

"Monsters Anonymous"
Pilot

written by

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COLD OPEN

INT. MONSTERS ANONYMOUS MEETING - NIGHT

SETH KESSLER, 20s, neurotic, lots of facial hair, wearing an overstuffed backpack, stands up.

SETH

Hi, my name is Seth and I'm a werewolf.

A variety of monsters sit on metal folding chairs arranged in a circle.

MONSTERS

Hi, Seth!

SETH

I think I've been a werewolf for 2, 3 weeks? I didn't figure it out right away. See, I work at this doggy daycare--

EXT. DAVE'S DOGGY DAYCARE - NIGHT

There's a full moon beginning to rise over Dave's Doggy Daycare.

INT. DAVE'S DOGGY DAYCARE - NIGHT

A CO-WORKER carries a dog carrier into a room where Seth struggles to corral a bunch of hyper dogs.

SETH

Down! Down!

CO-WORKER

Guess who just showed up for their monthly overnight?

SETH

Talbot?

CO-WORKER

Like clockwork.

The co-worker sets the carrier down.

CO-WORKER (CONT'D)

Have you noticed he only gets boarded on full moons? Creepy.

Seth sticks his fingers into the carrier to pet Talbot.

SETH

Aww, who's our little werewolf?

There's a growl and a snap. Seth quickly pulls his fingers back out.

SETH (CONT'D)

Ow! You little... bundle of joy.

CO-WORKER

Don't be getting rabies, my dude.

Seth sucks his finger.

EXT. DAVE'S DOGGY DAYCARE - NIGHT

The full moon glows ominously over the daycare.

INT. SETH'S BEDROOM - MORNING.

Seth is curled up in bed, snoring.

His alarm goes off. He snoozes it. His sister, BETHANY, yells at him from another room.

BETHANY

You need to get up or you're going to be late again!

Seth sits up, groaning. He stares groggily at a pair of chewed up shoes next to his bed.

SETH

Weird.

INT. DAVE'S DOGGY DAYCARE - DAY

Seth stumbles into work. His hair is a mess.

His co-worker behind the counter, looks up from some paperwork.

CO-WORKER

Rough night?

Seth grunts. He grabs a handful of snacks from a bag on the counter and throws it into his mouth.

He's surprised at how good they are.

He spins the bag around. It's dog food.

He stops for a second. Then gets another handful.

CUT TO:

Seth fusses with his beard while his co-worker washes a dog.

SETH

Does this seem fuller to you?

The MANAGER leans into the room.

MANAGER

Seth, the cocker spaniels are going at it again.

SETH

Ugh.

CO-WORKER

Love is in the air.

CUT TO:

Seth walks into a room full of the sound of two dogs being amorous.

He stops.

He stares.

He slowly raises an eyebrow and bites his lip.

INT. MONSTERS ANONYMOUS MEETING - NIGHT

SETH

(horrified)

So I had to quit.

END OF COLD OPEN

—

ACT ONE

INT. MONSTERS ANONYMOUS MEETING - NIGHT

SETH

It's been really rough lately. I became a werewolf. I quit my job. My landlord... died. Police thought it was an animal attack. Because of the bite marks.

EXT. SETH'S APARTMENT - DAY

Seth stares in horror as paramedics load a stretcher into an ambulance.

SETH

(voiceover)

I don't remember doing it and I feel really bad about it. She was nice. But I just couldn't live there after that.

The paramedics shut the doors, revealing a hooded figure with a scythe (DEATH).

SETH (CONT'D)

(voiceover)

Partly because of the guilt, partly because I didn't want to get caught...

Seth does a double take and the grim reaper is gone.

Seth enters the apartment.

SETH (CONT'D)

(voiceover)

...but mostly because my sister kicked me out.

INT. SETH'S APARTMENT - DAY

The apartment is completely trashed. Bethany peeks out from behind a pile of destroyed objects. She looks like she's been crying.

BETHANY

Seth?

SETH

Bethany?

Bethany gets up, runs over, and pulls him into a hug.

