

MIDDLEMOST POST

#049 - "Unhappy Campers"

Written by

Alex Rinehart and Dave H. Johnson

WRITERS DRAFT #1 - 04/20/21
WRITERS DRAFT #2 - 05/02/21
1ST DRAFT - 06/07/21
BOARD DRAFT - 06/11/21
BOARD DRAFT REVISED - 06/21/21
BOARD DRAFT UPDATE - 06/23/21
REC DRAFT - 08/04/21
SHIPPING DRAFT - 10/19/21

EXT. MT. MIDDLEMOST - ESTABLISHING

We push in on Greenwood to...

EXT. GREENWOOD CAMPGROUNDS - DAY

A Big Bear-esque campsite. We see a row of perfectly placed tents with HAPPY FAMILIES doing the "camping thing." It's all very wholesome.

1	DOUG	1
	Eh, this place used to be a lot, uh, nicer.	

The MMP CREW walks is led by RANGER ROSE. She's all smiles.
The MMP look pretty pumped to be here too.

2	RANGER ROSE	2
	Welcome to Greenwood's Green Wood National Park! Your campsite is right this way.	

3	PARKER	3
	Oh, boy, I'm so excited!	

4	ANGUS	4
	Me too, kiddo. And I think this is gonna be the camping trip we pull it off!	

5	RANGER ROSE	5
	Here we are!	

The Ranger points to an empty campsite.

6	PARKER	6
	It's perfect. We'll take it!	

7	ANGUS	7
	Parker, we paid for it already.	

8	PARKER	8
	Good thinking, big guy.	

9	RANGER ROSE	9
	Ooh, you dudes sure pack light. Where's all your camping supplies?	

10	PARKER	10
	Inside Russell!	

11 ANGUS 11

We organized our camping gear
exactly how we want it, so all
Russell has to do is spit it out,
and walla!

Russell spits out all the camping gear in one big KNOTTED MESS. Like a giant hair ball.

12 RANGER ROSE 12

Ah, don't worry, guys. Ranger Rose is a professional. We'll get your campsite set up in no time.

She confidently pats their slobbery gear.

13 RANGER ROSE (CONT'D) 13
EWW.

CAMPING WIPE:

EXT. GREENWOOD CAMPSITE - LATER

The Ranger puts some logs in the campfire as Parker, Angus, and Russell set up their campsite.

14 RANGER ROSE 14

So what fun activities you three
got planned for tonight? Getting
your s'mores on? Tell scary stories
around the campfire?

Meanwhile, Angus struggles to build their tent.

15 ANGUS 15
<STRAINED TENT BUILDING EFFOTS>

16 PARKER 16
All the above, Ranger Rose!

Angus finally gets two of the tent poles to connect.

ANGUS

Hmm? <ACCOMPLISHED CHUCKLE>

But Angus' moment of victory is cut short when they immediately fling apart, SMACKING Parker out of frame!

18 ANGUS (CONT'D) 18
Uh, let's not get ahead of
ourselves, Parker.

Parker pokes his head out from a nearby tree.

19 PARKER 19
Right.
(to Ranger)
You can probably tell by my sudden
downtrodden tone that there's
something we're not telling you
about our previous camping
adventures.

20 ANGUS 20
We've never quite made it,
<STRAINS>, to nightfall on any
camping trip we've ever done.

21 PARKER 21
We've tried though. Like a bunch!

22 ANGUS 22
We sure have. And this time we're
gonna do it! Right, buddy?

23 PARKER 23
You said it, buddy! Night time here
we come!

24 ANGUS 24
Aw yeah!

Parker and Angus chest bump. Or high five? Or... something.
They're way out of sync.

25 ANGUS/PARKER 25
<FAILING AT HIGH FIVING>

Finally, they land a handshake!

26 ANGUS/PARKER (CONT'D) 26
<SATISFIED CHUCKLES>

27 RANGER ROSE 27
You never made it to dark? How
come?

Angus and Parker share a look. Like someone just asked them
where the dead body is.

28 ANGUS 28
Oh, you know, it-it's probably not
worth getting into. Things happen,
camping trips get cut short.

29 PARKER 29
Especially when "someone" forgets
the baked beans.

EXT. OLDER CAMPSITE - FLASHBACK

Parker tosses food out of Russell's tummy, looking for beans. He's eyeballing CANS, then tossing them over his shoulder.

30 PARKER 30
Not beans, not beans, not beans,
not beans. Welp...

Parker calmly closes Russell's mouth. Looks to Angus.

31 PARKER (CONT'D) 31
You forgot to pack the baked beans.
I'm out.

Over it, Parker stomps off.

EXT. GREENWOOD CAMPSITE - PRESENT

Parker looks smug, like his point has clearly been made.

32 ANGUS 32
Parker, buddy. There's a reason why
I left the baked beans at home. Did
you forget what happened with you
and the beans on that other trip?

