

1-06 WAITING FOR PEOPLE TO DIE

0001

Terrible Immunity

0002

Part 1, Episode 6

0003

Waiting for People to Die

0004

"What we call nature is really the walls of our
cages."

-Tales from the Happy Farm by Fr. Ronaldo

0101 BAKERY 3

With the great shape of night moving away, Lily walks to the bakery. The divide between her head and body, itches in the morning chill like a paper cut circling her neck.

She sees a kitten on the sidewalk ahead and runs to it, smiling.

LILY

"Kitty! Kitty! Good morning Kitty!"

She kneels and pets it. It sniffs her and luxuriates in her scratching under its collar.

0102

Later in the morning. Outside a man stands right in front of the bakery window and people walking down the sidewalk, pass.

Lily wearing apron brings coffee and sweet bread in the shape of a liver, to a man, big grin, sitting at the window counter. She feels him wanting to reach out for her, but he seems sinister.

MAN

"You're new in town, aren't you?"

LILY

"Yes."

Lily glances at a man outside, in front of the window. He turns, revealing his profile. Razor blades are stuck in his face so that he has to keep a poker face. It must be painful for him to make an expression.

MAN AT COUNTER

"Where are you from?"

LILY

"Philadelphia, or near there. I want to go back."

MAN

"You're not staying here?"

LILY

"I'm not sure."

MAN

"Don't you like it here?"

LILY

"It's frightening. I mean it is nice."

MAN

"What do you mean frightening?"

LILY

"You don't think the man in front of us is scary?"

MAN

"No?"

LILY

"Do... do you see the razors stuck in his face?"

Victor takes Lily's arm and pulls her away from the customer.

VICTOR

"Lily, Sweetie, I have some work in the back I need you to do!"

Lily walks backward. The man at the counter has lost his grin. He watches her, stunned.

LILY

"Have a good day."

0105

Lily washes pans in the back. She looks up when Victor walks in.

LILY

"I'm sorry! I didn't mean to scare your customer."

VICTOR

"It will be okay. Lily, the customers don't see the things you see."

LILY

"But you do. You see *some* of the things I see don't you?"

VICTOR

"...No. No I don't see any of those things."

LILY

"But some people do. Somebody must see. Somebody else besides me."

VICTOR

"Hm, I don't think anyone else does."

LILY

"Oh."

VICTOR

"Try not to worry about it. With the customers, be friendly, be polite and don't share too much."

LILY

"Yes, I understand!"

VICTOR

"Good, good. Are you almost through with the dishes?"

LILY

"Almost."

VICTOR

"Good. I think that's all the help I need today. Can you be here tomorrow?"

LILY

"Yes!"

VICTOR

"Okay. Be here early. My sister will be here. She rents rooms in a house. We can ask her about you renting a room."

LILY

"That would be wonderful!"

0106

Lily finishes the pans, takes off her apron and walks through the front room. *Justin takes money from a customer.*

LILY

"Goodbye Justin!"

JUSTIN

"Goodbye Daisy!"

LILY

"My name is Lily."

JUSTIN

"Goodbye Lily."

0201

Lily steps out of the bakery, midday. People return to their jobs from lunch.

LILY THINKS

I'm not the strange one. I'm just a normal girl wanting everything you'd expect a girl to want. This city is strange, not me.

Floating along, Lily covets a delicate happiness, feeling it mending her. She reaches steps that lead down the hill to more streets below.

0202

A quarter way down she sits and watches a couple walking on the street below.

0203

A woman wearing a sign, *front side*, runs past. She sits, further down.

LILY THINKS

I was going to avoid anyone wearing signs or any other implement of torment, but she looks troubled and I've been troubled, what if she's like me? I have the feeling she is.

0204

She walks down the steps.

LILY

"Can I sit with you?"

The woman shrugs not looking up.

0205

Lily sits on the same step. Feeling watched, Lily looks around but sees no one else.

The woman's clothes and hair are nice but she slumps and holds herself. Just the look on her face reveals that something has upset her to the core.

LILY

"Are you from here?"

WOMAN

"Yes."

LILY

"I'm not. I'm from the real world. Have you ever been there?"

The woman does not answer.

LILY THINKS

She's pretty! But she's lacking self-security.

The woman closes her eyes and takes a deep breath. She exhales a cloud of smoke. Lily looks at the woman's hands. No cigarette. The woman continues to exhale plumes of smoke.

LILY

"Are you smoking?"

WOMAN

"Yes."

