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Mime Theatre

Story by Jim Caswell

Audioplay by Jim Caswell, Kat Rybarski, Eric Grzywa and Doug Zeitlin

Episode Summary

A street mime starts performing in front of Neil's Comic and Video Emporium, driving away business and driving the guys insane.

Starring

Stew
Gene
Gerr

Roger Kelley
Ryan Gilbert
Mick Mize

Featuring

UPS Girl
Seth
Customer #2
Norm
Blinky

Louise Francis
Erick Greeva
Jim Caswell
Steve Cain
Ken Hallaron

And A Special Guest Appearance

Mime

Neil Lindgren

PROLOGUE

SCENE 1 – ENTER INT.: Neil's Comic and Video Emporium

SOUND: Front door opens and rings. Footsteps enter the store.

STEW (excited)

Good morning!

UPS GIRL

I'll take your word on that.

STEW

What can I ya for?

UPS GIRL

About \$40 bucks and couple drinks and I'll be ready to go.

STEW

Uh... I didn't... I meant...

UPS GIRL

Relax, I was kidding. What do you take me for? And \$40? That doesn't get you anything these days... unless I suppose you lend it to your buddy Gene for some of his famous videos...

STEW

Don't get me started... Listen, let me make it up to you- how would you like to get a cup of coffee some time after work? Give me the chance to get to know you better?

UPS GIRL

I'm not a fan of that euphemism. I think you know me just fine, and I know I know enough about you.

STEW

What do you know about me, besides my pertinence for drooling?

UPS GIRL

I know that you're married, and that's plenty, especially for what you have in mind.

STEW

Madame, you mistake my kindness of heart for a more dubious nature.

UPS GIRL

There's no mistake. You're thinking with your hard, not your heart. You've got two heads and only enough blood to think with one at a time. *<beat> Where's <grrrr – growling in a sensual way>?*

STEW

You see, now that's just not fair.

UPS GIRL

I don't need to be fair. I'm not the one who's married.

STEW (defeated)

He's over there, next to Gene. Hey Jer! UPS is here for you!

SOUND: Two sets of footsteps approach.

GENE (sheepish)

Hi.

UPS GIRL

Hi Gene. Hi *<grrrr – growling in a sensual way>*.

GERR (mumbling)

God, I love it
when she does that.

GENE (mumbling)

God, I love it
when she does that.

GERR

Whatcha got for me today?

UPS GIRL

It's Tuesday. Same thing I have for you every Tuesday.

GERR

Oh yeah. Comic delivery. Here, I'll take it.

UPS GIRL

There's a second one out in the truck. I'll be right back.

SOUND: Footsteps leave, opening the door, ringing the bell and closing.

GENE

I really wish I could get over this crippling shyness.

STEW

I really wish I could get over my crippling social condition too.

GERR

Which one?

STEW

Marriage.

GERR

It could be worse. You could be suffering from perpetual bachelorhood like the rest of us.

STEW

The grass is always greener, I guess. I just wouldn't mind mowing a different lawn once and a while. I wouldn't mind fertilizing her fields, trimming her bush, knocking on her back door....

GERR

Alright, alright I get it....But some of us wish we had a lawn at all, for that matter.

STEW

Unfortunately true. Right now, all I deal with is concrete. And cold sprinklers.

GERR

I'd give anything just to be able to sniff UPS Girl's rose bush.

STEW

And that reek of desperation is exactly what drives them away.

GENE

Not to mention the fact that it's a bit crass.

STEW

Wha?... oh, you said crass. Only a bit?

GENE

I was trying to be generous.

GERR

I wish she'd be generous.

GENE

Enough with the double-play-entendres! She has been very generous. She hasn't slapped any of us silly yet.

STEW

Or with a lawsuit.

SOUND: Front door opens and rings. Footsteps enter the store.

UPS GIRL

Here you go. By the way, what's with the guy outside?

STEW

What guy?

UPS GIRL

The mime standing outside your door on the sidewalk. He's kind of annoying.

GERR

That goes with being a mime.

STEW

We didn't even know he was out there. What's he doing?

UPS GIRL

Mime stuff. I think he's wither doing trapped in a box or being an annoying arse... I can't believe you guys didn't know he was out there.

STEW

How would we have known? How are we supposed to hear a mime?

SOUND: Cue Intro music and monologue.

ACT I

SCENE 1 – ENTER EXT.: *Sidewalk in front of Neil's Comic and Video Emporium*

SOUND: Door opens and four sets of footsteps exit. Bell rings in distance inside store. Background noise is heard from a medium busy street.

