

BOB'S BURGERS

Spec Episode ("Gone Gayle")

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ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT: BOB'S BURGERS - CONTINUOUS - DAY

BOB is busy behind the grill and LINDA is hunched over a crossword tapping a pencil to her forehead while biting her tongue. TINA sweeps the floor while GENE spins on one stool and LOUISE sits on another with her head down on the counter.

Teddy's truck pulls up. TEDDY enters from the street and the door chings.

TEDDY
Hiya, Linda! Kids.

KIDS (IN-UNISON)
Hi, Teddy!

LINDA
(LOOKING UP) Oh, hi Teddy! Bob's working on your takeout order now. Want me to fill your coffee before you head over to Gayle's?

TEDDY
(TO LINDA) You bet!

Teddy takes his usual stool and hands Linda a thermos.

TEDDY (CONT.)
(TO BOB LIKE YOGI TO BOOB00) Hey there Bobby!

BOB
(THROUGH THE WINDOW) Hey, Teddy. I have your Burger of the Day and fries right here.

Bob finishes wrapping up a burger, puts it in a bag and stands with it at the window.

TEDDY
Can't wait for the Bob-BOD today!

BOB

AHHH... I'm sorry, the what?

TEDDY

Bob-BOD. Burger of the day.

LOUISE

Oh, (BEAT) cause the real Bob-bod
is mushy and breaking down
spectacularly.

GENE

Like rotten peas or the love lives
of Fleetwood Mac!

LINDA

Hey! I like my Bobby's body
(finishes with Teddy's coffee and
heads over to the window). It's
like a fry-scented plushy.

Bob

(CONSIDERING) No, they're right.
I've been making these noises
whenever...

Bob stands up slightly from the grill.

BOB (CONT.)

(GRUNT/HUFF) ...I get up from the
grill. (TO TEDDY) Tell me how you
like the Rye, Thyme and Bleus
Burger, Teddy.

TEDDY

It's good. But the ah... name. Bit
of a clunker, dontcha' think?

BOB

I mean it doesn't really
roll-off-the-tongue but our last
bun order got mixed up and I
thought it was pretty good.

Linda takes the bag from Bob and hands Teddy his food and
coffee.

LINDA

I think he came up with it cause
he's been listening to Sade again.

CUT TO:

INT. BELCHER APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM

Linda and the children come back from a school function to find Bob in the apartment doing a prospector/cowboy-dance and singing "Soldier of Love" in nothing but a shin-length nightshirt.

CUT TO:

INT. BOB'S BURGERS - BACK TO SCENE

BOB

Maybe.(BEAT) That nightshirt might
be my favorite piece of clothing
I've ever owned. Even more than
that dead guy's suit.

LINDA

(SIGHS) Yeah, that was a great
suit. Much better than that
ridiculous nightgown you wear to
sleep.

BOB

It's a night - SHIRT - Lin!

TINA

I think you look pretty in your
nightgown, Dad. Like a mermaid
since they're just manatees that
sailors misidentified.

GENE

What I wouldn't give to spend all
day in a clamshell bra using my
sultry voice to lure unsuspecting
sea men to a watery death!

BOB

Gene, that's not what a mermaid
is.

LOUISE

No, I'm pretty sure that's right.

BOB

And don't say sea men. Enough about the nightshirt. (TO TEDDY) Thanks for going over to Gayle's to fix the fridge today, Teddy. The burger is on the house.

TEDDY

Thanks, Bobby! And no sweat. (TO LINDA) What did Gayle say was wrong with it anyways, some kind of sound or smell or something?

LINDA

Yeah, she said it sounds like "an angry monster grinding bones" and smells funky so she unplugged it last week.

BOB

I think she's just making it up for attention.

TEDDY

Oh. (Beat) Then why am I going over there?

BOB

Because Lin is always enabling Gayle.

LINDA

So what if she fibs for attention sometimes? If she's telling the truth this time won't you feel like an idiot?!

BOB

Lin, we both know she's lying.

LINDA

She probably is. But that doesn't mean we shouldn't have Teddy go

over there to fix whatever lie
Gayle is telling this time.

BOB

That's exactly what it means, Lin!
There's nothing at Gayle's to fix.
Well, at least nothing Teddy is
qualified to fix.

TEDDY

So I guess I'll get headed over
there then?

LINDA

Yes!

BOB

No.

LINDA

Bob!

BOB

(GROANS IN FRUSTRATION) Fine!

Teddy starts to get up.

GENE

Can I come with you, Teddy? (UNDER
HIS BREATH) Totally not to eat
Chef Cat.

LOUISE

Yes, please! Anything to get out
of this bore-dump.

TINA

I totally want to leave...
(STAMMERS) I mean see Aunt Gayle
too!

TEDDY

Sure! You can all come as long as
your parents say it's okay.

LINDA

I don't see why not. Bobby?

BOB

Okay. (RESIGNED) We've been so slow because no one is going down to the wharf with all this rain. And, did you say Bore-dump?