LILY

"Where I come from if people want to smoke they need to use a cigarette. Do you know what a cigarette is?"

WOMAN

"No."

LILY

"I would never smoke."

WOMAN

"If you could help it."

The woman finally looks at Lily, eyebrows raised and creased.

LILY

"I notice, you're upset. Do you mind me asking what you're upset about?"

The woman looks away.

LILY

"You can tell me. I don't know anyone in this town. I help out at a bakery in the morning, otherwise, I don't know anyone."

The woman examines Lily's expression.

WOMAN

"I don't want to think of anyone in my life as being bad but after a while that's what I have to conclude. I hesitate to tell anyone else about this because I think they would think I was jaded or negative. I just don't understand why everyone in my life are now all mean to me. My co-workers make fun of me right in front of my face and say things that everyone knows will hurt me. They all smile at each other like the joke is on me, like I'm not aware of their true intentions. My roommates complain about me right outside my door where I can hear them. My best friend distances herself from me when others are around. I just don't understand it. I'm a hard worker. I'm not arrogant. I act nice. I don't say dumb things. Everyone seems to hate me so much. I know I'm not perfect but I think I'm just as imperfect as everyone else."

Plumes of smoke pour out of the woman's mouth and nostrils as she speaks.

WOMAN

"It was never like this before a year ago. Everywhere I go total strangers go out of their way to dis me. Today, four people cut in front of me in line. I have to watch my step so that no one trips me. Why do so many people enjoy bringing others down? Is it an animal thing? Maybe it really is true that people are selfish fools who only cause others harm. I don't want to think of people as hateful. I don't want to hate the human race. It must be my fault somehow. But what am I doing wrong?"

The woman stares into Lily's eyes. Lily can smell the smoke and tries not to cough.

LILY

"Can you sit up straight?"

0206

The woman sits up straight and Lily leans over to look at the sign around the woman's neck. Icy fingers go down Lily's back when she reads it, "Kill Me."

WOMAN

"What's wrong? Please tell me."

LILY

"I think I can help you!"

0207

Lily reaches to take the sign off the woman but the woman flies off the steps, thrown by an invisible force. She lands and falls down a few more steps, getting to her feet and running away.

WOMAN

"You pushed me! You're crazy! Stay away, I'll call the police on you!"

0301

The town goes silent. Desiree has shoved the woman away from Lily.

DESIREE

"A sensitive!"

She lifts a metal horn to her lips but Eroom pulls it away from her.

EROOM

"Wait! We know she's a sensitive now. Let me kill her."

DESIREE

"We have to sound the alarm!"

EROOM

"Just this once Desiree."

DESIREE

"She has knowledge of us."

She struggles to pull the horn to her lips and Eroom pulls it away.

EROOM

"If you do, I'll never speak to you again!"

Desiree drops her arms.

DESIREE

"We could get in trouble."

EROOM

"I know what I'm doing. Put that down! Listen,
I've got this one, don't tell anyone."

0302

Both bump into Lily who does not feel them. *Lily watches the woman jump down the steps.*

DESIREE

"I won't break the rules."

EROOM

"Well, leave me then. Go! You're not my friend
anymore!"

All of Desiree's fervor vanishes. She looks up at him from a face pulled down by sulking.

0303

She *turns and* walks up the steps. Eroom watches her go. *Lily sits down. Eroom stands right over her, waiting.*

0304 DRESS STORE

A man *walks along* wears a very sharp suit but bits of carrion are stuck to it and are even stuck in his hair and swarms of flies follow him.

LILY THINKS

He has no idea. Maybe he's been hypnotized. What if I have rotted meat stuck to me and I don't know it?

Lily sees a woman's clothing shop across the street and glides toward it.

0305

She stands before the window glass and inspects herself in the reflection, lifting her arms, checking the back of her head, her hair, under her shoes, under her arms, patting the sides of her head.

LILY THINKS

Guess not. Not that I can find!

0306

The outfits are so pretty. She looks from one to the next. The styles describe personality traits she knows she could easily become if given the chance. One dress in particular holds her attention.

LILY THINKS

That could be me. I know I could be that woman, not afraid of the world. It's really up to me now, what I do with my life. If I could shower and didn't have to sleep in my clothes!

She sees her own reflection in the glass, happy, perplexed. A woman watches her from inside the store, far in the back, not moving. She holds the phone, ready to make a call.