BETHANY

Dude. Bro. I think we've been
burgled. Or hit by a small indoors
tornado? I dunno. It's weird.

Seth looks over the mess. It sinks in.

SETH

It was me.

BETHANY

What?

SETH

I did this.

BETHANY

Why? Why would you do this?

SETH

It's... hard to explain.

BETHANY

Well, try!

SETH

I... I--

BETHANY

You trashed our apartment!

SETH

I know--

BETHANY

You destroyed my record collection!

SETH

I'm sorry, I--

BETHANY

You pissed all over the couch!

SETH

Oh god, really?

INT. MONSTERS ANONYMOUS MEETING - NIGHT

SETH

I've been living in my car for the past few days. I ran out of gas. Bethany always used to take care of things like that. She took care of a lot of stuff. Took care of me. So I'm hoping these meetings will help me figure some things out. I'm *really* hoping one of you might let me crash at your place. It would be doubly helpful if you had some way to contain me, like a dungeon, or a cage, or just some really thick chains.

MONSTER

(off-screen)

Kinky.

SETH

I... didn't... no thank you.

CUT TO:

INT. MONSTERS ANONYMOUS MEETING - LATER

Monsters mill about, chatting. Seth stands alone by the snack table and pours himself a cup of coffee. He looks around and sighs heavily.

SETH

This was a mistake.

NICK

The coffee?

NICK's voice seems to come from nowhere. That's because he's an invisible scientist.

Seth jumps back and spills some of his coffee on himself.

SETH

Aigh! Jesus!

He pulls his shirt out and shakes it.

NICK

Sorry about that. You okay?

SETH

Yeah, this is actually one of the lesser awful things to happen to me this week.

NICK

So I heard. Seth, right? The werewolf?

SETH

That's me. You're... Nick? The ghost?

NICK

I'm not a ghost! I'm an invisible scientist! I can touch things!

Nick shoves Seth in the shoulder, spilling more coffee on him.

SETH

Aigh! Why is it so cold?

Nick grumbles angrily as he walks off. Seth shakes his shirt out some more.

BOB, a vampire, walks up holding a clear plastic cup that's clearly full of blood.

BOB

Hey, you're the kinky werewolf who lost his house and job, right?

SETH

I wouldn't say-- and yes, I did but--

Bob grabs and shakes Seth's hand.

BOB

Bob. Vampire. You probably know me from the history books and/or Wikipedia. Robert the Handsome?

SETH

I-- no--

BOB

Listen, got a proposition for ya. There's a lot of things I don't like doing and I haven't had a servant in a few hundred years. You help me out, I can throw you some money and give you a place to stay.

(MORE)

BOB (CONT'D)
 You'll have to provide your own
 bondage gear, though.

SETH
 Again, I don't, uh- but thank you,
 um, for the offer. Yeah, just- just
 let me think it over a little bit.

BOB
 Yeah, sure thing, man. Get back to
 me.

Bob heads off, slapping Seth on the back. More coffee
 splashes onto him.

BOB (CONT'D)
 (off-screen)
 Hey, blondie! Let me get them
 digits!

EXT. MONSTERS ANONYMOUS MEETING - NIGHT

Seth exits the building, still fussing with his shirt. He
 stops next to the street and pulls out his phone. He scrolls
 through the contacts until he gets to "Bethany." He stares at
 the phone, uncertain.

SETH
 (voiceover)
 I'm just dealing with some really
 weird stuff right now--

EXT. SETH'S APARTMENT - DAY

Seth stands outside of the apartment door as Bethany shoves
 an overstuffed backpack into his arms.

BETHANY
 So am I! So is everyone! But you
 don't piss on couches! You're a
 grown-ass dude, dude!

SETH
 We can get a new couch!

BETHANY
 It's not the couch, Seth. It's you.

SETH
 It's different this time, I can
 explain! I was bitten--

BETHANY

I've tried to take care of you. I really have. But you quit your job. You wrecked our home. I don't know what's going on, but you need help. And I can't do it anymore.

She slams the door. Seth stares at it, lost.

PHONE

(voiceover)
Mailbox full.

