

Randy in the Afterlife

Pilot Episode - A Slice of Afterlife

written by

Joel Svendsen

COLD OPEN

EXT. MOBILE HOME - DAY - ESTABLISHING

It's a beautiful day outside.

INT. MOBILE HOME - CONTINUOUS

RANDY lays on the couch binge-watching some TV show he isn't even paying attention to.

Junk food wrappers and empty bottles scattered across the table. Randy scrolls through his phone as he grabs a slice of pizza that's clearly been sitting out for a while. He takes a bite, swallows, and begins to **choke**.

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. FIELD - DAY

Randy suddenly wakes up somewhere else. He spits out some pizza and **gasps** for breath.

Something is off. He looks to his left - nothing but country and crops. Same thing to his right and all around him.

RANDY

Uh... what?

SOMEONE suddenly appears next to him.

SHEP

Hello there. Welcome to the Afterlife!

RANDY

Uh, what?!

Randy looks up at SHEP. A nice dressed man with a clipboard in hand.

SHEP

It won't be as enthusiastic if I say it again.

RANDY

Where am I?

SHEP

Afterlife. Or whatever you'd like to call it. Heaven, Hell, doesn't matter.

RANDY

I'm dead?

SHEP

You sure are, pal.

Shep looks through his clipboard.

SHEP (CONT'D)

Yep, says right here you choked to death on a slice of the third Sleezer's Pizza you've had this week.

Randy looks around again.

RANDY

So this is Hell? Just looks like the Midwest.

SHEP

Ha! Yeah it does, doesn't it?

RANDY

So what exactly are you supposed to be? Are you Death?

SHEP

Ha! No. Nobody wants that job. I'm good with this gig. Hmmm, how to put this? Did you have a religion?

RANDY

I like to think of myself as somewhat of a Buddhist.

SHEP

No you don't. But we would categorize that under 'other.'

RANDY

Okay, well my parents are super Christian so I guess that?

SHEP

That's also 'other', but okay. Think of me as your own personal angel of death.

(MORE)

SHEP (CONT'D)

Your guide to the Afterlife. Like a shepherd, if you will. Call me Shep.

RANDY

Hey, Shep. I'm-

SHEP

Randy. Yeah, I've read your file. It's quite short and sad.

RANDY

What else is on that file?

Randy reaches for the clipboard, but Shep shifts it out of Randy's reach.

SHEP

Nope! Sorry, these are all classified.

RANDY

Under whose authority? *God's*?

SHEP

Yeah, kinda.

RANDY

Huh. Should I have prayed or whatever?

SHEP

Nah, they don't listen to any of that noise.

RANDY

'They'?

SHEP

Look, man. If I said they were a giant tree would it make any of this feel less stupid? There will be plenty of time for questions later, because now...

Shep reaches into his pocket and tosses some confetti up in the air.

SHEP (CONT'D)

Let me be the first to say congratulations! You're the chosen one!

RANDY

WHAT?! Oh hell yeah! Everyone told me I was wasting my life and I'd never amount to anything, but look at me now! I'm the chosen one and I'm gonna-

SHEP

Whoah, hang on! Not like a cool, predetermined prophecy type-situation. More of a one-millionth customer sort of deal. No, you totally still wasted your life.

RANDY

Ah... great.

SHEP

But that doesn't mean you have to waste your death! Instead of free groceries for a year you get to decide the fate of all life on Earth!

RANDY

Ah.

CUE TITLE CARD / THEME SONG.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE**EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - DAY - ESTABLISHING**

A car drives down Styx Road.

SHEP (V.O.)

To be fair to the Greeks this actually did use to be a river. We had to pave over it once the industrial revolution and its consequences began. Ha! You humans are something else, with your genocides and stuff.

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

Shep drives while Randy stares out the window. Both are wearing seat-belts.

RANDY

So the Greeks were right?

SHEP

No, well, I suppose they got some things right. There are two Gods. Life and Death. The deity of Life's chosen name is Zeus and he does indeed like to drink wine and have sex with everything, but he doesn't have a magic lightning bolt.

RANDY

Does that mean Death is Hades?

SHEP

No, that's Frank. He's alright. Kind of a wet blanket. Been working on softening his image in the mortal realm. You humans sure are scared of death.