0401

Lily gasps. The scene behind her, reflected in the glass, amazes her because it looks very much the way things used to look to her. Some people walking by are old, some are middle age and everyone looks less than beautiful. She can tell race just by looking at people. She does not doubt anyone's sex. And she does not see anyone manacled, or weighted down or mutilated. No one wears mean looking contraptions. The relief she feels causes her to stumble back.

0402

She looks behind her. Everyone is young, beautiful and androgynous. All wear patches and some have weights and signs. A woman wears **leather belts around her neck, waist and across her chest**. Long pointed metal spikes **stick out from the belts, each at least a foot long**.

0403

In the reflection, the woman isn't wearing spikes. She looks in her forties and dressed to shuffle papers in an office or do a little shopping.

0404

On the street, the woman IS wearing the spikes. Lily flinches as the woman runs up to a man.

LILY THINKS

Don't! Don't!

0405

The woman hugs him and he falls back. She walks away as he rolls in the street, blood on her spikes and spots of blood forming on his shirt.

0406

In the reflection, the man and woman walk away down the street, arm in arm.

LILY THINKS

*If that woman walked into a crowd she would stab
people left and right.*

0407

Lily flees the scene, feeling bad for leaving the man lying in agony.

0501

Walking out of a \$10 store, carries bag, she pretends not to smell the man who unknowingly wears a cloth bag of something really stinky tied under his nose.

0502

Sitting on a rock in the shade, Lily takes a ruler and pen out of a brown paper bag. She measures her hands, writing the measurements on the bag. She measures each finger and writes those measurements down.

LILY THINKS

*If only I had measured my body before I lost it,
then I could compare the exact difference
between my body and this one. How could I have
known? No one ever told me I could lose my body.*

She takes out a paint set.

LILY THINKS

*If I can't find makeup anywhere, this paint will
have to do.*

0503 THE ARCADE

Up a narrow flight of stairs, pinball machines, first generation arcade games and pool tables collect hand prints. Sunlight reaches through the windows all the way across the large room, and shines on the opposite wall.

A group of twenty-somethings flock around one of the pool tables. Two middle school boys assault the controls of an arcade game, chewing candy and joking.

0504

Lily sits in a booth in the back watching TV. She wears peach paint for lipstick, loud violet paint for eye shadow and black paint in wobbly lines for eyeliner. Her rouge is concentrated in two circles directly under her eyes. The hyper colors actually match the vibrancy of the flowers in her hair.

On her tenth cup of water she still feels no inclination to pee. One of the young men looks at her, every opportunity. She does not seem to notice.

0505

On the television: a woman shows up to work early. No one else shows up. She makes a pot of coffee and does some paper work and still no one shows up. She tries calling her boss but he doesn't answer. She waits.

0506

She walks out to the parking lot and hers is the only car. The streets are empty.

WOMAN

"Oh no it's Death Day. I forgot! I wasn't supposed to show up to work. I'm such a loser!"

She runs upstairs and grabs her purse then jumps in her car and drives to the sports arena.

0507

After trying to find parking for half an hour she realizes she can park at the main entrance. There won't be any police to ticket her. She drives up over the sidewalk, parks and runs to the entrance..

0508

...but the doors have been locked.

WOMAN

"Oh no, I'm too late. This is the worst! What is wrong with me? How could I have forgotten? I could just kick myself. It's only ten times more important than anything else I was ever supposed to remember in my entire life!"

A stiff fine was to be imposed on anyone who failed to attend but what's going to happen? Should she impose the fine on herself? Yes she should. It will make her feel better.

0509

A news anchor interrupts the show.

ANCHOR

"We interrupt the program for an important announcement. I, your news anchor, would be terribly angry at her for her unforgivable forgetfulness if not for my own shame, I must confess that on that most important of days (last week) my dog got loose in the neighborhood and by the time I caught him, all the streets were congested with everyone else trying to get to the arena. I had one chapter to go on the book I was reading and as long as I was late, I

may as well find out what happened, as it was one of the best books I've ever read and I am not one to start a book and not finish it. Then it was lunch time. I'm a moderate eater but I just hated to see all that food go to waste. Lasagna, spinach dip, sour dough... I spent two hours eating practically everything in the kitchen. I ate dry cereal out of the box because I had drank all the milk. I fed meat loaf and chicken wings to my dog. Only then did I realize that all that food might dilute the pill I would be given so I knew the only choice I had was to nap until the food was digested. Then, oddly enough, I slept for twenty four hours! I still get so angry at myself. I'm one of the most reliable people I know or at least I was. I guess I am again because I'm one of the last people left alive! Ha ha ha! Sorry! Don't know why I'm laughing. Not very professional. I should be crying. Ha ha ha! I feel so much better! I shouldn't! I should be ashamed. Shame on me! Shame on me!"

