

BRAD KNOWS NOTHING
The Forgotten Heroes

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INT. BRAD'S HISTORY CLASS

BRAD and CHAD stand at the front of class. They are in the middle of a hectic and improvised history presentation. Chad is shaking where he stands, fumbling with a pack of multi-colored flashcards. Brad, meanwhile, is in his element.

BRAD

Our dashing hero, Bradimus, has lost his battle with King Arthur. But he lives to fight another day! Isn't that right, Chad?

CHAD

(frazzled)

What??

BRAD

Okay, then. Bradimus washes up, beaten and bruised, on the shore of a mysterious island. Little does he know, this isle may hold the key to unlocking his true potential.

EXT. ISLE OF FORGOTTEN HEROES - DAY

BRADIMUS lays unconscious on a deserted, idyllic beach. His clothes are ragged, torn and waterlogged, as though he were just recently shipwrecked. If he wasn't breathing (ever so shallowly), he might be mistaken for dead.

From off screen, we hear heavy, thudding footsteps creep closer and closer to Brad. A strange, metallic whirring sound, like a washing machine on high, accompanies the footsteps. A great, bulky shadow crosses Brad's face, then--

BRADIMUS

(waking up)

AHHH!!!

ROBOT

SCREAMING NOISE!

Bradimus scrambles backwards and rubs his eyes as he sees his pursuer for the first time. On the ground, shaking with fear, is an enormous, bulky ROBOT.

ROBOT is NOT well made, and seems to have been thrown together from random parts from a wide variety of machines. It's chest is a washing machine, it's pelvis is a ceiling fan, it's head is a cracked CRT TV, and its legs and arms are cobbled together from what seem to be partially-completed LEGO sets.

ROBOT covers its "face" with its "hands", and shakes with fear.

ROBOT (cont'd)
Unknown entity detected! Potentially dangerous! Execute grovel function!

BRADIMUS
I...what the butt?

Robot is now cowering at Bradimus's feet.

BRADIMUS (cont'd)
What's happening?

ROBOT
I am executing my GROVEL function.
Please spare me!

BURT (O.S.)
Rob! Where are ya, buddy?

ROBOT
I am by the water, cowering! We are in GRAVE DANGER!

BURT (O.S.)
Grave danger?! Hold on, buddy, we're comin'!

A heroic musical STING is heard as BURT and SUPERIOR WOMAN appear and strike a wicked action pose. Burt is a shirtless, beefcake barbarian with a giant, two-handed He-Man sword drawn and ready.

Superior Woman is a golden age superhero with tight red spandex, and golden boots. She has a big "SW" insignia on her chest, and her long cape flows beautifully and unnaturally in the ocean breeze.

Bradimus sits where he is, dumbfounded.

BURT

Halt intruder! Your powers of evil are no match for our combined heroic strength!

SUPERIOR WOMAN

You tell 'im, Burt!

BRADIMUS

Woah, woah, I'm not evil! Your Robot snuck up on me!

BURT

Impossible! Rob is far too clunky to sneak up on anyone!

BRADIMUS

I was knocked out! I couldn't hear--

Suddenly, Bradimus has a severe coughing fit and drops to the ground. He struggles to stand back up. Burt and Superior Woman share a glance, Robot opens his "eyes" a crack.

BURT

Goodness, I fear we may have misjudged you. Rob, scan him. See if he's alright.

BRADIMUS

No, no, I'm fine, I--

ROBOT

SCANNING!

Robot bounds toward Brad and tackles him back to the ground.

BRADIMUS

Oof!

Robot shoves his face onto Bradimus's and lets out a loud, bright BEEP!

ROBOT

SCAN COMPLETE! You are ALMOST DEAD.
Would you like assistance with that?

BRADIMUS

Uh... yeah, sure?

ROBOT

What is your preferred outcome? DEAD,
or NOT DEAD? 5, 4, 3, 2--

BRADIMUS/BURT/SUPERIOR WOMAN

NOT DEAD!/ HE WANTS NOT DEAD!!/
Whatever's good for you.

ROBOT

You have selected: NOT DEAD. Engaging
Humanoid repair sequence.

ROBOT pulls out a blowtorch.

ROBOT (cont'd)

HOLD STILL.

BRADIMUS

Wait, please don't--

Robot grabs Bradimus and holds him down in a vice-like grip. Bradimus squirms to get free, but to no avail. Robot lights the blowtorch, moves it towards Bradimus's face, then--

He burns open a package containing band-aids and applies one to Bradimus's forehead. He pats Bradimus on the head, twice.

ROBOT

Pat. Pat. Estimated recovery time:
(MORE)

ROBOT (cont'd)
TWO WEEKS. Is that to your
satisfaction?

BRADIMUS
Two weeks... but I can't be here for
two weeks! I have to become a hero!

BURT
Woah, woah slow down there! It'll be
alright. What's your name, by the
way?

BRADIMUS
It's Bradimus. Captain of the Time
Boat, and master of time and space!

BURT
Uh huh. Well Bradimus, I'm not sure
about all that time and space stuff,
but if you're looking to be a hero
you came to the right place! It so
happens that this island is FULL of
heroes! And you're looking at a few
of the best right here!

Burt, Superior Woman, and Robot strike a cool hero pose.
Bradimus stares, stunned.

BRAD
You guys... are heroes??? Oh my gosh
that's AMAZING! I've been looking for
someone to teach me! What are your
names? I've read up on all the
coolest heroes, so let me guess:
You're Conan the Barbarian, you're
obviously Super Woman, and you're...
the Terminator?

ROBOT
That is 100%... INCORRECT.

