

Episode 25: "Captured" -Written and Directed by JV Torres

[intense, creepy music]

Beals: You never know what your friends will do; let alone your foes. I get the sense you want to act on your rage against India. [pause] Perhaps you should trust your instincts this time, Asilas. And I am not offering you anything, just for the record.

Asilas: Of course not, why would you? Your disdain for India and their people is painfully obvious.

Beals: [laughs] You think I care one way or another about them? [continues laughing] I get it. You think it's because they worship Krishna, Shiva and Buddha. They were never any real threat to me.

Asilas: Anyone who promotes love is a threat to you.

Beals: Fine. Pretend this whole sequestering of your dear friend Quintin Capone is just a diplomatic hijacking. You know, the more powerful you become, the more foolish you behave.

Asilas: What do you care what happens to Capone?

Beals: I don't care what happens to him. I don't care about any of the fools you have on your High Council. I don't care what happens to India either. [getting angry] And I especially don't care what happens to you, Asilas!

Asilas: Then why come to me? Why bother with these stupid head games of yours? You know I will never yield and I will never take your advice on anything! I will never care what you say or do or anything!

Beals: I come to you because you want me to! Whether you will admit it to yourself or not, I have been at your side every step of the way! You may pray and believe God is protecting you, but perhaps you are willfully blind to the reality that it is *ME* that has been your protector! And now that the world is at your feet, now that you are at the edge of world domination, you pretend I had no hand whatsoever in your ascension here! You owe me, Asilas!

Asilas: I don't owe you anything, DEVIL! I am at the edge of the world because you failed in keeping the balance here. You allowed those monsters to spoil the garden, ravage men, women and children, defile humanity and now the Creator has come to right this abomination you've allowed under your watch! That's why I am here, indirectly because of you! You have fallen so far from Grace, the fiery pits of your own Hell isn't a woeful enough punishment for you. Be gone, DEVIL! For soon you will face OUR MASTER!

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[transition music]

Narrator: Members of India's Parliament, under the direction of the Prime Minister and President of the country, arrested Quintin Capone before the transfer of power to America could be completed. King Asilas attempted to negotiate with Capone's captors for his release, but they wanted safe passage out of the country with a vast amount of wealth to take with them. Asilas did not accept their demands and warned them if they did not hand over Lord Capone within 24 hours, he would send in a team of Knight Spartans to track them down and kill them and their entire families. The President and Prime Minister thought Asilas was bluffing and let 24 hours lapse. At the 25th hour, Asilas streamed a live video to Capone's captors.

[sounds of women screaming in pain]

The President and Prime Minister's wives and children were being held captive in their own homes by the Spartans. Asilas told the men if Capone was not released within the hour, the Spartans would set their homes on fire and burn their families alive. [sound of clock ticking] As the clock approached 59 minutes, Capone had still not been released. Asilas told the Spartans to wait 60 seconds before setting the houses ablaze. [pause] Twenty seconds ticked and still no word from Capone. [pause] 45 seconds and nothing. Then, with just five seconds left, the phone rang. It was Lord Capone. The Spartans were told to stand down until Lord Capone was safely returned to the capital. Asilas ordered the Spartans to bring no further harm to the families. But when the Prime Minister and the President returned to their residencies to reunite with their wives and children, the Spartans were waiting and assassinated them by using a katara across their bellies; spilling their intestines on the steps of their immaculate homes. [boom]

[transition music]

[door closes]

Capone: Sir, it appears the transfer of power in India is back on track. I have to say they're a tough people and likely will try to organize a revolt at some point. But for the most part, the citizens have warmly embraced Your Majesty and many are eager to join in the fight against the Drax. [pause] I get the impression many in that country were already aware of the Drax's influence.

Asilas: Indeed. The Drax have been called many things throughout the centuries. India's ancient past spoke of the Naga race. But since they can be shapeshifters, there's no telling how far of a reach these monsters have had.

