

Natural Bored Villains

Throwing Shade Season 4 episode 5

Welcome, loyal listeners, to another episode of Eclectic Full Contact Theatre's satirical saunter down the silly streets of yesteryear, Throwing Shade! If you enjoy the adventures of the Shade and the Vamp, head over to tinyurl.com/EFCTThrowingShade where for as little as \$5/month, you can get exclusive access to bloopers, rehearsals, and special bonus episodes. Now sit back, relax, and enjoy, Throwing Shade!

NARRATOR

here is a darkness in the minds of Men, a darkness in their hearts. A darkness in a room with no lights! And who knows that darkness? The Shade knows! By day, Theodore Rockwell is a go-get-'em reporter for the Chicago Gazette-Times-Herald, but by night he becomes, The Shade! Using his uncanny ability to wear dark clothing, he, assisted by his girl Friday, Wednesday Morning--you know, I've been saying that for four seasons now, and I have no idea why she's called his girl Friday. *(Whispering of mic)* Robinson Caruso? Enrico's brother? *(More whispering)* Oh, Robinson Crusoe. But why-- *(whispering)* He named the guy he found there Friday? *(Whispering)* Because that's the day he found him? Yeah, sounds about white. But can one man defend the innocent from the scourge of Chicago's underbelly?

SFX: SIREN

NARRATOR

Find out in this week's episode of Throwing Shade--Natural Bored Villains! And... what is this? Be still my heart--we've retained a sponsor! That's right, folks! Throwing Shade is STILL sponsored by Grip-Tite Dentures! Grip-Tite--so snug, you'd swear they were your own!

Also brought to you by Eclectic Full Contact Theatre, bringing you high-quality, 1930's radio-style satire since the good old days...whenever the heck that was!

Previously on Throwing Shade--

SHADE

Aaaahhh!

NARRATOR

And now, on to our story!

Act 1 Scene 1--CHASING YOUR TAIL--Notoriety gets old.

The new year of 1939 had dawned with hope and optimism.

SFX: NEW YEAR'S NOISEMAKER

NARRATOR

But as time dragged on with no real end to the Depression in sight, and with Chicago in that fallow period between the Bears stinking

and the Cubs stinking, attitudes...soured.

SFX: RASPBERRY

NARRATOR

One of those attitudes belonged to Misty LeBlanc, who was out running errands, looking for tchotchkes to help brighten up the apartment she shared with Kitty Tally...to share expenses

SFX: FOOTSTEPS, STREET SOUNDS

NARRATOR

Unbeknownst to her, others were interested in her tchotchkes.

SFX: HEAVIER FOOTSTEPS

NARRATOR

Misty may have lived in blissful ignorance forever, had she not spied something terrifying in a shop window.

MISTY

(gasps) A sale on CATS? Evil beasts!

NARRATOR

She put a hand to her eye--the exact spot where, in an earlier life, she had been attacked by one of those feline fuzzballs--a whirling dervish of teeth and claws. This recollection caused her to stop suddenly, which was not noticed by the people behind her.

SFX: SOUND OF BODIES COLLIDING

PONCH

Oops! Sorry!

JOHN

Yes, pardon us!

MISTY

No, it was completely--well well well, if it isn't Officers Ponch and John. Fancy meeting you here.

PONCH

Miss LeBlanc, what a surprise!

JOHN

What do you mean? We was following--

SFX: SMACK

JOHN

Ooof!

PONCH

Walking our beat.

MISTY

You must be exhausted, then.

PONCH

What? Why

MISTY

Because I saw you earlier this morning outside the apartment I share with Kitty--

ALL

To share expenses--

MISTY

And that's way across town. Then I saw you walking your beat outside the Little Man in the Boat when I stopped in to do the books. And here you are walking your beat on the very street I'm running errands on.

PONCH

I can see how that might seem strange.

JOHN

But it's because of...of...

PONCH

Staff shortages.

JOHN

Budgetary cutbacks.

MISTY

So it's not because the two of you have been tailing me ever since the last crime Kitty and I didn't commit?

PONCH

What? No!

JOHN

That's just silly!

SFX: RUNNING FOOTSTEPS

CANNOLI

Ponch! John! What happened? Did you locate--Oh, hello Miss LeBlanc!

MISTY

Chief Cannoli. What a non-surprise.

CANNOLI

I was just...um...walking my beat.