RANDY

So the Gods are Zeus and... Frank?

SHEP

Sure are! This is great, most people are freaking out by now but you don't even care!

RANDY

I guess not... like you said I wasted my life.

SHEP

That's right! Oh man, your family is gonna be so grossed out whenever they eventually find you in a pile of shit, piss, and Sleezer's pizza. Hope you at least threw out all those used tissues by your bed.

RANDY

Fuck. Okay, well what can I do in the Afterlife once we finish these 'chosen one' trials? Do I get another shot at life? Maybe as a rich family's Labrador Retriever?

SHEP

Nope! Reincarnation isn't real, silly! You'll find there's LOTS to do in the Afterlife. We get all the music, TV shows, books, movies, you name it! Even alternative reality media! You wanna hear what it'd be like if The Beatles covered Abba? Sublime torture, my friend. Seriously, you can do anything you want!

RANDY

Can I have kids?

SHEP

Nope. Can't do that.

RANDY

Start my own business?

SHEP

Nope. Can't do that either. The only businesses here are all of your favorite fast food corporations!

RANDY

Of course they're here. Anything else I can do?

SHEP

Most people tend to look for relatives or wait around for their loved ones to die. Do you have any loved ones here?

RANDY

I guess my Gam-gam, but she got quite racist towards the end.

Randy thinks for a moment.

RANDY (CONT'D)

You know what? I had this really cool dog when I was a kid. My parents named him Jesus and said it wasn't blasphemous because dogs don't go to heaven.

SHEP

Classic humans thinking they're the only ones that matter. Don't worry bud, we'll find Jesus after this.

RANDY

Does everything have a soul then?

SHEP

Yeah, basically everything but mosquitoes. Frank made those on accident. I was actually there for that. We were all super wasted.

RANDY

Alright then, when do we get souls? Is it at conception or does it take a few weeks or months or what?

SHEP

Funny. Life actually begins at the sperm cell.

RANDY

So are there a bunch of dead sperm cells grazing in a field somewhere?

SHEP

That'd be cute, but no. They're all around. Kind of a krill-situation.

RANDY

Gross.

(beat)

(MORE)

RANDY (CONT'D)
Do we really need to be wearing
these seat-belts, or?

EXT. ZEUS' HOUSE - DAY - ESTABLISHING

The car pulls up to a regular-looking house in a nice neighborhood.

RANDY (V.O.)
THIS is where Zeus lives? Not a
palace or some mountain?

SHEP (V.O.)
Yeah, just be cool about it. He's
been going through a lot these last
few million years. Honestly he
hasn't been the same since the
dinosaurs died out.

EXT. ZEUS' BACKYARD - MOMENTS LATER

Shep and Randy make their way to a chair with ZEUS. Zeus is dressed in a Hawaiian-shirt and wearing a CROWN. He's dead asleep with an empty bottle of wine in a tight grip.

SHEP
Hey Zeus. Zeus, sir? Hello?

He's still asleep. Randy pokes him with a stick.

SHEP (CONT'D)
What are you doing?! That's the
deity of life you're poking there!
He's a horny drunk. He's liable to
fuck you as soon as he wakes up.

Randy drops the stick.

RANDY
Wow he's really out. Maybe I should
punch him in the face for doing
absolutely nothing to help out
humanity.

SHEP
To be fair, he did give you guys
free will but only so he wouldn't
have to actually do anything
himself.

Shep tries to grab the empty wine bottle which wakes up a confused, aggressive Zeus.

ZEUS
Fuck are you doing?

SHEP
Sorry, sir. Just trying to wake you up. We, uh, have an important guest.

ZEUS
Guest? What?

Zeus looks at Randy and sizes him up.

ZEUS (CONT'D)
Look, buddy. You're not really what I'm into right, but I have yet to turn down a blowjob.

RANDY
Nah, man. I don't want to blow you.

ZEUS
Yeah. Okay.

Zeus adjusts himself.

ZEUS (CONT'D)
What's the little prude doing here then, Shep?

SHEP
He's here for the trials.

ZEUS
Trials? The fuck are you on about?

SHEP
It was your idea, sir. You and Frank made that agreement about what you two would do after a certain number of souls have passed.

ZEUS
Oh. OH! Yeah! Right! Okay!