LOUISE

Yes, I thought it'd best encapsulated the boring dumpiness that is THIS... (THROWS NAPKINS FROM DISPENSER EVERYWHERE) place.

BOB

Are you gonna pick those up?

LOUISE

(DEFIANTLY) NEVER!

BOB

(GROANS) AHHHHH, just go! Before I make you stay here and hose down the garbage cans.

LOUISE

Already out the door! Come on guys, hurry up.

Louise rushes to the door and waves Teddy and the other kids out. Louise, Tina and Gene exit with Teddy waving back as he walks through the door.

TEDDY

Alright, see you guys later!

Teddy exits.

LINDA

And try to see how Gayle is for me! (CUT OFF BY DOOR CLOSING) Oh, they're not gonna ask.

EXT. GAYLE'S APARTMENT - LATER

The kids stand outside of Gayle's apartment while Teddy knocks on the door.

TEDDY

Hello?! Gayle, anybody?

Teddy knocks with increasing urgency.

LOUISE

Give it a break Teddy, you've been knocking for 10 minutes.

TINA

Maybe she went somewhere. (TRAILING OFF) Or is passed-out from the overwhelming stench of cat pee (GAGS) that I can smell from out here.

GENE

Let me try!

Gene throws himself at the door and pounds it with both hands.

GENE (CONT.)

Open up! Open the door and let me taste some of that sweet and savory Chef Cat Chicken Satay!

TEDDY

Gene, put on the brakes, buddy.

Teddy puts his hand on Gene's shoulder and backs him away from the door.

TEDDY (CONT.)

I know how good Chef Cat can be but it's just not worth getting so worked up over. Trust me, it'll lead you down a dark path you might not come back from.

TINA

Teddy, when have you had Chef Cat?

TEDDY

Linda turned me on to it! Your mom has such exotic taste.

GENE

That she does! Especially in pet foods.

LOUISE
Have you and Mom tried other pet foods?

GENE
Of course, pretty much everything at the pet store.

TINA
What was the best?

GENE
Besides Chef Cat? Any of the cheesy-flavored dog treats.

LOUISE
Obviously.

GENE
Surprising contender though, iguana food... MHMMM.

Louise leans around the group and looks at the door.

LOUISE
UMMM... has anyone tried just opening the door?

TEDDY
What? No! She wouldn't just leave the door unlocked. And it'd be rude to just go inside, wouldn't it?

LOUISE
Teddy, it's Aunt Gayle. She would and it's not.

Louise turns the knob and opens the door.

TINA
Yeah, we probably should've tried that right away.

INT. GAYLE'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Teddy slowly peaks his head through the door and leans in before he and the kids make their way into the apartment.

TEDDY

(CALLING) Hi, Gayle. It's Teddy!
Bob and Linda sent me over to fix
your fridge!

TINA

Well, I guess she's not here-

GENE

(INTERRUPTING) Gimmie, gimmie,
gimmie!

Gene runs over to the fridge and starts jumping to reach the spot on top of it where cat food usually is.

TEDDY

AHHH... I don't think there's any
cat food up there, Gene.

LOUISE

Yeah, their bowls aren't filled
either.

TINA

Hey, there's a ripped open Chef
Cat bag over here by the sink.

The camera closes on Tina in the "kitchen".

TINA (CONT.)

(REACHES INSIDE) It's empty.

GENE

What?!! Let me see.

Gene runs over and sticks his hand in the bag. Gene's eye appears peering into the empty bag of cat food.

GENE (CONT)

(IN DESPAIR) Nooooo!!!! Why?!!!

As Gene cries out, MR. BUSINESS appears from his hiding spot on top of the cabinet and jumps onto Gene's face with a loud yowl.

TINA
(SURPRISED) Mr. Business!

GENE
(GRABBING AT MR. BUSINESS) YAHH!!!
Get this cat off of me!!

While Tina helps Gene with Mr. Business, JEAN PAW'D VAN DAMME runs past Teddy's legs to the door.

TEDDY
(EXCLAIMS) DYAHH!! What was that?!

LOUISE
Relax, Teddy. It's just Jean Paw'd Van Damme.

Jean Paw'd Van Damme scratches at the door before Louise shoos the cat away with her foot.

TEDDY
The guy who does the splits?

Tina holds Mr. Business away from Gene's face.

TINA
Another one of Gayle's cats.
(BEAT) Speaking of, where's Pinkeye?

TEDDY
You mean the angry one underneath the TV?

Teddy points at the TV where PINKEYE is hiding underneath hissing and growling at everything. Jean Paw'd gets in his eye-line before the two have a brief stand-off and then back down.

TINA
That's the one! I wonder what they're so mad about.

GENE
I'd be angry too if I was being deprived of Chef Cat. (BEAT)
Wait... I AM being deprived of Chef Cat and I'm FURIOUS!!

TINA

Gene!

GENE

Sorry.

