

ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS

Ep. 004 -- "Birthday Police"

Written by

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ANIMATION NOTES

- The restaurant on pg. 1 can be similar to TGI-Friday's.
- The Birthday Police are dressed in a combination of cop stuff and birthday stuff (e.g., they have conical cop/party hats, noisemakers on their belts, etc.)
- As discussed, the underground society will only contain human beings so our trio pops visually.

MUSIC NOTE

- During the Birthday Cop's backstory speech on pg. 4, maybe we try scoring it with a sinister version of the "Happy Birthday" song (e.g., a minor key).

1 INT. RESTAURANT 1

CLOSE ON ROCK, then PAPER, then SCISSORS as they speak to us:

1 ROCK 1
Get ready. 'Cause we're about to go
on an adventure.

2 PAPER 2
There will be twists, there will be
turns.

3 SCISSORS 3
But if we stick together, I
promise...

Reveal our trio at a restaurant in front of a placemat maze.

4 SCISSORS (CONT'D) 4
We will complete this maze for ages
five and under!

5 ROCK 5
LET'S GET THIS CAT TO ITS CAT FOOD!

The maze has a cat drawing at the start, cat food at the end.
All three of them put their hands on the same green crayon.

6 PAPER / SCISSORS (O.S.) 6
Yeah! / We got this!

6 Alt 1 ROCK / PAPER / SCISSORS 6 Alt 1
Rock! / Paper! / Scissors!

They start the maze:

7 ROCK 7
I wanna go backwards.

8 PAPER 8
What? Rock, no.

9 ROCK 9
But I'm a cat. I get distracted.

10 PAPER 10
You're not playing as a character.

11 SCISSORS 11
I'm gonna burst through the wall.

12 PAPER 12
You can't burst through the wall of
a maze.

13 SCISSORS 13
 I can if my character has a drill!

14 PAPER 14
 There are no characters!!

15 ROCK / PAPER / SCISSORS 15
 (GETTING CLOSER) Ah. Ah. AHHHHH!

They complete the maze, then leap out of the booth. They high-five, chest-bump, and shake up soda, spraying it everywhere.

16 PAPER / SCISSORS / ROCK 16
 Yeeeeeeesssss! / Let's go! Let's go!
 / THAT'S HOW YOU GET THE CAT FOOD!
 THAT'S HOW YOU GET THE CAT FOOD!

Other customers stare at them as they chant:

17 ROCK / PAPER / SCISSORS 17
 TEAM-WORK! TEAM-WORK! TEAM-WORK!
 TEAM-WORK! TEAM-WORK!

They sit. Scissors sees the waitress and turns to the others.

18 SCISSORS 18
 Hey, you know what would go well
 with this victory? Some free cake.

19 PAPER 19
 Scissors, don't pretend like its
 Rock's birthday again. It's wrong.

20 Alt SCISSORS 20 Alt
 (SELF-RIGHTEOUS) Peeing in the
 shower was once seen as wrong.

21 Alt PAPER 21 Alt
 It still is! And your cake scheme
 is not a team decision. Don't go
 rogue. Right, Rock?

22 ROCK 22
 I'm with Paper. I don't wanna get
 in trouble. (THEN) Although I do
 love cake. And I would like someone
 to sing "Happy Birthday." That
 song's a banger.

1A INT. ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS' APARTMENT - FLASHBACK 1A

Rock dances madly as the melody of "Happy Birthday" plays.

22A ROCK 22A

Ooh! Ooh! I love this part! This
part's my jam! Now here it comes...
Here it comes... HERE IT COMES!

1B INT. RESTAURANT - BACK TO SCENE 1B

23 SCISSORS 23
Guys, it's fine. Besides, no one
ever checks if it's your birthday.

Scissors pulls the WAITRESS aside.

24	SCISSORS (CONT'D)	24
	Excuse me. My roommate is	
	turning... uh, some age today.	
	Could we get a slice of your finest	
	free cake?	

25 WAITRESS 25
(CHIPPER) Sure thing.

Scissors CHUCKLES towards Rock and Paper, cocky.

26 WAITRESS (CONT'D) 26
(TURNS TO ROCK) Can I see some ID?

Rock and Scissors' eyes go wide.

2 INT. ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS' APARTMENT - LATER 2

Rock and Scissors burst through the door in a panic.

ROCK

27 The Birthday Police are coming! 27

28 SCISSORS 28

(PACKING) We can hide out in Canada
with my friend, Dirtbag Joel. Don't
let the nickname fool you; he's
actually a terrible guy. Also,
we'll have to change our names.

29 ROCK 29

Should I be Brock? No, that's too
close to Rock. Ron? Ooh, how 'bout
Rock? (REALIZES) Oh, SHOOT!

