

IT'S ALWAYS SUNNY IN PHILADELPHIA

Episode #407

"The Nightman Cometh"

Written by

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Directed by

Matt Shakman

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“THE NIGHTMAN COMETH”

EPISODE #407

CAST LIST

| | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| CHARLIE..... | CHARLIE DAY |
| MAC..... | ROB MCELHENNEY |
| DENNIS..... | GLENN HOWERTON |
| SWEET DEE..... | KAITLIN OLSON |
| FRANK..... | DANNY DEVITO |
| ARTEMIS..... | ARTEMIS PEDANI |
| WAITRESS..... | MARY ELIZABETH DAY |

SETS

INTERIORS

INT. PADDY'S PUB - N

INT. THEATER - D

INT. STAGE - D/N

*

INT. BACKSTAGE - N

EXTERIORS

EXT. PHILLY STREET - D

TITLE: 3:00 PM

TITLE: On a Wednesday

TITLE: Philadelphia, PA

OVER TITLES, WE HEAR:

FRANK (O.S.)

Anybody else been having trouble getting laid lately. I can't figure out what my problem is.

DEE (O.S.)

Um, I can think of a million reasons why you're not getting laid, Frank. But, the most obvious one is that you smell like eggs.

FADE IN:

1 INT. PADDY'S PUB - NIGHT (NIGHT 1)

1

Frank sit's at the bar drinking. Dee works the bar. Mac and Dennis shoot pool.

FRANK

That's crazy. I don't smell like eggs.

DEE

I'm willing to bet you've got at least one egg on you right now.

FRANK

What? Come on! Why would I have eggs on me?

DEE

What's that in your front pocket?

FRANK

Nothing. Sack of coins.

DEE

Let me see.

FRANK

Alright, I gotta a couple hard boiled eggs on me, okay. Big deal. I like eggs. Get off my case.

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Charlie comes barrelling out of the back office holding reams of paper.

CHARLIE

Alright it's done. I've done it and it's brilliant!

DENNIS

What could you have possibly done that is brilliant?

CHARLIE

I've written a musical.

MAC

Why did you write a musical?

CHARLIE

Because I've always wanted to. That's why. Does there have to be a reason?

MAC

Yes. Nobody just writes a musical for no reason. It's doesn't make sense.

FRANK

Alright, I see what you're doing. Who's the mark?

CHARLIE

Huh? No, there's no mark, Frank. I just wrote a musical and I want to put it on.

DEE

Well, what's your angle?

CHARLIE

I don't have an angle, Dee. I just wrote a musical and I want you guys to perform in it.

DENNIS

Against who?

CHARLIE

It's not against anyone. I just want to put up a play.

MAC

Right, but who versus?

CHARLIE

It's not versus anybody. I'm not trying to screw anyone here. It's not a competition. I wrote a musical just to write a musical. Now, if you guys are gonna screw this up for me, I can find other people to play your parts.

DEE

Whoa, whoa slow down there.

DENNIS

Yeah, we're just trying to wrap our heads around this thing.

MAC

Relax, dude, no one said they didn't want to do the play.

FRANK

What's it called?

CUT TO:

MAIN TITLES

TITLE: "The Nightman Cometh"

TITLE: "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia"

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

2 INT. THEATER - DAY (DAY 2)

2

The Gang plus Artemis are all gathered in a small auditorium theater. Artemis passes out scripts. They start looking through the scripts.

CHARLIE

Gather around everybody! Alright, now, you all know Artemis. She was kind enough to book this fine local theater for us. She was also good enough to transcribe my work into a format that you all might consider more legible.

*

DEE

Or literate. There's words now.

CHARLIE

Quiet Dee! Quiet now please. Now unfortunately, in exchange for these duties, She has leveraged herself into the position of assistant director.

ARTEMIS

Co-director.

CHARLIE

Whatever.

*

DENNIS

-Okay, well right off the bat, who is playing this "Lead Boy"?

CHARLIE

That would be Mac. Please stop interrupting-

MAC

Yes!! Lead of course.

DENNIS

And who's the Dayman?

CHARLIE

That's also Mac. The boy becomes the Dayman when he defeats the Nightman. That's you.

DENNIS

So Mac plays two roles? That's not fair.

