

# Ninety Degrees South

SEASON TWO  
EPISODE FOURTEEN:  
BUMBLES IN THE MYST

DRAFT 1: MAY 11, 2022

by  
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## INTRO SONG

***ELECTRONIC VOICE: RECORDING STARTED  
IT'S QUIET. WE HEAR THE STATION HUM AND NOTHING ELSE. WE'RE IN  
BASS' BERTH. IT'S EARLY MORNING.***

BASS

[Slightly lower voice than normal]

Morning Diane, it's Monday August first, 2022. Current time. .  
.. uh hold on. . . .oh-five-thirty. Amundsen Scott / Flight 0429  
Investigation. It's going to be a busier day than usual. Today  
I'm expecting reports on expedited background investigation  
on my top three suspects. I'm hoping that these reports will  
shine more light into their pasts and help me obtain a more,  
full picture on each one.

Between the. . . items that we found that had been concealed,  
between the overseas connections, the organized nature of  
the operation and potential for other research stations also  
being impacted, this is a more complex investigation than we  
first envisioned.

Still nothing concrete back from DEA or the FBI on. . . .the go  
forward plan. I'm scheduled to contact Marshall Murphy  
tonight at eighteen hundred. I'll see what if anything she has  
picked up. I'm still not sure how to regard this new Marshall,  
Diane. From everything I'm hearing she has fit into the new  
role quickly and very effectively. Seems to be respected and  
has settled into the role. Not sure if it. . .still feelings about  
Chuck, but I'm not comfortable with it. Has nothing to do with  
her being female, let me just make sure that's clear. . .its. . .  
.still takes getting used to.

On a more routine station matter, Waynewright and his Atlas  
buddies have formally resurfaced. Over the past week or so,  
they've started showing up more regularly to events, lunch and  
have been seen in their labs with frequency. No word as to

where they had all been sequestered to. No doubt in whatever space they have down in the Ice Tunnels. Thomas told me at roughly this same time, formal communications from Beauregard-Lowing restarted and communications in and out of the station are back to their typical cadence. I suppose its also purely coincidental that the station suffered another power blip last week, the first in several months. Zeke is not happy about this and according to his sensors. . .they're still originating in. . .you guessed it, the Ice Caves!

I'm still waiting on the enhanced analysis on the computer virus which was discovered in the station's operations center the day of the crash. Normally that analysis would have only taken a few days, however with. . .Mister Waters absent, Mister Todd has needed additional time to review.

We're all worried about him Diane. He's still being a shut in. Not really coming out of the IT room. Ever since Mister Waters. . .he's been taking it very rough. Has been talking about leaving the station after the winter season ends and heading back to the states. I still have no idea what the relationship was between those two, but the heartache. . the regret I see on his face every time I check in on him. . .I remember that look. I saw it every morning in the mirror for years. I'll have to see what I might do to help this situation.

Finally, I'm still. . .hrm. I'm still processing what I learned from Sydney about his. . .unique gifts. Against everything else odd that takes place or has taken place around here, a psychologist who can read minds is. . .EXACTLY. . .the twisted sense of humor I've come to expect out of this station. I've been mulling this over and while it bothers the hell out of me, Sydney is a really good guy. A genuine good guy who [Hesitate] I don't know. I have a lot in this noggin of mine that I've worked hard to lock up and ensure never sees the light of day. Yet [THREE BEAT] what he told me last week, about. . .the

relationship, [Contemplative] it. . .left an impression,  
something about it. . .really resonates. . .

**FROM BACKGROUND**

KENDRA

[Groggy]

. . .[YAWN] Sweetie, is this \*really\* what you do at five thirty  
every morning?

BASS

[Low voice]

Go back to sleep Kendra. It's your day off. I'm sorry for being  
too loud. How about I bring you some breakfast around eight?

KENDRA

[Stretch] Mmmmmmm, breakfast in bed? Served by my own  
personal handsome station valet? You know how to treat a  
woman right Deputy Marshal!

BASS

Bacon, eggs, toast and orange juice?

KENDRA

[Groggy]

Apple juice would be better if they have any this morning,  
[YAWN] but O.J. is fine in a pinch.

