

FIND US ALIVE EPISODE 18: NIGHT GAME

[Low droning tone]

HARLEY

(Calm, smooth)

Good evening, staff and personnel of 107.

We are officially three minutes into Capture the Flag. No moves have been made yet, it seems both teams are still taking tactical measures to fortify the entrances to their sides of the facility. But with as many staircases as this place has, best of luck with that.

Occupying the A side of our building is Team One, comprised of Research, Psychology, Containment, Engineering, Medical and Botany. They have chosen Dr. Alves as their leader. I'm observing their methods to booby trap some of the doors, some very clever and non-lethal practices being put into place here by our own Containment personnel. Experts in the sciences of capturing and holding anomalies, but can they keep their team's flag under lock?

The B side of the facility is homebase to Blue Squad, who told me they have no leader because they have opted to consider themselves an "anarchist hivemind militia" rather than a team. On this team: Security, Records, Upper Management, Maintenance and the field agents who continue to refer to themselves as the "Rogue Faction." The Blue Squad has built a very impressive pile of furniture in the cafeteria. We will see if it can keep out Containment.

The game has begun. The goal? To capture the flag. Each team has one lab-coat designated as their flag and placed at the lowest floor of their side. Team members

captured in enemy territory will be held in a secret location determined by the enemy team, until their own teammates can free them. This place is a maze. Good luck guarding all the entrances.

I am watching from the cameras, listeners, and broadcasting locally to our site's own radios on behalf of those indisposed, injured or uninterested personnel. Both teams can listen in, and do with my commentary what they will.

It looks like Blue Squad is gearing up a group for a raid. Naturally, we are all anxious to see how Team One responds.

[Building static, click]

[Harley's voice comes out of a tinny radio speaker]

HARLEY

It's now up to Team One to mount an attack of their own, or-

[The radio clicks off]

LOVE

It's so dark in here without the screens on.

RADDAGHER

Should I turn on the lights?

LOVE

No. I'm fine.

RADDAGHER

Harley has the lights for the site. In case of emergencies.

LOVE

What are we gonna do? What's the plan?

RADDAGHER

Defense.

LOVE

Bullshit! I wanna be out there too!

RADDAGHER

You're still healing from the last
Reset.

LOVE

...Still!

RADDAGHER

It's a red herring.

LOVE

I'm not gonna go out and sit next
to our stupid flag. That's what
Security is for.

RADDAGHER

I have a plan.

And blueprints of the building.

[Click]

HARLEY

The lights of the building have
been turned off in certain areas
as an extra challenge to our
players. Navigation of particular
corridors will be much more
difficult using nothing but the
emergency lights and exit signs.
Easier to hide.

Listeners, I'm watching as
Security has killed the lights on
the AB floor. Team One is
vulnerable. Security are some of
the fastest runners in the
building. I wish I could see their
next move beyond the dark, but I
guess we will have to wait to see
what happens next, you and I.

[Click]

RADDAGHER

Some of Security will move in
first, here. We should have a
window before Engineering gets the
power in AB back on. By then,
Security should draw attention to
the main staircase and the main
elevator, giving the field agents
an opportunity to sneak by.

Why aren't you going with the other field agents?

LOVE

Oh. They filed me in Security's group.

RADDAGHER

Why?

LOVE

To make sure we'd be on the same team, in case the field agents got switched around. That's what you wanted, right?

RADDAGHER

Uh, yeah.

LOVE

Kinda regretting it now, though.

RADDAGHER

Want to take another way in?

[Paper unfurls]

[A beat]

LOVE

What? Me? No. No fucking way.

RADDAGHER

Why not- oh. Small space.

[Click]

KLEIN

(Wickedly)

It's working. They're falling right into our trap.

Lancaster. Where are we with Operation Condor?

[Walkie beeps]

LANCASTER

(Whispering over walkie)

Executing.

KLEIN

(Evil chuckle)

Excellent.

You may have your flag now,
Records, but eternal glory will
soon be ours.

[Click]

HARLEY

It appears that Containment has succeeded in capturing every last Security invader in the raiding party. It looks like they've even caught a few field agents trying to sneak past the frontline through a service corridor. Quite efficient work on their part. It seems that Containment and Engineering have turned the top floors of the building's B side into a bottleneck. Easy in. Not so easy out. A very clever use of overturned chairs. How does the Blue Squad plan on freeing their captured teammates? Is Team One planning a counter attack?