FRANK

-Who's the troll?!

*

CHARLIE

Well, you of course.

FRANK

I'll do it if I can be nude.

*

CHARLIE

What!? No. Why would you want to be nude?

FRANK

In the seventies everyone performed in the nude.

*

*

CHARLIE

No nudity.

FRANK

What if I'm covered head to toe in hair?

CHARLIE

What is that gonna do?

FRANK

In the seventies, people were also into massive amounts of body hair.

DEE

Charlie, what the hell is this play about? I'm a princess who lives in a coffee shop?

CHARLIE

-Dee, you work in a coffee shop you don't live in one.

DEE

Why am I in love with a little boy?

CHARLIE

You are in love with a young man.

DEE

You wrote boy.

CHARLIE

Man, boy, it's a metaphor.

DEE

Well, the audience is gonna think
I'm a child molester.

MAC

I've changed my mind. I'm playing
the Nightman!

CHARLIE

What? No.

DENNIS

Why would you want to play the
Nightman?

MAC

The Nightman is badass. He has the
eyes of a cat and he does karate.

CHARLIE

Where are you getting that from?

DENNIS

Alright fine, I'll play the lead.

CHARLIE

No, you don't get to pick which
roles you play.

MAC

-Frank, you got a guy that does cat
eyes?

FRANK

(on the phone)
I'm already on it.

CHARLIE

Oh for the love of God. Let's just
get started.

3

INT. STAGE - LATER (DAY 2)

3

Charlie sits at the piano. Dennis and Dee are on stage. Dee wears a work apron and stands on a box. She is reaching out towards Dennis as she sings.

DEE

*Boy, tiny little boy, how I need
you. How I love you. Want to touch
that little boy.*

DENNIS

*If you only knew what I could do to
you...*

*

DEE

Tiny baby little baby boy...

Dee stops singing.

DEE (CONT'D)

Stop. Stop. I gotta stop this. What
the hell, Charlie?!

Charlie gets up from behind the piano.

CHARLIE

What's the problem?

DEE

Are you kidding me?! Tiny baby
little baby boy?!

CHARLIE

What?

DEE

That makes me look so bad! I'm
saying I want to make love to a
tiny little baby boy!

CHARLIE

I told you, it's a metaphor, Dee.

DEE

You keep saying that, but I don't
think you know what it means. Also
it says we make out at the end of
the scene, and I'm not going to
make out with Dennis.

CHARLIE

This is why I didn't think he
should play the boy.

ARTEMIS

What if it's a sexually charged
embrace?

*

CHARLIE

Okay you know what? If nobody likes
the song, I can cut the song.

DENNIS

Hold on a second, don't cut the
song. Dee apologize.

ARTEMIS

I think it's a bad idea to cut the
song, Charlie.

CHARLIE

Artemis, please. Let me get this.
Dennis, take a five.

DENNIS

I don't want to cut the song.

CHARLIE

Dennis, a five... please, a five?

Dennis walks off.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Alright, Dee. The song is history.

DEE

Good. What should we replace it
with?

CHARLIE

Nothing.

DEE

Nothing?

CHARLIE

That's right. Absolutely nothing.

DEE

But, this is my big number!

CHARLIE

I know.

DEE

Well, I have to have a big number!
Everyone else has a big number.
Don't screw me like this Charlie!

CHARLIE

Hey! Listen lady. I asked you not
to screw me! I said don't make this
a competition but you did didn't
you. Now I can cut the song,
replace you with Artemis, or strap
on a wig and do the song myself.
It's your choice, little miss all
that. You tell me. You tell me,
song or no song?

DEE

(Under her breath)
Song.

CHARLIE

What's that?

DEE

Song.

CHARLIE

So you want to do the song?

DEE

Yeah...I never wasn't gonna do the
song...

CHARLIE

Thank you. Thank you for your
input. Now back to the top, if you
please.

*

4 INT. STAGE - LATER (DAY 2)

4

Dennis sits on a box with his back to Frank and Mac. He reads
lyrics as he sings to Mac.

FRANK

*You gotta pay the Troll toll to get
into this boy's hole. You gotta pay
the Troll toll to get in.*

Charlie stops. He approaches the stage.