STEW

How about that. A mime.

SOUND: Footsteps come to a stop.

STEW

Hey buddy. What're you doing here?

SOUND: Silence – 2 beats.

GERR

You really weren't expecting him to answer you, were you?

STEW

I guess not.

GENE

The least he could do is stop walking against the wind while we're talking to him.

STEW

Hey! Blow off.

GERR

Can we see that in mime form?

UPS GIRL

While this looks like it could be loads of fun, I'm gonna split. This is going to take a while, and I've got other deliveries to make.

STEW

OK. Thanks.

SOUND: Footfalls walk away and open a UPS truck door.

GENE

What's that he's doing now?

STEW

More walking against the wind?

GERR

I don't think so. It looks more like he's running.

GENE

Oh, I get it. He's chasing after her, trying to wave her to come back.

STEW

I know the feeling.

SOUND: UPS truck starts up and pulls away.

STEW

OK, now what's he do... hey, that's not nice.

GERR

Is he humping the air, or interpreting a Michael Jackson Wonderland Friday night?

GENE

I think he's saying that he'd like to hump her.

STEW

Cut that out. What kind of a mime are you?

GERR

A rude one obviously.

STEW

He obviously doesn't do children's shows.

GERR

Unless it's a Michael Jack...

GENE

Cut that out. Though I guess he's no ruder than we were.

STEW

That's different. She's our UPS Girl.

GENE

Don't ever let her catch you saying that. She'll kick you so hard that your testicles will replace your tonsils.

GERR

Hey buddy. You've got to move along. This is private property.

SOUND: Silence – 2 beats.

GERR

God, I hate mimes. What's he trying to tell us now?

GENE

Let's see. He's either started the invisible box thing again or he's telling us that there's a difference between where he is and our store.

STEW

You're saying you're on public property? You still need a permit.

GERR

Now he's unfolding an invisible piece of paper. <frustrated> God, I hate mimes!

GENE

It's probably that year of clown college kicking in.

STEW

Listen buddy, don't you know that you're the lowest form of performance art? I mean, you're even more despised than street magicians or those guys that guess your weight. <yelling> let me guess your weight...LET ME GUESS YOUR WEIGHT!!

GENE

I hate those guys too.

STEW

I don't care if you do have a permit; you need to find another street corner.

SOUND: Silence – 1 beat.

GENE

Now that's a mime I think we all understand. Or would that be more like sign language?

STEW

He just flipped me the bird!

GENE

You were right Stew, he probably doesn't do children's shows.
<beat> Don't hit the mime!

GERR

Oh, go ahead. Hit the mime. I wanna see if he can take it without saying anything.

GENE

Don't hit the mime. You know he'll swear up and down in court that it was unprovoked.

STEW

If he says it like he's said everything else so far, the judge'll probably give me a medal!

GENE

Ah, come on, dude. I'm trying to help you here. Don't taunt him with shadow boxing!

GERR

Let him hit the mime. We'll swear it was self-defense.

GENE

If you hit him, he'll sue Clyde, and he'll lose the shop.

STEW (frustrated)

Grrrrr.

GERR

Yeah, I like the way UPS girl says it better. Not quite as nice when you do it.

STEW (frustrated)

I hate mimes!

SOUND: Footsteps return to store, open door with bell and slam it shut.

GENE

And you guys wonder why nobody likes you. <beat> Is he...

GERR

Telling you to stroke off, yeah. I swear I caught this show in Vegas one time.

GENE

Argh!

SOUND: Footsteps return to store, open door with bell and slam it shut.

GERR

This isn't over, Marceau.

SOUND: Footsteps return to store and open door with bell.

SCENE 2 – CUT TO INT.: Neil's Comic and Video Emporium

SOUND: Door shuts. Footsteps cross store.

STEW

I'm not a violent man. I mean, how many times have I been face to face with Seth and managed to keep from hitting him?

GERR

By my count, about three times too many. By the law's count, one time too few.

STEW

But I spend three minutes talking to that guy out there...

STEW

... and I want to cram his face between the cracks in the sidewalk. Oh, God! I might need some serious help.

GERR

Such is the nature of the mime.

SOUND: Door shuts. Footsteps cross store. CLYDE grunts.

STEW

Morning, Clyde.

SOUND: Clyde grunts.

STEW

We're not sure what the mime's doing out there.

SOUND: Clyde grunts.

