MYTHIC QUEST

Episode S202/P201

"Titans' Rift"

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MYTHIC QUEST

Episode S202/P201 "Titans' Rift" Blue Revision

IAN ROB MCELHENNEY
C.W. LONGBOTTOM F. MURRAY ABRAHAM
POPPY CHARLOTTE NICDAO
DAVID DAVID HORNSBY
BRAD DANNY PUDI
RACHEL ASHLY BURCH
DANA IMANI HAKIM
JO JESSIE ENNIS
CAROL NAOMI EKPERIGIN
SUE CAITLIN MCGEE

SET LIST

INT. POPPY'S BEDROOM

INT. IAN & POPPY'S OFFICE

INT. TESTERS ROOM

INT. MQ STUDIOS

- HALLWAY

- BULLPEN

INT. IAN'S BEDROOM

EXT. MQ PARKING GARAGE

EXT. MQ COURTYARD

1 INT. IAN & POPPY'S OFFICE - DAY (D20)

IAN and POPPY are staring at a blank whiteboard.

POPPY

Okay! The new expansion.

IAN

Yes. First job for the new partners. Fresh start. Blank page.

POPPY

Goodbye, Raven's Banquet. Hello... something else.

They stare at the empty board again.

IAN POPPY

I think it should be-- So I was thinking--

Oops! They laugh it off.

IAN

Please. After you.

POPPY

So I was thinking what if we set the new expansion... at sea?

IAN

Oh. I was thinking land.

POPPY

Oh.

A long beat.

IAN

Well, we're not gonna figure this out tonight. I'm gonna take off.

POPPY

Wait, you're leaving?

IAN

Yeah. Might head out to the desert tomorrow to clear my mind and reconnect with my physical form.

POPPY

So... shirtless Jiu Jitsu.

2.

IAN

Big time. All right, Pop, see ya next week!

Ian heads for the door.

POPPY

We just got started. You can't leave for a week.

IAN

Yeah. Don't worry, I'll tell David to shut down the office until I get back.

POPPY

No, we're not shutting the office down. I don't need you. I'm gonna keep working on the expansion.

She turns back to the whiteboard.

IAN

Okay, fine.

(as he goes)

But just a bit of advice from the guy you don't need: Take a night off. Relax. Blow off some steam. Go get drunk. Get laid-something! It'll clear your head.

He exits. She rolls her eyes. Then, considers...

2. INT. POPPY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT (N2X)

> We start on the foot of a bed. There's movement under the sheets. MUSIC PLAYS. Someone's getting lucky. PAN ACROSS the room: an empty bottle of wine, strewn clothes, a laptop, a nightstand with glasses and a FRAMED PICTURE of

a younger Poppy in an MIT sweatshirt. POPPY's getting lucky! Poppy rolls onto her pillow, smiling post-coital.

POPPY

Mmm. That was nice. How was it for you?

REVEAL lying next to her is IAN.

IAN

I gotta be honest, Pop... it was terrible.

Poppy's eyes go wide with shock. She screams.

4

3 INT. POPPY'S BEDROOM - MORNING (D21)

> Poppy JERKS awake -- still screaming. She looks over to the other side of the bed. It's empty and untouched. She was having a nightmare. A sigh of relief.

> > POPPY

(with relief)

Oh God.

(then, in disgust)

Oh God!!

SMASH TO:

MAIN TITLES: MYTHIC QUEST

4 INT. TESTERS ROOM - MORNING (D21)

> Dana and Rachel play on the couch. Dana looks to Rachel. Rachel does the same. Yes. They're doing this again.

> > DANA

So...

RACHEL

Everlight was great, huh?

DANA

Yeah.

RACHEL

Yeah. I think maybe we should--

Poppy barrels in.

POPPY

What up, ladies! You busy?

RACHEL

Well, we were right in the middle of something actually ---

POPPY

Cool. I was thinking we could hang. Have a little girl talk?

Rachel/Dana share a hesitant look. Poppy's smile drops.

POPPY

Put the controllers down.

Rachel/Dana reluctantly put down their controllers.

POPPY

(cheery again)

Yay! Okay, so I thought we could talk about what's on our minds. Or what's going on in the world.

