

AROUND

THE

WORLD

Pilot- the Crew vs Mothman

by

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COLD OPEN

EXT. OUTSIDE AROUND THE WORLD STUDIO- 4 AM

ZACH CHAPMAN, 23, freshly dressed in typical sports coat with a newly ironed blue button up underneath, freshly tucked into his pressed dress pants, already wearing a thin layer of foundation, lugging a huge rug up to a fence. On the other side- an unnamed small and seemingly abandoned building.

ZACH lets out a loud grunt as he hurls the rug over the fence, covering the barbed wire, however it slips and rolls back down, forcing him to try again. it stays on his second throw, which prompts him to unbutton his jacket and untuck his blue button up as he prepares to start climbing.

ZACH CHAPMAN (V.O.)
So I might be freaking out a
little bit-

He begins climbing.

ZACH CHAPMAN (V.O.)
Is my judgement in question?
Absolutely not.

He topples over the fence and hurries into the building.

ZACH CHAPMAN (V.O.)
As the host and leader of the
future worlds biggest docu-series-
you have to be early- to make sure
everything's gonna work out- I
wasn't sleeping anyways.

CUT TO:

INT. INSIDE AROUND THE WORLD STUDIO- 4

ZACH sits inside the studio- all the stage lights are on and the set looks ready.

CAMERAMAN (O.C.)
I asked you to introduce yourself.

ZACH CHAPMAN
What? Why would I want waste time-
the shoot starts in only four
hours.

ZACH, after breaking in, looks a little more dirty and battered than before.

ZACH CHAPMAN

(to camera)

Either way- my name is Zach Chapman- creator of the travel show- Around the World! a show where me and my closest friends travel the world solving mysteries and participating in insane real adventures. And I don't know if you've noticed-

B-ROLL - the set, which is tiny and nearly falling apart

ZACH CHAPMAN (CONT'D) (V.O.)

- but we haven't really gotten it yet. I've always wanted to bring travel shows back to my generation, only was able to get one financier who shared that sentiment. And today is pilot day- could make or break my dream. But I'm-

B-ROLL - ZACH turning on set lights- fixing a crooked map on the wall- making it more crooked in the process.

ZACH CHAPMAN (CONT'D) (V.O.)

- determined, I gathered the most interesting people in my life- so how could it fail. It's my job as a leader to be cool as a cucumber, I am not even nervo-

JUMP CUT TO:

CONTINUOUS

ZACH Throwing up in a trash can in the back of the studio.

BACK TO ZACH TALKING HEAD

Behind ZACH- flashlights start shining against the window.

ZACH CHAPMAN (CONT'D)

But not to be dramatic but my entire life is on the line.

His gaze leers off screen as he notices the flashlight- his face turns from excited and anxious to confused and anxious.

ZACH CHAPMAN

What the-

POLICE OFFICER(O.C.)

Hello- police.

A pound is heard on the set door. ZACH's eyes widen in terror. As he turns and approaches the door, camera following.

ZACH CHAPMAN

Hello?

POLICE OFFICER (O.C.)

We got a call for trespassing,
come outside with your hands up.

ZACH is hyperaware of the camera, which toughens him up.

ZACH CHAPMAN

(SHOUTING)

I get the place rented in a few
hours.

POLICE OFFICER (O.C.)

Then just come out and you can
wait till then.

ZACH CHAPMAN

(panicking)

Come back with a warrant.

POLICE OFFICER (O.C.)

um- That only works with your
property.

ZACH's eyes dart to the camera.

ZACH CHAPMAN

Oh shit he's right.

CUT TO:

MAIN TITLES

TITLE: AROUND THE WORLD

TITLE: EPISODE ONE

TITLE: THE CREW VS. THE MOTHMAN

ACT 1EXT. OUTSIDE TYPICAL SUBURBAN HOUSE- MORNING

Outside this frighteningly average house sits a brand new Volkswagen Tiguan. A door flies open as SLOAN, curly haired, tall, wearing a suit jacket and short dress, gets out of the car and stands up confidently. She's on the phone with ZACH as she walks up the driveway.

SLOAN CHAPMAN

(to Zach)

I didn't know when I agreed to do this I was also going to be the chauffeur. I was only supposed to be cast member, no added work, I turned down a job that actually pays for this.

ZACH CHAPMAN

(through phone)

I know. It's not my fault Nole can't drive-

SLOAN CHAPMAN

-he's 20-

As she walks up the driveway she notices a huge and obnoxious 2020 bright red truck.

SLOAN CHAPMAN

(fed up)

-And there's a car in his driveway.

ZACH CHAPMAN

Maybe he's about to get a license. Just trust me- he's as funny and cool as you remember from high school.

SLOAN CHAPMAN

I think we remember him very differently.

She arrives at the door and knocks on it.

ZACH CHAPMAN

He's our conspiracy expert. We need him.

SLOAN CHAPMAN

Okay- okay. I got to go- we'll be on set in about 20.

ZACH CHAPMAN

Roger.

CUT TO:

SLOAN TALKING HEAD

SLOAN CHAPMAN

Hi. I'm Sloan- (hesitates)
Chapman- Zach's sister. and I am super happy to have been invited... It's been a few years since i've heard from ZACH- so when he called for this show- I was super excited (a beat) and a little confused. He told me I was his token girl. Either way- I gave up a job DC to do this.

She can't help but to look concerned- and a little unsure- but she smiles through it.

