

SPEC: SMILING FRIENDS S1

Written by
Tayelor Bland-Spears

(859) 890 8877
t.bland.spears@outlook.com

INT. STAFF OFFICE - DAY

PIM and CHARLIE sit at the table. Pim fiddles with the TV remote. Charlie scrolls through his phone. On the TV, static.

On the table, GLEP jumps over some scattered ketchup packets.

PIM
Charlie, do you know why the
remote's not working?

Charlie doesn't look up from his phone.

CHARLIE
I don't know, man. You check the
batteries?

Pim opens the back of the remote. There's only one battery.

PIM
That's odd.

CHARLIE
What?

PIM
Only one battery. Oh, I'm sure it's
lonely wherever it fell.

CHARLIE
Pim, it's a battery.

PIM
And it could have feelings,
Charlie. I have to find it.

Pim slides out of his chair and crawls on the ground. He looks for the battery.

ALLAN enters, in his hands a container of fries. He rifles through the fridge, but comes out empty-handed.

ALLAN
Has anyone seen the ketchup?

CHARLIE
Glep has some.

Allan walks over to the table and reaches for the ketchup. Before he can grab it, Glep jumps on a pack. Ketchup sprays all over Allan.

ALLAN
Glep you inbicile.

GLEP
Gibberish.

Allan goes to get napkins.

CHARLIE
Hey man, you should see this.

Charlie leans over and shows Pim his phone screen.

PIM
Youngest child syndrome?

CHARLIE
Yeah. Science says the youngest sibling is more cracked out than the rest of the family. Sick right?

PIM
Uhm, Charlie, this says more charismatic.

CHARLIE
Same difference if you ask me.

PIM
That can't be true. There's no way every youngest sibling is like that.

CHARLIE
I don't know, man. I'm not about to question science.

Allan wipes himself off with the napkins, but pauses when he hears a buzz. He looks around.

ALLAN
Does anyone hear that buzzing noise?

CHARLIE
What buzzing noise?

Allan hums, displeased.

An alarm goes off, and the room flashes red. The TV goes from static to Mr. Boss.

MR. BOSS (V.O.)
Hello team! I must speak with Pim and Charlie immediately. Come to my office,
(in a monster voice)
(MORE)

MR. BOSS (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Or face my wrath.
(normal voice)
Toodles.

The TV goes back to static.

CHARLIE
Wonder what that was about.

PIM
Come on, Charlie. Maybe we'll get a cool assignment.

CHARLIE
Right. Like any of this is cool.

Pim and Charlie exit.

Allan looks around. He can still hear the buzz.

INT. MR. BOSS'S OFFICE - DAY

Pim and Charlie enter.

Mr. Boss sits behind his desk. He frowns.

MR. BOSS
Boys, glad you could make it.

CHARLIE
Uh, didn't you just threaten us with your wrath if we didn't come?

MR. BOSS
Oh, that was just me being a silly goose. You know how playful I am.

Pim and Charlie are silent.

MR. BOSS (CONT'D)
Right, let's get down to business. There's a woman in the city who needs your help. She hasn't smiled in ages and she says it's because of her kids.

CHARLIE
She doesn't like her kids?

MR. BOSS
The file doesn't say. I need you two to go and check it out.

Pim hits his open palm with his opposite fist.

PIM

Right. I'm sure we can fix
whatever's going on with her and
her kids. What's greater than a
mother's love?

CHARLIE

Money?

PIM

Nothing!

MR. BOSS

Seeing as I haven't been in the
game for a while, I was wondering
if you boys would let me join you.

Charlie frowns.

CHARLIE

I don't know.

PIM

Come on, Charlie. With three
people, we're three times more
likely to succeed. Don't you want
to see this family happy?

Charlie sighs.

CHARLIE

You know what, fine. But I get to
say I told you so when this blows.

PIM

Hooray!

MR. BOSS

Just let me get my kit in order.

Mr. Boss walks toward an unknown room. Pim and Charlie wait.

CHARLIE

This is going to suck.

INT. STAFF OFFICE - DAY

Allan has his ear pressed to the wall. He shuffles until he's
in front of an old flyer. The buzzing is louder. He rips the
flyer off the wall. Behind it, the OFFICE FAIRY, a small but
butch creature, scrubs herself in a little bathtub.

The buzzing stops. She screams.

OFFICE FAIRY
You ever heard of privacy? I'm
tryna bathe in here!

ALLAN
You don't work here. What are you
doing in our walls?

OFFICE FAIRY
Filling my tank. What's it look
like to you, huh?

ALLAN
This is very unhygienic.

OFFICE FAIRY
What about it?

