

FIND US ALIVE EPISODE 05: DASH TWO

LOVE
DON'T. Kick me out.

LANCASTER
(therapist voice)
We're not going to kick you out.
We just need everybody to be calm,
alright? So please *put that away-*

HARLEY
(whisper-shouting)
WHO THE *FUCK* WAS THAT JUST NOW?

LANCASTER
Sounded like Containment.

LOVE
No.

LANCASTER
...no?

HARLEY
Engineering?

LOVE
(shuddering)
Worse.

HARLEY
(dread.wav)
...worse?

LOVE
...Medical.

LANCASTER AND HARLEY
MEDICAL?!

LANCASTER
Gravett is out there? Dr. Gravett
is willingly being a part of the...
"scavenging?"

LOVE
I- maybe. I didn't see her, but
MOST of Medical is, so it's not
like she isn't CLOSE BY.

Lancaster

...interesting.

HARLEY

What happened?

LOVE

They completely decimated the
Rogue Faction-

HARLEY

WHAT is the "Rogue Faction."

LOVE

Well, since SOME OF US don't have
a DEPARTMENT-

LANCASTER

...the field agents made up their
own department.

HARLEY

And Medical KILLED THEM?!

LOVE

No! They just booby-trapped the
whole medical wing and zip-tied
everybody to chairs. They're
Foundation Medical doctors, most
of them have a lot of the same
training we do.

(darkly)

I'm the only one that made it out...

HARLEY

(whispering)

Is it because you're so small-

LANCASTER

SSH.

LOVE

And now they're after me because
they think I did it.

LANCASTER

Did what?

LOVE

Stole Gravett's lemon tree.

LANCASTER

(DREAD.WAV)

...did you...?

LOVE

NO.

HARLEY

We're really all gonna die, huh?

LOVE

Oh, come on, she can't be THAT-

LANCASTER

Harley, flashlight?

[Papers shuffle while she's talking.
Flashlight clicks.]

LANCASTER

This is Dr. Gravett's dossier.

LOVE

-ooh, fuck!

HARLEY

That- kind of seems like a waste
of printer toner.

LOVE

...Whoa. Hey, your office is...
fucking tiny.

LANCASTER

I know, I don't know why they even
bothered to give this to me. Like,
her name and birthday are
basically the only things that
AREN'T Blackboxed. They might as
well have just given me a sticky
note.

LOVE

Hey, can you turn that damn light
off? I feel like I'm stuck in an
elevator in here.

[Pause.]

LOVE

...and people are going to see in
through the window.

HARLEY

Oh. Right.

[Flashlight clicks off.]

LOVE
(under her breath)
...thank fuck.

LANCASTER
Wait a second.

HARLEY
Medical going aggro doesn't have
something to do with your...
"theory," does it?

[Pause]

LOVE
Theory?

HARLEY
...oops.

LOVE
What theory?

HARLEY & LANCASTER
Nothing.

LOVE
...Assholes.

LANCASTER
Actually, you might be able to
help us.

LOVE
I've never helped anyone in my
entire life. I'm gonna stay in
here and not move and not watch a
ton more people die. Fuck that.

HARLEY
You might want to start getting
used to watching people die.

LOVE
What?!

LANCASTER

Have you felt significantly
different since the shift?

LOVE

You mean like the walls are
closing in?

LANCASTER

No, like- what?

LOVE

Are you- never mind. What are you
talking about?

[Beat.]

LANCASTER

Have either of you ever
experienced the effects of a
memetic hazard?

[BEEP. Door swings open.]

KLEIN

Harley, we need to-

HARLEY, LOVE, LANCASTER

AAH-

KLEIN

SSSHH! SHUT UP SHUSH! QUIET DOWN,
DAMN!

HARLEY

Dr. Klein, all due respect, you
can't just WALK IN like that!

KLEIN

They upped my card to Level 4, I
can walk in wherever I want.

HARLEY

THAT DOES NOT MEAN YOU *SHOULD*-

LANCASTER

Klein, I need to talk to you-

KLEIN

Harley, is there ANY possibility
we could get the all-site comm
working?

HARLEY

Very little.

KLEIN

Dammit. Are you CERTAIN?

HARLEY

It's wired through the whole building, so unless you have a generator that can reach all the way to-

KLEIN

Shit, point taken.

HARLEY

Yup. Already tried.

KLEIN

Alright, then we need to think of something else. I'm estimating we only have about six hours of oxygen left.

HARLEY

Shit, really?

LOVE

Feels like less-

KLEIN

Unrelated- how many people do you have in here?

LOVE

Way too many-

HARLEY

Four, counting you now.

KLEIN

Cool. I can work with four.

HARLEY

Have you seen Medical out there?

KLEIN

No, why?

LANCASTER

Apparently they're "scavengers" now.

KLEIN
...they're what?

HARLEY
According to Agent Love it's
basically Mad Max out there.

KLEIN
This is a fucking nightmare.

LOVE
*God, it's getting really stuffy in
here, right?*

LANCASTER
It's just because somebody stole
Gravett's plant-

KLEIN
What? Why? Scratch that, it
doesn't matter. They're dead for
sure.

