

PARKS AND RECREATION



Harvest Festival
#03009

Written by

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TABLE DRAFT 09/20/10
SHOOTING DRAFT 10/05/10

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PARKS AND RECREATION
Shooting Draft

"Harvest Festival"

[03009]
10/05/10

CAST LIST

LESLIE
ANN
RON
TOM
ANDY
APRIL
BEN
JERRY
DONNA

*SUE
KEN HOTATE
JOAN CALLAMEZZO
PERD HAPLEY
KILEY
REPORTER
ED

PARKS AND RECREATION
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SET LIST

INTERIORS

PARKS DEPARTMENT OFFICE
CONFERENCE ROOM
HARVEST FESTIVAL
 FIRST AID TENT
 HQ TENT
WAMAPOKE NATION CASINO
 KEN'S OFFICE

EXTERIORS

HARVEST FESTIVAL - DAY/NIGHT
CARNIVAL GROUNDS
FAIRGROUNDS
FAIRGROUNDS - ELSEHWERE
HORSE PEN
CORN MAZE
PRESS CONFERENCE AREA
FERRIS WHEEL

PARKS AND RECREATION
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1.

COLD OPEN

1 INT. PARKS DEPARTMENT OFFICE - MORNING - DAY 1

1

The office has been transformed into a massive headquarters for the Harvest Festival. Maps, lists, schedules, and signs cover the walls and many of the windows.

LESLIE addresses TOM, RON, BEN, APRIL, ANDY, and DONNA in the central area.

LESLIE

Harvest Festival starts tomorrow. You've worked so hard and I'm so impressed by all of you. And... I have a very special surprise that will put the icing on the cake. It is the best possible thing that could potentially ever happen anywhere, to anyone, in the history of the universe. Ladies and gentlemen... Li'l Sebastian.

JERRY walks in with LI'L SEBASTIAN, an adorable miniature horse with ribbons in his hair. Except for Ben, everyone is incredibly excited.

OMG!

DONNA

TOM

Nooooooooooooo wayyyyyyyyyyyyyy!

ANDY

Take my picture take my picture take my picture.

RON

Well done, Leslie! Well done!

APRIL

(sincere)

Wow.

LESLIE

(smug)

Thank you. Thank you.

2 LESLIE TALKING HEAD

2

LESLIE

Li'l Sebastian made his debut at the last Harvest Festival in 1989 and he was an instant phenomenon. That week, he was the eighth most photographed object in all of America. Suck it, The Alamo!

B-roll: 1989 Indianapolis Star: Little Horse is Big Deal.

3 INT. PARKS DEPARTMENT OFFICE - CONTINUOUS - D1

3

BEN

What am I missing? What's the deal with
the pony?

TOM

He's not a pony! He's a mini-horse!

BEN

...Okay. Well, why is he so famous?
Does he do anything?

People shake their heads sadly at Ben's ignorance.

APRIL

Yeah -- he does being a small horse, and
he does it better than anyone.

RON

Son, this horse has an honorary degree
from Notre Dame.

LESLIE

We have to be very careful. He's twenty-
three-years-old, he has cataracts in both
eyes, and severe arthritis. Jerry's
going to look after him.

JERRY

(proud)
We're on the same diabetes medication.
(to horse; cutesy voice)
Who's my little Glucatorl buddy?

Ben looks at Li'l Sebastian. He leans in to pet him...

BEN

Well, I guess he is kinda cute--

LESLIE

Don't touch him!

Ben throws up his hands and backs off.

BEN

Okay. God.

LESLIE

I seriously almost just punched you.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

4 INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - LATER - D1

4

Leslie, Ben, and Tom sit across from SUE. A MAP with little signs representing different businesses sits between them. Tom listens to his iPod.

SUE
(switching two signs)
Couldn't you put Sue's Salads... here?

LESLIE
(horrified)
On Deep Fried Boulevard?

SUE
It's just... there are so many junk food places and only one salad stand.

LESLIE
Yes, because we're trying to make money and not make people hate their lives.
(sigh)
How about this: we'll make Sue's Salads the official Harvest Festival Healthy Choice.

SUE
Wow -- that's great. Thank you.

LESLIE
Of course.

As Sue leaves...

LESLIE (CONT'D)
(mumbles)
No one's gonna come to your stupid booth anyway.

5 LESLIE TALKING HEAD

5

B-roll of Leslie and various PEOPLE.