EXT. MONSTERS ANONYMOUS MEETING - NIGHT

Seth hangs up his phone as Bob walks up to him.

BOB

Heeey, I got those digits!

SETH

Uh, nice. Good job.

BOB

Hey, you think about my offer, all right?

SETH

Yeah, Bob. Will do.

BOB

A vampire and a werewolf! Living together! Sounds like a sitcom.

Bob laughs and heads off.

SETH

Heh. Yeah.

Seth turns back toward the street, just as a car drives through a puddle, splashing him. Seth stands there in shock.

Then it starts pouring down rain.

INT. MONSTERS ANONYMOUS MEETING - NIGHT - LATER

Seth stands in front of his chair, wearing a new outfit.

SETH

So I moved in with Bob.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. MONSTERS ANONYMOUS MEETING - NIGHT

SETH

I was worried that I was rushing into things. But I had no where else to go. And frankly, I could really use the money.

INT. BOB'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

The apartment door opens and Bob and Seth walk in.

BOB

Welcome to my humble abode. This is the living dead room. Heh. It's a little joke I make because it's the living room, but I'm... not.

Bob clears his throat and shuts the door.

BOB (CONT'D)

Over here is the kitchen--

INT. MONSTERS ANONYMOUS MEETING - NIGHT

SETH

I admit I was a little nervous moving in with a vampire. I mean, what if he tried to drink me?

CUT TO:

Bob stands in front of his chair, sharing his side of things.

BOB

I wouldn't drink Seth. I don't want to go and catch lycanthropy. I generally don't drink folk with diseases. Besides I'm strictly heterotarian... ladies.

INT. BOB'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Bob finishes the apartment tour.

BOB
That's my room. Please knock. In fact, please leave me alone. And that's Nick's room.

SETH
Who?

BOB
Nick.

SETH
Nick?

NICK
Me.

SETH
Aigh! When did you get here?

NICK
What are you talking about? I rode over here with you!

SETH
Did you? You could have said something!

NICK
I had nothing to say. Anyway, I need to check on my molds. Welcome to the apartment, Seth. I hope you last longer than the last one.

Nick's bedroom door opens and closes.

SETH
The last one?

Bob quickly ushers Seth to a door down the hallway.

BOB
Don't worry about it. Here's your room!

SETH
Oh, great. I really want to get out of these wet clothes.

BOB
That's a great idea. Laundry should definitely be at the top of your to-do list.

SETH

Oh. Right. The chores. Didn't realize those were gonna start right away.

BOB

Well, that's a lazy attitude.

INT. MONSTERS ANONYMOUS MEETING - NIGHT

BOB

That's the problem with the kids these days. No initiative. When I was Seth's age, I was ruling over Wallachia! Which was actually a pretty sweet gig. I barely had to do anything.

INT. BOB'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Seth, in new dry clothes, sits at the kitchen table across from Bob and Nick.

BOB

So first off, you're gonna need to do laundry, obviously.

NICK

And the dishes. Sweeping. Mopping.

BOB

Dusting. Not the "I go poof" kind.

NICK

Do not touch my molds.

BOB

Clean the pit. And be sure to get under the crust.

NICK

I will know if you've touched my molds. Do not touch my molds.

BOB

You should get a flea collar.

A beaker floats in front of Nick's chair.

NICK

And I'm going to need you to fill this.

SETH
With what?

 NICK
...You know.

 SETH
...No thank you?

INT. MONSTERS ANONYMOUS MEETING - NIGHT

 BOB
Seth was fitting right in. Kinda
like family. Except I didn't hate
him. Yes, everything was going
great. But something was bothering
me.

INT. BOB'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Bob and Nick sit at the kitchen table, while Seth cleans
dishes in the background. A pair of tentacles slosh up and
attack Seth and he struggles to fight them off. Bob and Nick
do not notice.

 NICK
Something bothering you, Bob?

 BOB
Do you remember the blonde at the
meeting tonight?

 NICK
Which one?

 BOB
The one with the big jugular.

 NICK
Not particularly.

 BOB
Well, we hit it off and she gave me
her number.

