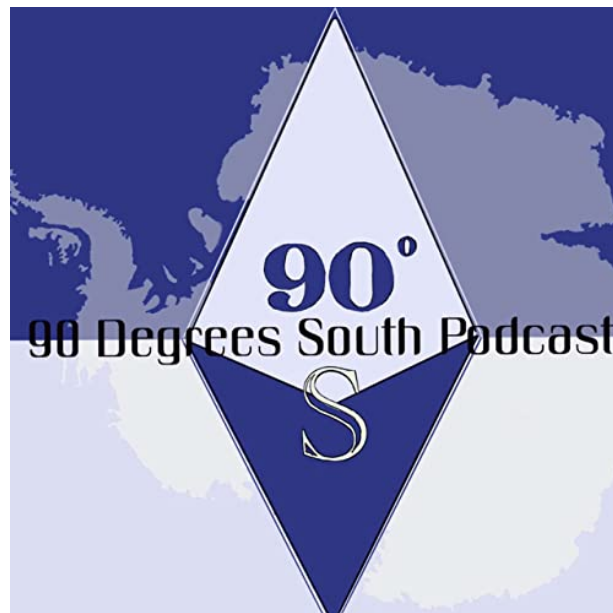


# 90 Degrees South

SEASON THREE

EPISODE THREE: Mikhail  
Ilyanovich Pitor Kubusheskie

DRAFT 1: SEP 15, 2023



by  
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**BMB Productions LLC**

**MUSIC INTRO**

**ACT I**

**WE HEAR THE STANDARD LUNCHTIME CHATTER OF PEOPLE IN THE GALLEY. GENERAL CONVERSATIONS, FOOD TRAYS AND FLATWARE, THE END OF THE LUNCHTIME RUSH. THIS GOES ON FOR 10-15 SECONDS UNTIL THE SQUEEKY WHEELS OF MIKHAIL'S JANITOR CART BREAK THE MONOTONOUS SOUNDS.**

MIKHAIL

[FADE IN, SINGING TO HIMSELF]

*Well, we're movin' on up (movin on up)  
To east side! (movin on up)  
To de-luxe apartment in the ski-aye-aye.*

**STOPS SINGING**

Stho? Stho E-tow?

**SOUND OF RECORDER PICKED UP FROM TABLE**

MIKHAIL

Tovarich leaves voice recorder box behind again?  
Must be a Thursday! Okay, I finds and brings  
back. Meh! Won't be last times.

**CART ROLLING ACROSS THE TILE FLOOR OF THE GALLEY**

LUNCH LADY ALICE

Ooh hey there Mikhail, I didn't see ya behind the  
bubbler. Any chance I can get ya to stop on in  
the kitchen here later? I got a *nasty* tomato  
paste stain I just can't get rid of. I purty-much  
managed to ope' it up good don't-cha-know.

MIKHAIL

Do not worries! I can do right nows! Happy to  
help keeping kitchen clean as whistles. Besides,  
only right that helpers. . .help out helpers!

**CART ROLLING INTO BACK KITCHEN AREA**

LLA

Oh, now you stop with all that there mister! I  
ain't doing nothing so special.

MIKHAIL

Ehhhhhh, Mikhail is in Galley more than any other place in all of stations. Smarty-pants seem to always get most messy here. While I am cleaning. . . .I hear things. I hear advice being given. Good eh. . .good ear for listening and helping the smarty-pants with their problems. Just like woman I told you about first-time years ago. Alice from Mel's Diner show.

**MIKHAIL BEGINS TO MOP THE PROBLEM SPOT**

LLA

Oooo, now which one is that again? Was she the maid for the 60's couple with six kids?  
[Confused] I don't know why they needed a maid when that mom was staying at home all the time!

MIKHAIL

Neyt, that was the Brady's Family show. Bleck! Snicking sweet show where everything is love and people not fighting. Mikhail did not care for that American sitcom. [Faux spit] Pa-tooo! Eh, there was an Alice in that show too, but horrible example of custodian. Neyt, I speak of Alice! You know. . .stow it ding-batty! Kissin my grits! [chuckle] Oh flo! Mel always going to find out you moonlighting!

LLA

[TRYING TO REMEMBER]

I sorta recall it. We didn't have too good TV reception. On the U.H.F. we used to get channel 6 pretty darn good from Sioux Falls; but none of the other three stations were too clear. We only got really great reception when we went on vacations in the Black hills, ohh we loved like Bear country USA so much. Remind me again about Alice?

MIKHAIL

Alice was a singer-person. She was moving to Cal-i-forn-aye-a like show business do. On ways there. . .ott-oh-Speghetti-os. . car breaks down. She has her son with hers and can't afford repairs. So. . .she takes works as waitress in cranky Vic Tayback restaurant. She listens to

problems of peoples who come to eat the diner food, or of other waitresses. She loved to be a mom to all the peoples! That why I call you . . . Alice when you first get here! Mikhail. . .meh, didn't know it would stick.

LLA

I know I'm ah-spose to be more thankful for what my parents named me. . .but I do have to admit I like being called Alice more than Bernice. Thinking of changing all my monograms to say Alice Jacobson to boot!

**FLOOR SCRUBBING STOPS**

MIKHAIL

There you go! Clean as whistles. Floor is back to sparkling, and I am now off to make my rounds. Station does not keep itself clean. . .plus. . .I am getting closer to catching who is poop bandit!

