

ALDEN: Hey, everyone. Alden Ford here. As you may know, we have just one more episode in Season 3 of Mission to Zyxx. It is going to be a doozy. Now, normally we release a new episode every Wednesday but our finale this season is going to be our longest ever episode, as well as our most ambitious ever from a sound design perspective. So, we're taking an extra week to make it perfect. I hope you all agree it's worth the wait. We didn't want to leave you empty handed this week though, so here's a mailbag episode that until now has only been available for our supporters on MaxFun, and before that Patreon. Our mailbag episodes are fully produced minisodes where the crew answers emails submitted by listeners. So, this one is from season 2, so it features some bonus Beano content for all you Beanoheads out there. Now, if you like this mailbag episode, you may be delighted to know that this year, we'll be releasing all new, monthly bonus episodes publicly on our main feed between seasons 3 and 4, which may include but are not limited to additional mailbags, live episodes, and other rad stuff I don't wanna spoil yet. And of course we'll be releasing even more bonus content to our supporters at MaximumFun.org, in addition to our backlog of behind the scenes content, live episodes, ringtones, the incredible Bermut Nundaloy album, and access to our fan discord server. Now, I don't want the amount that I say this to lessen how important it is or how deeply I feel it but we are so grateful to our supporters on MaximumFun.org. You make the show possible and personally I think you have made season 3 in particular bigger and better than seasons 1 and 2. I hope you agree. We can't wait to show you all the crazy shit we want to do next season, and if in a couple of weeks you find yourselves missing our show every Wednesday, it would mean a lot if you considered supporting the show at MaximumFun.org/donate. You'll get a ton of current and future bonus content to hold you over and you'll be helping the show continue to exist. We're still collecting questions for both the crew and the Zimas, so if you have a question, if you have a bone to pick about our canon, or you just want to talk to AJ about his butt gun, now is the time. So send us an email at crew@missiontozyxx.space, and we might feature it in an upcoming segment. If you have questions for the Zimas, go to ZimaPrime.space and fill in the feedback form with your questions for those weirdos. And remember, these mailbag episodes will be released publicly for free between seasons 3 and 4, so even if you're not a supporter you can still listen to them. So it's all the reason to send us your questions now, so. Thank you, again, for listening to this season of Mission to Zyxx. We can't wait to hear what you think of the finale next week, so please, reach out and let us know. And for those of you in and around the UK, there's still a few tickets available for our show on September 15th at the London Podcast Festival. We're so excited about it. We're also going to be posting info about a listener meetup on social media so if you're not following us there, this is a great time. We hope to see you there. Okay. And now, please enjoy the poetically titled "Mailbag Number 4."

NERMUT: Hey guys, are you awake? Is everybody awake? Hello hello?

BARGIE: I'm awake.

NERMUT: Good morning.

DAR: [yawns]

C-53: Nermut, it's very early in the morning.

DAR: And it's our day off, what's happening?

NERMUT: I know, but it's exciting. I couldn't sleep because we've got mail! [shuffling through letters] We've got letters, we've got questions, we've got messages, and let's dip in.

BARGIE: Alright, I'm going back to sleep.

NERMUT: No, no, no, no.

PLECK: Nermut, no, no, wait, what, what?

C-53: You mean non-time sensitive requests?

NERMUT: Absolutely, yeah. And I have had coffee.

PLECK: Nermut, we could've— You could have given us another hour of sleep. We have nothing to do today.

NERMUT: Alright, first message. Um, to answer your question about getting up later, I guess no. Um.

PLECK: Cool.

NERMUT: Okay, so this one. So, Hi.

BARGIE: Hi. No, that's the start.

DAR: Okay.

NERMUT: Okay.

C-53: Well, you just paused because it sounded like that was the end of the—

NERMUT: Okay. Hi.

C-53: Hello.

BARGIE: Hi.

NERMUT: No, it's...

C-53: Just continue.

NERMUT Okay. Hi. My friend and I are huge fans of Mission to Zyxx.

PLECK: That's our mission.