**KISS SOUND**

BASS

Go back to bed. See you at eight. [Refocus] Diane, update  
paused, will completed in Gall. . .

***ELECTRONIC VOICE: RECORDING STOPPED***

***FADE IN: LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM. WE HAVE ABOUT A HALF-DOZEN PEOPLE GATHERED. TENSIONS ARE OBVIOUSLY HIGH.***

KARL

. . .so it's becoming very dangerous walking to and from the main station to the Dark Sector labs. Last night was the first incident where one of the Bumbles charged at a person. Normally they're timid, docile around us. This aggressiveness is confounding. Don't want to think what might have happened had they not had a flashlight with them!

THOMAS

What about the Summer huts? They usually focus their time and attention on those? Are they still looting around that area?

ZEKE

Oh they still visit! Overnight they hit building sixty-eight. Sub-station C for the summer camp. Not only they ransack it, they pissed over everything. Wouldn't recommend going inside that joint without firefighter respirators!

LARRY

Obviously, these. . .creatures are becoming more curious, less timid and less afraid of the local human inhabitants. Something, is almost certainly antagonizing them, causing them to become more . . .direct!

FRED

[Bravado]

Look, I know I ain't chief of the fire crew anymore. . .  
.[DudeBro Chant] **FIRE CREW!** On behalf of Ricky Riccardo down there who is too busy combing his hair in the mirror half the time as opposed. . .

BASS

[Clear throat loudly]

FRED

[Bravado]

Right! Right! Play nice and all that Mister Rodgers shit. Me and the crew would be happy to grab the hunting spotlights, some axes and make sure these . . . Chewbacca whatever's stop whizzin' over all our shit!

THOMAS

We can't just . . . attack them! Yeah they urinate on things and stuff is stolen, but won't attacking them just escalate things?

FRED

[Bravado, Chest out]

Nope! It's gonna send a message to them big Ice-gorillas they can't push us around like this!

THOMAS

But. . . gee Fred, they haven't really pushed us! They charged at Doctor Frank, but even the way he tells it. . . he got closer than he realized and thinks he just. . . well gosh spooked him is all!

FRED

Look pee-wee, Alls I know is when the neighbor's dog starts coming onto your lawn to do his business, you don't let that stink go. You do something!

***SILENCE IN ROOM FOR A FEW SECONDS***

THOMAS

[Offended]

Pee-Wee? Well. . . what's that supposed to mean?

FRED

Don't get your panties in a twist there Kid, alls I meant was. . .

BASS

[Cutting them all off]

AHEM! [Two beat] Am I the ONLY one on station who noticed the coincidence? I know my job is an investigator, but c'mon everybody. . .no one else has drawn the same conclusion?

RANDO(F)

What do you mean Deputy Marshal?

BASS

You wish to do the honors Doctor Waynewright, or shall I?

LARRY

[Trepidation - lying]

I honestly have no idea where this is leading, DEPUTY Marshal.

BASS

Very well then. [Deep Breath] The two-way communications between the station and Beau-Low, which they suspended themselves started up a two weeks ago. One week ago, the station suffered it's first electrical power disruption in. . . .How many months Zeke?

ZEKE

Damn close to four.

BASS

Four months! Then, last night not only do the Bumbles make a return. . .it's an aggressive one!

LARRY

[Defensive]

Correlation does not imply causation, DEPUTY Marshal. That is pure logical fallacy!

BASS

[Direct, abrupt, intimidating]

Did you get orders to restart project Atlas?

LARRY

[Equally Abrupt, Flash Anger - Triggered]

**THAT IS NOT.** . .[retain composure] There are some topics, DEP\*U\*TY Marshal which decorum and discretion are definitively tantamount to the setting upon which they are to be PROPERLY reviewed. This. . .is not that setting!

BASS

[Interrogating]

You know. . .Beau-Low knows. . .I know! How many Doctor? How many people need to be hurt? How many people are to be casualties to whatever Mary Shelley experiments you four have running down there?

FRED

[Confused]

The fuck we all talking about now. What's Charles Atlas got to do with Frosty out there?