LLA

[CONFUSED / MILDLY GROSSED OUT]

Eww, well now that's different! You go on and do what ya need to do there. I don't even want to think about tonight's hotdish for a while after hearing all about that now.

**WE HEAR THE BUSY GALLEY HUSSLE AND BUSSLE MIXED IN WITH MIKHAIL'S SQUEEKY CART.**

**ACT II**

**RANDO**

What's up Mikhail?

MIKHAIL

Hello there Agent 89. All is good in this hood! [Chuckle] He. . .he always use shoe as phone. Is funny man.

**OUR JANITOR HEADS DOWN THE HALLWAY AND INTO THE A.R.O. SECTION OF THE SCIENCE LAB. THE DOOR OPENS AND WE'RE GETTING THE END OF A JOKE FROM CHIEF METROLOGIST TOPPER HUNT.**

TOPPER

[SMILING WEATHER MAN DELIVERY]

. . .and so finally, I dropped the towel and said, 'Doppler? I hardly know her!'

**A FEW POLITE AWKARD LAUGHS AND MOANS**

TOPPER

Okay gang, why don't you catch the easterly prevailing wind and hit the lunch buffet early! Turn those feeding urges into . . .storm surges!

**CHAIRS PUSH IN AND A SURLEY GROUP HEADS OUT THE DOOR.**

MIKHAIL

Privet Weather pants man. How are they hanging this day?

TOPPER

[SIGH] Mikhail, my hailstones are suffering from an inversion. I'm talking a really low depression here guy. I just can't seem to connect with this new batch of grad students. I'm in a real drought with no signs of cooling.

**SOUNDS OF EMPTYING TRASH CANS AND WIPING DOWN SURFACES**

MIKHAIL

[Trying to be supportive]

Ah! I think I understands. You are trying to "put the moves on them" and get your disco boogie on, yeah?

TOPPER

Would have put it a little more modern. More 'Green screen' and less "Cutouts and chalkboard'. . .but yes. I'm striking out; am suffering a Stratopause. Just can get enough pressure to get a rise in their barometers.

MIKHAIL

Meh, everybody gets older eventually. The . . .the young ones get younger and soon we are more like De-dus to them. Also, may help to just be you and not on prowl like Ralph Furley!

TOPPER

He another meteorologist? From a rival station?

MIKHAIL

Neyt, neyt, neyt. He was Landlord neighbor to Jack, Chrissy, and Janet on Mr. Furley's Fun Time show!

[THREE BEAT]

TOPPER

Do you mean Three's Company? Excellent show by the way! Would Air right before the five O'clock news back home.

MIKHAIL

Stho? Oh . . .Izvini! I forget they change name when it comes to my village in Vanavara. Oh, how we Russians loved Mister Furley. Don Knots is very famous where I come from.

TOPPER

In the states too. He played the Nervous weatherman on the Steve Allen show. I loved his work!

MIKHAIL

In Furley's Fun time show, he would be in a position where he too was trying hard to be accepted. He was older man, watching the young ones like Jack and upstairs-Larry chasing the ladies but never being successful. He would go to regale beagle pub-bar place, to the restaurant jack opened to try and pick up the young ladies. Even Lana, poor woman only in one season turn him down.

TOPPER

I do have to admit, the probability forecast on Mister Furley's success rate; was pretty low.

MIKHAIL

But at core of his person, he was good guy. He just trying too hard to be somebody, he was no.

If he had just let. . .true self shine through,  
this good man would be so more successful.

TOPPER

[LET GUARD DOWN / NO WEATHERMAN TALK]  
So, I. . .just be . . .me. Just. . .Topher  
Huntington? Regular guy. Meteorology is . .  
.would just be the job . . .the career I chose?  
Not a lifestyle?

MIKHAIL

Now you're getting it!

TOPPER

No more. . .euphemisms? No late-night surface  
inversions with new coeds? I wouldn't get any  
Southern oscillation after two for one drink  
night specials?

MIKHAIL

Just like when Latka taxi man stopped being Vic  
Ferrari!

TOPPER

[BACK TO WEATHERMAN TALK]  
GREAT WILLIARD SCOTT! I didn't even think about  
Vic Ferrari. It's not about being myself.

MIKHAIL

[CONFUSED, WORRIED]  
Stho? Neyt Smarty-Pants weatherman, Mikhail did  
no mean. . .

TOPPER

It's not about being me, it's about that  
confidence level in who I want to be, should be.

MIKHAIL

Osi ya Moi! Net Neyt Neyt!

TOPPER

To have this low become a swirling vortex of  
extremely hazardous moisture potential. . .in  
their lingerie, I should become. . .Al, Timiter,  
Storm chaser!

**SQUEAKING OF CART SOUNDS AGAIN AS MAKHAIL IS FINISH  
CLEANING IN THE SCIENCE LAB AND HEADS OUT.**

MIKHAIL

Great, Now Mikhail creates multiple personalities  
weather-smarty pants. MEH! Not every show has  
perfect spin-off. Mr. Roper and wife retirement  
living old couples show. . .horrible.

**DOOR CLOSSES; WHISTLES THE SAD MUSIC AT THE END OF THE  
INCREDIBLE HULK.**

**PA CHIME OPEN**

CHERYL LYNN

[OVER P.A.]

Doctor Van Zandt, please contact operations.  
Gustav honey: need you to call up here all. .  
.Mach Schnell. S'il te plaît ? . . .Wait, I think  
that last one was French! Oh sugar-snaps! I  
useta could tell them apart.

