

"Andreas' Fault"

696-007

Ben 10: Ultimate Alien

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BEN 10: ULTIMATE ALIEN
#686-007 "Andreas' Fault"
(formerly, "Forever Friends")
Written by Jim Krieg & Ernie Altbacker
Third Draft 08/29/09

TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT. FOREVER KNIGHT CASTLE - DAY

ARGIT ambles up the walkway of this forbidding castle.

1 ARGIT
<whistling>

With a flourish, Argit presses the doorbell and REACTS to what sounds like the <TOLLING> of Big Ben.

After a moment the door opens and the imperious KEEPER of the castle stares down his long nose at Argit.

2 KEEPER
Whatever you're selling, we don't want any.

3 ARGIT
You got a real nice castle here, be a shame if anything happened to it.

4 KEEPER
What are you talking about?

Argit looks over the Keeper's shoulder into the castle's hall.

5 ARGIT
Yer home, yer hearth. Your cache of priceless alien technology.

6 KEEPER
If you know about that, you also know that the Forever Knights are not to be trifled with.

7 ARGIT
I'd never trifle you guys. In fact, I'm here to help. I'm selling insurance-- peace of mind. For just a hundred thousand dollars a month I can guarantee that this castle won't fall down.

8 KEEPER
Is that some sort of half-baked
threat?

9 ARGIT
Oh it's a fully-baked promise.

The Keeper opens the door and takes a step closer to Argit, towering over him. He lifts him off his feet with one mailed fist, while drawing his sword with the other. Argit doesn't seem fazed at all. He shakes his head at the Keeper.

10 ARGIT (CONT'D)
How do you like that? I put out the
hand of friendship and you pull out
the sword of... not friendship!

The Keeper reacts to a RUMBLING which grows louder and LOUDER.

The ground begins to SHAKE VIOLENTLY. This startles the Keeper enough that he drops Argit.

11 ARGIT (CONT'D)
Alla this coulda been avoided! Tell
your friends!

WIDE. Argit walks towards the foreground. The castle ROCKS and SWAYS and finally--

KRA-KOOOOOOMMM!

FALLS INTO A HEAP as Argit reaches the camera and breaks into a creepy SMILE.

FADE OUT.

END TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. MR. SMOOTHIE'S - DAY - ESTABLISHING

There's a large CROWD of KIDS on line looking to get in. A couple of NEWS VANS are there along with a few squad cars.

INT. MR. SMOOTHIE'S - CONTINUOUS

In a roped off area, BEN is interviewed by REPORTER CHET RIGBY in front of a promotion BANNER; "Ben 10 Flavors Month!" Posters and cups with Ben's TRANSFORMATIONS decorate the place.

12 REPORTER CHET RIGBY
Wow, Ben, looks like quite a big turnout from your fans, the "Wannabens".

13 BEN
Thanks, Chet. But the real fans prefer to be called "Ben-a-tics".

GWEN shakes her head as she and KEVIN look on.

14 GWEN
He put the "dumb" in "Stardom."

15 KEVIN
Fame turns everybody into a nimrod.

The harried STORE MANAGER in the b.g. tries to minimize the mess the clamoring kids create.

16 STORE MANAGER
Hey hey hey no pushing! Pick that up! Stay in line! Were you raised in a barn?

Ben AUTOGRAPHS CUPS as he's interviewed. KIDS yell but one FANBOY particularly want his attention, waving his cup.

17 FANBOY
Ben! Ben! Ben! Ben! Ben! Ben!

18 VARIOUS KIDS
Ben!/Look at me!/You're the best, Ben!/I want a Goop cup!

19

BEN

Here you go. One for you. And you.
No, not forgetting you...

The Reporter sticks the microphone in Ben's face.

20

REPORTER CHET RIGBY

Some say charity events like this
are a poor apology for the damage
caused by your various battles.

21

FANBOY

Ben! Ben! Ben! Ben! Ben! Ben!

22

BEN

Umm, why don't you ask me about the
delicious flavors that Mr. Smoothie
has for Ben 10 Month, instead?

23

FANBOY

Ben! Ben! Ben! Ben! Ben! Ben!

Ben can't take the Fanboy anymore, who's right between him
and the Reporter in the center of her shot. Ben whirls.
Fanboy is holding an ALIEN X SMOOTHIE CUP

24

BEN

(sharply)

What?

25

FANBOY

I'm your biggest fan! But... you
know, after all the hype, the Alien
X Smoothie was a real
disappointment.

He takes a sip of his smoothie and frowns.

26

FANBOY (CONT'D)

Kinda tastes like filler.

Close on Ben as his eyes narrow and he woodenly signs the
Fanboy's cup, handing it back. The Reporter shoves the mic
into his face again.

27

REPORTER CHET RIGBY

Viewers are concerned about the
destruction that seems to follow in
your wake.

Ben puts on a winning smile.

28

BEN

Destruction? Me? That's crazy talk.

OUTSIDE THE WINDOW, a group of FOREVER KNIGHTS, armed to the teeth and seemingly intent on raiding Mr. smoothie's. The Kids nearby aren't afraid, instead taking pictures and cheering.