EXT. OLDER CAMPSITE - FLASHBACK

A bloated Parker, with BEAN juice on his face, sits next to a giant EMPTY CAN of beans, the CAMPFIRE warming his toes.

33 PARKER 33
I love you, baked beans. <BIG
BITE!><CHEWS>

Parker looks around, sees if anyone is looking. Lifts a butt
cheek...

WIDE SHOT OF CAMPSITE: We hear <FART>. Then <BOOM>! Giant mushroom cloud explosion lights up the sky.

EXT. GREENWOOD CAMPSITE - PRESENT

It's getting awkward, and Ranger Rose feels it.

34 RANGER ROSE 34
Well, like you said, things happen.
I'm sure you three will make it
through the night this time around.

35 PARKER 35
I think so too. Especially since
Angus wore the right hiking boots.
And not a brand new pair like he
wore that one time.

Parker gives Angus a look.

36 ANGUS 36
<EMBARRASSED GROAN>

EXT. HIKING TRAIL - FLASHBACK

Angus, in total agony, walks gingerly in new hiking boots.
With each step he <WINCES>, trying to downplay the pain.

37 ANGUS 37
Ow. Ooh. Ow. Eee.

38 PARKER 38
You okay, Angus?

39 ANGUS 39
Me? <STRAINS> I'm fine. Heh heh. I
think there's something in my shoe
that's causing me a wee-bit of
discomfort. Well, don't worry, I'll
get it out, and I'll be fit as a
flea.

Angus sits down on a log and unties his shoes.

40 PARKER 40
Orrrrrrr, your brand new hiking
boots that you've never worn, not
once, are giving you blisters.

41 ANGUS 41
Oh, nonsense. It's probably a pesky
little rock, that's all. See?

Angus pulls off his shoe, revealing the BIGGEST THROBBING
BLISTER you've ever seen on his foot.

42 ANGUS/PARKER 42
<SCREAMS!>

The BLISTER forms a mouth and <SCREAMS>!

EXT. GREENWOOD CAMPSITE - PRESENT

Parker gives Angus a consoling pat on the shoulder.

43 PARKER 43
We didn't even make it to the
campsite that day, did we pal?

44 ANGUS 44
Wasn't the only time we failed to
reach our destination. Pal.

EXT. ON TRAIL - FLASHBACK

The MMP crew hike through the forest with gear. Angus pulls out a COMPASS and checks coordinates.

45 ANGUS 45
Mmmhmm. Hmmm...

46 PARKER 46
<OFFENDED GUFFAW!> You brought a
compass? How could you!?

47 ANGUS 47
Well how else are we supposed to
find our campsite?

Parker takes the compass and throws it off a cliff.

48 ANGUS (CONT'D) 48
Hey!

49 PARKER 49
Angus, I am a cloud. It hurts me
that you'd use a compass to find
your way around when all I have to
do is float into the sky and tell
you exactly where we need to go.

Parker floats above the trees. Looks left, looks right.

50 PARKER (CONT'D) 50
Huh. Okay.

A moment later, he floats back down.

51 PARKER (CONT'D) 51
Yeah, I'm totally lost.

EXT. GREENWOOD CAMPSITE - PRESENT

Parker and Angus stare each other down. It's definitely awkward.

52 ANGUS/PARKER 52
Grrrrrrr.

Rose just wants to bail asap.

53 RANGER ROSE 53
Hmmm. <POPS LIPS> Okay. I should
probably scoot before the skeeters
come out.

Ranger Rose hurries off, but Angus steps in front of her.

54 ANGUS 54
Mosquitos! Ha! I'm glad you brought
that up, Ranger Rose. I recall one
camping trip where my good friend
Parker here forgot to zip up the
door to the tent.
(shoots look to Parker)
Which is important. So you keep the
mosquitos out.

55 PARKER 55
Only one mosquito got in, Angus. I
don't see what the big deal was.

INT. TENT - FLASHBACK

A MOSQUITO the size of a Great Dane stands on a sleeping
Angus. It sucks blood through its giant, beer bong sized
sucker. Angus literally shrivels to skin.

EXT. GREENWOOD CAMPSITE - PRESENT

Angus turns to Ranger Rose.

56 ANGUS 56
I lost a lot of blood that day,
Ranger Rose. A lot of blood.

Rose looks around, searching for help.

57 RANGER ROSE 57
Uh-huh.
(sees another Ranger)
Oh, look! It's Ranger Randy.
<NERVOUS LAUGHTER> Hey, Randy!

RANGER RANDY (GRIncidental2) joins them.

58 RANGER RANDY 58
Uh, hey there, happy campers.

59 RANGER ROSE 59
<CLEARS THROAT> You probably need
me to do something... <NERVOUS
LAUGHTER> Please. Somewhere else.
Like anywhere else. Right? Right??

