

FIND US ALIVE EPISODE 29: TOO MUCH/TOO LITTLE

STATIC FADES IN.

FLUORESCENT LIGHT BUZZES.

CHAIR SQUEAKS ACROSS THE FLOOR.

PAPER RUSTLES.

KLEIN

Good afternoon, 3B. How's the leg?

LANCASTER

Well- it's been better.

KLEIN

I'd like to thank you for being so cooperative during this process.

LANCASTER LAUGHS HOLLOWLY.

KLEIN

I'd like to ask you a few questions.

LANCASTER

Am I going to be able to get visitors after this?

PAUSE.

KLEIN

We'll see. Have you been feeling any urges to create any instances of SC-

LANCASTER

No. I already told you. Nothing since- since you set my leg on fire.

KLEIN

I- I didn't set your leg ON FIRE-

LANCASTER

Sorry, the- the third-degree burn can't tell the difference.

KLEIN

I'm sorry, alright? What else would you want me to do?!

PAUSE.

KLEIN

Whatever. No urges to make anything?
Stab anybody?

LANCASTER

No. Nothing.

KLEIN

Is there anything you can do to convince me you're not lying?

LANCASTER

I- don't really think there is.

KLEIN

(Desperately)

..Come on, Lanc, gimme something to work with here...

PAUSE.

LANCASTER

I'm sorry, isn't it supposed to be "3B" now?

KLEIN

Look, I don't like this either. It isn't up to me.

LANCASTER

What? You're the site director.

KLEIN

Yeah, and I'm clearly doing a fucking fantastic job!

PAUSE.

KLEIN

I'm sorry. I can't let you out.

LANCASTER

Fine.

KLEIN

I can try and get you better accommodations, though. Might have to wait until next cycle, but I can get you a better mattress, maybe a lamp?

LANCASTER

Visitation.

KLEIN

I'm- I'm working on it, alright? We'll get there when we get there.

PLASTIC OBJECT SET ON TABLE.

KLEIN

But in the meantime, here.

LANCASTER

What am I supposed to do with this?

KLEIN

Record your thoughts. I don't know. Research wants to hear what you put on it though.

LANCASTER

Oh, to- to minimize people coming in here, got it.

KLEIN

It's not- listen, it's really hard to get that door open when it's fucking sideways.

LANCASTER

I get it, Klein.

CLICK.

FLUORESCENT LIGHT BUZZES.

LANCASTER

(tinny)
Testing, testing.

LANCASTER MAKES A COUPLE GOOFY NOISES WITH HIS MOUTH

LANCASTER

Okay. Um... It's- uh, it's me, Lancaster.

Subject, uh, Subject 3B.

I'm not- uh, I'm not gonna format this.
You guys can figure it out yourselves.

This sucks. I don't like being in here.
It's- it's cold and the lights are
TERRIBLE, and everything smells like
ammonia...

I haven't had any- any weird urges
since- since Klein torched me with that
flare. Nothing.

Which... I dunno. Not to say that I
disagree with the decision to- to lock
me up. I mean D-1 hasn't done anything
for a long time, either. Could be some
kind of- of dormant period, or
something.

There's- I mean, there's always a
blurry line between anomalous people
and people AFFECTED by anomalies. But
I'm not anomalous? I don't think. I
didn't- I didn't exert any anomalous
effects myself- I mean- I mean I DID
make a Dash One that flooded the site
for two days but it wasn't ME that made
the site flood. It was the replication.
If I'm anomalous, doesn't it make
everybody affected by the memetic
anomalous too?

I dunno- I guess it doesn't really
matter.

I'm worried about Harley.

But I'm not crazy. I promise I'm not
crazy. I know that's- that's the thing

crazy people say, but like- I- I know the difference. I'm not out of my mind, I'm NOT anomalous.

If I can convince at least a couple people that I'm not crazy, I could put a case together. I could get out of here.

CLICK.

GENTLE STATIC UNDER HARLEY'S DIALOGUE.

HARLEY
(exhausted)

The last few days have been... long. We're still sideways. That hasn't changed. I've taken to sleeping on the floor- er, wall, of my office, simply because it's so difficult to make it all the way to my room. I've got a pillow and a blanket. I love this. It's fine! I am doing FINE.

