

MIDDLEMOST POST

#055 - "Tie-Dye Eye"

Written by

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INT. S.S. STEADFAST - KITCHEN - DAY

1 ANGUS (O.S.) 1
Breakfast is ready, Parker.

ANGUS and RUSSELL munch on breakfast at the table.

2 ANGUS (CONT'D) 2
You're gonna wanna get in here
before Russell eats it all.

Russell gives Angus a "how dare you" look.

INT. S.S. STEADFAST - BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

PARKER, in his bed hammock, wakes up and stretches.

3 PARKER 3
<YAWNS>

He happily hops out of bed and walks down to the kitchen.

4 PARKER (CONT'D) 4
<HUMMING>

INT. S.S. STEADFAST - KITCHEN - CONT.

Parker waltzes in like it's any other day.

5 PARKER 5
Morning, Angus. Have you ever woken
up and seen the world in a whole
new light?

We see his eyes are TIE-DYED!

6 ANGUS 6
Parker, your eyes!

7 PARKER 7
What about 'em?

8 ANGUS 8
They're all, all... uh, Tie-Dyed.

Parker looks at his eyes in the reflection of Angus' spoon.

9 PARKER 9
<GASPS!> Cool! That would explain
why everything seems so bright and
colorful today. More than normal of
course.

Parker looks up, and from his POV, we see psychedelic
versions of Angus and Russell.

10 PARKER (CONT'D) 10
Awww yeah...

Angus is clearly spooked by this.

11 ANGUS 11
Just to be safe, we should probably
take you to the doctor.

EXT. DOC ROCK'S OFFICE - ESTABLISHING

12 DOC ROCK (O.S.) 12
Yup. As I suspected.

INT. DOC ROCK'S OFFICE - DAY

CU of inside a KALEIDOSCOPE. DOC ROCK peers into Parker's eyes with a magnifying glass.

13 DOC ROCK 13
You got a case of the Tie-Dye Eye,
Parker.

14 PARKER 14
Tie-Dye Eye!!

Parker shakes the doctor by his shirt collar.

15 DOC ROCK 15
<BEING SHOOK EFFORTS>

16 PARKER 16
Shoot me straight, doc, how much
longer do I have!?

Parker finally stops shaking him, waits for the answer.

17 DOC ROCK 17
<STUTTERS> You're a cloud, so I'd
say... uh... forever?

18 PARKER 18
(like nothing)
Oh. Okay.

19 DOC ROCK 19
Kid like you, full of brightness
and sunshine... I'm not surprised
you caught it.

We find Angus INSIDE Russell, barely peeking out.

20 ANGUS 20
I-Is it contagious?

21 DOC ROCK 21
Nooo. And I'm a doctor, so I should know.

22 ANGUS 22
(like nothing)
Oh. Okay. <CLIMBING EFFORT>

Angus climbs out of Russell.

23 DOC ROCK 23
A couple days rest on the ship, and Parker will be right back to normal.

24 ANGUS 24
<SIGHS> Thanks, doc!

The MMP crew file out.

25 ANGUS/PARKER 25
Alright, so long. / Buh-bye!

Doc Rock goes to wash his hands.

26 DOC ROCK 26
(to himself)
Sweet kid. Nice family. <HAPPILY HUMS>

He catches his face in the mirror. His eyes are TIE-DYED!

27 DOC ROCK (CONT'D) 27
<GASPS!>

EXT. S.S. STEADFAST - ESTABLISHING

TITLE: "A COUPLE DAYS REST LATER"

INT. S.S. STEADFAST - KITCHEN - DAY

Angus and Russell munch on breakfast at the table.

28 ANGUS 28
Parker! Breakfast is ready. <CHEWS>

Parker waltzes in like it's any other day. Angus stares at the kid, suspicious.

29 PARKER 29
Angus, have you ever woken up and...
(opens his eyes)
NOT had Tie-Dye Eye!?

Parker's eyes are back to normal!