LARRY

This. . .gathering is not the forum to showcase your many. . .conspiracy theories! I don't know what this. . .project you refer is or what relevancy it has to the current topic we've been asked by Doctor Jovac to address.

KARL

Actually. . .it might do us all well, I think if we took a five-minute break. Let, let tempers calm themselves. I, myself could use a trip to the little scientist's room!

LARRY

Very well, five-minute break then.



**CHAIRS PUSH BACK, PEOPLE GET OPEN, DOORS TO THE ROOM OPEN AND PEOPLE MILLING AROUND.**

**FOOTSTEPS APPROACHING**

THOMAS

[Still angry]

Calling me 'Pee-Wee'. That big. . . muscle head!

BASS

That's just Fred's way Mister Kelley. Has a nickname for everybody. It may not be overly flattering, but don't let him live rent free in your head. It's not worth it.

ZEKE

So what's the deal with that, Lawman? Pushing Waynewright like that on Atlas, and in front of everybody?

BASS

[Lower voice]

Intentional Zeke. I wanted to rattle his cage for a couple of reasons. First, I was being serious with the correlations I outlined. I fully suspect this recent event with the bumbles. . .

ZEKE

[Quickly]

Ice-feet!

BASS

Has. . .Zeke, knock it off. . .has everything to do with Atlas. Same with the power blips. Second: I want Waynewright to never forget that while I may not be FULLY aware of what they're doing down there, I know it's going on. I'm learning more little by little and its only a matter of time. Lastly. . I'm working on driving a wedge.

THOMAS

[Confused]

What do you mean?

BASS

While I don't believe the . . .disappearance of Mister Waters had much of an impact on Doctor Waynewright; I think it's impacting the other three doctors more than they're letting on. I can't get a read on Doctor Van Zandt. He was absent the first month or so afterwards and although I did get an opportunity to formally interview him around my current investigation, any mention of atlas or the Canadian Station caused him to clam up.

Doctor Timms and Jovac however. . .their body language and reactions are telling me they have a much larger issue around what happened. I'm willing to bet that it's a topic of disagreement amongst the Atlas-Four! Anything I can do to cause a rift and begin opening cracks. . .

THOMAS

[Realizes]

The better the chance we'll have to enter through one of those cracks! Wow that's impressive Deputy Marshal! Who knew you could be so, devious?

BASS

Well, Waynewright is no fool himself. He may be wise to what I'm playing at. I'm still not sure how the D.I.A. originally found out I broached the topic a few months back with Van Zandt, but I can't rule out Larry as the culprit.

So, in all the time you two have been down here, these . . .creatures have never been this aggressive?

ZEKE

Nope. This the first time I remember so many people spotting them. They like staying way out. Making a mess. Hoot'n and hollar'n, sure. But actually, coming around when people are out and about. . .that there is a new one! Couple years back one of my guys turned a corner and saw one only twenty feet away. Said the thing roared at him and then ran off quick, Like it more afraid of my DeWalt then he was of the Ice-feet.

THOMAS

Bumbles?

ZEKE

Damn it Tommy, I'mma gonna make this stick!

BASS

In any event. . .I don't think I'm over-reaching when I say that their secret handshake club is the primary culprit for what has these. . .

ZEKE

Ice-Feet

THOMAS

Bumbles

BASS

All worked up. The timing is just too convenient for it to be anything. . . else!

LARRY

[From a distance]

Everyone. . .everyone, let's gather again please!

THOMAS

Oh. . .I um. . .actually did need to. . .um. . .excuse myself during the break. Tell him I'll be in shortly.

***FOOTSTEPS WALKING AWAY, MEDIUM DISTANCE***

ZEKE

Word of advice, Lawman?

BASS

Sure, go ahead!

***RATTLE OF A DOOR KNOB AND DOOR OPEN***

ZEKE

You got Doc Waynewright and Jovac all worked up. You have their attention, may want to ease off the stick a bit and not push too hard! Let the stew simmer, not overheat!

MIKHAIL

[From a distance]

AH-HA! I CATCH YOU POOP-BAND. . .[Disappointed] Oh, is just you Tammy!