 NICK
So what's the problem?

 BOB
I can't remember it.

NICK
You didn't write it down?

BOB
Well, no. I've got that, what's it called... vampire memory thing.

NICK
Bob. You forget my birthdays.

BOB
Forgetting and not caring are two different things.

NICK
That hurts.

BOB
I really think we had something special.

NICK
Just get her number at the next meeting.

BOB
That would not look cool. But you've given me an idea. Come on.

Bob stands up and heads towards the door.

NICK
O... kay.

Nick's chair moves.

BOB
Seth, we're heading out! Keep up the good work!

Seth finally manages to wrestle the tentacles away as the front door shuts. He takes a moment to breathe.

SETH
I can't do this.

He pulls out his phone and looks at Bethany's number again.

He is startled by a sudden whooshing sound. He looks up. Death stands before him, holding her scythe. Seth drops his phone in the sink.

DEATH

Wow, they got another one real fast.

SETH

What?

Death's phone goes off. She checks it.

DEATH

Hold on. I got to take this.

She disappears with a whooshing noise. Seth stands motionless for a moment.

SETH

WHAT?

She whooshes back.

DEATH

Sorry about that. Had to collect a reap. You got any beer?

SETH

...WHAT?!

INT. MONSTERS ANONYMOUS MEETING - HOST'S OFFICE - NIGHT

A ZOMBIE sits in front of a desk, moaning. On top of the desk, facing the zombie, is a teddy bear next to a cup of water. This is THE HOST. There's even a little plaque next to them that says "MONSTERS ANONYMOUS - THE HOST."

THE HOST

We all have urges we feel we can't control. But you know we are here to help you.

The zombie moans agreeably.

The door bursts open and Bob barges in.

BOB

(to the Zombie)
Are you the host?

THE HOST

No, that would be me and I'm kind of in the middle--

BOB

Wait, where are you?

THE HOST

I'm on the desk.

BOB

God, it's so hard to keep track of a shapeshifter. No offense. But hey, at least you're not the zombie, am I right? They really give a bad name to the undead.

The zombie makes a "hey!" noise.

BOB (CONT'D)

No offense. But also, could you get out? I got a real emergency here.

Bob grabs the zombie by the arm and tries to pull him out of his chair. The zombie's arm pops off.

BOB (CONT'D)

Whoops. Hold on.

THE HOST

Please! If you could just--

BOB

Don't worry, I've got this.

Bob grabs the confused zombie around the waist and manages to get him out of the door. He hands the zombie his arm and shuts the door in his face. Bob sits down.

BOB (CONT'D)

So there was this blonde--

THE HOST

Who?

NICK

She was at the meeting.

THE HOST

Who said that?!

NICK

Me! I was also at the meeting!

THE HOST

Oh, right! The ghost.

NICK

Are you kidding me?

INT. BOB'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Death and Seth sit on the couch, drinking beer and drunkenly laughing. There are a bunch of empty bottles.

DEATH

I'm not kidding you! If you don't reap a soul, you get a zombie!

SETH

Sounds stressful!

DEATH

I desperately want to quit. My boss is a total dick. Seriously, you miss one reap and you never hear the end of it.

SETH

Sounds better than being Bob's servant.

DEATH

Yeah, seems like. Living next door, I've seen so many of his servants come and go. He goes through them like Kleenex.

SETH

Judging by his trash, he also goes through a lot of Kleenex.

Death giggles.

DEATH

Well, I hope you stick it out, Seth. You're fun.

SETH

I don't know. It's a lot of cleaning and housework and I'm not very good at it. My sister used to do all that stuff. Honestly, I'm completely lost without her.

DEATH

Oh no, did I take her?

SETH

No, no. She's fine. I just... messed up. And she kicked me out. I just wish she knew how much I need her.

DEATH

Why don't you call her?

SETH

I think the squid in the sink has my phone. Hey! I got a great idea! You can take me to her! With your whoosh thing!

DEATH

I'm only supposed to use that on a reap...

SETH

Help me out with this and I'll help you find a new job! We can job hunt together! Seth and Death! Job hunting rhyme buddies! Like a sitcom!