**PA CHIME CLOSE**

**ACT III**

**MORE CART SQUEAKING DOWN THE HALL. WE HEAR THE DOOR OPEN  
AND MULTIPLE SOUNDS OF KEYBOARD BEING USED. MORE CART  
SQUEEKS AND WE HEAR THE SOUND OF AN SECURITY BADGE BEEP. A  
DOOR OPENS INTO THE IT DATA CENTER ROOM.**

MIKHAIL

Hello Smarty comp-u-pants. I am heres to collect  
your garbage and cleans the. . .eh. . .what you  
and other computer man calls IT room again? The  
Hall of Justice?

IT CHRIS

[SAD]

Hi Mikhail. Come on in. Sorry about the smell.  
Having. . .[SIGH] it's been a rough week.

MIKHAIL

[CONFUSED]

What happened? I thought eh. . .you were doing  
better after station winds die down? Tovarich



says you were not going to leave, but decide to stay on ice. You have changing of mind?

IT CHRIS

No. no. . .it's not that. I mean, yes, I am doing better than after. . .after Emery . . .left us. I do want to stay on the ice because I honestly believe this is where I belong. This is where I've made a life for. . .well just for me now. . .I guess. It's . . .Greif isn't something that really goes away Mikhail. Doctor Bremmer said it's always there, but over time we get better dealing with it and incorporating it into our daily lives. But some days, some weeks. . .like this one. . .are harder than most.

MIKHAIL

Please, *Pozhaluysta!* I eh, I may not be sneaky feelings-doctor man like growing pains-dad; but . . .eh, I have been known to hands out the advice like skittle Halloween candy. Come, taste the rainbow I will provide.

IT CHRIS

That is wrong on so many levels. . .but, don't think you're using it in a bad way so. . . .[DEEP BREATH, BARLEY HOLDING IT TOGETHER] Today would have been Emery's 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday. The big four-oh! I've been locking myself up in here the past few days. Didn't. . .couldn't really deal with people, not right now.

I know I made a lot of progress, but. . .well. . .I didn't have the heart. I couldn't. . .I couldn't tell my Nana that Emery was. . .wasn't here anymore. Nana loves him. . .loved him, so much. She sent him the box over there and knitted him a brand-new Ewok sweater, hat and mittens for his big day.

MIKHAIL

Eh. . .apologies comp-u-pants. What is. . .this E-waks?

IT CHRIS

E-woks. Woks. Like the Asian cooling pan!

Puh\*rash\*kee

MIKHAIL

On neyt! Lunch lady does no let me cook on  
stovetop ovens anymore after the uh. .the  
pirozski incident. [embarrassed chuckle] You  
would think they'd put warning on brandy bottles  
that it catches fire! So, these e-Wops are Asian  
chefs? I do not understands. Why does your buba  
make the warm clothes like them for pan-flute  
mans?

IT CHRIS

What? No, no they were these little bear looking  
creatures from Star Wars, Return of the Jedi.  
Helped defeat the evil empire.

MIKHAIL

Comp-u-pants. I am Russian. I know a thing abouts  
bears. About Ronald Regan defense programs and  
evil empires. . .but I never hear of any little  
bears that can CRUSH and destroys powerful  
military-industrial complex. Neyt! English  
talking is confusing me.

IT CHRIS

It's . . .never mind, it didn't honestly make  
sense to us either. [SNIF] honestly . . .it  
probably wouldn't hurt to have this place cleaned  
a bit. Maybe aired out too.

MIKHAIL

Meh! Mikhail has many brothers, live together in  
small room. I know bad smells. . this [DEEP  
INHALE] this is while I bring pine fresh scent to  
help deodorize surfaces and wipes out odor  
causing bacteria!

### **CLEANING SOUNDS START**

IT CHRIS

Go ahead Mikhail. I could use the company really.

MIKHAIL

It's okay comp-u-pants, after grief and loss,  
people can use help from friends. Help you to  
adjust to new life. [PAUSE; FIGER SNAP] Like  
Olsen twins tall TV-dad show!

IT CHRIS

[SIGH] Yeah, if it's not sci-fi or fantasy Related, Em and I didn't really watch much.

MIKHAIL

Is okay. . .ehhhh, Mikhail will tell you about show while I clean armpit smelling rooms for you. So, tall TV dad, well, his wife passes on. He needs help raising his girls, so he invites slicky-boy Elvis brother-in-law, and boyfriend of Alanis Morrissett.

IT CHRIS

[Confused]

I'm, I'm not really sure. . .

MIKHAIL

SO, as I saying. . .Tall TV-dad and his tovariches, helps give life lessons to his young girls. His Two friends, help tall TV dad and in the returns, tall TV dad help slicky boy find wife, and Boyfriend of Alanis Morrissett with his funny man, stands up on stage ha-ha shows.

For years, they all help one another out. Because they are family! They see, tall-TV man is sad, and not only do they want to help him through his struggles, but theys get the benefits of the help and love, that tall TV dad can gives out.

Is. . .is like that for you here, on station. All the uh. . .the smarty-pants on station are happy you stayed on Ice. From what I hear, you are big hero of station for figuring out how to stop the winds. Helped Tovarich with his 'get station not to blow up' situation. Would have been one hell of mess for Mikhail, this is what I think!

IT CHRIS

[STILL CONFUSED]

Is. . .is this '*Full House*'?

