

Broken-Hearted Monsters

“Episode 5: The Road to Hell”

By

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[Music]

ANNOUNCER
Rusty Quill Presents: Broken Hearted Monsters
Episode Five: The Road to Hell

[Music]

1. INT.FRANKENSTEIN'S CASTLE - NIGHT

THE PERFECT MAN
(standoffish)
The big city hasn't changed you one bit, eh
bud?

FRANK
(defiant)
You don't know anything about me.

THE PERFECT MAN
I know you're still blaming mom for all
your problems.

ESME
I'm a big girl, Perfy. I know I wasn't the
best mother in the world.

FRANK
(stumbling)
No! I... you were a good mom. I was just
trying to say that... you know, we need to
be able to... have conversations like
adults... and stuff.

THE PERFECT MAN

Hmmm, interesting. These adults, they scream at each other at the top of their lungs?

FRANK

Can you mind your own business for once in your life, The Perfect Man?

PERFY

Actually, I go by Perfy now.

FRANK

What?!

PERFY

I don't go by The Perfect Man anymore. It's just Perfy Frankenstein.

FRANK

That's stupid. I'm not calling you Perfy, The Perfect Man.

DRACULA

Frank! Don't deadname your brother.

FRANK

I'm not deadnaming, it's just a stupid nickname.

PERFY

No, I got it legally changed.

FRANK

Wait! Are you legally a human being!?

PERFY

Are you not!?

FRANK

Son of a -

ESME

Now, now. I want you boys to get along this weekend. I'll not have a repeat of what happened at Grandma Shirely's funeral.

DRACULA

What happened at Grandma Shirley's funeral?

PERFY

You must be Dracula.

DRACULA

Uh... yep.

PERFY

So lovely to finally meet you. Frank has told mom so much about you.

Frank and I got in a little row at the funeral and interrupted the demon-summoning ceremony.

FRANK

You threw me off the castle roof!

PERFY

Have you any brothers, Dracula?

FRANK

I landed on the cotton candy stand!

DRACULA

Uh, I did. A very long time ago.

PERFY

I'm sorry to hear that.

FRANK

You elbow-dropped my head right off!

DRACULA

It is okay. They lived full human lives. We never really saw eye-to-eye though.

PERFY

Was it the gay thing or the unholy abomination thing? Sorry, that was way too personal, right?

DRACULA

No, it is fine. It was both. I do not think they were capable of separating one from the other.

PERFY

I'm sorry, Dracula. Navigating the resentment of those we love is one of life's greatest challenges.

FRANK

(annoyed)

Wow. I'm going to grab the bags from the car.

PERFY

Here, let me help.

FRANK

I got em!

PERFY

I'm just trying to help, FRANK.

FRANK

I DON'T WANT YOUR HELP!

ESME & DRACULA

FRANK.

FRANK

(monster voice)

RAAAAAAAGHHHHH!!!!

DRACULA

Frank, no rampaging!

ESME

It's fine. Just be careful of the invisible children!

FRANK

(monster voice; fading into the distance)

I'M NOT RAMPAGING. I'M JUST GETTING THE BAGS.

SFX: FRANK STOMPS AWAY THROUGH THE LOUNGE AND CRASHES THROUGH DOOR TO THE OUTSIDE, BUMPING INTO UNCLE GEORGE AS HE GOES.

UNCLE GEORGE

(distant)

Whoa! What's wrong, Frankie? Did they cancel drag race?

FRANK

(monster voice; more distant)

RAAAAAAGhhhhhhh!

ESME

Perfy. Did you pick up the raisins?

PERFY

Nope, I came down the back road. Malik is going to pick them up on his way here.

ESME

If my Dead Man's Stuffing is ruined, on your head be it.

PERFY

Trust in the boy, mother. Trust.

SFX: THE PERFECT MAN SWEEPS UP DEBRIS OF SPLINTERED WOOD AND GLASS.

PERFY

Ok, Dracula. How was the trip? Did you see the big teapot?

DRACULA

Um, why are we acting like everything is normal?

PERFY

(confused)

Because... it is?

DRACULA

Frank just stomped off towards a room of seniors and invisible children.

PERFY

Didn't you date him for like 6 years?

DRACULA

Yes, and at no point did I normalize this nonsense. In fact, we broke up because of shit exactly like this.

ESME

Don't worry about it, honey. The boys are always like this when they're together. Perfy will put Frankie through a wall later and he'll calm right down.

DRACULA

(to self)

And everything starts to make sense.

ESME

Ok, I need you both out of the kitchen! I've got an Oklahoma octopus coming out of the oven and it's going to be thrashing.

SFX: GIANT OCTOPUS bangs violently on the inside of the oven. Muffled screeching and the thud of tentacle against iron.

PERFY

Come on, Dracula. Let's get out of the frying pan.

2. INT. FRANKENSTEIN'S CASTLE, THE PARTY ROOM - NIGHT

SFX: Sounds of **MONSTERS** and **FAMILY** milling around making excited conversation.