Zeus **exhales** and thinks hard for a moment.

ZEUS (CONT'D)
The first trial is the trial of life. The trial that I came up with...

SHEP

Did you forget to make a trial,
sir?

ZEUS

Of course not, idiot! I have a
trial. Way better than whatever
trial Frank came up with for the
trial of death. That's for sure.

Zeus looks around and continues stalling for time. He checks
his empty wine bottle.

ZEUS (CONT'D)

My trial is, the, uh, my gob-,
fetch me my goblet, mortal! Bring
me a goblet so that I may poureth
my wine.

RANDY

A goblet?

SHEP

Did you say 'poureth'?

ZEUS

Yeah. It's like a cup-thing.

RANDY

I know what a goblet is. But the
trial of life is just me finding a
goblet for you?

ZEUS

I mean, unless you'd rather sucketh
Zeus' cock?

RANDY

No.

ZEUS

Then don't! Whatever!

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO**INT. CAR - MOMENTS LATER**

Randy and Shep get in the car. Both put on their seat-belts.

SHEP

Tough habit to break, right?

RANDY

I guess. I don't know, man. Can't believe *that* was basically God.

SHEP

Kinda.

RANDY

Actually does explain a lot. When's the last time he visited Earth?

SHEP

Been a while. Once humans started making advanced weaponry he figured it was too dangerous.

RANDY

Guns?

SHEP

Cannons, actually. Specifically the ones on pirate ships.

RANDY

Okay then? Where can we find a goblet?

SHEP

This is the Afterlife. There are goblets, lanterns, and all sorts of other spooky goth shit laying around.

Shep puts the car in reverse and tries to back out of the driveway. He **hits** something.

RANDY

Uh, what the hell was that dude? Did you hit someone?

Randy gets out of the car.

SHEP

Everything here is already dead?

EXT. ZEUS' HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Shep gets out of the car to find Randy checking with QUEST WIZARD on the ground. Quest Wizard **groans** in over-exaggerated pain and anguish.

SHEP

Ah, crap. Not Quest Wizard.

RANDY

Wizard? Wizards are real?

SHEP

No.

QUEST WIZARD

Yes they are, my boy! Come closer... I have a very important quest-ion.

Randy leans in.

QUEST WIZARD (CONT'D)

Do you want to go on a quest?!

Quest Wizard shoves Randy and springs up into action.

QUEST WIZARD (CONT'D)

Quest Wizard at your service, chosen one!

SHEP

How do you know that? Did Frank tell you?

QUEST WIZARD

It's time for the quest, chosen one! It's your destiny to go on this quest to fulfill your destiny, dear boy!

SHEP

Don't listen to him. He's just some weird dude that thinks he's a wizard. He smokes dope with Frank sometimes.

QUEST WIZARD

Lord Death is a dear friend of mine, child! I can take you to him! There you will find the goblet that you seek! A quest is afoot!

RANDY
Let's just follow him there.

QUEST WIZARD
I walked here.

Shep **sighs**.

INT. CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Randy and Shep look pissed off and annoyed while Quest Wizard sits in the middle backseat **singing** a song about quests that he's clearly making up as he goes along.

RANDY
So how long have you been working
for Zeus and Frank?

SHEP
I don't know, like... forever?

QUEST WIZARD
(SINGING) We're going on a quest!
Bum-bum-bum-bum! We're going on a-

RANDY
My god, dude! Shut up!

EXT. FRANK'S HOUSE - DAY - ESTABLISHING

They pull up to Frank's house. Quest Wizard finishes **humming** his song.

SHEP (V.O.)
If you're lucky, Frank's wife will
be here. She's a delight.

RANDY (V.O.)
Someone married the deity of death?
Is she goth?

SHEP (V.O.)
Very goth.

RANDY (V.O.)
That's cool. Guess Frank must be
pretty cool too?

SHEP (V.O.)
Eh.

INT. FRANK'S OFFICE - DAY

Frank sits at his desk swiping through files on his Google Glass knock-offs. Randy, Shep, and Quest Wizard watch. He looks like a total dork with his glasses.

FRANK

Sorry about this. Hard to catch a break when things are constantly dying.

Frank **laughs**. The others **join in** except for Randy. Frank sets the glasses in a breast pocket.