MISTY

YOU walk a beat?

CANNOLI

Um....yes?

PONCH

Told you. Staff shortages.

JOHN

Budgetary cutbacks.

CANNOLI

(Confused) Yes. I have to walk a beat because all the police have very short walking sticks....and we have had to cut back on small yellow birds, so...I'm sorry. Dis make-a no sense!

MISTY

Knock it off, all of you! This is ridiculous! Kitty and I have been out of prison for almost a year now, and we haven't committed a single crime! But you just won't leave us alone! I've had it! Either you back off, or there WILL be consequences!

SFX: ANGRY FOOTSTEPS

PONCH

Was that a threat?

JOHN

Sounded like a threat.

CANNOLI

We should follow her and find out!

SFX: RUNNING FOOTSTEPS

SFX: STING

NARRATOR

Fortunately for our boys in blue, Misty was able to lose them and returned to the apartment she shared with Kitty--

MISTY/KITTY

To share expenses

NARRATOR

And posed a question

SFX: DOOR OPEN, SLAM

MISTY

Why in blue blazes did we decide to go straight?

KITTY

Nice to see you too.

MISTY

This city is a cesspool. I should've frozen it when I had the chance!

KITTY

What happened? Somebody buy those drapes you were wanting for the frunchroom?

MISTY

I'm serious, Kitty. What was the point of giving up our lives of crime?

KITTY

I think never wanting to go back to prison was pretty high on the list. Living an easy life with no hassles from the law?

MISTY

Except we still are dealing with the hassles from the law! Every time there's even a whiff of crime, we've got flatfoots at our door! They watch this place, they watch the Little Man in the Boat, they tail us wherever we go!

KITTY

Yeah, but they got nothing on us, They can't do anything.

MISTY

Really? How long do you think it's gonna be before they pin something on us we can't get out of?

KITTY

You're overreacting

MISTY

Am I? How many more times are we gonna get lucky and the real culprit just falls in their laps? No, I'm sorry, I don't feel like waiting around to get sent up the river for something I didn't do!

KITTY

So what are you suggesting?

MISTY

I'm saying that if we're gonna be treated like criminals, we might as well BE criminals!

KITTY

What? But we've got a good thing going here. We've got a life!

MISTY

Do we? Harassed, spied on, suspected constantly. Is this the quiet life you wanted?

KITTY

No, but what can we do?

MISTY

I say we give them what they want--a crime spree starring Misty LeBlanc and Kitty Tally, and dare them to actually try and catch us. I'm pretty sure we can outwit Cannoli and his dimwitted donut disposals on legs.

KITTY

I'm sure we can, but yer forgetting a couple of things.

MISTY

What?

KITTY

You and I were never caught by the police. We were done in by--

BOTH

The Shade and the Vamp!

KITTY

Exactly. We start pulling jobs again, and those two are gonna make sure we're on a slow boat to Joliet again in no time.

MISTY

Come on, those were flukes!

KITTY

You wanna take that chance? The Shade is a couple dimes short of a dollar, but he has the devil's own luck. And the Vamp is too clever for our own good.

MISTY

Then we don't pull the jobs in Chicago!

KITTY

What are you talking about?

MISTY

We go on an out-of-town crime spree! We hit the road, like Bonnie and Clyde!

KITTY

Is that really the example you want to use?

MISTY

Like Bonnie and Clyde minus the grisly and bloody ending. Look, if we hit the road, pulling jobs out of town or even out of state, The Shade and the Vamp won't be anywhere near us, and not only will we make a ton of money, we might also get some excitement back into our lives.

KITTY

I didn't realize you found life here so boring.

MISTY

Admit it--do you really get a thrill out of decorating or choosing drink specials?

KITTY

I guess not, but where--

MISTY

We'll follow that Route 66. We can take it all the way to California! Think of the dosh we can make pulling jobs from here to the west coast!

KITTY

But you realize we could never come back to Chicago.

MISTY

So what? I know the Little Man in the Boat means a lot to you, but we're always gonna be trying to outrun our pasts here. Once we hit California, we can take that money and set up anywhere! Go somewhere nobody knows us. Somewhere we'll be left alone.

KITTY

I hear Boston's a nice place for two young single women to...share expenses.

MISTY

Now you're talking! Pack your things, Kitty! We're swerving off the straight and narrow and hitting the road to infamy!