RACHEL

Well, I've been feeling a lot of anxiety about the state of--

POPPY

Oh, I meant more \underline{I} talk and you listen. Not that \overline{I} don't care about your thing, but I kinda don't. I gotta get something off my chest and I can tell you because, ya know, no one pays attention to you and also if you said anything you'd be fired.

DANA

Does your girl talk always involve veiled threats?

POPPY

Sorry. Was that veiled? I meant for that to be clear. You will be fired if you tell anyone this.

(then)

Anyway, I had this work dream, more of a nightmare really. And it's kinda messing with my head--

DANA

You had a sex dream about Ian, didn't you?

POPPY

What?! NO. No. What if I did though?

DANA

It's not a big deal. I've had the same dream.

RACHEL

What?! NO. I mean... You have?

DANA

Yeah. It's pretty common to have dreams about your boss. It's not sexual. It's really about power.

POPPY

But Ian's not my boss anymore. We're equals.

DANA

Not according to your subconscious. The dream is just a representation of our need for his approval.

POPPY

Right. That's why afterwards he tells you it was bad.

DANA

He didn't tell me it was bad. He liked it in my dream.

RACHEL

I thought it wasn't sexual.

DANA

It's not.

RACHEL

Then why do you care?

DANA

I don't. I'm just saying I was better at it than Poppy.

POPPY

No you weren't! I am super good at sex! Like, so good at sex!

DANA

Okay.

POPPY

Whatever. How do I get it to stop?

DANA

Well, if it's about power then maybe you have to assert your authority in real life and then your subconscious will catch up.

POPPY

Yeah... yeah. That's good. Assert my authority. That's what I'm gonna do.

Poppy just walks out.

5

RACHEL

That was weird huh?

DANA

Yeah. Weird. (then)

Oh, did you wanna talk--

RACHEL

No. Nope. I'm good.

Rachel moves a little further from Dana.

5 EXT. MQ PARKING GARAGE - MORNING (D21)

> CAROL, hungover behind sunglasses and coffee, walks toward the office. Rachel is waiting for her.

> > RACHEL

Carol, we need to talk.

CAROL

No. It's a new dawn, remember? And Carol is hungover from Everlight. I'm not starting this again with you.

RACHEL

It's not what you think.

CAROL

This isn't about Dana?

RACHEL

Oh it is what you think. So my issue is--

CAROL

Shh. Shhhh.

Carol gestures: "Lower the volume."

CAROL

Fine. I'll solve any problem you can keep under five decibels. Go.

RACHEL

(quieter)

Okay, well, I thought Dana and I were so close to the next step. But now I'm not even sure she's gay. Which is fine because she doesn't have to be gay. She could be Bi. Or "Q".

(MORE)

RACHEL (CONT'D)

Actually I'm not sure if the "Q" means Queer or Questioning. She's definitely cis, not that that matters... Unless she's not?! Oh my god, I just assumed she's--

CAROL

Dear God. You are spinning, girl.

RACHEL

Sorry. I just don't wanna say the wrong thing and offend her. This stuff is important to talk about.

CAROL

I do talk about it. At the seminars I hold about workplace discrimination — that no one attends. Including you.

RACHEL

Yeah, I had a thing that day--

CAROL

Right. Let's jump into it one-onone because you're entitled to have everything you want whenever you want it.

RACHEL

I'm sensing some micro-aggression.

CAROL

You're sensing macro-aggression!

Carol holds her head. That hurt.

CAROL

Look, the problem is that you're talking to me instead of her. You're so busy not wanting to offend her that you're not telling her the truth.

RACHEL

(considers, then)

Right. I need be direct. First, I'll go to the boards and educate myself a little further on the Q thing. Then we'll talk it out. Thank you, Carol. I feel seen and heard.

As Rachel runs off:

CAROL

And that's a problem! Because I don't wanna see you. Or hear you.

6 INT. IAN & POPPY'S OFFICE - A LITTLE LATER (D21) 6

5

Poppy stares at an empty whiteboard. She's lost, spacedout. She seems almost paralyzed. DAVID bursts in, angry.

DAVID

Guess who Ian just screwed!

FLASH TO: Ian in bed staring at camera. (N2X)

INT. IAN & POPPY'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS (D21) 7

7

POPPY

NO! Sorry-- who?