30 ANGUS 30
Woo-hoo! Look at you. Your eyes are
back to normal, kiddo. Just like
the doctor said.

31 PARKER 31
Well he is a doctor, so he should
know.

32 ANGUS 32
What do you say we eat our
breakfast super fast so we can go
deliver some mail?

33 PARKER 33
I'd say--

Parker turns into a VACUUM and sucks up his breakfast. Angus
and Russell join in like it's a competition.

34 ANGUS 34
<FRANTIC EATING EFFORTS>

EXT. CITY OF SOMEWHERE - DAY

The MMP delivers mail like usual. But something isn't right.
There's an eerie quiet that our crew doesn't notice.

35 ANGUS 35
I'm a big fan of Mondays. Fresh new
batch of mail, four hard, long days
of work still ahead of ya.

36 PARKER 36
You said it, big guy!

STEWART drifts towards them, arms out for a hug, zombie like.

37 STEWART 37
Hey, man. How about a hug?

38 PARKER 38
Okay!

39 ANGUS 39
Kinda busy, Stewart. Mail doesn't
deliver itself.

Angus pulls Parker along as they blow right past Stewart.

40 PARKER 40
Bye!

They totally miss that Stewart has... TIE-DYE EYE!

41 STEWART 41
Hey, man. You want a hug?

42 REGGIE (O.S.) 42
Hi, I'm Re--

Stewart hugs a nearby REGGIE, whose eyes swirl with Tie-Dye.
Other CITIZENS stumble by. They ALL have Tie-Dye Eye!

EXT. YELLOW SPRINGS - LEVI ALONE HOME - DAY

The MMP crew stops outside Levi Alone's fenced off home. A
new signs reads *"Keep Out! That Means You, Middlemost Post!"*

43 PARKER 43
Have I ever told you how much I
love delivering mail to Levi Alone?

44 ANGUS 44
Parker, we barely make it out alive
every time we deliver a package to
that old grump.

45 PARKER 45
Doesn't mean it's not fun!

Angus takes a deep, calming breath before entering.

46 ANGUS 46
Okay. Let's do this.

LEVI ALONE swings open the door, startling Angus.

47 ANGUS (CONT'D) 47
AAAAHHH!

48 LEVI ALONE 48
Hello.

49 PARKER 49
Hi, Levi Alone!

50 LEVI ALONE 50
Can I get a hug?

51 PARKER 51
One hug coming right up!

As Parker <ZIPS> towards Levi's outstretched arms...

52 ANGUS 52
Parker! Stop!

Angus tackles Parker away from Levi.

53 ANGUS (CONT'D) 53
I think Levi has the... Tie-Dye
Eye!

Levi trips and looks up at our crew. The Tie-Dye Eye is impossible to miss.

54 LEVI ALONE 54
<TRIPPING YELP> Hug?

55 ANGUS/PARKER 55
<SHOCKED GASPS!>

56 ANGUS 56
It IS contagious!

Before Levi can reach them, they bolt!

57 LEVI ALONE 57
Hug.

58 ANGUS 58
<NERVOUS RUNNING>

59 PARKER 59
What's happening, Angus?

60 ANGUS 60
I don't know, Parker. But if Levi
Alone wants a hug, something must
be really, really wrong.

61 REGGIE (O.S.) 61
Can I get a hug?

GORDY, with "clear eyes," eating an ice cream, ambles over.

62 GORDY 62
What do we got here?

63 ANGUS 63
Oh, no. There's more!

Others slowly approach, eyes Tie-Dyed, seeking hugs.

64 TINA 64
I could use a hug too.

65 PARKER 65
Gordy, look out!

66 TIE-DYER WALLA 66
Huuuuggggsssss...

Too late. Gordy is "consumed" by an excessive GROUP HUG that is pretty off-putting to say the least.

67 GORDY 67
Ooh, that's tight.

The horde disperses. Gordy stands there, eyes now Tie-Dyed.

68 GORDY (CONT'D) 68
(like "brains")
I like huuuuuggggs.

69 TIE-DYER WALLA 69
Huuuuggggsssss...

70 ANGUS/PARKER 70
<TERRIFIED GASPS!>

They see WENDY, also with the "eye," heading right for DARELL SHORT.

71 WENDY 71
Huuuuggggsssss...

She hugs him, and we see his eyes turn Tie-Dye! We see others chased by the horde.