STEW

We're working on getting rid of him, but he has a permit.

SOUND: Clyde grunts.

STEW

We'll do our best.

SOUND: Clyde grunts as he opens the door across the room and walks through. Door shuts.

STEW

I completely agree with him. I hate people who chose not to speak.
It makes life so much more difficult.

GENE

Why did he have to pick our store to do that in front of?

GERR

Yeah, there's got to be better corners for him to pick...

GENE

better neighborhoods...

GERR

With more foot traffic...

GENE

In front of more profitable stores...

STEW

Yeah, yeah, yeah, I get it. We suck. So why pick here instead of
someplace else.

GENE

I have tons of faith. I have all the faith in the world that trying to talk Seth out of an evil deed is a waste of time and breath. I'm just wanting to know what plan B is.

STEW

Well, that's what you guys can work on until I get back.

GERR

Remember... no hitting below the belt, don't leave physical evidence and try not to get caught this time. Maybe you can put him in a box.

STEW

No promises.

SOUND: Transition music.

ACT II

SCENE 1 – ENTER INT.: *Lion's Den Comics*

SOUND: A loud, busy comic store filled with customers. The door opens.

SETH

No, we don't carry that series. There weren't enough pre-orders to make it worth our while to carry it.

CUSTOMER #2

Well I heard that New Line just bought the rights to it and are going to make a movie.

SETH

Great. Another comic book ruined by Hollywood.

CUSTOMER #2

Not all of them are bad.

SETH

Yes, they are. Every single one of them.

CUSTOMER #2

X-Men?

SETH

The costumes were completely wrong. And don't get me started on Wolverine. As tasty as he may be... for the ladies, I mean, Hugh Jackman was way too tall for the part.

CUSTOMER #2

Spider-man?

SETH

Organic web shooters? Give me a break. Broke the entire feel for me. Hated it!

CUSTOMER #2

What about the new one?

SETH

A Brit playing Peter Parker. Come on.

CUSTOMER #2

You come on. You had to love The Dark Knight.

SETH

Why? Because Heath Ledger won an Oscar? They only did it because the guy died. And his Joker was completely wrong. What happened to the chemical spill? What happened to the permanent white-face?

CUSTOMER #2 (upset)

It's the third-highest grossing film of all-time!

SETH

All that means is that there are a lot of people out there with no taste. Sheep, every one of them.

CUSTOMER #2 (infuriated)

God, what an ego!

SETH

Thank you. I'm quite proud of it.

SOUND: Footfalls storm away from counter. Other footfalls approach.

STEW

Darth Furiate, you are colder than five day old Tauntaun crap.

SETH (laughing)

I'm sorry. Did you say something? I didn't here you. Maybe if you pantomimed what you want to say.

STEW

So you were the one that sent the mime to our store!

SETH

Of course. I'm gonna guess it took you about 5 minutes to figure that one out too. Who else could it have been?

STEW

And you're proud of it?

SETH

Sure. Why not? If anything, I'm helping your customers. Call it a community service. Not only am I providing them with the only entertainment they'll get in the area, but I'm saving them from having to step foot in that cesspool you call a store.

STEW

That's low, even for you.

SETH

Which part?

STEW

Stooping to calling mime entertainment. Mimes are about as fun as Yo Momma jokes.

SETH

You mean like, your mother's so fat that, when she sits around the house, she sits around the house? <laughing>

STEW

If your gonna throw yo momma jokes around, you should make them original. Like yo momma's so fat, Jabba the Hut looks at her and says "damn, that's fat."

SETH

Cute. A Star Wars joke. How original.

STEW

Yo momma's so fat, she thinks eating healthy means she should dip her fruit in gravy. She's so fat; she considers rolling out of bed to be her daily workout.

SETH

OK, that's enough.

STEW

Yo momma's so fat; they used the Hubble telescope to take her DMV photo.

SETH

My mother doesn't drive.

STEW

Yo momma's so fat, she can't fit in the car.

SETH

I said enough.

STEW

What's the matter, Dark Lord? Is yo momma so fat?

SETH (hating to admit it)

She's not fat. She's just big-boned.

STEW

Yo momma's so fat, she has a son who tries to explain it away as being big-boned. I guess that would explain why you're a big boner yourself. And I haven't even moved out of the so fat jokes yet. We could do yo momma's so ugly, yo momma's so stinky, yo momma's so slutty...

SETH (frustrated)

Enough with the your mother jokes!

STEW

It's pronounced "yo momma." If you're going to say it, say it right.