TOMMY

[Angry] [From a distance]

Mikhail, you can't hide in the bathroom and jump out at people! Especially. . . .here, stuff. . . .well it could happen earlier than intended! And Tammy is a girl's name!

MIKHAIL

[From a distance]

Meh, stinging operation is blown now. Might as well reset for later. Please, Tanisha. . .let the urination. . .COMMENCE!

BASS

Yeah, I don't want to go to overboard here. I lit the fuse already, best not to throw gasoline on it!

ZEKE

For the best really. Okay, let's go on back in. [two beat] Oh, hey, what's up Mikhail!

BASS

Hello Mikhail.

MIKHAIL

[As the door closes, to sky]

You won't escape me again poop-band. . .

***DOOR CLOSES***

LARRY

Excellent, now I've drafted a new. . .where is Mister Kelley?

ZEKE

Nature called. He said go on and he'll catch up with us.

RANDO(F)

So what does the station intend to do Doctor Waynewright, to keep us safe when we have to go back and forth to our stations?

KARL

Now! Now Doctor. . . Let's let Doctor Waynewright tell us the. . .precautions and considerations that will be taken.. Put into effect.

LARRY

Thank you, Karl! [Sigh] Very well. Now, I've drafted a new set of station rules and procedures that should assist us in dealing with. . .the current outdoor situation.

***PIECE OF PAPPER RATTLE***

LARRY

I'll also have these rules posted and read by Miss June during Tomorrow morning's announcements. One: Effectively immediately, anybody exiting the station or any of the detached buildings will walk in groups of two or more. Two:

Each group of Two or more are to have handheld super-powerful spotlights or a Heavy-duty Mag-light. Three: Any non-critical, extracurricular activity involving the outside, will be canceled and forbidden until the summer season recommences. Finally. . .Nobody, is to venture into the summer huts or nearby external buildings unless cleared to do so by myself, or in my absence, Mister Kelley.

FRED

[Pssshhhh] So. . .that's it? Get a buddy, grab a light and don't go near the loser huts? That's the plan here? Doc. . .not for nothing, but you give me the word; I can have a team ready and assembled in ten minutes that will go OUT TEHRE and find us some Ewok bitches to mess. . .

LARRY

[CURT]

That is quite enough Mister Ferguson! While I admire your. . .spunk; however I will not risk the lives of those under me when a more measured and tempered response would seem to suffice.

FRED

[Confused]

Not sure what you mean, but um. . .let's keep spunk out of it, alright then? [under breath] Always thought that was the case.

LARRY

[Deep breath] I'll have these printed up and hung by end of day. Thank you everybody, for your time, dedication and. . .interest. . .in our stations unique problem. [Two beat] Oh. . .You may all go now!

**PEOPLE STAND, LITE CONVERSATION AND MILLING AROUND, A DOOR OPENS**

THOMAS  
Gee, over already? What I'd miss?

ZEKE  
[Joking]  
Doctor Waynewright asked for a volunteer to head out there and act as bait so Fred and his fire goons can get their vigilante on.

BASS  
When nobody raised their hand, we suggested that you could help out. You're. . .okay with wearing raw meat around your neck right?

***THE BOYS START HEADING OUT***

ZEKE  
[Shouting behind him]  
Stay Brave Tommy! Doc Jovac says these Ice-feet can smell fear when you're all scared!

THOMAS  
[Incoherent]  
*Nervous muttering*

***ELECTRONIC RECORDER BOOP***

***FADE IN: INTERVIEW IN PROCESS. WE'RE IN FRANKLIN'S ROOM. NORMAL ECHOEY BACKDROP WITH MUTED VMF BAY SOUNDS FROM OTHER SIDE OF WALL.***

BASS  
. . .and for as much as you were told of the events that took place, the smell. . .[unbelieving] of sin. . .was present?

FRANKLIN

[Human Voice]

It was indeed! There is always a persistent smell of lust, greed and gluttony in the air around the station. It's almost like an air-freshener at this point to be honest. When word started to circulate of your plane disappearing from radar. . .I remember it still. Cheryl-Lynn went onto the P.A. system to announce it. Almost immediately, a massive aroma pooped up of guilt. Regret. Whoever it was, their soul was affected by the potential death of five people which they caused.