[Click]

[Lancaster hums the Mission Impossible theme under his breath]

[Metal stepladder opens, toolbox rattles]

[Screwdriver whirs]

[A screw bounces off the floor]

LANCASTER

Engineering, the Condor has landed. Keep it dead for, uh, five more minutes? Over.

[Walkie beeps]

[Metal plate sliding, Lancaster grunts]

[Voice reverberating]

LANCASTER

Whoa.

Okay. Seal me in and send me down.
Over and out.

[Walkie beeps]

[Click]

HARLEY

One of the most impressive and surprising aspects of this game so far is how much effort has gone into... well, let's call them "costumes." Some team members on either side of the turf have dedicated themselves to the quick creation of garb that will supposedly aid them in their goal. Some of them have donned entirely black outfits to blend into the dark. Others have painted their faces with whatever highlighters and white board markers at their disposal to intimidate the enemy. A few people have shaved off all their body hair to decrease wind resistance.

[Click]

[Running footsteps]

KLEIN

I am so smooth. I am so fast.
(Whooshing noises)

[Sneakers shuffle and squeak on the floor]

KLEIN

I am... out of shape.

Group B, the Condor has landed. I repeat, the Condor has landed. Ready the extraction unit. Engineering, send him down and be ready for Elevator AE-2. The one next to the bathroom. He's on the roof of it. I'm on my way to AB now. Over.

[Walkie beep]

LANCASTER

Uh, hey Klein?

KLEIN

Keep your voice down, Condor, unless you want to get made!

LANCASTER

I'm not- I'm not undercover,
though- I'm not pretending to be-

KLEIN
Save it for the Semantics
Department. What's your status?

LANCASTER
Yeah, so, I've got a situation...

[Click]

[Love grunts, vent clanks and reverberates]

LOVE
Do you- do you have it?

RADDAGHER
Almost, are you SURE you should
be-

LOVE
I'M FINE HHHNNNNGGGG

RADDAGHER
Got it.

LOVE
How far can you see?

RADDAGHER
Pretty far. They get wider between
halves of the building.

LOVE
Cool. Are you ready for the boy?

RADDAGHER
Wait-

[Clanking]

RADDAGHER
Ready.

LOVE
Okay. Don't drop him.

HUP!

[Spongy pap noise]

RADDAGHER
Got it.

LOVE

Hell yeah.

RADDAGHER

It's very clammy.

LOVE

Hey! Don't insult my son.

RADDAGHER

What do I do with him?

LOVE

Use his feet to stick to the flag!

RADDAGHER

Why can't I just grab the flag
myself-

LOVE

BECAUSE!

RADDAGHER

Okay.

[Click]

HARLEY

The next Reset is imminent, which means the staff has nearly full jurisdiction to mess up the site in any way they see as advantageous to their team. The winner of this game will be awarded NOT ONLY the 2 liter Dr. Pepper but Psychology's ENTIRE Redbull stash.

[Walkie clicks on]

LANCASTER

(Laughing)

Harleyyyyyyy...

HARLEY

One moment, listeners, it seems we have a caller.

You're on air, caller, what can I do for you this evening?

LANCASTER

I need you to call a ceasefire for a second...

HARLEY

Why?

LANCASTER

I'm on top of one of the elevators
on the A side and I need
Maintenance to come get me out.

HARLEY

Ah. A very interesting strategy
coming from Team One, in which...

LANCASTER

No, Harley, this isn't a bit.

HARLEY

(Dropping "character")
...Are you actually stuck?

LANCASTER

They screwed the hatch back on,
there's a way to open it from out
here, but it's got this weird lock
and I don't know how it works.

HARLEY

(Laughing)
You actually got stuck in an
elevator shaft?

LANCASTER

Yes, I did, stop! It's not funny.

HARLEY

Okay, well, I'm gonna make fun of
you a little bit.

LANCASTER

Please get me out of here-

HARLEY

Alright, alright. I'll send
somebody down.

LANCASTER

Thank you.

