Episode 64: "Logic and Reason" - Written by JV Torres and Alex Olsen

>>>SCENE ONE

[news intro music]

Tom Novak: Good evening, America. In a shocking turn of events, the king has ordered the Spartan Army to remove all young men and women between the ages of 17 and 25 from their homes and begin training for armed offenses against the enemies of America. In a statement released earlier today, the king has decreed all people who meet the criteria will immediately begin boot camp. In a rare dissent, Lord Desta was asked by reporters about his thoughts on the matter and Desta said he believes, and I quote, "this is a very bad idea." End quote. [sighs] Well, it seems like just when things couldn't get any worse for the king, he comes out with more unpopular ideas. Even those in his trusted High Council are speaking out against these wild decrees--and this is just the latest mandate which has enraged the population, still a part of the civilized world. For more analysis, we brought in retired general William Sherman. General Sherman, what do you make of this latest decree by King Asilas?

Gen. Sherman: Tom, the king is literally out of options. This move is indicative of desperation. He's acting irrational and illogical. He could have initiated a draft, but he didn't. Instead he decrees forced enlistment. There's a war that must be fought and the king needs canon fodder, to be blunt.

Tom Novak: That's a pretty bold statement, General. Can you give us some insight as to who the kingdom is at war with?

Gen. Sherman: The question, Tom, is who is the kingdom NOT at war with? The kingdom is in tatters, and it's difficult to know what the king is in control of anymore. I think this move is completely unnecessary and the king is merely going to succeed in sending these young people to certain death--and for no good reason.

Tom Novak: So, are you saying all is lost? Should the king surrender his throne and let the fractured kingdom form independent states?

Gen. Sherman: Well, if the king surrendered his throne, that would plunge the world into even more chaos. And forming independent states sounds like a good idea on paper, but in practice, people would come under the control of brutes and thugs who will inflict worse acts of barbarism than the king has.

Tom Novak: Wow. These are some very strong statements coming from you, General. You've been retired now for only a few years, right? Did you leave the military on bad terms?

Gen. Sherman: No. But this isn't about me, Tom. I see America crumbling to dust and this idea that young people should be forced to fight in some obscure war is just plain ludicrous. If anything, the king should be using these youths to protect what's left of the kingdom. Lord knows America's past is full of creatures of the old swamp that brainwashed the young into believing in unicorns. The king brought us all back from all that insanity. But we ended up here anyway. Tom, as we've seen throughout history, those in power love to do the *illogical*. And they love to persecute those who call them out on it.

Tom Novak: General Sherman, should you be concerned for your own safety now that you've spoken out publicly against the king? I mean, these are some pretty harsh words--and coming from someone who was once loyal to the king.

Gen. Sherman: I've never backed down from a fight ever in my life, Tom. I don't intend to now. If the king can find nothing better to do with his time but to continue persecuting dissidents, then that says more about him than it does about me. Perhaps his ego can't handle the truth, even if it's delivered in a crude manner. That's the mark of a weak-minded person. Look, people need to make their stand, dig their heels in. If this is the hill I die on, then I go with American pride. I love America and will die for her, especially if I die fighting against those who have robbed her and her citizens of their freedoms.

Tom Novak: [shocked] General Sherman, please take care of yourself and thank you for coming on the show. I mean that.

Gen. Sherman: I pray for all my countrymen. God bless you, Tom. [fade out] [boom]

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>>>SCENE TWO

[transition music]

Narrator: In China, Lords Oreb and Hemingway had fought against a Yeti in the mountains. As they continued their trek to find Lord Shelley, the ominous vibrations to their east became so intense, their accompanying Spartans became increasingly uneasy. Spartan Diaz used a bug drone to hover high above them and was able to locate the source of the disturbance. The bug drone swooped down and focused on the strange movements. But before it could get a clear picture of the mysterious source, the bug drone suddenly stopped functioning. And within moments, Oreb and the others found themselves pinned down. And a large group of demons quickly approached them. [boom]

[intense music]

Spartan Jack: Lord Oreb, a group of creatures are coming up our path!

Oreb: I see them! We can't scale this wall in time! We'll have to face them head-on!

Hemingway: I don't know if regular bullets will be effective, Jeremy. Those things look unreal. [horrifying screams abound]

Oreb: Spartans and Lord Hemingway, defend the mouth of our enclosement with your conventional weapons. I have something I can use, but I need a moment to assemble it. [scream intensify]

Spartan Jack: [gunfire] Take this, you hideous bastards! [demon screams]

Spartan Diaz: Lord Hemingway, should we engage with grenades, sir?

Hemingway: Negative. Logically it'll destroy our path when we come back down and those things can climb the

walls.

Spartan Diaz: You're right. [to Spartan Jack] Look, they're scaling the walls!

Hemingway: Ok! Engage with grenades, but make sure they detonate in the air!

