## SPHERE

"Circle Makes a Mistake"<br>SPH 112<br>(11 min segment of 22 min ep )<br>Written by<br>Ryan Pequin

LOG LINE: Circle takes Triangle and Square on an adventure to a smaller island off the coast. Everything goes great until the tide comes in and Circle remembers that she's the only one who can float.

THEME: Admitting failure can be extremely difficult, especially for people in positions of high esteem

EXT. CIRCLE'S CAVE - MORNING
A cheerful Circle leaves her cave and happily hums her way down the path towards Square and Triangles' houses.

Narrator
Circle was especially excited to meet with her friends this morning. She had something really special to show them.

EXT. THE LOG - LATER
Circle finds Triangle showing Square how to play a card game.
CIRCLE
Hey! Do you two want to see something amazing?

SQUARE
(hesitant)
What is it?
CIRCLE
Ok, I was going to keep it a surprise, but yesterday $I$ went off on a little adventure all by myself...

TRIANGLE
Pfft. Done that.
CIRCLE
I ended up somewhere I'd never been before and you'll never guess what I found. Ancient ruins!

SQUARE
Ruins? Sounds kinda scary...
TRIANGLE
I'm in!
CIRCLE
Follow me!
Triangle drops his cards and runs along with Circle. Square hesitates for a second, then follows them.

EXT. SHORELINE - MORNING
The three shapes exit the woods and step out onto the foggy beach. Circle points them to a rocky path along the sand that stretches out into the distance, leading to a big island covered partially by haze.

NARRATOR
(impressed)
Huh! How have I never seen this before?

CIRCLE
(to Triangle and Square)
Watch your step.

EXT. ROCKY PATH - MORNING
They begin to trek along the isthmus toward the island. Crossfade between scenes as the shapes make progress.

NARRATOR
Circle, Triangle, and Square made the best of a long walk.

EXT. ROCKY PATH - LATERS5

SQUARE
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { I spy with my little eye... } & 13 \\ \text { Something that is... pointy! } & \end{array}$
TRIANGLE
Is it me?
SQUARE
Got it again!15

EXT. ROCKY PATH - LATER ..... S6

SQUARE
I hope this place has a nice spot
to sit and read my book.
TRIANGLE
I hope we discover a new kind of animal! Like a ferocious apex predator!

CIRCLE
Hmm. I didn't see any apex

TRIANGLE
Then I'll be the apex predator by default! Even better!

EXT. ROCKY PATH - EARLY AFTERNOON
The fog has burned off and the sun is high in the sky. As the shapes continue along the path, the flora begins to change and their surroundings begin to look more and more foreign. Square looks back at the island, now quite a distance away.

SQUARE
(nervous)
We're kind of far from home, aren't we?

Square's stomach grumbles.
SQUARE (CONT'D)
Ooh, I should've eaten before we left.

Circle laughs. She has everything under control.
CIRCLE
Don't worry, Square. I do this kind of stuff all the time! Besides...

Circle pulls out a little lunch pack.
CIRCLE (CONT'D)
I brought sandwiches! Trust me.
TRIANGLE
Yeah, Square! Circle never messes up!

TITLE CARD
The shapes hold up cards that say "Circle Makes a Mistake"
NARRATOR
Circle makes a mistake.

EXT. NEW ISLAND SHORE - AFTERNOON
The shapes arrive at the mysterious new island and take in the sights. The flora here looks almost prehistoric. The atmosphere is thick with bird and bug calls.

CIRCLE
It's just through here!

Circle lifts a big leaf and floats under it. Triangle and Square follow her into the forest.

EXT. THICK FOREST - AFTERNOON
Square gingerly steps around some hanging vines.
SQUARE
Easy does it - don't need to go home with a rash...

Triangle comes roaring through the brush with no hesitation.
TRIANGLE
Isn't this place neat, Square aaahh!!

Triangle is startled as a small animal skitters under his feet and past Circle.

