

FIND US ALIVE EPISODE 10: Behind The Walls

[Phone ringing]

VOICEMAIL

Your call has been forwarded to an automated voice messaging system.

HARLEY

Edmund Harley-

VOICEMAIL

-is not available. At the tone, please record your message. When you have finished recording, you may hang up, or press 1 for more options.

[Beep]

LANCASTER

Uh, h-hi, Dr. Harley. It's Dr. Lancaster, from uh- from work. I'm uh- I'm in the Psychology Department? Anyways- I drove you home after the New Years party. You were... pretty um, inebriated.

Not that I'm judging or anything! I just- you just probably couldn't have driven yourself home, and I felt kinda bad, so...

I left you some ibuprofen on your coffee table? It's in a sandwich bag, it was all I could find in my car, sorry...

Also, could you call me back when you get this? You were uh- you were pretty out of it by the time I got you back to your building. I- I just want to make sure you didn't die or anything?

So... uh, yeah. Bye.

Oh, and uh, Happy New Year.

[Click]

[Static]

[Lancaster picks aimlessly at his guitar]

HARLEY

...So.

LANCASTER

(tensely)

Mm hm?

HARLEY

How's the arm?

LANCASTER

Arm is great.

HARLEY

Heard you got a couple of the
painkillers.

LANCASTER

Gave them back. Don't need 'em.

HARLEY

That so?

LANCASTER

Uh huh. Look at me, I'm doing
perfect.

[Pause]

HARLEY

What did I say?

LANCASTER

Shut up.

HARLEY

I called it.

LANCASTER

You didn't call shit.

HARLEY

I DID- "hairline fracture." I said
"hairline fracture," those *exact*
words.

LANCASTER

Whatever. WHATEVER. All they said was- like, don't hit it against stuff.

HARLEY
(gloating)
Mm hmm.

LANCASTER
Harley, stop. Seriously.

HARLEY
Fine. Alright.

[Long, tense pause]

HARLEY
I don't like it when you snap at me like that.

LANCASTER
Sorry.

[Pause]

LANCASTER
...but can we just let this one go?

HARLEY
Only if you absolutely promise that you're alright.

LANCASTER
...fine. I'm alright.

[Static]

[Jigsaw revs]

LANCASTER
...I'm going to steal this.

HARLEY
No you're not, Maintenance will weld your door shut.

LANCASTER
That's Maintenance's problem.

HARLEY

We have to check it in at the end
of the day.

LANCASTER

I-I know, I'm just joking.

HARLEY

Right, sorry.

(joking)

I'm just hungover as shit, is all.

LANCASTER

...are you?

HARLEY

No, or- not really. I just had
some of the Botany Moonshine,
that's all.

LANCASTER

Well is it any good?

HARLEY

(laughing)

God, no. It's like if Everclear
had a baby with... bug spray.

LANCASTER

Okay, you're drinking water with
it though, right?

HARLEY

Of course I am, I know how booze
works.

LANCASTER

Okay, it's just-

HARLEY

I am VERY familiar with the
workings of alcohol on the human
body.

LANCASTER

Hey, would you stop?

HARLEY

What? I'm just kidding, Lanc, it's
not that bad.

LANCASTER

It's- it's not really funny,
Harley. Don't joke about things
you won't let me help you with-

HARLEY
Nobody asked you to monitor me.

LANCASTER
I'm your friend. That's what I'm
supposed to do.

HARLEY
Lancaster, listen. I'm a grown
man. I'm fine. It's fine.

[Pause]

LANCASTER
Okay. Then put these on.

HARLEY
Cool. Ready when you are.

LANCASTER
Okay, here we go.

[jigsaw whirs. Harley laughs in the background]

LANCASTER
Does that look- is it wide enough
for you to see through?

HARLEY
This is great. I can't believe
they're letting us do this.

LANCASTER
What, destroy the walls?

HARLEY
Yeah-

[Harley starts coughing]

HARLEY
God- I inhaled the drywall dust-
hang on-

LANCASTER
Yeah, try not to uh, suck that in-

HARLEY

-okay, I'm good.

[Flashlight clicks]

LANCASTER

God, how far does it go?

HARLEY

End of the wing, at least.

LANCASTER

...dammit. I thought we'd find it by now.

HARLEY

Another hole in the wall? Down over there maybe?

LANCASTER

I think so.

HARLEY

What's Klein working on?

LANCASTER

Uh, she and Engineering are working on getting into Carson's computer. See if he- if he had any info as a Level 4 that we didn't- that we weren't privy to.

HARLEY

Tell me what she says when you get around to it.

LANCASTER

I will if you eat three meals tomorrow.

HARLEY

You're not the boss of me.

LANCASTER

I will spoonfeed you.

HARLEY

That... is gross!

LANCASTER

Then you better eat three meals.

HARLEY

What about YOU?

LANCASTER
This isn't about me.

HARLEY
Yeah, it never really is, is it?