HARLEY
Shouldn't we try to stop her? From
killing people?

KLEIN
Shit, I was hoping she didn't have
it...

LANCASTER
Hoping she didn't have what?

KLEIN
...something I've been looking
into. I can't tell you.

LANCASTER
Like, it's confidential, or you
can't tell me?

KLEIN
Like, every time I try to talk
about it with somebody I get all-
wait a second.

LANCASTER
You keep forgetting what you're
saying and getting off-topic?

KLEIN

YES! Wait, oh my God, it's been happening to you too?!

LANCASTER

You're the first person I've been able to actually tell! Or second, because Harley.

KLEIN

Lack of focus, minor short-term memory loss, forgetfulness, stuff like that?

LANCASTER

Yes!

KLEIN

What class are we thinking?

LANCASTER

Memetic?

KLEIN

My working theory was cognitohazard, but if it's affecting you too, and you don't work in close proximity to SixtyThreeTwenty, memetic is more likely.

LANCASTER

But it's NOT- it's different, with me I think. I'M not forgetting stuff, I just can't- Harley's the only person I've been able to tell about it.

HARLEY

Yeah, we're going to need to review this in some more detail because I am very lost.

KLEIN

Love? How about you? Feeling foggy?

LOVE

I'M- SHARP AS A TACK.

LANCASTER

Klein, I did an experiment with my patients.

HARLEY

You're experimenting on your patients?

LANCASTER

Not like- I just gave them something to write on, that's it.

KLEIN

...and?

[Papers shuffle, flashlight clicks on. Love's breathing has started to become a little strained.]

LANCASTER

Look.

LOVE

It's- it's getting really stuffy...

HARLEY

...whoa.

KLEIN

Is that...?

LANCASTER

This happened FREQUENTLY. I don't even think they knew they were doing it. I always stopped them before they finished a whole instance.

LOVE

(breathing harder)

Fuck, *fuck*- can we-

KLEIN

Oh, this SUUUUCKS.

HARLEY

You were trying to test me for this, huh?

LANCASTER

I don't think you had quite enough time for it to work, but yeah.

LOVE
(hyperventilating)
Can we- can we at least turn the
light- the light off-

Papers shuffling.

KLEIN
This is mine, this is yours,
where's Harley's and Love's?

LANCASTER
Love's from offsite, I don't have
hers.

HARLEY
Mine should at least be NEAR the
Department Heads.

KLEIN
...why?

HARLEY
...B-because I'm- I'm the Head of
the Communications Department.

KLEIN
Harley.

HARLEY
...yes?

KLEIN
You're the only person IN the
Communications Department. You ARE
the Communications Department.

LOVE
(hyperventilating)
I can't breathe-

LANCASTER
His is right here.

KLEIN
I'm hypothesizing that because
none of us have the same sort of
focus problems and that we can
openly talk about it to each other
without anything weird happening

that we are somehow unaffected, or
at least *differently* affected.

HARLEY

What usually happens when you try
to tell people?

LANCASTER

I keep forgetting what I'm trying
to say or getting distracted from
it. It's happened every time
except this one.

KLEIN

Everybody know their Psychic
Resistance Index?

LOVE

(hyperventilating)

-I- I need to get- out of here-

HARLEY

I thought you only got one of
those if you were working on a
memetic thing? I don't think I
have one.

LANCASTER

Yeah, you do, it's part of your
psych intake. It should be on the
back of your ID, too-

LOVE

I need to get out of here-

[Commotion as Love gets up and makes a break
for the door.]

KLEIN

WHOA, HANG ON-

HARLEY

LOVE, WAIT-

RADDAGHER

Ow.

HARLEY

FUCKING HELL HOLY SHIT OH MY GOD

LANCASTER

AAAaAAaaaaAAAaaAAAHhHhH??

KLEIN
AAH HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN
STANDING RIGHT THERE-

[Love has dissolved to panicked, rapid
hyperventilation.]

RADDAGHER
Are you okay?

LOVE
It's- it's too- can't breathe-

RADDAGHER
Dr. Lancaster-

LANCASTER
Shit, Love, are you
claustrophobic?

LOVE
N-n- shut up-

LANCASTER
Why didn't you tell- Nevermind,
that's not important. Come on,
let's sit down-

KLEIN
Lancaster, what's your PRI?

LANCASTER
Can you hold on? I'm kind of
dealing with something here.

RADDAGHER
Everybody needs to be quieter.

HARLEY
Who ARE you, by the way?

RADDAGHER
Surveillance.

HARLEY
Are you wearing sunglasses?

RADDAGHER
Yes.

HARLEY

...why?

LANCASTER

Okay, seriously, I need everybody
to SHUT THE HELL UP FOR A SECOND.

[Everybody shuts the hell up. Love is still
breathing heavily and shakily.]

LANCASTER

Love, hey. In through your nose,
out through your mouth. With me,
ready?

[Love and Lancaster breathe for a moment.
Love continues as Lancaster speaks.]

LANCASTER

Good. Keep that up. Just keep your
eyes closed and I'm gonna ask you
some questions, okay?

[Pause.]