Paper enters, totally calm.

30 PAPER 30
Would you relax? The waitress just asked for ID. Then you two flipped the table and ran away. No one is coming for you. And there's no such thing as the Birthday Police.

BAM! BIRTHDAY POLICE (a woman, WISHKOWSKI, and two men) kick down the door and BURST through the windows like a SWAT team.

31 DETECTIVE WISHKOWSKI 31
Freeze! Birthday Police!

She flashes a badge with a gold cake symbol. Rock SCREAMS.

32 DETECTIVE WISHKOWSKI (CONT'D) 32
You're all going to Birthday Jail. And it's worse than regular jail.

33 SCISSORS 33
How?!

34 DETECTIVE WISHKOWSKI 34
They don't celebrate your birthday.

35 SCISSORS 35
They celebrate your birthday in regular jail?

Rock holds out his arms, giving himself up.

36 ROCK 36
AHHH, I'm guilty! I didn't stop it!

Male Birthday Cop 1 blows up a balloon like a clown, then shapes it into handcuffs and puts it around Rock's wrists.

37 MALE BIRTHDAY COP 1 37
These are your birthday rights. You have the right to one wish--

38 ROCK 38
(EXCITED) Ooh!

39 MALE BIRTHDAY COP 1 39
--but only on your birthday.

40 ROCK 40
(CRYING) AH-HA-HAAAA!

Male Birthday Cop 1 puts balloon handcuffs on Paper and Scissors while Male Birthday Cop 2 unfurls and hangs festive streamer tape that reads "Police Line Do Not Cross".

41 PAPER 41
I'm sorry, Birthday Police? Is this
really that serious of an offense?

42 DETECTIVE WISHKOWSKI 42
You think lying about your birthday
is a victimless crime? My mother
owned a bakery, and she'd give away
free cookies if it was your
birthday. But punks like you took
advantage of it, and she lost six,
sometimes seven dollars a month!

43 PAPER 43
That doesn't seem like that much.

44 DETECTIVE WISHKOWSKI 44
It adds up over time! Anyway,
that's why I became a birthday cop.

45 ROCK 45
(TO MALE BIRTHDAY COP 1) Is that
why you became a birthday cop?

46 MALE BIRTHDAY COP 1 46
No, I just didn't pass the regular
cop exam.

47 DETECTIVE WISHKOWSKI 47
You boys are going away for a long
time. Tell 'em how many years.

Male Birthday Cop 2 holds up birthday candles that read "50".

Rock SCREAMS and pops the balloon handcuffs with his teeth.
He grabs a cop's streamer tape and lassoes it out the window.

48 ROCK 48
Go! Go! Go!

Rock, Paper, and Scissors zipline out of the apartment.

49 DETECTIVE WISHKOWSKI 49
Hey, stop!

She BLOWS A PARTY HORN. A beat.

50 DETECTIVE WISHKOWSKI (CONT'D) 50
I don't know why we have these.

3 EXT. ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS' APARTMENT - STREET - CONTINUOUS 3

Our trio RUNS, but the Birthday Police chase after them in a birthday-themed cop car (which, instead of making the normal siren sound, sings the "Happy Birthday" song).

51 ROCK 51
Ahhh! (THEN) I love this song!

The cops shoot confetti cannons, blocking our trio's vision.

52 SCISSORS 52
Confetti cannons! I can't see!

Rock, Paper, and Scissors emerge from the confetti cloud, but Rock stops when he sees a random piñata.

53 ROCK 53
Ooh, piñata.

54 PAPER 54
Rock, don't!

Rock breaks it open and Detective Wishkowski falls out.

55 DETECTIVE WISHKOWSKI 55
Gotcha!

The cops lunge at them, but our trio ducks down an alley.

56 DETECTIVE WISHKOWSKI (CONT'D) 56
We lost 'em! (INTO WALKIE TALKIE)
Air support, do you read?

4 EXT. THE SKY - SAME TIME 4

Instead of a helicopter, Male Birthday Cop 2 floats through the sky, held up by birthday balloons tied to his pants.

57 MALE BIRTHDAY COP 2 57
I got eyes on 'em.

5 EXT. STREET - ALLEY - BACK TO SCENE 5

As our trio runs:

58 PAPER 58
Rock, why did you make us run?! We
just talked about going rogue.

59 ROCK 59
I'm sorry, I got scared! I don't
have a good birthday lawyer.

60 SCISSORS 60
I got a guy. His name's Dirtbag
Joel.

They run into a dead end! They turn to see the cops running toward them. From a grate on the ground behind them, several hands reach out and grab them, dragging Rock, Paper, and Scissors into the darkness. They SCREAM. BLACKOUT.