NERMUT: That's us. Uh, we've listened to every episode and often quote it.

PLECK: Cool.

DAR: I didn't know that our recordings were public.

PLECK: Yeah, is this person working in the archives?

C-53: Yeah, there must be some sort of archivist who's just, you know, stumbled on something they like.

DAR: Oh, alright.

NERMUT: Yeah.

PLECK: Good for them.

NERMUT: She and her friend quote the archives.

PLECK: That's probably a breach of security protocol.

NERMUT: Sure. She is turning 40 on January 3rd. We've been friends since we were 13 and I want to give her something special with the crew, including Beano. We love Beano.

PLECK: Hey, Beano.

BEANO: Heh?

PLECK: You're being summoned.

NERMUT: Yeah. Would we wish her happy birthday? I know it's a crazy request and probably out of the ordinary. Thank you, Meredith Hudak.

PLECK: Yeah. Great. You know, I think that's a great idea. Meredith, I would love to fulfill your quest. What's your friend's name?

NERMUT: [flipping through letter] Um, it's not included. Maybe her friend works in the super secret level of the archives.

C-53: Maybe she's her own friend.

NERMUT: Oh, wow.

DAR: I see.

PLECK: Wait, Meredith Hudak asked us to record a birthday message and didn't include her friend's name?

NERMUT: Yeah.
[Beano skitters up]

BEANO: Beano wuv birthdays.

NERMUT: But if she's her own friend, secretly, she's only been friends since she was 13. I guess that is a time when you just kind of start to like yourself.

C-53: Well, sometimes it takes people a little while to get to know themselves.

DAR: I feel like that's about the time I stopped liking myself.

PLECK: Yeah, I was gonna say, I didn't start liking myself until way later than 13.

NERMUT: Yeah, I don't know if I've started.

C-53: Maybe her friend has no name.

NERMUT: Oh, so should we do like, "Happy Birthday, Ehnh..."

C-53: And then she can fill it in.

PLECK: Yeah. Okay.

DAR: Alright.

PLECK: Let's sing the birthday song. We'll just leave a blank.

NERMUT: Okay.

[Dar plays a harmonica tone]

ALL: [singing] It is your birthday!

BARGIE: Birthday, birthday!

ALL: Today!

BARGIE: Birthday!

ALL: It is your birthday!

BARGIE AND BEANO: Birthday, birthday!

ALL: Hooray! Hooray! Everybody knows that you are great!

BARGIE: It's your birthday!

ALL: So happy birthday!

BARGIE: Insert name here.

NERMUT: It's a name.

DAR: Great.

NERMUT: Cool. It's crazy we all know that song.

PLECK: Oh, it's the birthday song.

BEANO: Beano wuv the public domain!

NERMUT: So yeah, happy birthday to your friend Meredith. Hopefully that is concise.

BEANO: Beano wuv you, friend of Meredith!

NERMUT: Alright. Hi, crew.

DAR: Hi.

NERMUT: It's just the beginning of the thing.

DAR: You have to stop taking such a long pause there.

C-53: You're taking these big pauses...

NERMUT: Alright. Hi, crew. I had a... See? Quick.

BARGIE: What?

NERMUT: I had a...

C-53: Now you've stopped again.

NERMUT: No, I... But I didn't...

BARGIE: Hi.

NERMUT: No, you can't... I didn't earn that one, Bargie. Hi, crew. I had a few questions for you. Did Pleck ever use the voucher C-53 gave him at X-Marse to buy a new mattress? Did you?

PLECK: Oh, I tried and it had expired.

C-53: Oh, I'm sorry, you should have told me that.

DAR: I hate when that happens.

PLECK: It's fine. The problem is that, you know, by the time the coupon books get to the Zyxx Quadrant, a lot of the time they're...

C-53: Yeah, that's true.

PLECK: ...passed. But, you know, C-53, I appreciated the thought.

C-53: Well, thank you.

PLECK: Yeah.

DAR: What are you sleeping on these days?