TINA

We've got bigger issues at hand.

LOUISE

Well, actually we don't.

Louise fills a bowl with water and sets it down for the cats. Jean Paw'd Van Damme and Pinkeye come up to drink while Mr. Business returns to the counter to look superior.

LOUISE (CONT.)

The cats are definitely hungry and there's no food for them anywhere in aunt Gayle's apartment. (CHECKS THE "BROKEN" FRIDGE) Yeah, nothing.

TINA

HUH, you're right. They're kind of acting like they haven't been fed in a while.

TEDDY

Well, maybe that's where Gayle is. She went out to get some.

LOUISE

Maybe, but I don't think we can rely on that. I mean, you can't rely on aunt Gayle for anything.

TINA

(THINKING) That's a pretty good point.

LOUISE

Teddy, why don't you go to the pet store for some cat food and we'll wait here in case aunt Gayle turns up?

TEDDY

What about the fridge?

LOUISE

You can fix it later, we need to feed these cats before they eat us.

GENE

Yeah, I don't wanna get mauled again. (AT MR. BUSINESS) I see you, you smug jerk.

TEDDY

Well... (BEAT) Okay. I'll head to the pet store a few blocks over.

Teddy heads back to the door.

TEDDY (CONT.)

I'll be back in a bit. Don't go anywhere while I'm gone.

LOUISE

Sure thing, Teddy! (WAVES HIM OFF)

Teddy Exits.

LOUISE (CONT.)

Okay, so obviously we have to go looking for Gayle.

TINA

What?! Mom and Dad put Teddy in charge and he told us to stay here.

LOUISE

That was their first mistake, putting Teddy in charge. He's less of an adult than you, Tina.

TINA

But where would we even start? And what makes you think we could find her?

LOUISE

You're the one with all that
Thundergirl training. You tell us!

GENE

Yeah!! Put your ear to the floor
and listen for the sound of
orthopedic shoes or the jingle of
a fanny pack!

TINA

I don't know! (BEAT) But since I
earned my "missing person rescue"
badge by finding the class hamster
when it escaped, I guess it's my
duty to lead the search for Aunt
Gayle.

LOUISE

So what do we do first?

TINA

The first thing we do is look for
evidence. Is there any sign of a
struggle?

LOUISE

Every day here is a struggle.
(BEAT) But I don't see anything
particularly out of the ordinary.

The kids start looking around the apartment. Gene lifts a
magazine on the counter to look underneath it. Tina looks
behind the closet curtain while Louise goes through Gayle's
desk. Tina sees sticky notes and a calendar on the fridge.

TINA

Hey guys, look at this sticky
note!

Tina pulls it up. Gene and Louise come over to each see
over one of Tina's shoulders.

LOUISE

What does it say?!

TINA

It just says "GETAWAY" with a date.

GENE

June 10th.

LOUISE

That was three days ago.

(UPSHOT FROM STICKY NOTE) The kids all look toward each other.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. GAYLE'S APARTMENT - LATER - CONTINUOUS

The three children staring at Gayle's "GETAWAY" note.

LOUISE

That settles it, we HAVE to find
Aunt Gayle!

TINA

But where would she even go?

LOUISE

Well, what if she wasn't trying to
GO anywhere. What if she was
trying to GET AWAY from something,
or some ONE?! (CONNIVING) And I
know a certain guidance counselor
who might just have an idea.

GENE

Who, Mr. Frond?

LOUISE

Bingo.

TINA

(CONFUSED) You don't actually
believe Mr. Frond had something to
do with any of this, do you?

LOUISE

No, I thought about it for a
SECOND. But I can't imagine
somebody who knits that many dolls
has much time to do anything to or
with anyone...

GENE

I don't know... what about those giant needles. And Chucky?

TINA

I think Chucky IS the puppet, Gene. (TO LOUISE) But if you don't think Mr. Frond is involved, why confront him about aunt Gayle?

LOUISE

He doesn't know we don't think it was him. And since he's aunt Gayle's ex, he'd be suspect number one. We can scare him into talking.

TINA

So you just want to harass him?

LOUISE

Interrogate, interrogate. (SMIRKING) But, I mean, that is a bonus.

TINA

Louise! This is serious.

LOUISE

Look, say what you want about him, Mr. Frond cares SO much about people. If anyone knows where Gayle might've gone, it's gonna be him.

TINA

It's true, he DOES know everything about everyone at school.

GENE

I think people tell Mr. Frond things because it's impossible to be embarrassed around him after the "Spider Incident."

CUT TO:

MR. FROND holds his office door for REGULAR-SIZED RUDY when he sees a spider hanging from the ceiling.

MR. FROND
Oh my god. (BEAT) Oh, my god!

Mr. Frond pushes Rudy into the spider and runs out of his office.

INT. GAYLE'S APARTMENT - BACK TO SCENE

TINA
Okay, we can start with him. But we have to call Mom and Dad on the emergency phone.

LOUISE
What?! No!