BACK TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE TYPICAL SUBURBAN HOUSE- CONTINUOUS

A tall and handsome man, with toned arms and a square jaw, opens the door. He smiles at her.

SLOAN CHAPMAN

(impressed)

Oh my god.

MAN

Hey, what can I do for you?

Sloan grows a warm smile and blush, notices the camera then looks down in embarrassment.

MAN

(Chuckles)

You must be from the pilot?

SLOAN CHAPMAN

(giggles)

Yeah

MAN
Great I'll get him.

Her smile dissepates.

SLOAN CHAPMAN
Get him?

MAN
Yeah, I'm just his wife's
boyfriend.

She smiles and nods along, quickly realizing what he said darting a concerned look into the camera. The man doesn't notice- his attention is towards the inside of the house.

MAN
(shouts)
Nole?

He widens the door as NOLE, awkwardly tall, long and curly jet black hair, wears a tie die bandanna, exits the house. He carries with him a bunch of ginormous bags for the two day trip.

NOLE BALANOWITZ
Hey Sloan.

SLOAN CHAPMAN
(Unamused)
Yeah that seems more like it, hey
Nole, nice to see you again.

NOLE BALANOWITZ
You too, ready to get going?

SLOAN
I suppose

Nole turns to the man and kisses him on the cheek.

NOLE BALANOWITZ
Later Brantley.

MAN
See ya!

They turn to walk away. Nole turns one last time

NOLE BALANOWITZ
And thanks again for the Xbox!

MAN
 No problem, have a good time in
 West Virginia!

NOLE BALANOWITZ
 I'll miss you guys

SLOAN
 (under breath)
 Oh my god.

CUT TO BLACK

Adventure music starts to slowly build.

FADE IN: INT. AROUND THE WORLD ROUNDTABLE SET-DAY

As smoke swells around a now completely set up 'Around the World' studio- the aspect ratio and coloring has now changed indicating we are in the perspective of the show. ZACH stands up while NOLE, SLOAN, and SCHMITTY sits down around him. He wears the same suit as before- however he is now all cleaned up. He stares directly into the camera with Jeff Probst like grin and stature. Behind him stands a giant map along with a cork board filled with articles and photo sightings of the mothman.

ZACH CHAPMAN
 Well there you have it. One of the
 most mysterious and elusive
 creatures to ever walk the globe.
 Join me and my friends as we
 embark on the most dangerous
 investigation tv has ever seen.
 We'll start by staying at a bed
 and breakfast where the couple has
 no idea they're about to be on a
 tv show! (Excited) we then get to
 interview one of the best crypto
 zoologists the country has ever
 seen. So be sure to stay tuned
 (pauses)

SCHMITTY, 23, sits closest to Zach- sunglasses on and sitting as low and comfortably as humanly possible. He appears to be visibly hungover as well. He periodically groans softly while Zach is talking. The last one visibly pisses ZACH off.

ZACH CHAPMAN
 (gets over it)
 For one hell of an adventure with
 the crew,

ANDRE
 (Off camera)
 CUT!

Everyone breaks. Zach looks confused, he looks at the man holding the boom, ANDRE, 32, Fit and black with long and protruding hair, wears big glasses and is accompanied by a monotone expression.

ZACH CHAPMAN
 (to Andre)
 Not the director, again you cannot yell cut. But we were done so (pauses) I guess it's okay.

SLOAN CHAPMAN
 (to ZACH)
 What'd you expect with these Craigslist® hires?

ANDRE doesn't react.

ZACH CHAPMAN
 Okay we don't have a second to lose- we have a mothman to catch.

Everyone starts breaking things down and moving things out of set. SLOAN looks at SCHMITTY concerned.

SLOAN
 Wow what'd you do last night?

ZACH walks up.

ZACH CHAPMAN
 Yeah you look terrible. (Turns) hey Gemma?

GEMMA, 19, young and dressed as someone who you would describe as 'quirky' eagerly walks up.

GEMMA
 Yes?

ZACH CHAPMAN
 Can you grab a gatorade from crafty?

GEMMA
 You mean the car?

ZACH's eyes dart into the camera.

ZACH CHAPMAN
 (Visibly irked but soft)
 Yes. The car.

She nods pleasantly and briskly walks off set to get the drink.

NOLE BALANOWITZ
 I have some ideas for catching
 this thing.

SCHMITTY
 Yeah you made that very clear in
 the take, no way you actually
 believe in that stuff, right?

NOLE BALANOWITZ
 Listen all I am saying is that if
 magic is real-

SCHMITTY
 (interrupting, perplexed)
 -MAGIC IS REAL?

SLOAN ignores them, as if she's above this argument.

CUT TO:

SCHMITTY talking head

SCHMITTY
 Okay so I'm a little hungover.
 After our crew dinner last night
 Zach and yours truly went out for
 some drinks. I was with Zach the
 entire time I have no idea why he
 seems so fine.

B-ROLL GEMMA bringing him his Flavorade-

SCHMITTY (V.O.)
 I was doing most of the drinking
 if I'm being completely honest.
 Zach's not a drinker. You know
 what, that explains it, nevermind.

B-ROLL SCHMITTY pulls out a flask and discretely pours into it.

BACK TO:

CONTINUOUS

NOLE BALANOWITZ
Riddle me this, what proof do you
have that it's not real?

SLOAN
(now invested, listing)
Never conclusive evidence,
knowledge of basic evolution,

NOLE BALANOWITZ
(Hisses)
It's too allusive

SLOAN
What about the evolution thing i
said

NOLE BALANOWITZ
(confused)
HUH?