PLECK: These days I'm sleeping on some clothes that I'm not currently wearing.

C-53: Oh, that sounds... very sad.

BARGIE: Very sad.

PLECK: Well, you know, I have on several occasions asked...

DAR: I know what you're about to say and I'm going to tell you right now we should move on to the next question.

NERMUT: Alright. [shuffles] Where did Nermut grow up and did he always want to be a Mission's Operations Manager? I grew up on a watery planet named Filem. That's, of course, where the lirds originate. Did I always want to be a Mission's Operations Manager? No, I wanted to be a Senior Missions Operations Manager after realizing that I was not military material.

PLECK: Wait, Nermut, but the Alliance had only existed for a few months when you joined. What did you want to do for the first 20 years of your life?

NERMUT: Well, the monarchy had Mission's Operations Managers.

C-53: The position of Missions Operations Manager didn't start with the rebellion.

NERMUT: Right. Before that, yeah, there's always been missions.

C-53: Or the Federated Alliance.

PLECK: Sure.

NERMUT: And the operations thereof need management.

PLECK: Sure, I guess that's true.

C-53: It all follows logically.

PLECK: Alright.

NERMUT: How did C-53 end up working for the Federated Alliance?

BARGIE: Who's asking?

NERMUT: Who is this? Rebecca.

C-53: Well, Rebecca, I was a monarchy droid that was captured and had my mind forcibly wiped and then had a restraining bolt installed. That's pretty much the story. I don't remember a lot of it.

PLECK: That's a shame, C-53.

NERMUT: Rebecca, it's not your fault that the answer is so sad. Don't feel bad for asking. [shuffles] If Dar could juck any species, what would it be and why?

DAR: Wow. Well, I mean, between you, me, and the beings in this room, I have been growing a spreadsheet where I'm trying to juck every known species in the galaxy.

NERMUT: Wow.

DAR: I'm nowhere near the number I need to be at, but...

C-53: I mean, that pace must be relentless.

NERMUT: So it's more quantity over quality?

DAR: Absolutely. Now anyway, I guess I would love to have consensual hot, hot S-E-X with...

BARGIE: Suh... Eh...

C-53: Sex, Bargie.

BARGIE: Oh.

DAR: I'd like to have it with a Blark.

C-53: Oh. Interesting choice.

BARGIE: Wow. I get it. You know why? It's because of the moisture.

PLECK: Well, they're clouds of vapor.

C-53: Imagine those caresses.

DAR: I hear they're just really positive, wonderful beings that kind of surround you.

BARGIE: And excellent financial planners.

DAR: Ah! Wow.

C-53: I hope it happens for you, Dar.

DAR: Thank you.

NERMUT: [shuffles] Has Bargie ever used hyper proton fuel, and if so, what happened?

BARGIE: The thing about my art is I like to keep it natural. I've seen a lot of other artists take substances, do dust, go crazy, and they lose themselves. It's fun for a second, but then they go. I like to stick with very crazy oil. That's my one vice, crazy oil.

C-53: Bargie, I respect you for your stance on that. Secondary question, does anyone have any hyper proton fuel?

DAR: Unfortunately, no. Sorry, C.

NERMUT: We're answering questions that come in from the outside.

C-53: Sure. But imagine I posed a question, and the question was, does anyone have any hyper proton fuel?

DAR: No one does.

C-53: We can still answer that question.

BEANO: Beano have follow-up.

NERMUT: Yes.

BEANO: Does anyone have hyper proton fuel?

PLECK: No.

NERMUT: No. We don't have any. Okay, Rebecca, them's your answers. Rebecca says, "Thanks and safe travels."

DAR: [disbelief] She does?

PLECK: She got back to us really quickly.

DAR: She got back to us super fast.

NERMUT: No, that's still in the same message. No, no.

PLECK: You should read the whole email first, and then we'll respond.

NERMUT: That's not how I do it.

C-53: I was gonna say, we have a really good connection if she's just responding.

NERMUT: Sorry, P.S.

DAR: Oh!

PLECK: Damn it, Nermut.