SFX: STING

NARRATOR

Act 1 Scene 2--DRY DOCK--The Shade gets thrown

A few days later, at the offices of the Chicago Gazette-Times Herald, Editor-In-Chief Clarence Clemmons was annoyed.

SFX: CROWD SOUNDS, TYPEWRITER, ETC.
DOOR OPENS

CLEMMONS

Rockwell! Morning! Get in here!

SFX: RUNNING FOOTSTEPS, DOOR SLAMS

THEO

You roared, Chief?

WED

What is it, Mr. Clemmons?

CLEMMONS

I'm annoyed!

THEO

Ah nertz!

WED

Hand it over, Theo.

SFX: MONEY CHANGING HANDS

CLEMMONS

What's that all about?

THEO

Wednesday bet on annoyed.

WED

Theo went with tickled pink.

CLEMMONS

You thought I sounded tickled pink?

THEO

To be honest, Chief, it's really a crap shoot.

WED

You do kinda sound the same no matter what sort of mood you're in.

CLEMMONS

Fair enough. That's only because of my heritage.

WED

Which is?

CLEMMONS

Bitter and disappointed.

THEO

Natch.

WED

So what's annoying you, Mr. Clemmons?

CLEMMONS

This city is becoming boring!

THEO/WED

Boring?

CLEMMONS

Yes, boring! There's hardly been any decent crime sprees, suspicious deaths, mob wars--nothing! This keeps up, we're gonna be like Des Moines!

THEO

Well, there was that almost death and near mob war near the end of last year, Chief.

CLEMMONS

And what kind of headlines did that bring? "Mob boss not actually dead" "Streets safe from violence" Who wants that?

WED

Aside from, you know, the citizens.

CLEMMONS

This...this is all the Shade and the Vamp's fault!

THEO/WED

What?

CLEMMONS

They're the reason this city is so...so...

THEO

Calm?

WED

Safe?

CLEMMONS

Dull! They barely get into brawls anymore! They solve everything using their brains! That's not exciting!

WED

In the Shade's case, it's darn near miraculous.

THEO

I heard that.

CLEMMONS

Thanks to those two buttinskies, the best news story I've got right now is a bunch of unmarried broads upset that some bar closed down!

THEO/WED

Come again?

CLEMMONS

Alright, knock that off, it's creepy!

THEO/WED

Sorry.

CLEMMONS

Reports are coming in that a buncha dames are over at some bar called the Little man in the Boat, raising a ruckus because it ain't open.

THEO

That's odd.

WED

It sure is. I don't think Kitty or misty have missed a day of work since they got released.

CLEMMONS

The only interesting part of this is that, according to police, half the women are petite dames, and the other half...

SFX: PAPER RUSTLING

CLEMMONS

...look like they could start for the Bears.

WED

Theo, this is serious!

CLEMMONS

Really? A buncha broads crying because they can't get a drink is serious?

WED

Believe me, Mr. Clemmons, it's best for every man and woman in this city if there's constant access to the Little Man in the Boat.

THEO

I shudder to think of the alternative.

CLEMMONS

There are days when the two of you make absolutely no sense. Then there are days like this when you make even LESS!

THEO

Chief, the Little Man in the Boat is owned by Kitty Tally and Misty LeBlanc!

WED

And if they're closed down, it could very well mean--

CLEMMONS

A crime spree! Finally! Something worth printing!

THEO

See? I told you tickled pink sounds the same as annoyed.

CLEMMONS

Ah, nertz!

WED

What's wrong, Mr. Clemmons?

CLEMMONS

The Shade and the Vamp are just going to cut this short! Best I'll get is maybe one good headline. I tell you, those two are the worst thing to happen to this city!

THEO

I think that's--

CLEMMONS

Well, we might as well get what we can. Quit flapping your gums and get out there and get me a story while there still IS one!

SFX: DOOR OPEN< CROWD SOUNDS< DOOR
SLAM

WED

We should get over to the Little Man in the Boat and see what's going on. Maybe it's not what we think.

SFX: RUNNING FOOTSTEPS OFF

(PAUSE)

SFX: RUNNING FOOTSTEPS VACK

WED

Theo, you alright?

THEO

Huh? What? Oh, yeah. I think we should get over to the Little Man in the Boat and see what's going on. Maybe it's not what we think.

WED

Gee, why didn't I think of that?