DAVID

Me! I just found this stuck to my office window when I got to work.

He hands Poppy a POST-IT NOTE.

POPPY

(reading)

TEMPE?

DAVID

Tempe, Arizona. Ian left for his annual sabbatical.

POPPY

Please. It's not a sabbatical. It's a sleep-away camp for fortyyear-old men who wanna learn MMA. It's pathetic.

DAVID

So pathetic. Did you know about this?

POPPY

No. He just left a note on my desk saying to take care of his rings because they're priceless and he got them in the Amazon.

She holds up a plastic baggie with Ian's rings.

8

9

DAVID

Please. He got those from Amazon. It's like a ring of the month club. It's pathetic.

POPPY

So pathetic.

DAVID

I have to give Montreal an update on the new expansion. Ian and I were supposed to talk today but he just up and left.

POPPY

Well you know Ian. He does what he wants. He's the boss. Not mine though. We're EQUALS!

DAVID

To be clear, $\underline{I'm}$ the boss. He works for me. So do you! (then, realizing)

But you're right. You're not under Ian anymore.

FLASH TO: Ian in bed staring at camera. (N2X)

8 INT. IAN & POPPY'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS (D21)

POPPY

Sorry-- what?

DAVID

In your new position. It's your time to be on top, stretch your legs and grind it out like a boss. You can help me and if Ian doesn't like it, fuck him.

FLASH TO: Ian in bed staring at camera. (N2X)

INT. IAN & POPPY'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS (D21)

POPPY

No!

DAVID

What?

POPPY

Nothing. What do you need, David?!

10.

DAVID

Oh. The title. For the expansion.

POPPY

We don't have one. Ian and I have two fundamentally different ideas of what the new expansion should be. Probably why he went on sabbatical. See, I wanna revolutionize the player experience by allowing them to build with persistent environmental changes --

DAVID

Poppy. Don't care. I just need a title. If we don't come up with a good one, Montreal's gonna stick us with a bad one. So give me a good one. Now.

POPPY

Yes! I can do this. I don't need Ian. I have the power and I will assert it. Because that's what bosses--

DAVID

Title!

POPPY

Right. Yes. The title is... Sea of Ashes!

DAVID

Sold. I'll have the art team mock something up. Now I just gotta figure out a way to hold off Montreal til tomorrow.

POPPY

Just sick Jo on them.

DAVID

Jo? Oh. We uh, parted ways.

POPPY

Ah. She finally left you, eh?

DAVID

No. She didn't leave me. She's... exploring other opportunities within the company.

10 INT. MQ STUDIOS - HALLWAYS - SAME TIME (D21) 10

BRAD and JO walk and talk. Jo carries her laptop.

BRAD

Jo, I'm glad you left David for me. That was a dead-end relationship.

He's such a pussy.

BRAD

That goes without saying. And you probably shouldn't say it. Not because it's inappropriate. But because it's obvious.

I have so much to learn.

She opens her laptop to take notes.

BRAD

That's good. Because I have so much to teach. Lesson one: no notes. Never leave a paper trail.

Jo obediently tosses her computer in a nearby trashcan.

11 INT. MQ STUDIOS - BULLPEN - CONTINUOUS (D21) 11

They walk through the bullpen.

BRAD

Now eventually you'll learn enough to grow from my protege into my sworn enemy. If I have trained you properly, you will try to devour me. But if I devour you during your attempts to devour me, that will only make me stronger.

JO

I'm already thinking of ways to devour you.

BRAD

I know you are. That's why I like you.

We land on two confused/frightened DEVS.

12 INT. POPPY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT (N2X) 12

Poppy's sleeping. She suddenly wakes up. Looks around.

POPPY

(relieved)

Thank God.

IAN

(O.C.) Hey, Pop.

REVEAL IAN standing buck naked (bits properly covered) next to her bed.

IAN

Last night was... not good.

He drinks milk from the container. It spills down his chest.

C.W. (O.S.)

Agreed.

REVEAL a fully clothed CW seated nearby, swirling Cognac.

C.W.

Totally uninspired.

Poppy screams.

13 INT. POPPY'S BEDROOM - MORNING (D22) 13

Poppy JERKS awake-- still screaming.

POPPY

AGH!!! Goddamnit!