NERMUT: P.S., if there's a CLINT with you, ask how many swirlies has he given to the PLINTs yet? Let's actually– can we call a CLINT?

PLECK: You could always call the emergency band and see if...

C-53: I still have Janelle Fitzmeyer's number, we could just call the planet directly.

PLECK: Oh, sure.

[communicator ringing]

CLINT: Get down on the ground.

PLECK: We're actually thousands of light years from where you are.

NERMUT You say that when you call?

CLINT: What do you want?

C-53: We actually just had a CLINT information question. So, you could really help us.

CLINT: Yeah, actually, I'm the best.

DAR: I'm so glad we got the best.

CLINT: Well, get the best. Don't mess with the rest.

DAR: Now, of course, since you're the best...

CLINT: Yes?

DAR: Can you speak to CLINT-PLINT relations right now?

NERMUT: Specifically swirly count?

CLINT: Well, I don't want to brag, but in terms of swirlies, I'm kind of the best around.

DAR: Oh, wow.

C-53: You're the best at two things.

CLINT: Yeah, well, what can I say? Double threat. Swirlies, I've given maybe about, I think, two.

C-53: And you're the best?

CLINT: I am.

NERMUT: Were they just really high quality or did other CLINTs do fewer?

CLINT: Have you ever tried to do a swirly before? It's actually really difficult. You have to hold the person down.

C-53: So, your problem is that you're only attempting to do a swirly solo.

PLECK: It helps if you have, like, a crew.

C-53: Yeah, you might need a second person.

CLINT: Why would I need anybody else? I'm the best at it.

NERMUT: You may have a higher count.

CLINT: No, the guys around here, the other guys, they're just kind of assholes.

PLECK: Sure. I mean, if you're giving swirlies, doesn't that put you in kind of an asshole category already?

CLINT: Do you want a swirly right now?

PLECK: Like I said, I'm many light years— Okay, yep.

CLINT: C'mere!

[The CLINT grabs the camera and puts it underwater]

C-53: He's dunking the camera.

[Call disconnects]

PLECK: Oh, wow. He disconnected. Must have shorted out.

NERMUT: Rebecca, we're going to just have to go with two. Two is best we got.

C-53: Reliably, we can say two.

NERMUT: Dear Mission to Zyxx crew, I have some questions to help keep your minds occupied until the next adventure begins. Cool. I have a question for Pleck. Pleck: when you met Connie and Mark on Gemino, you told them that you were an only child. However, when giving advice to Bargie on why she shouldn't rush into getting a pet, you quoted missives from TheyTeen magazine, which you said belonged to your sister back on Rangus 6. So which is it? Do you have siblings or not?

BARGIE: Someone called you out. Someone called you out.

C-53: You got busted hard.

NERMUT: Ring, ring, ring. It's the called out call.

PLECK: Okay. Listen, Dariel, I'm going to be straight with you. I... Yeah, okay. It was me who had the subscription to TheyTeen magazine. Don't have a sister. I am an only child.

NERMUT: [disbelief] Whaaaaaat?

DAR: That was very unsurprising.

C-53: Why did you subscribe to They Teen?

PLECK: There is great advice in there, and honestly, it's... the writing is better than you would think.

C-53: Hey, you don't have to get defensive about it.

DAR: More importantly, how old were you when the subscription ended?

PLECK: When it ended... Okay. Listen.

C-53: You're still getting TheyTeen magazine?

PLECK: [defensive] It's very inexpensive if you subscribe in the long term.

C-53: Okay. Going into your room.

[C-53 walks into Pleck's room and grabs a piece of paper]

PLECK: You're talking about bitkroon per issue.

C-53: This is a CURRENT issue of TheyTeen?

PLECK: Yes. It's this month's issue.

BARGIE: I don't like the cover at all. I hate the cover.

NERMUT: You have them all in mylar and stacked? Perfectly–

PLECK: They are going to be worth something someday.

NERMUT: Alright, Dariel. Only child and a liar.

PLECK: That's in the email?