6 INT. UNDERGROUND CAVE - LATER 6

Orange ooze drips from the ceiling onto our trio, waking them.

61 ROCK 61
Where are we? (RE: OOZE) Also, ew.

ANGLE ON a group of CAVE DWELLERS. Our trio YELLS in fear, scrambling backward. A woman, CLAIRE, steps forward.

62 CLAIRE 62
It's ok. You're amongst friends.
We, too, tried to pull the free
cake scheme, and now we reside in
this deep, underground cave... for
we cannot return to society.

63 PAPER 63
We're meeting a lot of intense
people today.

64 CLAIRE 64
You three are safe here. No one
knows about this place. And even if
they did, they'd never reach us.
Between here and the outside world,
there exists a complex network of
tunnels.

She points to the entrance to a labyrinth of tunnels. Rock, Paper, and Scissors look at each other and smile.

65 ROCK 65
This is great! We escaped the
Birthday Police.

Everyone in the cave SCREAMS and panics.

66 CLAIRE 66
 We don't use the b-word down here.

67 SCISSORS 67
 Birthday?

Everyone FREAKS OUT again. A beat.

68 SCISSORS (CONT'D) 68
 I'm gonna say it one more time.

Paper covers Scissors' mouth. Rock looks scared:

69 ROCK 69
 You don't celebrate... cake day?

Claire walks to a wall with a drawn-on window.

70 CLAIRE 70
 The concept is too triggering.
 That's why we don't keep track of
 time. And it's been that way since
 we first came down here 200 years
 ago... or maybe a week ago. Again,
 we do not keep track of time.

A beat.

71 SCISSORS 71
 Birthday.

Everyone FREAKS OUT again. Claire SIGHS, then:

72 CLAIRE 72
 We want to give you a fresh start.
 You can begin by choosing anything
 you want from the big list of jobs.

73 PAPER 73
 Oh, that's great! I'm an inventor.

74 ROCK 74
 And I'm an aspiring male model.

75 CLAIRE 75
 They're both on there!

76 PAPER 76
 (TO ROCK, UPBEAT) Okay. Maybe we
 can have a good life down here.

Scissors enters holding a clipboard with all the jobs on it.

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77                                SCISSORS                                77
                                Guys, good news: I chose a job for
                                all three of us!

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7 INT. UNDERGROUND CAVE - LATER 7

Rock, Paper, and Scissors look miserable as they use brooms to sweep cave ooze for a long beat. Finally:

78 PAPER 78
I cannot believe you chose "ooze
kings."

79 SCISSORS 79

How was I supposed to know it meant
sweeping cave ooze? It said "king."

80 PAPER 80
It said ooze king.

81 ROCK 81
In Scissors' defense, ooze queen is
a pretty good job.

ANGLE ON the OOZE QUEEN being fed and fanned.

82 OOOZEE QUEEN 82
(RE: OUR TRIO) Ooze them.

A few people pour ooze on Rock, Paper, and Scissors.

83 PAPER 83
(TO SCISSORS) You just had to go
rogue again. First it was the cake
scheme, and now we've had to sweep
cave ooze for the past two years...
or maybe 30 minutes. Someone really
needs to keep track of time here!

84 SCISSORS 84

Well, maybe you should stop
complaining and be grateful we're
not in birthday jail right now.

85 ROCK 85
 (DRAMATIC) Maybe this is birthday
 jail.

86 PAPER 86

Oh, don't act like you're the
victim, Rock. You're the one who
made us go on the run.

87 ROCK 87

You can't blame me. Just listen to
my giggle. Is this the giggle of
someone who's at fault? (GIGGLES)

Paper throws down his broom.

88 PAPER 88
I wouldn't be here if not for you
two. I don't deserve this!

Paper storms off. After a beat, ROYAL TRUMPETS sound.

CLAIRE

Introducing... the Ooze Prince.

ANGLE ON the OOZE PRINCE. He points to Rock and Scissors.

90 OOZE PRINCE 90
Ooze them.

Rock and Scissors get oozed again.

91	SCISSORS	91
	I'm very confused about the	
	hierarchy here.	

8 INT. UNDERGROUND CAVE - ELSEWHERE 8

Paper walks, picking ooze off of himself when his cell RINGS.

92 PAPER 92
(PICKS UP) Hello?

INTERCUT WITH:

9 INT. BIRTHDAY POLICE CAR - SAME TIME 9

The Birthday Cops talk on a cell phone.

93 DETECTIVE WISHKOWSKI 93
It's the Birthday Cops.

94 ALL THREE BIRTHDAY COPS 94
(JOYFUL) Surprise!

95 DETECTIVE WISHKOWSKI 95
(INTENSE AGAIN) Listen, Paper, we
know you weren't involved in any of
these free cake shenanigans.
(MORE)

DETECTIVE WISHKOWSKI (CONT'D)

If you tell us where Rock and
Scissors are, we'll give you a
present: your freedom.