72 CITIZEN WALLA 72
<SCARED/RUNNING AWAY WALLA> / "Run
for it! Don't let 'em hug you!"

73 TIE-DYER WALLA 73
Huuuuggggsssss... Huuuuggggsssss...

The MMP crew huddle in fear as they find themselves surrounded by incoming Tie-Dyers.

74 TIE-DYER WALLA (CONT'D) 74
Huuuuggggsssss... Huuuuggggsssss...

75 ANGUS/PARKER 75
<TERRIFIED SCREAMS!>

76 TIE-DYER WALLA 76
Huuuuggggsssss...

Then suddenly, a manhole cover pops open. It's RYAN. His eyes are clear.

77 RYAN 77
Get in here if you want to save
yourselves!

78 ANGUS 78
<NERVOUS EFFORT>

Just in the nick of time, the MMP drops down the manhole.

79 TIE-DYER WALLA 79
Huuuuggggsssss...

INT. SEWERS BELOW SOMEWHERE - DAY

The MMP finally get a good look at Ryan...

80 ANGUS/PARKER 80
 <GASPS!> Ryan?!

He's tatted and gruff. The guy's clearly seen some shit. It's Apocalypse Ryan.

81 RYAN 81
 Walk with me.

Ryan leads the MMP through the sewers. He executes flawless flips and tricks on badass roller skates.

82 RYAN (CONT'D) 82
 <FLIPPING/GRINDING EFFORTS>

They finally reach a large METAL DOOR that slides open.

83 ANGUS/PARKER 83
 <GASPS!>

84 PARKER 84
 What is this place?

85 RYAN 85
 It's the last vestige of the "Clear
 Eyes."

86 ANGUS 86
 Ryan, what in the world happened to
 the mountain?

As Ryan talks we cut to...

EXT. CITY OF SOMEWHERE - Random CITIZENS hug in the street.

87 RYAN (V.O.) 87
 At first, it was only a few people,
 getting a little too "touchy
 feely."

A long line of CITIZENS sit cross-legged and massage the shoulders of the person in front of them.

88 RYAN (V.O.) 88
 But before we knew it, massage
 trains started to form all over
 town.

It's a full on Grateful Dead pre-party with people dancing carefree and banging on drums.

89 RYAN (V.O.) 89
That led to a massive drum circle
and people group dancing to music
only they could hear.

We see "CLOSED" signs on all the store windows.

90 RYAN (V.O.) 90
Then the stores all closed. Nobody
wanted to work anymore, because
working was for "the man." Our
economy collapsed within hours.

IN THE SEWER - ON PARKER

91 PARKER 91
What about the Middlemost Toast!?
Tell me it's still there, Ryan.
Tell me it's still open!

92 RYAN 92
(shakes head sadly)
It's a hot yoga studio now.

93 PARKER 93
<GASPS!>

94 RYAN 94
And not a very clean one.

95 ANGUS/PARKER 95
Noooo!

96 RYAN 96
Don't worry, you're safe down here.

97 MAYOR PEEVE (O.S.) 97
RYAN!

98 ANGUS/PARKER 98
<GASPS!>

The MMP crew look over to find MAYOR PEEVE in a cage,
reaching out his arms. His eyes blazing with colors.

99 MAYOR PEEVE 99
Ryan, give me a hug! Come on, just
one hug.

100 ANGUS 100
They got the Mayor?

Ryan couldn't look more disheartened.

101 RYAN 101
The one time he wants a hug from
me, and I can't give it to him.
<SNIFFLES>

Anger fills Ryan like we've never seen.

102 RYAN (CONT'D) 102
Mark my words. I'm gonna find out
who started this, and I'm gonna
make them pay.

103 PARKER (O.S.) 103
(proudly)
I started it! It was me.

Angus and Russell share a look. Uh-oh.

104 PARKER (CONT'D) 104
Totally had Tie-Dye Eye. It was
real bad.

INT. SEWERS BELOW SOMEWHERE - LATER

Parker, Angus, and Russell are now in their own cage. Ryan,
surrounded by fellow "Clear Eyes," locks it.