PERFY

(quiet conversation)

It's not his fault, you know. That he's like this.

DRACULA

(doubtful)

I think it might be a little his fault.

PERFY

Look, I don't know what Frank has told you. I'm sure you're well aware but growing up in this house was tough. For all of us. It was hardest on Frank though. So we cut him a little slack, you know?

DRACULA

That was you cutting him some slack?

PERFY

All his body parts are still attached aren't they?

DRACULA

You two really fight that much?

PERFY

I put Frank in his place when he gets out of control. I hardly call it fighting.

DRACULA

What happened between you two?

PERFY

Nothing. It's always been like this. Frank resents me because the doc built me to replace him. I resent him because he forces me to beat his ass on the reg.

DRACULA

Have you ever tried talking to him instead of beating his ass?

PERFY

You know what he's like when he loses control. There's no talking to him.

DRACULA

What about the rest of the time?

PERFY

(sigh)

Look, you seem nice, Dracula. I'm super pumped to have you here. I really am.

But if you think you're going to waltz into this family and fix us all in a weekend, you're wasting your time.

DRACULA

It has been 20 years since you saw Frank last.

PERFY

And?

DRACULA

Maybe he has changed.

PERFY

Has he?

DRACULA

I don't know. Maybe.

PERFY

(chuckles)

Yeah, well. Some things never change.

**We'll always be a broken family built by a
cruel man for the dumbest of reasons.**

DRACULA

Loneliness?

PERFY

Science.

[pause for a beat]

DRACULA

(sigh)

**I need to clear my head, Perfy. Is there a
place I can go to smoke?**

PERFY

**Patio behind you is where Frank used to
smoke when he thought he was alone.**

DRACULA

Frank does not smoke.

PERFY

Good for him.

DRACULA

...Right.

**SFX: DRACULA crosses the party floor and OPENS a
sliding glass door.**

**3. EXT. FRANKENSTEIN'S CASTLE, BALCONY -
NIGHT**

**SFX: SOUNDS OF A QUIET NIGHT: SOME CRICKETS,
AN OWL HOOTS.**

CAMILLA

**(calm, smoky voice, eastern
european accent)**

Hello, Dracula.

SFX: CAMILLA STRIKES A MATCH.

DRACULA

(startled)

Camilla!? What are you doing here?

CAMILLA
(cig in mouth)
Smoking.

(takes cig out)
Communing with the birds.

SFX: CROWS CAW.

DRACULA
No, I mean what are you doing here? In
Pennsylvania. At Frank's castle?

CAMILLA
(faux ignorant)
I think somebody died?

DRACULA
Frank said none of the gang would be
here?

CAMILLA
Frank says a lot of things. He's a real
chatty Kathy.

You used to like that about him.

DRACULA
(talking with unlit cig in mouth)
God, it is infuriating talking to you.

SFX: CAMILLA STRIKES A MATCH.

CAMILLA
Here, let me.

Frank called me a few days ago. He thought you might need a friend.

DRACULA

(smoking)

Ugh, the nerve of that man.

CAMILLA

Go easy on the big lug. His heart is in the right place.

DRACULA & CAMILLA

“The rest of the organs, however.”

DRACULA

(sigh)

I am sorry I missed your wedding.

CAMILLA

It's ok. You were going through some stuff.

DRACULA

Still. I should have been there.

CAMILLA

Yes, you should. But I understand.

DRACULA

Does she make you happy?

CAMILLA

She does.

DRACULA

Good.

[pause]

DRACULA

I met some of the family on the way here.

CAMILLA

How'd it go?

DRACULA

**The usual. They begged me to cheer up
and remove the dagger of anguish from
their heart. That sort of thing.**

CAMILLA

Wow. Love that for you.

DRACULA

Mhmm.

**You know, for as long as we have known
each other, you have never once bothered
me about that stuff.**

CAMILLA

**Maybe I was spared the bond because I
was the first?**

**Or maybe I feel it more than all the rest and
simply choose not to bring it up.**

**4. INT. THE CASTLE, FRANK'S BEDROOM - NIGHT
CONT.**

SFX: FRANK tosses his and DRACULA'S luggage on the floor.

FRANK
Was it always this small?

Esme stands in the doorway.

ESME
Welcome home, Frankie.

FRANK
Oh... mom. You kept my room exactly the same.

ESME
Your dad wanted to turn it into a gym, but I put my foot down.

FRANK
Just in case I came home?

ESME
There was no "just in case" about it. I knew you'd be back. Besides, you can't build bodies and also be a bodybuilder. It's too confusing.

FRANK
Mom, I...

SFX: GENTLE KNOCK on the doorframe.

PERFY

(awkward)

Hey Frank...

(notices mom is here)

Oh, hey mom.

ESME

Everything alright, baby?

PERFY

(awkward)

Yeah, no, I was just hoping to catch Frank before he goes back downstairs.