MIKHAIL

Eh? In Russia, it was called. . .well it translates to topsy-turvey house. Jokes not translate too well. Uncle slicky-boy man keeps asking people to have mercy on him. But uh. . .the stories always warming the hearts.

IT CHRIS

Huh. . .so . . .I should get back out there and be social. Let the others on station . . .help me with the healing process?

MIKHAIL

Well, da. I suppose is. . .kinda true. But what I was saying is. . .we could really use the helps that you have to offer. Without the help and knowledge comp-u-pants had. . .again, who knows if station would have survived! You have much you can gives us all by being there. Skittles of your own to hand out.

IT CHRIS

It's a mutual symbiosis! Like the Trill, and their host! The Toke-ra and their symbiote. Venom and Eddie Brock!

MIKHAIL

okay, Mikhail. . .is not really sure what those are; but we go with that, DA!

IT CHRIS

[Surprised internal revelation]  
Isn't it Ironic! Don't ya think?

MIKHAIL

Meh? A little too ironic.

IT CHRIS

Yeah! I really do think.

**CLEANING SOUNDS END. SCRUBBER AND RAGS PUT BACK INTO CART.**

MIKHAIL

Okay comp-u-pants. Office does no smell like hard boiled eggs anymore. I also put-up little pine

trees air fresheners, make your. . .hall of Justice smell like Russian pine forest! Mmmmm!

IT CHRIS

Thanks again Mikhail. Appreciate the advice.

MIKHAIL

MEH. Cut.it.out. [Snicker] Oh Boyfriend of Alanis Morrissette, that catch phrase was so random and out of place; Like you and her in theater!

#### ACT IV

**CART SQUEEKS AS MIKHAIL IS OFF ONCE AGAIN. WE HEAR DOORS OPENING AND CLOSING. MIKHAIL IS IN THE MAIN HALLWAY. WE HEAR PEOPLE COMING AND GOING.**

MIKHAIL

Privet Junior Mint! Did you finish book?

RANDO: JUNIOR MINT

Not yet. Going to savor the last chapter.

MIKHAIL

It is good read, I knew you'd like it.

#### **MORE TRAVELING THE HALLWAYS**

RANDO: DR. DIEABITUS

[SOUND EXACTLY LIKE WILFORD BRIMLEY]

Afternoon Mikhail. Don't know if she called yet, but I heard Doctor Waynewright needed a custodian over in ops. Something about his 'W' key from his keyboard being frozen in Jell-O.

MIKHAIL

[Sigh] Jan-i-tor! How many time I tell Smarty-pants leader person. . .I, I go and take care of funny prank for him. Thank you, Doctor Dieabitus!

PATRICK

. . .but I did manage to get a peek at the tech they were unloading. Man, this was like. . .next level gear Chief dude.

ZEKE

Yeah, just Chief is fine Patrick. Hell, call me Zeke if you want. I don't stand on ceremony round here. Now, what was it you saw?

PATRICK

Duuuuuude! They had rack mounted PDUs and rapid line testers that I've never seen before! Not gonna find them badboys in any Granger catalogue, Talking super streamline. Battery backup, Untils and Farman A.S.D.s; even some stuff that even I couldn't identify. All branded. . .Beauregard-Lowing Corp! Runs rings around the Fermilab gear we have. [Chuckle] Chicago is known for deep dish midnight snacking, not particle physics man!

ZEKE

So, all their gear was Beau-low?

PATRICK

Every bit of it, all rushed into their closed off room. I even tried to bribe one guy into letting me get a sneak peek as a fellow volt-jockey! Let me do the ol' electric slide for a few minutes. Offered him some of my cousin Jimmy's reserve stash as good faith. . .get him dancing and groovin' [quote song] 'It's electric, boogie woogie woogie!'

ZEKE

[Cringe-worthy]

Yeah, yeah, yeah, don't be doing that! [TWO BEAT] Although. . . it does explain why Keenan kept dancing around the VMF this morning. Damn dummy had on zebra parachute pants and every. . . [FRUSTRATED] Man! I need you to stop testing out samples on his fool ass. Hard enough to get him to focus as it is! [SIGH] They've had their new systems up for a few weeks now. . . .you see

anything. . .N.E.THING that makes you think their gear is mucking up our stuff? Causing any interference or disruption.

PATRICK

See, that's the weird thing chief. If anything, all our shit is running better than before! I mean like. . .don't get me wrong! I don't shirk my responsibilities as the stations Prince of Power, but it's been smooth sailing! [Chuckle] No purple rain. . .am I right?

ZEKE

[MORE FRUSTRATED]

Lord help me out here! Okay, I'm cutting you off on the 80's songs Patrick! Too many references that make too much sense this early in the day.

PATRICK

Helps me focus!

ZEKE

Yeah, so would cutting back on the reefer after-hours! [DEEP BREATH] It's hard to complain about their little sidestep and electrical repairs when nothing is falling apart or when the station isn't getting those power blips anymore.

PATRICK

Like you told me to; I'm performing daily checks on all the critical key equipment. Pod heaters, power generators, communications, fire suppression systems. As of now. . .the station is sailing smooth. [TWO BEAT] Come sail away was a 70's Styx song. . .but I won't sing it!

ZEKE

Man, I don't.know.what to do here! First time in. . .well long as I been here that a chief don't know every bit of the works going on in his own damn station! I can't send O.P.P.

MIKHAIL

[SOFTLY] Yeah you know me.