105 ANGUS 105
Ryan, let us out of here. This is
stupid.

Peeve continues to reach through the cage bars toward Ryan.

106 MAYOR PEEVE 106
Ooooh, just a little closer. Mmm,
just a little bit.
<GIGGLES><STRAINED REACHING
EFFORTS>

107 RYAN 107
Afraid I can't do that, Angus. Not
after what Parker did to my sweet,
sweet Mayor.

Ryan looks over to Peeve in his cage. Peeve nows wears a
FRINGE VEST.

108 MAYOR PEEVE 108
Look, Ryan. I tore off my sleeves
and made this groovy vest.

109 PARKER 109
Angus, how long are we gonna be in
here?

Ryan turns back to the MMP crew, more resolute than ever.

110 RYAN 110
Oh I'll tell you how long. Little
something called... FOREVER!

Suddenly... <BOOM>! The ceiling crumbles as LILY drops down
in a dope HAZMAT MECH SUIT.

111 PARKER 111
Lily!

112 LILY 112
Hi, Parker.

Lily grabs the cage and ROCKET BOOSTS straight out. It all
happens in a flash.

113 RYAN 113
Ah, man. That was our last cage.

The thrust from Lily's rockets teeters Peeve's cage. Then
<CRASH>, it lands on its side. The door pops open.

114 "CLEAR EYES" WALLA 114
<SHOCKED GASPS!>

Peeve jumps out, free.

115 MAYOR PEEVE 115
Who wants a HUG!?

116 "CLEAR EYES" WALLA 116
"Run for it!" / "Don't let him hug
you!"

They take off running! But not Ryan. Ryan is ready. He throws
out his arms, closes his eyes...

117 RYAN 117
I'm ready to join you, sir. Hug
away.

Peeve shoves right past him.

118 MAYOR PEEVE 118
Get out of the way, Ryan! <FRANTIC
EFFORTS>

119 RYAN 119
<PUSHED DOWN EFFORT>

Ryan races after Peeve, arms out.

120 RYAN (CONT'D) 120
Maybe you didn't hear me, sir! I'll
hug you! Uh, happy to hug! Sir!

EXT. CITY OF SOMEWHERE - DAY

Lily and the MMP crew take cover behind a dumpster as Tie-Dyers shamble through the streets.

121 TIE-DYER WALLA 121
<ZOMBIE GROANS> / HUUUUGGGGSSSS...
/ "Anybody play hacky sack?"

122 ANGUS 122
Phew. Thanks for saving us, Lily.

123 LILY 123
No problem. I'm just happy to see
that none of you caught the Tie-Dye
Eye.

124 PARKER 124
Oh, I already had it. I was the
first!
(catches himself)
Oh, shoot. I'm not supposed to tell
people that. Forget I said it.

125 LILY 125
I figured it was you, Parker. We
good.

Lily and Parker pound fists.

126 LILY (CONT'D) 126
But it does beg the question. If
you had it, then how come Angus
never caught it?

All eyes turn to Angus, who suddenly turns cocky.

127 ANGUS 127
Oh, the Shackleton bloodline is as
strong as they come, Lily.

We ZOOM IN on Angus' bicep. An Angus-looking vein bulges out,
pumping iron.

128 ANGUS VEIN 128
<WEIGHT LIFTING EFFORTS>

129 PARKER 129
Angus has fought off malaria,
Bulgaria, Hungaria - all the arias.

130 ANGUS 130
I don't wanna brag. Eh, but it's
true.

131 LILY 131

That's it! We can make an antidote
using Angus' DNA to cure Tie-Dye
Eye. All we have to do is get to my
store.

Reinvigorated, they peek over the dumpster... but their faces fall when they see a horde of Tie-Dyers ambling back and forth in front of the Somewhere Store.

132 LILY (CONT'D) 132
Farts. They have the store
surrounded.

133	TIE-DYER WALLA	133
	Huuuuuggggsssss...	

134 PARKER 134
That's okay, we can sneak past 'em.

135 ANGUS 135

Parker, they'll see that our eyes
are normal and they'll... <SHIVERS>
I don't even wanna think about what
they'll do.

Parker looks down into the dumpster and sees an assortment of colorful TRASH and CARBOARD BOXES.