LESLIE
Harvest Fest is the biggest thing I've done in my career and if it fails, the Parks Department will be eliminated.
(getting amped)
That's why we went big: seven days. Two hundred vendors. Fifty thousand visitors... and four hospitality kiosks!
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

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5 CONTINUED: 5

LESLIE (CONT'D)
(thinks)
I gotta stop ending on that boring thing.

6 INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - MOMENTS LATER - D1 6

A WEIRDO sits across from them.

LESLIE
No, you can't sell "Home Brewed Water."
And again, no, I don't want to taste it.
Thanks for coming in.

The guy leaves.

LESLIE (CONT'D)
(calling out)
April? Next.

BEN
Man, you're knocking these off. You're
like a ninja crossed with a Jedi.

TOM
You're like a nerd crossed with a dork.

BEN
"Star Wars" isn't that nerdy, Tom.

LESLIE
("yes it is")
No. Not at all.

April walks in with KEN HOTATE (Native American, 50s),
wearing a tan suit and cowboy boots.

APRIL
This guy's here.

She leaves.

KEN
Hi, Leslie.

LESLIE
(aside to Ben)
Ben, this is Ken Hotate, tribal leader of
the Wamapoke.
(to Ken)
Wallaho nahk-a-tokeh.

SUBTITLE: "Hello, honored guest."

KEN
Wallaho.

(CONTINUED)

LESLIE

(to Ben)

That means "hello, honored guest."
Though, it literally translates to: "May
you be blessed with a million possums."
The Wamapoke once used possums as
currency.

BEN

Oh. *Wallahey monta koteh.*

SUBTITLE: "Red wagon wheel incest."

Leslie shakes her head. He got it wrong.

LESLIE

I know why you're here, Ken, but I swear
to you, I've tried everything.

KEN

Sorry, Leslie, but this is a big one.
I'm getting a lot of pressure. I'm going
to have to formally request that you move
the carnival.

BEN

Sorry, what's going on?

LESLIE

The carnival is on the site of the Battle
of Indian Hill. It was an epic seven day
war, that the Wamapoke eventually lost on
account of the fact that they didn't have
any weapons.

Ken lays down a MAP of the FAIRGROUNDS.

KEN

During that battle, ninety-two-year-old
Chief Wakote was shot 103 times by the
Cavalry. And for the next week, that
moment will be commemorated with shooting
galleries and fried dough stands.

LESLIE

This is the only place in town that's
large enough to hold the carnival rides.
And you know as well as I do, given
Pawnee's history, it's very hard not to
be offensive.

7 LESLIE TALKING HEAD

7

Leslie stands in front of an historical map of Pawnee. The map is tinted blue, with 12 white dots.

LESLIE

This is a map of all the atrocities
Pawnee settlers inflicted on the Wamapoke
Indians. The atrocities are in blue.

8 INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - MOMENTS LATER - D1

8

LESLIE

We put up a memorial plaque. There's a
huge Wamapoke exhibit in the history
tent. We're really trying.

KEN

I understand. But this is sacred ground.
And I just hope the souls of our
ancestors don't put a curse on the
festival.

Leslie and Ben react.

9 KEN TALKING HEAD

9

KEN

There are two things I know about white
people: they love Rachael Ray, and
they're terrified of curses.

10 EXT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - CARNIVAL GROUNDS - D1

10

A MASSIVE carnival -- rides, booths, etc. The finishing
touches are being put on by MAINTENANCE GUYS.

11 INT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - FIRST AID TENT - LATER - D1

11

Donna sorts through medical supplies. ANN is putting up a
poster that says: "First Aid Tent."

DONNA

Hey, what ever happened to you and the
bionic man?

ANN

Chris?

(sigh)

He broke up with me, but he did it so
nicely, I didn't even realize he did it.

DONNA

I've done that to multiple men. You doing okay?

ANN

(casual)

It's been a little rough. Two days ago I was sobbing at a pizza buffet and was asked to leave. Been looking at dog adoption websites... bought seven hundred dollars worth of candles from Anthropologie -- just your basic "bottoming out" kind of stuff.

Donna stares at her.

DONNA

Normally people will tell you to talk about your problems. But I'm gonna recommend you bottle that noise up.

ANN

Will do.

Leslie stands in front of Tom, Andy, Jerry, Ann, and Donna. Ben approaches Leslie.

BEN

Somebody, I don't want to say who...
(points at himself)
Just got Sweetums to donate another fifteen cotton candy machines.

LESLIE

Oh yeah? Take that, curse!

BEN

Take that, curse.

