

Becoming the Pod

Created by Kristie Clattenburg

Episode 1 - "Biggest Fan"

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BECOMING THE POD

EPISODE 1 - "BIGGEST FAN"

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. COFFEE SHOP - ESTABLISHING - DAY

Cute cafe with large windows, on the main street of River Beach. The name of the coffee shop, GNOME & FAE'S CAFFEINATED READ, is on the windows.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Mismatched tables fill the open space. Bookshelves filled with books line the walls.

SAGE "FAE" JONESTON, 30s, wears a bohemian style with her hair not out of place. She places a laptop on the corner table near the front counter.

NAOMI "GNOME" SMITH, 30s, also wears a bohemian style but with wild hair. She assists HEIDI CARTER, 20s, with the coffee set up. Heidi, a goth, stands out from the other two women but fits with the eclectic shop.

SAGE

Let's do *Oh Gnomeo* for the drink special today.

Sage slides into a chair at the table and motions for Naomi to join her.

HEIDI

Whatever you say, Fae.

Heidi turns and writes the special on the board behind the counter. Naomi joins Sage with her laptop.

NAOMI

Thank you, Heidi!  
Sage, did you get my notes last night? My wifi was acting up.

Sage nods and gets up to head to the door as Heidi sets a to-go cup of coffee on the counter. She goes to the door, unlocks it, and flips the sign to 'open'. Sage rejoins Naomi.

The bell above the door RINGS as CHIEF WILLARD BRECKERTON, 40s, enters the shop in uniform. He goes to the counter grabs the coffee and slides money across to Heidi.

WILL  
Thanks, Heidi.

Heidi nods.

HEIDI  
Chief.

Will approaches Sage and Naomi.

WILL  
Ladies, how are we this morning?  
What case are you working on?

Heidi brings two cups of coffee over, places them in front of the women, and walks away. Naomi takes a big sip. Sage turns to Will.

SAGE  
It is the start of a beautiful day  
and we are just fine. We're  
researching local stories. We  
haven't done one in a while.

NAOMI  
Don't worry Chief it won't be  
something super local. We have a  
few throughout the last 200 years  
to choose from.

The bell on the door rings again and two regulars enter.  
Naomi jumps up to go help Heidi.

WILL  
Are you going to record tonight?

SAGE  
Yes, but not the one we're  
researching. We're doing a fan  
story tonight.

Sage takes a sip of her coffee.

SAGE (CONT'D)  
You should come back and join us.

WILL  
If the tourist and locals behave  
themselves, I just might.

The bell on the door rings again and RHONDA, 30s, brings the sleeve of mail with a PACKAGE to Sage.

RHONDA

You guys are getting more popular.  
See you tomorrow.

Rhonda exits and Sage starts to open the package. Naomi wanders back over to watch.

NAOMI

I just love the fan mail. Some of  
the art they send is so amazing.

Sage opens the package and a NECKLACE and LETTER fall out. Will grabs the letter. Naomi picks up the necklace studying it.

WILL

Sage, have you guys ever gotten  
letters like this before?

Sage grabs the letter from Will. It appears to be typed on a typewriter and none of the sentences make sense.

NAOMI

Will, we get all kinds of shit.

Naomi gestures to spot between the books behind the glass, where a large amount of art and trinkets are displayed.

SAGE

This is a bit much but harmless.

She hands the letter to Naomi and Naomi hands her the necklace.

Will's radio goes off.

WILL

Duty calls. I'll be back later.

Will leaves.

More customers enter the shop. The women go to the counter to assist Heidi. Will pauses at the window looking in at the women.

END OF ACT ONE

FADE OUT.

ACT TWO

INT. COFFEE SHOP - NIGHT

Sage finishes the closing procedures, while Naomi sweeps the floor.

Will knocks on the door. Naomi unlocks the door.

WILL

I know you guys are going to think  
I'm crazy, but that package today  
is really bothering me.

Sage rolls her eyes and continues her task.

Naomi grabs Will's arm and drags him over to the case of trinkets.

NAOMI

We literally get tons of shit,  
Will. We don't put it all in here.  
But look it is all harmless.

SAGE

We have a PO box that forwards to  
another PO box. We followed your  
advice there. So chill. It's fine.

Will stands and stares at the items. Sage and Naomi go over to their normal table and set up for recording.

SAGE (CONT'D)

Are you staying?

Will nods.

Sage's email pings.

The screen shows a notification on the podcast's email.

Sage opens the email. Will leans over her shoulder.

The email mimics the cryptic letter they got today.

Naomi leans over too, to read.

NAOMI

It is just an overzealous fan.  
Probably making sure we got the  
package.

Sage nods in agreement. Will looks unsure.

SAGE

Shall we get started?

The women put headphones on and Will leans back listening as they record.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. COFFEE SHOP -DAY

Sage works the counter. Will enters.

WILL  
Look, I know-

SAGE  
Chiefy senses tingling?

Will looks at Sage.

WILL  
Yes.

Rhonda enters the shop. She brings a big mail bin and a package is on top. She smiles, sets the bin down on the counter, and leaves.

Will looks at the package, then at Sage.

SAGE  
Don't start.

WILL  
Open it.

Sage opens the package to find another cryptic note and necklace.

WILL (CONT'D)  
You need to-

SAGE  
Nope. Stop. It is nothing.

WILL  
But-

SAGE  
There are two of us. It makes sense.

Sage moves the bin off the counter as customers enter.

Will wanders over to FRED, 60s, a regular, and chats.

Sage watches their interaction.

Will nods at Fred. Waves to Sage and leaves.

Sage shakes her head and turns her attention back to the customers in front of her.

EXT. MAIN STREET - DAY

Will pulls his phone out and dials a number.

WILL  
I need a favor.

CUT TO:

INT. NAOMI'S HOUSE - DAY

The interior of the house is eclectic, colorful, and bohemian.

Naomi is tending to multiple animals.

A knock on her door draws her attention. She opens it and an identical package as the last one sits on her doorstep.

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT THREE

END OF EPISODE