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"Okay, everyone," Clyde Warner nervously began, wringing the week's script in his hands. "Lexy's not here this week."

"Fuck my stupid *life*, I fucking *hate it*, I fucking HATE IT!" came an outburst courtesy of Douglas Casey, who rammed the belly of his bear suit into Lexy's very expensive mahogany desk that took up a good space of the office.

"But that's fine, because she's sent us some general notes to make sure that we put together a good show while she's out planning the wedding of the century."

"FUCK!"

"A quick welcome back to the crew," Clyde said, nodding towards Gia the Giraffe, Sally the Snake, and Rocky Rhino, who all sat in the office mostly paying attention to what was being said. "Glad to have you guys back and, hey, it's an easy one this week: no songs."

"Aww," Gia cooed in disappointment, "I was looking forward to playing for the kids again. So cute, huh?" She looked at the ex-convict that portrayed Rocky and got no response. She glanced over to the current-crackhead who played Sally. "So cute, huh?"

"Will we still be paid the same?" Sally asked while anxiously rubbing her arms.

"Listen, I don't know much about that stuff," confessed Clyde, "so let's just read this script, get it done, and Lexy will be back to answer all the business questions after she becomes a beautiful bride."

"DAMN IT!" Doug yelped while punching a wall.

"The good news is that the fire department responded quite quickly last time when Katsumi nearly torched the entire set. So, you know, that's all fine and dandy and sorted. The bad news is that there is some stuff in here that Lexy told us to get across about, like, Russians and conspiracies and stuff, and I don't know what any of it means. Are any of you smart?"

"Uhm, I could take a look," the young Gia replied.

Clyde took one look at her and deemed her too attractive to be intelligent. "Is there anyone *else* who's smart?"

Sally shook her head.

"I completed my GED my last stint in the clink," Rocky quietly revealed.

Gia patted him on the back. "That's so cool, Rocky! I'm proud of you," she said sweetly, even getting a small smile in response from the typically stonefaced Rocky.

"Okay, you know what?" said Clyde. "We'll just get Nigel to do it. He's smart and old or whatever, I'm sure he'll be able to decipher her notes."

"EVERYBODY LISTEN!" Doug suddenly snapped, swinging his body towards the group and gaining all of their attention.

"What is it, Bear?"

"This is going to be the *best* show that we've ever done," he declared with confidence.

"Lexy will see our value and know that she doesn't need stupid Ryan to make her happy!"

Clyde looked back at the rest of the group, who looked on in confusion since they had no earthly idea who Ryan was or what Doug was even talking about. Clyde was quite confident that they'd never even heard of SCW outside of the recording sessions for the program.

"Um, yeah," Clyde mumbled while turning back to Doug. "We'll try our—" Doug suddenly charged him, picking him up and slamming him into the wall, holding him up against it with his bear paws. "What the *fuck*?!"

"DON'T TRY, DAMN IT! JUST *DO! DO!!*"

"Oh, God, your paws *stink!*"

"PROMISE ME THIS WILL BE THE BEST SHOW YET!"

"Okay! God damn, I promise!"

Episode 4: "Reunions and Separations"

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

[Narrator]

Children, please welcome...Happy Farmstead Friends.

[CHILDREN CHEER]

(The studio lights come on as Hairless Penguin and Dancing Bear come out of the farmstead's red barn, navigating around the bales of hay surrounding them. They wave happily at the children as they take their place at the front of the stage, which resembles a grassy knoll in front of all the sitting children. Bear dances happily while Penguin steps up, notably missing his guitar.)

[Penguin]

Heya, Farmstead!

[CHILDREN CHEER]

[Penguin]

So glad to see you all here after that unfortunate incident of arson committed by who we thought was a friend, [screaming unintelligibly in what's supposed to be Japanese] the Octopal.

[CHILDREN BOO, SOME HISS]

[Penguin]

Don't worry, she's been deported back to her country after helping us defeat The Villainous Barbara, who you'll be happy to hear is now imprisoned in the basement of our friendly little cottage here!