CHARLIE

Okay stop. Frank, it sounds like you are saying "Boy's hole," and it's boy's soul.

*

FRANK

That's what I said.

CHARLIE

I heard hole.

FRANK

Boy'sssoul.

CHARLIE

Okay well if you are gonna drag that "S" it's going to sound like hole.

MAC

I want to bring something up.

Mac is looking at the script.

MAC (CONT'D)

We gotta be real careful about how we do this rape scene.

*

CHARLIE

What the hell are you talking about? What rape scene?

MAC

Well, I pay the troll toll and then I rape Dennis.

CHARLIE

You don't rape him.

FRANK

He doesn't?

CHARLIE

No. Why is everybody so confused about this? You become him! You take over his soul! Look once you've paid Frank the Toll you cross the stage and grab Dennis.

Mac starts to take over.

MAC

Yeah, yeah I thought I would do a few moves while I cross.

Mac does some Karate while crossing the stage.

CHARLIE

Whatever. Then he senses you.
(to Dennis)
Dennis, sense him.

DENNIS

How?

ARTEMIS

Like a wild animal about to be raped.

CHARLIE

OKAY EVERYBODY STOP SAYING THE WORD "RAPE"!

MAC

What if I grab him from behind and then we throw a blanket over us.

Mac pins Dennis from behind.

DENNIS

Yeah, the blanket does make the rap-excuse me sexing from behind seem more classy.

CHARLIE

No! No no no no no nnnoooo! The Nightman always takes you face to face so he can look into your eyes! Then once he's finished and satisfied we'll dim the lights to show the audience that the Nightman was able to successfully enter the little boy. Then Dennis, you sneak off stage and when the lights come back up, Mac, I need to be as hard as you can be, because you're still not satisfied.

DENNIS

And you don't hear how that sounds
like rape?

*
*
*

5 SCENE 5 - OMITTED

* 5

*

6 EXT. PHILLY STREETS - NEXT DAY (DAY 3)

* 6

The WAITRESS is walking down the sidewalk. Charlie pops out from between two parked cars.

CHARLIE

Hey!

WAITRESS

Shit. You startled me.

CHARLIE

Oh did I? I dropped a little thing
down here and...I didn't even know
you walked here. Is this one of
your walking places?

WAITRESS

Look, I have mace.

CHARLIE

Yeah I know all the things that you
have. Don't spray. Oh I just
remembered something. Check this
out. Funny thing. Looks like I have
a free ticket for you to see a
musical that I wrote.

He pulls a ticket out of his pocket and hands it to her.

WAITRESS

Wow, thanks. A free ticket to a
play I don't want to see.

CHARLIE

I've reserved you a seat in the
front row.

WAITRESS

Look, dude, I'm not going to see
your play.

CHARLIE

Come on! You're not gonna regret it.

WAITRESS

Okay, I'm opening the mace.

CHARLIE

Wait. Wait. Wait. Let me bargain with you here. If you just come to see this play I won't ever bother you again.

WAITRESS

I do not believe that for a second.

CHARLIE

Why not?!

WAITRESS

Are you kidding me! This has been going on for years now! We've been through countless restraining orders. I've moved three times. I've died my hair.

CHARLIE

I know. I know. I've been a bit of a dick but that's all gonna change if you see this play.

WAITRESS

You won't hang around the coffee shop, or follow me home or call me in the middle of the night and pretend to be in a car accident?

CHARLIE

Yeah. All of that.

WAITRESS

Fine. Give me the ticket.

CHARLIE

Great. You're not gonna regret this.

WAITRESS

I'm already regretting it.

CUT TO:

7

INT. BACKSTAGE - NIGHT (NIGHT 4)

7

Frank and Mac are peering out into the audience as people file in. Frank is covered in hair like Cousin It. Mac is wearing all tight black clothing like a gay ninja. He is doing Karate warm-up exercises. Dee is in full coffee shop/princess garb. She applies make up. Dennis is wearing onesy pajamas with the footies. He seems extremely nervous. Everyone wears excessive stage make up.

DENNIS

Is anyone else feeling a little
nauseous?

DEE

Uh-oh. You're not looking so good.
Looks like I'll be the shining star
tonight.