TINA
Lousie, they need to get help! And they can tell Teddy where we are.

LOUISE
Teddy will be fine. (BEAT) But okay, you can call them on the way.

The three kids begin to leave Gayle's apartment to confront MR. FROND. Gene and Louise exit. Tina sticks her head in the door before closing it.

TINA
Bye, cats! Teddy will be back to feed you soon.

Tina exits.

INT: BOB'S BURGERS - MOMENTS LATER

Linda busses tables while Bob heads downstairs with a box of lettuce. Linda's phone starts ringing and she picks up.

LINDA
(ANSWERING PHONE) Hello?

SPLIT SHOT: LINDA | TINA AND KIDS WALKING THROUGH TOWN

TINA

Hi, Mom.

LINDA

Hi, Honey. Why are you calling
from the emergency phone?

TINA

Um, we don't know where Aunt Gayle
is.

LINDA

What do you mean? Did she go
somewhere or something?

TINA

Maybe? I don't know. She wasn't at
her apartment when we got there
with Teddy and it kinda seems like
she hasn't been there in a while.

LINDA

What are you talking about, Tina?

TINA

She left a note, Mom.

LINDA

What? What did it say?

TINA

"Getaway." Mom, I think Aunt Gayle
is missing.

Bob comes up from the basement carrying a bag of buns.

LINDA

(IMMEDIATELY PANICKING) What?! Oh,
my god, oh my god!

Bob gets startled and the buns go flying.

BOB

Dammit. (BEAT) Lin, what's wrong?!

LINDA

Tina called and she's saying Gayle
is gone!

BOB

Wait, what?! Give me the phone.

Linda gives Bob the phone and the split cut returns with Bob and Tina.

BOB (CONT.)

Tina, it's Dad.

TINA

Hi, Dad.

BOB

Um, hi. What's going on? Mom's panicking.

TINA

UMMM... we think Aunt Gayle is missing.

BOB

What do you mean Gayle is missing?

TINA

(INCREDULOUS) She's gone, Dad! The door was unlocked and the cats were fighting.

BOB

(SLOWLY) Okay...

Gene breaks into Tina's frame.

GENE

Is that Dad?

Gene grabs the phone and starts yelling into it.

GENE (CONT.)

Dad! Gayle is out of Chef Cat!

Tina Grabs the phone back.

TINA

Gene! (BACK INTO THE PHONE) You have to help us look for her, Dad.

BOB

Okay, okay. We'll (BEAT) go find Gayle. Where's Teddy?

TINA

Teddy went out to get food for the cats. He's probably back at Aunt Gayle's.

BOB

Wait, where are you?

Louise talks into the phone over Tina's shoulder.

LOUISE

(SHOUTING) We're on our way to question Mr. Frond.

BOB

What?! No. Don't do that! WHY would you do that?!

LOUISE

Dad, Mr. Frond dated Gayle and he's just so sketchy! I mean what kind of person wants to be a guidance counselor?! To kids?!

BOB

Ahhh... I mean that is weird. But you still shouldn't go question him!

LOUISE

Well, too bad!

BOB

(TO HIMSELF) Oh, no. Louise is gonna get herself expelled. (INTO THE PHONE) Tina?

TINA

Yeah, dad?

BOB

Can you please make sure Louise
doesn't take it too far.

TINA
I can try.

BOB
Just ask Mr. Frond NICELY if he
can help and head right over to
Gayle's, okay? We'll meet you and
Teddy there.

TINA
Okay. (BEAT) Bye, Dad.

BOB
Bye, Tina.

Bob hangs up and starts closing the kitchen. Linda returns
from off-screen already putting on a raincoat.

LINDA
(Still panicking). We gotta go
Bobby! Gayle could be anywhere.

BOB
I'm wrapping up now.

LINDA
Ohh, I knew this would happen.

BOB
Yeah. Because she's always doing
stuff like this and lying for
attention.

LINDA
What, no! I mean yes, but I knew
stuff would go spraywire when she
stopped calling me all the time.

BOB
It's "haywire," Lin.

LINDA
That's what I said.

BOB

With an H... forget it. But yeah,
I forgot you talk on the phone
literally every day. Why'd she
stop calling?

LINDA

That hoity-toity life coach told
her "You can't keep calling Linda
over every little thing and using
her as a crutch".

BOB

Ok... (BEAT) but that's 100
percent true. You, and by
extension me, have been enabling
her for years.

LINDA

Enabling her to get by! You don't
get it Bobby.

BOB

I get that we've been giving her
money to live on for years. It's
like we have a 4th kid but they're
in their 40's and won't get a job.

LINDA

How dare you?! You know how my
parents are. They gave up on Gayle
ever growing up so I had to raise
her.

BOB

That's exactly my point though! We
shouldn't still be doing this.

Linda

Well, I don't care. I'm always
gonna be there for Gayle no matter
what. Now hurry up and let's go!

Linda stands by the door about to leave.