Ranger Rose pleads to her co-worker with her eyes. Parker
zips over to Randy.

60 PARKER 60
I'm glad you're here, Ranger Randy.
Mind if I ask you a question?

61 RANGER RANDY 61
Sure!

62 RANGER ROSE 62
<EXASPERATED GROAN!>

63 RANGER RANDY 63
What do you wanna know? The
lifespan of a typical redwood tree?
Or what plants are poisonous and
which ones just taste really bad?

64 PARKER 64
Have you ever tried to eat your
best bud?

65 RANGER RANDY 65
Say what now?

66 PARKER 66
If you got, oh, I don't know,
trapped under an avalanche. Would
you eat Ranger Rose?
(glares at Angus)
Or at least try to.

Angus looks at his feet. He knows where this is going.

INT. ROCK RUBBLE CAVE - FLASHBACK

The MMP desperately cling to each other, trembling in fear.

67 ANGUS/PARKER 67
<TREMBLING EFFORTS!>

Parker and Russell are huddled close, surrounded by rocks.

68 PARKER 68
Everything's gonna be okay, girl. I
promise.
(MORE)

PARKER (CONT'D)

We'll find a way out of here.

Right, Angus?

(nothing)

Angus?

69

ANGUS

69

<CHEWING/LICKING EFFORTS!>

Parker finds Angus gnawing on his cloud leg like he's eating ribs.

70

PARKER

70

Angus!

71

ANGUS

71

Huh, what? Oh, I didn't know that was your leg, heh. Sorry, buddy.

Angus stares at Parker with crazy eyes (think Nicholson in The Shining).

72

PARKER

72

Why are you looking at me like that?

73

ANGUS

73

<LICKS LIPS> Like what?

ANGUS POV: Parker transforms into different food items. Taco, Hamburger, Pizza.

74

ANGUS (CONT'D)

74

(trance)

Parker J. Pizza.

75

PARKER

75

What?

76

ANGUS

76

Nothing.

Parker and Russell scoot away, petrified. A moment later, Angus stalks toward Parker, fork and knife in hand. He backs the little nimbus into the wall.

77

PARKER

77

Angus! ANGU--!!

Angus' shadow envelops Parker.


```
<POOF>! Angus' face swells like a balloon, followed by the
rest of his body.
```

87 ANGUS (CONT'D) 87
(severely swollen)
So itchy!

EXT. GREENWOOD CAMPSITE - PRESENT

Parker shrugs it off.

88 PARKER 88
How was I supposed to know poison
oak was bad for you?

89 ANGUS 89
I don't know, Parker. The word
"poison" is in the name!

Russell <SNICKERS> at Angus' expense.

90 ANGUS (CONT'D) 90
 (to Russell)
What are you giggling at? If I'm
not mistaken, you caused a few
camping trips to be cut short too,
girl.

Russell shakes her head, brushes off her shoulder. No way.

91 ANGUS (CONT'D) 91
(to Russell)
Ohhhh, so it wasn't you who
wandered off and got kidnapped by
Forest Pixies?

EXT. OTHER CAMPSITE - FLASHBACK

Parker and Angus read a RANSOM NOTE. It's a cute note, with glitter.

92 ANGUS 92
(reads note)
*"We have your walrus. Give us ten
dollars, or you'll never see her
again. Love, Forest Pixies."*

93 PARKER 93
I don't have ten dollars!

Angus pulls out his wallet. A MOTH flies out.

94 ANGUS 94
Me either!

EXT. GREENWOOD CAMPSITE - PRESENT

Angus and Parker are on either side of Ranger Rose. She's literally trapped and growing more and more anxious by the second.

95 ANGUS 95
It was a total bumner of a day,
Ranger Rose.

96 PARKER 96

Major bummer! We had to hike allll
the way home, get ten dollars, then
hike allll the way back.

EXT. FOREST - FLASHBACK

Angus and Parker confront a bunch of flying FOREST PIXIES who have Russell tied up. They hand the PIXIE QUEEN a ten dollar bill, but the Pixie shakes her head.

97 ANGUS (V.O.) 97
And in typical Pixie fashion, those
jerkfaces doubled the price!

Angus and Parker share a look, both growing angry.

98 ANGUS/PARKER **98**

<GASP!> Hmmp.

99 PARKER (V.O.) 99
I mean, naturally, we took 'em to
pound town.

100 ANGUS 100

Grrrrrr.

The two crack their knuckles.

```

101                                ANGUS/PARKER                                101
                                <SPITS!>

```

Then...

EXT. FOREST - FLASHBACK - MOMENTS LATER

Angus and Parker fight the band of Pixies!

Another Forest Pixie plucks Parker's head off his body, punting it into the air.