DENNIS

You are the...one who...is not
shining...a star.

DEE

Nice come back. Looks like somebody
has stage fright.

*

Mac approaches Charlie who is looking at an empty chair in the audience.

MAC

Dude, what is the deal? When are we
gonna start this thing?

CHARLIE

We'll start it when I'm good and
ready to start it.

MAC

We were supposed to start twenty
minutes ago.

CHARLIE

So what?

MAC

So the audience is gonna be pissed,
dude.

Charlie sees the Waitress take her seat.

CHARLIE

Wait. Alright. It's on! Okay bring
it in, bring it in everybody.

They all form a huddle.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Alright, couple of last minute
things. This is Gladys.

An eighty year old woman, GLADYS enters.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

She will be playing the piano
tonight instead of me.

DEE

What?! Why?

CHARLIE

Pipe down. Gladys why don't you
head out there and get us started.

Gladys takes off.

DENNIS

I'm hanging on by a thread here,
bro. You can't be throwing in curve
balls all of a sudden!

DEE

I have a new song that I wrote. I
want to sing it. *

CHARLIE *

What are you talking about? *

DEE *

I want to add a song. *

CHARLIE *

You can't add a song. *

DEE *

I'm gonna do it. *

CHARLIE *

I will smack your face until it's raw. *

MAC
Speaking of changes, I want to sing
something different at the end of
the Nightman number. *

CHARLIE
What? *

MAC
I got a great idea. It makes the
song make a lot more sense. *

CHARLIE
No. Look you can't change the words
and write your own songs. What are
you guys doing to me? *

MAC
I'm singing the new line. It sums
up the whole play for me, so... *

We hear the piano begin the "Overture".

FRANK
It's starting.

CHARLIE
Alright, screw it. You guys ready?

Artemis comes backstage as the lights in the theater go to black.

FRANK
(to Dennis)
Let's go.

DENNIS
I'm not ready! I feel sick. *

CHARLIE
Go! Now!

Frank pulls Dennis out onto the stage.

8 INT. STAGE - CONTINUOUS (NIGHT 4)

8

The curtain rises and the lights come up on stage. The set is high school play cheap and looks like a troll's version of Charlie's apartment.

Frank (The Troll) sits on a chair.

FRANK/TROLL

"I have an itchy witchy witchy on
my toesy woeses. Boy! Come and
scratch my itch!"

Dennis stands still and frozen, looking directly into the
audience.

TROLL

I said, "Boy! Come and scratch my
itch!"

Dennis doesn't react.

FRANK

(aside to Dennis)

*Dennis, come scratch my goddamn
toes, you're making me look like an
asshole.*

The audience laughs.

Dennis snaps out of it and awkwardly comes over to Frank and
starts scratching his feet.

FRANK (CONT'D)

(to Dennis)

You have a line, idiot.

DENNIS/BOY

Oh, um, "yes my master. Your toes
are, what fine toes it is you
are... have. Your toes are... you
have fine toes."

FRANK/TROLL

"That's enough boy! Do you think my
toes are for scratching all day?"

Dennis is frozen again and looking into the audience.

Beat.

FRANK

(feeding Dennis his line)

*"no master, I am but a small and
foolish boy"*

DENNIS/BOY

"No Master, I am not a boy".

FRANK/TROLL

"No you are a boy, you just--"

DENNIS/BOY

"I am a boy".

FRANK/TROLL

Ah Jesus, just start the damn song!

The audience laughs. Gladys begins the first song, "Troll Hole" Dennis starts to sing.

DENNIS/BOY

*I've got a troll in my hole...hole
of an apartment.*

FRANK/TROLL

*I control you and your soul. That's
my department.*

DENNIS/BOY

*Everywhere there's trolls living in
your holes, make you eat their
moles, make you rub their rolls.*

FRANK/TROLL

Make you scrub their bowls.

DENNIS/BOY

And all of this and more.

9 INT. BACKSTAGE - CONTINUOUS (NIGHT 4)

9

Dee waits to make her entrance. Artemis approaches.

ARTEMIS

They're getting a lot of laughs.
That's good.

CHARLIE

That's not good! This is not a
comedy! This total disaster!