CIRCLE
Come on! We're not even at the neatest part yet!

We continue to follow the animal as it darts under a big stone block. We pan out to see that the shapes have found what they came for: THE ANCIENT RUINS.

CIRCLE (CONT'D)
Ta da!

EXT. ANCIENT RUINS - DAY
NARRATOR
It IS pretty neat.
Circle inspects some star-shaped etchings and designs on the walls. Square and Triangle walk up next to her.

SQUARE
What do you think this place is,
Circle?
CIRCLE It's old. Older than me. 33

SQUARE
(whistles)
I wonder who built it? And where did they go?

TRIANGLE
Maybe they're just out for groceries!

Triangle runs off excitedly. Circle laughs and follows behind.

We see a montage as the shapes play around in the ruins. Triangle does some amazing acrobatic parkour over stones and slabs. Circle and Square play teeter totter on an ancient rock slab (Circle hovers a few feet off the ground completely unaffected while Square, sitting on the slab, hops up and down). They all jump from stone column to stone column until Square tumbles off into the bushes, reappearing with a big bushy beard made of moss. They all laugh. Cut to:

EXT. CLEARING - LATE AFTERNOON
The shapes sit on some rocks in a nearby clearing. Circle pulls out her lunch pack and hands out peanut butter and jam sandwiches. Square tucks into his and looks around contentedly.

SQUARE
Boy. You were right, Circle. I had my doubts, but this place is amazing.

CIRCLE
(coy) Ah, jeez.37

Square looks at Circle and Triangle's sandwiches and notices something.

SQUARE
Hey, wait - you two cut your crusts off, too?! I thought I was the only one!

They all laugh. Circle collects their crusts and puts them back in the lunch pack.

CIRCLE
(to Triangle)
Here, we can save them for your 39 turtle.

TRIANGLE
Thanks. He has a very refined palate.

EXT. FOREST PATH - EARLY EVENING
NARRATOR
A day of good fun and exploration behind them, Circle, Square, and Triangle decided it was time to head home.

They all walk contentedly back along the path that had brought them to the ruins.

SQUARE
Thanks again for inviting us, Circle. I would never have been able to do this by myself.

CIRCLE
It was nothing! Really!
We keep the camera tight on Circle as she speaks.
CIRCLE (CONT'D)
In fact, I'd be happy to take you two on trips like this more often! It can be a little daunting, sure, but really there's nothing to be scared of once you've done it a few times and learned the ropes. Trust me.

TRIANGLE (O.S.)
Uh, Circle?
Circle stops and turns around. We truck out to reveal that she is hovering over the ocean, ten feet away from shore. Triangle and Square stand on the shore of the newlydiscovered island, looking at her.

Circle stares at the water for a second, completely confused
SQUARE
Um, Circle? The path we took to get here is covered in water.

TRIANGLE
And it's really deep.
CIRCLE
(gears turning)
The tide came in...
SQUARE
Oh. So how are we supposed to get across?

TRIANGLE

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Haha, yeah! You didn't forget that } \\
& \text { we can't hover like you, right } \\
& \text { Circle? }
\end{aligned}
$$

> CIRCLE
> (sweating)
... No! Of course I didn't forget!
NARRATOR
She did.
SQUARE
Ok. So, not to ask the question too many times, but... how do we get home?

CIRCLE
Haha, ok, to be clear, I definitely remembered that the tide would come in, and I definitely did NOT forget that you two can't hover!

NARRATOR
She definitely did.
CIRCLE
My plan all along, obviously, was
52535152

Y
... (thinking) to hover back to the mountain by myself, get a dinghy, and then row it back to pick you two up!

Square's eyes widen with fear.
SQUARE
... You were just going to leave us here?

CIRCLE
Uh...
Circle scans the beach quickly, then picks up a conch and hands it to Square.

CIRCLE (CONT'D)
If anything happens, just blow into this and I'll come right back.