They do a stupid handshakey thing.

TOM

Get a room.

LESLIE

Okay, everyone. Joan Callamezzo is bringing a camera crew here for an exclusive last minute walk-through of the Harvest Festival and we have to be absolutely perfect. Joan is always looking for a scandal. She's like an eagle-eyed tiger.

12

12

ANDY

(super fast)

New band name: Eagle-Eyed Tiger. I called it.

LESLIE

Let's all take each other's hands and look each other in the eye.

(they all hold hands)

You are all amazing, wonderful people. So let's relax, have fun, and not think about the fact that if even one tiny thing goes wrong we will all lose our jobs.

BEN

That's not inspir --

LESLIE

Okay! Let's get 'em! If anyone has any problems, address them to Ron.

Ron gives a thumbs up.

13

RON TALKING HEAD

13

RON

The advantage of being Leslie's boss is that she does everything herself, and there are never any problems, which means for the next week I can sit in a lawn chair and read this book about old boats.

He holds up a "Master and Commander" book.

RON (CONT'D)

Excuse me, I have to get back to work.

He sits down and starts reading.

14

EXT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - FAIRGROUNDS - LATER - D1

14

JOAN CALLAMEZZO prepares for a stand-up in front of a CAMERA CREW. Leslie and Ben approach.

JOAN

(vocal exercises)

Mmmmmurder. Mmmmurder the most melons. Shaquille showers shame on Shakira's sheets.

LESLIE

Hello, Joan. Welcome to Harvest Festival!

(CONTINUED)

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9.

14

14

JOAN

Hello, Leslie. I have to say, this
festival looks pretty impressive.
(mutters)
...But we'll see. We'll see.

LESLIE

Let's get started.

15

EXT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - FAIRGROUNDS - LATER - D1

15

Leslie walks with Ben, Tom, and Joan as her crew shoots.
They pass by FOOD STALLS.

LESLIE

The festival is spread over the entire
town, but the carnival is really the
centerpiece. Over there is Indiana's
largest corn maze.

JOAN

(digging)
Is that Pawnee corn or Eagleton corn?

LESLIE

Pawnee corn. And it's organic. There's
our beautiful Ferris Wheel --

JOAN

Beautiful.
(to camera)
But deadly. When was this giant wheel of
death inspected?

BEN

Twice in the last week. Everything is
100 percent up to code.

Joan looks annoyed that she hit a dead-end.

16

EXT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - FAIRGROUNDS - ELSEWHERE - LATER - D1 16

They look at exhibits.

JOAN

(aha)
How many of the carnies are illegals?

LESLIE

None, Joan, they're all U.S. residents.
Right over there is where Indiana
basketball legend Larry Bird's eighty-
four year-old Aunt Tilda will be signing
autographs for two hours, next Thursday.

(CONTINUED)

JOAN
(genuinely impressed)
You got Tilda?

LESLIE
Oh yeah. We got Tilda. But this is the
real coup. Li'l Sebastian.

Joan stops walking.

JOAN
Are you fucking kidding me? You got Li'l
Sebastian?

Ben looks at camera -- why the hell does everyone love this
horse so much?

LESLIE
See for yourself.

Leslie points at Jerry, Tom, and Li'l Sebastian.

JOAN
Wow. He is so adorable.

TOM
Thank you, Joan! And Li'l Sebastian
isn't bad either!

They laugh. Tom rubs his eyes like a cartoon character.

TOM (CONT'D)
Joan, did you have your breasts done?
You look amazing!

JOAN
Oh, Tom, you're so sweet.
(to camera)
Were you rolling on that? No? Damn it.
(to Tom)
Say it again later.

TOM
You got it. The festival's going to
knock your socks off. And when it does,
I'll be there to give you a foot massage.
To completion.

BEN
Good lord.

17 EXT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - FAIRGROUNDS - LATER - D1

17

Ron sits in a lawn chair and reads his book. In a SPY SHOT:
April and Andy play a ring toss game.

ANDY

Damnit. It's like they don't want you to win.

APRIL

You better practice. You gotta win me a teddy bear.

ANDY

I'm gonna win you a million teddy bears.

APRIL

Well, I want a billion teddy bears.

ANDY

That's unrealistic. Two million.

APRIL

Deal.

She kisses him.

APRIL (CONT'D)

Hey. I love you.

ANDY

...Dude.

She looks at him expectantly.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Dude, shut up! That is awesome sauce!

He goes to high-five April. She stares at him.