THEO

Huh?

WED

Theo, I literally just said that!

THEO

Sorry, I was thinking.

WED

Don't start now., Come on!

SFX: RUNNING FOOTSTEPS

NARRATOR

Theo and Wednesday made their way to the Little Man in the Boat to find the doors locked, a large crowd of highly agitated women in the streets, and a few surprisingly cheerful police officers holding them back from the premises.

WOMEN

(Chanting) Let us in! Let us in!

THEO

Wow! Those women seem highly agitated!

PONCH

(Cheerful) Now ladies, this is private property. You need to disperse!

JOHN

(Cheerful) That's right! Move along. Don't cause a scene.

WED

Those police officers sure are surprisingly cheerful!

SYLVIA

You've got to let us in!

GERTRUDE

You can't keep us out!

ANAIS

Getting to the Little Man in the Boat is the highlight of my day!

CANNOLI

(Also cheerful) Look, ladies, I'mma sorry, but you cannot get to the Little Man in the Boat right now, maybe later.

SYLVIA

That's what men always say!

GERTRUDE

Ain't it the truth?

WED

Theo, do you see anything odd?

THEO

Yes I do, Wednesday. Three officers, And three ladies in the crowd.
Although, when you put them together, they're no longer odd.

NARRATOR

I think what hurts most is...he's not wrong.

WED

No Theo. I meant the fact that Chief Cannoli and the officers aren't
actually doing anything to break up this crowd. Chief Cannoli!

CANNOLI

Ah, Miss Morning, Mister Rockwell! Nice to see you! Have you
come to cover this exciting demonstration?

THEO

This is exciting?

PONCH

Absolutely!

JOHN

Positively!

CANNOLI

You bet! This is-a the most work we've had in days!

PONCH

Yeah! The Shade and the Vamp are always taking care of actual
crime, so we've got nothing to do!

JOHN

I've eaten so many donuts, I'm almost sick of them!

ALL

(GASP)

JOHN

Almost.

CANNOLI

So when we heard there was a group of unsatisfied women
protesting, we rushed over so we could be the ones to satisfy them!

ANAIS

Little chance of that!

SYLVIA

You wanna satisfy us, quit blocking the Little Man in the Boat!

WOMEN

Move aside! Move aside!

PONCH

Jeepers, those women sure are worked up!

JOHN

This could go on for hours!

CANNOLI

Days, even!

WED

So you haven't seen Kitty or Misty?

CANNOLI

Nope! The doors were locked when we got here. There is a sign onna da door, though.

PONCH

Which is what we told these fine young ladies.

GERTRUDE

Dion't try your charm on us, buddy!

ANAIS

Yeah, we're charmless! Wait...

JOHN

Move along ladies!

WOMEN

We won't leave! We won't leave!

CANNOLI

Dat's-a fine. But we need you to keep moving. Otherwise, you loitering, not protesting. Then we gotta take you in and all this will be over.

NARRATOR

Leaving Chief Cannoli and Officers Ponch and John to their...excitement, Theo and Wednesday examined the sign on the door.

WED

Theo, look at this! *(Pause)* Theo?

THEO

Huh? What?

WED

What's wrong with you today?

THEO

There's just something on my mind, and it's--

WED

Well, whatever it is, get over it and come here! I think I found something.

THEO

(Shoes himself out of it with cartoon sound) Okay, what is it?

WED

Look at the sign Kitty and Misty left on the door.

THEO

It says, CLOSED.

WED

The one BELOW that!

THEO

“For Sale”? Why would she put the bar up for sale?

WED

I don't know. She must be desperate for cash if she's putting her Little Man in the Boat on the open market.

THEO

That can't be it. People were always flocking to it.

WED

Wait! Theo, are you thinking what I'm thinking?

THEO

That if you're tired of denture adhesive that's messy, unappealing, and as effective as a rubber crutch, you need the built-in, strong holding, natural-feeling adhesive in Grip-Tite Dentures?

WED

Come on! All dentures are the same, aren't they?

THEO

Not anymore! Thanks to Grip-Tite's proprietary formula and design, the adhesive is built right into the dentures!

WED

Built in? Wow!

THEO

Exactly! No more mess!

WED

But does it work?

THEO

Does it? Boy howdy, does it ever! Grip-Tite isn't just a brand name, it's a promise! Grip-Tite's special adhesive guarantees no embarrassing slippage or fallout!