BURT
Sorry pal, we aren't quite as famous
as those three.

(MORE)

BURT (cont'd)

My name is Burt the Brave, this here is Superior Woman, and our metal friend over there is a very courageous unidentified Robot from the meat wars of the late 21st century.

BRADIMUS

(deflated)

I've never heard of you guys.

DAVE

Well of course not! This is the Isle of Forgotten Heroes! Nobody's heard of any of us.

BRADIMUS

Oh... I was hoping you guys were REAL heroes.

SUPERIOR WOMAN

Now hold on there, buster. Just because nobody's heard of us doesn't mean we aren't real heroes! You wouldn't believe how many people I've saved from trees.

BURT

That's right! We may be forgotten, but we still have a lot to offer. Rob, let's show 'im how it's done.

ROBOT

Affirmative. HIT IT!

Robot hits play on a tape deck strapped to the side of his head. Burt stoops down and talks right to Bradimus. It's time for a little lesson...

SONG: WE DON'T CARE

BURT

(MUSIC IN)

YOU KNOW BATMAN AND ROBIN AND
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN/

(MORE)

BURT (cont'd)
 SHAKESPEARE, METHUSELAH, AND ALAN
 MENKEN/
 THOR, MR. ROGERS, AND GEORGE
 WASHINGTON/
 NELSON MANDELA AND SHREK FROM SHREK
 ONE!/
 ALL OF THESE HEROES HAVE STORIES TO
 TELL,/
 AND I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW WE HAVE
 STORIES AS WELL./
 BUT OURS AREN'T FAMOUS. NOT EVEN A
 BIT./
 YES, WE ARE HEROES, BUT UNDERGROUND
 HEROES.
 THE HEROES THAT PEOPLE FORGET./

BUT WE DON'T CARE!
 NO WE DON'T CARE./
 WE MAY NOT BE TAUGHT IN SCHOOL,
 BUT WE'VE GOT OH SO MUCH TO SHARE./
 LISTEN TO OUR TALES AND I'M SURE
 YOU'LL COME TO SEE,/
 WE MADE THE WORLD BETTER!
 AND THAT'S ENOUGH FOR ME./

Superior Woman flies up into the air and paints the scene for us. We flashback to her golden years as a superhero. She fights crime, she saves babies from trees, and she makes the world a better place!

SUPERIOR WOMAN
 I WOULD ALWAYS FLY INTO THE FRAY./
 GIVIN' SUPERVILLAINS HECK TO PAY!/
 SAVING ALL THE BABIES FROM EVERY
 SINGLE TREE,/
 AND NOBODY REMEMBERS ME./

BUT I DON'T CARE!
 NO I DON'T CARE!/
 SO WHAT IF WONDER WOMAN CAME ALONG
 AND STOLE MY FLAIR?/
 MY NAME WAS NEVER COOL ENOUGH FOR
 MOVIES OR TV, / BUT I MADE THE WORLD
 BETTER!
 AND THAT'S ENOUGH FOR ME./

Robot's TV screen face shifts to images of the meat wars of the late 21st century. Humans are locked in cages and treated terribly, but we see Robot, our Robot, setting some of them free.

ROBOT
 WHEN HUMANS WERE ENSLAVED BY THE
 MACHINES,/
 I WAS THERE TO HELP THOSE HUMAN
 BEINGS!/
 I FOUGHT AGAINST MY PROGRAMMING TO
 SET THEIR SPECIES FREE,/
 AND NOBODY REMEMBERS ME./

BUT I DON'T CARE!
 NO I DON'T CARE!/
 THE WAY WE ROBOTS TREATED THEM WAS SO
 UNFAIR./
 MY ACTIONS GOT ME WIPED FROM
 EVERYBODY'S MEMORY, / BUT I MADE SOME
 LIVES BETTER,
 AND THAT'S ENOUGH FOR ME! /

Robot and Superior Woman dance together.

SUPERIOR WOMAN AND ROBOT
 IT IS SO HARD TO GET DEPRESSED
 WHEN YOU HAVE NO ONE TO IMPRESS!
 EVERYTHING WE DO IS EXCEPTIONAL
 WHEN NO ONE KNOWS WHAT TO EXPECT!

As Burt tells his tale, we see images of great and terrible battles of old. His brothers-in-arms are defeated on the battlefield, but they stay ever-strong.

BURT
 I WORE A SWORD AND SHIELD IN BRUTAL
 TIMES/
 TO MAKE ALL TYRANTS ANSWER FOR THEIR
 CRIMES./
 BUT I, LIKE MANY OTHERS, DIED BEFORE
 MY VICTORY,/
 SO NOBODY REMEMBERS ME./

A beat. Brad, concerned, steps forward to comfort Burt. But just as he reaches him:

SUPERIOR WOMAN AND ROBOT
 BUT YOU DON'T CARE!

BURT
 NO, I DON'T CARE!

BURT (cont'd)

And even when they're right, and you think you know EXACTLY what you're supposed to do, the real answer might be something entirely different. And you'll never know until you try.

Brad looks into Burt's eyes, hopeful. He opens his mouth to speak, then--

BOOM!!! The sound of CANNON FIRE rips through the air. The Forgotten Heroes whip their heads around towards the ocean, and see:

A great, imposing sailing ship with bright blue sails and a deeply scarred hull. THE TIME BOAT. It has seen an awful lot of action. On its side is a bike rack carrying a small pink tricycle.

At the helm of the ship stands KING ARTHUR, laughing maniacally. He raises Excalibur and points toward the shore.

ARTHUR

Land ho! Bradimus, I'm coming for you!!

CUT TO BLACK. THE END.