18 EXT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - HORSE PEN - LATER - D1

18

Jerry leads Li'l Sebastian into his pen.

JERRY

(calm, soothing voice)

There you go, Li'l Sebastian. Who's a good little show horse?

Tom walks up.

TOM

Hey, Leslie said I should look after him for a bit.

(CONTINUED)

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18

18

JERRY

Perfect. I have to go grab his tail
scrunchie. Remember, if he starts
vomiting, you need to clear his airway
with two fingers, like so:

He demonstrates. Tom recoils.

19 TOM TALKING HEAD

19

Li'l Sebastian in the b.g. Tom holds up a HORSE BLANKET with
the Snakehole Lounge logo on it.

TOM

Most people look at Li'l Sebastian and
see a cute, famous mini horse. I see: an
advertising opportunity for my club: the
Snakehole Lounge.

He turns and looks.

TOM (CONT'D)

Right now, I see a shockingly huge mini-
horse erection. That hopefully this
blanket will cover.

A large PIXILATED AREA under Sebastian's haunches will help
sell this joke.

20 EXT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - CARNIVAL GROUNDS - LATER - D1

20

Joan, Leslie, Ben.

JOAN

Well, I don't think I'm being
unprofessional when I say that I really
hoped I would find more tawdry scandals.

(idea)

What about our friend Ben, here. We all
know your story, of course -- a story of
failure. Remind us of that failure.

Ben smiles -- he's not freaked out by this anymore.

BEN

When I was an eighteen year-old mayor, I
tried to build a winter sports complex
called Ice Town. It bankrupted the city.

(small beat)

I was also shortstop of my JV baseball
team, but no one ever brings that up.

(CONTINUED)

20

CONTINUED:

20

JOAN

And now you're involved with this. Do I smell another disaster, hopefully?

BEN

Joan, this festival -- thanks to the tireless efforts of Leslie Knope, is going to bring people nothing but happiness. Not even I could ruin this.

Leslie and Ben exchange happy looks.

JOAN

Alright. I'm a reporter, not your therapist.

21

EXT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - HORSE PEN - LATER - D1

21

Tom on the phone. Jerry walks up.

TOM

Yeah, so every time someone takes a picture of him, the Snakehole's logo will be in it! Am I a genius or what?

JERRY

Where's Li'l Sebastian?

Tom looks -- the PEN is OPEN, and the horse is gone. He thinks.

TOM

...Somebody left the gate open and he got out -- Jerry!

JERRY

What? What are you talking about?

22

TOM TALKING HEAD

22

TOM

I have one move here. Blame Jerry.

23

EXT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - HORSE PEN - CONTINUOUS - D1

23

TOM

Unbelievable, Jerry -- just another in a long string of miserable failures.

JERRY

I wasn't even here!

23

23

TOM

Exactly. Hopefully, I can bail you out of this mess that you and nobody else caused.

JERRY

You were the one watching him!

TOM

It's a poor workman who blames his tools. You look for him -- I'll go get help.

He rushes off. Jerry looks stunned.

24

EXT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - LATER - D1

24

Leslie, Ben, and Joan stand in front of a GIANT COTTON CANDY MACHINE. Joan is on camera.

JOAN

The Harvest Festival opens tomorrow at nine a.m., and as far as this reporter is concerned, it's well worth your time.

LESLIE

Come on down, Pawnee!
(holds up cotton candy)
It's going to be sweet!

JOAN

Okay. I'm just going to do my wrap-up.
(sincere)
Great work here.

Leslie and Ben smile. Joan turns to her camera.

LESLIE

I'd say that went well.

BEN

I'd say, "take that, curse."

LESLIE

Take that, curse!

They do the handshakey thing. Joan comes back into frame.

JOAN

Sorry? What's this about a "curse?"

LESLIE

Oh. Nothing. Nothing. Ignore that.

Joan eyes Leslie warily. Tom rushes over.

(CONTINUED)

Shooting Draft

24

CONTINUED:

24

TOM

Leslie, Jerry let Li'l Sebastian escape.
He's gone, and we don't know where he is.

Joan gasps.

JOAN

Get those cameras up. We're doing a new
intro.

(quietly to Leslie)
Gotcha.

Off of Leslie's look...

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

25 EXT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - CARNIVAL GROUNDS - LATER - D1 25

Joan is finishing.

JOAN

Is it the revenge of the Wamapoke? An incompetent government run amok? Or, probably, something even worse than those things? While it seemed everything was ready for tomorrow, things may not be exactly what they seem.