136 PARKER 136
Guys, I think I have an idea.

QUICK CRAFTING MONTAGE and Parker's equipped with a pair of bright and colorful CARDBOARD GLASSES.

137 PARKER (CONT'D) **137**

Yeah!

EXT. SOMEWHERE STORE - MOMENTS LATER

Angus, Lily, Parker, and Russell now all wear homemade cardboard glasses (like 3D glasses). The four walk methodically towards the store.

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138                                TIE-DYER WALLA                               138
Huuuuqqggsssss...

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139 ANGUS 139
I don't know about this, Parker.

140 PARKER 140
If the Tie-Dyers think we're one of
them, they should leave us alone.

They start to pass some Tie-Dyers. They get curious looks.

141 TIE-DYER WALLA 141
Huuuuggggsssss...

142 ANGUS 142
Uhhhh... who wants a hug, eh? I-I'm
all about the hugs.

143 LILY 143
Me too. Gotta get me some hugs.

144 PARKER 144
I genuinely love hugs, so lying
about this is pretty easy!

The Tie-Dyers go about their business, ignoring our gang.

145 ANGUS 145
By gosh, it's working. Parker,
you're a genius!

Out of nowhere, ROB steps in front of Angus.

146 ROB 146
Hold up, bro.

The four abruptly stop, bumping into each other.

147 LILY 147
Bonk.

Uh-oh. This could be bad.

148 ROB 148
You want some?

149 ANGUS 149
Uhhhhh.

150 ROB 150
Come at me, bro!

151 ANGUS 151
I would rather... not?

152 ROD (O.S.) 152
You come at ME, bro!

Reveal ROD directly behind Angus. Rob was talking to his
brother, not Angus.

153 ROB 153
Broooo!

154 ROD 154
Broooo!

155		ROB	155
	Broooo!		
156		ROD	156
	Broooo!		
157		ROB	157
	Broooo!		
158		ROD	158
	Broooo!		
159		ROB	159
	Broooo!		
160		ROD	160
	Broooo!		
161		ROB	161
	Broooo!		
162		ROD	162
	Broooo!		
163		ROB	163
	Come at you, bro?		

The two brothers race towards each other.

164		ROB/ROD	164
	BRO HUG!		

The MMP and Lily dive out of the way just as brothers Rob and Rod slam into each other for a manly hug.

165		ROB	165
	Love you, bro.		

Angus picks himself up off the ground, not realizing he's lost his glasses.

166		ANGUS	166
	Phew. That was a close one.		

167		PARKER	167
	Angus, your eyes!		

Too late. The Tie-Dyers turn to Angus. He's dead to rights!

168		TIE-DYER WALLA	168
	Huuuuuggggsssss!!!		

169		LILY	169
	Get to the store!		

FUN ACTION as our four race towards the store as the horde closes in on them from every direction.

170 ANGUS/PARKER/LILY 170
<RUNNING AWAY EFFORTS>

171 TIE-DYER WALLA 171
Huuuuuggggsssss!!!

172 ANGUS/PARKER/LILY 172
<TERRIFIED SCREAMS!>

Parker realizes they're completely surrounded!

173 PARKER 173
<GASPS!> What are we gonna do,
Angus?

Angus decides it's time to fight back. He grabs Russell, now
in the shape of a MAIL-FILLED BAZOOKA.

174 ANGUS 174
<CHARGING SCREAM!>

175 TIE-DYER WALLA 175
Huuuuuggggsssss!!!

He launches love letter after love letter at the Tie-Dyers.
Meanwhile, Parker evaporates out of near hug misses.

176 STEWART 176
How 'bout a hug?

177 ROB 177
Bro hug!

178 ACORN 178
Hugs!

179 PARKER 179
<SCREAMS!>

180 TIE-DYER WALLA 180
<ZOMBIE GROANS>

181 ANGUS 181
Come on! Hurry, get in!

They slip into the store, slamming the door shut behind them
as Tie-Dyers charge into solid glass.

182 TIE-DYER WALLA 182
<IMPACT WALLA>

INT. SOMEWHERE STORE - CONT.