29 BEN (CONT'D)
The idea that I'm some sort of
trouble magnet is, umm... aww,
nuts.

The Knights BURST into the store, crashing through the large window rather than use the front door.

30 BEN (CONT'D)
(to Knights)
There's a door right there!

Gwen stares down Ben.

32 BEN
(to Reporter)
For the record, this is a total
coincidence!

Ben twists the Ultimatrix dial. He slaps it and TRANSFORMS into SPIDERMONKEY.

33 SPIDERMONKEY Spidermonkey!

The Kids think it's a show.

34 CROWD
<tremendous cheer>

Spidermonkey notices the cheering kids and plays to them.

35 SPIDERMONKEY
It's hero time!

36 CROWD
<tremendous cheer>

37 KEVIN
Give it a rest, willva?

Kevin touches a metal counter and turns into METAL KEVIN. He CLANKS his fist into his other metal hand.

Spidermonkey, Gwen, and Metal Kevin get ready to rumble and--

The Forever Knights TOTALLY IGNORE THEM, as they RACE past the three, intent on their true goal--

THE SMOOTHIE MACHINE! Two Knights push the machine toward the hole they made. A couple others keep the Kids back.

Spidermonkey, Gwen, and Steel Kevin are open-mouthed confused.

38

GWEN

Just to be sure we're seeing the same thing-- are the Forever Knights stealing a smoothie machine?

Kevin SHRUGS.

39

KEVIN

Thirsty?

A Knight shoves cups into a sack as the Knight Leader LIFTS the Store Manager off his feet.

40

KNIGHT LEADER

It says Ben Ten flavors! I only count nine souvenir cups!

The Knight Leader draws his sword in anger and CUTS the CARDBOARD STANDEE of Ben in half.

41

SPIDERMONKEY

Hey! I was gonna ask the store if I could have that!

Spidermonkey SPRINGS off a wall and uses several feet to KICK the Knight Leader away from the Manager and OUT OF FRAME. He notices the APPLAUSE from the Kids.

42

KNIGHT LEADER

<2 impacts>

43

KIDS

<CHEERS AND APPLAUSE>

44

SPIDERMONKEY

Thank you! Yes! I'm amazing.

The Knight Leader gets up, dazed. He motions for his Knights to attack SPIDERMONKEY. They DRAW THEIR BLADES and CHARGE.

44 A

KNIGHTS

<attack>

Kevin MORPHS his fist into a BLADE AND SWORDFIGHTS TWO OF THE KNIGHTS.

44 B KNIGHTS (CONT'D)
<fencing EFFORTS>

The remaining Knights pull their blasters and begin shooting at SpiderMonkey.

GWEN puts a FORCE FIELD in front of Spidermonkey, blocking the shots. Spidermonkey doesn't notice as he's waving to the crowd. GWEN PUSHES HER SHIELD OUT towards the Knights, bowling them over.

45 KNIGHTS (CONT'D)
<IMPACTS>

The Knight Leader exhorts his troops.

46 KNIGHT LEADER
Fight! If we return to our master without the object of our quest, it means our lives!

KEVIN punches several Knights off himself. They frantically FIRE at him as they make their getaway-- still pushing the smoothie machine.

47 KNIGHT LEADER (CONT'D)
We have our prize! Forever Knights?
Run away!

Kevin ducks and weaves away from the FIRE.

48 KEVIN
Yeah, you better!

SPIDERMONKEY is besieged by kids, now holding Spidermonkey cups. Despite himself, he's signing one kid's cup.

49 KIDS
<Walla> Spidermonkey!/ Sign my cup!/Ben Over here!/ Me! Me!

50 SPIDERMONKEY
I really appreciate all the attention, but this is not the best time...

51 GWEN (O.C.)
Could you try and take this a little more seriously?

Spidermonkey starts at Gwen's annoyance.

52 SPIDERMONKEY

Right.

(to kids)

Uh, stay in school!

He VAULTS away from the kids and then SPRAYS WEB over the Knights, all gathered by the smoothie machine.

53 SPIDERMONKEY (CONT'D)

That's a wrap! Haha!

54 KNIGHTS

<WALLA>

Close on the Leader's wrist as he PRESSES A BUTTON.

WIDER as the Knights and the smoothie machine DEMATERIALIZE.

The Kids go wild, punching their fists into the air, this is the best show they've ever seen.

55 KIDS

<tremendous cheer>

Spidermonkey TRANSFORMS back into Ben. He, Gwen, and Kevin have to shout over the din.

56 KEVIN

Teleport beam. That's new.

57 GWEN

Really? That's what grabs your attention? Not that they just stole a smoothie machine?

58 BEN

And the collectable cups.

59 GWEN

Nobody cares about your cups.
What's next?

60 BEN

We need intel. We need someone smart, totally in the know, and wired into the alien underground. We need the best...

Off the trio's resolve...