WED

Well, Theo, while Grip-Tite Dentures do sound like the true false teeth solution, what I meant was, I have a bad feeling Kitty and Misty might be up to no good.

THEO

Come on, then! I'll bet we'll find some clues at the apartment they share.

WOMEN

To save on expenses!

SFX: STINH

NARRATOR

Theo and Wednesday hightailed it to Kitty and Misty's apartment, taking time on the way to change into the sleek, stylish, yet practical outfits of the Shade and the Vamp, just in case Kitty and Misty were home.

They used a Shade-a-rang--

SFX: A THROW, SOMETHING CLANGING AGAINST METAL, ROPE PULLED TAUT

NARRATOR

--and climbed yup the side of building using the Shade rope. Although there was a bit of confusion as to who would go first.

SHADE

Ladies first.

VAMP

I don't think so.

NARRATOR

Thankfully the Shade caught on before the censors got involved. They slowly made their way up the side of the building.

SFX: SLOW FOOTSTEPS

VAMP

Shade, why are we walking up the side of the building instead of just climbing the rope?

SHADE

This just feels right.

VAMP

Well, now I'm even more convinced a cape is a bad idea for you. It'd just hang down in my face the whole time.

SHADE

Capes have never been about practicality, Vamp.

SFX: WINDOW OPENING

CITIZEN

(Think Mae West) Well, look what we have here. I was told I'd meet a tall dark stranger, but I had not idea it'd be outside my third story window!

SHADE

Hello, ma'am. Nothing to worry about. Just your friendly neighborhood crime fighters, on the job.

CITIZEN

Oooh! You here to take me in?

SHADE

Have you been bad?

CITIZEN

Not yet, but the night is young.

VAMP

As random and entertaining as this is, we do have a job to do, Shade.

SHADE

Ah yes, right,. Duty calla!

SFX: SLOW FOOTSTEPS CLIMBING

CITIZEN

Come back down and see me sometime!

SFX: WINDOW CLOSING

NARRATOR

The Shade and the Vamp reached Kitty and Misty's apartment, and discreetly let themselves in.

SFX: GLASS BREAKING, THUD

SHADE

I'm alright! I'm alright!

VAMP

Very discreet.

SHADE

It's just that the special Shade-Ingress-Maker--

VAMP

Crowbar.

SHADE

--needs some tweaking.

VAMP

Well, Kitty and Misty are obviously not here.

SHADE

Let's see if we can find any clues as to what they're up to.

NARRATOR

The Shade and the Vamp searched the apartment.

SFX: CRASHES

VAMP

Kitty and Misty sure have noisy neighbors!

NARRATOR

--but could find no indication as to what may have happened to the two women. Then...

SFX: PHONE RINGS

SHADE

Should we answer it?

VAMP

I don't know. If it's one of them, we'd give ourselves away.

SFX: PHONE KKEPS RINGING UNTIL
ANSWERED.

SHADE

Maybe they'll hang up.

SGX: PHONE KEEPS RINGING

VAMP

Maybe not.

SHADE

I know! I'll answer it, but disguise my voice.

VAMP

You can do that?

SHADE

I'm the Shade, a master of mimicry. I'll answer it as Kitty.

VAMP

I don't think--

SFX: PHONE IS ANSWERED

SHADE

(in high-pitched Cockney accent) 'Ello, me dearie! Kitty Tally speaking, for sure, for sure!

SFX: CLICK

SHADE

They hung up.

SFX: REPLACE RECEIVER

VAMP

Can you blame them? That didn't sound anything like Kitty!

SFX: PHONE RINGS

VAMP

I'll answer it. Watch and learn.

SFX: PICK UP RECEIVER

VAMP

(in high-pitched voice with Cockney accent) Faith and begorrah, Kitty Tally speaking, in the flesh. So 'tis, so 'tis

SFX: MUFFLED VOICE

VAMP

(in own voice) Yeah, fine. Hold on. It's for you.

SHADE

Me? Who is it?

VAMP

The woman from the window.

SHADE

Hello?

CITIZEN

Hello, tall, dark, and shady. I wanted to let you know that if you're looking for the two tomatoes who share expenses in that apartment, they hotfooted it outta here hours ago, bags packed and carrying plenty of hardware.

SHADE

(To Vamp) Apparently Kitty and Misty have left town to become traveling handywomen.