0601

YOUNG MAN

"Um, hello?"

Lily looks away from the TV. A young man stands holding a pool stick. She looks at him wide-eyed.

YOUNG MAN

"I, we were wondering if you wanted to play a game of pool."

0602

His friends around the pool table smile at each other and avoid looking in Lily's direction. More people have shown up. Two soldiers play pinball. A couple talk seriously at the counter.

LILY

"I've never played."

He relaxes.

YOUNG MAN

"Oh it's easy. I can teach you!"

LILY

"Okay! Well, let me just try to go to the restroom first."

YOUNG MAN

"Okay, we're right over there."

0603

Lily passes the pinball machines. Pieces of broken glass stick in one of the soldier's skin, all along the back of his head and down his neck.

0604

Down a long hall.

LILY THINKS

This is pretty close to normal. I can do this.

She glances in a room in passing.

0605

People sit on metal chairs, in a circle. The sign on the door says, "Depressed Adult Childhood Prodigies, meeting tonight."

PRODIGY ONE

"I don't see why it has to be a rule that we can never meet in a place that has a piano."

PRODIGY TWO

"I could play Mozart at five."

PRODIGY THREE

"I could play Mozart at four."

PRODIGY FOUR

"At four I could play Mozart backwards while saying the prime numbers in order, non-stop."

PRODIGY TWO

"You're such a show-off."

PRODIGY FOUR

"We all are! We all played Mozart for a room full of martini drinking grown-ups. It didn't get us anywhere. Meanwhile the little shit who always cheated off everyone's papers in my middle school and still couldn't carry a "C" is being interviewed every time I turn on my fucking TV, it doesn't make sense!"

PRODIGY ONE

"I just think we don't need to go so far as to make a hard, fast rule that we can never meet in a room that happens to have a piano. That's all I care to say at this time."

0606

Lily tries and tries to pee. Not even a drop.

LILY THINKS

Impossible.

0607

The hall seems awful quiet.

LILY THINKS

The meeting room is empty, they must have finished right when I went into the bathroom.

0608

The entire place is empty.

LILY THINKS

Where did everyone go? I was gone just a few minutes.

It's night.

0701

Lily steps outside. Street lights flicker on. She hurries.

LILY THINKS

If this is a dream, I'm never going to wake up, am I?

0702

A **giant** night monster turns and starts down the street **Lily is on**. Lily breaks into a run. She can't tell if the monster is after her or if it even knows she's there.

Each house Lily passes, she can hear its occupants crying in their sleep, clearly and loudly, not quieted by the walls at all.

Behind a fence, a night monster digs up a yard with its paws. It stops as she runs past.

0703

Lily reaches a block that is all one steep hill with a giant water tank atop. Sliding on the grass, Lily scrambles up a hill.

0704

To a dirt path that runs along the base of **the towering wall of** a tank.

Up high, she sees four, five night monsters in yards and in the street. They don't like this steep hill. It's hard even for someone as small as her to climb without sliding down.

0705 INTO THE CABINET

The path takes her to a **small** utility cabinet **against the tank**. She looks back down the path but can't see anyone so she lifts the **top lid to the cabinet** and climbs inside. **There is a lock but its left open and she just puts it on the loop below the latch.**

0706

Inside she has covered the floor with a blanket. She rests her head on a rolled up shirt. Street light shines through gaps in holes where pipes enter the cabinet.

LILY THINKS

*It's been a good day! I may get a room to sleep
in, tomorrow! I almost made some friends!*

0801

On the path, fresh shoe prints appear in the dirt, one after another. The lid on the cabinet lifts, stays lifted, then slowly lowers.

0802

Eroom climbs in, sits on top of Lily and lowers the lid. He looks at her a long time. She lies still, eyes open. He touches her face and brushes the hair out of her eyes.

0803

Lily does not understand why she can't fall asleep. It must be the excitement of the day. **Can't see Eroom.**

0804

She can't move her head. She tries, no, she really can't move it. Suddenly feeling nauseated, she can't breathe and she can't open her mouth. She struggles to move her arms and upper body but something invisible restrains her.

0805

The need to breathe, like a thought loop she can't escape, grows stronger each time it comes around.

LILY THINKS

I must breath! I must breath!

She can move her legs and she kicks madly, cutting her shins on the pipes.