NERMUT: No, that was my answer.

DAR: He's summarizing for Dariel.

NERMUT: Okay. [flips paper] Let's see. A question for C-53. When you left The Delegator after freeing Nermut from incarceration [quietly] and possibly, you know, ending my chance at promotion...

PLECK: You were not going to get promoted. There's no chance... you were going to be executed.

C-53: Nermut, they were gonna kill you.

NERMUT: Nobody knows the future.

PLECK: [laughing] Nobody knows the future.

NERMUT: You were in the frame of an Enforcer Droid, but then you had your cube transferred to Bargie until Pleck and Dar found a new C-Class frame. Why not just customize the powerful frame of the Enforcer Droid instead? May the space be with you.

C-53: Dariel, that's a fine question. The frame of an Enforcer Droid is frankly just not suited to the work of a protocol and diplomatic relationship. It's very aggressive. There's a lot of weapons systems, and frankly I just find the whole posture of the frame to be... a little off-putting, I think, to anyone I would care to relate to diplomatically.

PLECK: Also, it runs on pancakes.

C-53: Yeah, I had a really maniacal desire for pancakes. It frankly was very inconvenient.

NERMUT: Wow.

C-53: I like pancakes, but not that much. It's too much!

NERMUT: Alright Dariel, I hope that satisfies you. Thank you for the message. [flips paper] Hello, Ambassadorial Crew of the Bargerean Jade. Bargerean Jade herself.

BARGIE: Hi!

NERMUT: And Nermut, if he is around, he is around! I have a question. Why hasn't C-53 upgraded to a different grade of frame? A lot of frame questions!

C-53: Yeah. There's a lot of buzz about the frame.

NERMUT: The C-Series seems to have a host of strange issues, and you know, they're mainly repurposed sex droids, anyhow. So you'd probably want to at least just for the waterproofing upgrade. Yours in orange beer and dust, Nini.

C-53: Nini, I'm a protocol and diplomatic relations droid.

NERMUT: Still.

C-53: Yeah. It hasn't changed since the last question, but sure, I could be a B-class loader droid.

PLECK: C-53, I actually have a question about that. Why haven't we gone back to that droid shop and tried to get you a droid frame without, you know, skin?

C-53: Hey, I don't know. I'm not in charge of the ship.

BARGIE: No one's asked me to go there, so really it's on you, Pleck.

PLECK: [laughing] Okay, I didn't know it was up to me. I just figured you're always complaining about how tacky and clammy your skin is.

C-53: You know, I do complain about the tackiness and clamminess of my artificial skin, but you know one thing I can do?

NERMUT: Hm?

C-53: Allow me to show you. You may remember my punishment marble. [ejects marble] Tacky skin. [grabs marble] Boom.

PLECK: Hey, solid marble pickup, C-53. Wow. You actually can't drop it. It just sort of sticks to you.

C-53: Just sorta sticks—[wiggles hand]

NERMUT: Sort of a different kind of punishment. Just having a marble stuck to you.

PLECK: Okay. Oh boy.

C-53: [straining] Now it's on my other hand.

PLECK: You want me to take that off for you?

C-53: No, I got it.

NERMUT: Oh boy.

C-53: Mm, no, that's... Maybe you should just move on the next.

NERMUT: Okay. Alright. Beano!

[Beano dashes up]

BEANO: Beano.

NERMUT: I know I risk exposure by appealing directly to you, but the crew's previous response to my inquiry into Bargie's trustworthiness I found to be very unsatisfactory. Elusive even. I feel safe to say even Bargie will admit to that.

BARGIE: Wh-why wha happened I wasn't paying attention.

NERMUT: Okay. And I know that Beano know. Does Beano know Bargie? Or is Beano no Bargie? I feel like everything rests upon this question.

BARGIE: [weirded out] What is happening?

NERMUT: Yours, Dr. BS.

PLECK: Dr. BS, he was the one with the conspiracy theory about Bargie being the least trustworthy member of the crew.

NERMUT: Wow. Gaslighting Dr. BS again.