She nods happily at her excellent work.

JOAN (CONT'D)

Nailed it. Let's start getting shots of chipped paint, crying kids, spooky traffic lights -- you know the drill.

26 INT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - HQ TENT - LATER - D1 26

A HUGE tent set up as on-site HQ for the carnival. Leslie and Ben.

BEN

This is bad, right?

LESLIE

Bad? We've just been hit by a giant poop tornado. A poopnado.

BEN

Okay, well, gross, but we can deal with bad publicity.

LESLIE

It's way more than that. This is a huge government project -- it's already a lightning rod. Add in controversy with the Wamapoke -- double lightning rod.

BEN

Plus, we've already lost a a miniature living legend.

LESLIE

Triple lightning rod! Throw in "the curse." Quadruple lightning rod. It's a classic four-rod disaster. Vendors will bail, ticket sales will drop--

26

CONTINUED:

26

BEN

I'm sorry, do people in this town really believe in curses?

27

LESLIE TALKING HEAD

27

Leslie stands in front of a mural of a man clutching a white rabbit.

LESLIE

Pawnee is an incredibly superstitious town. Once, a traveling magician pulled a rabbit out of his hat and a mob burned him at the stake for being a witch.

WIDEN TO REVEAL: The magician is being roasted.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

The year was 1973.

WIDEN FURTHER TO REVEAL: Everyone is in bell bottoms and they are driving 70s cars.

28

EXT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - HQ TENT - LATER - D1

28

April, Tom, and Andy watch as Jerry paces, clearly distressed.

JERRY

We're up the creek, here! What the heck are we gonna do now?!

Ron, still reading, tries to ignore the argument.

TOM

You mean: what are you gonna do.

JERRY

No, what are do gonna you?

TOM

What am "do" going to I? Good question, genius.

(to Ron)

Can you believe we left Li'l Sebastian with this guy?

JERRY

You were the one watching him!

Ron SIGHS loudly and closes his book.

RON

Well, apparently I'm not gonna get any work done. How did this happen?

APRIL

Maybe Li'l Sebastian got upset because he tried to share his true feelings with someone. And they didn't reciprocate.

ANDY

(nods)

Maybe. Or maybe a balloon popped somewhere and that scared him?

RON

Let's split up. Tom, Jerry -- check the field behind the parking lot.

TOM

I don't wanna go with Jerry. He's the one who deliberately caused me to accidentally let that horse out.

(chanting)

Jerry's fault! Jerry's fault!

JERRY

Stop it!

RON

Andy, April -- check the corn maze.

ANDY

Good thinking, horses love mazes.

29 INT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - HO TENT - LATER - D1

29

Ann and Leslie.

ANN

Hey, one of the carnies came into the first aid tent because he felt dizzy, and then a reporter came in and asked me if it's because of "the curse."

LESLIE

No comment! Say "no comment!"

ANN

I did.

LESLIE

You're the best. Treat him, release him, and don't say anything to anyone about anything, for the rest of the month.

(CONTINUED)

BEN

Leslie? You need to see this.

Ben is watching TV. PERD HAPLEY interviews Ken Hotate.

KEN (ON TV)

Look, I don't want to say if there is or isn't a "curse." But the fact is, this carnival is located on top of an ancient Wamapoke site.

PERD HAPLEY (ON TV)

Much like the house in the movie "Poltergeist."

KEN (ON TV)

Exactly -- facts. My ancestors died there, and now it's filled with toy shooting galleries and port-o-potties. I asked Leslie Knope from the Parks Department to move the carnival, and she refused.

PERD HAPLEY (ON TV)

We have an animation of that event -- let's take a look.

We see one of those TAIWANESE NEWS ANIMATIONS, like they did for the Tiger Woods accident, featuring weird video game likenesses of people recreating events.

BEN

Oh -- I love these things!

She looks at him angrily.

BEN (CONT'D)

Sorry.

In the animation, a BLONDE LADY is approached by a MAN looking like Ken. She adamantly shakes her head "no," and sticks out her tongue at him.

BEN (CONT'D)

How did they have time to make this?
It's literally in 3-D.

In the animation: the video game Ken starts dancing around, chanting, and some GHOSTS and SPIRITS fly around and start swarming the Blonde Lady -- one of them FLIES INTO HER BODY and her face becomes DEMONIC and SCARY. CHYRON: Leslie Knope.

PERD HAPLEY (ON TV)
Is that what happened?

KEN (ON TV)
...Yes. That's exactly what happened.