EXT. JIMMY'S HOUSE - DAY

CLOSE ON SUBURBAN DOOR. A cheery DING-DONG sounds.

The door swings open revealing JIMMY'S MOM, in a apron holding fresh baked cookies, answers the door.

Ben, Gwen and Kevin stand on the doorstep, a bit embarrassed.

Jimmy's Mom smiles, and SHOUTS OS down the hall.

61 JIMMY'S MOM
Jimmy! Your friends are here!
(to trio)
Who wants cookies?

Kevin raises his hand. Gwen gives him a look.

62 KEVIN
She offered! I'm being polite.

INT. JIMMY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jimmy's room is the cluttered room of a ten year old conspiracy theorist. There are maps with color coded pins and string, news articles taped everywhere, etc. Some strings end in regular stuff like Sumo Slammer posters, etc.

Kevin eats his BIG handful of cookies. Ben and Gwen look over Jimmy's shoulder at one of his multiple computer screens.

63 JIMMY
Forever Knights, huh? I thought you
were going to ask me about the
Trans Fat conspiracy. The
government wants us to get fat so
they can sell us new clothes, only
in a larger size.

64 GWEN
Maybe later.

Jimmy grabs a thick file and drops it in Gwen's lap.

65 JIMMY
I also think the Toon Channel
purposely makes one really bad
episode of Sumo Slammers every
season to get us to buy more toys.

Ben frowns. Gwen lays an hand on his arm to take it easy on Jimmy-- he's just a kid. She's misread Ben, though.

66 BEN
I knew it! I mean, why would Ishiyama give his mystic sword to a homunculus goat? That made no sense!

BEN (CONT'D)
(realizing)
Wait... I bought a goat action
figure!

Jimmy folds his arms and nods, as if to say, "see"?

67 KEVIN
Okay nerds, I'm out of cookies.
What about the Forever-Knights?

Jimmy taps keys on his computer bringing up PICTURES (stills or video) on his monitors.

68 JIMMY
I know they've been acting weird
for a couple weeks now. Here they
are robbing a pizza place, then two
days ago Benny's Burritos--

69 GWEN
They've stolen before. What's odd
about that?

70 JIMMY
They didn't touch the money. They
only stole pizza and burritos.

71 KEVIN
Burritos. Weird, alright.

72 GWEN
Why don't we just ask them what's
going on?

Behind her, Jimmy's fingers FLY along the keyboard.

73 BEN
The Forever Knights operate in
absolute secrecy. To get in contact
with one of their leaders would
take--

Gwen looks at the screen as Jimmy opens up his "Mugbook" account and VIDEO CALLS "FOREVER DUKE838."

A VIDEO CHAT box OPENS on the screen and the harried FOREVER DUKE comes online.

74 FOREVER DUKE838 (ON SCREEN)
James, old friend. I'm sorry, but
you've picked an ill time to chat.

IN THE CHAT BOX-- the shelves behind the Knight SHAKE. Books TUMBLE off and the shelf falls over.

75 GWEN
Forever Duke838?

76 JIMMY
He's awesome at Craft of War. We dominate Alt Earth.

IN THE CHAT BOX - Forever Duke reacts to an OS voice as the TREMORS increase.

77 PANICKED SENTRY (O.S.)
Sire! We must flee! The beast
attacks! Our battlements crumble
around us!

78 FOREVER DUKE838 (ON SCREEN)
James, I must go. If you do not
hear from me--

The feed goes DEAD.

79 JIMMY
Whoa!

80 BEN
We'll need an address, Jimmy.

EXT. DESTROYED CASTLE - DAY

BEN, GWEN, AND KEVIN are staring at something off-screen. Gwen looks down at a scrap of paper in her hand.

81 GWEN
This is the place all right.

NEW ANGLE - On the SMOULDERING HOLE and RUBBLE that once was the castle.

82 KEVIN
Was the place.

83 BEN
Someone's destroying the Forever
Knights.

Off Ben's concern we...

FADE OUT.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. BEN CAR - NIGHT

Ben drives and Gwen sits shotgun. Kevin's in the back pouting as they watch Jimmy on a MONITOR in the dashboard.

84 KEVIN
I like it better when I drive...

85 GWEN
Shhhh! Go ahead, Jimmy.

86 JIMMY (ON SCREEN)
It turns out another castle was
knocked down last month. They say
they were remodeling. Yeah, right.

87 JIMMY'S MOM (O.S.)
Jimmy, are you ready for gymnastics
class?

Jimmy looks OS.

88 JIMMY (ON SCREEN)
I'm not going to gymnastics class!
I'm trying to help solve a mystery!

Mom appears on screen.

89 JIMMY'S MOM (ON SCREEN)
Young man, you will do a healthy
physical activity at least four
days a week, or no computer. Do you
understand??

90 JIMMY (ON SCREEN)
Mom--!

Jimmy's Mom's hand reaches into the screen, which suddenly goes BLACK. Gwen fiddles with the controls.

91 GWEN
I'll get him back.

92 BEN
Don't bother--

Ben slows the car and all three look out the side window.

