

Broken-Hearted Monsters

“Episode 2: The Vampire’s Castle”

By

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[Music]

ANNOUNCER
Rusty Quill Presents: Broken Hearted Monsters
Episode Two: Vampire's Castle

[Music]

1. INT. CAR – DAY

SFX: Car idling.

DRACULA
(matter of fact)
We are lost.

FRANK
(matter of fact)
We're not lost.

DRACULA
We are parked at an intersection in
the middle of the desert.

FRANK
Ok, we might be a little off course.

Uh, why don't you crack the glove
compartment

DRACULA
What is in the—

SFX: SOUND OF GLOVE COMPARTMENT POPPING AND
SEVERAL ITEMS OF CLUTTER FALLING.

DRACULA
A giant unfolded map.

SFX: CRINKLING OF MAP.

Torn in two?

FRANK
Yeah, I tried to refold it, but they
make 'em so you can't.

DRACULA
Well, that is not true.

FRANK
Babe, babe, babe. Times have
changed since you were a little bat.

DRACULA
Do tell.

FRANK
You see, back in olden times—

DRACULA
Olden times?

FRANK
You had real craftsmen, who made
things for the love of the craft.

These days, everything is made to be
a piece of crap, so you have to buy a
new one when it breaks.

DRACULA
The 15th century was not exactly an
artisanal craft fair.

FRANK
But you had your pride.

DRACULA

(deadpan)

**We had war and starvation and maps
that barely resembled the thing they
were supposed to look like.**

[PAUSE]

FRANK

**Yeah, but I bet they didn't explode
when you folded them.**

**Dracula folds the map as he speaks, pausing after each fold as
he starts to spot all these marks on the map.**

DRACULA

**The map is fine, you just need to fold
it... the right... way.**

**Frank. What are these marks all over
the map?**

FRANK

(giddy)

I dunno, you tell me.

DRACULA

**Alligator petting zoo, doll head
museum, sarsaparilla mystery
house... Taxidermy Derek's Bone
Emporium?**

FRANK

(excited)

**Surprise! We are going to hit every
roadside attraction with a Roadside
USA rating of bizarre, off-putting, or
perverted between here and the
castle!**

SFX: FRANK REACHES OVER AND POINTS TO A MARKER ON THE MAP.

Did you see the “statue of a normal man?”

DRACULA
(stunned)
This is... the trip.

FRANK
You know me. I hate breaking a promise.

DRACULA
But this is... so much. Do we even have time?

FRANK
Don't worry your pretty little head, babe. I've got it all worked out. We can hit every death trap on this map – maybe swing by a couple hot doggeries for old Frankie — and get to the dead dad thing with time to spare.

DRACULA
I do not know if I should be totally charmed or utterly furious.

FRANK
I have a strong preference for “charmed” but you're cute when you're furious too.

SFX: MAP CRINKLING

DRACULA
(big sigh)
We are not as lost as I thought we would be. The first attraction is just up ahead.

FRANK
Oh, which one is it!?

2. INT. ROADSIDE ATTRACTION, VAMPIRE'S CASTLE – DAY

SFX: Creaky old castle door opening. Spooky noises inside: stereotypical laughing monster sounds, rattling chains.

RIDE WORKER
(Igor impersonation)
Welcome, oh doomed souls, to the
horrifying realm of the Vampire's
Castle.

DRACULA
Hello.

FRANK
Yo.

RIDE WORKER
(Igor impersonation)
Before you go any further, I must
warn you thusly: the castle contains
a myriad of unspeakable horrors and
monstrosities.

No cage nor chain shall stand
between you and the most
abominable horrors these lands have
ever seen.

DRACULA
Ok.

FRANK
Gotcha.

RIDE WORKER

(impersonation fades)

Go now and please refrain from touching the actors. Seriously, it's not cool.

SFX: THUNDERSTRIKE. THROUGHOUT THE SCENE, WE HEAR THE SOUNDS OF A HORROR RIDE, SPOOKY NOISES THROUGH BAD SPEAKERS, JETS OF PRESSURIZED AIR, VISITORS AND ACTORS SCREAMING.

FRANK

Hmmm. So, this is what a real vampire's castle looks like.

DRACULA

Yep.