Capone: What do you think will be their next move?

Asilas: The elitists in India will try to make an alliance with the Drax or their surrogates in the Monster Group.

[sound of beeps from Command – high suspense music]

Command: Your Majesty, we are receiving reports from our naval ships approaching India's coast of some strange disturbances. Their navigation instruments are malfunctioning.

Asilas: How many ships are effected?

Command: All of the ships in the Lakshadweep between Kochi and Mumbai, sir. It appears they have lost control of their ships and the nuclear warheads are being armed.

Asilas: What!? Command, initiate Code Cypress and patch me through to Lord Jeremy Oreb. [beep] Oreb, we have a soup sandwich in the Lakshadweep. 21 ships gone fugazi. I'm sending Gabriel to you now. Ready two Knight Spartans with their fitted Trishuls. If the ships have been commandeered by enemies, your orders are to sink them before they launch any missiles.

Capone: What is Code Cypress? I'm not familiar with that order.

Asilas: We regroup our military brass in Yemen and only keep our expendables in India.

Capone: [mumbles] Sir, was I expendable?

Asilas: Are you going to get sentimental on me right now, Quintin? In case you weren't aware, we are on the fringe of controlling the entire world. [pause] Look, I wasn't going to let them get you. I was ready to torch whole families alive to get you back.

[radio beep]

Oreb: [over the radio] Sir, the Knight Spartans are ready to dispatch. Where's Gabriel?

Capone: Wow, that was fast.

Asilas: He was signaled. I will signal him again. [dramatic music rises]

Capone: Your Majesty, I know the moment is tense. Take a deep breath. We can handle this. We always do.

Command: [beep] Your Majesty, Gabriel and the Knight Spartans have been dispatched. They are now on the American Aircraft Carrier G.R. Ford.

Capone: Well, that ship is a relic.

Asilas: Yeah, but she's a beauty. Command, can you patch me through to the Knight Spartan on the G.R. Ford?

Spartan Lozen (female): [beep] Your Majesty, this is Spartan Lozen. The Trishul has been initiated here, but whatever is controlling the ship is bypassing the frequencies.

Asilas: I supposed the crew is affected, Spartan Lozen?

Spartan Lozen: Negative, my king. Lord Oreb calibrated this Trishul to not lift the fog.

Asilas: Can you change the setting in order to lift the fog and see if that blocks whatever is controlling the ship?

Spartan Lozen: Yes. But, you know the crew will be affected, sir.

Asilas: If you can regain control of the ship, we'll deal with the crew later. Initiate it now.

Capone: Sir, won't this create chaos? We may gain control of the ship, but if the crew is out of whack—

Asilas: We'll worry about that later, I said. [suspense music rises]

[intensity sequence / transition]

Spartan Lozen: [excitedly] Sir, it looks like we have successfully blocked whatever commandeered the G.R. Ford. However, the crew's fog has been lifted and are beginning to show signs of their "Happy Stage."

Capone: This means they're more concerned with singing and dancing than they are steering the ship. [chuckles]

Asilas: [beep] Spartan Lozen, I am ordering Lord Oreb to transport some *Commos* to take control of the ships, each with two Spartans to help keep order.

Capone: Sir, the crew doesn't become dangerous for another 24-48 hours.

Asilas: I know, but I am not taking any chances. Plus, once they do, it may turn into chaos. The Commos will render all nukes dysfunctional and all computerized weapons will only be accessible with a sequence of codes so no hijackers will be able to use our own weapons against us! [boom]

[music interlude. – SONG --“ON WE SAIL” BY FORMING THE VOID]