ZEKE

Or NSF a formal complaint. . .if'n there ain't nothing to complain about. Shit! It's one of the situations where you can't say nothing until something goes sideways. . .and then. . .hope nothing too bad happens that I have to clean up. Pardon my language lord. It's that whole wait'n for the other boot to drop.

PATRICK

[CURIOUS]

Soooooooooo. What do we do until we get the boot drop?

ZEKE

Nothing we can't do that we ain't doing already! Keep watching. Keep checking. Write down everything! Until we able to get into that room or get a peak. . .nothing more we can do.

PATRICK

Gotcha Zeke-a-reno! Maintain! [REMEMBERS] oh, that reminds me; need to head down to the greenhouse. Check on the new vegetable yield. I'll keep the eyes open for any power issues.

ZEKE

You'll be doing me a bigger favor if'n you keep Keenan away from that special lucifer lettuce you got in there! Damn fool chucklehead smells bad enough as-is.

**FOOTSTEPS UP AND DOWN STEPS (FADE IN AND OUT SEPARATE TRACKS)**

ZEKE

Oh, hey Mikhail. Let me sneak on by here before I mess up your clean floor.

MIKHAIL

Ehhh, is no problem big man; you. . .[DIONNE WARWICK] walk on by. .doo doo doo doo.

ZEKE

Aw man, not you too. Why can't a man walk five FEET round here without somebody breaking into a



song? You think a damn musical was about to  
break out. . . .

**[5 BEAT TENSE WAITING; START OF A MUSICAL SONG THAT QUICKLY  
FADES]**

MIKHAIL

I think we safe for now.

ZEKE

[RELEIVED]

Yeah. I keep on forgetting the pact we all made.

MIKHAIL

Around here. . . on the Ice; strange station,  
never say "M" word! That shave was close!

ZEKE

Say. . . my boy Reno Dave is getting ready to open  
up his new bar in the B-1 Science storage room.  
Can't believe the new HR lady and Waynewright  
said it was okay!

MIKHAIL

MEH, Mikhail may have. . . .said a word or three  
to help out. I mean. . . Mikhail knows whole  
station like back of hand. Smarty-pants weren't  
really using it and it goes months without even  
being opened. Why no make it bars for people to  
unwind.

ZEKE

I heard there was some unknown person who helped  
tip the. . . that was YOU?

MIKHAIL

[SERIOUS]

MEH! Let's keep this ancient Chinese secret now,  
okays? Mikhail is . . . you know. . . is just your  
normal janitor type person. Have reputations to  
keep up.

ZEKE

Seriously Mikhail, I don't think you understand  
just how much this means to Reno! He's. . . well

he's up there in years and he ain't no spring chicken no more. Can't haul as much cargo as he used to and. . .well, he needs something to keep him down here so O.P.P. doesn't send him back.

MIKHAIL

[SOFTLY] Yeah you know me.

ZEKE

Huh?

MIKHAIL

Oh, you know me big man! Anything I can do to be good helper on station.

ZEKE

Yeah. . .yeah. . .anyway; can you pop your head in there, see if he needs anything before he opens his doors next week?

MIKHAIL

Am happy to do it. Right after I get 'W' key out of Smarty-pants leader's Jell-O!

ZEKE

[LAUGHS] He put it in Jell-O this time? Damn Lawman! The classics never die do they.

## ACT V

**HEAVY FOOTSTEPS FADE OUT AS THE JANITOR'S CART IS ONCE AGAIN, ON THE MOVE. MIKHAIL BEGINS PERFORMING THE 'WHAT'S HAPPENING!!' THEMESONG TO HIMSELF, UNTIL THE CART SUDDENLY STOPS, AS DOES THE INCREDIBLE REDITION OF THE SONG.**

MIKHAIL

[MIX OF EXCITEMENT, BUT SUBDUED CAUTION]  
Somebody in private Science lab bathroom! Same time as yesterday when big mess left. This is it! This is checkmate. At last, I am giving you song of swan!

**TENSE PAUSE IN DRAMATIC BACKGROUND MUSIC AS WE HEAR A FAINT FLUSH; HANDS WASHING AND THEN THE TURN OF THE KNOB. THE DOOR OPENS AND. . .**

MIKHAIL  
[LOUDLY]  
**JIG IS UP POOP BANDIT!**

THOMAS  
[SCARED SCREECH]

MIKHAIL  
REACH FOR THE SK. . .[SIGH, DISAPOINTED] Not you  
again Tabor!

THOMAS  
[HEART RACING A MILE]  
MIKHAIL! How many TIMES do I have to remind you?  
You can't jump out at people going in or out of  
the restroom! [TWO BEAT] Would you mind not  
pointing that at me? And it's Thomas!

MIKHAIL  
Hrm? Oh. . .do not worries Tyree, safety is on  
can of air freshener. Will not, eh hh how you  
say. . . .[make spraying noise]

THOMAS  
[CALMING DOWN]  
[DEEP EXHALE TO CATCH HIS BREATH] Still Thomas.  
[BREATH]...I understand. . .[BREATH]. . .you have  
this; cat and mouse game with the person making a  
mess of the bathroom. .[BREATH]. .but there are  
better ways of dealing with this!

MIKHAIL  
Mikhail has tried many ideas on catching poop  
bandit. I try more plans than hungry wolf  
cartoon trying to catch that 'meep-meep' bird!  
None of them works.

THOMAS  
[BREATH]. . .have. . . .have you tried putting up  
a sign?