93 BEN (CONT'D)
--We're here.

EXT. CASTLE GROUNDS - NIGHT

Ben, Gwen, and Kevin are hiding in a ditch, looking at the Castle. KNIGHTS are everywhere, patrolling. The heroes duck down just before a SPOTLIGHT sweeps over them.

94 GWEN
So stealth is out.

95 BEN
We aren't any good at stealth,
anyway.

Ben ACTIVATES the Ultimatrix.

TRANSFORMATION SEQUENCE as Ben becomes JETRAY.

96 JETRAY

KLAXONS SOUND as JETRAY whooshes into the sky. Knights FIRE energy weapons as Jetray jukes and dodges.

Kevin runs toward the castle. Gwen joins him, constructing a SHIELD that protects them as they move.

She BOWLS over a pair of Knights FIRING at Jetray.

97 KNIGHTS
<impacts>

Kevin touches a Knight's armor, TURNING into STEEL KEVIN just in time to MACE a couple of KNIGHTS off of him.

98 KEVIN
<effort>

99 KNIGHTS
<impacts>

Jetray does a TIGHT TURN and goes on a STRAFING RUN, sending the Knights diving away. This clears a path to the castle, but a HEAVY OUTER DOOR is closing--

Kevin runs up and WRENCHES the outer door off the hinges. He THROWS it at a group of Knights, scattering them.

100 KEVIN
<efforts>

101 KNIGHTS
<impacts>

Jetray ROARS through the Knights FIRING from the open (regular) door, followed by Gwen and Kevin.

INT. GREAT HALL - CONTINUOUS

The FOREVER KNIGHTS are in a skirmish line, ready for battle. Jetray, Gwen, and Kevin are about to attack when--

102 ARGIT (O.S.)
Guys, hold up! Settle down!

103 KEVIN
Argit?

The gang turn to see ARGIT on a divan being CARRIED by four Forever Knights. He's wearing an ermine robe, a crown, and carries a scepter.

104 ARGIT
(to Knights)
Put down the hardware, boys. These are my friends. Go clean my room.
It's a pigsty in there.

104A FOREVER KNIGHTS
<rumbling>

The defending Knights put down their weapons and grumble, heading off.

105 ARGIT
Great to see you guys. Nice digs, huh?

Jetray, Kevin and Gwen stand there, shocked. Kevin transforms back to normal.

106 GWEN
I hate to ask this twice in one day, but are you guys seeing--

107 JETRAY
Yes. Yes, we are.

Argit <SNAPS> his fingers and the Knights holding his divan walk over to Jetray, Gwen, and Kevin. Another finger <SNAP> gets a Knight to come over and fan him.

Kevin breaks.

108 KEVIN
All right, Argit! What's the scam?

109 ARGIT
Scam? I'm hurt! Deeply hurt, that
an old friend like you would think
badly of me. Especially after I've
gone to all the trouble of
collecting the money I owe you!

Argit indicates a table COVERED with cash.

Kevin's face lights up. He's hypnotized momentarily,
reverently picking up two handfuls of cash.

110 KEVIN
Hello, beautiful...

111 GWEN
Kevin!

Kevin drops the money back on the table.

112 KEVIN
Right. There's gotta be a catch.
(to Argit)
Look, you know I love money more
than anything in the world--

113 GWEN
What did you say?

114 KEVIN
(correcting)
...Almost anything in the world,
but you'd better start telling me
what's really going on here.

Kevin touches the concrete wall and turns into CONCRETE
KEVIN. He grabs Argit off the divan.

115 KEVIN (CONT'D)
And I mean, right now!

116 ARGIT
You don't wanna take that approach
with me.

117 KEVIN
Why not? You're overdue for a
beating.

SUDDENLY, a HUGE HAND grabs Kevin and LIFTS him off his feet,
Kevin releases Argit in surprise.

118 KEVIN (CONT'D)
<surprise>

Kevin now dangles off the floor as a GIANT, fierce-looking ALIEN (ANDREAS) holds him like a child's toy.

119 ARGIT
Kevin, meet my new, best buddy
Andreas.

Kevin rears back to PUNCH Andreas.

Andreas VIOLENTLY SHAKES Kevin, VIBRATING him so fast that concrete chunks FLY OFF him.

120 KEVIN
<cry of surprise> Little help here?

121 GWEN
Oh why don't you get your money to help you?

122 JETRAY
Okay, that's enough...

Jetray, fires energy blasts. It's like a fly buzzing around a mountain.

Andreas actually waves as if Jetray were a fly and KNOCKS him into a wall.

123 JETRAY (CONT'D)
<impacts>

123A GWEN
<effort>

GWEN tries to encase Andreas in a force field...

124 ANDREAS
<frightened roar>

... but he VIBRATES free, SHATTERING Gwen's energy bubble--

125 GWEN
<Effort>

126 ARGIT
Andreas, no!

--And shaking the room until The ENTIRE CASTLE rumbles and shakes as Andreas becomes afraid.

127 ARGIT (CONT'D)
Stop! Please, stop! You're scaring
him!

Jetray and Gwen stop their attacks.