Spartan Diaz: Good thinking, sir! [sounds of explosions and screams]

Spartan Jack: Awesome! They're splitting up! One group is heading down to the valley!

Oreb: Step aside! [sound of alien gun loading]

Hemingway: What the hell is that? [sound of alien laser and fizz explosions]

Oreb: It's a Drax plasma laser.

Hemingway: A what?

Spartan Jack: Lord Oreb, three of those things, eleven o'clock, scaling the wall! [sound of alien laser]

Hemingway: Amazing! That thing vaporizes those demons!

Oreb: This thing actually works! [excited] Ha! Take that you bastards! [more alien laser sounds and screams]

Spartan Diaz: They're retreating, sir!

Hemingway: They're probably going to regroup in the valley. This won't be the last of them for sure.

Oreb: Not by a long shot, Peter.

Hemingway: If they head into the valley, they'll probably go to that village.

Oreb: Can't worry about that now. Everyone, back to the top. We've got to scale the wall. Let's go!

[transition music]

>>>SCENE THREE

[intro music/sound of muffled explosions]

Monica: [consoling a crying JJ] JJ, he's not that hurt. He's going to be ok. Everything is going to be ok, we just have to let him rest for a minute or two.

JJ: [crying] Cody, baby, I am not going to leave your side, no matter what. [sniffles] I know you're just trying to help, Princess. But can you just give me some space, please?

Lord Banks: Monica, come over here. [footsteps] Let the girl be.

Monica: I just feel bad for them, even if she's just being a little difficult and unreasonable. And he's being a bit overdramatic.

Lord Banks: This was supposed to be their honeymoon. [pause] Imagine if your honeymoon went something like this?

Monica: [sighs] I--I guess you're right.

Lord Banks: [explosions getting louder] We've got other things to worry about right now.

Monica: Holy Hell. What do you think is happening up there?

Lord Banks: Probably war. People fighting. There have been a lot of uprisings all over the kingdom. Everything is fracturing--people forming mini states and whatnot. You know, billions of people disappeared as of late. There's a lot of empty real estate. And people are going to kill each other for it all. The king has practically lost all control of the kingdom. It's only a matter of time before people start to revolt against him and everyone else that impose totalitarian forms of government.

Monica: But why? Why would it turn into this?

Lord Banks: The king, like many before him, tried to manipulate the masses using evil methods. Before him, there were dictators like Hitler, communist regimes and even worldwide pandemics meant to install the New World Order. They all failed. King Asilas thought his promise of "freeing humanity" would bring about a golden age, but there's something inside the human psyche, something in our DNA that won't let us be completely controlled. We naturally want to fight back. We naturally want to have control of our own lives.

Monica: Listen. The explosions stopped. Do you think they stopped fighting up there?

Lord Banks: I don't know. But we should wait a little before we start digging again.

JJ: Hey you guys, come here! [footsteps]

Monica: What is it?

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JJ: Cody is wheezing. What should I do?

Lord Banks: His head is up too high on your lap. Let his head down easy. Easy.

JJ: [hysterical] Oh my God! He stopped breathing! Oh my God! Do something! [cries]

Lord Banks: Give me some room! Move back! I have to do CPR!

JJ: [crying hysterically] Oh my God! Cody! Baby, please! God, please don't let him die! Please! [boom]

["SONG"]

>>>SCENE FOUR

[transition music]

Narrator: King Asilas returned to the surface. He saw many horrific things in Hell and even talked to some tortured souls. But the king was unphased by any of it. Not even the notion that his dear friend Lord Capone was presumed dead made him flinch. His mind was focused on the task at hand. He was to become the leader of the Demon Army and war with the Son of Man at Armageddon. Asilas came to a place not far from the Grand Castle. It was a dark, gloomy place. The Devil led him there where a cliff overlooked a large plain. As he stood at the edge of the cliff, hoards of demons assembled below. Thousands of them gathered, howling, screaming and agitated. It was clear they were ready to battle. But when the king spoke to them, the demons slowly but steadily dispersed right as he spoke. Before the king even got half way through his speech, which was meant to excite the beasts, they had all left. Asials looked down below, staring confused at the empty plain. [boom]

Asilas: I don't understand. When I started speaking to them, they got excited, but then as I proceeded, they lost interest and just walked away. It doesn't make any sense. Did I do something wrong?

Beals: No, you didn't do anything wrong. They came to see you. They heard your call and listened to you. But demons have a short attention span.

Asilas: But I wasn't done. There was still a lot I needed to say to them before engaging the Son of Man.

Beals: There's only one thing that will help you keep their attention. And really, I should have told you before, but I figured I'd wait for the right moment.

Asilas: Ok?

Beals: In order to take full command of the demon army, you will need Lord Shelley.

Asilas: I know. That's why I sent Oreb and Hemingway to retrieve her. She'll be here in due time.

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Beals: That's not going to be enough, Asilas.