VAMP

What?

CITIZEN

Not that sorta hardware. It's a good thing for you that I find men whose shoe size is bigger than their IQ attractive. I'm talking weapons, sweetheart.

SHADE

Did you see where they were headed?

CITIZEN

No, but I did hear them mention Route 66.

SHADE

Well, thank you, Miss. You've been a great help.

CITIZEN

I always like to lend a helping hand.

VAMP

I bet she does.

SHADE

I owe you one.

CITIZEN

I do love a man who pays his debts in full.

VAMP

I bet she does.

SHADE

Can you hear her?

VAMP

Playing the odds.

CITIZEN

Well, so long, handsome. When will I see you again?

SHADE

Search me.

CITIZEN

You're on.

SFX: CLICK

SHADE

Well, it looks like you were right, Vamp., Kitty and Misty have fled down Route 66 on a crime spree.

VAMP

Shade, do you know what this means?

SHADE

That when you're in the market for dentures--

VAMP

No, we already did that! It means we have to follow them...OUTSIDE CHICAGO!

SFX: STING

NARRATOR

We'll return to Throwing Shade--Natural Bored Villains, in just a moment. But first, a word from our sponsor.

SFX: PAPERS RUSTLING

NARRATOR

Huh. Well, apparently Grip-Tite Dentures was as surprised as we were to still be our sponsor, because they didn't send over any commercial copy. So, um...do you need false teeth? Then get Grip Tie Dentures, because...they're false teeth. And you need them. So...yeah.

And now, a few words from other important personages. Friends, Eclectic Full Contact Theatre is forging ahead with their 11th season, bringing you a year of nothing but new works. From readings to festivals celebrating the best new works from around the country and the world, both onstage and over the airwaves, EFCT is bringing fresh, new work to audiences everywhere! So go to eclectic-theatre.com to find out about all their brand-spanking new 11th season! And tell them the Shade sent you!

And now, back to our story!

NARRATOR

ACT 2 SCENE 1--ROAD TRIP--The Shade has some stumbles. Before heading off after the culprits, the Shade and the Vamp decided to let Mayor Crane know what was happening. He was, surprisingly, happy to hear it.

MAYOR

I'm happy to hear it!

SHADE

Well, that's surprising.

MAYOR

Not at all, not at all. Misty and Kitty taking off down Route 66 on a crime spree means I get to say “I told you so” about them!

ROSA

And you two taking off after them us muy bueno as well.

SHADE

Your what?

MAYOR

No, no, Shade,. Muy bueno is Spanish for very good.

VAMP

Mayor, I had no idea you knew any Spanish.

ROSA

Oh, sí. I have been teaching him.

MAYOR

It’s going very well, despite a rather rocky start. See, when I first asked Rosa to teach me Spanish, I said to her “Tell me what no is in Spanish”, and she said “no.” Now, I thought she was refusing, but--

ROSA

Mr. Mayor, nobody needs to hear that again.

MISTY

No, I suppose not. Amusing story, though, I thought.

ROSA

Somebody had to.

MAYOR

But Rosa is quite right. You two pursuing them beyond the city limits is an excellent idea.

SHADE

I am a bit concerned about leaving the city unprotected.

MAYOR

No, no, well be fine. Might be the shot in the arm this city needs.

VAMP

What do you mean?

MAYOR

You and the Shade have done an admirable job in keeping the peace in this town. An admirable job, indeed,. Too admirable, some might say.

SHADE

What?

MAYOR

Chicago has a certain reputation, an atmosphere which visitors wish to see when they come here. Excitement, thrills, a certain amount of danger. But now...

ROSA

The city is Aburrida.

(PAUSE)

SHADE

Vamp, did she say this city is a burrito?

VAMP

Normally, I'd smack you for a statement like that, but that's what I heard.

ROSA

No, Aburrida. Dullsville.

SHADE

Oh. I see.

MAYOR

So by all means, pursue these dastardly distaff delinquents to your heart's content, as far away from Chicago as you need to go.

VAMP

Gee, thanks, mayor.

MAYOR

Don't mention it.

VAMP

Oh, I won't. Come on, Shade!

SHADE

Right.

SFX: FOOTSTEPS, DOOR OPENS

VAMP

Shade? Where are you going?

SHADE

To follow Misty and Kitty.

VAMP

Why aren't you using the window?