SFX: JET OF PRESSURIZED AIR, WITCH SCREAMING.

DRACULA

(sarcastic)

Just like home.

FRANK

Huh, I thought there'd be more anime crap everywhere.

DRACULA

The vampire aristocracy did not invent anime girl statuettes and pastel wallpapers until the 17th century.

FRANK

(laughing)

SFX: PRESSURIZED AIR. GHOST LAUGHING.

FRANK

You know, when we were together,
you never really talked about...

DRACULA

Olden times?

FRANK

Yeah, olden times.

Beat.

DRACULA

It was so long ago, sometimes it feels like someone
else's memories.

(Warm)

I loved my homeland... for a time.

FRANK

Wallachia, right?

DRACULA

(surprised)

Hello. Look at you knowing stuff.

FRANK

I've been known to Google things
from time to time.

DRACULA

(melancholy)

It was known by many names. Even
during my human years, the land was
constantly changing hands.

My brothers would jokingly ask each
other, "who rules this land?" and the
answer was always "That depends!
What day is it?"

SFX: HOWLING OF A WOLF.

FRANK

(laughs)

I never knew you had funny brothers.
Or brothers in general.

DRACULA

(warm)

Yes. I had a whole funny family. A lot
of rowdy boys, but they could be
quite sweet at times.

I loved weddings and... weddings
and funerals. The whole family would
come home and eat and dance and
just... be together.

For a time, I could not imagine living
anywhere else in the world.

But then I... I stopped getting invited
to weddings.

FRANK

Your family didn't take the vampire
thing well?

DRACULA

Hmm? No, they had a problem with who I was long
before I was a creature of the night.

FRANK

Oh.

DRACULA

Yeah.

**SFX: DISTORTED CRACK OF THUNDER OVER
THE LOUDSPEAKERS**

FRANK
Sounds lonely.

DRACULA
The first few years were definitely the hardest.

FRANK
Is that when you (Frank makes psycho sound effect) enk, enk, enk enk?

DRACULA
Is that when I what?

FRANK
You know. All the impaling?

DRACULA
(taken aback)
God! No. What!? I'm not Vlad Tepish!

FRANK
(awkward)
Sorry! You never talk about this stuff!

DRACULA
(mildly offended)
I cannot believe you thought I was **VLAD THE IMPALER** the whole time and you still dated me.

FRANK
It was so long ago and you were hot!

DRACULA
Frank!

FRANK

Oh, I'm sorry! I didn't realize I needed a masters in medieval history to appreciate a little snack in tight black jeans.

DRACULA

Frank!

Both men laugh.

SFX: PRESSURIZED AIR

RIDE ACTOR 2

(Evil dead possessed woman impression)

Fresh Souls! Fresh Souls! I smell Fresh Souls!

[pause]

FRANK

Would you ever go back? To visit?

DRACULA

No. It is too painful to stand somewhere that once felt like home and feel... nothing.

FRANK

Well, now you've got a new home.

DRACULA

California? God no. I just live there because that is where all the monsters are.

FRANK

(offended)

You don't really feel that way.

DRACULA

**Come on, you know I hate all the
sunshine and superficiality and woo
woo.**

FRANK

Yeah, but all your friends are there.

DRACULA

And?

FRANK

Dracula, they love you. We're...

DRACULA

Do not say it.

FRANK

We're family.

DRACULA

**No, my "family" died 500 years ago
and each and everyone of them hated
me.**

FRANK

You know what I mean.

DRACULA

**No. I know the meaning that you are
trying to force on me. And it sticks in
my craw every time.**

FRANK

**You're telling me that Wolfie and
Pucey mean nothing to you?**

Camilla!?

DRACULA

**We shared some good times together
and now we have moved on. Is that
not enough?**

FRANK

Nobody else has “moved on”, Dracula.

DRACULA

**It has been months since I have seen
any of them.**

FRANK

(reproachful)

And who’s fault is that?

DRACULA

**I do not know! Maybe it is nobody's
fault.**

FRANK

**You shut them out and went on a
siring bender!**

DRACULA

I... I was alone.

FRANK

No! You wanted to be alone!

You got one whiff of possible rejection and bolted!

DRACULA

You know it is more complicated than that!