[CHILDREN CHEER]

(The camera pans over to the cottage, where we see the narrator rocking away on his rocking chair on the porch. The old man smiles and raises his mug up to the camera before happily pointing down, as if to say, "yep, we locked her up down there!" We shift back to Penguin and Bear.)

(Penguin)

But with VB gone, what about our friends? Gia, Sally, Rocky?

[CHILDREN MURMUR IN CURIOSITY]

(Bear shuffles around excitedly, unable to contain himself.)

[Bear]

Gggaahhhah, WE GOT OUR FRIENDS BACK, THEY'RE BACK!

[CHILDREN CHEER]

[Penguin]

Oh, Bear, there you go ruining the suspense and the surprise! But he's right, everyone! Please
give a warm farmstead welcome to our friends!

[CHILDREN SCREAM WITH GREAT ENTHUSIASM]

(From the red barn, Gia the Giraffe, Sally the Snake, and Rocky Rhino all appear. Gia and Sally wave happily while Rocky maintains his typical stoic demeanor. They all join Penguin and Bear on stage, where Bear immediately tries to dry hump Gia, who pushes him off. He tries the same on Sally, who reacts similarly. He considers doing it to Rocky, but thinks better of it, instead choosing to take his place next to Penguin on the stage.)

[Penguin]

We're all so happy to be together again!

[Bear]

B-b-but Penguin, we're missing something!

[Penguin]

What's that, Bear?

[Bear]

(mournfully)

Your guitar...

(Silence fills the studio. The camera slowly zooms in on Penguin's mask as he stands completely still, resembling a victim of shell shock. Faded images flash over his face.)

(Kandis kicking Penguin's guts out. Bear getting dropped with the Welcome Distraction courtesy of The Connection. Drake Hemingway handing Tommy Valentine Penguin's guitar. The guitar crashing down

onto Penguin's skull. Tommy choking Penguin with the remnants of the shattered guitar. Slow motion footage of Christy Matthews and then Lucas Knight running down the ramp to accentuate how long they took to come and assist these helpless victims. Penguin dead on the mat next to fragments of his guitar.)

(Penguin snaps out of the war flashbacks.)

[Penguin]

It, uh, doesn't matter! It's *fine*! In fact, let me tell you something, kids.

(Penguin steps off the stage and steps towards the children before getting down to their level, even going so far as to sit criss-cross applesauce. Bear follows after, awkwardly falling on his backside beside Penguin while the other three remain on stage.)

[Penguin]

There are two sides to life. Today, we see both of these mysterious forces at work. We say hello to our old friends Gia, Sally, and Rocky...while saying goodbye to my guitar. Old reliable.

[CHILDREN "AWW"]

[Penguin]

Oh, come now, don't be *sad*. While our natural instinct is to linger on the regrets of an untimely separation, the truth is that we shouldn't. Regret. What a dirty word. What's a nice word that we can focus on this week? Do any of you have any guesses?

[CHILDREN MURMUR, UNSURE]

[Penguin]

Bear?

[Bear]

Umm...happiness?

[Penguin]

Nope. Revenge!

[CHILDREN CHEER]

(Bear annoyingly cackles while slapping his paws together in an extremely obnoxious manner.
Penguin looks away from the children to look directly into the camera.)

[Penguin]

Those fiendish Jackals will get what's coming to them in a cage of death when the Jewel and Angel of LexyCorp win back what they never truly lost, the World Tag Team Championships!
Ace and Autumn have our back this week!

[Bear]

Ace and Autumn care for us so much! They're gonna whoop that greasy looking dude and his emergency life raft girlfriend! Then, after that, I'm going down to the ring and I'm gonna dance over the mutilated corpses of Tommy, Kandis, Christy, *and* Lucas while everyone celebrates Lexy's Angels becoming champs! I'll say, "*That's* for breaking Penguin's guitar, you sex-crazed pieces of—"

[Penguin]

Bread!

[Bear]

Bread? That doesn't sound right.

[Penguin]

Well, it's because they soak up everything and are bad for you.

[Bear]

Soak up everything?