SHADE

Not in the mood, I guess. Come on.

SFX: FOOTSTEPS

MAYOR

Is he alright?

VAMP

He'll be fine. I think.

SFX: FOOTSTEPS, DOOR CLOSSES

MAYOR

I don't really know what to say, Rosa.

ROSA

I know what you mean, It's just not the same without the window breaking.

(SILENCE)

MAYOR

I certainly hope something can break this awk--

SFX: STING

NARRATOR

ACT 2, SCENE 2--CLUTCH PERFORMANCE--The Shade gets a new piece of equipment, and Wednesday gets some relief. The Shade and the Vamp changed back into their civilian identities in order to pack for their pursuit of Misty and Kitty, but Wednesday was concerned.

WED

Theo, I'm concerned.

NARRATOR

No matter how many times it happens, I'm still disappointed.

THEO

What's the problem, Wednesday?

WED

I know we have to go after Misty and Kitty, but I'm worried my car isn't up to the task.

THEO

I can understand that., She is pretty advanced in years.

WED

She'd be fine if somebody besides me knew what to do with a clutch!

THEO

I do my best! But while I have excellent hand-eye coordination--

WED

Since when?

THEO

I will admit my hand-foot coordination needs work.

WED

I'm not sure she's up for a cross-country chase.

THEO

You don't have to worry about it, Wednesday.

WED

When do I have to worry about it?

(SILENCE)

WED

I have to admit, I'm a little disappointed in myself right now.

THEO

Come on, Miss Morning, I have a surprise for you around the corner. SFX:FOOTSTEPS

NARRATOR

Theo and Wednesday turned the corner from Theo's apartment building and he immediately threw his arm wide with a loud--

THEO

Ta-daa!

WED

My surprise is a city street?

THEO

No, what's ON the street.

WED

A wino?

THEO

Behind the wino.

WED

A pigeon?

THEO

NEXT to the pigeon.

WED

Theo, there's nothing next to the pigeon except...a CAR?

THEO

That's right, I realized it was wrong to always use your car for our crimefighting activities, so I bought this.

WED

Is that a 1938 Buick Phaeton?

THEO

No, it's a 1938 Special Edition Buick Phaeton!

WED

Special Edition

THEO

It has an automatic shifter!

WED

What? No clutch?

THEO

No clutch.

WED

No grinding?

THEO

No grinding.

WED

No burning smell?

THEO

Not unless I forget to replace the cigarette lighter.

WED

How did you afford this?

THEO

It turns out that when you live in a one-room efficiency apartment and have no social life, you can sock away quite a today little nest egg. You like it?

WED

It's so...

THEO

Black?

WED

Yes!

THEO

I call it the Shade-mobile.

WED

Of course you do.

THEO

So now we have an official crimefighting car!

WED

I'm speechless.

THEO

Throw your bags in the Shade-mobile and let's go! Here!

SFX: KEYS THROWN AND CAUGHT

THEO

You can drive the first leg!

WED

You're letting ME drive?

THEO

Only fair, considering how often you let me drive your car.

WED

This is amazing--wait., Is this because you're scared of downtown traffic?

THEO

I have no idea what you're talking about. Let's go before rush hour gets any worse!

NARRATOR

A short time later, having changed back into the Shade and the Vamp, the Shademobile was on the road, driving smoothly out of town.

SFX: CAR ACCELERATING, A BANG, LURCH FORWARD, CAR ACCELERATES.

VAMP

Wow, that automatic shifter really packs a wallop.

SFX: REPEAT AS ABOVE

VAMP

Good thing the speed limit is 25. Otherwise, we might end up with whiplash.

SHADE

On the positive side, no matter how long the drive is, there's no chance of falling asleep at the wheel.

NARRATOR

Soon, the Shade and the Vamp left the city behind for the gentle rolling...um...flatness of suburban Chicago.

SFX: CAR NOISE

VAMP

Can we turn on the radio?

SHADE

I had to choose between a radio and the transmission..

SFX: SPEED< BANG< LURCH

VAMP

Good choice.

NARRATOR

Time passed...

SFX: CLOCK TICK

VAMP

Oh!

SHADE

(snorts awake) What? Who? Where? Unhand her, villain!

VAMP

Relax, Shade, we're still in the car.

SHADE

I knew that, I was just resting my eyelids.