SCHMITTY looks unamused

CUT TO:

SCHMITTY talking head

SCHMITTY
and I am proud to announce that
after a long and annoyingly
grueling trying out process I am
ZACH's only college friend that
made the cut. (pauses) i'm
starting to think Nole didn't try
out at all.

BACK TO:

CONTINUOUS

NOLE BALANOWITZ
(worked up)
How about this, I'll show you him
myself

CUT TO:

SCHMITTY talking head

SCHMITTY
 (mocking)
 He's definitely weird.

Nole behind him is hacky sacking. SCHMITTY motions towards that as a 'See what I mean?' Sloan and Nole are still arguing behind him.

SLOAN CHAPMAN
 (pissed)
 How does that support you
 argument?!!

NOLE BALANOWITZ
 Not everything has to, it's just
 so sick.

SCHMITTY chuckles at his expense.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE AROUND THE WORLD ROUNDTABLE SET-CONTINUOUS

As people shuffle in and out- ZACH stands anxiously on the phone. Someone on the other side is yelling. He turns to see the camera pointed at him and walks out of shot- pissed off. The camera stays rolling and he is still mic-ed.

ZACH CHAPMAN (O.C.)
 I know- once you see how (yelling
 from other line interrupts him) I
 know. I know. I- I know. We're
 over budget a little- but I'll
 have you know- I know- I know-
 (getting annoyed) I know-

CUT TO:

ZACH TALKING HEAD

ZACH CHAPMAN
 I forgot to mention- our one
 financier- me and Sloan's mom.

BACK TO:

ZACH ON PHONE- CONTINUOUS

ZACH CHAPMAN

I know- we'll work on it- I know-
I know- how's the mothman suit
coming along? Okay great. thanks.
love you. bye.

BACK TO:

ZACH TALKING HEAD

ZACH CHAPMAN

Just have to get through this one
episode and when we get picked up-
we'll have a whole new group of
financiers.

EDGAR WRIGHT STYLE TRAVEL MONTAGE WILL GO HERE AT SOME
POINT.

EXT. BED AND BREAKFAST- DAY

ZACH, SCHMITTY, SLOAN and NOLE, accompanied by ANDRE and
REESE, 30s, cameraman, big beard, long dark hair, holding
camera in shooting position, stand at the front door of the
bnb.

ZACH CHAPMAN

(to reese)
Are you guys ready?

REESE

Ye-

ANDRE

(interrupts)
-I am ready.

ZACH CHAPMAN

(to andre)
Talking to him- but okay.

ANDRE looks unphased into the camera.

ZACH CHAPMAN

Either way- we're ready.

ZACH turns towards the cast.

ZACH CHAPMAN

These people looked adorable, be
ready for the coziest inn you've
ever seen.

SCHMITTY
this will be a good home base for
the episode.

ZACH CHAPMAN
right.

ANDRE
Action.

Zach winces at Andre saying action, but continues.

CUT TO:

AROUND THE WORLD CAMERA

Aspect ratio changes- coloring changes- Everyone has show
faces on.

SCHMITTY
We are now here at the bed and
breakfast- where we will be
intervening after our adventures
with the mothma-

NOLE BALANOWITZ
I sense him.

Everyone ignores NOLE.

ZACH CHAPMAN
Alright let's introduce ourselves.

ZACH knocks on the door. after a few seconds KATHY AND
REGGIE BATES, 60s, typical elderly couple, opens the door.
They are balling AGGRESSIVELY. SLOAN gives an uncomfortable
look into the camera.

END OF ACT 1

ACT 2

INT. BNB BEDROOM- DAY

ZACH, SCHMITTY, SLOAN, and NOLE sit the coziest old person room you could imagine. Filled with antiques, quilts and paintings of babies. ZACH paces anxiously, shocker, as SLOAN and NOLE sit on the foot of the bed, SCHMITTY leans against the wall.

ZACH CHAPMAN

What are we going to do?

SLOAN

What do you mean, 'what are we gonna do?'

SCHMITTY

yeah that was awkward but their son just ran away, have a little sympathy.

NOLE BALANOWITZ

(to himself)

I'm jealous.

NOLE is ignored.

ZACH CHAPMAN

What terrible timing. They were supposed to be cute and fun

SLOAN

I'm sorry?

ZACH CHAPMAN

(eurika)

I got it. we fix it.

SCHMITTY

(sarcastic)

Good call.

ZACH CHAPMAN
 (ignoring)
 Yeah how hard could it be?

SCHMITTY
 Are you asking me how hard it
 could be to fill the void of a
 son? hard.

ZACH CHAPMAN
 No, they said he ran away with
 some girl, lets find out where
 they went and go get him back.

Nole is excited and visably totally on board.

ZACH CHAPMAN (CONT'D)
 Where are they?

SCHMITTY
 I think they're talking to Gemma

Zach turns and confusingly glares at SCHMITTY.

ZACH CHAPMAN
 You left her with the P.A.?

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM- CONTINUOUS

The couple cries on the couch while GEMMA looks tortured as she rubs their backs in compassion.

GEMMA
 You guys will be okay.

They abrupt in more crying. The shot widens to reveal SCHMITTY standing on the staircase. He quietly motions to get GEMMA's attention.

SCHMITTY
 (whispering)
 hey.

Her eyes widen with excitment as she sees a way to escape.