[Penguin]

Yeah, once they appear on our TV sets, all the fun is soaked out of the room. But we'll be leaving those creeps to Ace and Autumn, because while they're busy making the wrongs against us into rights, Bear and I have a similar job in making sure that the world knows that Holly Adams and Giovanni Aries are *frauds* who don't *belong* in the spot they're currently occupying at the End of the Year Special!

[Bear]

BOO, CHILDREN, BOO!

[CHILDREN BOO]

[Bear]

LOUDER, DAMN YOU!

[CHILDREN BOO LOUDER]

[Penguin]

For more information regarding these claims, let's turn our attention to our friendly neighborhood narrator, Nigel Harris. Over to you, Nigel.

(The camera pans over to the narrator, who takes his sweet time rising up out of his chair, a loud creaking coming from either his bones or the rickety chair. As he steps into center frame, text in pink bubble font appears at the top of the screen, reading, *HERE'S WHAT WE KNOW SO FAR OF RUSSIA'S MEDDLING*. After a moment, a picture of Vladimir Putin without a shirt and riding a horse appears on one side of him, and on the other side a picture of Cian O'Dwyer.)

[Narrator]

Beside me is a photograph of a murderous dictator who's had political opponents erased, members of the general media silenced, and - perhaps worst of all - regular upstanding citizens *killed...*

[CHILDREN GASP]

[Narrator]

...metaphorically speaking. The *other* man...is Vladimir Putin. There for no other reason other than we quite like that picture, don't we?

(The narrator looks at the picture and giggles before it slowly dissipates out of view. In its place, a black silhouette of a man appears with a large question mark over it.)

[Narrator]

Now, you may ask yourself, "what does Cian O'Dwyer have to do with Russia's meddling?" I'm here to answer that. You see, after the viral campaign known as *#VoteAutumn* had swept not just the nation, but the *world*, it was clear that Autumn Valentine was set to challenge for the SCW World Championship at the End of the Year Special. However, after unprecedented levels of fraud never before seen in an election such as this, it was revealed to the world that Holly Adams was to challenge for the World Championship at the end of the year, *not* Autumn Valentine.

[CHILDREN BOO]

[Narrator]

Yes, indeed. It's all because of Cian O'Dwyer, who has made it known ever since stepping into power that he's part of a greater conspiracy to silence LexyCorp. But he didn't do it alone, unfortunately. No, he had assistance from across the sea, bringing Irish and Russian powers together to crown Holly Adams. But who is this Russian? They're closer than you think. Who do we know that has a disgustingly Russian name, who has not only faked their own death at the hands of a lizard obsessed cretin, but who has *also* made an effort to *censor and erase their true name to the point of simply referring to themselves as a single lettered code name?*

(The black silhouette is filled with a picture of Mr. D.)

[CHILDREN GASP]

[Narrator]

That's right. Together, the Irish, Russians, and Russian-Canadians have banded together with an American corporation known simply as "*The Brand*," ran by Holly Adams. These two men on either side of me saw a fan risk their safety by throwing money towards The Brand in the middle of a match not too long ago and they saw the potential earnings for the company if they were to push this agenda. O'Dwyer couldn't do it alone, however. So he called in the Russian. Now, to better understand this allegiance, let's go back to the year 1920, where in an effort to obtain international recognition of the Irish Republic, the Sinn Féin leadership—

[Bear]
(yawning)
Wow, this is boring!

(The presentation abruptly goes away as we pan back to the stage, where Penguin and Bear stand alone.)

[Bear]
None of that boring smart people crap matters! The only thing that matters is that LexyCorp was screwed and we're gonna do something about it!

[Penguin]
While my big friend talks from a place of anger, he also speaks from a place of *truth*. Nobody likes Holly Adams. They all boo her! They boo her because she's done nothing! The only thing she ever did was give Asher Hayes a nice haircut to go along with his prison sentence! Meanwhile, Cid Turner is running around stalking women while looking like a homeless?! Her only two life coaching clients are basket cases!

[Bear]
Wait, aren't you supposed to be Cid Turner?

(The two look at each other awkwardly for almost ten seconds.)