Death finishes her beer.

DEATH

...Grab my scythe and think of where you wanna go.

SETH

Hell yeah!

Seth grabs Death's scythe and closes his eyes really tight. They both disappear in a whoosh.

INT. SETH'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

They appear in a whoosh in a completely remodeled living room. Seth opens his eyes.

SETH

We did it!

An OLD MAN stands near them, staring at them in shock.

SETH (CONT'D)

Who the hell are you?

The old man has a heart attack and falls into a chair, dead.

Death's phone goes off. She checks it.

DEATH

Well, this is convenient.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. MONSTERS ANONYMOUS MEETING - NIGHT

BOB

I was on a valiant quest to retrieve a phone number, aided by my invisible compatriot. But we soon met resistance. Frankly, the host who runs these meetings is a real jerk.

INT. MONSTERS ANONYMOUS MEETING - HOST'S OFFICE - NIGHT

THE HOST

I can't give out the personal information of anyone who attends our meetings. That's what the whole Anonymous part means.

BOB

You're a real jerk, you know that?

NICK

I don't think they're going to help you, Bob.

BOB

Fine.

Bob stands up.

BOB (CONT'D)

All this arguing's made me thirsty.

Bob grabs the water cup next to the teddy bear and chugs it.

THE HOST

What are you doing?! Put me down!

BOB

Whoa, you're the cup? I thought you were the bear.

THE HOST

Why would I be a bear? That doesn't make any sense!

Bob tosses the cup back on the table, spilling water.

NICK

Gentle!

BOB
Oh, sorry.

Bob gently sets the cup upright. There is an awkward silence.

NICK
...I think you killed them.

INT. SETH'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Seth is freaking out.

SETH
I killed him. Oh god, I killed him.

Death walks up, talking over her shoulder.

DEATH
Just go into the light. You'll be fine.
(to Seth)
He'll be fine!

SETH
He's dead!

DEATH
But fine! It was his time. These things happen. You get used to it.

SETH
You were supposed to take me to my sister! This isn't her apartment!

Death notices a stack of moving boxes.

DEATH
I think it was. Looks like this guy just moved in. ...and then moved on. Heh.

SETH
Wait. What?

DEATH
I think your sister moved out, buddy.

SETH
Oh.

Seth collapses into a chair next to the dead guy.

SETH

I don't have fleas! Look, I'm not going to be your Kleenex anymore! I'm gonna move in with Death here. She's really nice to me.

DEATH

Oh, I don't really swing your way.

SETH

No! I didn't mean-- I'm not-- I mean we can be roommates.

DEATH

Sorry, bud. Just got a new roommate. No room at the inn.

SETH

Oh. Well.

Seth sadly swivels around on his stool. He sees the zombie at a nearby table, holding his severed arm. A waitress brings him a drink. It's Bethany.

SETH (CONT'D)

She'll take me back!

Seth stumbles off his stool and heads towards Bethany.

NICK

What's his problem?

DEATH

His sister dumped him.

BOB

I am also having lady problems. I met this hot blonde and completely forgot her number.

DEATH

But don't you have that vampire memory thing?

Seth stumbles full force into Bethany, spilling her drinks all over the table. The zombie angrily yells as he stands up to get out of the way. Seth is unsure of what to do.

BETHANY

Seth? What the hell, man?

(to the zombie)

I'm so sorry. The bathroom is right over there if you want to clean up. Drinks are on the house.

The zombie angrily lurches off, as Bethany starts cleaning the table.

BETHANY (CONT'D)

(to Seth)

How did you even find me? No, I don't care, you just need to leave.

Seth tries to help her clean up, but causes more of a mess.

SETH

Listen, no, I just... want to say I'm sorry. I'm really really sorry, Bethany. And you were right. And I'm... I'm getting help. I'm going to meetings and everything.

BETHANY

Then why the hell are you drunk?

SETH

It's not that kind of meeting! I'm a werewolf, Bethany!

BETHANY

What?

SETH

That's why I trashed the apartment. I had no control over it!

