

**AND THERE CAME A DAY, A DAY UNLIKE ANY
OTHER. WHEN THREE FRIENDS UNITED TO CREATE
THE FUTURE THAT WE NEVER COULD. ON THAT
DAY, E.G.G. WAS BORN.**

E.G.G

Experimental Government Gadgets

-EPISODE 13-

THE WHITE QUEEN

Josh opened his eyes and sat up in his bed.

“Another long, hard, boring day of work.” He said. He got out of bed to find that he was already in his uniform. “Wow this job is taking its toll on me.” He said, walking out of his room. “Sleeping in my uniform.” He walked into the Inner Shell where he saw Eileen and Julian talking and laughing. “What? Okay, something’s not right here.” He approached them. Eileen stood to greet him.

“Josh, Josh,” she said excitedly, “did you know Julian loves Doctor Who, and Lord of the Rings!”

“I did not,” Josh said. “But I think it’s good you two are finding common ground.”

“It’s funny how the media seems to bring people together.” Julian said.

“Right...” Josh replied.

“Hey guys!” Acacia said, rushing into the room with a fresh baked apple pie. Josh sniffed the air.

“Boy oh boy does that pie smell good!” he said. “Wish I could have a slice.”

“You can,” Acacia said, handing it to him. “It’s for you.” Josh gasped.

“You never make me apple pie!” He said.

“I do now.” Acacia replied, winking at him. Josh bit into a slice.

“Mmmhhmmm!” he said. “This day just gets better and better doesn’t it!” He walked down to Humpty Dumpty Hall to find a small red baton lying on the table.

“No way!” He said, grabbing it. He twisted it and separated it into two halves with a rope in the middle. He stretched it a few times, then retracted the rope. Then he found a button on the side and pressed it, extending the small baton into a 6 foot long bow staff. “We finished it!”

“Yep,” Eileen said, entering the room. “Me and Julian put in some overtime and got the job done.”

“Well way to go!” He said, examining it. “Wow, an exact replica of Daredevil’s Fighting Stick!” Eileen laughed.

“Fighting Stick?”

“Well yeah, it does everything!” Josh said, swinging it. “It can be a billy club, a grappling hook, a bow staff...”

“Yeah, Julian wanted one for himself. I’m making one for him.” Josh looked at her.

“You guys are awfully chummy now, aren’t you?”

“Yeah, well, you know, common ground.” Eileen took Julian’s out of a closet and examined it. “You think I should go with flames or chains?”

“Flames.” Josh said, putting the one he was holding back on the table.

“I thought so.” She replied, placing it back in the closet. “But don’t tell him! It’s a surprise!” Josh zipped his lips. Eileen smiled and left. Josh walked out and headed to the Feeding Pen, where Acacia sat talking to Agent Becket.

“What’s up guys?” He asked.

“Oh, nothing,” Acacia replied. “Agent Becket and I were just discussing if Hulk could beat Iron Man.”

“The guy’s gone toe to toe with Thor and Wolverine. I think he can beat Iron Man.” Josh said.

“Thank you!” Agent Becket said.

“Whatevs,” Acacia replied. “So did you see the Daredevil Fighting Stick? Cool right!”

“You call it a Fighting Stick too, I’m so glad I’m not the only one!” Josh said.

“Well, what else would you call it?”

“Exactly! I just hope Fury likes it.”

“Well why wouldn’t he?”

“Ugh, nothing I do is ever good enough for that guy! He’s always like, ‘oh, this could be better’, or ‘you want my agents to use that?’ or ‘I’m Director of S.H.I.E.L.D., so I can make you rebuild it as many times as I want!’”

“Do I really sound like that?” Josh froze. Then he slowly turned around to see Director Nick Fury standing behind him, arms folded. Josh cleared his throat.

“I, um, ahem, not exactly like that sir...” Josh was at a loss for words. “Maybe, a little on the demanding side, but that’s your job, I mean... you know...” Fury laughed and patted his shoulder.

“I’m just messin’ with you.” He said. Josh breathed a deep sigh of relief. “Truth is, I really appreciate what you do. All of you. I don’t know where we’d be today if we didn’t have E.G.G.”

“Really?” Josh asked, astonished.

“Really. You guys are the best!”

“Wow! Thank you Director Fury! That means a lot. Um, if you don’t mind me asking, what brings you to Mother Egg?”

“Oh, I came to get the Fighting Stick.”