PAUSE.

HARLEY
Actually, no. It's not fine, it's really not.

HARLEY LAUGHS THINLY.

HARLEY
Uh, what's going on in here, what's going on, let's see... A lot of people got injured when the site flipped, but much of our medical equipment was broken as well. We are basically down to field medicine for the time being. Security is done arranging the ropes and ladders for movement around site, but a lot of older personnel are still more or less stuck where they are. Not all of us can climb around all day. Nearly everyone physically able is volunteering to deliver food, water and

medical supplies to those of us who can't get around. Which means about a fourth of our people are tremendously physically overworked right now. Security and the field agents, especially.

Yeah, uh, it's a mess. We can't cook food, we can't use the bathrooms. This might be the most things have sucked since- well, since we got in here.

PAUSE.

DEEP EARTH RUMBLING. OBJECTS RATTLE.

HARLEY

And that was a Dash One, probably. We've been missing the little ones quite often, between Security being stretched so thin and the building being basically uninhabitable.

The surveillance office still has some active cameras and working monitors, but it's difficult to catch all of them, even for someone as perceptive as Raddagher.

(sarcastic)

Who I've heard is doing AWESOME.

LOVE

(intercom)

She's not.

HARLEY

(startled)

AH.

How long have you been listening?

LOVE

Since you left the stupid intercom thing on.

HARLEY

Oops.

LOVE

You're pretty good friends with her,
right?

HARLEY

As good of friends as one can be in
this place, I suppose. Why?

LOVE

Has she said anything to you?

HARLEY

(dry sarcasm)

Yeah. She has said so many things.

LOVE

Really? What? What's she saying?

HARLEY

I was joking.

LOVE

Well, be funnier next time.

BEAT.

HARLEY

She's still not talking to you either,
is she?

LOVE

No.

HARLEY

Not even in writing?

LOVE

No! Usually she'll give me notes or nod
her head and stuff. And now it's just
nothing.

I don't know what happened. It feels
like I have to start all over again.

BEAT.

LOVE

You guys are close, though, aren't you?
How did YOU start talking to her?

HARLEY

Morse code.

LOVE

Shit. I don't know Morse code.

HARLEY

Listen, I don't think I'm really the
person you should be asking about this
kind of thing.

LOVE

What kind of thing?

HARLEY

Friendship things.

LOVE

I'm not her.. "friend."

HARLEY

(bleak laugh)

Neither am I.

PAUSE.

LOVE

So she hasn't apologized.

HARLEY

I don't think she needs to. She was
right.

LOVE

No, she wasn't.

HARLEY

A good friend would have listened to
her.

LOVE

(frustrated)

So after all the time you've spent with her, you just have NO advice?

HARLEY

Nope. At least, none if you actually want the problem to be solved. I'm sure I could help you make things worse, however!

LOVE

NO, I- WHATEVER. I'll figure something else out.

CLICK.

LANCASTER'S RECORDER STATIC.

LANCASTER

Containment's a- containment's kind of of a touchy subject, here. I mean, not in- not specifically Site-107. The Foundation overall. It's not always the most- the most ethical. I mean, it's better now than it's ever been, but that doesn't mean that it- that it DOESN'T suck.

But I guess I'll have plenty of time to get used to it.

They bring me food twice a day. And- that's not less than other people. Nobody gets enough food right now. But honestly I think- I think I'm a lower priority.

Which is okay, I guess.

I had a whole plan. I had this whole plan to become somebody who could help human anomalies all over the Foundation. But I can't exactly do that now, can I? They don't let people do- do much of anything, from inside containment.

I need something to write with. Or on.
I can't- I can't keep my thoughts
straight in my head. But I KNOW I can
prove I'm fine if I can- make a binder
or something.

But that's- that's the problem, isn't
it?

I mean, there's no way in hell Klein is
going to let me have something to write
with. Not after everything I was doing.
That's like- that's the most obvious
thing a Dash Three would ask for.

What if they put me in the same cell as
D-1?

I mean, they won't. That's obviously a
bad idea, but-

How crazy do I sound right now? Do I
sound crazy? Do I sound sane enough
that when they listen to this somebody
might want to come talk to me?

(realization)
Hold on,

CLICK.