BETHANY

Why didn't you tell me?

SETH

I thought you'd freak out! Did you know monsters are real?

BETHANY

I do now! I work in a monster bar!

SETH

...this is a monster bar?

Seth shakes his head, trying to get back on task.

SETH (CONT'D)

Anyway, I tried to tell you! I sent you like a bazillion voicemails.

BETHANY

I... I changed numbers.

SETH

That's okay. I forgive you. You can take me back now.

Seth drunkenly points over at Bob and Nick.

SETH (CONT'D)

I don't wanna live with the gross vampire and the weird clear guy. I wanna live with you. You take care of me. Please take care of me. Please? Please please please?

Seth tries to make Bethany hug him.

BETHANY

Seth, I love you, but I think we both need to be on our own for awhile.

SETH

But you can't take care of me if I'm on my own.

BETHANY

I need to take care of myself right now.

SETH

But whhhhyyyy? That's so stupid!

BETHANY

This is why! You don't actually care about my feelings at all! All you care about is yourself!

Seth straightens up and looks hurt. Then he vomits all over Bethany.

The zombie stumbles out of the bathroom. He notices a flyer on the wall, reads it, and pulls a tab off of it. He starts to head back to his table when he notices Bob at the bar. He looks at his severed arm, then back to Bob. He angrily moans and heads towards Bob with his arm raised menacingly.

DEATH

And he still won't get off my back about it. It was one reap!

BOB

Your boss is a dick.

ZOMBIE

GRRRARRRGH!

DEATH
Oh, hey, it's you!

BOB
Oh, hey, it's you!

Death taps the zombie with her scythe and the zombie collapses onto the bar, dead.

BOB (CONT'D)
You know this guy?

Death pulls out her phone and starts texting.

DEATH
This is the reaper that I missed!

BOB
Well, that was convenient.

NICK
Hey, what's he got in his hand?

Bob pulls the piece of paper out of the zombie's hand.

BOB
What the hell? It's the blonde's number!

NICK
That makes absolutely zero sense.

Bethany shoves Seth into Nick's chair.

NICK (CONT'D)
Hey, I was sitting here!

BETHANY
Seth says he lives with you two?

SETH
I'd rather live in my car! No, I'd rather live with you, Bethany. Come on. Let me live with you.

BETHANY
(to Bob and Nick)
Please get him out of here. And take your zombie with you.

DEATH
That's mine, actually.

BETHANY
Oh, hey. You think you could bring me a change of clothes from home?

DEATH
Sure thing.

BETHANY
Thanks.

Bethany leaves. Seth looks at Death, confused.

SETH
Wait, you know Bethany?

DEATH
Yeah. She just moved in with me.

SETH
Bethany moved in with you?

DEATH
Yeah.

SETH
Bethany lives in your apartment?

DEATH
Yes.

SETH
The apartment across the hall from
Bob's apartment?

NICK
And my apartment. Not that anyone
cares or notices.

SETH
(to himself)
Bethany lives next door. Like a
sitcom.

Seth smiles.

SETH (CONT'D)
Bob. Nick. Let's go home.

INT. MONSTERS ANONYMOUS MEETING - NIGHT

SETH
Then I threw up in the pit.

END OF ACT THREE

TAG

INT. MONSTERS ANONYMOUS MEETING - NIGHT

BOB

So in the end, my quest was a success. There was a lot of hardship. Trials. Tribulations. Teddy bears...

THE HOST

(off-screen)

I was the cup!

BOB

Oh, right. I forgot. Anyway, my salvation came from the most unlikeliest of sources. A douchebag zombie. May he rest in peace.

Bob kisses his fingers and does a peace sign to the sky.

BOB (CONT'D)

So I called that hot blonde and we totally have a date after this meeting.

(to someone off-screen)

Oh, hey. What was your name, by the way?

INT. STIFF ONES BAR - NIGHT

The camera slowly, ominously moves into the flyer hanging up next to the bathroom. One tab still missing.

The flyer reads:

"LIZZY WINTERS: VAMPIRE REMOVER."

END OF SHOW