128 JETRAY
We're scaring him?

Argit waves his hands in front of the big alien, getting his attention.

129 ARGIT
Easy, big guy! It's okay. They're
friends. Friends...

Andreas stops shaking and drops Kevin on the floor.

130 KEVIN
<impact>

Gwen goes to him as he recovers, changing BACK to normal.

131 ANDREAS
Friends?

132 ARGIT
Yeah, friends. No one's going to
hurt you. It's okay.

Argit smiles at Jetray, Gwen, and Kevin, who gets to his feet as shaky as a newborn colt.

133 KEVIN
I feel like I was in a paint mixer.

Andreas pats Argit's head as he explains.

134 ARGIT
I found him a few weeks ago. Poor
guy didn't know which way was up.
Now we're best buds!

135 ANDREAS
Argit is Andreas' friend...

Argit puts out his hand for a high five and Andreas gently does it. Argit pats Andreas, who enjoys it.

136 ARGIT
Andreas moves through rock like we
walk through air. And he can make
earthquakes.

136A ANDREAS

<sniffs>

136B ULTIMATRIX

Uncataloged DNA acquired.

Argit motions everyone to the smoothie machine.

Jetray REVERTS into Ben causing Andreas to come over and sniff him, confused by the change.

137 ARGIT

Ben's a friend, too, Andreas.

138 BEN

I'm not so sure about that.

139 ARGIT

And what's that, smart guy?

140 KEVIN

Making the Forever Knights work for you.

141 ARGIT

Making them? No. They choose to work for me so nothing bad happens to their nice castles. I'm providing a service.

142 GWEN

A protection racket is a service?

Argit frowns at Gwen.

143 ARGIT

You're a very judgemental person. Anyway, I'm the King of the Forever Knights now.

(to one of the Knights)

Isn't that right?

One of the Knights is pouring Argit a smoothie, he grits his teeth and curtly nods.

144 FOREVER KNIGHT #1

As you say, my Liege.

145 ARGIT

Liege. You gotta love it. Hey, who else wants a smoothie? They're all aces. Except Alien X. That's a misfire.

Argit takes a sip of his smoothie and throws it on the Forever Knight #1.

146 ARGIT (CONT'D)
What is this? I said half Goop-alicious, half Swamp-Fruit and a hint of Humonga-sour! A hint!

Forever Knight # 1 reaches for his sword but stops when he notices Andreas watching him.

147 ANDREAS
<low growl>

Forever Knight # 1 takes his hand away from his sword and begins refilling a smoothie cup.

148 ARGIT
See? One big, happy family-- where everyone knows their place.

149 GWEN
This is totally wrong. You're using poor Andreas!

150 ARGIT
He can leave whenever he wants. I couldn't stop him if I tried. But he likes it here with me.

Argit directs the divan up the stairs to a THRONE.

151 KEVIN
You're a dirt bag. Just because somebody's dumb enough to trust you--

152 ARGIT
Do you mean Andreas, or you?

That's it, Kevin's ready to fight.

153 KEVIN
You know what a concrete fist tastes like?

154 GWEN
Don't let him get to you, Kevin.

Argit pats Andreas on the arm.

155 ARGIT
Face it, Kev. No one can match up against my big buddy.
(MORE)

ARGIT (CONT'D)
Not the Knights, not you. How about
a smoothie for the road? That's a
hint, I'm telling you to get out of
my castle.

156

BEN

Yeah, we got that.

SUDDENLY the door BURSTS open.

Everyone looks over as SIR DAGONET, a bad ass Forever Knight,
strides down the red carpet of the chamber.

157

ARGIT

Hey, what's your damage, lunkhead?
Nobody barges into my castle!

158

DAGONET

Your castle? So, this is your
castle, is it?

Argit licks his lips, mouth suddenly dry. He motions for
Andreas to come over and he does.

159

ARGIT

It sure is. And who the heck are
you?

160

DAGONET

I am... Sir Dagonet .

There are WHISPERS from the other Forever Knights around the
room as Dagonet's steely gaze takes in everything.

161

OTHER KNIGHTS

(whispering)

It's Sir Dagonet /Dagonet / Sir
Dagonet...

162

ARGIT

What's your angle?

163

DAGONET

My angle!? You mistake me, vermin!

Argit edges toward Ben, Gwen, and Kevin. Kevin shoves him
away as--

164

ARGIT

Now waitaminute big fella, let's
not get hasty.

Dagonet draws his gleaming sword and raises it. He's framed by the stained glass window behind him, and looks noble and dangerous.

165

DAGONET

I, Sir Dagonet, am here to restore the honor of the Forever Knights which you have sullied with your alien filth!

166

KEVIN

(to Argit)

Shouldn't have sullied him, man.

167

DAGONET

I bring you our justice and righteous anger. You will be thrown in chains and taken to the Forever King's dungeon for your inquisition!

Andreas emits a low GROWL.

168

ANDREAS

<Growl>

Argit smiles at Dagonet.