PERD HAPLEY (ON TV)
(to camera)
Check back in with News Channel 4.
Number one in Curse Coverage.

An elaborate "curse" graphic outros the piece.

LESLIE
All right. I think we should move the
shooting gallery. It's clearly their
biggest issue -- maybe that'll be enough.

BEN
It's gonna be expensive to move that
thing. Can we afford it?

LESLIE
(dramatic)
No. But what we really can't afford is:
not it.

30 EXT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - CORN MAZE - LATER - D1

30

April and Andy search for the horse.

ANDY
Hey, you know where I would hide if I
were a horse? The merry-go-round. Just
stand really still, next to the other
horses. No one would ever find you. The
perfect crime.

April rolls her eyes.

APRIL
I'm gonna go look by myself.

ANDY
Hey, are you okay? I feel like you're
being super not happy right now.

APRIL
I'm fine. Oh, I forgot to tell you -- I
might be going to Venezuela tomorrow,
forever.

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30

30

ANDY

...You're not fine. I can read you like the back of a book -- you're upset about something. Why won't you tell me what it is?

APRIL

I'm not upset. I'm great. See?

She smiles broadly. He stares at her, suspicious.

31

APRIL TALKING HEAD

31

APRIL

No, I'm not mad at Andy. Andy's great. I "awesome sauce" Andy.

32

INT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - FIRST AID TENT - LATER - D1

32

Ann uses a flashlight to look into the eyes of KILEY, the carny who passed out, who's a kind of Jersey Shore-type dude. Donna is nearby.

KILEY

I don't know what's sicker: me or your body.

ANN

You aren't sick.

KILEY

Oh, I'm not? You may wanna check out my abs.

ANN

Are you experiencing abdominal pain?

He lifts up his shirt.

KILEY

Every day, at the gym. Feel.

ANN

(lame)

Ew.

(feeling his abs, impressed)

Oh!

KILEY

What are you doing tonight?

ANN

Prepping the medical tent.

(CONTINUED)

32

32

KILEY

I mean in terms of us.

ANN

I think I'm gonna have to pass.

She walks off. Donna grabs her.

DONNA

You gonna hit that?

ANN

Him? He doesn't really seem like
boyfriend material.

DONNA

Who said anything about "boyfriend"?
"Use him. Abuse him. Lose him." That's
the Meagle motto.

Ann considers that.

33

DONNA TALKING HEAD

33

DONNA

Grammie Meagle taught me that. She died
in bed at age eighty-four. Sandwiched
between two thirty-year-olds. She had
game.

34

EXT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - FAIRGROUNDS - LATER - D1

34

Ron stands with a lasso. Jerry and Tom are with him. April
and Andy walk up.

JERRY

Did you find him?

APRIL

Yeah, he's right here in my pocket.

RON

Damnit. Okay, he can't have gone that
far. He has the legs of Tom, the
endurance of Jerry, and the diseases of
Jerry. Ground mission failed. We need a
bird's eye view.

He eyes the Ferris Wheel.

35 INT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - HO TENT - EVENING - NIGHT 1

35

Fifteen members of the press are arrayed in front of a lectern. Leslie prepares at the lectern. Ben gives a quote to a REPORTER.

BEN

We're extremely confident that there is no curse, and that everyone will have a great time tomorrow.

REPORTER

Thanks. Wow -- first Ice Town, now this. Bad luck really follows you around, huh?

Ben takes that in. Leslie begins the press conference.

LESLIE

I'd like to start by addressing some false rumors about the festival.

(reading)

We have plenty of food -- there is no food shortage. There are not, as one report suggested, "dozens of escaped convicts meandering around the carnival." And at no time was any Parks Department worker, quote, "feasting on the petting zoo animals." Joan?

JOAN

Leslie, how big a disaster will this be, on a scale of nine to ten?

LESLIE

The festival is going to be a huge success. And just to be extra sensitive to our Wamapoke friends, we have moved the shooting gallery, as they requested. Yes, Perd?

PERD HAPLEY

The statement this reporter wants to make is a question: will that be enough to lift the curse?

LESLIE

Perd, you know as well as I do, that in reality--

The lights BLACK OUT. People murmur.

JOAN

The power is out! It's the curse!

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CONTINUED:

35

The emergency lights click ON.

LESLIE

Crrrrrap on a spatula. Don't worry,
everyone -- just stay calm.

36

EXT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - LATER - N1

36

Ron, Jerry, Tom, and April are on the Ferris Wheel.