[Bear]

Look, doesn't matter! Now she's recruited another homeless person in Gio, who's her shaman or something! Holly, if you're recruiting people that look like they're homeless and like they stink, don't even *bother* trying to recruit Ryan Watson, because he's already part of the superior corporation in LexyCorp! I bet that was already part of your *sick* plans, wasn't it?! It wasn't enough that you *stole* this election with those damn dirty foreigners, but now you're trying to steal our stinky, hairy people, our status as SCW's top corporation, as well as the hearts of millions that belong to Lexy Chapel! Stop trying to steal everything from Lexy, you stupid blonde bi—wait, no, blonde is fine. Blonde is *fine*! Lexy's blonde. Wait a minute, you stole *that* from her too! YOU'RE JUST A THIEF! A PRETENDER! YOU AND YOUR HOMELESS ARMY MUST BE STOPPED!

[Penguin]

Is that why they charge for their services? Because she needs the money to feed her clients who find themselves on the less fortunate side of the scale? Well, guess what, missy?! We don't charge *anything*! You can view us for *free* on YouTube, where we teach the future generations all about how to be the best person you can be. We're the *real* life coaches, huh, Bear?!

[Bear]

I'M GONNA SIT ON THAT PHONY! PENGUIN AND I DON'T COACH LIVES, WE TAKE 'EM!

[Penguin]

That's the complete opposite of what I just said, but Bear's right about one thing: we *will* take down Holly and Gio. For months, both The Brand and Lexy's Angels have been heavily featured on SCW programming. The world wondered, "when will this cold war evolve into a battle that will result in the heat death of the universe?" The answer is now.

[Bear]

And to fight on these front lines, Lexy's sending her best!

[Penguin]

Exactly! Granted, Ace and Autumn are busy, Ryan's a cripple, Lexy is too busy being Manager of the Year and planning her wedding to wrestle, and as far as Katsumi-chan and Nate Chapel's big, sexy muscles go, well, we don't really know when they'll even bother to show up, do we?

[Bear]

We're sending our best...available!

[Penguin]

But we won't let the team down! The truth is, injustices like the rigged election that took place last week happen, and more often than not, we're just forced to deal with it. The powers that be just hold too much influence. So, yes, Holly Adams will face Selena Frost at the End of the Year Special on New Year's Eve...but us little animals will *not* be silenced. An asterisk will forever mark this event. The world will know that Holly Adams didn't deserve the honor and the first ones to peel back the lies will be the Happy Farmstead Friends!

[Bear]

The only *Brand* left after Breakdown will be the *brand* of my big *ass* that I leave on both of your foreheads!

[CHILDREN GIGGLE]

[Penguin]

And I may not have my guitar with me, but guess what? I'm still carrying around this big ol' heart of mine.

[Bear]

Oh, it's so *huge*, baby! His heart is so *big* and you're both going to have to *take* it, you naughty, naughty girls!

[Penguin]

Erm...right! And while corporations are often seen as heartless, we're going to prove that LexyCorp is *all* heart! Not like that soulless entity fuelled by foreign machines known as The Brand!

[Bear]

I got a big heart too, momma! And I'll give you every...single...*inch*!

[Penguin]

(whispering)

Can you please stop?

[Bear]

This one's for Autumn!

[Penguin]

And for LexyCorp! And if you want to support such a noble and caring cause, please remember to buy all of our merchandise at your local retail store, or even on the Internet with the help of a parent and/or guardian. Visa or Mastercard. None of that American Express crap. I mean, listen, if that's all your guardian has, that's fine, it's just kind of an obsolete—look, just buy the stuff!

All the stuff!

(Bear holds up a Dancing Bear doll.)

[Bear]

(sweetly)

Made with love...

[Penguin]

Until next time, everyone! Bye for now! Bye, Holly! Bye-bye, Gio!

[Bear]

BYE!!

[CHILDREN CHEER AND CLAP]

[Penguin]

Bye, everyone!

(The two wave happily as Gia, Sally, and Rocky come back out to join along, except Rocky who just sneers at all the cheering children. The camera slowly zooms out while the scene fades to black.)