MIKHAIL  
Stho? You mean like paper with hole in it and  
camera behind? NEYT! Cameras in bathrooms is  
no-no, Tabitha!

THOMAS

No! I don't mean. . . [BREATH]. .Thomas,  
seriously now. . .No, I'm saying hang a sign, a  
note. [BREATH]. . .You know. . ."Bathrooms are  
for everybody, please be respectful, clean up  
after yourself, don't leave unwanted gifts for  
the next user." That sort of sign!

MIKHAIL

[CONFUSED]

Eh. . .your English speaking is not making sense.  
Poop bandit is very crafty, sneaky. . .has been  
able to trick Mikhail for long times now. This  
requires true Russian ingenuity to solve!

THOMAS

[HAS CAUGHT HIS BREATH]

Well. . .just a suggestion then. But. .  
.seriously now; please don't jump out at me when  
I exit or enter the bathroom! I don't want to  
have an. . .accident!

MIKHAIL

[EXCITED]

Depends!

THOMAS

[CONFUSED]

On. . . .what?

MIKHAIL

Neyt, Neyt tiny Tim! Is no just old American  
sitcoms that Mikhail uses to help people. Is also  
American capitalist commercial marketing that  
comes with sitcoms. . .

**MIKHAIL TURNS TO A TV CAMERA THAT DOESN'T EXIST**

MIKHAIL

Privet friends. This is Mikhail, for Depends  
under-the-garments.

THOMAS

That's. . .that's a box of toilet seat covers  
Mikhail.

MIKHAIL

If you are like my pals here, station operations manager T'Challa. . .

THOMAS

T'Challa was. . .was the Black Panther. . .I'm Thom. .

MIKHAIL

Then you worry about the "oopsy-dasiy" before getting to the bathrooms. There is a solution! Depends under-the-garments! The most reliable adult size diaper.

THOMAS

I'm not. . .who are you talking to Mikhail? I just don't want any jump-scares!

MIKHAIL

[REASURING]

Oh, there is nothing to be scared or ashamed about Tito!

THOMAS

Not a member of the Jackson fiv. . .look, I'm just going to go back to work now.

MIKHAIL

That's right! Depends will get you back to enjoying your day, and make you confident. . .in the day ahead.

**FROM A DISTANCE**

THOMAS

Still just sanitary seat covers Mikhail.

MIKHAIL

Oh, we have you covered Tyson.

**MIKHAIL MUTTERS THE DEPENDS JINGLE**

MIKHAIL

'Get back into life. . .with depends'. Now, back to our programs!

ACT VI

THE CLEANING CART IS BACK IN ACTION, ROLLING DOWN THE HALLWAY. AGAIN, WE HEAR A DOOR OPEN AND LIGHT MUMURING INSIDE.

MIKHIAL

Afternoon, every bodies!

MULTIPLE PEOPLE

MIKHAIL!

RENO DAVE

Hiya Mikhail, can I get ya a drink?

MIKHAIL

I'm Russian, Dedu.

RENO

Everybody know you're a Ruskie Mikhail!

MIKHAIL

No, I mean I'm in a hurry. . .Rush\*ing. HA!  
Mikhail makes the uh. . .the big man entry one-  
liners from show!

RENO

I don't follow you.

MIKHAIL

MEH, is nothing to worries about. Big man asks  
that I stopping by. See if you needed anything  
before grand opening of . . .eh, what; what is  
name of the bars here?

RENO

Oh. . .well nothing fancy. I did think about it a  
bit and came up with. . . 'Reno Dave's Bar'!  
Catchy, isn't it?

MIKHAIL

Will be hards to forget! Anyway. . .the big man  
asked me to see if you needed anything?

RENO

[CONSIDERS]

Hrm. . .well. . . .no. . . .no I can't think of anything at the moment. We're almost ready for the grand opening. Should be on Tuesday night.

MIKHAIL

I would be happy to make you a batch of my famous. . in-room cooked Siberian Apple-flavored Vodka that helps people contemplate life decisions!

RENO

[BEING POLITE]

That's. . .that's quite the offer there Mikhail. I'll tell you what. Let's start off with some usual labels and see how we do there. Don't want to go straight to the real good stuff right away!

MIKHAIL

Hrmmm, Dedu makes good points. [TWO BEAT] I am impressed with how quicks this all happen. The Uh, settings up and stocking of items. This is longtime dream of yours; to be running booze bar?

RENO

Oh. Well, no, actually. I don't drink; well. . .I should say I don't drink anymore. Had problems when I was younger; and thought the answers to those problems could be found at the bottom of a bottle. Took me growing up and a lot longer in life then I wish it did to realize drinking wasn't the answer; that I was. I had to be responsible.

MIKHAIL

So then, why opening up place where people can get drinks?

RENO

Oh, they're going to drink no matter what. The station store. . .'pole-mart' still sells Alcohol like they always did, and people can still buy it there. [Introspective] But whereas they mostly all drink alone in their berths; here. . .at Reno Dave's Bar. . .you can enjoy your drink, be social and around people; and all under the watchful eye of your friendly and wise bartender, Reno Dave! You see . . .it's not the booze to

blame when you drink. That's a decision each person makes. Most of them, well. . . .they make it alone. Trust me, I know!

What I want is to give all these kids a healthier option and environment, I never had. With somebody who's looking out for them, not just after their money and repeat business. No sir! enjoying a drink or two is alright, if done right and responsibly.