GEMMA
 (takes a large breath in)
 You know who would help with this?
 SCHMITTY! he still lives with his
 parents.

With tears obscuring their view, they look up at him.

REGINALD
 well that's good. Maybe you can
 tell us what to do?

GEMMA stands up and motions for SCHMITTY to walk over. he's
 pissed but complies, sparing the couples feelings.

SCHMITTY
 (whispering)
 No. no. please don't do this.

He walks over to her and she sits him down where she was.

GEMMA
 He'll be happy to talk about his
 perspective.

SCHMITTY is unamused. She quickly exits the scene.

GEMMA
 Good luck.

BACK TO:

INT. BNB BEDROOM- CONTINUOUS

GEMMA enters and closes the door quietly behind her. ANDRE
 and REESE now sit on the other side of the bed, on their
 laptops, presumably dropping footage.

ZACH CHAPMAN
 Where's SCHMITTY?

GEMMA
 eh, I tapped out.

SLOAN
 Oh, Well, find anything out?

GEMMA
 Yeah. and it's a doosey.
 Apparantly-

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM-CONTINUOUS

SCHMITTY still ocmforts the elderly couple when GEMMA,
 ZACH, and NOLE, come running down the stairs. Behind them,
 the crew is taking out the cameras.

ZACH CHAPMAN

SCHMITTY!

SCHMITTY

Oh thank god what's happenin-
(catches himself) I mean-

Crying couple looks at him

SCHMITTY

(serious)

What's happening (cracks a smile)

SCHMITTY follows them as they exit through the front door.

ZACH CHAPMAN

You, Gemma and Nole are going to
go get their stupid kid back so
they can be fun and entertaining
again.

SCHMITTY

Aw you're doing a nice thing. even
if your reasons are still slightly
selfish.

ZACH CHAPMAN

Thanks. I guess.

SCHMITTY

What about the episode?

ZACH CHAPMAN

Me and Sloan can do the interview
alone- just be back tonight in
time for the investigation- okay?
I mean how hard could it be?

SCHMITTY

Okay so catch me up- where is he?

ZACH CHAPMAN

Gemma already knows, but basically
he's a crazy conspiracy theorist.

NOLE BALANOWITZ

-Which is why I'm going.

SCHMITTY nods in immediate understanding. behind them, the
crew is loading stuff into the crew van.

ZACH CHAPMAN

And at some weird mothman cult meeting he met some girl and he ran off to live in some trailer park with her.

SCHMITTY, visably confused, continues to nod.

ZACH CHAPMAN

But I looked it up, there's only one in the town that also has mothman ties. just be careful, there are some horror stories about it being a little cultish.

SCHMITTY

so why do I have to go?

ZACH CHAPMAN

In case you have to interact with any normal people.

SCHMITTY nods again in understanding. ZACH puts keys in GEMMA's hands.

SCHMITTY

this seems irrisponsible but if we have to.

ZACH CHAPMAN

Just be cool, best case we get our cool elderly couple back.

GEMMA

Yeah and some weird conspiracy theorist who's 30 and still lives with their parents.

ZACH CHAPMAN

Well we already have Nole- and they don't have to be together forever, just until when we leave.

SCHMITTY

Okay, there's the selfish Zach.

NOLE BALANOWITZ

He better not challenge me. I'll karate chop that mother fucker.

ZACH CHAPMAN

I think you'll be okay.

NOLE looks comforted. SCHMITTY and NOLE exit, leaving GEMMA and ZACH.

ZACH CHAPMAN

Make sure they make it by the investigation.

GEMMA

Eye on the prize. I got it covered. You think you'll be okay without us?

ZACH CHAPMAN

This thing has to be perfect, so we don't really have a choice. (pauses) That being said, how hard could it be? It's just an interview.

INT. CRYPTOZOOLOGIST OFFICE- DAY

DR. JAMES SAYMIEN, expert on MOTHMAN, ZACH, SLOAN, ANDRE and REESE walk in with equipment at hands. ZACH extends his hand.

ZACH CHAPMAN

You're our expert?

DR. SAYMIEN

I believe so, and you're my film crew?

ZACH CHAPMAN

Yes sir. It's a pleasure to meet you. You ready to answer some questions?

DR. SAYMIEN

(above them)

Oh I've done a bunch of these before.

SLOAN

Oh great- so you're already a professional!

DR. SAYMIEN

Yeah. I see you guys have a modest crew. (laughs)

The crew is unamused, but let's out a forced but unenthusiastic laugh. Sloan looks at camera.

DR. SAYMIEN

(continuing)

I figured this was going to be small based on the gramatical errors in your emails but wow.
(cackles)

ZACH appears physically hurt.

ZACH CHAPMAN

(Perplexed)

Why are you being mean to me?

HARD CUT TO:

EXT. TRAILER PARK- DAY

GEMMA, SCHMITTY, and NOLE all walk up to a typical trailer park. The foot traffic around them is with the standard trailer park looking croud, overalls, dip cans, etc.

SCHMITTY confidently strolls up to a trailer park RESIDENT, with Nole and Gemma stragglng behind.

SCHMITTY

Hey, my man?

SCHMITTY pulls out a crumbled and crusted over picture of HUE.

SCHMITTY

Have you seen this kid anywhere?

REDNECK TRASH

(spits dip onto SCHMITTYS shoes)

SCHMITTY nods in acceptance

SCHMITTY

(underwhelmed)

Ground breaking.(turns) Nole how about you take the next one?