“The fighting...” Josh turned to Acacia. “He says it too!”

“I heard.” Acacia replied, smiling.

“Um, right, it’s in the Humpty Dumpty Hall.” Josh replied. “I can get it if you...”

“I got it.” He said. “You just keep up the good work.”

“Aye, aye sir!” Josh said, saluting. Fury left the room and Josh jumped up and down with joy. “He does respect me!”

“You’re a respectable guy.” Julian said, entering and grabbing a bagel.

“Thank you Julian.” He said. “Wanna get a jump on our next project?”

“Can’t, I’m training with Eileen.”

“Eileen?” Josh said. “I thought she was rainbow eyes.”

“Common ground bro,” he replied. “Quit livin’ in the past.” He left. Josh shrugged.

“I guess they really did make up.” He grabbed a slice of apple pie and bit into it.

“Mmmmmhhmmm! This is heavenly!” He bit it again. “Unbeatable!” He bit it again. “Better than Grandma used to make it!” He stopped. He opened his eyes. He looked at the fork with a chunk of pie on it. “No one makes it better than my Grandma...”

“Josh!” He turned to see Eileen. “Hey, you wanna train with me and Julian?”

“Yeah...” He said. “Soon as I find Chip.”

“Chip?” Eileen asked. “Your... Yorkie Chip?”

“Yeah, him.”

“He’s right here. Come on out Chip!” At that moment Josh’s cute little Yorkie, Chip, came around the corner and barked. Eileen picked him up and handed him to Josh. “Here you go.”

“Well don’t give him to me, give him to his playmate.”

“Playmate...”

“Agent Becket.”

“Right. Agent Becket!” Eileen called. He got up and walked over. “Here, play with Chip.”

“My pleasure!” He said, taking him.

“Well aren’t you going to transform?” Josh asked.

“What?” Agent Becket asked.

“Yeah, you know, you transform into that dog-dragon thing. That’s how you play with Chip.”

“Oh, yeah, ha, silly me.” With that Agent Becket got down on his hands and knees and transformed into a small brown dog-dragon with green horns and green stripes running down his ears and back. He started running in a circle and playing with Chip.

“Now can we go train?” Eileen asked.

“Eileen!” Josh gasped. “Is that any way to spend our 6 month anniversary?”

“Our 6th who what now?” she asked. Josh sighed.

“We’ve officially been going out for half a year as of today! I thought girls were supposed to remember this stuff.”

“Oh, yeah, that’s right!” She said. “Happy 6 month anniversary!” Eileen grabbed Josh by the shoulders and kissed him on the lips. Josh took a deep breath.

“Okay.” He said.

“What?” Eileen asked. “Did that not satisfy you?” She began to rub his cheek but Josh grabbed her wrist and squeezed.

“Ow!” She shouted. “Josh let go! You’re hurting me!”

“I don’t care!” Josh shouted. “Now who are you, where am I, and what have you done with Eileen!” Eileen’s face straightened immediately. She pulled away from Josh and transformed before his eyes, into the infamous Emma Frost of the Inner Circle.

“Emma Frost.” Josh growled.

“Bravo,” she said. “It seems you win the prize.”

“Where are we Frost!” Josh demanded.

“Why, we’re in your subconscious.” She replied. “Your mind.” Josh clenched his fist.

“Get out of my head witch!” He shouted. He charged, but Emma Frost only laughed as Josh fell through her.

“I’m not a witch, I’m a mutant.” She said. “And even if you had a slight chance of beating me in the real world, you cannot touch me here.” Acacia, Julian, Agent Becket, Nick Fury, and Chip all transformed into Emma Frosts. “This may be your mind, but it’s my domain. I control everything you think!” All of the Emma’s surrounded Josh and began beating on him. Josh punched one, tripped another, and pushed a third into some others, but they kept coming.

“Ahh!” Josh screamed as he curled into a ball, all of the Emma’s kicking him.

“Welcome to your worst nightmare!” She shouted. “Welcome to die!”

“Nightmare...” Josh coughed. “Are you kidding... it’s every guy’s dream to get beat up by a scarcely dressed mutant girl.” Emma gritted her teeth.

“Insolent to the end I see.” The other Emma’s held him up and she smacked him across the face. “I’m going to enjoy this very much!” She smacked at him again, but her hand stopped just before his cheek. “Wha...”

“Actually,” Josh said. “I’m going to enjoy this.” He broke free, blowing all of the other Emma’s to dust.