Tie-Dyers claw at the door while the MMP barricades it shut.

183 TIE-DYER WALLA 183
<ZOMBIE GROANS>

184 ANGUS/PARKER 184
<STRAINING EFFORTS><RELIEVED SIGHS>
Phew!

185 PARKER 185
Wait! Where's Lily!?

He peers out the window to see Lily being engulfed by the swarm.

186 LILY 186
Ahhh!

187 TIE-DYER WALLA 187
Huuuuggggsssss...

188 PARKER 188
Lily!

When all seems lost, she suddenly <BLASTS> herself out of her mech suit, straight through the store window.

189 PARKER (CONT'D) 189
We made it, Lily!

She climbs into another mech suit.

190 LILY 190
We sure did, Parker.

191 ANGUS (O.S.) 191
I didn't make it, Parker.

Angus stands in the corner, acting strange.

192 PARKER 192
What do you mean? Sure you did.

Angus slowly turns around revealing... Gordy clung to his front, nestled in for a sweet hug!

193 GORDY 193
I love you, Angus.

194 PARKER/LILY 194
NOOOOO!

Using her mech arm, Lily plucks Gordy off and sucks him out of the store through her VACUUM TUBE. (See EP 007)

195 GORDY 195
Woo-hooooo!

196 PARKER 196
Angus! Are you okay?

197 ANGUS 197
Stay back, Parker! It's too late.
They got me. I-I-I can feel the
urge already. It's like I want to
hug something so, so bad.

Parker tears up.

198 PARKER 198
I'll hug you!

199 ANGUS 199
No. You have your whole life ahead
of you, kiddo, and there's only one
thing I can do now. And that's
leave, before it takes me.

200 PARKER 200
You can't leave, Angus. <SNIFFLES>
You're my best bud! <MORE SNIFFLES>

201 ANGUS 201
<STRUGGLES> I have to, buddy. I
can't trust that I won't hug each
and every one of you. It's safer if
I just go.

202 PARKER 202
But I don't want you to.

203 ANGUS 203
It's what's best. Until we meet
again, little nimbus.

Lily and Russell console a sobbing Parker.

204 PARKER 204
<SOBS!>

Angus sadly leaves the store.

205 ANGUS 205
Ahhhh!

206 PARKER 206
But I can't live without my best
bud. <SNIFFLES> Wait for me, Angus!

Parker <ZIPS> towards the door.

207 LILY 207
Parker, no!

EXT. SOMEWHERE STORE - CONT.

Angus chases people around outside the store.

208	ANGUS	208
	Who wants a hug!?	

209 CITIZEN WALLA 209

"Stay away!" / "Leave me alone,
Angus!" / "I don't think so,
honey!"

Parker looks around. Everyone who had the Tie-Dye Eye is back to normal.

210 PARKER 210
Wait. How come no one has Tie-Dye
Eye anymore?

Doc Rock conveniently passes by.

211 DOC ROCK 211
I told you it would only last for a
few days. I'm a doctor, you should
really listen to me.

Doc Rock strolls off. We find Tie-Dye Angus chasing after people, trying to get his hugs in. But everyone is over it.

212 ANGUS 212
Who wants a hug!?

213 CITIZEN WALLA 213
 <"LEAVE ME ALONE" WALLA>

214 ANGUS 214
Come on, Terry. You know you want
one.

215 TERRY 215
Hey, stop it, Angus!

216	ANGUS	216
	Why are you running?	

Lily and Russell join Parker, all three watching Angus.

217 LILY 217
What are we supposed to do with
Angus?

Parker's face grows dark.

218 PARKER 218
The only thing we can do.

INT. S.S. STEADFAST - MAIN QUARTERS - DAY

Parker, Russell, and Lily all HUG a happy Angus on the couch.
All have Tie-Dye Eye. It's total bliss.

219 ANGUS 219
 Okay, now hug me!

220 LILY 220
 Me next!

221 PARKER 221
 Ooh, uh, next hug! Next hug over
 here!

EXT. S.S. STEADFAST - DAY

222 LILY (O.S.) 222
 Who wants a hug?

223 ANGUS (O.S.) 223
 Gimme a hug!

THE END