Okay. Are you on any medication
for this? Or for anything else?

[Pause.]

Okay. I'm gonna need you to keep
breathing like that, count to 5
for each inhale. One, two, three,
four, five, just like that, good.

[Another pause.]

LANCASTER

How's it feeling? Better?

LOVE

(little bit wiped)
...fuck off.

LANCASTER

You're seeing Chappel, right?

LOVE

Not seeing a fuckin shrink.

LANCASTER

You're going to soon, if you don't
want to melt down like this again.

KLEIN

...We good?

LANCASTER

Um, I hope so. I need to go over something with you, though. Hey, um, Surveillance?

RADDAGHER

Yeah.

LANCASTER

Could you keep an eye on her for a moment?

RADDAGHER

Yeah.

LOVE

(still beat)

I DON'T NEED A FUCKING BABYSITTER.

LANCASTER

That's the spirit.

KLEIN

Lancaster, your Psychic Resistance.

LANCASTER

14B.

HARLEY

My card says 14B.

RADDAGHER

Me too.

KLEIN

And her?

RADDAGHER

14B as well.

KLEIN

That's a start.

[Papers shuffle]

KLEIN

Everybody grab a stack. Department
Heads first.

LANCASTER

Love, keep your eyes closed,
alright?

[Shuffling continues]

KLEIN

Put 14Bs in this pile. This is all
of ours, minus Agent Love's.

HARLEY

Anything else to look for?

KLEIN

If you spot any other
correlations, it would be worth
mentioning.

HARLEY

But for memetic stuff it's usually
the PRI, isn't it?

KLEIN

Usually. Might be something else
though.

HARLEY

Got it.

LANCASTER

12A, 15C, 10C, 11B-

HARLEY

Gravett's just says "Yes."

LANCASTER

Wrong line. This one. 15A.

HARLEY

Oh.

RADDAGHER

Found one.

[Paper shuffles.]

KLEIN

Oh God, *Simmons* is a 14B?

LOVE

What about Simmons?!

LANCASTER

Man, I really didn't want to be the first to say it...

LOVE

FUCK Simmons!

KLEIN

Not to be a dick, but he's honestly the worst.

LANCASTER

Yeah, he sucks...

RADDAGHER

I don't know who Simmons is.

HARLEY

Yeah, what did Simmons do?

LANCASTER

You have to meet him and then you'll understand.

KLEIN

Hell, put him in the pile I guess.

LANCASTER

Ugh.

HARLEY

Let me know if I'm right about this.

LANCASTER

Okay.

HARLEY

The scip might have a memetic effect that's making people spacey and forgetful.

KLEIN

Just a theory.

HARLEY

And it's also making them draw Dash 1's?

LANCASTER

And maybe making it impossible to actually bring attention to the effect.

HARLEY

Wait, you- You're surveillance.

RADDAGHER

Yes.

HARLEY

What's your name, again?

RADDAGHER

Raddagher.

HARLEY

You've caught a few Dash 1's by now, haven't you?

RADDAGHER

Yes.

HARLEY

Have you noticed anything else?

RADDAGHER

Yes.

[Pause.]

HARLEY

...Such as?

RADDAGHER

Oh. Isolation. People interact less.

LANCASTER

That could be something. Anything else?

RADDAGHER

Botany is stealing barley from storage and using it to make bathtub moonshine in their eyewash sink.

[Pause.]

KLEIN

...what?

HARLEY

(comically high-pitched
scream)

I FUCKING *KNEW IT!*

LANCASTER

That's... not really what we meant?

RADDAGHER

Records has toilet wine.

KLEIN

Oh, of COURSE THEY DO.

LOVE

Jesus, can you see like...
everywhere?

RADDAGHER

No. Most of the dorms don't have
cameras in them.

LOVE

...*MOST* of the dorms?

RADDAGHER

I was trying to put batteries in
some of the cameras so I could try
getting a feed on what's
happening.

HARLEY

...why are you in here then?

RADDAGHER

I came in when Klein came in.

HARLEY

Yeah, okay, but why?

RADDAGHER

Oh. I'm hiding from the monster.

[Pause]

HARLEY

...the what?

RADDAGHER

There's a huge lemon plant monster
out there.

[Another pause]

LOVE
AND YOU DIDN'T THINK TO FUCKING
LEAD WITH THAT?!

LANCASTER
Harley?

HARLEY
Did you say "lemon plant monster?"

RADDAGHER
Yes.

LANCASTER
Harley.

KLEIN
You're certain it was lemons?

RADDAGHER
Smelled like lemons.

LANCASTER
HARLEY.

HARLEY
WHAT?

LANCASTER
Dash 1. Spider web up in the
corner.

KLEIN
Shit, when did *that* one happen?

HARLEY
I don't know.

KLEIN
I didn't feel a tremor, did any of
you?

RADDAGHER
I don't think it did a tremor.

KLEIN
Then what DID it do?

LANCASTER
...Didn't there used to be a
spider in it..?

[Pause.]

[Horrible spider monster noise.]

HARLEY
(Achievement Unlocked:
Arachnophobia)
...Holland?

[END EPISODE]