SETH

Fine. Yo momma! Now get out of my store.

STEW

Not until you call off your mime. And where exactly do you get a mime-for-hire? Did he give you a business card labeled "Harlequin: Have Invisible Box, Will Travel"?

SETH

Hey, now that's clever. Maybe I'll print some up for him and give them to him as a Christmas bonus.

STEW

From what I've seen of his sense of humor, instead of having a knight chess piece in the background, it should be a penis.

SETH

A poop and a penis joke, all in one conversation. It's nice to see you're working at the top of your game. Care to go for the triumvirate?

STEW

You make me want to puke.

SETH

And he scores! Are you going to leave now?

STEW

Are you going to call off the mime?

SETH

Not only am I not going to call him off, I've given him a month long contract. And judging by your level of frustration, it's going to be money well spent. And there's nothing you can do about it because he's on the public sidewalk, not your business property. *<laughing>* This is what I call a two-fer.

STEW (mumbling)

Oh, yeah, *that* slang he can get right.

SETH

And speaking of the difference between public and business property, I'm going to ask you to leave one more time, then I'll be forced to call the cops to have you escorted out... again.

STEW

This isn't over.

SOUND: Footfalls storm away from counter.

SETH

You'll pardon me if I hope it is. Don't let the door hitcha where the good Lord splitcha.

STEW

The only thing I'll be hittin and splittin is yo mamma!

SETH

Argh!

SOUND: Door opens, slams shut, and transitions into music.

SCENE 2 – CUT TO INT.: *Neil's Comic and Video Emporium*

SOUND: Quiet store background noise.

STEW (from outside)

Go...

SOUND: Front door opens and rings.

STEW

...yourself, and the invisible horse you rode in on!

SOUND: Footsteps enter the store.

GERR

I take it that the meeting didn't go as well as you had hoped?

STEW

I accomplished one of our goals. I didn't get arrested.

GERR

Was it from a lack of trying?

GENE

I'm not the type to say I told you so...

STEW

Yes you are.

GENE

You're right. I told you so.

STEW

Well, did you come up with a better idea while I was gone?

GENE

Nothing that doesn't involve blunt instruments and possibly having to dispose of the body later.

STEW

In other words, nothing useful.

GENE

That's what I said.

STEW

How's business?

GERR

Terrible, but it's too soon to tell if it's because of the mime or not.

GENE

I saw a couple approaching the store about twenty minutes ago, but he scared them off.

STEW

Do I want to know?

GENE

Let's just say that he had an interesting interpretation of what to do with an invisible box and a Saturday Night Live routine.

STEW

Maybe I should take a lesson from him - my wife's box is pretty invisible. I really hate to say it, but he may actually have us this time guys.

GENE

Come on, there's got to be something we can do. I mean, there are laws against indecent behavior, public lewdness and being a nuisance. Can't we just call the cops?

GERR

And tell them what? Our store is being harassed by a mime? And one with a permit from the city, no less.

STEW

And as soon as they'd show up, he'd clean up his act and just be the general sort of mime annoying until they left again.

GENE

It's got to be worth a try. I mean, if business gets any worse...

SOUND: Front door opens and rings.

NORM

Hey guys.

GENE (surprised)

Norm!

GERR (surprised)

Norm!

STEW (surprised)

Norm!

NORM

Why all the surprised looks? You guys are open, right?

GENE

For the moment.

STEW

You didn't get scared off by the mime.

NORM

Do you realize how silly that statement sounds?

STEW

Once I said it out loud? Yeah, a little.

GENE

Didn't he try to stop you from coming in?

NORM

Maybe, I don't know. I basically just ignored him.

GERR

Ignored him?

NORM

Yeah. I learned a long time ago that, if you don't want to be hassled by people on the street, just drop your eyes and ignore that they're there and walk around.

GENE (as if it's just dawning on him)

And he can't actually touch you or he'd be guilty of assault.

NORM

Probably. In this day and age, it doesn't take much.

STEW

Less than you'd think.

NORM

You guys aren't actually worried about that guy, are you?

STEW

Well, he is pretty annoying.

NORM

It doesn't matter how annoying he might be, your faithful customers... your friends, will continue to come in.

GENE

I think Seth underestimated our people.

NORM (a little annoyed)

It sounds like you underestimated us too.

STEW

You know what? You're right. Sorry about that.

NORM (cheered up again)

Apology accepted. Now, about my comics...

SOUND: Transition music.