LANCASTER
Nope.

[Static]

[empty hallway noise]

[Harley hums to himself]

LANCASTER
Hey! Hey. I'm late. I'm so sorry.

HARLEY
After my job, I see.

LANCASTER
What?

HARLEY
Of being late- nevermind. You look like you're missing some color, are you alright?

LANCASTER
Oh. Yeah. Yeah, I'm fine. I had- I ate something bad last night, I think.

HARLEY
But you didn't eat anything last night.

[Pause]

HARLEY
I was at the canteen with you, remember? You said you weren't hungry.

LANCASTER
(Stammering)
...Uh, yeah. I guess I did, huh? How's the wall looking? We found anything yet? Klein finally- has a

good idea on how to get into the computer, even though I told her that with her concussion, she really shouldn't be...

What?

HARLEY

You can't keep telling me to fix my eating habits if you are also not eating.

LANCASTER

I'm not- my problems don't have anything to do with your problems.

HARLEY

Why can't you apply your own advice to yourself?

LANCASTER

Okay, I *will*. I just have to get to everybody else first.

HARLEY

What? You're not a machine, you can't expect to be able to fix everybody.

LANCASTER

Well what's wrong with trying?

HARLEY

If it comes at your own expense-

LANCASTER

I-It's temporary! Once I have stuff figured out with other people-

HARLEY

You have *four* other staff in your department, why can't they take care of it for a bit?

LANCASTER

Because then who will take care of *them*?

HARLEY

I don't know!

LANCASTER

And who will take care of *you*?! I know you don't tell Rivera about your alcoholism-

HARLEY

I am NOT an alcoholic.

LANCASTER

No, of course, you're just a- a booze enthusiast or something, right?

HARLEY

...you're hitting below the belt.

LANCASTER

Maybe that's how- maybe that's what it takes to get through to you!

HARLEY

Get through to *me*?! What about you?! You can't just keep telling everybody else to do things you don't do yourself! You look like shit, when was the last time you slept?!

LANCASTER

Look, we- we don't all have all the time in the world, okay Harley? Some of us are doing things around here!

[Beat]

LANCASTER

Ed, I'm sorry, I- I don't really mean that.

HARLEY

...I know.

[Harley chuckles joylessly]

HARLEY

It is kinda the truth though, isn't it?

LANCASTER

It's- it's not. You-

[Deep rumbling tremor. Objects rattle]

LANCASTER

Goddammit, that's gotta be a new
Dash One...

HARLEY

That felt pretty big, why didn't
anybody catch that?

LANCASTER

I think Raddagher and Love are
still fighting.

HARLEY

Oh.

[Beat]

HARLEY

...I'm gonna go find Klein.

LANCASTER

...okay.

[Static]

[Servers humming]

[Door creaks open]

HARLEY

Hey. You guys missed one earlier
today, huh? Things still going
really bad with Love?

[Pause]

HARLEY

Want to go get shitfaced about it?

RADDAGHER

Yes.

[Click]

HARLEY

(drunk)

...am I an alcoholic?

RADDAGHER

(also drunk)
Who cares.

HARLEY
I'll drink to that.

[jars clink]

[Harley sips. Raddagher slurps through a
straw]

[Harley and Raddagher cough]

HARLEY
God, this stuff is strong.

Why don't you just take your mask
off?

RADDAGHER
Smells.

HARLEY
What? Me or the moonshine?

RADDAGHER
...pick one.

HARLEY
...boooo.

[Pause]

HARLEY
Everything sucks. Everything
SUCKS, Surveillance.

We can't find what that weird wire
is for, we don't know how to stop
another blackout or whatever, I'm...
still mad at Lancaster, YOU'RE
fighting with Love-

RADDAGHER
Hate Love.

HARLEY
Wanna talk about it?

RADDAGHER
No.

HARLEY

Works for me.

RADDAGHER

She's loud and talks too much and she's annoying and she has shiny hair.

HARLEY

...she has shiny hair?

RADDAGHER

Hair's shiny and I hate her.

HARLEY

Alright.

[Beat]

HARLEY

Ah, it's a quiet night in Site-107.

Of course, it's only night because they turned off most of the lights in the hallway. We'll take what we can get, I suppose.

It is quiet, and it's still, and at any moment a monster could leap out of the walls and try to kill all of us. Or perhaps not. We don't know how that quite works yet. Don't know how anything works, maybe...

But I digress.

You really can see it all from here. A dozen little worlds on a dozen little screens. A hundred little places where anything and everything can go wrong. And very likely will. But maybe not right now. Maybe right now it will stay just this quiet. With any luck we can keep it this quiet for-

RADDAGHER

What are you doing.

HARLEY

Hm?

RADDAGHER

Why are you talking like that.

HARLEY

...Oh. I don't know. It's just... something I do, I guess, I dunno, I'm pretty drunk.

I don't have a problem, though.

A dependency, maybe. But it's not like it causes problems for my work or my...