They turn to a huddle. SCHMITTY cracks open a Coke can and pours flask immediately into it. GEMMA eyes widen as she spots a man walking to a trailer, he is seemingly unaware of SCHMITTY, NOLE, and GEMMA.

GEMMA

Wait he looks just like him.

the picture of HUE looks comically more normal than the man they see. the man they see looked like he turned his crazy dial all the way up. he's wearing overalls and a tooth is missing.

NOLE BALANOWITZ

Jesus

SCHMITTY holds up the photo for comparison, he still doesn't look sold.

SCHMITTY

Wow Yeah I guess thats him. what happened?

NOLE BALANOWITZ

He looks like he looked up a picture of a trailer park man and just did that.

SCHMITTY

(shrugs)

Yeah

SCHMITTY starts approaching him.

SCHMITTY

(yells)

Hey Hue!

He looks- he turns pale as he pretends to ignore him. he picks up the pace.

SCHMITTY

HEY!

He speeds up until they end up in a small footchase. NOLE is visibally entertained- so he runs after too and joins the race. Once SCHMITTY gets close enough he decides to jump for him, missing entirely and hitting the floor with no grace. The new SCHMITTY body on the floor trips NOLE, adding to the number of ungraceful falls.

GEMMA

(shouting)

We're here to hear about your Mothman research.

He stops and turns. GEMMA walks up to him while victoriously smiling at SCHMITTY.

HUE

You... do?

GEMMA

Yes we're here on behalf of the Around the World film crew and we want to talk about possibly interviewing you. Sorry about my associates, can we talk privately for a minute?

INT. CRYPTOZOOLOGIST OFFICE-DAY

DR. SAYMIAN sits at his desk- the aspect ratio and coloring is different- again indicating we are in the 'Around the World' show perspective. ZACH sits across from him- eagerly listening. Cryptic music is playing softly in the background, it's super on the nose but your typical travel show stuff.

ZACH CHAPMAN

So what have been some personal experiences you've had with the mothman?

DR. SAYMIAN condescendingly laughs. ZACH looks like he's bottling up anger but keeps smiling.

DR. SAYMIEN

Sorry fro laughing, how unprofessional, it's just you actually think that's a creative question, which is funny.

ZACH'S fake smile looks beaten.

DR. SAYMIEN

I tease- I'm sure you didn't have a ton of time to come up with these quesitons.

ZACH looks down.

DR. SAYMIEN

I have seen the beast a few times- the reason I chose this profession was because I wanted to prove to the world what I knew I saw- the bright red eyes- the long black wings.

ZACH CHAPMAN

Oh- okay but you haven't proved anything yet.

LOOOOOnnnng awkward silence as DR stares unamused at ZACH. Music has seemingly dissipated. DR. SAYMIEN looks pissed.

DR. SAYMIEN
Fuck. you.

ZACH grows an extremely perplexed look. DR. SAYMIEN rips off his LAV.

DR. SAYMIEN
I'm leaving. this shit is
bullshit. this show is bullshit.

ZACH CHAPMAN
Wait wait, I'm sorry if you could
just answe-

DR. SAYMIEN
(points aggressively)
You can go fuck yourself you
little shit.

ZACH looks frantically off camera.

ZACH CHAPMAN
What's happening? what's
happening? (pauses) You were the
one being mean. you.

DR. SAYMIEN
You're shit. this show is dumb.
And stupid.

ZACH CHAPMAN
(pissed)
Oh and looking for a half man half
moth is so genius- congradulations
doctor- you've wasted your entire-

DR lunges at ZACH.

ZACH CHAPMAN
aAAGH

INT. HUE'S TRAILER- SUNSET

GEMMA sits alone, visibally agitated. She continues to check her watch. NOLE's super invested in a conversation with HUE while SCHMITTY is super invested in a conversation with a girl JUNE, presumably the girl that HUE is dating. GEMMA is just observing.

NOLE BALANOWITZ
And that's why you left!

HUE
Exaclty- Chemtrails are real- and
when I finally connected it to
mothman- it all finally made
sense, and I had to go somewhere
safe.

NOLE BALANOWITZ
Wow- that's so smart.

HUE
Thanks. it's just the best
decision.

NOLE BALANOWITZ
You look like you fit in really
well. You even lost a tooth
already.

HUE shows off his missing tooth- its actually just colored
black with sharpie.

HUE
Oh no- it's there- just colored it
to fit in- all I did was look up
trailer park guy and did that.

NOLE BALANOWITZ
Ohhh I said you did that!

Gemma nudges him.

GEMMA
Hey- it's getting kind of late, we
should leave now so we can make it
before dark.

NOLE BALANOWITZ
Oh my god- Gemma- you're
smothering me!

NOLE and HUE laugh obnoxiously.

NOLE BALANOWITZ
we'll be done soon.

GEMMA
WE HAVE A SHOOT NOLE- UGH

She gives up and moves on to SCHMITTY.

NOLE BALANOWITZ
Sorry about that.

HUE
No it's alright- before I met JUNE
(motions over to SCHMITTY and
JUNE) I was rushing all the time
too- but she truly understood who
I was. She has helped me with
mothman, now I can hunt him 24/7.

NOLE BALANOWITZ
(genuine)
That. is. so. Healthy.

GEMMA arrives at SCHMITTY and JUNE'S conversation.

GEMMA
Hey we have to leave. now.

SCHMITTY
(fake intrigue)
We will- June here is actually
saying some really interesting
things.