EPILOGUE

SCENE 1 – ENTER INT.: Neil's Comic and Video Emporium

SOUND: Quiet store background noise.

STEW

So what's he doing now?

GENE

He's either doing an impersonation of Rodin's Thinker... or he's bored.

GERR (teasing)

That'll teach him. Nobody does more damage to our business than us.

STEW

In some ways, I can actually appreciate the guy in this moment. I mean, he's taking money from Seth for doing absolutely nothing.

GENE

Spoke too soon. He's getting up.

STEW

And now I hate him again. Is it customers?

GENE

I can't tell from this angle. But something's drawn his attention.

SOUND: A car approaches outside. A weird horn, like that from a bike, sounds.

GENE

Whatever it is, he doesn't look happy.

GERR

It's about time they got here.

STEW

What's going on?

SOUND: A VW Bug car door opens as the car pulls to a stop.

GENE

It's a small white Bug with multicolored bubbles painted all over it.

STEW

What?

GERR

It's a clown car.

STEW

What's a clown car doing here...

BLINKY (from outside)

Get 'em, boys!

SOUND: A large commotion begins outside as a bunch of clowns pile out of the car and start charging the mime.

GENE

It's a bunch of clowns, and they're attacking the mime!

SOUND: Punches and kicks and squeaks can be heard from outside.

GENE

They're kicking his butt!

GENE

I have to give the guy an ounce of credit. He's so dedicated to his craft, he didn't make a sound when they were trying to kick his teeth in.

GERR

If they're kicking him, they aren't really trying to hurt him. Those big shoes have more air in them than foot.

GENE

I bet he's wishing the same could be said for their gloves.

STEW

OK, who sent in the clowns?

SOUND: The mime starts to run, followed by the mob of clowns. Front door bursts open and rings.

BLINKY (singing)

They're already here! <*beat – returning to speaking*> Blanko!
Long time, no see brother!

GERR

Good to see you too, Blinky.

STEW

Jer, you're responsible for this?

GERR

You asked for other options. I called my old clown college buddy Blinky and told him we had a mime sighting.

BLINKY

And that's all I needed to hear. I put out the call and clowns from around the state came runnin'. We would've been here sooner, but Dapsy said he'd string me up by my squeaky toys if we left without him.

SOUND: Two squeezes on a handheld horn.

BLINKY

And he'd do it too.

STEW

But why?

GERR

If there's one thing that all clowns hate...

BLINKY

Its mimes. There's nothing on the planet worse than a mime. Lowest form of life, if you ask me.

GERR

It's like it's ingrained into your psyche. If you want to be a clown, you have a natural disdain for mimes.

BLINKY

They give whiteface a bad name. Even those depressing French clowns look down on them.

GENE

But there were so many of you.

BLINKY

As clowns, we deal with kids *all the time*. And people either love us or hate us. There's no middle of the road. And even when they like us, they love to abuse us. So we got a lot of pent up rage and frustration, and there's nothing better to let that out on than a mime.

GERR

Plus they have the advantage of anonymity. Clown makeup covers up their identities *really* well.

GENE

Is he going to survive?

BLINKY

We're clowns, not animals. We'll put the fear of Bozo into him; make him think twice about ever coming back here again. We also got a couple of volunteers to stay in the area, watch the place and make sure he stays clear.

GENE

Clown security?

GERR

Nothing's more reliable when it comes to a mime outbreak. Quite the antidote.

STEW

And we're not going to owe you a favor at some point down the line, are we?

BLINKY

We're an insane clown posse, not the mob. We jump mimes for free. Have a great day fellas. Blanko, don't be a stranger.

GERR

No stranger than normal. Wakka, wakka, wakka.

SOUND: Door reopens and closes again.

STEW

I knew you went to clown college, but...

GERR

Yeah, they're a bit out there, even by my standards, but they get results.

GENE

I *never* thought I'd feel sorry for a mime. I wonder what it would take to send him over to the Lyon's Den...

GERR

You can't afford him. Silence is golden.

CUT: Ending music and credits.

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Ending Credits

You have been listening to Roll Playa'z – Episode 3: Mime Theatre, starring (in order of appearance) Roger Kelley as Stew, Ryan Gilbert as Gene and Mick Mize as Jerr.

This presentation also featured Louise Francis as the UPS Girl, Erick Greeva as Seth, Jim Caswell as the customer, Steve Cain as Norm, Ken Hallaron as Blinky and extra special guest appearance by Neil Lindgren as the mime.

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