[A beat]

LANCASTER

Wait, who are you sending down?

Harley? Who are you sending down?
Harley?!

[Click]

[Walkie clicks, sound reverberates]

LOVE
How's it going?

RADDAGHER
(Labored)
Fine- little tight-

LOVE
Glad it's you and not me.

RADDAGHER
Dumptruck stinks.

LOVE
No he doesn't! He smells like
mulch. He smells mulchy.

Where are you right now?

RADDAGHER
Halfway.

LOVE
Are you- like, are you okay in
there?

RADDAGHER
Fine.

LOVE
You're not gonna get stuck or
anything, are you?

RADDAGHER
No. I can crawl backwards.

LOVE
Alright.

[Walkie clicks]

HARLEY
Surveillance channel, I would like
to inform you of an intruder on
top of the main A side elevator.

LOVE
WHAT?!

HARLEY
He needs help getting out.

LOVE

ON IT!

[Metal clanking as Raddagher crawls]

[Crawling stops]

[Weird clicking, hiding noises, tiny footsteps]

[Walkie click]

RADDAGHER

(Quietly)

...Love?

[No response]

RADDAGHER

Love, come in.

[No response]

[Raddagher takes a breath. Gun cocks.]

[Click]

LOVE

Here we are.

LANCASTER

Seems so. Did you run out of zipties?

LOVE

I only got the one.

LANCASTER

I've got one free hand, look what I can do with it, check this out!
Woooo~

LOVE

STOP. Pretend I tied them both up.

So, Doctor. If that is your real name,

LANCASTER

You KNOW my real name!

LOVE

We can do this the easy way or we can do this the hard way.

LANCASTER

What are we doing?

LOVE

Why don't you tell me what Team One's plans are?

LANCASTER

Wh-what do you mean? We were gonna send me down on top of the elevator and then I'd go get the flag.

LOVE

..Okay, other than that one.

LANCASTER

I don't know any other plans.

LOVE

Liar!

LANCASTER

There's- there are like fifty people on my team, I don't know what EVERYONE is doing!

LOVE

I know your tricks. You're an actor.

LANCASTER

Did you get that from Harley?

LOVE

He's neutral. He has no reason to lie.

LANCASTER

I was in A play in tenth grade!

LOVE

Alright, so you've chosen the hard way.

[Water sloshes, bucket is set on for]

LANCASTER

What's that for?

[Beat]

LANCASTER

(Laughing)

Are you trying to waterboard me?!

LOVE

Not unless you tell me the information.

LANCASTER

There is no information!

LOVE

Okay, then.

[Water slogans]

LANCASTER

Wait! Love, you can't waterboard me! I'm standing up!

LOVE

I CAN AND I WILL!

[Pathetic slap-fight noises]

[Water spills]

LOVE

NOW LOOK WHAT YOU DID!

[Lancaster laughing]

[Walkie clicks]

KLEIN

(overdramatic)

Condor! We're coming to your rescue! Don't take your cyanide pill!

LOVE

(whining)

...You guys got cyanide pills?

LANCASTER

Yeah, look, it's an ibuprofen but I painted it? See, I put a little C on it for "Cyanide-"

LOVE

Oh! That's cool! Yeah, I can see the little C you- cute little C you put on there-

[SLAP]

LANCASTER

Ow???

LOVE

NOW, SILENCE! I'm taking you to jail. I have the info I need now.

LANCASTER

What info? That we're trying to take your flag?

LOVE

Shut up. I'm gonna go get Klein.

[Footsteps recede]

LANCASTER

Wait, do you have something to cut the zipties- dammit.

[Click]

[Walkie clicks]

KLEIN

Stay where you are! We're launching a full frontal assault on the AB Floor!

LOVE

(On walkie, badly imitating Lancaster)

Uh, great! I'll... keep reading these- books.

KLEIN

...Love?!

LOVE

I've kidnapped your nerd!

KLEIN

That doesn't matter, you don't stand a chance against Team One!

LOVE

Blue Squad will annihilate you!

[Click]

HARLEY

Things are heating up on the AB floor. It appears that the canteen has become a warzone. Team One's Engineering Department has rolled out an enormous slingshot which

they are using to fire articles of clothing dunked in a bucket of paint. Blue Squad is advancing steadily, Security has broken out the riot shields. They're forming a phalanx against the onslaught and... oh! Who is that?