CUT TO:

GEMMA TALKING HEAD

The conversations continue obliviously behind her.

GEMMA
(anxious)
Okay so I finally get a job and
I'm about to be fired. its. fine.
I'm fine. (visibly not fine) I
just see exactly what's happening.
SCHMITTY (motions to him) is
flirting. I've seen him do it to
like every girl- (a beat) well
most girls (looking down) but
point is this might take a while.
He's not going anywhere. and NOLE-
he seems to be doing the same
thing- I might be in serious-

While she's talking NOLE and HUE get up and walk to exit
the trailer.

GEMMA
(to Nole)
Where do you think you're going?

NOLE BALANOWITZ
He's showing me which of the stars
are government drones and which
ones are missiles ready to deploy.

He turns to HUE.

NOLE BALANOWITZ
So wait, are any of them real?

HUE
You have so much to learn.

GEMMA
(Losing patience)
Do not indulge him. We have to go.
you cannot-

NOLE BALANOWITZ
-I'll be right back.

GEMMA
uGHHHHHHH

Her phone starts vibrating.

GEMMA
Shit. It's ZACH.

She picks it up. NOLE exits.

GEMMA
(stalling)
Heyyyy- how'd the interview go.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE WOODS- SUNSET

ZACH stands up tall in the foreground whilst the crew is
setting up in the background.

ZACH CHAPMAN
fine (pauses) actually terrible,
but we should have enough for one
interview- please tell me
everything's going okay on your
end.

BACK TO:

CONTINUOUS

GEMMA

Uhhh

She looks back at SCHMITTY and JUNE.

GEMMA

We might be in a little trouble.

ZACH CHAPMAN (O.S.)

What.?

GEMMA

Well NOLE hit it off with the crazy one- and you know how SCHMITTY is around wome-

ZACH CHAPMAN (O.S.)

Gemma. They have to get here.
Gemma. Do not fuck this up- Oh my god you're gonna fuck this up.
We've already been fucked every step of the way- GEMMA.

GEMMA

I'm working on it- and they aren't listening to me! it's going to be a wh-

Behind her- SCHMITTY and JUNE walk into the bedroom and the door closes.

GEMMA

-Actually on the other hand we might be wrapped up here in a few seconds.

ZACH CHAPMAN

Just try and get here when you can- our financier called and we lost our mothman costume.

GEMMA

Oh noooo- what are we going to do?

ZACH CHAPMAN

Looks like our hunt just became real- which means this thing better exist- just get here when you can. I don't think I can take another thing going wrong.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE WOODS- CONTINUOUS

ZACH hangs up the phone. SLOAN walks up.

SLOAN CHAPMAN

And?

ZACH CHAPMAN

We're screwed.

SLOAN CHAPMAN

We'll be fine we can just claim
they got sick.

Zach is about to respond but stops as his phone starts ringing.

ZACH CHAPMAN

And now Ralph is calling me oh my
god.

SLOAN CHAPMAN

Ralph? why?

ZACH shrugs and picks up.

ZACH CHAPMAN

(to Ralph)
Somebody better be dead.

CUT TO:

INT. MODERN OFFICE- DAY

RALPH CASPIAN, is short and african american, pretentious, wears glasses a few sizes too big, stands on the phone- in the background sits his typewriter.

RALPH

(slightly offended)
Excuse you, wanna try that again?

ZACH CHAPMAN (O.S.)

Not in the mood- what do you need?

RALPH

I have some rewrites-

ZACH CHAPMAN (O.S.)

Rewrites?! How about you write one
single reason why I need a head
writer on docuseries.

RALPH

(calm)

Okay, I see you're upset. I understand your feelings, they are justified. I accept you anyways.

ZACH CHAPMAN (O.S.)

I understand what you're doing, but it is helping a little. what were your changes?

RALPH

There's a mothman statue in the middle of town- be sure to visit it- Ill fax what to say to your bed and breakfasts printer if they have fax- if not you might have to go to the point pleasant library.

BACK TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE WOODS-CONTINUOUS

It is now dark.

ZACH CHAPMAN (O.S.)

God you're so weird. How about you email it to me like a normal person oh my god.

ZACH hangs up. He stands in silence for a few moments. He leans up against his car and falls to a sit. He buries his head in his hands. SLOAN comes up and sits next to him.

SLOAN CHAPMAN

You okay?

ZACH CHAPMAN

(head atill buried)

What a disaster.

SLOAN CHAPMAN

If it means anything- you've held it surprisingly together up until this point.

ZACH CHAPMAN

uhhhhhhhhhhhh

SLOAN CHAPMAN

Everything will be okay.

ZACH CHAPMAN

Let's run through it- shall we?
 first- our cute couple turned out
 to be depressed lunatics who can't
 let their grown son make his own
 decisions- second- half of our
 cast is off who knows where and
 who knows when they'll get back-
 third- our interviewee tried to
 kill me- (getting himself riled
 up) fourth- we lost our mothman
 costume- Fifth- we have rewrites
 on our last night of shooting.

SLOAN CHAPMAN

I think you'll be okay. you're
 trying too hard.

ZACH CHAPMAN

That's not my fault.

SLOAN CHAPMAN

I know. it's who you are. And it's
 also what made you a great leader
 this whole time.

He lets out a slight smile.

ZACH CHAPMAN

Thanks. sorry for making you do
 this.

SLOAN CHAPMAN

Make me? I got to see you almost
 be strangled by an elderly man.
 That was worth it alone.