SQUARE
(shakily)
Uh... Ok...

Circle turns and floats off towards Shapetown. She gets about fifteen feet offshore before the conch is blown. We see Square and Triangle rapidly taking turns tooting on it in a panic. Circle sighs and floats back to them.

TRIANGLE predator!

SQUARE
You thought you heard an apex predator.

## TRIANGLE

Let's not argue over who heard what. The bottom line is, the boat thing isn't gonna work. But that's fine! Circle wouldn't have brought us here without a backup plan.

NARRATOR
(doubtful)
Hmm. . .
TRIANGLE
Oh! I know! You were just gonna grow giant and carry us across! Right?

CIRCLE
Uh, right! Yes! That'll work (losing confidence)... probably.

Circle focuses and hums. Slowly, she begins to grow. Triangle and Square watch, grinning like idiots. Strangely, though, before Circle is even twice as big as her normal size, she stops growing. She grunts and strains but fails to get any bigger.

SQUARE
Uh, Circle, I think you're going to have to be bigger than that to carry us.

CIRCLE
We're too far from home - my powers are weaker this far away from the mountain.

SQUARE
So, do we just live here now?

TRIANGLE

EXT. NEW ISLAND SHORE - LATE EVENING
Triangle and Square are panicking. They're running around trying to think of solutions.

SQUARE
Ok, ok! We'll make a bridge! How do 76 you make concrete?

TRIANGLE
You should've learned that before
Haha, no way. Circle's definitely got a backup backup, right?

CIRCLE
... We wait for the tide to go out.
TRIANGLE
How long will that be?
CIRCLE

A musical beat, and Triangle's pet turtle slowly walks into frame, wearing a pair of Triangle's underwear a la Risky Business. It's kind of like that scene but... he's just a turtle.

And if I don't get home to tuck my turtle in for the night he'll be devastated!

INT. TRIANGLE'S HOUSE - LATE EVENING
Twelve hours!? But I can't sleep
TRIANGLE SQUARE
АААААННH!!!!
Twelve hours.

Triangle and Square both topple over in dismay.
SQUARE (CONT'D) until I have my chamomile tea!

TRIANGLE
AAAAAHHHH!!!!!
73A/B devastated! we came out here! Classic Square, unprepared, as usual! This whole mess is your fault!

SQUARE
No it's not!

TRIANGLE
(sincere)
Oh, yeah, you're right. It's not
your fault. It must be my fault. Although... I feel like it's not my fault?

CIRCLE
It's nobody's fault! Necessarily...
All we gotta do is rough it for one night, and we'll be back home before you know it.

SQUARE
But I don't know how to rough it.
TRIANGLE
(lying)
I do. But I really don't want to.
CIRCLE
Just leave everything to me.83

SQUARE
Ok. We trust you, Circle.
Off Circle's worried look, cut to:

EXT. ANCIENT RUINS - NIGHT
Circle, Triangle, and Square are tromping through the brush. It's gotten quite dark, and the ambience of the forest has taken on a more threatening tone. Circle flinches hard as some unknown creature hoots nearby.

CIRCLE
(feigning confidence)
So! First thing's first - we should gather some materials for a shelter.

TRIANGLE
Like what?

$$
86
$$

CIRCLE
Um, nothing crazy, just, y'know, sticks and leaves and stuff. The usual.

SQUARE
You do know how to build a shelter, right? You said you do this all the time?

CIRCLE
(lying)

EXT. ANCIENT RUINS - NIGHT
CLOSE ON Circle, Triangle, and Square carefully laying leaves and twigs in a teepee like shape. We truck out to reveal an absolutely bare-bones shelter. As they step back to admire their hard work, it instantly starts pouring rain, collapsing the shelter like a house of cards. Triangle and Square groan miserably.

CIRCLE
I'm going to be straight with you
two - the materials here? Not good for making shelters. Nobody to blame but mother nature.