Narrator: The drama with the ships off India's coast made Asilas paranoid about all computerized weapons. Access to launch codes were restricted unlike anything before. Gradually, Asilas was able to regain control of the ships and a disaster at sea was avoided. Shortly after, India finally came under American control. Asilas set his sights on Australia, the last of the stand-alone countries outside of Europe, Africa and Asia. Australia's Prime Minister had paid very close attention to the actions India took in their initial resistance to King Asilas. The Aussies clearly had a trick up their sleeves and Asilas was very cautious in proceeding with the invasion. The Island Continent was surrounded by Naval forces from around the world, all under the command of King Asilas. Australia seemed pinned and isolated, but showed no signs of surrender or of initiating an attack. Asilas did not give a harsh warning, but instead sent Lord Ana Patricia Shelley to meet with the Australian Prime Minister to negotiate terms for a peaceful surrender. The Prime Minister expressed little interest in such a negotiation and when Shelley arrived, she was captured by Drax warriors and taken to a secret base just west of Brisbane in the Province of Queensland. The Drax live streamed a video feed from their secret location showing Lord Shelley in chains and suffering grotesque torture at the hands of Lord Joshua Jackson, who appeared to be in a trance. Asilas and Oreb watched in horror as Jackson (with bleeding red eyes) took a knife and amputated three of Shelley's fingers one by one. [woman's screams] Hearing her screams of agony, Asilas responded

Asilas: You can cut her flesh, you vicious monsters, but you will never touch her soul.

Narrator: The Drax Commander replied—

Russel: She doesn't even believe in a soul, you fool. She has no love or faith in God. Her flesh is all she knows and all she loves, so this is her Hell. Watch us feast as she screams for mercy!" [hisses]

[sounds of chains dragging – creepy music]

Russel: [hisses] You still have 7 fingers left. No need to pout. [pause] I have to admit your screams are delicious. [hisses] I see why Asilas loves you so much.

Shelley: [In agony and grunting in pain with short breaths] You're wasting your time torturing me. [breathing speeds up] America is going to crush you. [shaky voice] And Asilas is going to shred you alive.

Russel: A-ha! You see? He does love you! How long before he sends his pathetic Spartans to save you?

Shelley: For all you know, they're already here.

Russel: You are feisty, Lord Shelley. [pause] You know I'm getting hungry again. I think I'll have three more of your fingers. Let's video it and send it to your stupid king. If he's already here, maybe we can have a face to face meeting a little quicker than expected. [laughs and drizzles]

[intense music -- sounds of bone crushing and woman screams]

[transition music]

Oreb: Sir, another video has come in from the Drax base in Australia. It shows the amputation of Lord Shelley's –

Asilas: Don't say anymore, Lord Oreb. I'm sick to my stomach about what is happening to Lord Shelley.

Oreb: [assuring] We'll get her back, sir. We should discuss our options at the High Council meeting, which we are now running late for.

Asilas: We'll show them the video because I want everyone to see what these monsters do to a member of our High Council.

Oreb: Lord Shelley is resilient, sir. She won't be easy to break. They can try, but I know she can handle whatever they throw her way.

Asilas: We need to make a move sooner rather than later, Jeremy. Her life depends on it. [boom]

[transition music]

[sound of light boardroom chatter and chairs sliding into place]

Richards: Sir, the Australian forces are no match for ours. We should just go in, guns blazing and take them out. And if we can save Lord Shelley in the process, then we will.

Mary Ruth: Lord Shelley is one of us. How would you feel if we decided not to save you if you were captured? If there's a chance to rescue Lord Shelley, then we should try. She helped us get us here to this point. We'll need her the rest of the way.

Oreb: I agree Lord Shelley is immensely important in our campaign. But we shouldn't decide our actions based on emotions. Even she would advise against that.

Banks: Well, from a financial standpoint, Australia's resources are vastly overrated. I don't see why we just don't use the Trishul to take them out. Like we did with so many other countries. Why do we need a full invasion anyway?

Asilas: The Drax are there, Lord Banks. It's likely they want us to bring the Trishul and the Spartans. This whole thing could be a giant trap. If we're going to save Lord Shelley, it will have to be a covert operation.