We hear applause. Charlie starts to shove Dee out.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

That's you, Dee. You're on. Make it
serious. Go.

DEE

Don't push me. I'm going.

CHARLIE
(To Artemis)
I am going to smack her good.

10 INT. STAGE - CONTINUOUS (NIGHT 4)

10

We see Gladys start another song. Dee enters.

DEE
*Boy, tiny little boy, how I need
you. How I love you. Want to touch
that little boy.*

DENNIS
*If you only knew what I could do to
you...*

DEE
Little boy...

DENNIS
I would be the boy in you...

DEE
Tiny boy...

DENNIS
Little boy...

DEE
Tiny baby little baby boy...

They awkwardly hug. Dennis exits stage. The audience claps. The Waitress seems bored. Dee starts to sing a song a Capella.

DEE (CONT'D)
*Just to be clear...I did not write
that song and would never have
sex...with a child...just to be
clear...just to be clear...I am a
more experienced actor...and that
should be taken into account...
just to be...just to be cleeeear.*

Gladys is flipping through her music pages confused.

11 INT. BACKSTAGE - CONTINUOUS (NIGHT 4)

11

MAC
She's bombing like crazy.

DENNIS

Awesome.

MAC

What are you so excited about? You totally froze up out there.

DENNIS

Um, I was hearing a lot of laughs, bro.

MAC

So what? Laughs are cheap. Just wait till my scene. You're gonna hear a lot of gasps. Gasps are where it's at. I gotta go pop my cat eyes in, bro.

12 INT. STAGE - CONTINUOUS (NIGHT 4) 12

DEE

Most men find me to be a eight or nine out of ten. Just to be clear. Just to be clear. And I am available to any interested men who want to come and get my number after the show. Just to be clear.

The audience seems confused by this song.

13 INT. BACKSTAGE - CONTINUOUS (NIGHT 4) 13

Artemis approaches Charlie.

CHARLIE

(re: Dee)

Keep singing, bitch. You're not gonna have a face by the time I'm done with you.

14 INT. STAGE - LATER (NIGHT 4) 14

We are inside the Troll Hole. Dennis/The Boy and Frank/Troll are fast asleep on the pull out couch.

The curtains rustle.

SFX: PIANO STING

We see a pair of YELLOW CAT EYES at the window.

MAC/NIGHTMAN
"Sssssssssss!"

The audience laughs. The Troll rises to meet the Nightman.

TROLL
"Right on time."

MAC/NIGHTMAN
"Is he sleeping?"

TROLL
"Yeah, he's sleeping. Just like you
like it. You got the toll?"

MAC/NIGHTMAN
"Confound your lousy toll, Troll
Sssssssssss."

The audience laughs again.

MAC/NIGHTMAN (CONT'D)
(To himself)
Goddammit.

The song "Troll Toll" begins.

TROLL
*You gotta pay the Troll toll to get
into this boy's hole. You gotta pay
the Troll toll to get in. You want
this baby boy's hole, then come and
pay this Troll toll. You gotta pay
the Troll toll to get in.*

The Nightman is handing a sack of coins to the Troll.

NIGHTMAN
"Here is your money, Troll."

TROLL
"Your boy awaits".

Mac starts doing some Karate moves. The audience laughs.

NIGHTMAN
"Now, the boy'ssss-hole is mine!"

The lights flash as Gladys plays dramatically at the piano.

DENNIS

(to Mac)

Jesus Mac, do you actually have a boner right now?

MAC

Shut up, you're ruining it.

The Waitress seems confused.

Frank throws a blanket over them and the lights cut to BLACK.
We clearly see Dennis run off stage.

15

INT. STAGE - MOMENTS LATER (NIGHT 4)

15

Mac addresses the crowd.

MAC

Yeah, I'm the Nightman, so what?
You think I'm just the bad guy? Big deal. You don't know me. Let me sing a song I wrote and you'll understand more better.

Music starts and Mac begins to sing.

MAC (CONT'D)

Some people are born skinny. Some people are born fat. Some people are born evil with the eyes of a cat.

Mac begins to dance.