ALLAN
You need to leave.

The Office Fairy scoffs.

OFFICE FAIRY
Ain't happening.

She continues to bathe.

ALLAN
If you don't leave, I will be
forced to use aggressive tactics.

The Office Fairy laughs.

OFFICE FAIRY
Fine. I'll buzz off.

She throws her loofa, flies up, shakes the suds off. Allan
looks pleased. He opens his mouth, only for the fairy to fly
right into it.

Allan chokes, keels over.

OFFICE FAIRY (CONT'D)
(from Allan's mouth)
Try getting rid of me now, string
bean.

Allan coughs. He tries to grab furniture around him, but it's
no use. He falls on his back, his eyes wide and glitchy.
Rainbow liquid spills out of the side of his open mouth.

EXT. SUBURBAN HOME - DAY

Pim, Charlie, and Mr. Boss approach a two-story house with a nice flower garden out front. At the door, Pim knocks.

PIM

Oh, I'm so excited, Charlie. I love families.

CHARLIE

Let's hope these guys aren't crazy.

FREESA, a withered middle-aged woman, opens the door.

FREESA

Oh, hello. You must be the Smiling Friends. I'm Freesa.

MR. BOSS

Pleasure to meet you, Freesa. Why don't you tell us the reason for your call?

FREESA

It's nothing, really! They were so sweet when they were little, but now, I just don't know what to do with them. Oh, where are my manners? Please, do come in.

She opens the door wider.

INT. SUBURBAN HOME - DAY

Mr. Boss, Pim, and Charlie enter. It's an open space.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

There are two couches and a comfortable chair. SEMORE, 38, sits on the longest couch, ERULA, 35, sits on the middle couch, and HANK, 28, sits on the comfy chair.

CHARLIE

Wait, your kids aren't kids?

FREESA

They'll always be my babies.

MR. BOSS

Well, what's the problem? They should be able to take care of themselves, so how are they stressing you out?

FREESA

That's just it! Oh, I am a horrible mother. My babies don't know how to do anything themselves. They just sit on the couch all day and tap tap tap on their screens like mindless zombies. I'm going insane.

PIM

Don't say that. I'm sure you're a terrific mom. We just need to get them active.

FREESA

Active?

PIM

Maybe if we did something fun as a group, they'll see how boring their screens are.

FREESA

Do you think that could work?

PIM

Absolutley!

MR. BOSS

Or, we could ensure they never use the screens again.

Freesa gasps.

FREESA

I do like the sound of that.

MR. BOSS

All we need to do is plant small explosives into the devices and as soon as they tap, KABLOOM!

Freesa claps, giddy.

FREESA

That sounds wonderful! That will show them, and maybe they'll get off the couch.

CHARLIE

Uh, Mr. Boss, man, I don't think that's the best idea. What if someone gets hurt?

MR. BOSS

Well, that's the fun in it!

Pim frowns.

PIM

No, I agree with Charlie. Mr. Boss, that sounds like super dangerous.

MR. BOSS

Nonsense boys. I'm sure Freesa here sees the merit.

FREESA

Oh, yes, yes, yes. My kids must learn their lesson.

Mr. Boss and Freesa grab hands and jump up together. They smile and giggle.

Charlie pulls Pim aside.

CHARLIE

Dude, I don't think this will end well.

Hank, the youngest, approaches Pim and Charlie.

HANK

What a joy it is to have you in our home. I apologize, I didn't see you walk in. I do hope Mother brought you refreshments upon your arrival.

CHARLIE

Uh, no, but it's all good man. Actually, do you think--

HANK

Mother!

Freesa frowns and looks over.

HANK (CONT'D)

Why haven't our guests received refreshments? Are you useless?

FREESA

Right, I'll grab them right away.

MR. BOSS
No, no, no. Freesa, what's our goal
here?

Freesa bows her head.

FREESA
To get my children to--

MR. BOSS
--to get your lay children to do
things, right. So why don't we have
Hank here grab the refreshments?

Hank smiles, strained.

HANK
Now, I don't think that's wise.

MR. BOSS
(monster voice)
Do it.

Hank jumps and scurries off to the kitchen.

MR. BOSS (CONT'D)
Now about that explosive.

INT. STAFF OFFICE - DAY

Allan crawls on the floor, his pupils blown.

Glep enters.

GLEP
Gibberish.

Allan looks over.

ALLAN
Isn't it the most gorgeous day?

He laughs.

GLEP
Gibberish.

ALLAN
Nothing's wrong with me. I'm
finally seeing the brighter side.

He laughs again.

INT. SUBURBAN HOME - DAY

Mr. Boss and Freesa are huddled together. Pim and Charlie stand a few feet away, concerned.