BOB

Fine. But I'm driving because I'm kind of afraid of what you'd do behind the wheel right now, and any time really.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

EXT. MR. FROND'S HOUSE - EARLY EVENING - ESTABLISHING

Tina, Gene and Louise approach Mr. Frond's house from the street. They're wearing their raincoats with their hoods up.

TINA

Louise, what's your plan for getting Mr. Frond to talk to us? Is he even here?

LOUISE

It's the weekend, where else would Mr. Frond be?

TINA

I don't think he'll let us in though.

LOUISE

Oh, that will be the easy part.

The three kids walk up to Mr. Frond's house and Louise knocks on the door. MR FROND answers.

LOUISE (CONT.)

(WHIMPERING) Mmm... Mr. Frond?

MR. FROND

Louise?

TINA

Gene and I are here too.

GENE

Yeah!

MR. FROND

Tina, Gene? What are you kids
doing here?

LOUISE

Our dear aunt, Gayle, is missing
Mr. Frond!

TINA

(IMPROVISING) We need someone...
to guide us through this family
crisis.

Gene gets down on his knees and grabs Mr. Frond's
pants leg.

GENE

(OVER THE TOP) We just don't know
what to do with ourselves!

Tina elbows Gene.

TINA

(WHISPERING) Too much, Gene!

GENE

(WHISPERING BACK) Sorry.

Gene stands up and brushes his hands off on his pants.

LOUISE

(CLEARS THROAT) Ahem... and we
thought you could help since you
know Gayle so well.

MR. FROND

Oh my god! Of course, come in. You
came to the right guidance
counselor. Let me go make you all
some hot cocoa while you warm up
from the rain.

LOUISE

Oh, thank you Mr. Frond! You go do
that and I'll get the door.

MR. FROND

Thank you, Louise.

Gene and Tina follow Mr. Frond in. Louise looks out of the apartment with a sly grin, checks both directions and locks the group inside.

INT. MR. FROND'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The kids are seated on a couch around a coffee table in the living room drinking cocoa from mugs. Mr. Frond re-enters.

MR. FROND

How is the cocoa kids?

GENE

Delicious! I want to live on it like a polar bear on a marshmallow iceberg before it melts into the liquid depths below.

TINA

It's good (TAKES SIP).

MR. FROND

So Belcher children, (LEANING-IN) what's been going on with your Aunt Gayle?

LOUISE

(SNIFFLING) We don't know. We went over to her apartment and no one was there. And now we think she ran away... or was kidnapped... or murdered!

MR. FROND

Whoa, whoa, whoa. Slow down. Now when did this all start.

GENE

Today! When we went with Teddy to fix Gayle's fridge.

MR. FROND

Who is Teddy?

LOUISE
(DISMISSIVELY) Oh don't worry
about him.

Louise gets up and walks toward Mr. Frond's
chair.

LOUISE (CONT.)
He's just a handyman.

TINA
Actually, come to think of it, I
wonder what Teddy's been up to.

CUT TO:

INT. GAYLE'S APARTMENT - SIMULTANEOUSLY

Teddy returns from the pet store holding a large bag of cat
food.

TEDDY
Hi kitties! I got your food for
you.

Teddy fills the cats' food bowls and they all, excluding
Mr. Business, start rubbing against him.

TEDDY (CONT.)
Oh? (LOOKS DOWN) Haha. You're
rubbing against me.

Jean Paw'd Van Damme climbs into his lap and starts
kneading.

TEDDY (CONT.)
That's cute. (WINCING) Ow, that
kinda hurts.

Jean Paw'd Van Damme curls up in his lap.

TEDDY (CONT.)
Ok you can hang out. (REACHING AT
HIS TOOLBOX) Aw crap, I (REACHING)
can't (REACH) reach my tools.

CUT TO:

INT. MR. FROND'S - BACK TO SCENE

MR. FROND

Do you know the last time anyone's
seen her?

LOUISE

Why don't you tell us Frond?!

MR. FROND

(SCARED) What?!

LOUISE

(DELIBERATELY) See, Mr. Frond. We
came here to ask YOU a few
questions.

MR. FROND

Me? What would you ask me?

Louise walks around Mr. Frond's chair and stands behind
him.

LOUISE

Do you like movies, Mr. Frond?

MR. FROND

Umm, sure.

GENE

What about "Citizen Kane"?

MR. FROND

"Citizen Kane"?

LOUISE

HEY! We're the ones asking
questions here.

MR. FROND

Wait, what?! No, you're not! I'm
supposed to be giving you all
guidance during your family
emergency.

Louise grabs the floor lamp sitting next to Mr. Frond and
points it directly into his eyes. Tina and Gene stand up to
join the interrogation.

LOUISE

Well that's not how this is gonna go down! Now answer the question.

MR. FROND

What question?

GENE

Do you like "Citizen Kane"?

MR. FROND

(NERVOUSLY) I don't know! I've never seen it!

TINA

It's ok.