Okay, maybe it *does* cause *some* problems with my social relationships, but that's only because Lancaster won't stop bothering me about it.

Where's the bottle?

[glass clinking, liquid pouring]

[Harley chugs the glass again]

HARLEY

(a little drunker)

God. Wow. Really burns going down-

It's not *me*, though, is it? Do YOU think I have a problem?

RADDAGHER

I don't know you.

HARLEY

That is fair.

It's not like I'm TRYING to be a problem, it's just- we all have to cope somehow, right? If Lanc can have his Redbull why can't I have a drink too? What's the difference? They're both BAD for us, we both probably shouldn't be drinking it, but... look where we are! Look at this- this place, this dumb idiot building, this is

STUPID and I want to get DRUNK
every once in a while!

[As he rants, Raddagher's straw-slurping
gets progressively louder]

HARLEY

You know? You're a pretty good
listener.

[Pause]

HARLEY

Raddagher?

RADDAGHER

Mm?

HARLEY

I said "you're a good listener."

RADDAGHER

Oh.

HARLEY

...Cheers.

[Click]

KLEIN

What can you see? You getting
anything?

LANCASTER

Hold- hold on- I think I've got-

KLEIN

Dude, if you stick your head in
there any farther you're gonna get
stuck.

Not that you SHOULDN'T do that. It
would be really funny.

LANCASTER

That's- I think that's it!

KLEIN

What is it?

LANCASTER

(pulling his head out of the hole in the wall)
Some kind of device? I don't- I don't have a lot of background knowledge about the tech in this place but- it didn't look like it was... meant to be there.

KLEIN
Like it was just stuck in there as an afterthought?

LANCASTER
Kinda, yeah.

KLEIN
Move, I want to look.

[shuffling]

KLEIN
...That's a Reality Anchor.

LANCASTER
A what?

KLEIN
Scranton Reality Anchor, they use them with Reality Benders.

LANCASTER
Have you worked with Reality Benders before?

KLEIN
I read a case file for one once. She died before I even got to the facility. Tried to turn a concrete wall into a door and her head exploded.

LANCASTER
Yeah, I... I heard that is what tends to happen...

KLEIN
Yeah, it's ugly. But that's besides the point, what's one doing *here*? Even on the outside, we never had anything with reality-distorting abilities. Our building isn't even properly

equipped for that kind of stuff,
putting an anchor here is a huge
waste of power.

LANCASTER

What about the people in the Haven
Program?

KLEIN

We don't have any. Plus, nobody in
the Haven Program is anomalous
enough to have a whole Reality
Anchor installed in your site.
That's like using a firehose to
put out a candle.

LANCASTER

...Do you think we- can we get it
out of the wall?

KLEIN

Dunno. I'll have Hodges take a
look, see if it's a risk to
anything structural.

Where's Harley, by the way? Wasn't
he working on this with you?

LANCASTER

...Yeah, we... got into a- an
argument.

KLEIN

Sucks. You two seem like the types
to work it out, though.

LANCASTER

Yeah, I should go talk to him..

[Lancaster grunts as he stands up]

[Pause]

KLEIN

(nervous chuckle)

Hey, you don't look so good, dude.
You gonna pass out on me,
Lancaster?

[no response]

KLEIN

...You okay? Lanc- Whoa!

[Lancaster groans. Clothes rustle as Klein half-catches him]

KLEIN

Okay, okay, fine, yeah, sit down-

LANCASTER

Sorry...

KLEIN

(laughing)

Please! Don't apologize, just sit there for a second, get your bearings back together. Gonna run and get you some water. Maybe some crackers or something.

LANCASTER

Yeah, that might be good.

KLEIN

Be back in a sec-

LANCASTER

Wait-

Don't tell Harley.

KLEIN

...Wasn't gonna, but okay.

LANCASTER

Thank you.

KLEIN

But you're gonna tell him yourself soon, right?

LANCASTER

Uh, yeah. Maybe. Probably, yeah.

KLEIN

Good. God, why is everyone in this company so melodramatic?

[Static]

[Voicemail audio]

LANCASTER

Hi! This is Orion Lancaster. Sorry I missed you! Leave your name and your number and I'll call you back when I can. Thank you!

[Beep]

HARLEY

Uh, hi, Dr. Lancaster. This is Dr. Harley, from... well, you know pretty well by now, don't you?

Sorry about last night, really. I'm- I'm incredibly embarrassed about what happened. I appreciate you taking the time to make sure I was okay.

But... you didn't have to take me all the way back to my apartment? I have a room onsite... Seems like you put in a little more work than you needed to.

But it's fine. I'm still massively grateful to know that the Foundation has some decent people in it. Sometimes it doesn't feel that way.

Anyway, you're going to have to let me do some of your paperwork or something in exchange for... that. I insist.

Also, you don't have to worry about me. I promise I'm fine.

Okay. This message is already too long. Bye, maybe I'll see you around work.

[Click]

[END OF EPISODE]