14 INT. SUE'S OFFICE - DAY (D22) 14

David is mid-war story, feet up on Sue's desk.

DAVID

The tension was thick. You could hear a pin drop. Then, Poppy turns. And she looks at me, right in the eye, and she says -- Poppy says... "whatever you need, David."

SUE

Wowww. She said that? She called you "David"?

DAVID

Yeah. Well that's my name. Anyway, I said I need that title now, Pops. No ifs, ands or buts. And thus was born... Sea of Ashes.

David proudly reveals Sea of Ashes artwork.

SUE

Like the dust of Christ!

DAVID

There's no religious connotations.

You sure? Well, either way, good for you! It takes a lotta gumption to talk that way to your boss.

DAVID

Well-- no I'm Poppy's boss.

SUE

Oh. I guess sometimes I forget because you have such kind eyes.

DAVID

Well, you get a much different David Brittlesbee than they get upstairs. The David they know is a fearsome, authoritative man who must be obeyed.

Just then, Poppy rushes in, a bit disheveled.

POPPY

David! There you are. I need to talk. Gotta sec?

David WINKS at Sue. He's riding high.

DAVID

Always got time for my subordinates. I was just showing off the artwork for Sea of Ashes.

POPPY

Trash it. It's not the title.

DAVID

Huh?

POPPY

It doesn't work. It's... totally uninspired.

DAVID

You came up with it! It works!

POPPY

No it doesn't. If it did, it would, but it didn't. Look, I need more time to assert my dominance!

DAVID

Assert what? Poppy, I don't have more time. I need to tell Montreal a title!

POPPY

Tell them it's T.B.D.

SUE

Ooh. "T.B.D." I like it.

DAVID

That's not a title!! Ya know what, Sea of Ashes is the title!

POPPY

No it's not. It's not good enough!

DAVID

Then come up with a different title! Now!

POPPY

Don't tell me what to do! You're not the boss of me!

Poppy takes off toward the elevator. David shouts after.

DAVID

I \underline{am} the boss of you! I'm all of your bosses! Why does no one understand that?!

SUE

It's the eyes.

15 EXT. MQ COURTYARD - LATER (D22) 15

Carol eats lunch, enjoying the silence. Dana pounces.

DANA

Hey, Carol--

CAROL

(startled)

Jesus! You two are like little pixie snipers.

DANA

Huh?

CAROL

Nothing. Lemme guess. You need to talk about --

CAROL DANA

Rachel.

Rachel.

DANA

Yeah. She's been avoiding me for a few days and sent me an invitation to...

> (reads from her phone)

... "an open forum of shared feelings in a non-judgmental safe space."

CAROL

What does that mean?

DANA

No idea but it's in my calendar. Is it illegal to have a workplace relationship?

CAROL

No it isn't. There isn't anything illegal about dating someone from work. It's really stupid. It can only end badly. But it's not an HR issue.

DANA

Oh great, because-- Okay so this morning Poppy told us she had a sex dream about Ian and I had it too! And Rachel got all weird because in my dream I totally got him off but Poppy couldn't, and--

CAROL

Wait! Stop. This is an HR issue. You can't be coming into work and telling each other about sex dreams.

DANA

But you just said--

CAROL

I'm gonna cut to the chase. Do you like this woman?

Poppy? Nooo, not my type.

CAROL

Not her! The only other person in this office that you ever talk about! Rachel. Do. You. Like. Her?

DANA

You mean... "like-like" her?

CAROL

This generation is hot mess. You're afraid to have a conversation and you're devolving into third graders.

DANA

I'm sorry. It's just that Rachel really loves talking things out. Like a lot. She wants to break it all down and analyze everything. I don't. But I'm just... I'm not great with confrontation.

CAROL

You crept up here, quiet as the night, and pounced on me like a goddamn jungle cat. That's confrontation.

DANA

Sorry. Yeah. I guess I'm kinda spinning.

CAROL

Speak to one another. BE CLEAR. No more Q's. Just A's. Even if the A's are "we're still Q'ing". At least, you're talking to each other and not to me.

DANA

(considers, then)

Yeah. You're right. I gotta be direct. I gotta be honest with her. Thanks, Carol.

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Instead of leaving, Dana sits down at Carol's table.