169

ARGIT

So bottom line, you want me to stop being king of this castle and instead go live in a dungeon.

Argit taps the scepter in his hand, thinking it over. Then, indicating the LEGION of Forever Knights AT ATTENTION behind him.

170

ARGIT (CONT'D)

Yeah, I'm gonna say no thanks. All these knights in here? They work for me. Now you come in here and try to tell me what to do? I say, you and what army!

171

DAGONET

Knights!

At his decisive command, the Forever Knights instantly ABOUT FACE and DRAW their ENERGY PIKES and SWORDS.

172

BEN

That army.

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The Forever Knights point their weapons at Argit, Ben, Gwen, Kevin, and Andreas as we...

FADE OUT.

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. CASTLE - CONTINUOUS

Ben, Gwen, and Kevin are in defensive stances as an angry group of Forever Knights faces them with Dagonet at its head. Andreas doesn't know what's going on and looks to Argit.

Before anyone can make a move, or say a word--

Argit drops theatrically to his knees.

173

ARGIT

I'm saved! Thank goodness you're here!

This takes everyone by surprise. Dagonet's puzzled.

174

DAGONET

Wait. What?

Ben, Gwen, and Kevin are surprised to see Argit point an accusing finger at them. Or, as they come to think of it, not so surprised.

175

ARGIT

(re. Ben and friends)

These guys are controlling a monster to take over your territory and they made me the patsy, putting me on a throne-- forcing me to wear this ridiculously soft and luxurious robe-- to make it look like I'm the one in charge!

176

BEN & GWEN

What?!

177

KEVIN

If you think anyone's dumb enough to believe that--

Argit ends the discussion by SHOOTING the three, and Andreas, with his SPINY, SLEEP QUILLS. They fall to the ground.

178

BEN/GWEN/KEVIN/ANDREAS

(impact & faint)

Argit goes into overdrive, handing over the scepter and robe to Dagonet, then tidying up, while talking non-stop.

179

ARGIT

Hope you didn't mind my act. I had to be rude to you in front of the-- you know-- masterminds. But I was so happy to see you striding in.

180

DAGONET

Were you.

181

ARGIT

And I can't believe they sent you,
Sir Dagonet, the greatest warrior ever born. I totally knew who you were! I mean, who doesn't? <nervous chuckle>. We're pals now, right?

Dagonet stares flatly at Argit.

INT. DUNGEON - NIGHT

Argit stares sadly as the wrought iron door CLANGS shut in front of him. A little ways off, two Guards stand at either side of the cells in the dungeon.

182

ARGIT

This is so nuts. I'm the victim here.

With great relish, Forever Knight #1 LOCKS the cell door with an old style key as Dagonet looks on.

183

DAGONET

Though I find you loathsome and would gladly slay you if I came upon you in the woods, you and your compatriots shall have your day in front of the High Inquisitor.

Argit looks over to the next cell over where Ben, Gwen, and Kevin are held in High-tech force fields.

Dagonet and Forever Knight #1 turn to leave.

184

ARGIT

Hey, wait. What's going to happen to Andreas?

185

DAGONET

The monster? We're Forever Knights. We slay monsters!

186

ARGIT

You can't do that to my meal ticket --I mean, friend!

Dagonet doesn't answer as he and Forever Knight #1 leave.

187 BEN (O.S.)
Do any of your schemes ever work?

Argit looks over to see Ben and company in the next cell.

188 ARGIT
Hello? My "scheme" saved your
lives. If you guys had busted into
action when Knighty McKnighterson
came in, we'd all be dead.

Kevin rubs his rear.

189 KEVIN
I think I still have one of your
quills in my butt.

Gwen gives Kevin a glare.

190 GWEN
I'm surprised your money didn't
protect you.

191 KEVIN
Is she ever going to drop that?

192 BEN
No. Never.

Argit hits Kevin in the head with his tin cup.

193 KEVIN
<impact> OWW!

194 ARGIT
Hey! Stop arguing and get us out of
here. You don't want to be
inquisitioned, do you?

Kevin smiles at Argit.

195 KEVIN
Not our problem. You're the one who
knocked down their castles.

Argit looks at Ben and Gwen, softer targets to convince.

196 ARGIT
Forever Knights hate everything
alien! That includes you guys!
After they kill Andreas, we're
next!

197

GWEN

They're doing what?

Argit seizes on Gwen's concern like a lifeline.

198

ARGIT

Yeah, yeah! Dagonet said they're going to execute him summarily. And that's the worst kind!

(overacting)

We've got to save him! Please <sniff> He's my best friend.

199

BEN

No one's killing anyone.

199A

GUARDS

Oof...

Ben twists the dial on the Ultimatrix and TRANSFORMS...

OUTSIDE CELL DOOR: The Guards see the light and turn from their posts.

GOOP is too fast and KNOCKS THEIR HEADS TOGETHER.

Kevin touches a FLAGSTONE on the wall and becomes STONE KEVIN. He bends the bars so Gwen can get through.

200

KEVIN

After you.