PIM
I don't really know how to go about this, Charlie.

CHARLIE
I think we should just grab him and cut our losses at this point.

PIM
That's the best idea?

MR. BOSS
Boys, come over her a second.

Pim and Charlie share a look before they walk over.

PIM
Uhm, Mr. Boss, sir--

MR. BOSS
Before you say anything, I know my methods have been a tad unorthodox, but I think I'm really getting through to Freesa.

CHARLIE
Uh, where is she?

MR. BOSS
She just went to grab something from the shed. She'll be back.

PIM
The shed?

The door at the back of the living room slams open. Freesa stands with crazed eyes. In her hand, a chainsaw. She pulls the cord. Once, twice, the chainsaw comes alive.

MR. BOSS
Looks like she's taking my advice.

Freesa charges the oldest child.

FREESA
Get off your lazy behind and go mow the lawn. I'm sick of hiring people to do it when all you do is sit on this couch all day.

The oldest son drops his screen and screams. He sinks into the couch only for Freesa to bring the chainsaw closer to his face. He rolls off the couch and shuffles to the front door.

FREESA (CONT'D)

You!

She rounds on the middle child, who's already shaking.

FREESA (CONT'D)

I've never met someone who cares so little for their personal hygiene. You haven't bathed in months.

ERULA

But, mother--

FREESA

Don't but mother me. Go take a bath. Now!

Erula whines, but listens. She exits.

Hank enters. The glasses of water wobble in his hands.

FREESA (CONT'D)

And you.

Hank grits his teeth.

FREESA (CONT'D)

You think you're my favorite. Fat chance. You're a good for nothing sleazebag who'll never leave. You've got two months before I kick you out.

HANK

What?

He drops the water.

HANK (CONT'D)

Mother, what has gotten into you? I am your favorite. Your little Hankey-Pankey, the cutest little bean sprout.

FREESA

Sprouts are supposed to grow. I suggest you start looking for roommates who are willing to clean up after you.

HANK

But what about Semore? And Erula?

FREESA

They're gone too. The three of you
need to learn some responsibility.

HANK

Mother--

Freesa swings the chainsaw. She cuts a bit of Hank's hair.

He screams and runs off.

Freesa stands rigid, he breaths heavy,

She looks to Charlie, Pim, and Mr. Boss.

Charlie and Pim stand, mouths open, eyes wide.

Mr. Boss claps.

MR. BOSS

Wasn't that freeing, Freesa?

Slowly, Freesa smiles.

MR. BOSS (CONT'D)

Looks like our work here is done.
Time to head back.

Mr. Boss exits. Pim and Charlie are frozen, shocked.

INT. STAFF OFFICE - DAY

Allan lies on his back on the ground. Rainbow drool drips
from his mouth as his body shakes from silent laughter.

Glep jumps on his chest.

Allan chokes, but the laughter doesn't subside.

EXT. SIDEWALK - DAY

Mr. Boss walks ahead. Charlie and Pim drag behind. Their
expressions are still frozen in shock.

MR. BOSS

As much fun as that was, I think
I've had my fill of field work.
Thanks for letting me tag along.

Pim and Charlie say nothing.

MR. BOSS (CONT'D)
I hope those kiddos learn some
responsibility. Freesa sure is some
woman.

Pim and Charlie say nothing.

MR. BOSS (CONT'D)
I'm thinking of ordering some
takeout to celebrate. You boys want
anything?

CHARLIE
Uh.

EXT. SMILING FRIENDS OFFICE - DAY

Mr. Boss, Pim, and Charlie approach the door. Mr. Boss turns
the handle.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

The three enter. Choking sounds are heard from another room.

MR. BOSS
What's that?

Pim and Charlie blink. They all round the corner.

INT. STAFF OFFICE - DAY

Glep jumps on Allan's chest. Once, twice, three times. Allan
coughs. The Office Fairy flies out of his mouth, covered in
saliva and rainbow liquid.

Allan flips over and heaves.

GLEP
Gibberish.

Pim and Charlie snap out of their spell.

PIM
Allan, oh my God, are you okay?

CHARLIE
Dude, what happnend?

ALLAN
I found the buzzing.

CHARLIE
From earlier?

ALLAN
Yes.

PIM
I still don't hear anything.

OFFICE FAIRY
That's because that red bafoon got
spit all over my wings. Ain't no
way I'm staying in this place.
Office Fairy, out.

The Office Fairy shakes out her wings before she exits.

The room sits in an odd silence.

MR. BOSS
I'll start the takeout order.
Noodle good with everyone?

End. Cue the credit song and sequence.