ANDY

I'm only gonna say this once, but, what
if Li'l Sebastian is on this Ferris
Wheel? Perfect crime, part two.

The Ferris wheel grinds to a halt and everything goes dark.

TOM

Jerry, what the hell?

JERRY

Sorry, guys.

(beat)

Hey, no -- wait a second!

37

EXT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - PRESS CONFERENCE AREA - LATER - N1

37

Leslie huddles with Ben.

LESLIE

God, we cannot catch a break.

BEN

I gotta go. I'm sorry. I feel like I'm
jinxed.

LESLIE

What?

BEN

You were totally fine until I got
involved -- everything I touch turns to
Ice Town. I'm sorry. I'm the curse.

Ben leaves. Leslie stares after him.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

38 EXT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - HO TENT - LATER - N1

38

Leslie and ED, from Public Works, stand next to a MOBILE POWER GENERATOR.

ED
Generator's shot.

LESLIE
How is that possible? I got the TMK-2500, specifically for its extra capacity.

ED
Wow. You know your stuff. You single?

LESLIE
Not now, Ed. What caused this?

ED
You would've been fine, but all those TV crews plugged in and overloaded it.

LESLIE
I knew it. Stupid media. Freedom of the press is for the birds.
(gathers herself)
Where can I get a new one in, oh, now?

ED
There's only one place in town with a generator that size.

Ed hands her a binder and points to a page.

LESLIE
You've got to be kidding me.

39 EXT. WAMAPOKE NATION CASINO - LATER - N1

39

Marquee sign reads: "This Saturday: Rachael Ray Book Signing."

40 LESLIE TALKING HEAD

40

Standing by a roulette table.

LESLIE
This festival was supposed to be my love letter to Pawnee.
(MORE)

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40

LESLIE (CONT'D)

Now it's like the love letter came in an envelope that was filled with anthrax and the letter was made out of Ebola.

41

INT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - FIRST AID TENT - LATER - N1

41

Ann pulls the IV out of Kiley's arm.

KILEY

It's been real awesome looking at you. Most carnival nurses are total grenades.

ANN

Okay well, you're all set. You're free to go.

Ann thinks for a second...

ANN (CONT'D)

Or... you could stay here, and we could make out until the lights come back on.

KILEY

Hells yeah! I'm gonna make your light come on, baby.

ANN

No more talking.

Ann moves in to kiss him.

42

EXT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - FERRIS WHEEL - LATER - N1

42

The Ferris Wheel is stopped. Ron's face is a portrait of misery.

JERRY

Once they're missing this long, they're usually dead.

TOM

Well, if that's true, then you're going to have to answer to this whole town. And God.

JERRY

You were the one who let him out and you know it! Stop trying to blame it on me!

APRIL

Jerry, can you be quiet? I can't hear myself not talking to Andy.

(CONTINUED)

ANDY

Ron, could you ask April why she's mad at me?

APRIL

Ron, could you tell Andy, "Awesome sauce."

RON

All of you: be quiet. Andy: she's mad because you said "awesome sauce" instead of "I love you, too." April: he loves you, stop being a child. Tom, you're clearly at fault here -- blaming Jerry won't save you. Jerry, we both know you were shotgunning funnel cakes instead of watching Li'l Sebastian. So, everyone apologize to everyone else.

They all mumble "sorrys."

ANDY

I do love you. For real.

APRIL

You do?

ANDY

(tender)

Yeah. That's what makes the sauce so awesome.

43 INT. WAMAPOKE NATION CASINO - KEN'S OFFICE - LATER - N1

43

Leslie in Ken's office. He sits behind a desk.

KEN

You need to borrow our generator?

LESLIE

Please, Ken. I am coming to you on my knees, begging for help, just as the first settlers of Pawnee begged the Wamapoke two hundred years ago.

KEN

But that was --

LESLIE

-- a trick and over fifty Wamapoke were slaughtered. I know. But this is no trick.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

43

CONTINUED:

43

LESLIE (CONT'D)

I'm prepared to put the Wamapoke history exhibit inside the carnival grounds -- just past the entrance turnstiles, so you have to see it before you can start having fun.

KEN

That's interesting.

LESLIE

I'm trying to do something great for this town, and save my friends' jobs. Can you please help me out here?

He thinks.

KEN

Native American tribe making a deal with the government. What can go wrong?

She smiles as he extends his hand.

KEN (CONT'D)

You can have the generator. I'll issue a statement saying the "curse" has been lifted.