CAROL

God I miss remote working.

16 INT. HALLWAY - LATER (D22) 16

15

David charges down the hall, looking for Poppy.

DAVID

Poppy!

David runs into Brad and Jo. Awkward.

DAVID

Oh. Hey.

JO

Hey. Uh... how have you been?

DAVID

Great. Things are great.

Same for me. I'm with Brad now.

DAVID

Yeah. I know.

BRAD

Hey man, for the record, she came to me. I $\operatorname{didn't--}$

DAVID

It's fine. It's all... fine.

JO

Uh-huh. Well don't worry, you'll find someone soon.

DAVID

Yeah, I'm not really looking right now. I've been super busy. Working on the new expansion. See?

He shows the artwork. They react.

BRAD/JO

It's uh... nice./Yeah. Fun.

DAVID

"Fun?" So you don't like it.

BRAD

You could do better.

JO

Could he?

DAVID

It's not the final title.

JO

Right.

DAVID

Right. Great. So uh... cool.

JO

Pussy.

BRAD

Jo.

DAVID

That is not how you talk to your boss!

BRAD

Yeah, it's not. Also he knows already.

JO

Right, right.

DAVID

You guys think I'm a joke? I'm a wimp? You think I'm a...a... P?

JO

Yeah.

DAVID

Well, I'm not a P! I'm a boss! I'm your boss and yours! And I don't need either of you! Or Poppy! I'm about to solve my problems like a boss. In the boss' office!

David storms off towards Ian & Poppy's office.

17 INT. BULLPEN - CONTINUOUS (D22)

DAVTD

I mean-- Ian's office. I'm his boss! I'll come up with a title if it takes me all night!

David SLAMS the door of the office. After a beat he peeks through the little window and yells to the bullpen.

DAVID

Get me a coffee! Decaf!

No one does.

DAVID

... Please?! Whatever.

David closes the window, annoyed.

BRAD

What did you see in him?

JO

I was young.

18 INT. IAN & POPPY'S OFFICE - LATE NIGHT (D22) 18

Everyone else has gone home. David writes on the whiteboard filled with an NCAA bracket. He finishes.

DAVTD

And the Title is...

REVEAL the final two words: NAZI PATRIOTS.

DAVID

Damnit!

IAN (0.S.)

What are you doing?

David STARTLES at the sight of IAN in the doorway.

DAVID

Hey. I was -- You're back from camp!

IAN

It's not camp. It's a guided retreat that harnesses the power of the male body through the discipline of jiu-jitsu.

DAVID

Okay.

IAN

Why are you in my office?

DAVID

I was trying to come up with a title for the new expansion. Poppy was supposed to but-- you know women. They get real emotional.

IAN

David, you seem emotional.

DAVID

(getting emotional)

I am having a hard time. I can't come up with a title. My mom was right, I'm not creative. I'm a numbers guy!

TAN

Hey relax, bud. Relax. One of the things I learned at the retreat was that true power doesn't come from without. It comes from within.

Ian walks up to David getting very close.

IAN

May I demonstrate?

DAVID

(uneasy)

Um, yeah sure.

Ian steps behind David and gently cradles his head in a rear naked chokehold. It's intense and slightly sexual.

DAVID

What is this? You always come back from this thing super aggressive --

IAN

Shhh...

He tightens his grip and David slowly CHOKES.

IAN

How do you feel?

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18 CONTINUED: (2)

DAVID

...safe.

IAN

The answer is inside you, David. Deep, deep inside.

Ian leans forward to tenderly whisper something to David, something we can't hear. David's eyes go WIDE.

DAVID

(red-faced)

Yes.

REVEAL CW once again seated nearby, sipping his Cognac.

C.W.

Now that's good stuff.

SMASH TO:

19 INT. POPPY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT (N22) 19

18

Poppy jerks awake, rattled.

POPPY

AGH!!!!

She stops, realizes she was just dreaming and has a complicated reaction. Relief. Disgust. Then epiphany!

2.0 INT. IAN & POPPY'S OFFICE - MORNING (D23) 2.0

David is asleep on the couch. He's in a black tank top undershirt, wearing Ian's rings and is holding an axe. REVEAL Poppy waking him up. She is refreshed.

POPPY

Get up!

David stirs.

