

CARD:

DAY TWO
Friday, February 13th

XV - INT. ERIC'S APARTMENT, DEN - AFTERNOON

Fade up on Eric, in much the same position we found him in Episode I: pajama-clad, disheveled, ruffled, and fast asleep. Looks like he fell asleep watching television the night before. In fact, the television's still on.

COMMERCIAL (V.O.)
...and most insurance companies are legally unable to honour these claims. The choice is clear: when your time comes, stay dead. The first time. Morgan Strump Funeral Services.

A beat. Eric stirs.

ADVERTISEMENT (V.O.)
Tonight on NUMBSKULL! Johnny's stomach has a ménage a trois with Nitro...and Glycerine!

Splotches of grisly red light as banjo music plays beneath intense intestinal rumbling. Johnny moans as the rumbling escalates and climaxes in a wet intestinal burst. We hear the reaction of a huge audience appalled, hooting, applauding, and vomiting.

ADVERTISEMENT (V.O.)
(CONT'D)
Tonight on NUMBSKULL!

A beat of silence. Eric rolls over. A jingle begins to play.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Is your teen infatuated with zombie culture? Does he or she

dress like the living undead?
Are they obsessed with death
and the afterlife? If so your
child could be a guest on our
show: phone 1-800-465-4250

MAURY (V.O.)

Welcome back. Before the break
we met Lucinda. Lucinda has
been living with her boyfriend
Daryl for just over three
years - so you felt like this
was a solid relationship?

LUCINDA (V.O.)

Yuh.

MAURY (V.O.)

But Daryl gave Lucinda the
shock of her life when he
announced, out of the blue,
that he wasn't happy with
their sex life - and had a
shocking suggestion for
spicing things up in the
bedroom. What did Daryl say
Lucinda?

LUCINDA (V.O.)

He said he wanted done bring
in a zombie.

MAURY (V.O.)

He wanted to involve an undead
person in your sexual
activities?

LUCINDA (V.O.)

Yeah. That's right.

Audience boos and hisses. Eric's phone rings.

MAURY (V.O.)

And what was your response to
Daryl's proposition?

LUCINDA (V.O.)
I... I...(she starts sobbing)

MAURY (V.O.)
Let's bring out...Daryl!

Eric wakes, lost. He looks around. Rubs his eyes. There's terrible daytime talk show music coming from the television, but the music is mostly drowned out by the intense booing and yelling from the audience.

DARYL (V.O.)
(Beep) you! (Beep) you mother
(beep)er. You don't know me.
Mother(beeping)-(beep)sucker!

The phone is still ringing. Eric fishes the remote out of the crack of the couch

LUCINDA (V.O.)
You bastard!

and turns off the television. He picks up his alarm clock and holds it up to his face. It's 11:45.

ERIC
Shit.

Eric slams down the alarm clock and storms out of the room. He's just about out when he realizes the phone is ringing. He wheels around and runs back to the phone and answers.

ERIC (CONT'D)
Hey, Chad, sorry, my alarm
didn't go off. I'll be down in
ten-

A dark and quasi-sinister voice interrupts him.

SHADOW (V.O.)
Eric?

Eric takes a moment to process.

ERIC

Hello?

SHADOW (V.O.)

Are you Eric?

ERIC

Uh... Yeah.

SHADOW (V.O.)

You contacted us?

ERIC

I... What?

SHADOW (V.O.)

You contacted us? You spoke to
a representative?

ERIC

A repre- Oh. Right. Yeah. That
was over a month ago.

SHADOW (V.O.)

You spoke to a representative?

ERIC

I... Sure. I guess so.

SHADOW (V.O.)

Carl?

ERIC

Carl?

SHADOW (V.O.)

Carl said he spoke with you.

ERIC

I guess it must have been Carl
then.

SHADOW (V.O.)

Carl is no longer with us.

ERIC

Oh.

An uncomfortable silence.

SHADOW (V.O.) (CONT'D)
It was for the best.

ERIC
Good.

SHADOW (V.O.)
That's why it took us so long
to get back to you.

ERIC
Right.

SHADOW (V.O.)
Because of the business with
Carl.

ERIC
I understand.

SHADOW (V.O.)
We'll meet with you tonight.
At six.

ERIC
Six? Actually, I'll be at work
until-

SHADOW (V.O.)
We'll meet with you at six
tonight. Go to the Cranium
Café at Fox and Arbuthnott. A
representative will meet you
and we'll proceed from there.

ERIC
But not Carl.
(pause)
Sorry.

SHADOW (V.O.)
A representative will meet
you. Six pm. Carl said you had
materials?

ERIC

Yes, I've managed to put together a small research package...sort of like a dossier-

SHADOW (V.O.)

Fine. Bring it.

ERIC

Sure, it's sort of on the skimpy side at the moment - I'm not much of a researcher - but I have made some pretty incredible discover-

SHADOW (V.O.)

Fine. You have films?

ERIC

Films?

SHADOW (V.O.)

Films. Movies. Carl said you sell films.

ERIC

Well, not so much anymore, at least I've been trying not to-

SHADOW (V.O.)

Do you have *Evil Dead II*?

Eric drops his head.

ERIC

I'm out.

SHADOW (V.O.)

Evil Dead I?

ERIC

Yeah. I've also got *Army of Darkness*.

SHADOW (V.O.)
No. *Evil Dead I* will suffice.

ERIC
How will I know who this
representative-

A click. The line is dead. Eric holds the phone away from his ear, and slowly puts it back on the receiver. He darts off to get ready. The phone rings again. Eric wheels around, makes his way back to the phone, and picks it up.

ERIC (CONT'D)
Hello?

SHADOW (V.O.)
Eric?

ERIC
Yes?

SHADOW (V.O.)
We were cut off. Sorry.

ERIC
No problem.

SHADOW (V.O.)
The representative will be
wearing a red baseball cap.

ERIC
A red baseball-

SHADOW (V.O.)
Wait. (muffled mumbling) The
representative will be wearing
a blue baseball cap.

ERIC
Blue?

SHADOW (V.O.)
Blue? (a muffled response) Yes
blue.

ERIC

Okay, so I'll meet the-

Click. The line goes dead. Eric takes a moment, hangs up the phone, and leaves the room.

INT. ERIC'S APARTMENT, HALLWAY - AFTERNOON

Eric makes his way to the secret hallway pantry. He retrieves a VHS tape, and - from deep down inside - a document in a duotang.

The phone rings again.

ERIC

Jesus fucking...

INT. ERIC'S APARTMENT, DEN - AFTERNOON

Eric rushes over to the phone, answers.

ERIC

Blue cap, six pm, Cranium
Café. I'll be there.

CHAD (V.O.)

Eric?

ERIC

(beat)

Chad?

CHAD (V.O.)

Gonna show up for work today,
buddy?

XVI - INT. INSURANCE COMPANY, ASHLEY'S OFFICE -
AFTERNOON

CLOSE UP on a clock. It's nearly noon. The clock ticks - the only sound we HEAR.