You remember the smell of a brand new B.M.W. the first week after you buy it. Grabbing carry-out Lebanese goat kabobs that first night you bought it and picking up two not so classy prostitutes who smell like they bathed in Vanilla Rum & Coco Chanel perfume an hour before?

BASS

No. I've not had the experience.

FRANKLIN

Well it smelled even better than that! No subtle build-up. No angst, no. . .[DEMON VOICE] no chance to try to justify what had happened or rationalize it. . .just . . .immediate sin, guilt times five! [evil laugh] Oh if only Yankee Candle sold middle east goat hooker kabab car scent. I'd buy that shit by the case!

BASS

Counselor. . .can I get you. . .

FRANKLIN

[DEMON VOICE]

Right, right. . .your investigation. Once that announcement went out, insta-sin-stank! I do love new guilt! Which made it all the more disappointing two days later when the smell suddenly went away!



BASS

When the announcement was made we had all been rescued?

FRANKLIN

[DEMON VOICE]

Yeah. . .It was such a pungent thing too. Soon as. . .whoever it was that had all that combined guilt heard the news, it vanished in a matter of minutes. Their consciousness was clear. No more guilt of having caused multiple murder! Can't have it all I guess.

BASS

[Slightly offended]

Sorry we all decided on living vs. dying!

FRANKLIN

[DEMON]

Hrm? Oh. Oh don't get me wrong Javert! As far as hairless apes go, you aren't all that bad. You're ::sniff sniff:: *Bluck* . . still have that whole virtuousness thing going on. . .but then again :sniff: [Two beat] You have a new, weird pseudo-guilt smell on you? What you do. . .forget to say your prayers last night, didn't help an old lady cross the street or. . .::sniff sniffffffff:: No fucking way! You committed murder? Or. . .no. . .it's like that but. . .more like while like high on L.S.D.

BASS

[Angry]

Enough! This is not about me!

FRANKLIN

{DEMON}

Uh. . .it needs to be. [HUMAN] Bass, what happened?

BASS

[ANGRIER]

NOT.A.CHANCE! Back to my questioning.

FRANKLIN

[HUMAN/SERIOUS/WORK MODE]

Javert, I'm a lawyer! I'll take your case pro bono. Effective right now, anything you say is considered client/attorney privilege. Don't take this wrong, I love sin and the way it smells, but the amount of guilt you already have on you. . .this will tip the scales, and not in a way you want!

BASS

[FURIOUS]

ENOUGH! NO MORE! [retain composure] Listen to me you 3<sup>rd</sup> rate Matlock soul-eater. There is NO WAY on this planet that I am going to confide in you. . .in some mind-reading head shrink, or . . .share my feelings with anybody. Not how I'm wired. We are not talking about this any longer.

FRANKLIN

[HUMAN/SERIOUS/WORK MODE]

You don't understand. . .everything is a balance Javert! Everything has a set limit. It's all. . . celestial based yes, but even celestial was predicated and founded on VERY strict universal and cognitive foundations. That balance can become very delicate. . .even the slightest imbalance in just the right. . .

BASS

[Has had enough]

We're done here!

FRANKLIN

[DEMON, WORRIED]

Deputy! Talk to Doctor Bremmer. He can help to recalibrate the balance!

***BASS' CHAIR SLIDES BACK, STANDS AND BEGINS TO WALK OUT***

FRANKLIN

[DEMON, WORRIED]

Seriously! He's very good! Helped me to deal with all the nihilistic tendencies I had issues with! **WHATEVER THIS IS DEPUTY, YOU NEED TO DEAL WITH IT. RESOLVE. . . .**

***DOOR CLOSSES, MARCHING DOWN THE HALLWAY, AGITATED***

BASS

Deputy US Marshal Bass Marlow. Interview Terminated.