Listeners, it looks like the Blue Squad is smuggling somebody behind enemy lines in the chaos. Tweed jacket, slacks that don't fit- she looks like a Records employee. A smart move. If she changes clothes, nobody on Team One will be the wiser. After all, nobody from Records ever comes out of their lairs, so nobody in the whole site could pick them out from a lineup.

[Click]

[Running footsteps]

[Klein breathes heavily]

KLEIN

(Sotto)

On my way, Lanc, hold on-

[Something creaks in the ceiling above]

[Pause. Klein controls her breathing while she listens.]

[Muffled gunshot from inside the air vent]

KLEIN

What the...

[One, two, three hard hits against a vent grate. Clatter of the grate on the floor]

KLEIN

WHOA, WHAT-

[Shoes impact the floor. Raddagher breathes heavily]

KLEIN

Raddagher?!

RADDAGHER

I disturbed the nest-

KLEIN
Is that a code?

RADDAGHER
KLEIN I DISTURBED THE NEST

KLEIN
What does that mean?! What are you
talking about?

[Skittering and chittering noises from
above]

KLEIN
Oh, holy mother of god.

[Click]

LOVE
Nobody's coming for you, shrink.
It's just like I es- suspes-
suspected. You have no friends.

LANCASTER
I thought WE were friends.

LOVE
NOBODY IS FRIENDS DURING THE GAME.

LANCASTER
(:))
I'll be your friend during the
game.

LOVE
SHUT UP! Or I'll-

LANCASTER
Or what? You don't have any water
left.

LOVE
Shut up! I'm going to get more.
Don't leave.

LANCASTER
I'm ziptied to the rail.

LOVE
Yeah, and don't you-

[skittering from the vents]

LOVE

...do you hear that?

[Pause. More skittering]

LANCASTER

Sounds like it's coming from the vents.

LOVE

The vents?

[Beat]

LOVE

Raddagher!

[Running footsteps]

LANCASTER

Love, wait!

[No response]

LANCASTER

Love, I'm still tied up! Do NOT leave me in here!

[Pause]

[Footsteps return]

LOVE

FINE! UGH!

[Click]

HARLEY

And the Records employee has made it to BC-1. Sneaky maneuvers here... oh! It looks like Team One has a double agent in their midst! I would expect nothing less from the Botany Department. He's helping her into one of the elevators. With most of Team One's forces on the upper levels, they might just-

[Breach alarm blares]

[Harley gives an exasperated sigh. Intercom button clicks]

HARLEY

(site comm)

Guys, it's against the rules to
pull alarms for the game-

KLEIN
(also over site comm)
BATTLESTATIONS, 107! EYES ON THE
VENTS, WE GOT DASH TWOS ON THE
MOVE! LOADS OF 'EM!

HARLEY
What?!

[Click]

[Spray cans shaking]

KLEIN
I've only got one flare left. So
we'll have to use these if we run
into more. You ready?

RADDAGHER
Yes.

KLEIN
Me too.

[Can rattles]

KLEIN
Here. Got a lighter?

RADDAGHER
In the booth.

KLEIN
Nice. Get one to Love, too. I'm
going upstairs to repurpose that
slingshot.

RADDAGHER
I'm going back to the-

KLEIN
WAIT-

Hold. Still.

RADDAGHER
What-

KLEIN
Unzip your jacket a little, I
think one of them got into-

RADDAGHER
NO THAT'S DUMPTRUCK HE'S SUPPOSED
TO BE IN THERE.

KLEIN
...Dumptruck?

RADDAGHER
I'll explain later.

KLEIN
You'd better!

[Click]

LOVE
Lanc! Catch!

[Object clatters to the floor]

LANCASTER
That was a terrible throw!

[Fire ignites]

LOVE
Shut up and help me barbecue them!

[Whoosh. Glass shatters, flames flare,
monsters screech]

LANCASTER
See?! THAT was a throw!

[Click]

HARLEY
(Site comm)
Eyes on the vents, everyone. We
have a whole colony of monster
ants in our hands. Everyone
physically able is now required to
join the rest of us.