Oreb: Extraction is too risky, Your Majesty.

Capone: I agree with Oreb and Richards. It wouldn't take us long to conquer them. Perhaps we should just nuke them and get it over with.

Asilas: If we nuke them, then there's no chance Lord Shelley will be rescued –and we'll be murdering millions of people unnecessarily!

Roberts: Your Majesty, isn't there a way for Gabriel to teleport to Lord Shelley and bring her back? Surely there's a way to find her location. I mean, we all have a chip transponder inside all of us.

Oreb: Lord Roberts, we already know where Lord Shelley is. We have the coordinates. That is not the issue. If we send Gabriel, the Drax will be waiting for him. And they have already captured him before. We can't risk losing Gabriel. He's just too valuable.

Roberts: Sir, why can't we have access to Gabriel's teleportation device? Surely, we can develop one of our own. Perhaps we can just copy it.

Asilas: We tried that already, too, Lord Roberts. There are some things we just do not have the capability to do. And what's worse, if the Drax ever get ahold of that chip transponder you alluded to, they could reverse engineer it and find any and all of us. You understand? We can't wait any longer. We have to decide now. This Council must render a decision on a course of action and I will decide to execute it or not. The stakes are too high and every moment that passes, we risk the Drax finding her transponder.

[transition music]

[sounds of hot steam blowing, chains, and grunts of agony]

Russel: I guess the rescue party isn't coming for you after all, Lord Shelley. Looks like we'll get to play a little longer. Which is fine by me. I like the way you scream. [hisses]

Lord Shelley: [in agony] Your kind is an abomination.

Russel: And yours isn't? I am treating you far better than you treat your farm animals, Lord Shelley. The way humans treat each other, the environment, the oceans –YOU are the abomination! At least the world we come from was destroyed by natural forces. We didn't pollute ourselves to death like humans love to do. You live in filth, you behave like rats, you're judgmental of each other, you murder, steal, lie, cheat and destroy each other without a conscience. And yet, you look at us and call us monsters. [hisses]

Lord Shelley: I suppose you want a special ribbon or trophy for all the great work you do.

Russel: [chuckles] No, hearing your screams is reward enough. [woman shouts in pain] Now, now, Lord Shelley. I can make your pain stop if you just tell me all the things I need to know.

Lord Shelley: The only thing you need to know is where to find the shower and a toothbrush, you smelly, disgusting, hideous gargoyle.

Russel: Oh, insulting me will only make me enjoy this more. But rest assured, the feeling is mutual.

[woman screams louder and fades out]

[transition music]

YOU'VE BEEN LISTENING TO THE RISE OF KING ASILAS, EPISODE 25: CAPTURED, STARRING
JV TORRES AS KING ASILAS AND BEALS
STEVEN FISHER AS LORD JEREMY OREB
SHAYNE MAISTER AS LORD ANA PATRICIA SHELLEY

MADELINE GOSHORN AS LORD VANESSA BANKS
JOHN DOBY AS LORD QUINTIN CAPONE
AUSTIN BEACH AS RUSSELL
VICTOR MAPP AS LORD ANDREW RICHARDS
ELENA MIDDLETON AS LORD MARY RUTH
DANA KONDISKO AS SPARTAN LOZEN
ANGELI FITCH AS LORD TRACI ROBERTS
MEGAN WHITE AS COMMAND OPERATOR
AND NARRATED BY SERGEI BRAZHNIKOV

THIS EPISODE FEATURES THE SONG "ON WE SAIL" BY FORMING THE VOID. DOWNLOAD THE MUSIC OF FORMING THE VOID ON BANDCAMP.COM AND ITUNES TODAY. OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS BY RAFAEL KRUX, KEVIN MACLEOD, LEE ROSEVERE, SBJ, BOVVER, FREETOUSESOUND, FREESOUND.ORG AND AUDIO JUNGLE.

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