Circle eyes up a big concave leaf.
CIRCLE (CONT'D)
Oh! But watch this.
She picks up the leaf and holds it out, filling it with rainwater.

CIRCLE (CONT'D)
Who's thirsty?
Circle extends the leaf to Triangle, trying to tip the water into his mouth. The leaf collapses under the weight, soaking Triangle and leaving him sputtering and coughing.

CIRCLE (CONT'D)
Eesh.

INT. ANCIENT RUINS SHELTER - NIGHT
The shapes have taken cover under a slight overhang in the ruins. They huddle together, just barely safe from the rain. Triangle's stomach rumbles.

TRIANGLE
Ugh. Thanks for nothing, Square. I would've eaten like a king if you hadn't stopped me from eating those weird berries we found. What did you say that bush was called?

SQUARE
A poisonberry bush.
TRIANGLE
Pff! See? I - oh, I get it.
CIRCLE
Oh! Wait, I have something!
Circle takes out her lunch pack and pulls out:
CIRCLE (CONT'D)
Our sandwich crusts! I saved them! Circle to the rescue!

TRIANGLE
But those were for my turtle.
Square grabs a few of the crusts and starts to grumpily chew.
TRIANGLE (CONT'D)
Hey! You're eating my turtle's food! He's gonna be hungry!

EXT. TRIANGLE'S HOUSE - NIGHT
A critter party is raging. The blank-eyed creatures of the forest are feasting on a huge party spread. Music is pounding, streamers and confetti litter the room. Turtle is swinging from a lamp with a piece of pizza in its mouth.

INT. ANCIENT RUINS SHELTER - NIGHT
The rain continues to pour. Everyone is soaked and miserable. Square and Triangle continue to bicker.

SQUARE
... Well if YOU hadn't played in the ruins so long, we would have gotten back before the tide came in in the first place!

TRIANGLE

CIRCLE (CONT'D)
The truth is... I guess I'm so used 109 to hovering around that I totally forgot that you two can't. I never even thought about what would happen when the tide came in. I was just thinking about myself. I owe you both an apology. I'm sorry.

TRIANGLE
Wait, you really forgot we can't hover? When I said that earlier I was just joking!

CIRCLE
I know, there's no excuse. I'm the reason we're all stuck here. It's all my fault.

Triangle and Square look stunned. There's a long beat. Thent 2 suddenly, they turn to each other, excited.

TRIANGLE
Wow! It's never your fault!
SQUARE
Yeah, it's always us that mess up!
CIRCLE
If you don't trust me anymore, and you don't want to go on adventures with me from now on, I understand.

TRIANGLE
(scoffs)
What! Of course we trust you!

SQUARE

SQUARE
The bridge!
They step out and begin their walk home.

EXT. ROCKY PATH - MORNING
TRIANGLE
Hey Circle, how good would you say
125 I did at roughing it? I'd give myself a nine but I'm willing to go up to a ten if you think otherwise.

SQUARE

Triangle, you almost ate poisonous berries. And you used stinging nettle as a blanket.

TRIANGLE
(scratching himself)
Uh, actually, it was ITCHING nettle, smart guy. And if you hadn't eaten my share of the crusts, my stomach wouldn't be rumbling.

CIRCLE
Hey, look.

CIRCLE
The three shapes stop and look ahead at the mountain. The fog is lifting and the early morning light makes it look especially beautiful.

SQUARE
Home never looked so good.
CIRCLE
Yeah... you know, in a way, it's really good that I got us stuck out here for a horrible night in those haunted ruins... because it gives us a new appreciation for -

SQUARE TRIANGLE
Nope.

> Nope.

NARRATOR
Nope.
FADE TO BLACK

INT. TRIANGLE'S HOUSE - DAY S22

A bunch of critter party-goers skitter out the back door just * as Triangle steps in through the front.

TRIANGLE
Daddy's home! 132

The turtle pushes a candy bar wrapper under a rug as Triangle * picks them up for a big hug.

