

"The Projectionist Project"  
Episode 44: The Projectionist Project

written by

Joe Heath

WHITE VOID

In the beginning, there is nothing. An empty white void.

Then there is... THE PROJECTIONIST. His hands are in the air like he's holding people's hands, but there's no one there.

JOE

...it!

He drops his hands, confused. He looks around, seeing nothing.

JOE (CONT'D)

Where the hell am I?

In a panic, he runs around.

JOE (CONT'D)

Toni?! Josh? Somebody... Anybody...  
Other mes?

A bright image flickers into life, projecting onto Joe. He shields his eyes. He side-steps it and turns around to see what it is.

It's a projection of The Projectionist Project: Episode 1: 50/50.

JOE (CONT'D)

50/50? Wow. It's been so long since I reviewed that. I had no idea what I was doing those first few episodes. I basically just recounted the entire plot of the movie. The plot of 50/50.

The projection changes to the Real Steel review.

JOE (CONT'D)

The plot of Real Steel.

The projection changes to The Lion King review.

JOE (CONT'D)

The plot of The Lion King...

The projection changes to the Paranormal Activity 3 review.

JOE (CONT'D)

It wasn't until Paranormal Activity 3, when I was possessed by Toby, that I would get a hint of what was happening. What was to come.

Something starts to quietly and slowly form behind Joe.

The projection changes to the Jack and Jill review.

JOE (CONT'D)  
 And then Jack and Jill changed  
 everything. My universe expanded.  
 There was Death.

Death pops into existence behind Joe, looking confused.

JOE (CONT'D)  
 There was Josh.

Josh in the robot costume appears next to Death, also looking confused. Josh is possibly just a projection over the face place. Still photo or video.

JOE (CONT'D)  
 And there was June...

DEATH AND JOSH  
 Joe?

JOE  
 No, I said June. Wait...

Joe turns around.

JOE (CONT'D)  
 Death! Josh! Why are you in a  
 robot?

JOSH  
 Why do you have pink hair?

JOE  
 I have pink hair?

DEATH  
 And earrings.

JOE  
 It doesn't matter! You're back!  
 Where the hell were you?

JOSH  
 Where the hell ARE we?

JOE  
 Hell, maybe?

DEATH  
 Not the one I know.

JOE

Maybe it's purgatory. There seems to be a retrospective of my life going on over here.

Joe points to the projection which is now showing The Cabin in the Woods review.

JOSH

Oh, hey! I remember this! It's when you almost found out that we were working for a god who fed on review juice. That was a fun one.

The camera pulls back to see Wally (on Josh's hand).

WALLY

Wait, was I introduced here? I don't remember this at all.

DEATH

No, you were introduced in an earlier episode. This one introduced Toni.

Toni walks up beside Josh, also watching the projection.

TONI

Oh, yeah! This was my first appearance!

JOSH

Sis!

TONI

Bro!

They bump fists.

JOE

Toni! Wally! What's going on? Where did you guys come from?

Wally sniffs the air.

WALLY

Do you guys not feel that?

EVERYONE

No.

WALLY

Oh, right. I sometimes forget you guys are puny humans. You guys are producing review juice.

Joe points to the projection.

JOE

From reviewing this?

WALLY

Exactly. The power from the juice seems to be pulling things back into reality.

TONI

Well, then we should review some more, right?

JOSH

That sounds like an okay idea!

They all turn back to the projection which is now showing The Avengers.

JOE

Oh, perfect! The Avengers review was the one that really brought everyone together for the first time. I love when all of my friends are in the same episode.

RAY

Then why am I barely in any of these?

JOE

Because cameos are reserved for the best people.

CHRIS

Hey, I thought I was the best?

EVERYONE

Chris?!

CHRIS

No one was surprised at Ray! Why are you guys always surprised when I show up?

JOE

Your appearance is just more surprising.

CHRIS  
Speaking of surprising  
appearances... notice anything  
different?

JOSH  
Joe's hair!

CHRIS  
Not that!

TONI  
His earrings?

CHRIS  
No!

WALLY  
Josh is a robot!

JOE  
Toni has new glasses!

DEATH  
I don't have any surprising  
differences!

CHRIS  
No, no, no! Jeez. This top is new.

EVERYONE  
Ohhhh.

JOSH  
It's nice.

Everyone gives an enthusiastic thumbs up.

CHRIS  
I figured if I was going to be  
conjured back into reality, I was  
gonna look good doing it.

JOE  
Classic Chris. You've never been  
not good.

CHRIS  
Sure.

JOE  
It seems like everyone else has had  
a devious turn.

(MORE)

JOE (CONT'D)

Josh kept trying to take over the show, Toni killed some of those weird aliens that one time. I mean...

Joe gestures to the projection still showing The Avengers.

JOE (CONT'D)

This episode alone revealed that Wally, Red Shirt, and Vince were all some sort of evil or another.

VINCE

I was?

Joe turns to Death.