VAMP

I wanted to know if you had remembered to tell Clemmons we would be out of town following a story.

SHADE

I thought you were going to do that.

VAMP

No, I was in charge of snacks.

SHADE

No, I was in charge of snacks!

VAMP

Are you telling me that we both loaded up on snacks but neither of us thought to tell our boss we were going out of town?

SHADE

I'm sure it won't be a problem.

NARRATOR

Meanwhile...

SFX: CROWD SOUNDS, TYPING, DOOR
OPENS

CLEMMONS

Rockwell! Morning! Get in here!

SFX: DOOR SLAM

(SILENCE)

SFX: DOOR OPEN

CLEMMONS

Winchell!

SFX: RUNNING FOOTSTEPS

WALLY

You shouted, Chief?

CLEMMONS

Where's Rockwell and Morning?

WALLY

I don't know, Chief.

CLEMMONS

Well, go find them!

WALLY

You got it, Chief!

CLEMMONS

And don't call me Chief!

NARRATOR

Back in the Shade-mobile...

SFX: MASON JAR OPENING

VAMP

Dear heaven, what is that smell?

SHADE

Oh, those are my pickled eggs. Want one?

VAMP

NO! I mean, no thank you.

SHADE

Piquant, aren' they?

SFX: CAR WINDOW ROLLING
DOWN, WIND

VAMP

That's one word for it. Did you happen to pack any food that isn't suspended in brine?

SHADE

Of course!

SFX: RUMMAGING IN PAPER BAGS.

SHADE

I have some sandwiches.

VAMP

Oh, excellent. What kind?

SHADE

There's some tongue, a few pimento and cheese, and there's a cooler in the back with some crisp, refreshing Cel-Ray!

VAMP

(groans)

NARRATOR

Let's get as far away from THAT as we can, and catch up with Kitty and Misty as they approach a thriving rural metropolis.

SFX: CAR SOUNDS

MISTY

We're approaching Dwight.

KITTY

And who's that when he's at home?

MISTY

What? No, Dwight is a town.

KITTY

Who names a town Dwight?

MISTY

I don't know,. Maybe he was the fellah who founded the town.

KITTY

Who names a PERSON Dwight?

MISTY

Says the woman with a brother named Porksword.

KITTY

It's a family name.

MISTY

That doesn't make it better!

KITTY

Well, whatever it's called, I'm just glad to see buildings again!

MISTY

We should probably pull into that gas station and get a fill-up.

KITTY

Yeah, that's a good--wait! Misty, are you thinking what I'm thinking?

MISTY

I don't really want to talk about dentures, Kitty.

KITTY

No! I mean that this gas station could be our first job!

MISTY

Yes! Something nice and easy, to get our feet wet!

KITTY

And it'll save money on the petrol!

MISTY

And we can grab some snacks too, since somebody forgot.

KITTY

You were in charge of the snacks!

MISTY

We're not going through that again! Besides, we're here.

SFX: CAR PULLS OVER, BELL FROM HOSE
RIUNGS, CAR STOPS

SFX: FOOTSTEPS ON GRAVEL, WINDOW
ROLLS DOWN

SKEETER

Howdy ladies, looking for a fill-up?

MISTY/KITTY

That we are mister, that we are.

SFX: GUNS COCKING

SFX: METRONOME

NARRATOR

Will Misty and Kitty return to a life of crime? And snacks

KITTY

It was your responsibility!

NARRATOR

Will the Shade and the Vamp survive their own snack snafu?

VAMP

Why would anyone even WANT to DRINK celery?

NARRATOR

Is this episode going to revolve around nothing but snacks from here
on out?

SKEETER

We do carry thirteen different types of jerky!

NARRATOR

These questions will probably be the only ones answered in next
week's thrilling conclusion to Throwing Shade--Natural Bored
Villains. Here's a sneak preview!

SFX: CAR HORN

NARRATOR

This has been Throwing Shade, brought to you by Grip-Tite
Dentures!

Throwing Shade has also been brought to you by Eclectic Full

Contact Theatre. Remember to like, follow and subscribe to our podcast! Or leave a review!

Created by Andrew Pond and Sarah Siegel

Written by: Andrew Pond with Zach Osterman

Directed by: Andrew Pond

Starring the voice talents of:

Our Foley Artist was Lori Eyre

Our engineer was:

And I am your narrator:

Special thanks to Tina Salamone!