LESLIE

...Actually, I think I have a better idea.

44 EXT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - FAIRGROUNDS - NEXT MORNING - DAY 2 44

A STAGE is set up for a press conference. The media is assembled around Ken, wearing a ceremonial sash, who chants and throws cinnamon and herbs in the air.

KEN

*Walla-hey olla-ho mollypeku olla bey -
Oma - watuchka - walla hey, doobedoobee
doo.*

SUBTITLE: "I am just chanting / I am not saying anything / No one can understand me anyway / Doobee doobee do."

KEN (CONT'D)

Thanks to that sacred ceremony, The Curse of the Wamapoke has been lifted!

People applaud. Leslie takes the stand.

(CONTINUED)

44

44

LESLIE

Thank you, Ken Hotate. And I have more good news -- he gave us all a scare, but he's here now -- the one, the only, Li'l Sebastian!

Off to the side, Tom guides Li'l Sebastian onto the platform (wearing the Snakehole Lounge cape). Everyone CHEERS.

45 RON TALKING HEAD

45

RON

We spotted him from the Ferris Wheel, at the center of the corn maze.

B-roll: We see Li'l Sebastian, from the previous night, in the center of the corn maze.

RON (CONT'D)

After the power came back on, we went and got him.

B-roll: Jerry, Tom, April, Andy, and Ron walking through the corn maze. April is on Andy's back. They're all having a good time.

RON (CONT'D)

Took the horse fifteen minutes to solve that maze. Took us four hours.

(beat)

Jerry's still in there.

B-roll: An exhausted Jerry lost in the maze.

46 INT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - FIRST AID TENT - LATER - D2

46

Ann and Donna sit around talking. Kiley walks in.

KILEY

Sup, sweet baby girl? I got out of here so fast last night I forgot to steal them digits off ya.

ANN

(smiles)

Yeah. I don't know... if I'm gonna give you my phone number. Provided that's what you were asking.

KILEY

(cool with it)

...Oh. Okay. Rage. Well, maybe I'll see you at the hospital.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

KILEY (CONT'D)
(bragging)
I'm in the emergency room all the time.

Kiley exits.

DONNA
Use him, abuse him...

ANN
And lose him.

They high-five. Then:

ANN (CONT'D)
He's kinda sweet, actually. Do you think
he'd be a good boyfriend?! Maybe I
should--

She starts to go after him. Donna grabs her by the shirt and
flings her back.

ANN (CONT'D)
Right. I'm fine.

EXT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - HQ TENT - LATER - D2

A TON of PEOPLE have begun to STREAM INTO THE CARNIVAL.
Leslie watches proudly. Ben walks up.

LESLIE
Hey. Look who's back.

BEN
I'm sorry I left. I honestly felt like I
was cursed. Ice Town and now this.

LESLIE
Look -- Ice Town was a disaster and it
was probably your fault. Seems like you
mismanaged the hell out of it.
(Ben looks like: why say that?)
But this is as much your project as it is
mine, and it's gonna be great. You
deserve to be here.

She hugs him. Ken walks up.

KEN
This is the guy?

LESLIE
This is him.

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KEN

Hakote ha nomay!

SUBTITLE: "Here, dummy."

Ken throws a pile of dirt in Ben's face. He is stunned.

LESLIE

Special Wamapoke ceremony. Now your
curse is officially lifted.

BEN

...Thank you?

LESLIE

You're filthy. Go clean yourself up --
try to be professional.

She walks away.

END OF ACT THREE

TAG

48 EXT. HARVEST FESTIVAL - HORSE PEN - DAY 3

48

Hundreds of people take their picture with Li'l Sebastian. The entire department watches, happily. Ben is wearing a super touristy Li'l Sebastian T-SHIRT.

APRIL

He is just the best ever.

ANDY

You're the best ever. But Li'l Sebastian is a close second.

BEN

He really is amazing.

LESLIE

You finally get it now, right?

BEN

Hel-lo?

He points to his shirt.

BEN (CONT'D)

He's fantastic! I totally get it now.

49 BEN TALKING HEAD

49

With the horse in the b.g.

BEN

I don't get it, at all. It's a kind-of small horse. What am I missing? Am I crazy?

In the b.g., the horse WHINNIES a little. Everyone CHEERS.

LESLIE

(calling to him)

Ben -- you missed it! He whinnied!

BEN

(yelling back)

No, I heard! It was great!

Ben looks back at camera -- what the hell?!

END OF SHOW