JOE

You were mostly okay, I guess.

DEATH

...About that. I have something to confess.

Death removes his hood, revealing...

EVERYONE

Red Shirt?

RED SHIRT

Yes, tis I.

JOE

You've been Red Shirt? The whole time?

RED SHIRT

Yes, my son.

The projection changes to Straight Outta Compton.

RED SHIRT (CONT'D)

As you may recall during the Straight Outta Compton review, we had a bit of a fight. Afterwards, I did a bit of soul searching. One day, while deep in thought about my failures as a father, I was struck by a vehicle.

JOE

How... horrible.

RED SHIRT

I knew I had a lifetime of transgressions to pay for. Specifically because I pretty much went straight to hell. I made a deal with the Powers That Be. I would reap souls for the afterlife, if they would give me a chance to be the father I never could be in life. So they sent me back in time and I became the only father I could be... as Death.

Joe is teary-eyed.

JOE

...Dad.

RED SHIRT

Son.

They hug.

JOSH

Does this make any sense?

VINCE

Does anything?

TONI

Hey, are you Real Vince or TV Vince?

VINCE

Real Vince. I guess. But what is real? Is any of this real?

JOSH

Oh, right. That other Joe showed up and said we were, like, fictional or whatever.

JOE

Ugh. That guy. What makes him an expert on what's real or not real?

TONI

Hold on a second. Maybe that's the key to getting out of here. We seemingly destroyed our reality, right?

CHRIS

Oh, you most definitely did.

TONI

Right. But what if we could escape to another reality? The real reality.

JOE

But how?

RED SHIRT

With review juice!

WALLY

Okay, but it can only affect things related to the thing being reviewed.

JOE

So that was why my life was so influenced by the plots of movies...

TONI

I've got it! Josh, do you remember in The Amazing Spider-Man review there were those other Us's from the alternate universe?

JOSH

Vaguely.

TONI

And do you further remember in the Looper review when we started remembering things they remembered?

JOSH

Let's just say yes.

TONI

Well, if we review that, what if we can somehow use the review juice to access the memories of the Us's from the real universe?

JOSH

Well, it was an interesting way to sort of retain our weird brother and sister dynamic.

Everyone grabs their head and screams.

EVERYONE

We're remembering!

JOE

It's... it's all just a show. That  
I wrote and filmed with my  
friends...

The projection starts showing behind-the-scenes footage of this very scene. Joe tells everyone what to do, calls action, and then everyone grabs their head and screams. "We're remembering!"

EVERYONE

Whoa.

The projection starts to crackle a little.

TONI

Okay, so now we just need to  
somehow review enough to break into  
this reality.

RED SHIRT

Kind of like the universe-hopping  
in the Wreck-It Ralph review!

CHRIS

Oh hell yeah! We're gonna wreck it!

JOE

I've got it. Let's all just review  
what it was like to make this show  
and what it means to us. If we're  
reviewing reality, maybe we can  
break INTO reality.

RAY

Let's get this party started.

There's a small scene for everyone involved who says a little bit about what it was like making the show and what it meant to them. I can't actually write this bit. That's up to all of you.

The projection gets brighter as everyone reviews.

JOE

It's one of the most fun things  
I've ever been involved in. Weird,  
stupid, and wonderful. It forced me  
to be more creative. It was the  
first time I really wrote anything  
on my own and on a consistent  
basis. But it was also a way to  
make something with all of my  
friends from around the world.

(MORE)

JOE (CONT'D)

We still make stuff together, but there was something particularly special about this weird little show. Honestly, I didn't realize just how much I missed it until I started writing this episode. I love this universe, these characters... and my friends.

The projection gets so bright that everything becomes white.

INT. FILMING SPACE

Everyone looks around. It looks the same. But now there's a camera. And there's another Joe behind it. He looks shocked.

TONI

We did it! We're in the real world.

REAL JOE

Holy shit.

JOE

We're definitely in the real world. That would have been bleeped on the show.

The projection flickers back on, revealing TV VINCE.

TV VINCE

Hey, you guys made it!

EVERYONE

TV Vince?

TV VINCE

Yeah, I escaped to here before you idiots destroyed the Projectionist Project universe.

JOE

Where did you get the review juice?

TV VINCE

Don't need it. I'm a fictional digital entity. I can travel between created universes.

JOE

Created universes? But isn't this reality?

TV VINCE

Well, no. How could it be? This is still a fictional, filmed story.

CHRIS

TV Vince is right. There's no way for fictional characters to actually get into the real world. But this is about as close as you can get.

TONI

(to Joe)

So... you just wrote us into another fictional universe?

JOE

I guess I did. But I think that might be okay, actually? I mean... maybe that's all reality is, anyway. It's just a story you make with your friends.

JOSH

Huh. Neat.

RED SHIRT

I wonder what the story's like here.

JOE

I don't know. Let's... go see it.

Everyone smiles.

REAL JOE

Cut!

Real Joe turns off the camera.

CREDITS.