***SOUND, ELECTRONIC VOICE: RECORDING STOPPED.***

***FADE IN. BACK IN THE GALLY. STATION HUM AND 104.5 ICE FM RADIO NEWS FROM McMURDO PLAYING ABOVE. ONLY OUR THREE HEROES INSIDE, MINOR DISH NOISES IN THE BACKGROUDN FROM MS. ALICE.***

KENDRA

. . . .and he's been back to his usual grumpy self the whole week. I still don't . . . .hmm. . . .Pretty sure he still doesn't like you very much!

BASS

Sorry that Doctor Van Zandt is holding a grudge. I know some people don't like it when I have to lean in on them during an interrogation. If he wants to hold onto that animosity, there isn't much I can do about that. I know Doctors Jovac and Waynewright are active again. They were both at the staff meeting Waynewright called earlier today. What about Doctor Lorenz?

THOMAS

I saw her yesterday as she was getting back from IceCube. The two Grad students there said she's been a regular again and showing up just like before your trip over to Future Canadian station! They're all. . .back amongst us fully again.

BASS

And again, all within the last week. Same time the station began receiving emails and communications from Beauregard Lowing. Can. . .anybody think of anything specific or unusual that happened on station just before the phone-lines opened back up?

THOMAS

Um. . .not particularly.

BASS

Kendra?

KENDRA

Um-mm. Nothing. . . no. Nothing from the DSL or any of the other labs.

BASS

Well. . .only thing we can do then is keep our eyes and ears open.

KENDRA

[Hesitant]

Um. . .I take that back. I did get an email from one of the University . . .the um. . .[clear throat] professors from CalTech who oversees the selection committee for various Grants. Amongst them. . .BICEP3.

BASS

Doctor Van Zandt's program?

KENDRA

Yes, precisely. The email was. . .odd, strange. The professor wanted to get my opinion on . . .was Doctor Van. . .was he still effective as the DSL division leader. It was. . .not very appropriate really?

THOMAS

Why? What was off about it?

KENDRA

Most, tenured professors won't . . .they like to keep their internal business and politics, well they don't publicize when there are issues. I'm . . .a doctor, but not a professor. I certainly don't. . .I'm not tenured. So for him to ask me. . .let's just say it's an academic no-no.

BASS

What did you tell him?

KENDRA

I emailed him back. . .told him I wasn't comfortable. . .didn't want to . . .that he should be asking that of Doctor Jovac or Waynewright. He then started making. . .well insinuations. How there could be openings, how Van Zandt had been down in Amundsen-Scott longer than most. . .had I considered. . .[DEEP BREATH] you know what. . .it's, it's all speculation really.

**TWO BEAT**

BASS

Well I for one would like to know. . . considered. . .what?

KENDRA

[Sigh] Applying for division head of the Dark Sector Lab? He implied that should . . .if. . .Gustov retires after this season, head of the DSL, of the lab would be available.

THOMAS

Gee whiz, that would be a great honor! Don't you want it?

KENDRA

Um. .like I said I'm . . .Giving it thought. Trying to determine what. . .what my comfort levels are now. [Deflecting] So what is this I hear about new station rules. . .about the Bumbles?

BASS

[Chuckles] Yeah. Sorry Mister Kelley about the joke! The um, bait and wearing raw meat around your neck.

THOMAS

Oh, that's alright. All in good fun and all that! In response to the increased sighting of the Bumbles, Doctor Waynewright has set down some new rules. Nothing too ambitious, just travel in groups, have strong handheld lights, no more unauthorized access into the Ice tunnels. . .

BASS

*That* wasn't one he mentioned in the conference room! What do the Bumbles have to do with the Ice Tunnels? They don't come into the station or the arches!

THOMAS

I was curious about that one myself. He posted it on the boards in administration. It'll be part of the morning announcements as well.

BASS

What is it that say. . .never let a good crisis go to waste!

***SLIGHT CHATTER AS TWO INDIVIDUALS ENTER THE GALLEY. BACKGROUND CONVO WITH LUNCH LADY ALICE, BEARLY AUDIBLE.***

KENDRA

Wow, The Atmospheric Research people are up late too! [chuckle] I didn't think the ARO worked past five P.M.!