DAVID

Huh? What happened?

POPPY

Why are you sleeping in my office? What's up with the getup?

DAVID

I was trying to get into Ian's mindset. To think of a title. But I couldn't come up with one.

POPPY

I thought of it.

DAVID

You did? What is it?

POPPY

Titans' Rift.

DAVID

Titans' Rift? Ooh. That's good! I can see the art already. Two titans locked in battle, each struggling to dominate the other.

POPPY

Um, yeah. Something like that.

DAVID

How'd you come up with it?

POPPY

It came to me in a dream.

DAVTD

A dream? Cool. What kind of dream?

POPPY

Oh you know. Just a dream. You wouldn't understand because you're not creative. Creatives have dreams like this.

DAVID

You had the Ian dream, didn't you?

POPPY

What? No!

(then)

How did you know?

DAVID

I have it too. We all do. It's a power thing. Look it's common to have sex dreams about your boss.

POPPY

You're <u>his</u> boss.

DAVID

Huh. Right. Wow. Now I'm really confused.

POPPY

And by the way, I didn't have sex with him! You did! You were in the dream.

DAVID

Me?

POPPY

Yes! Ian whispered the title in your ear when you were...

She makes an unrecognizable hand gesture for sex.

DAVID

What is that? Is that sex?

POPPY

Shut up! I'm good at it!

DAVID

Okay. Carol would probably say we shouldn't be talking about this.

POPPY

Yeah. Anyway, I told you I'd come up with the title, and I did.

DAVID

Well, he came up with it.

POPPY

But it was in my head. He came up with it in the dream but it was my dream therefore I came up with it.

DAVID

But you still needed him. And so did I?

Poppy and David take this in, then ---

POPPY

Yeah, we shouldn't be talking about this.

DAVTD

No one needs to know.

POPPY

Definitely not Ian.

DAVID

Agreed. We did it!

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20 CONTINUED: (3)

POPPY

We did it!

DAVID

Hey Pop - Did I satisfy him?

POPPY

David.

DAVID

Sorry.

21 EXT. MQ PARKING GARAGE - NIGHT (N23)

21

2.0

Rachel paces nervously. Dana walks out of the office and spots her. She calls out from a slight distance.

DANA

Hey!

RACHEL

Hey!

Dana walks towards Rachel and takes a deep breath.

DANA

(to herself)

Okay here goes.

RACHEL

(to herself)

Okay here goes.

(to Dana)

Thanks for meeting me. I know it's weird to talk in a garage but I wanted to be in a neutral space. I got us some literature to help frame the conversation in a safe --

Rachels holds out some pamphlets. Dana takes them, drops them to the ground and kisses Rachel.

Sweet. Soft. Magical.

Dana pulls gently away.

DANA

Sorry but if I didn't do that just now, I don't know if I would be able to later. You okay?

RACHEL

...Yeah, sorry. I'm just making sure this isn't a dream.

Rachel reaches back in for Dana's face. They move in for another kiss, when -- HONNNNKKKKK.

HONK! REVEAL Carol in her minivan. The Testers are blocking her from leaving her parking spot.

CAROL

The first one was fine but I'm not sitting through another one. Move.

They do. Carol drives away. As she goes --

CAROL

Mazel Tov. Don't fuck in the office.

Carol's car disappears into the night. Rachel looks to Dana and smiles. Dana does the same. Same old charged moment. Only this time they move in for a kiss. And a moment before they touch ---

We CUT TO BLACK.

Leaving them alone to fall further into love.

TAG

22 INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT (N21) 22

We're on the foot of a bed. Same as the opening. There's movement under the sheets. The SAME MUSIC PLAYS. PAN ACROSS the room: an empty bottle of wine, strewn clothes, a nightstand. Rolling onto the pillow, smiling postcoital...is Ian.

IAN

Mm. I gotta say, the more you do it, the better you get.

REVEAL on the other side of the bed is IAN. He's just made love to himself (IAN 2).

Nobody satisfies me like you.

Ian 2 winks at Ian.

23 INT. IAN'S BEDROOM - MORNING (D22) 23

Ian JERKS awake. He looks to the other side of the bed. It's untouched. It was all a dream.

IAN

(smiles)

Nice.

He goes back to sleep.

END OF SHOW