Tina pats Mr. Frond on the shoulder.

TINA (CONT.)

It feels good to tell the truth. Doesn't it, Mr. Frond?

LOUISE

So tell us, what did you do to Gayle!?

MR. FROND

Wait? You think I had something to do with her disappearance!?

LOUISE

Who said anything about her disappearing?

MR. FROND

You did!

LOUISE

(SHOUTING) So what if I did?!

MR. FROND

(COWARDLY) Bahhhhh!!

TINA

Relax, it's ok Mr. Frond. We know you're a good guy.

GENE

I don't know, maybe the sweater vests and knitting are just part of his act.

LOUISE

Look, Mr. Frond.

Louise starts walking around the chair with her hands behind her back.

LOUISE (CONT.)

Whether you had something to do with Gayle's disappearance remains to be seen. But what we do know is...

Louise gets eye-to-eye with Mr. Frond.

LOUISE (CONT.)

(SOFTLY) You know something.

MR. FROND

I don't, I swear!

LOUISE

(LAUGHING) Oh ho, HO. I think you do. You're such a 'nice' guy Mr. Frond. Always asking people how they are.

MR. FROND

Well, that's because I genuinely care.

LOUISE

Pftt! Right. (BEAT) See, I think you use that information to take advantage of it.

MR. FROND

What? Never!

LOUISE

You knew everything about her.
Where she'd be and what she'd be
doing.

MR. FROND

Well, I mean she was usually at
her apartment...

LOUISE

Admit it! You hated her and wanted
her gone.

MR. FROND

No, I didn't!

TINA

Oh, yeah?! Then why did you two
break up? (MUMBLING) For
investigative reasons but also
romantic ones because I thought
you two were kinda cute together.

MR. FROND

Mr. Business and I never got
along.

LOUISE

What, really? That's why you broke
up?

MR. FROND

(EXASPERATED) Well, yeah! I think
he smelled MY cats on me and would
get really territorial. He would
hide in cabinets and around
corners and attack me.

LOUISE

Ok...

Mr. FROND

And I couldn't bring anything I'd
own inside Gayle's because he'd
pee or poop in it.

LOUISE

(LAUGHS) That's pretty good.

TINA
(LOUD WHISPER) Louise!

The kids huddle a few feet away while Mr. Frond keeps listing times he was personally wronged by Mr. Business.

TINA (CONT.)
I don't think we're getting
anywhere.

LOUISE
GHAHH you're right. He doesn't
know anything.

MR. FROND
(BACKGROUND) And there was the one
time he shredded one of my therapy
dolls...

GENE
But what do we do now?

TINA
Yeah, Louise.

LOUISE
I don't know. Just give me a
second to think.

MR. FROND
Oh and that smug life coach, Dane
Kang. Thinking he's anything like
a qualified guidance counselor.

Louise comes up from the huddle.

LOUISE
I'm sorry, what was that?

MR. FROND
Gayle's life coach. I ran into
them together, maybe last week?

TINA
Where?

MR. FROND

The Munchin' Muffins over on main.

LOUISE

And what were they doing?

MR. FROND

Actually, it kinda seemed like they were arguing about something until I said hi.

LOUISE

Go on.

MR. FROND

That Dane guy introduced himself and I guess they must have talked about our relationship before.

TINA

How do you know they talked about you?

MR. FROND

He said he thought it was for the best Gayle and I stopped dating because "I was so caring it made it too easy for Gayle to emotionally manipulate me."

TINA

Well, sure.

MR. FROND

Emotionally manipulate me? Yeah, right.

The kids return to their huddle.

TINA

Guys, this is an actual lead!

LOUISE

(SURPRISED) Yeah! I didn't think we'd accomplish much except scaring Mr. Frond. (REMINISCING) HA, his face.

TINA

We gotta get back to Gayle's
though.

GENE

Ok, but I don't wanna get all
soggy again. Could we take a taxi
maybe?

LOUISE

I've got a better idea. Hey, Mr.
Fronnd!

Mr. FROND

What?

LOUISE

We don't think you did it anymore.

MR. FROND

Oh, (BEAT) well good. (A BIT TOO
EMPHATICALLY) I TOTALLY, had
NOTHING to do with Gayle going
missing.

TINA

Well, now I kinda think you did do
it.

MR. FROND

What?!

LOUISE

Yeah, that was pretty weird. But
if you give us a ride back to Aunt
Gayle's we'll forget whatever THAT
was.

TINA

And it'd be pretty irresponsible
for you to let us children walk
home in the dark and rain.

Mr. FROND

Okay, fine. I'll take you kids to
Gayle's.

GENE

YAYY!! Shotgun!

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

INT. GAYLE'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

REVEAL: Teddy is on his back in the kitchen with his head facing the fridge. The fridge is pulled out from the wall and facing backwards. Jean Paw'd Van Damme is loafing on Teddy's stomach while Pinkeye sits on Teddy's legs and cleans himself. Teddy's tools are just barely out of his reach.