MIKHAIL

So even if you no have the drinks anymore, you run bar and help people out from here. Just like show I mention before, with big funny man and know-it-all postman. [SIGH] Sometimes you do just wants to go, where everybody knows your name.

RENO

Exactly. I'm hoping that Reno Dave's Bar will be the place where anybody with a problem can go, for a friendly ear, some good company, and well. . .if they want a drink or two while they figure out life; I can help with that one too! [IT CLICKS IN HIS HEAD] Oh. . .I just got it! Very Good Mikhail. . .people want to go where everybody knows your name!

MIKHAIL

Oh Neyt Dedu; Mikhail is eh. . .no good with the peoples names.

RENO

[CONFUSED]

No. . .no. . .that's the end to the theme song of. .

MIKHAIL

Well, it is looking like you have everything under control here. When it comes time to not just wet whistles, but clean whistles, you call me! [LAUGH] Oh Mikhail is on a roll this day!

**CLEANING CART ROLLING DOWN THE HALL AGAIN. WE HEAR MIKHAIL ENTER THE FRIEGHT ELEVATOR, HEAD DOWN INTO THE ARCHES, AND HE IS NOW ON FOOT ON THE SNOW. NOW CARYING THE CART. WE HEAR HIM WALKING AND THE OPENING OF A LARGE, THERMAL DOOR.**



THE POWER ARCH COMPLEX. FOOTSTEPS DOWN THE HALL AND THE SOUND OF THE LARGE GENERATOR TURBINES IS VERY AUDIBLE. THE DOOR TO A ROOM OPENS . . .

ACT VII

JOYCLYN

[SURPRISED, ANNOYED]

I'm in the middle of sensitive work here. What do you want?

MIKHAIL

Oh! Is very good question. Ehhh, would like for smarty-pants not to be so messy with stations! Would like to catch person who makes mess of bathrooms. Have this Haiku poem been working on for YEARS now that Mikhail can nooooo

JOYCLYN

[CUTS HIM OFF]

OI! I mean right now! . At this moment! Why are you, caretaker here?

MIKHAIL

[APOLOGETIC]

*O moya boginya!* We have no meet yet and I. . .I forget my manners. Privet Strannik. I am Mikhail, I am janitor of stations. I keep everything clean for peoples living here. You are peoples, you live here now, so. . .Mikhail now cleans, for you too!

JOYCLYN

Now? You want to clean in here now?

MIKHAIL

Da! I would think person from militaries background likes to have nice and tidy spaces for workings?

JOYCLYN

Alright, alright just put a sock in it!! Steady on and get it over with!

MIKHAIL

Now you are singing my songs!

O\*moi\*ya\*bow  
\*geen\*ya

Strawl\*neek

**EMPTIES THE TRASH AND STARTS WIPING DOWN SURFACES. BEGINS LIGHTLY SINGING MARY TYLOR MOORE SONG**

MIKHAIL

[LOW MUFFLED]

*Love is all around, no need to waste it. You can have the town, why don't you take it.* [TWO BEAT, STOP SINGING]

So. . .you are linking smarty-pants station?  
Getting use to high attitudes?

JOYCLYN

You mean alt-i-tud. . look, I don't think you're here for a chin wag. Just do the cleaning and then FUCK OFF!

MIKHAIL

[Ignoring]

Da. . .it take Mikhail time to get used to station too! Many new faces, new routines. Many of the eh. . .the smarty-pants people; not happy with Mikhail at first.

JOYCLYN

I can't POSSIBLY imagine why?

MIKHAIL

I know, Da! Mikhail is lovable big Russian bear what sneaks into your hearts, and warms your soul! Brighten moods, by brightening station. Nobody wants to work in sty of pig! They want a super-fly gig!

JOYCLYN

What. . .THE bollocks are you on about?

MIKHAIL

Meh, Is something. . I hear from junior chief of Big man. He is one hep-cat!

JOYCLYN

Look here, I don't mean to be a bint. . . .but stop faffing around! [TWO BEAT] and no. . .this assignment isn't quite the laugh I thought it would be.

MIKHAIL

You just need to give it times. The eh. . .the people here, from Smarty-pants to lowly janitor, are here; because this is where universe needs them to be. You just need to take this like . .oh da. . .like M.T.M!

JOYCLYN

[SIGH] Fine, if it gets you out of my hair sooner, I'll play along. What. . .pray tell is 'Empty em'?

MIKHAIL

No no. Letters. [enunciate] M then T then another letter M.

JOYCLYN

I need to take it month to month?

MIKHAIL

[SIGH] Neyt. Mary Tylor Moore! You should take it just like Mary Tylor moores did!

JOYCLYN

[LOW FRUSTATED GROAN INTO HANDS AGAINST FACE]

Who is that? Another research scientist?

MIKHAIL

She was producer of news TV show in north United States. She was single woman who was dealing with trying to make it in a career and world; where the establishment men's had foot holdings. She had much to give the newsroom. No. . no just by being tough and determined professional woman's; but by being a good friend to the others.

JOYCLYN

[HALF LAUGH, SERIOUSNESS]

I am NOT here to make friends, lad. I have a mission to do, and I intend to do it to the best of my ability, to show them I mean business!

MIKHAIL

That just what Mary Tylor Moores did too. But as time went on, little by little. . .that hard and rough surface also would let the warmness come

out too. Da, she could not throw a party to save her life without it all going *Koco*, but everybody knew she tried! It was very good American Sit-com show.