ZACH smiles.

SLOAN CHAPMAN

And I wouldn't be here if I didn't
 believe in this pilot. This can be
 great. A travel show for the new
 generation. I've always loved it.

ZACH CHAPMAN

You have?

She nods- they hug.

ZACH CHAPMAN

Thanks.

SLOAN CHAPMAN
Yes now how about we-

ZACH's phone starts ringing again. He looks at his phone and lights up.

ZACH CHAPMAN
It's Nole?

SLOAN CHAPMAN
Answer it!

ZACH stops to be sarcastic.

ZACH CHAPMAN
(sarcastic)
Oh, really? because I thought I cou-

SLOAN CHAPMAN
Zach.

ZACH CHAPMAN
I know. I know.- sorry.

He picks it up.

NOLE BALANOWITZ (O.S.)
Zach you gotta bring the entire crew here now.

ZACH CHAPMAN
What? why?

NOLE BALANOWITZ (O.S.)
HUE brought me to this cave- told me it lives here. There are footprints here and everything.

ZACH CHAPMAN
(excited)
No way.

NOLE BALANOWITZ
I'll send you my location.

ZACH CHAPMAN
Okay- roger.

He hangs up, he's the most excited we've seen him. He stands and yells to ANDRE and REESE.

ZACH CHAPMAN
How long to pack everything up? we
have a new deal up north.

REESE
We have like three things-

ANDRE
Yeah we could go now.

ZACH CHAPMAN
Amazing.

SLOAN gets excited too.

SLOAN CHAPMAN
What's happening?

Music starts to build.

ZACH CHAPMAN
We're going to hunt the mothman.

HARD CUT TO:

INT. HUE'S TRAILER- NIGHT

MUSIC FADES. GEMMA waits outside the bedroom door SCHMITTY
walked into, tapping her foot. The door opens and SCHMITTY
walks out pridefully. she quickly grabs his hand and starts
dragging him.

SCHMITTY
Whoa. What are you doing?

GEMMA
Are you the dumbest person that's
ever lived?

SCHMITTY
Why? what? Did someone say
something?

GEMMA
Dude- we're trying to get that guy
to come back with us. and you
slept with his love.

SCHMITTY
Oh come on-

GEMMA

And Nole's going to be pissed at you too, that's like his new best friend.

SCHMITTY

I know. What should I do?

They exit the trailer.

GEMMA

This is your problem- you're lucky they moved the investigation so you can still make it, or else you'd have to deal with me too.

SCHMITTY

(under breathe)

This is not dealing with you?

She takes a deep breathe then stops.

GEMMA

(calmed)

okay, you should honest about what happened.

SCHMITTY is now actively listening.

GEMMA

Because everyone is going to be mad, but they'll be madder if you lie about it.

SCHMITTY

Okay.

GEMMA

Again. Your choice- but you know what you have to do. Let's just get to the investigation

SCHMITTY

You're being very helpful today.

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT 2

ACT 3

Mysterious adventure music slowly fades in.

ZACH CHAPMAN (V.O.)

Well- after all the research we've done- we are now here ourselves to see if we can find the infamous mothman.

FADE IN:

EXT. WOODS- NIGHT

Aspect ratio is tight- coloring is in 'ATW' style. The Crew stands outside a cave.

NOLE BALANOWITZ

I'm here with local Hue Bates, who will direct us through the mothmans alleged cave we're currently standing in front of.

Hue nods along.

HUE

Happy to do it for friends.

ZACH CHAPMAN

We will now begin.

Pauses for a few moments.

ZACH CHAPMAN

Also, happy to hear you came to your senses about your parents.

NOLE and SCHMITTY wince.

HUE

(confused and mad)

How did you know about my parents?

ZACH CHAPMAN

What?

SCHMITTY

We didn't get around to telling him yet.

ZACH CHAPMAN
 Jesus I don't have time to deal
 with that right now.

SCHMITTY
 We made a mistake (Looks at NOLE)
 which people do sometimes- much
 like the mothman himself- nobody
 is really to blame.

ZACH CHAPMAN
 I don't know what you're doing,
 either way let's just go.

They enter the mouth of the cave.

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. CAVE- NIGHT

ZACH CHAPMAN
 Okay so we've been walking down
 the cave for about an hour now-
 getting ready to head out. The
 Mothman continues his mysterious
 legacy.

The cast lights their way through the cave with
 flashlights- the exit is no longer seen.

SLOAN CHAPMAN
 (slightly nervous)
 So Hue, how did you find this
 cave?

He remains silent- ignoring her question entirely.

SLOAN CHAPMAN
 Ooookie- dokie.

SCHMITTY
 I think we upset him.

NOLE BALANOWITZ
 You think?

HUE whispers in NOLE's ear.

NOLE BALANOWITZ
 (agreeing)
 Hah- honestly

He leans back in and starts whispering again.

SCHMITTY

If we did something wrong we apologize but I'd hope you keep an open mind in case something else comes up maybe later or something.

ZACH CHAPMAN

Okay. I don't know what the hell you guys are talking about can we focus on-

GIANT SCREECH IS HEARD DOWN THE NECK OF THE CAVE.

Completely interrupts ZACH. Everyone jumps and startles, except SCHMITTY and HUE.

ZACH CHAPMAN

(screams)
Holy shit.

SLOAN

What do we do?

ANDRE

you would be bad investigators if you didn't investigate it.

ANDRE is expressionless off camera.