THOMAS

Yeah. Doctor. . .I mean, Chief Meteorologist Topper Hunt has them working overtime. Said the computer data for the station's predictive weather models started going bonkers earlier today. Erm. .how did he phrase it. . .the winds will be opening up faster than a grad student's legs. . .after the 4<sup>th</sup> piña colada! Sound like we may be in for some real bad weather in the next few weeks.

KENDRA

Why is that man such a. . .just ewwww! Skeevy!

***MORE BACKGROUND CHATTER. A FEW SECONDS PASS BY.***

BASS

Any more messages from Beauregard-Lowing? Anything new with our science leadership team?

THOMAS

No. Not since this morning, and that was fairly routine really. Did manage to antagonize Doctor Waynewright. Seems he'll find something in every communication that gets him worked up since that Canadian station event. It's very unusual. [TWO BEAT] Oh, and you had a message come in from your new Marshal Boss. Marshal Murphy. I left it on your desk.

BASS

[Unimpressed]

Remember what it was about?

THOMAS

Um. . .something about expense vouchers or reimbursement for items lost. . .I think. How is that going. . .the new Boss and getting used to them, if you don't mind me asking.

BASS

It's [contemplative] fine. Our new Marshal is very professional. She's still learning the ropes of how the territory and people operate just like. . .like Chuck did when his nomination went through. She's a good Marshal with a long track record. Very thorough, detailed.

KENDRA

Sound to me like you still have some doubts!

BASS

[Mind drifting]

Hrm? Oh. Yeah, I guess I do. It's. . .[deep exhale] it's a change I'm still getting accustomed to. It doesn't help that I'm just about as remote as one can be without the ability to hop on a plane and head back for a week to get face time.

KENDRA

Well. . .once winter lifts, you could always take a few weeks to. . .

### ***LARGE GUST FROM OUTSIDE***

KENDRA

Head back to Hawaii. Check in, visit with Diane, pay your respects to. . .your in-laws!

BASS

Yeah. Summers is still months away, more than ample time to think about and plan for that. I still have this new assignment to work with. Will need to put in time over in Palmer, and especially MacTown. McMurdo is large enough to keep me occupied for a while. I'll call Marshal Murphy in a few hours / morning her time and see. . .

### ***DISH DROPPED IN THE BACK KITCHEN THREE BEAT***



THOMAS  
MISS ALICE? EVERYTHING ALRIGHT BACK THERE?

***SLOW FOOTSTEPS FROUND AROUND THE CORNER***

LUNCH ALDY ALICE

Uff-da! I must be more darn-tootin tired than I realized! I was working on putting together the ingredients for tomorrow hotdish & Juicy Lucy lunch, I was looking down and making sure I didn't 'Ope' it up again by putting in too many chopped carrots when I look up and. . .Holy Buckets! it's Doctor Rodney! Just standing there, looking all pale and. . .see-thru-y!

THOMAS

[Nervous]

A. . .a ghost?

LUNCH LADY ALICE

Well, I don't think it was one of them re-animated doohicky situations from a few years back now! No. . .it definitely looked like Doctor Rodney there, you betcha!

BASS

[Curious]

Did he. . .do anything? [pause] Say. . .anything?

LUNCH LADY ALICE

Well now that you mention it. I had the old ICE FM station on a bit louder than normal back there, but sure as shootin. . .he says to me. . .in this low voice.

BASS

I may be the first. .  
.but not the last!

LLA

I may be the first. .  
.but not the last!

**THREE BEAT**

LUNCH LADY ALICE

[Surprised]

You heard it too? Oh thank goodness! Though I was going to have to swear on the good book that I weren't sipping the Brandy old fashions back there again.

KENDRA

Sweetie. . .is that the. . .the same thing you heard on your birthday? When. . .when you said you saw him in the recycling room?

BASS

Exact same!

**OUTRO AND CREDITS**

Galley meeting.

Political Aspect needs to start Have on a radio Shortwave in the background.

President Campbell announces new strategic partnerships

Renewed call for tighter security controls and an end to political dissent that separates. Guam and Virgin Islands.

UN meeting to sanction.

Becoming antagonistic to enemies and allies alike.