MAC (CONT'D)

It's nature shit happens there's nothing you can do. For what made Jeffery Dahmer tick or Hitler hate the Jews. It's nature shit happens there's nothing to be done. Pol Pot committed genocide Darth Vader killed for fun. It's nature shit happens God made me what I am. Just like Charlie Manson, Michael Moore, or Son of Sam. It's nature shit happens I'm not trying to be coy. That's just the way God made me that's why I sodomized that boyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyy!

16 INT. BACKSTAGE - CONTINUOUS (NIGHT 4) 16

Charlie is putting on stage make up.

CHARLIE
(re: Mac)
I am going to smack everybody into
tiny little pieces.

17 INT. STAGE - LATER (NIGHT 4) 17

Mac and Dennis square off. The troll is dead on the ground.

NIGHTMAN/MAC
"Sssssss."

DAYMAN/DENNIS
"You again."

NIGHTMAN/MAC
"Where's the boy?"

DAYMAN/DENNIS
"He's gone."

NIGHTMAN/MAC
"You can't tell me what to do."

DENNIS
(under his breath)
You skipped a line.

NIGHTMAN/MAC
Uh...."You can't tell me what to
do."

DENNIS
You're skipping a line, dude.

MAC
I can't remember it.

DENNIS
The line is, "Who are you?"

MAC
Just move past it. We can't go back
now.

DENNIS

It's crazy how much better I am
than you right now.

NIGHTMAN/MAC

Just... you can't. You know what,
just skip to the end.

DAYMAN/DENNIS

Fine. "Because I am your worst
nightmare. I am the fighter of
darkness. Champion of the Sun. I
am... The Dayman."

NIGHTMAN/MAC

"Whatever."

DAYMAN/DENNIS

"Here's your whatever, bitch."

MAC

(to Dennis)

Don't improv.

They Karate fight each other. Dennis chops Mac to death.

Dee/Princess appears on stage.

DEE/PRINCESS

You have defeated the evil that was
here.

DAYMAN/DENNIS

Naturally. I am the Dayman.

DEE/PRINCESS

And now it is just us. And you are
now a man and not a boy. I love
you.

DAYMAN/DENNIS

And I love you.

Begin song: Dayman.

DAYMAN/DENNIS (CONT'D)

*I'm the ruler of light and
darkness. A master of word and
song. I am the teacher of bird and
poet. Winner of contests on the
backs of cereal boxes.*

DEE AND DENNIS

*Dayman. Uh-ahhhh. Fighter of the
Nightman. Uh-ahhhh. Champion of the
Sun. Uh-ahhhh. You're the Master of
karate and friendship for everyone.*

Frank and Mac rise and join Dennis and Dee marching in place.

ALL

*Dayman. Uh-ahhhh. Fighter of the
Nightman. Uh-ahhhh. Champion of the
Sun. Uh-ahhhh. You're the Master of
karate and friendship for everyone.*

They clap their hands above their heads.

ALL (CONT'D)

Dayman!

STAGE FREEZE.

MAC

Stage freeze.

DENNIS

You're not supposed to say it.

There is a musical transition as we see Charlie descending from above the stage strapped to a giant sun. He sings:

CHARLIE

*Uhhhhhh-ahhhhhhh. Uhhhhhh-ahhhhhhh.
I was that little boy. The little
baby boy was me. I once was a baby
boy, but now I am a man. I fought
the Nightman. Lived as Dayman. Now
I'm here to ask for your hand. So
if you want to mar-ry, man will you
marry me? Will you come on stage
and join me? In this thing called
matrimony. Please say yes and do
not bone me. Please just marry-
meeeeeeeeeeee.*

Charlie extends his hand to the reserved seat and a spotlight swings to the Waitress' seat.

WAITRESS

Is that the end?

CHARLIE

What? Um yeah, I guess?

WAITRESS

Okay, well I'm outta here.

CHARLIE

Wait? Is it a yes or what?

WAITRESS

Is it a yes? Will I marry you? No.
It's a no. It's a very definite no.
And my part of the bargain is over,
which means I will never ever see
you again. Goodbye.

CHARLIE

So you're saying no?

WAITRESS

I am saying no!

The Audience, the gang on stage, Artemis, and Charlie take
all this in. Then:

CHARLIE

Alright, well I never signed
anything so I'll see you tomorrow.

*

CUT TO BLACK

END OF EPISODE