FRANK

(monster voice building)

We’re disposable to you, aren’t we?

**SFX: A FUZZY RECORDING OF A THEREMIN PLAYS A SPOOKY
RIFF.**

DRACULA

(cautious)

Uh, Frank! Take it down a peg.

FRANK

(monster voice)

You're a fucking tourist.

SFX: FRANK PUNCHES THROUGH PLYWOOD WALL. GROUP OF CHILDREN ON THE OTHER SIDE RUN AWAY SCREAMING.

DRACULA

(hissing)

Get yourself under control right now or I will-

FRANK

(monster voice)

You'll what?! Leave me?! Too late, Dracula. You already did that.

SFX: SOUND OF FRANK TEARING APART THE SET. COUPLE SCREAMING AND RUNNING AWAY

DRACULA

(direct)

Calm down Frank, you are scaring people.

RIDE WORKER 2

Hey man! You can't be rampaging in here.

FRANK

(monster voice)

RAAAAARGH.

DRACULA

(monster voice)

NO!

SFX: DRACULA PUNCHES FRANK SENDING HIM FLYING THROUGH SEVERAL PLYWOOD WALLS.

DUST AND RUBBLE SETTLES. RECORDING OF CACKLING WITCH WARPS AND FADES AS IF RUNNING OUT OF BATTERY.

DRACULA
(monster voice)
FRANK! ARE YOU OK?

RIDE WORKER 2
I think you killed it.

DRACULA
(serious)
I hope not. He has a funeral to get to.

3. EXT. ROADSIDE ATTRACTION, VAMPIRE'S CASTLE – DAY

SFX: SOUND OF DRACULA DRAGGING FRANKENSTEIN, ACROSS THE DIRT AND GRAVEL, TO THE CAR.

FRANK
(dazed)
Ugh, what happened.

DRACULA
(direct)
You happened, Frank.

FRANK
(ashamed)
Aw no. I rampaged, didn't I?

DRACULA
You sure did.

FRANK

Did I hurt anyone?

DRACULA

You put the fear of god in some Girl Scouts and wrecked a perfectly good vampire castle.

But no. You did not hurt anyone.

FRANK

That's good.

DRACULA

Yes, real awesome, dude. I had to give a sixteen-year-old my leather jacket to keep him from calling the cops.

FRANK

Noooo, your favorite jacket.

I'm so sorry, Dracula.

DRACULA

(growls)

FRANK

Maybe I should go back there and apologize.

DRACULA

No.

FRANK

No?

DRACULA

No. Apologizing would mean paying for damages. Paying with money you do not have.

FRANK
I could have money.

SFX: DRACULA DROPS FRANK.

FRANK
Oof.

DRACULA
Frank, in my protracted existence, I have never known a person worse with money.

FRANK
Hey, maybe you don't know me as well as you think you do, old man. Six months is a looong time for us little folk.

I've been busy four-exing and... and compounding... and putting my assets to work for me.

DRACULA
(skeptical)
Oh apologies. I had no idea. Then by all means, head back there and pay for the extensive structural damages you made.

FRANK
(hesitant)
Oh. Structural, you say?

DRACULA
Load bearing.

FRANK
Uh right, do you think they take bitcoin?

4. INT. CAR - DAY

SFX: Car top up—muffled sounds of a car on the open road from the inside of the car.

FRANK

-you see, I've diamond hands (that means I can HOLD better than anyone) and when it all goes to the moon, I'll be able to buy you as many leather jackets as you want.

DRACULA

Podcasts were a mistake.

FRANK

Hmm?

DRACULA

I thought you had your rampaging under control.

FRANK

No, yeah, I do! Totally. It's barely a thing anymore.

DRACULA

You threw a section of drywall at that girl scout troop.

FRANK

I guess... I guess I've been... a little off since the breakup.

DRACULA

Define "a little off."

FRANK

I tossed an old man out of a window at Camilla's wedding.

DRACULA

Frank!

FRANK

He was fine! He was possessed by a cat demon at the time. And he was being a transphobic dick.

Still... It wasn't my proudest moment.

DRACULA

I had no idea it had gotten this bad.

FRANK

Like I said, it's fine. I've just reached a dip on the way to the peak of Sigma mountain.

