Bear]

Oh, uhh, YEAH! THE FUTURE IS HAPPY, LITTLE FARMSTEAD FRIENDS! *HYUCK!*

[Penguin]

You said it yourself, Owen. I eliminated you from Taking Hold of the Flame. I was just a step behind one of the greatest wrestlers of all time in Syren, along with a man that *I beat* in his first match back before he won that battle royal, Adam Allocco! With the flick of a butterfly's wings, maybe *I* could have been the one to dethrone Selena Frost...but it wasn't meant to be. This little penguin still has a way to go on his journey, just like *you* have a ways to go on *yours*!

[Bear]

His legs are much longer, though, so he probably has a few steps on you.

[Penguin]

Regardless, little farmstead friends, it's *okay* to not always have everything figured out. That's what *we're* here for. Because, Owen, you're definitely on the right path, but you've still got a few pit stops along the way—and all of us here at the Farmstead are so proud of you for taking the steps to make up for everything you did to the fans and our big boss man.

[Bear]

(shrugging)

I actually don't care that much.

[Penguin]

But what happens next, Owen, is a consequence to finding your truth. What happened at Taking Hold of the Flame was only a preview. You took your time away, trying to find out everything that went wrong. Speaking as a teacher, it makes my little penguin heart swell up to see that you've figured some things out. But while you were gone, things went on without you. New lessons were taught, and you're still catching up.

[Bear]

Should have gotten a sick note, little [CENSORED]!

[Penguin]

But take solace in the fact that you're dealing with someone who not only loves to teach, but gives time to star pupils, which you *are*! Consider this an important lesson on your way to becoming better, while at the same time, we'll let this serve as a lesson to the greater public. For you, you'll learn that the road to recovery is not paved with gold and littered with sunshine and flowers. Sometimes to move on, you have to stop and wait out the storm. For everyone else, you'll see that my win over Adam Allocco wasn't some fluke, nor was my placement in Taking Hold of the Flame!

[Bear]

And if seven months of dominance wasn't enough, then we'll keep going! Whether it's me and big bird over here working together to keep these titles at LexyCorp—

[Penguin]

*Big bird?!*

[Bear]

—or it's Penguin giving solo lessons, you'll all eventually learn the same thing that Owen Cruze has already learned: the Happy Farmstead Friends are here to *stay* and here to *slay*! Can I get an *amen*, children?!

[CHILDREN "AMEN"]

[Bear]

YEAH!

[Penguin]

I'll see you Thursday, Owen! Bye for now!

(Jaunty music begins to play as both Penguin and Bear begin to wave at the camera. The camera begins to pull away, showing all the children waving along with their hosts.)

[Bear]

BYE-BYE!

[Penguin]

Remember to respect your elders, kids! Look what it's done for Owen! Bye-bye!

(As everyone continues to wave, the scene fades to black.)