201

GWEN

Sure you don't want to hold the door for your money?

Goop TRANSFORMS back into Ben.

202

BEN

Come on!

INT. CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Andreas is splayed out, chained by legs and wrists on a rough wooden TARGET. He's confused and scared, but doesn't do anything.

203

ANDREAS

Argit..?

The Squires fiddle with a SONIC CANNON aimed at Andreas as Dagonet reads off a scroll. Every Knight in the castle is lined up, watching and listening to the proceedings.

204

DAGONET

In accordance with Forever Knight law, any alien who dares to set foot, or claw or pseudopod upon our planet shall be executed. The charges are as follows...

Ben, Gwen, Kevin and Argit are hiding in a hallway just outside the chamber.

205

BEN

For once, Argit wasn't lying. They're planning to shoot Andreas.

206

GWEN

Well, I've got other plans.

Argit creeps toward an OPEN WINDOW. He's almost there when Kevin grabs him by the tail.

207

KEVIN

Where do you think you're goin'?

Ben and Gwen step back from the vantage point to hear the explanation.

208

ARGIT

I was scouting our escape route. Taking point. That's the most dangerous position, you know.

209

DAGONET (O.S.)

... with the charges having been duly noted and read, the execution can commence.

210

KNIGHTS

<cheers>

Argit throws his hands wide.

211

ARGIT

Look, Andreas had a great run, but no one lives forever. And we'll always remember him in our hearts.

Argit actually wipes away a tear before BOLTING for the exit.

Kevin grabs him roughly and pulls him close.

212

KEVIN

You're coming with us. And, you can stay on point!

Kevin HEAVES Argit O.S.

213 ARGIT
<falling cry>

INT. GREAT HALL - CONTINUOUS

Argit LANDS with a clatter on a table set up for the after-execution feast.

214 ARGIT
<impact>

215 DAGONET
The space vermin!

216 ARGIT
(to Forever Knights)
Hi, guys! Remember all the fun we
had with the smoothie machine and
everything? You wouldn't shoot me,
right?

A DOZEN weapons are immediately focused on Argit. Ben and the others use the diversion to RACE IN. BEN uses the Ultimatrix to turn into SWAMPFIRE.

217 SWAMPFIRE
Swampfire!

He sprays the crowd of Knights with fire BLASTS, scattering everyone.

218 SWAMPFIRE (CONT'D)
I don't think so!

218A GWEN
<3 efforts>

Dagonet runs to the Sonic Cannon, shoving a cowering Knight away.

CLOSE ON HIS HAND as he presses the trigger.

GWEN uses a FORCE FIELD to block the first shot.

Her second and third ENERGY BLASTS dislodge it from its tripod and send it spinning across the room.

KEVIN turns into STONE KEVIN and rips the bindings off Andreas. He gets a suffocating hug for his trouble.

219 ANDREAS
You nice. Andreas sorry for shaking
you.

220 KEVIN
(muffled)
<Oof!> Alright buddy...

Argit has scrambled to his feet. DODGING FIRE from both sides he stuffs money from the table into a big sack..

Dagonet picks up the sonic cannon and hand cocks it.

Dagonet blasts Swampfire back, then turns his aim at Gwen, sending her DIVING for cover.

Kevin leads Andreas through the melee, PUNCHING Knights who get in his way.

221 KEVIN (CONT'D)
Back off!
(to Andreas)
This way, big fella.

Argit is absolutely loaded down with stuff. He grins as he puts the sack over his shoulder. The sack is OBLITERATED by a Knight's energy blast. He decides to follow Kevin and Andreas.

222 ARGIT
Wait! Never leave a man behind!

222A KEVIN
AHH!

222B ARGIT
AHH!

Dagonet FIRES at Andreas, hitting him repeatedly. Kevin and Argit are THROWN O.S. by the concussion. The fire doesn't send the big alien off his feet, just scares him.

223 ANDREAS
<howls>

224 ARGIT
(to Dagonet)
No! No! Scaring him is a bad idea!

Argit ducks as Dagonet shoots at him. He hides behind Stone Kevin who's hit and slammed backwards.

225 ARGIT (CONT'D)
And shooting me is a worse idea!

Dagonet resumes HITTING Andreas.

226 DAGONET
Justice shall be carried out!

Swampfire has his hands full holding back the teeming Knights with his fire blasts.

227 SWAMPFIRE
Gwen, protect Andreas!

Gwen SHOOTS force field wafers at Dagonet. One hits the sonic cannon, KNOCKING it out of his hands.

228 DAGONET
<efforts>

Dagonet uses gymnastic moves and retrieves the sonic cannon. He frowns as the barrel is ruined.

229 DAGONET (CONT'D)
Ruined! But there's still a way to
use it to kill the beast!

CLOSE ON SONIC CANNON as Dagonet's hand presses various buttons. The gun begins a high-pitched VIBRATION.

230 KEVIN
That thing's set on self-destruct!
We need to clear out of here!

231 DAGONET
Knights, to me!

ANDREAS starts to TREMBLE from the noise. He VIBRATES, as does the entire room.