DRACULA

Ok. You are banned from consuming straight-people media for the foreseeable future.

Why did you not tell me any of this?

FRANK

Well, you broke up with me because of my rampaging. I thought maybe if I had my shit together...

DRACULA

I did not break up with you because of your rampaging. I broke up with you because of the things you did while you were rampaging.

FRANK

Is that... different?

DRACULA

Yes.

FRANK

I don't get it.

DRACULA

(sad)

I know.

(silence)

SFX: INDICATOR, CAR PULLS IN.

DRACULA

Why are we stopping?

FRANK

**Alligator Hank's Unauthorized Euphoria Dioramas.
We're at the next thing.**

DRACULA

**We have been on the road for twenty minutes. Can we
skip this one?**

FRANK

Oh, yeah, no worries.

We still good for the Dirt Pits in fifteen?

DRACULA

**Fifteen minutes? How many stops are we making on
this thing?**

FRANK

You know. All of them.

DRACULA

All of them?

SFX: SOUND OF MAP UNFOLDING

DRACULA

(exasperated sigh)

**Frank. Now that I am really looking at this, I do not
think we have the time to hit all... of... oh my god.**

FRANK

What.

DRACULA

Oh my god.

SFX: DRACULA OPENS THE DOOR, SOUND OF SEARING FLESH AS SUN BURNS HIS ARM.

FRANK
Wait! Daylight!

DRACULA
(in pain)
Argggggghhhhh.

FRANK
(concerned)
Put on your ring.

SFX: DRACULA SCRABBLES TO GRAB RING FROM THE CUP HOLDER AND PUTS IT ON.

DRACULA
(monster voice)
I got it!

SFX: BOTH DOORS OPENING. DRACULA SLAMS HIS DOOR.

5. EXT. DESERT HIGHWAY - DAY - CONT.

SFX: FROM INSIDE OF THE CAR—MUFFLED SOUNDS OF THE OPEN ROAD.

DRACULA
(animated)
You have no intention of going to any funeral.

FRANK
(hesitant)
What, that's crazy, haha.

SFX: DRACULA SHAKES THE MAP AT FRANK.

DRACULA

Look at all these stops. This would take months.

FRANK

(lying badly)

Dracula, the funeral is the whole reason we're on this wild trip. Why would we not go!?

Unless... you didn't want to go?

DRACULA

Oh my god.

FRANK

I thought you'd like all this weird stuff.

DRACULA

(scolding)

The selection of mystery shacks and giant household items is not the problem! You have very much captured my taste with almost insulting accuracy.

FRANK

Then the problem is...

DRACULA

(furious)

The problem is I agreed to attend a funeral and you have turned it into an extended hostage situation with a gift shop.

FRANK

Whoa, babe! This isn't a kidnapping. I was just trying to show you a good time.

DRACULA

Can you hear the actual words
coming out of your mouth right now?

FRANK

OK! I admit that sounded a little like
something a serial killer would say.
But I'm not a serial killer. I just love
you is all.

DRACULA

Jee-zus Christ, Frank. Do not do this
to me.

FRANK

(flustered)

That's not what I meant to say.

DRACULA

What was the plan, Frank? Did you think I would get
so swept up in the fun that I would just forget the
whole dead dad thing?

FRANK

Something like that...

DRACULA

And in your head I was fine with this?

FRANK

In my head... we would have laughed
it off... 'cause of how happy we
were... together.

DRACULA

I am not going to say this again
Frank. In fact, if a situation occurs
where I feel the need to say this
again, I am going to hurl you into the
sun.

**We... are not getting back together.
Do you understand?**

FRANK
Dracula, I...

DRACULA
(monster voice)
Say it, Frank.

FRANK
(defeated)
I understand.

(shocked)
Holy shit, Dracula, your arm!

DRACULA
(nonchalantly)
It is fine. It just caught a little sun.

FRANK
It's not fine. It looks like rib tips!

**SFX: FRANK POPS TRUCK AND RETRIEVES
FIRST AID KIT.**

DRACULA
(annoyed but the raw fury has subsided)
**We are in the middle of something
here.**

FRANK
(concerned, repentant)
**You're right... about everything. And
I'm going to look at your arm while
you continue to be right.**

DRACULA
(sighing)
Fine.