FRANK (CONT'D)

What can I do you for?

RANDY

What are those?

FRANK

Zune Specs! We get failed technology in bulk here. Makes it easier to log deaths and transfer people here from the void.

QUEST WIZARD

They're here for the quest, Lord Death.

FRANK

It's just Frank, Quest Wizard. This must be Randy?

SHEP

Yes, sir.

FRANK

Nice to meet you, Randy. I was just reading your file this morning. Three Sleezer's pizzas in one week. How was that for you?

RANDY

Not great. I am dead now.

FRANK

How are you liking the Afterlife so far?

RANDY

Meh. Kinda want to get these trials over with so I can figure out what I wanna do with eternity.

FRANK

Right, right. The trials. I have a trial. It's a great trial.

Shep **sighs**.

FRANK (CONT'D)

Before I tell you my well-thought out trial, remind me... what was Zeus' trial?

RANDY

I'm supposed to bring him a cup, or goblet, or whatever.

FRANK

Dang it, that's a good one. Wish I thought of that. Maybe I can help you out with that?

QUEST WIZARD

I will assist the boy, Lord Death.

FRANK

Again, just Frank.

Quest Wizard reaches into his sleeve and pulls out a GOBLET.

QUEST WIZARD

For helping an old man reach Death's door.

FRANK

Frank's door.

Quest Wizard hands Randy the GOBLET.

RANDY

That's a sweet wolf goblet, but I don't feel like I earned it?

SHEP

(QUIETLY TO RANDY) Just let him help or he'll start crying.

RANDY

Oh, thanks Quest Wizard.

QUEST WIZARD

Thank you, my boy!

FRANK

Alright so that's the trial of life. The trial of death is... how are you with a fiddle, Randy?

RANDY

Never played. I know some guitar though.

FRANK

Perfect! The trial of death can be a music competition! My favorite. Then if you pass that the trial of the crown should be easy-peasy.

RANDY

Crown? Zeus' crown?

FRANK

Yeah, that little doohickey is called the Crown of Creation. It's what Zeus uses to create new lifeforms. Or *used* to create new lifeforms, rather.

RANDY

Oh is that what you used to make mosquitoes?

FRANK

That was millions of years ago and we were super wasted. I didn't even know how to give them souls! Ah, I have much better ideas now.

Frank reaches into a drawer and pulls out a portfolio.

FRANK (CONT'D)

Go ahead, take a look!

Frank opens the portfolio and spreads out a bunch of pictures of crudely drawn creatures.

RANDY

Did you design these?

FRANK

Yeah! Zeus hasn't made anything new since he let the monkeys evolve, but I think if I get to wear the crown I could really spice things up, you know?!

RANDY
What's that one?

Frank grabs a picture of a fishman, just a regular fish with human arms and legs.

FRANK
Fishman! Pretty self-explanatory.

RANDY
Cool?

FRANK
You'll love this one, Randy.

It's an octopus with butts at the end of each tentacle.

FRANK (CONT'D)
Octo-butts.

RANDY
That's not a very clever name.

FRANK
Yeah I'm more of an idea guy than a name guy.

A picture of a Questosaurus is in there.

QUEST WIZARD
Oh, that one's interesting.
Questosaurus?

Frank tosses it.

FRANK
No! This is my pitch.

RANDY
Pitch?

SHEP
Yeah, you get to choose if Zeus keeps wearing the crown or if Frank gets a turn.

RANDY
Well that's actually a pretty big deal. Wouldn't you just kill everything off, Frank?

FRANK

Gosh, I don't know what the heck I did to make you humans think I'm a bad guy. I'm nice!

RANDY

Promise you won't kill everything?

FRANK

No! Zeus and I aren't omnipotent, we don't control that sort of stuff. Think Zeus would have let his precious dinosaurs die out if he could have stopped it? Besides, humanity only has like a hundred years left at best? But unlike humans, fishman here can survive hot temperatures and underwater. Fishman!

RANDY

That's a lot to think about.

FRANK

You'll have time to think about it when and if you can pass the trial of death!

EXT. FRANK'S PATIO - MOMENTS LATER

Randy and Frank both have guitars in hand. Frank tries to strum his guitar but it's **out of tune**.