SURVEILLANCE OFFICE EQUIPMENT HUMS.

DUMPTRUCK PAPS AROUND.

CHAIR SQUEAKS, RADDAGHER SIGHS.

DOOR SWINGS OPEN. CLOTHING RUSTLES AS LOVE CLIMBS
INTO THE OFFICE.

LOVE
We need to talk.

NO RESPONSE.

LOVE

You're not talking to me, and I don't know what I did wrong, and I want to fix it so we can go back to- I dunno. I want to fix it.

NO RESPONSE.

LOVE

What do I do? What do you want?

NO RESPONSE.

LOVE

I'm trying really hard, here! I don't know- I don't know how to help if you won't tell me, okay? I just want you to feel better!

NO RESPONSE.

LOVE

..You're not going to tell me, are you?

NO RESPONSE.

LOVE

Okay.

DUMPTRUCK SQUISHES AS LOVE PICKS HIM UP.

LOVE

I'm sorry.

DOOR CLOSES.

CLICK.

RECORDER AUDIO.

LANCASTER

Hey, Love. It's- uh, it's Lancaster. Coming to you live, uh, from containment. Klein gave me this to record my thoughts on, but I'm gonna use it to send some messages to you guys. I think- I feel like I owe you one.

Anyway, I wanted to say I'm sorry. I'm sorry that I haven't spent any time with you the past cycle. That was bad. For a lot of reasons. For a lot of reasons. But I know I neglected you, and I want to make up for that. And I- you know, I stabbed you with that pencil. I'm sorry! I'm sorry for that.

But- okay, but the good news is that now the problem is solved! I'm not- I'm not uh, insane anymore. Which- I dunno, maybe I'm misreading it, but that seemed like the- the main issue. But I'm okay now! Totally 100% over here. I have nothing to do now, so I can- I have plenty of time to spend with you, if you want. I won't lie, it's- it sucks down here. But if need somebody to talk to, about anything, I have all the time in the world.

CLICK.

SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT HUMS.

KNOCK ON DOOR.

KLEIN
Raddagher? You in there?

DOOR SQUEAKS AS IT OPENS.

KLEIN
Hey.

NO RESPONSE. KLEIN TAKES A FEW STEPS FORWARD.

KLEIN
How are you doing?

NO RESPONSE.

KLEIN

Lancaster recorded a message for you on this. He wanted me to send it up to you.

NO RESPONSE. LONG PAUSE

KLEIN

Alright. Not gonna... bye. See ya later.

DOOR CLOSES.

PAUSE.

BUTTON CLICKS, RECORDING STATIC STARTS.

LANCASTER

Hi, Raddagher. It's Lancaster.

I know we aren't the best of friends, but I still- I wanted to say a couple things to you. You- I feel like I owe you that much.

I've- I haven't been in my right mind, for- uh, for a while, I think. You obviously noticed, and I don't- want you to think that I'm still some kind of danger to anybody. Obviously you included. I didn't- I never meant to hurt anyone, and I hope that- that I can convince you that I'm back to normal.

RADDAGHER HUFFS.

LANCASTER

And I think I could prove it to you now. I recorded some stuff on here, and if you can make it down to BH-4 I think I could change your-

RADDAGHER HURLS THE RECORDER AT THE WALL. IT BREAKS AGAINST THE FLOOR.

SHE SCREAMS INTO A PILLOW.

CLICK.

FLUORESCENT LIGHTS HUM FOR A MOMENT.

DOOR CREAKS OPEN, SLAMS INTO THE WALL.

LOVE
(slightly distant)
Oh, shit, sorry- That opened faster
than- whatever.

LANCASTER
(tired)
Hi, Love.

LOVE
Hey! You look like ass.

LANCASTER
Yeah.

LOVE
How are you doing in here?

LANCASTER
Um- I mean, I shouldn't complain.

LOVE
They told me to call you "3B," but
that's stupid and I told them to go
fuck themselves.

LANCASTER
Did you get my message?

LOVE
Uh, yeah. It was kinda weird.

LANCASTER
Weird? Weird how?

LOVE
Because it makes you sound like you're
fucking crazy.

LANCASTER

Yeah, but you wouldn't have- you wouldn't have come down here if you thought I was crazy, would you?

PAUSE.