C-53: Dr. BS is going to be very disappointed with the answer to this question, I have a feeling.

BEANO: Beano know.

C-53: Yeah, see.

NERMUT: Okay. Dr. BS, that is the answer.

BEANO: [straining] Ehnn ehnn oh!

DAR: He's throwing up his tiny hand.

BEANO Beano know.

NERMUT: Beano still know. [flips through paper] Hi everyone, I have a question for Dar. You seem to pretty freely use your body cavities as a means of smuggling items. Have you ever faced any health consequences for smuggling something that wasn't clean or was sharp or that your body just didn't agree with in general? I continue to enjoy hearing about your space adventures. Andy Hunter. Oh, it's the Andy Hunter.

PLECK: I wonder if he's killed any Andys since the last message.

C-53: Andys, notoriously hard to catch.

DAR: Well, I wouldn't recommend that any other sentient being stick material up into their chutes and flaps, but for me, because I have my monthly, I bake my entire insides to a nice 400 degrees. Anything that shouldn't be inside me doesn't stay.

C-53: Well, Dar, you did have an experience with Alan aboard the Dezel Maschh.

DAR: Oh.

C-53: So maybe avoid dead material.

PLECK: Yeah, no decaying.

NERMUT: So get a hot monthly and don't chuck any dead folk.

DAR: I didn't know he was dead.

NERMUT: No, no, I'm just giving advice.

DAR: In fact, Alan seemed very charming when we first met.

NERMUT: Alan was a good guy.

PLECK: [dismissive] He was a puppet. He was a shell of a skin puppet.

NERMUT: Alright, so this is our last one. Everybody, Dear Beano, how are you today?

BEANO: Beano no.

NERMUT: Alright, follow up question. What did you do for 400 years as a relic?

BEANO: Ehhn. Beano know.

PLECK: Okay. You know, Beano, this is an email from a person who's invested in our adventures.

BARGIE: The thing is, you have to treat Beano like a pet. The more you ignore it, the more you will talk. So just pretend to do something else.

PLECK: That's actually really good advice, Bargie.

C-53: I'll just finally get this marble off my hands here... [wiggling]

NERMUT: It's still stuck to you.

C-53: What I need to do is sorta bat it off.

PLECK: You know, C-53 let me just grab it from...

C-53: No, no no...

BEANO: Beano hungry.

NERMUT: You were hungry during the 400 years?

BEANO: Beano hungry.

NERMUT: Alright, Hannah. We got it out of him.

BARGIE: Yes.

C-53: I mean, it makes sense.

PLECK: 400 years is a long time ago.

BEANO: Ooh, Beano wuv marble. [eating sounds]

PLECK: Oh. That's one way to do it.

NERMUT: Okay.

C-53: Got that off.

NERMUT: Punishment complete.

PLECK: [laughing]

[outro music]

SINGER: One, two, one two three...

JUSTIN: Hi everyone, my name is Justin Mcelroy.

SYDNEY: I'm Sydney Mcelroy.

JUSTIN: We're both doctors—

SYDNEY: Nope, just me.

JUSTIN: Okay, well Sydney's a doctor and I'm a medical enthusiast, and we create—

SYDNEY: Ok.

JUSTIN: Sawbones: A Marital Tour of Misguided Medicine

SYDNEY: Every week I dig through the annals of medical history to bring you the wildest, grossest, sometimes dumbest tales of ways we've tried to treat people throughout history.

JUSTIN: And lately we've done a lot of modern fake medicine. Because everything's... a disaster BUT it's slightly less of a disaster every Friday, right here on MaximumFun.org as we bring you Sawbones: A Marital Tour of Misguided Medicine. And remember!

SYDNEY: Don't drill a hole in your head.

AD: Going into a Bullseye interview I know that it's someone who does amazing work, but it's an actual conversation, and sometimes it gets real.

GUEST A: No, but my mother, I remember when my mother... this is going to become a therapy session very quickly.

GUEST B: Does that make sense? I feel like, i—

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