Bob and Linda enter.

LINDA

Hello? Teddy? Anyone here?

TEDDY

(SHOUT-TALKING) Hey, Linda!

BOB

Teddy? Where are you, and where are the kids?!

TEDDY

Down here, Bob.

Bob and Linda fully enter to see Teddy on the floor. The cats notice their presence but do not acknowledge it.

BOB

What's AHHH... what's going on?

TEDDY

Oh, I was working on the fridge
when the first cat climbed on top
of me.

BOB

Ok...

TEDDY

Then next thing I know, it was
lying like this on me and the
other one was on my legs and I was
trapped.

LINDA

How long have you been lying here
like this?

TEDDY

45 minutes, maybe an hour. Maybe a
couple, I did doze off there for a
bit.

BOB

You've been here for a couple of
HOURS? And Where are the KIDS,
Teddy?!!

TEDDY

I figured they were either with
Gayle or whoever took her. Either
way, we found her you know?

BOB

Umm nooooo... but we're just gonna
move past that. Teddy, you know
you can just get up right?

TEDDY

Yeah, I just didn't have the heart
to.

LINDA

Aww, that's sweet.

Teddy begins to sit up and the cats scamper away. There's a
knock on the door and it swings open.

LOUISE

Hey! We're here.

The three kids enter with Mr. Frond in tow.

BOB

(COMPLETELY RELIEVED) Oh, thank
god.

LINDA

Hi, kids! Mr. Frond?

MR. FROND

Hi, Linda! So good to see you! (BEAT)
Bob...

BOB

Hi, Mr. Frond. Uhh, how are you?

MR. FROND

Well, I was having a nice night-in
reading *PUPPETRY THROUGH THE AGES* until
your kids tricked me into letting them
in my home and then INTERROGATED me.

Bob leans over to Louise.

BOB

(WHISPERING) I really wish you
hadn't done that.

LOUISE

Relax, we didn't do anything bad
to him.

BOB

Still! Did you at least get
something out of him?

LOUISE

Yeah, and you should have seen his
face!

BOB

Well good, but don't interrogate
your teachers!

LOUISE

He's not a teacher, he's Mr.
FronD.

BOB
Louise! (TO FROND FULL-VOLUME)
Ahh, yeah. Sorry about that.

Mr. FROND
Pfft.

LINDA
So, you kids find any juicy leads?

TINA
Yeah! Mr. FronD says he saw Gayle
and her life coach arguing at
Munchin' Muffins last week.

LINDA
Oh, their caramel frapiotto is so
good.

BOB
Whoah, really?

MR. FROND
Yes! I didn't hear it very well
though.

BOB
No. Thanks. That's actually
AHHH... a real lead.

LOUISE
UHHH yeahhh, we know!

LINDA
I knew that no-good guru had
something to do with this!

BOB
Okay... so do we go to the police
now?

LINDA
(THINKING) No, if Gayle's faking
we ALL might get in trouble.

BOB

So we're acknowledging that's most likely the case?

LINDA
Of course! Wait, what about Bosco?
He could help us.

BOB
Maybe, but that's still going to the police Lin.

LINDA
Nah, I have his number right here.
I'll call him directly so we don't have to get the whole department involved.

BOB
Huh, (BEAT) I guess that's not the worst idea.

Linda steps to the side and dials SGT. BOSCO. Everyone else ambles about and looks around the apartment.

CAMERA CUTS BETWEEN GAYLE'S APARTMENT AND BOSCO'S PATROL CAR:

LINDA (CONT.)
Hello?

BOSCO
Go for Bosco.

LINDA
Sergeant Bosco? It's me, Linda Belcher.

BOSCO
Linda Belcher. To what do I owe the displeasure?

LINDA
We need your help with something.

BOSCO

If you need my help with something, why don't you call the station?

LINDA

Well, it's an emergency but not really a police emergency.

BOSCO

Like that time you were caught pooping in public?

LINDA

What?! No! Sgt. Bosco, I think my sister is missing.

BOSCO

So file a missing person report.

LINDA

Well, sometimes my sister... acts out.

BOSCO

Okay...

LINDA

And fakes things for attention.

BOSCO

I'm hanging up now...

LINDA

(CUTTING HIM OFF) Wait! My kids found a note and we haven't heard from her in days. But we think we have a lead!

BOSCO

(SARCASTICALLY) Oh?! YOU have a "LEAD"?

LINDA

Yeah! Gayle's life coach. They were arguing the other day and he's just a shady character. Can't

you go to his house and rough him
up a bit?

BOSCO
Are you crazy! I can't do that.

LINDA
But Bosco, you gotta help!

BOSCO
Says who?!

LINDA
Well, if you don't I'll... I'll...
(REALIZING) I'll tell everyone
that it was actually Bob who
cracked the Little Boy Bandit
case!

BOSCO
Did you just threaten to blackmail
a police officer?!