**THREE BEAT**

JOYCLYN

This Moore woman, was a bird; on American telly?

MIKHAIL

More than any other. . .the Americans have gift of inspiring others; through their television mediums. Many great examples and life lessons to be had!

JOYCLYN

[GOING BACK TO HER WORK]

I'm more of a book person!

MIKHAIL

[HAPPY]

Ahhhhhh! Mikhail enjoys written word as well. Poems, philosophy, epic tales. Russians know a thing or two about epic tales! Somebody once writes. . . "*There is no book so bad...that it does not have something good in it.*" But eh. . .he was Spanish and not Russian; so loses something in translation.

**CLEANING ENDS**

MIKHAIL

Okay Strannik, your work space here is now as cleans as day you arrived! Mikhail needs to go see a man about a demon now. We continue chats next week?

JOYCLYN

[IN RUSSIAN]

Spasibo, Mikhail, ya tsenyu to, chto vy pytayetes' sdelat', no u menya yest' rabota.

MIKHAIL

Very good! Your Russian speaking's is very excellent.

JOYCLYN

"Strannik". . .doesn't that mean. . .Nomad? Why call me a nomad?

MIKHAIL

Eh. . .close. Better translation is. . .wanderer. This one fits you, my friend.

JOYCLYN

Like I said mate, not here to make friends!

MIKHAIL

Too late! Strannik just made one!

## ACT VIII

**DOOR CLOSSES, MIKHAIL, AND THE CART CONTIUNE ON, BUT ONLY A SHORT WAY. ANOTHER DOOR OPENS AND WE'RE IN FRANKLIN'S FUEL ROOM. DOOR CLOSSES**

FRANKLIN

[HUMAN VOICE]

I was starting to wonder when you were going to make your way back down to see me! The Deputy Marshal has been here for over a year now.

MIKHAIL

Da, Da. Hello to you too Franklin! Not that you would knows. . .but takes LOTS of time making sure everything runs as it should. Too many. . .eh, the randomness. More than we expected to happen.

FRANKLIN

{Fake Pity}

Oh, I'm so sorry! Is all that freedom of movement and abundance of choices cramping your style? You have no idea just how [RASBERRY SOUND]. What's the latest? What was the deal with the Josh Nichols. . .human?

MIKHAIL

Everything is still on the right tracks. Tovarisch and Church Mouse meets. He and Big Man are bestest pals. We have hockey man, Magic belle, Bull, and Wee-puppet man all set.

Thelonious is more difficult than I thought would be for small person.

FRANKLIN

[CONFUSED]

Who?

MIKHAIL

Thelonious! Small excited mans, runs operations. Glasses, quiet like Asian assassin when he walks.

FRANKLIN

[ANNOYED]

You mean Thomas? [SIGH] You've been around longer than I have and you're honestly that bad with first names? Just saying. . .didn't have that problem before we arrived here. What about Bass. He on track; he's the key to all of this going smooth.

MIKHAIL

Was touch and go for moments there. The Josh person I wasn't expecting. But eh. . .MEH! You leave Tovarich to me. We have good backs and forths.

FRANKLIN

What about Nichols? What WAS that?

MIKHAIL

Am not sure.

FRANKLIN

[HONESTLY SURPRISED]

You? You. . .don't know?

MIKHAIL

Am not sure. He was not expected. Was. . .is. . .still is random factors. What I do knows, is that he has outside helps. Something I didn't foresee happenings. Still not sure if murder of Dead Smarty-pants was to derail Tovarisch or something more. The Ice. . . it played dangerous game with hocky man and history repeating. Was

not sure they would be able to figures it out themselves.

FRANKLIN

[CORRECTING]

Halen-Jumping. . .They're calling. . .never mind. It's not important. What about next steps?

MIKHAIL

Two more years before it begins. I'm more worried about the Ice!

FRANKLIN

What about the ice?

MIKHAIL

Again, not sure. There is just. . something wrong with. . .

FRANKLIN

[DEMON]

[SNIFF] Virtuosity! He's coming!

**SCUFFLE SOUNDS AND MOVEMENT NOISES. DOOR OPENS, SOUNDS OF BROOM SWEEPING SUDDENLY AROUND**

BASS

[FRUSTRATION]

I've been searching HOURS for that damned recorder! Can't believe I'm always forgetting it. Franklin? How this get down here?

FRANKLIN

[DEMON, SARCASTIC]

Well, I was on my afternoon stroll around the station, had to stretch my legs and see all the sites. You know, shake hands and make the rounds! [DIRECT] I'm stuck in here, remember? How the home would I know how it got here, Javert?

MIKHAIL

Oh, sorry Tovarich. I find in Galley whiles ago. Was going to return it tonight after my cleaning rounds. Also need to get W key out of fruit wiggly deserts.

BASS

[Chuckle]

Yeah, that happens I hear. [TWO BEAT] Well, anyway thanks for holding onto it and. . .aw damn. . .I kept this thing recording when I left the Galley. Been recording the whole time. Better go recharge the batteries before they run out.

**WE HEAR BASS' FOOTSTEPS AS HE'S WALKING OUT OF THE ROOM WITH THE RECORDER. VERY LOW BEHIND HIM WE HEAR FRANKLIN. . .**

FRANKLIN

[DEMON, LOW]

Uh-oh!

**DIGITAL RECORDING STOPPED BEEP**

OUTRO AND CREDITS