Asilas: What do you mean?

Beals: I mean you will have to marry Lord Shelley.

Asials: Well, that's not going to happen because I am still married to Rebekah. I am no polygamist.

Beals: Well, you can't proceed without being married to Shelley.

Asilas: As much as Queen Rebekah despises me, she will not give me a divorce. I've tried to reason with her, but she's not interested in even talking to me. And there's no court, no pope that can annul my marriage to her.

Beals: There is a simpler solution.

Asilas: Such as?

Beals: Such as killing Rebekah.

Asilas: What?

Beals: You must kill your current wife, Asilas. Then, you will be free to marry Lord Shelley. It's the only way.

Asilas: I can't do that. No.

Beals: You must do it. She must die.

Asilas: My sons will never forgive me.

Beals: They will never know. Make it look like a suicide or something.

Asilas: I can't. I just can't do that to her. She's the mother of my children. She was always my best friend.

Beals: But she left you, fool. She hates you now. And she hates you because you are in love with Shelley. Are you in love with Shelley?

Asials. [hesitant] Yes.

Beals: Then do what must be done. And take your rightful place in mankind's destiny! [thunder]

[boom]

>>>SCENE FIVE

[transition music]

Jacob: Look, Gabriel, I'm glad you're here with me. I appreciate your concern for my well being and I obviously need your help. But shouldn't you be getting back to New Eden? I'm pretty sure my father will be summoning you.

Gabriel: When your father needs me to shuttle someone somewhere, he knows how to get in contact with me. He should know the worth of those around him, though.

Jacob: I always thought my father sought your counsel.

Gabriel: He used to. But he didn't like my logical points of view or that I opposed most of his ideas. I believe most of them were symptoms of some dark alement. I tried to reason with him, but you know how he is.

Jacob: Oh yeah, I know. He can be extremely stubborn. He loves boasting about being logical even when he's irrational. That's why it was great when my mother was around because she was the only one who **could** reason with him. But since she left, things really took a nosedive.

Gabriel: No kidding. [pause] Do you think your mother would or could ever consider reconciling with your father?

Jacob: I seriously doubt it. She really hates him now. All because of Lord Shelley.

Gabriel: Come on, it has to be more than that. Everything your father does is driven by his insane interpretations of prophecy granted through thousand year old writings. [chuckle] Odd how irrational your leaders are today.

Jacob: See here's the thing: what in all of civilization is truly rational? I mean, if people acted on impulse, there would be way more murders in the world. Seems illogical, right? You know why? Because when people get hot headed, that's the natural inclination. Logic isn't natural or needed in reasoning. It's how our brains work. Men have figured out how to exploit logic and reasoning--which honestly is like nuclear fusion.

Gabriel: Rationality is a product of logic, though. And also an acceptance of rules and principals. Logic is inherently interwoven in rationality.

Jacob: Yeah? Are you sure about that? Look, no question these are abstracts and constructs [pronounced "con" "strucks"] crucial in establishing a foundation for civilization itself. But they are mutually exclusive. For instance, what is truly "rational?" Is it what our brains truly wish to act on or is it an abstract ideal designed to minimize carnage and maximize control of the masses? Where is the logic in that?

Gabriel: Interesting perspective. You really are your father's son.

Jacob: But do you understand what I really mean?

Gabriel: Sure I do. Civilization is the product of an abstract construct meant to control people.

Jacob: It's deeper than that and way more sinister. You know, Julian Jaynes said, "Logic is the science of justification of conclusions we have reached by natural reasoning. For such natural reasoning to occur, consciousness is not necessary. The very reason we need logic at all is because most reasoning is not conscious at all." [pauses and sighs] Logic and reasoning are a tandem, sure, but they operate separately. That's how people are manipulated. The masters of the world have always known this. When people "reason" automatically, no logic is even required. Logic, actually, is a product of the rationale, not part of the equation.

Gabriel: That's one hell of a spin, Jacob... [scoffs, sighs, then thoughtful] I really have to ponder this some more. [boom]

[Outro music]

YOU'VE BEEN LISTENING TO THE RISE OF KING ASILAS, EPISODE 64: LOGIC AND REASON, STARRING:
JV TORRES AS KING ASILAS AND BEALS
DOMINIC NOTARO AS PRINCE JACOB
ALEX OLSEN AS GABRIEL
MADELINE GOSHORN AS LORD VANESSA BANKS
STEVE FISHER AS LORD JEREMY OREB
ADAM HIGGINS AS LORD PETER HEMINGWAY
L.A. BONET AS PRINCESS MONICA
AMANDA HAGGIST AS JJ
TIA BOWEN AS SPARTAN DIAZ
CHRIS ROBERTSSON AS SPARTAN JACK
VICTOR MAPP AS GENERAL SHERMAN
DON RUDZINSKI AS TOM NOVAK
AND NARRATED BY SERGEI BRAZHNIKOV

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