Good thing we've figured out
what's flammable, eh? I too will
join you on the battlefield
shortly.

So without further ado, Night Game
Act Two commences in three, two,
one,

FIGHT!

[Click. Voices overlap]

RADDAGHER

Stand back-

[Can sprays, fire ignites]

KLEIN

Nice shot!

LOVE

I'm gonna get more Security down
to these levels! Come on!

LANCASTER

I'll hang back! Turn to Channel 3
if you need me!

LOVE

Alright! Don't die!

LANCASTER

Don't worry, I NEVER WILL.
(Laughs wickedly under his
breath)
And now that everyone is
distracted, your team's flag
doesn't stand a chance...

[Distant explosion]

KLEIN

The slingshot! Come on,
Surveillance, we don't want to
miss this!

[Raddagher laughs under her breath]

HARLEY

(Into handheld)

I'm out in the field, it's chaos
the likes of which I've never
seen! This is Foundation personnel
on a completely new level! The
madness! The violence! The pure,
unhinged EUPHORIA!

[Explosion. Harley laughs maniacally]

LOVE

DUMPTRUCK WOULD BE ASHAMED OF YOU
ALL! Lancaster, do you-

Lancaster?

LANCASTER
(Small room audio, little
reverb)
Yes. YES.

[Fabric rustles]

LANCASTER
They'll never see this coming.
Team One will reign victorious-

[Hissing screech, fleshy puncture]

LANCASTER
OW! DAMMIT!

[Blowtorch fires. Dash Two screeches, goes
silent.]

LANCASTER
Yeah! Take that, stupid-

Dammit. Little shit got me.

[Door flung open]

LOVE
LANCASTER-

LANCASTER
AH- hello!

LOVE
...IS THAT OUR FUCKING FLAG?! ARE
YOU CAPTURING OUR FLAG?!

LANCASTER
You'll never get it from me.

LOVE
I'LL PRY IT OFF YOUR CORPSE ONCE
THE DASH TWOS EAT YOU.

LANCASTER
I ALREADY TOLD YOU I'LL NEVER DIE!

LOVE
GIVE IT BACK!

LANCASTER
MAKE ME!

HARLEY
READY! AIM! FIRE!

[Explosion]

[Raddagher grunts. Impact and hiss as she kicks a Dash Two. Clatter into a trashcan.]

KLEIN
GOOOOOOAAAAALLLLLLLL!

[Raddagher laughs]

[Walkie beeps]

LOVE
Almost there, Raddagher!

LANCASTER
Love, hang on-

LOVE
Your leg, what- oh, fuck, did you get bit?!

LANCASTER
Yeah, it's okay though. Just need to grab something from the bathroom for the bleeding-

LOVE
Hurry it up, then!

[Click]

HARLEY
Klein! Klein! How's your side?

KLEIN
Nearly clear! Yours?

HARLEY
Looking good! Raddagher? How ya feeling?

RADDAGHER
Bloodlust.

HARLEY
Alright!

[Click. Bathroom reverb]

LANCASTER
Ow! Ow, okay, shit..
Oh, no. Oh, NO NO NO-

[Paper towels dispensing hurriedly]

LANCASTER
NONONO-

[Hand rubbing against skin]

LANCASTER
NO NO COME ON STOP-

[Water runs]

LANCASTER
COME ON COME ON DAMMIT DAMMIT
DAMMIT-

[sci fi flash noise]

LANCASTER
OW!

Oh, no. Fuck.

[Door opens]

LOVE
Why are you taking so long?!

[Paper towels rustle]

LANCASTER
Nothing! It's nothing, it's fine!
Uh, it's fine. Just need to uh,
clean it off and wipe it down.

LOVE
Hurry up! We're gonna Reset any
minute!

LANCASTER
(Stressed and frantic)
I know! Just give me a second to-

[Loud bassy rewind sound signifying the
Reset]

[Silence]

[Alarms, earthquake, etc. Lancaster gasps
loudly, out of breath]

[He coughs]

LANCASTER
Shit... I hate resetting..

[Walkie beeps]

HARLEY

(Also out of breath)

You good?

LANCASTER

Yeah, I'm good. I'm fine.

I'm fine. I am fine.

[END OF EPISODE]