114 FOREST PIXIE WALLA (CONT'D) **114**

 <PUNTING EFFORT>

Parker retaliates by turning into a giant FLY SWATTER and SMASHING the Forest Pixie.

115 FOREST PIXIE WALLA (CONT'D) **115**

 <SMASHED IMPACT>

On top of a pile of defeated Forest Pixies, Angus holds the defeated Pixie Queen. Parker wipes his brow.

116	PARKER	116
	Phew!	

EXT. GREENWOOD CAMPSITE - PRESENT

117 ANGUS 117
We got Russell, thinking the worst
was over.

118 PARKER 118
It was not.

EXT. OLDER CAMPSITE - FLASHBACK

The MMP crew return to their campsite battered and bruised, but victorious. They stop dead in their tracks upon seeing...

119 ANGUS (V.O.) 119
The stinkin' Forest Pixies robbed
us clean while we were getting
Russell back!

REVEAL the campsite has been pilfered. There's barely anything left.

EXT. GREENWOOD CAMPSITE - PRESENT

ANGUS

It was a bait and switch!

```

121                PARKER                121
      A classic okie-doke!

```

122	ANGUS	122
	The old duperoo!	

Ranger Rose finally snaps!

123 RANGER ROSE 123
<STRAINING EFFORT> ENOUGH! I don't
wanna hear anymore about all the
times you three biffed a camping
trip. 'Cause you know what? You
know what?! I don't care!

124 PARKER 124
Gee, Ranger Rose, that's kinda
mean.

125 RANGER ROSE 125
MEAN!? Have you two not heard the
words that are coming out of your
mouth? All you've been doing is
blaming each other for your past
failures. Best buds don't do that.

Angus, Parker, and Russell suddenly feel pretty guilty.

126 RANGER ROSE (CONT'D) 126
<SIGHS> If you dudes were smart,
you'd just pack up your gear right
now and go home. Forget about
camping. Clearly you stink at it.

Ranger Rose stomps off. Angus, Parker, and Russell are all a
bit shell shocked, not knowing what to say.

127 ANGUS 127
Ranger Rose is right. We've been
awfully mean to each other.

128 PARKER 128
Yeah. Camping is supposed to be
fun, and this? This isn't fun.

129 ANGUS 129
What do you say we take Ranger
Rose's advice and go home, huh?
Who cares if we never made it to
night time?

130 PARKER 130
Not this cloud. I couldn't care
less.

131 ANGUS 131
I couldn't care less even more.

Russell tugs on Angus to get his attention.

132 ANGUS (CONT'D) 132
What is it, girl?

Russell points to the MOON. It's night time yet no one has noticed.

133 ANGUS (CONT'D) 133
Yeah, it's the moon. I've seen it before. Parker, you get the tent, I'll get the cooler.

134 PARKER 134
On it!

Russell tugs harder on Angus.

135 ANGUS 135
What, Russell? What?

She points to the moon again and gestures all around. It slowly sinks in for Angus.

136 ANGUS (CONT'D) 136
<GASPS!> Well I'll be-- We did it!

Angus stops Parker, who's trying to fold their tent.

137 PARKER 137
<SMALL PUSH EFFORT>

138 ANGUS 138
It's night time, Parker! We made it to dark!

139 PARKER 139
<GASPS!> We did it! We made it! Woo-hoo!

The three dance around like fools and celebrate.

140 ANGUS/PARKER 140
<CELEBRATORY DANCE EFFORTS!>

Doug pops out of the bushes.

141 DOUG 141
Shhhh! There are families here, fellas. Let's bring it down a notch. Okay? Thank you.

Angus and Parker bring their volume way down.

142 ANGUS 142
I never doubted us, not once!

143 PARKER 143
Me either, big guy! Me either! Boy,
Ranger Rose was totally wrong about
us.

144 ANGUS 144
She sure was. I'm kinda embarrassed
for her, to be honest. Right,
Russell?

They look to Russell, who is nowhere to be found.

145 PARKER 145
Russell?

But there's a NOTE. They pick it up and read.

146 ANGUS 146
(reads note)
*"We have your walrus. Give us ten
dollars, or you'll never see her
again. Love, Forest Pixies."*

Angus and Parker share a look.

147 ANGUS (CONT'D) 147
Do you have any--

148 PARKER 148
No. You?

Angus reaches in his pockets, shakes his head.

149 PARKER (CONT'D) 149
Pound town?

150 ANGUS 150
Pound town.

Angus pulls out a can of BAKED BEANS, and Parker gulps it
down like Popeye.

151 ANGUS/PARKER 151
<CHARGING YELLS!>

They run deep into the forest, straight for those Pixies!

152 FOREST PIXIE WALLA (O.S.) 152
<SCREECHES!>

Then a <FART>, followed by an insanely loud <BOOM>! Giant
mushroom cloud explosion!

THE END.