LINDA
It's my sister, Bosco! She could
be locked up in some weirdo's
basement somewhere!

BOSCO
(RELUCTANTLY) Fine, I'll see if I
can get him to talk to you guys
but that's as much as I'll do. And
I'll need something else BIG in
return.

LINDA
UMM... Okay... What?

BOSCO
(IMPROVISING) AH HH... free burgers
for life.

LINDA
Done.

BOSCO
With fries.

LINDA

Okay, but no drinks and only twice per week!

BOSCO

Two burgers, twice per week and any time I'm on a stakeout.

LINDA

UMM... okay.

BOSCO

Deal. (BEAT) So you said this guy is some kinda life guru?

LINDA

Yeah, Dane Kang!

BOSCO

Okay, I'll ask him to talk to you guys but that's as much as I'll do.

LINDA

That's fine. (VENGEFULLY) We can handle him.

BOSCO

And we're doing this at the restaurant. I'm eight hours into a twelve-hour shift and I'm starving.

LINDA

Perfect! We'll get him singing like a canary. (TO ROOM) Come on guys, we're going to the restaurant!

BOB

How'd you get him to agree to help?

LINDA

Don't worry about it.

BOB

Did I hear you blackmail him?

LINDA

Maybe. I said don't worry about
it!

FADE OUT:

INT. BOB'S BURGERS - LATER

Everyone is talking amongst themselves at the restaurant.

LINDA

So what are we gonna do when he shows
up? Tie him down and pour water in his
face?

BOB

Oh my god, Lin!

BOSCO

You really need to keep an eye on her.
For the sake of the town.

BOB

Yeah, geeze. Her family really brings
out the worst in eachother.

BOSCO

(TO ROOM) We're just gonna ask him if
he's seen Gayle or knows anything about
what's been going on. That's it.

Suddenly the door chings. Everyone turns with baited breath
and waits for the figure standing there to enter.

REVEAL: GAYLE enters.

GAYLE

Hi!

LINDA

(FLABBERGASTED) Gayle?!

TINA

Gayle! You're alive!

All three of the kids run up to hug her.

GAYLE

Why's everyone so happy to see me?

LINDA

We were looking for you honey!

GAYLE

What for?

TINA

We thought you were locked-up by a murderer in a creepy basement.

GAYLE

(OBLIVIOUS) No.

LOUISE

Or ran away!

GAYLE

I do, do that sometimes. But no...

The kids let go of her and sit in a booth together.

LINDA

You've been missing for three days, Gayle.

GAYLE

Missing? No I wasn't, I was on a cruise.

Linda

A cruise?

REVEAL: DANE KANG enters.

DANE

Yes, a cruise.

GAYLE

Hi, Dane! Did you come here to see me after my trip?

DANE

Hi, Gayle. How was the Cat Free Getaway for Single Cat Lovers? And no, Sergeant Bosco called me and said he needed my help with something.

LINDA

Dane? You knew she was on a cruise?!

DANE

Of course. She was doing so well in our lessons I thought a trip alone would be a great step and way to celebrate.

GAYLE

It was fine, I got sunburned pretty bad though.

REVEAL: Gayle somehow has a reverse farmer's tan.

LOUISE

Whoa...

GENE

I want a tan just like it!

SGT. BOSCO

So this is your missing person and your primary suspect?

BOB

Yes.

BOSCO

I'm leaving. But you're still holding up our free burgers and fries for life deal.

Sergeant Bosco exits.

BOB

Did you offer Bosco free burgers for life, Lin?

LINDA

(SHORTLY) Yes. But Gayle, why didn't you let me know you were going on a cruise?

GAYLE

I did. I emailed you about the cruise and taking the cats for the weekend since we weren't talking on the phone. I came here to pick them up. Where are they?

LINDA

Gayle! I never saw any emails. The laptop is broken!

BOB

Seriously?! Don't you check it other places?

LINDA

What? No... my email's on that laptop.

BOB

That's not how that... (RUBS THE BRIDGE OF NOSE) dammit.

GAYLE

(SLOWLY AND AGGRESSIVE) So where are my cats?!

LINDA

Calm down honey, they're over at your apartment.

GAYLE

Oh. (BEAT) Okay.

MR. FROND

But didn't I see you two arguing at Munchin' Muffins!

GAYLE

That? (BEAT) We were just practicing getting the wrong order and asking for the right one.

DANE

(TO GAYLE) And you did, great! (TO ROOM) It was her another lesson, confrontation.

BOB

Hold on... was there actually anything wrong with the fridge, Teddy?

TEDDY

Oh, yeah! The belt in the motor was bad. Could have started a fire if it was left plugged in too much longer.

BOB

Seriously?! So, Gayle was on top of everything and I'm the idiot?

GAYLE

Well, Linda didn't marry you for your brains. (BEAT) Or braun. (BEAT) Or burgers. Why DID she marry you?

BOB

IIII... (BEAT) I don't know.

FADE TO BLACK:

END OF SHOW