FRANK
Roll your sleeve up.

DRACULA
Here...

**SFX: SOUNDS OF A LARGE BOTTLE OF WATER BEING
POURED OUT ONTO ARM.**

DRACULA
(winces in pain)

Conversation continues as Frank applies lotion and bandages Dracula's arm.

FRANK
I'm sorry. I don't know why I'm like
this.

Dracula sees Frank is hurting and pivots to a more understanding tone.

DRACULA
I think you care a lot about people.
And you want to show them.

FRANK
Raise your arm a little.

DRACULA
(wincing)
You have a hard time meeting people
at their level. And zero impulse
control.

FRANK
(ashamed)
Like when you told me you didn't
want a birthday party, but I organized
a giant surprise party anyway and

**when everyone jumped out, you
cried?**

DRACULA

**Do I really need to answer that
question?**

FRANK

(dejected)

No.

**It's just... these things bubble to the
top of my head. And if I don't follow
through, it feels like I'm letting
someone down.**

DRACULA

(direct)

**Look, I do not hate big romantic
gestures, Frank. It is actually one of
your more endearing qualities.**

FRANK

I have endearing qualities?

DRACULA

(teasing)

Some.

**My most cherished memories would
not have happened if you had not
oafishly nudged me out of my
comfort zone.**

(direct)

**But you get that I am not a person
you can make big romantic gestures
for anymore, right?**

FRANK
(wounded)
I guess.

(a little surprised)
You have favorite memories of us together?

DRACULA
Of course, Frank. The bad times take a little of the shine off the good. But I would be lying if I said my happiest memories were not with you.

FRANK
(half joking)
That's kinda sad. 600 years of living and your happiest moments are with a sack of body parts that broke your heart.

DRACULA
(playfully)
The sack had his good days.

Can we get back in the car? I can feel a magic ring migraine coming on.

FRANK
One Second.

SFX: FRANK FINISHES BANDAGING UP DRACULA'S ARM.

There we go.

SFX: FRANK CLOSSES THE TRUNK AND THE TWO GET BACK IN THE CAR.

6. INT. CAR - DAY - CONT.

SFX: INSIDE THE CAR, CAR IS OFF AND STATIONARY. CREAKS OF CAR SEATS.

FRANK
(matter of factly)
I have favorite memories too.

DRACULA
(wry)
Well, keep them to yourself. This road trip is strictly PG.

FRANK
(jokingly defensive)
I wasn't talking about the horny stuff!
I have a little more emotional intelligence than you give me credit for.

DRACULA
Ok, ok. I am sorry.

SFX: FRANK STARTS THE CAR.

FRANK
(sly)
Do you remember when I found that old traveler's chest of lacy black underwear in your crawl space?

DRACULA
(scandalized)
Frank!

FRANK
(wistfully)
My favorite memory was Pucey's birthday at the Moldy Lemon.

DRACULA

The stickiest bar I have ever been in.
Wait, Pucey's Birthday? I do not think
we were going out then.

FRANK

(fondly)

Nope. We hadn't even kissed yet. But
it was one of three occasions,
possibly in the span of human
history, that the dark lord sang
Karaoke in public.

DRACULA

(warm)

I cannot believe you remember that.

FRANK

How could I forget? You sang a love
ballad right at me.

DRACULA

I absolutely did not.

FRANK

Well, maybe not right at me. But
that's what it felt like.

The whole world melted away... and
it was just you and me, alone in a
sticky void.

DRACULA

(gentle laugh)

FRANK

That was the moment I realized we
were going to be a thing.

DRACULA

(deep sigh)

Do you remember the song?

FRANK

It was... oh god... it was an old-timey love song, right? Why can't I remember it?

DRACULA

It is ok. I do not remember it either. It was a long time ago.

FRANK

(disappointed)

Yeah but it was supposed to be one of my favorite memories. The least I could do is remember the song!

DRACULA

(soft)

It does not matter if you remember the song. It just feels good to know that you noticed the moment also.

FRANK

AH! I knew you were singing to me!

DRACULA

Just drive the car, columbo. We need to get to this funeral before the Stockholm Syndrome sets in.

FRANK

Heh heh.