It's cool, though. We can chat later.

ESME

Oh, let me get out of your way. I'm sure you have a lot to talk about.

FRANK

(defiant)

No. Anything you have to say to me, you can say in front of mom.

PERFY

Really, dude?

FRANK

Yeah, I want her to hear this.

ESME

(stern)

No fighting, you two.

PERFY

**I'm not here to fight. I just wanted to...
clear the air.**

FRANK

(provoking)

Really?

PERFY

Yeah, really.

FRANK

Ok. Let's hear it.

PERFY

(nervous)

**Yeah. Ok. So, you and I have a bit of a
history.**

FRANK

**You mean how you take every chance you
get to show me up?**

PERFY

I wouldn't put it like that.

FRANK

**Oh, I'm sorry, is there a more perfect way
to put it?**

PERFY

I know it's probably hard to believe for someone as insecure as you, but I've never been interested in "showing you up," dude.

FRANK

Oh yeah? Oh yeah? What about this?

SFX: FRANK snatches a cardboard wrestling ring from the shelf.

PERFY

Why are you waving a piece of cardboard trash in my face like it's a smoking gun?

SFX: ESME takes the cardboard wrestling ring gently from **FRANK**.

ESME

(wistful)

This isn't trash. This is the kill-o-corner 5000 wrestling ring, sent back from a far flung future where all conflicts are resolved in the squared circle.

FRANK

Right! Exactly! I made this out of cereal boxes and sticky tape. Literally the next day, you carved a wrestling ring out of wood, hand painted it and called it the kill-o-corner 6000.

ESME

It was sent back from an even farther flung future.

PERFY

Dude, I made that for you so you would hang out with me. I don't even like wrestling.

FRANK

Oh my god, it all comes out!

DRACULA stands in the doorway.

DRACULA

Why are all of you squeezed into this tiny room?

ESME

(gentle)

The boys were just clearing the air before dinner,

(stern)

weren't you, boys?

FRANK

He just admitted it, Dracula. He pretended to like wrestling just to torture me!

PERFY

What are you talking about?

FRANK

You are obsessed with being better than me.

ESME

Your brother just wants to play with you Frankie, that's all.

FRANK

No maw, you don't see. He manipulates everyone with his perfect words and perfect face.

PERFY

Can you see what I'm dealing with, Dracula? I told you there was no use.

FRANK

You told him? You told him? Why are you telling him anything?

PERFY

Dracula and I had a little heart to heart about your behavior earlier.

DRACULA

Oh, it wasn't really like that.

FRANK

My behavior!? My behavior!?

PERFY

Yeah, you know. Like how you act and treat people.

DRACULA

Actually, Perfy, my point was that maybe Frank would not be like this if someone was not kicking the shit out of him every time he got emotional.

PERFY

And my point was that no good would come of you sticking your nose in where it doesn't belong.

ESME

(sharp)

Perfy, do not speak to our guest like that.

PERFY

Why are you even here, Dracula? You're not dating my brother anymore. You're not part of this family.

ESME

Perfy!

SFX: FRANK slugs PERFY in the face.

PERFY

You really want to do this, FRANK? You want me to kick your ass in front of your ex-boyfriend?

FRANK

(monster voice)

RARGH. Bring it!

DRACULA

Hey! You can't fight in here. You will crush your mother.

PERFY

Don't worry, Dracula. I'm taking this outside.

SFX: PERFY plows FRANK through his bedroom wall and they tumble to the gardens below.

FRANK

(monster voice; growing distant)

RAAAAAAAAAaaaaaargh.

SFX: Brick and mortar crumbles. DRACULA rushes to pull ESME out from under the rubble.

DRACULA

Esme! Oh my god, are you hurt?

SFX: ESME brushes brick and mortar off her and stands up.

ESME

I'm fine, I'm fine.

SFX: FRANK and THE PERFECT MAN can be heard below, roaring and smashing through scenery.

DRACULA

I cannot believe that just happened.

ESME

(sigh)

**You couldn't leave well enough alone,
could you?**

SFX: ESME begins to walk out of the room.

DRACULA

I was just trying to help.

ESME

**The road to hell is paved with good
intentions, Nosferatu.**

**SFX: ESME leaves, bumping into CAMILLA as she
goes.**

ESME

(muffled)

He's up there.

SFX: CAMILLA edges into the room.

CAMILLA

(cautious)

Heellloooo.

Did we have a little family bust up?

DRACULA

(dazed)

I was just trying to help...

CAMILLA

**If therapy was easy they wouldn't charge
\$200 an hour for it.**

DRACULA

(dejected)

Camilla...

CAMILLA

**Wouldn't you rather they get it out of their
system now instead of waiting for the
middle of the funeral?**

DRACULA

(sharp)

Camilla, please!

CAMILLA

(sigh)

What do you need, Dark Lord?

DRACULA

**I need... you to show me how to book a
flight to California on the computer.**