LANCASTER

Would you?

LOVE

You're unarmed. What are you gonna do, bludgeon me with that tennis ball?

LANCASTER

You still- you still think I'm crazy.

LOVE

Yeah.

LANCASTER

Then why are you here?

LOVE

I dunno. I didn't have anybody else.

LANCASTER

(disappointed)

Oh.

LOVE

I need help with something and Klein is too busy and Harley's- Harley's fucked up or something, I dunno-

LANCASTER

Is he doing that thing where he's like, smiling but it looks like he's sitting on a thumb tack?

LOVE

YEAH, what IS that?!

LANCASTER

Did HE get my message?

LOVE

What, did you send one to everybody or something?

LANCASTER

Um, yeah- um, everybody except Klein. What kind of problem do you have?

LOVE

Raddagher won't talk to me. She won't talk to anybody-

LANCASTER

Oh, I mean, I can fix that!

LOVE

You can?

LANCASTER

Yeah, I sent her a message. I think she just needs reassurance that I'm NOT crazy, and she'll come around. I think it- I think everything that happened was just overwhelming, but once she realizes things are back to normal she'll be okay.

PAUSE.

LOVE

You said you sent a message to her.

LANCASTER

Yeah.

LOVE

Is that what you said? In the message?

LANCASTER

That was- was paraphrased, but yeah.

What?

LOVE

Are you serious?

LANCASTER

Huh?

LOVE

Jesus. No wonder he's so mad at you.

LANCASTER

What do you mean?

LOVE

So if we just convince her that you're not crazy, it's gonna magically fix everything?

LANCASTER

I think it'll be a start-

LOVE

Her thinking you're crazy isn't the fucking problem!

LANCASTER

Then what IS the problem?

LOVE

Well, YOUR problem is that you're acting fucking crazy!

LANCASTER

How am I acting crazy?! I just want to get out of here!

LOVE

Then fix yourself! Stop trying to fix everybody else and fix your damn self first! You're in here trying to sell everybody on you being totally fine and you're making everything worse! You're making everything worse because you're fucking busted, Lancaster, and you won't do anything about it!

LANCASTER

I'm not crazy.

LOVE

Yeah. You fucking are. I don't know if you're anomalous or not, but you've definitely gone crazy.

PAUSE.

LANCASTER

I'm sorry.

LOVE

Sorry doesn't fix anything. Get your
shit together.

FOOTSTEPS ON LADDER.

CLICK.

SURVEILLANCE OFFICE EQUIPMENT HUMMING.

DOOR OPENS, CLOSES QUIETLY.

CHAIR SQUEAKS AS LOVE SITS DOWN.

PAUSE FOR A WHILE.

LOVE

I'm going to talk at you for a second.
You don't have to say anything.

NO RESPONSE.

LOVE

I'm worried about you. I really- I
really care about you, and I want you
to be okay, and I'm worried you're not.
I... I miss talking to you. But I think I
was making things worse by hounding you
about it. So I won't do that anymore.

I'm sorry, if I made it worse. I just
want to talk to somebody about- about
everything.

PAUSE

PAPER RUSTLES, PEN WRITES.

PAPER SLIDES ACROSS SURFACE.

LOVE

That's okay. I can wait until you're ready.

CLICK.

RECORDER BUTTON CLICKS, STATIC.

LANCASTER
(recording)
I'm sorry for what I did to you-

CLICK. VOICE SCRUBBING AS RECORDING REWINDS.

LANCASTER
I'm sorry for what I did to you-

REWINDS AGAIN.

LANCASTER
I'm sorry for what I did to you-

RECORDER CLICKS OFF.

HARLEY SIGHS.

DOOR OPENS.

KLEIN
Ration delivery. And I need that recorder back. We don't have enough spares.

HARLEY
He gets more than one?

KLEIN
Raddagher broke the last one.

HARLEY
Oh.

BAGS CRINKLE.

KLEIN
Here ya go. Bon appetit.

HARLEY

How long until we run out?

KLEIN

We'll run out two days before the Reset. So we should be fine. Unless the Reset doesn't fix things. Then we'll all starve.

HARLEY

Excellent.

KLEIN

What did Lancaster say?

HARLEY

Doesn't matter.

END EPISODE