FRANK

Dang it. Okay I guess you win.

RANDY

Cool, another uneventful trial. We could just take turns with this guitar?

FRANK

No, I don't like that guitar. It was a gift from that Hitler guy.

Randy quickly sets the guitar down.

SHEP

Should probably head back to Zeus' then.

FRANK

What's the rush? My wife should be home any minute now. She makes the best banana bread on this side of the Styx.

SHEP

Maybe some other time, sir.

RANDY

But I like banana bread and I kinda want to see his goth wife.

QUEST WIZARD

First we must return to the quest at hand and I call shotgun!

Quest Wizard runs and nearly trips as he runs away.

SHEP

Can you two drive separate?

FRANK

No, lost my car in a fiddle contest and Mrs. Death took the scooter-oonie.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE**EXT. ZEUS' BACKYARD - DAY**

Randy sets the GOBLET down in front of Zeus.

ZEUS
Sick wolf goblet, but what's this
for?

RANDY
You told me to bring you a goblet.

SHEP
To poureth your wine. It was part
of your trial, sir.

ZEUS
OH! Yeah! Okay!

Zeus pours his wine into the GOBLET and chugs it all.

SHEP
Alright, one trial left.

ZEUS
Yes. The final trial. The most
important trial. The trial of...

FRANK
The Crown.

ZEUS
The Crown?! That was the bet?!

FRANK
Yes.

SHEP
Indeed it was, sir.

ZEUS
How fucked up was I?

FRANK
It was right after the dinosaurs
died. You were not a happy camper.

ZEUS
Ah, yes. The dinosaurs. My greatest
creations. Apex killing machines.
So badass. Even the plant-eating
ones had spikes and shit.

RANDY
 (TO SHEP) Let me guess, they used
 to suck his dick?

ZEUS
 They used to suck my dick. But
 that's not the only thing they
 sucked... they also sucked... my
 heart.

Zeus **sighs**.

ZEUS (CONT'D)
 They won't even let me see them in
 the Afterlife. They roar and caw
 about me not doing anything to help
 them. Like I can stop a fucking
 meteor. FUCK, I miss them!

RANDY
 Dinosaurs are dope, but they didn't
 even have the arts or philosophy.

ZEUS
 Exactly! You get it! No stupid
 bullshit like critical thinking. No
 wars. No slavery, which by the way
 what the fuck? I didn't tell anyone
 to do that shit!

RANDY
 No slavery? Then what exactly *is*
 Shep?

ZEUS
 That's different!

FRANK
 Completely different!

QUEST WIZARD
 The duck-billed dinosaurs had a
 hollow head!

SHEP
 You have a hollow head.

FRANK
 It's your choice, Randy. Do you
 want the land of the living to
 uphold the status quo, or shall
 fishmanity inherit the Earth?

ZEUS

That's another thing, it's not Earth! It's Zeus Land!

Randy thinks it over.

RANDY

I don't know. These trials have done nothing for me.

SHEP

That's because they didn't think of anything!

ZEUS

Bullshit! It was always a goblet quest.

QUEST WIZARD

Ah! A quest!

ZEUS

Oh god, fine, goblet... adventure? Whatever.

FRANK

Yeah and I'm quite known for my music contests.

RANDY

With out of tune guitars? Gotta say, the Afterlife might be just as bad as life. Kind of just want to find my dog and go live in a cave.

ZEUS

Can we wrap this up? I'm supposed to go to Robin Williams' later and watch Mare Bud with the guys.

RANDY

Mare Bud?

SHEP

It's basically Air Bud but with a horse.

RANDY

Jesus Christ. This is so dumb.

FRANK

It's actually a decent flick.

Randy **sighs**.

QUEST WIZARD

Choose wisely, Randy! The future of
all quests hang in the balance!

ZEUS

Why is Quest Wizard even here?

FRANK

I think he's neat.

RANDY

I didn't do shit with my life. I
was nobody, I didn't make a
difference anywhere I went. But my
death is different. I can finally
do something. So I'm gonna do it. I
choose Frank.

ZEUS

WHAT?!

FRANK

Oh, fun!

Zeus gets up out of his seat.

ZEUS

If you guys think I'm just gonna
hand the Crown of Creation over to
someone who doesn't even know how
to make a soul, then you've got-

Zeus begins foaming from the mouth.