“What? No! You can’t! You can’t fight it!”

“Yes, seeing as how this is my mind, I can.” Suddenly a black hole appeared behind Emma. She was sucked towards it, but grabbed onto a metal beam.

“You had everything you ever wanted!” She shouted. “How did you resist!”

“It’s easy really.” He said. “Once I accepted that it wasn’t real. As much as I’d love to live in an amazing fantasy, I have responsibilities in the real world. And people who care about me. That’s where I belong Frost, so nice try, but you lose.”

“NNNOOOOOO!!!!!!” Emma shouted, as she was sucked into the black hole.

Josh suddenly shook his head. He looked around to see he was in a computer room, and there was banging at the door.

“What the, where am I?” he asked. Suddenly the door blew open, and Eileen, Acacia, and Julian all rushed in with their guns drawn. Acacia rushed over to the computer, with the words FILE SENT on the screen.

“Dang it!” She shouted.

“What’s going on?” Josh asked.

“I’m guessing you’re back to normal.” Acacia sighed, putting her gun in her holster.

“You see!” Julian shouted at Eileen. “We’re too late! Way to go rainbow eyes!”

“Can it loser!” She shouted back. “You were the one bragging you could get the door open ten times faster than me!”

“You shoulda brought up your powers in the first place! Idiot!”

“Jerk!”

“Freak!”

“Shellhead!”

“This is more like it…” Josh said to himself. “Hey, can you guys not kill each other for three seconds.”

“And you!” Julian said. “What was your problem man! Beatin’ us down like that!”

“I was being mind-controlled by Emma Frost.” He said. “But I had no idea! She had me living in this perfect world, where two got along!”

“What!” Julian shouted. Eileen laughed.

“Uh, yeah, when pigs fly, cook, and clean!” She said. “And even then!”

“That’s what happened!” Josh replied. “And you made me apple pie Acacia!”

“Yeah, it was definitely a dream then.” She said.

“And Fury respected me!”

“Oh, poor Josh.” Eileen said, putting her hand on his shoulder. “You know that’ll never happen.” Josh frowned.

“Thanks.” He said. Then he stopped. “The Fighting Stick! Is it finished?”

“You mean the one you threw against the wall yesterday and called hopeless?” Eileen asked. “It couldn’t be in worse shape than it is now.” Josh sighed.

“Well that’s just great.” He said. “But on the plus side.” He pulled a sheet of paper out of his pocket. “I can cross Emma Frost off of my kiss list!”

“You kissed Emma Frost in your dream?” Acacia asked. Josh smiled.

“Something like that.”

“Well I’m out.” Julian said, leaving the room.

“So what else is new!” Eileen shouted, leaving as well. Josh looked at the computer.

“What exactly did I do?” He asked.

“You don’t wanna know.” Acacia replied. She began to leave.

“Hey Acacia!” Josh shouted. She stopped.

“What?” Josh smiled.

“Wanna make me an apple pie?” Acacia laughed.

“Keep dreaming kid.” She said, as they both left the room. “Keep dreaming.”

EPILOUGE

Tony Stark sat at his desk, shuffling through papers.

“Jarvis,” he called out loud. “Do you know where I put the schematics for my new armor? I was on the verge of something big.”

“I do not sir.” His house replied. “Perhaps in your workshop?”

“I already checked there.” He said. “It’s not, wait a second...” Tony picked up a file with the S.H.I.E.L.D. logo. “Jarvis, how long has this been here?”

“Months sir.” Jarvis replied. Tony sighed and opened the file.

“I swear, Fury just drops things on my desk, he doesn’t care where I am, if I even...” Suddenly he stopped. “Oh, oh no... not again. This is bad.” He slammed the file down and rushed to his door. “Pepper!” He shouted. His secretary Pepper Potts approached.

“Yes Tony?” She asked.

“Get my jet ready for a little trip.” He said.

“Where to?” She asked.

“Rexburg, Idaho.” He replied. “And Jarvis, get the Mark VI ready.”

“As you wish sir.” Jarvis replied. Pepper looked at Tony.

“Sounds like you’re getting ready for a fight.” She said.

“I am.” Tony replied. He opened a drawer and took out an ID card with his picture and the letter A. He pressed down on the A and the card lit up. He held it up, and spoke two simple words into it:

“Avengers Assemble.”

Next Issue: AvE

All Eggs Must Crack!