ZACH CHAPMAN

(to camera)
We have heard something down the neck of the cave. We came to hunt and hunt we will do- follow us as we go deeper.

A few moments pass.

SCHMITTY

(to camera)
I think it was most likely the mothman-

As he's talking- two giant red eyes appear from the dark. everyone is trying to tell him but he isn't listening.

SCHMITTY

-made a mistake, which we all do, it's-

It lunges forwards as SCHMITTY lets out the girliest highest pitch scream ever produced.

NOLE BALANOWITZ

Did you hear that thing screech?

SCHMITTY
yeah. crazy.

Everyone huddles together.

ZACH CHAPMAN
(shaking in fear)
Okay it appears this thing has
surrounded us. Which I do not vibe
with. I didn't think we were going
to get this far.

SCHMITTY
Nole, Hue I slept with JUNE but i
think we shou-

HUE
(anger)
What?

SCHMITTY
But listen man, you seem like a
great guy and you could have
anyone you want, you shouldn't be
with someone who sleeps with
random strangers after just
meeting.

HUE is speechless.

ZACH CHAPMAN
Do we have to do this now?

SCHMITTY
Hey you already settled your
thing.

ZACH shrugs in aggreance.

SCHMITTY
You don't have to be with your
parents forever, just don't be in
too much of a hurry to leave or
you'll end up somewhere way worse.

HUE continues to not speak as teh Mothman screeches again.

SLOAN CHAPMAN
(to ZACH)
Ignoring them- now what do we do?

He waits for a beat while everyone stops to look at him.

ZACH CHAPMAN
 Okay let's get the hell out of
 here.

HARD CUT TO:

INT. CAVE-NIGHT

Everyone is running comically frantic.

HARD CUT TO:

EXT. CAVE-NIGHT

ZACH stands heroically outside the cave, completely
 ignoring how terrified he just was.

ZACH CHAPMAN
 Well there you have it. After a
 lifetime of secrecy the crew
 found- and almost took down the
 Mothman.

ANDRE shakes his head at camera. SCHMITTY, NOLE, and HUE
 are off camera somewhere.

ZACH CHAPMAN
 And while we gave it a challenge,
 we couldn't pull it off this time.

ZACH CHAPMAN
 Either way- I hope you enjoyed
 this dive into the belly of the
 beast- we'll see you next time-
 remember- keep exploring.

ANDRE
 cut!

Focus pulls to SCHMITTY, HUE and NOLE who are off in the
 distance, the crew becomes background as you hear only
 murmurs.

ZACH CHAPMAN
 (in the distance)
 I cannot stress enough what little
 power you have- you cannot yell
 cut.

SCHMITTY

(to Hue)

I'm sorry- you're really cool and I thought if you should know it should be from me.

HUE

Hey- i've had some time while we were running to think about it and- while I can't forgive you- thanks for telling me.

NOLE BALANOWITZ

You are such a bastard.

HUE

No, this is on JUNE, you were just trying to (gets excited) SEIZE THE CHEESE.

SCHMITTY

Weird turn. easy.

HUE

(coughs)

Sorry. No. It's fine, and you guys are right. I decided I'm going to move back in with parents.

NOLE BALANOWITZ

I'm proud of you.

HUE

And you guys know if you are ever in a situation you can always call me.

SCHMITTY

Of course.

SCHMITTY shakes his head subtly in the camera.

HUE

Alright I'm going to head back and grab my stuff- it was nice meeting you SCHMITTY.

He turns to NOLE- they embrace in an awkwardly long hug while SCHMITTY just stares into the camera.

SCHMITTY (V.O.)

Nole's alright.

CUT TO:

SCHMITTY TALKING HEAD IN WOODS

SCHMITTY

He's definitely weird. But I don't know. He was nice to have around today. (Thinking about GEMMA) wait shit where's Gemma, I have to thank her?

He turns and starts to frantically look around the crew.

ZACH CHAPMAN (V.O.)

So last minute our financier called back.

CUT TO:

ZACH TALKING HEAD, FAR AWAY FROM EVERYONE.

ZACH CHAPMAN

She let us know that our costume had, in fact, arrived.

shot widens to reveal GEMMA in mothman costume holding the mask, which is equipped with two big red lights. GEMMA presses a button- it screeches.

GEMMA

That was weirdly easy.

ZACH CHAPMAN

Thanks to SLOAN I was calm enough to make the plan, and it went pretty well. (to Gemma) You agree?

GEMMA nods.

ZACH CHAPMAN

And if we get picked up or not- we're making a second episode- I already have everything set up!

GEMMA

and we had too much fun to stop.

ZACH CHAPMAN

so (to camera) see you next time when we go (pauses) stormchasing.

a beat.

GEMMA

wait, what?

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT 3

CREDITS

EXT. MOTHMAN STATUE- DAY

ZACH, SLOAN, NOLE and SCHMITTY stand around the back of the statue. You can clearly see the defined ass crack that is on the real one in Point Pleasant.

SCHMITTY
(clearly acting)
Wow Zach, what is this?

ZACH CHAPMAN
(clearly acting)
I'm glad you asked, SCHMITTY, this statue is of very historical importance to the town of Point Pleasant West Virginia and the identity of the mothman.

NOLE BALANOWITZ
(clearly acting)
Tell me Zach, did they include the ass on the statue on purpose?

ZACH CHAPMAN
(breaks)
This is stupid (starts walking off camera) I am done with this. let's f*****g go home.