Gwen turns to Argit.

232 GWEN
He's scared, how do you stop him?

233 ARGIT
Stop him? I just let him go until
he knocks the building down, then I
give him a burrito.

234 GWEN
You are so helpful...

The Knights gather around Dagonet who drops the GUN-BOMB into the center of the room.

235 DAGONET
There's no escape for the guilty!
The sentence will be carried out--
on all of you!

Dagonet TELEPORTS OUT along with the other Knights.

THE EARTHQUAKE gains intensity. The room SHAKES. Sections of the ceiling FALL.

Swampire joins Argit. Kevin holds the now groggy Gwen.

236 ARGIT
Run for it!

237 GWEN
I can try a force field...

Kevin props Gwen up.

238 SWAMPFIRE
You'll never survive it, Gwen. You guys go! I'll wrap up the cannon in vines to muffle the explosion.

239 ARGIT
Good idea! Ben can stay!

240 KEVIN
Won't matter. The discharge from that cannon's AR9 power cell will take out five square miles.

Argit's eyes go wide. He gets an idea.

241 ARGIT
I'll bet Andreas could absorb the whole thing!

242 GWEN
No!

243 ARGIT
He's a big boy. Let him decide.
(to Andreas; showing him)
Andreas, can you hold that bomb real tight? Can you suck up the explosion?

Andreas nods.

244 ANDREAS
Argit save Andreas. Now Andreas save Argit and new friends.

245 GWEN
Ben, we can't let him do that!

Ben doesn't like it either, but there's no choice.

246

SWAMPFIRE

We can't let everyone for five
square miles be killed either.

Andreas takes the bomb and wraps his huge arms around it.

ANDREAS VIBRATES at SUPER SPEED. The castle ROCKS as he
DRILLS A HOLE in the floor.

Andreas looks back at Argit as he drops from sight.

The castle is COMING APART. A HOLE appears in the side wall.

247

ARGIT

Follow me!

247A

SWAMPFIRE

<effort>

247B

GWEN

<exhausted groan>

Everyone runs after Argit but--

EXT. CASTLE - NIGHT

There's a huge SONIC SXPLOSION from inside. THE CASTLE
COLLAPSES in on itself. SMOKE and DUST obscure everything.

EXT. CASTLE GROUNDS - DAYBREAK

The dust has settled. There's a pile of rubble where the
castle once stood. For a moment all is silent, then--

Movement. Swampfire heaves debris off a FORCE FIELD that Gwen
managed to erect at the last minute. It SPUTTERS out and she
drops to a knee from the effort. Kevin helps her up.

Exhausted, Swampfire TRANSFORMS back to Ben.

Argit digs himself out of another pile of rubble. He slaps
dust off himself and then realizing, digs frantically.

248

ARGIT

Oh, no! I lost everything! Do you
know how much money I had in there?
<oof!>

Kevin SWATS Argit, sending him to the ground. Ben and Gwen
hold him back from doing more.

249

KEVIN

He trusted you! He loved you! And what did you do? You used him! You used his feelings for you and, and-- now he's gone.

Argit gets up, keeping his distance from Kevin. Of all things, he's a little miffed.

250

ARGIT

Sometimes I just don't get you, Kevin. None of you.

251

GWEN

No. You wouldn't.

As Argit leaves in a huff, Gwen puts a hand on Kevin's arm. Forgiven.

Ben, Gwen, and Kevin look at rubble. Andreas' tomb.

252

KEVIN

Andreas set up counter-vibrations that absorbed most of the blast. He saved us.

253

BEN

He saved everyone.

The group sadly looks at the remains, then walks away.

FADE OUT.

END ACT THREE

TAG

FADE IN:

EXT. CASTLE GROUNDS - NIGHT

A FIGURE creeps through the ruins of the castle.

CLOSE ON a BEEPING locator in his (later revealed to be AGGREGOR's) HAND. The beeping QUICKENS.

The Figure uses a RAY from his STAFF to move a massive amount of rubble, REVEALING--

ANDREAS, yellow hydraulic fluid leaking from his mouth.

254 ANDREAS
... it... hurts...

Another RAY encases Andreas, LIFTING him from the hole.

The Figure FLOATS Andreas from the hole as a massive SPACESHIP DE-CLOAKS. A door opens in the ship and light SILHOUETTES the Figure as he walks up a ramp with Andreas.

INT. ANDREAS' SPACESHIP - CONTINUOUS

The door closes as Andreas is floated into a CHAMBER.

255 AGRAGOR
I'll make you all better. You want
to be better, don't you?

Andreas nods weakly as he's put in a STASIS TUBE. It seals itself shut and FREEZES the frightened look on his face.

REVEAL AGRAGOR as he looks at the tube in satisfaction. There are two others with aliens inside, and two EMPTY ONES.

256 AGRAGOR (CONT'D)
Three down and two to go. Then the fun begins. <evil laugh>

EXT. SPACESHIP - CONTINUOUS

The ship rises into the night sky as we...

FADE OUT.

THE END

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