SHEP

Zeus?!

Zeus stumbles around a bit before falling over.

RANDY

Is this part of the trial?

SHEP

Oh fuck, oh fuck. Uh? Quick!
Somebody save him! Randy, suck his
dick!

RANDY

No I'm not sucking his dick!

QUEST WIZARD

The chosen one has slayed Zeus!

RANDY
No I didn't!

QUEST WIZARD
Yeah-huh! Yeah you did! I saw it!
I'll take a lie detector test to
prove it!

FRANK
Uh, guys?

Frank points to the ground where Zeus fell. Only the CROWN is there now.

EXT. FIELD - DAY

Zeus wakes up in the field from earlier and spits out his wine.

ZEUS
Did I fucking die? How long did
Frank keep me in the fricken void?!

Shep and Randy are by Zeus.

SHEP
Not long, you've been sleeping here
for a while. I'm not sure what to
do sir, I don't have a clipboard
and I'm freaking out!

Zeus slaps Shep.

ZEUS
Me too! I thought that would make
me feel better!

SHEP
It usually does!

ZEUS
Always figured if I did die it'd be
from a cannon or at least on a
pirate ship. Fucking pirates.

Zeus looks over at Randy.

ZEUS (CONT'D)
You did this, didn't you?! All you
self-proclaimed chosen ones always
have it out for your gods!

RANDY

How could I have done any of this?!

ZEUS

You could have prevented it if you just sucked my dick earlier.

RANDY

Dude, I do not want to suck your dick!

ZEUS

Why not?! It can be anything you want it to be! You want to suck a chode, I can make it a chode. You want a big ol' donkey dick, it can be a big ol' donkey dick.

RANDY

The fuck?

ZEUS

Yeah well you can say goodbye to the chances of that happening.

RANDY

I'm okay with that.

ZEUS

Sure, Randy. Fuckin' Randy. I had a good thing going as the deity of Life. I don't even know what Death does!

SHEP

I can assist with that, sir.

ZEUS

Why don't you assist me by bringing back my crown?

SHEP

But it's Frank's turn now? And he's technically my boss too.

RANDY

Yeah, what's the big deal? You guys could use a change of pace around here and Frank seems harmless?

ZEUS

It's not Frank who concerns me.

Shep and Randy look at each other.

EXT. ZEUS' HOUSE - DAY - ESTABLISHING

MRS. DEATH pulls up in front of the house on a scooter. She comes to a stop and **honks** the little horn.

EXT. ZEUS' BACKYARD - CONTINUOUS

FRANK

Ah, that must be the missus. You're good walking, right? Not enough room on the ol' scooter-oonie.

Quest Wizard has a little red wagon.

QUEST WIZARD

I've procured this peculiar vehicular device, your grace.

Frank seems less than enthused and finishes some work on his Zune Specs. He sets them down next to the goblet.

FRANK

Wow. Never thought I'd have to read Zeus' file.

QUEST WIZARD

And it's the last death you'll ever have to log, Lord Life.

FRANK

Just Frank still. Also don't think poisoning the goblet was very kind of you, Quest Wizard. Seems like a cosmic crime?

QUEST WIZARD

I didn't think the boy would choose you.

FRANK

Me either, but you didn't have to kill Zeus over it. I'll let it slide this once, but no more killing gods, okay?

QUEST WIZARD

Of course!

Quest Wizard places the Crown on Frank's head.

FRANK

I really didn't think Randy would choose me. Oh this is going to be so much fun!

Frank adjusts the CROWN.

FRANK (CONT'D)

Itchier than I remember. If only I could recall how to use this ding-dong crown!

QUEST WIZARD

Fear not, Lord Frank. We shall learn together!

FRANK

We? Together?

An uncomfortable silence.

FRANK (CONT'D)

Oh, great! I can use all the help I can get with this thing. Maybe dead Zeus can help out?

QUEST WIZARD

No! This is your destiny, not his! You're the deity of life now! To learn the ways of the Crown of Creation, we must embark on a... quest!

Quest Wizard **laughs maniacally**. Frank **joins in** too for some reason. Quest Wizard puts his hand on Frank's shoulder but he brushes it away.

END OF SHOW