96 PAPER 96
I'm not going to rat out my
friends.

97 DETECTIVE WISHKOWSKI 97
Are they really your friends? They
keep making rogue decisions that
bring you down. C'mon. Imagine your
life without Rock and Scissors.

Paper imagines...

10 INT. ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS' APARTMENT - FANTASY 10
Paper stands in his apartment.

98 PAPER 98
(TO SELF) Oh no! I can't afford
this apartment on my own!

11 INT. UNDERGROUND CAVE - ELSEWHERE - BACK TO SCENE 11

99 PAPER 99
(TO SELF) That probably wasn't her
point.

DETECTIVE WISHKOWSKI
So, Paper... what's it gonna be?

Off Paper, considering...

12 INT. UNDERGROUND CAVE - LATER 12

A GUY and an OLD LADY sip their drinks, taking a break.

100 Alt 1 GUY 100 Alt 1
Did you hear where Denise is
moving? The upper part of the cave.

100B Alt 2 OLD LADY 100B Alt 2
(HATES DENISE) Oh, she would.

The Birthday Police CRASH through the cave walls and start
capturing people as Paper runs up to Rock and Scissors.

101 PAPER 101
I'm sorry! I ratted you out to the
Birthday Police! I went rogue!

WHIP TO Scissors.

102 SCISSORS 102
It's okay. They called me, too. I
did the exact same thing!

WHIP TO Rock. A beat.

103 ROCK 103
I didn't tell them anything! (THEN)
But I did call the Fashion Police.

The FASHION POLICE crash through a wall.

104 FASHION POLICEMAN 104
(TO ANOTHER PERSON) You're under
arrest! For those jorts!

The police put fashionable handcuffs on a guy in jorts.

105 ROCK 105
(SHAKES HIS HEAD) Mmh. I hope they
put him away for a long time.

106 SCISSORS 106
Rock, don't be judgy.

Just then, they notice the Birthday Police closing in.

107 ROCK 107
(NERVOUS) Ah, the Birthday Police
are getting closer!

Our trio hides behind a stalagmite.

108 PAPER 108
We have to escape. We can use the
tunnels to get to the surface.

109 SCISSORS 109
That's impossible. It's basically
one big maze!

After a beat, Paper looks up:

110 PAPER 110
(GASP) We can do mazes!

But Rock and Scissors hesitate.

111 SCISSORS 111
I don't know. Can we?

112 ROCK 112
Yeah. Lately, I feel like we can't
do anything.

113 PAPER 113
That's because we keep doing our
own thing. Separately, we're a
mess. I'm a big hypocrite, Scissors
is too chaotic, and Rock's an
emotional rollercoaster.

114 ROCK 114
I AM NOT! (QUIET) I'm sorry.
(TEARY) I love you guys!

115 SCISSORS 115
Paper's right. We work best when we
work as a team. Or when we cheat.
That's worked for me a lot, too.

116 PAPER 116
So whaddya say? Wanna get outta
this stupid cave... together?

Rock picks up the broom.

117 ROCK 117
LET'S ESCAPE THE BIRTHDAY POLICE!

Rock holds up the broom. Scissors puts his hand on it, then
Paper. BACK ON the three of them:

6 Alt 1 ROCK / PAPER / SCISSORS 6 Alt 1
Rock! / Paper! / Scissors!

Then someone else puts his hand on the broom.

117 Alt 1 SCISSORS (O.S.) 117 Alt 1
Not you, Ooze Prince.

117A OOZE PRINCE (O.S.) 117A
(TAKES HIS HAND AWAY) Fair.

13 INT. TUNNELS 13

From the GOD SHOT, our trio runs through the maze with the
broom's orange ooze acting as the orange crayon from earlier.

119 ROCK 119
What's my character? Am I a
squirrel trying to get to nuts? Am
I a bee trying to get to honey?

120 PAPER 120
You're a rock trying to get to
freedom!

Scissors pulls out a drill.

121 SCISSORS 121
We're using a drill!

He drills through a wall, and Birthday Police pour out.

122 SCISSORS (CONT'D) 122
Ah, we're not using a drill!

Then Rock sees a random cat in the maze.

123 ROCK 123
Guys, a cat! Aw, and it looks
hungry. Can we take it to its food?

124 SCISSORS 124
(TO PAPER) Team decision?

Rock and Scissors look at Paper. A beat.

125 PAPER 125
We're taking the cat!

Rock and Scissors CHEER, grab the cat, and keep running.

125A ROCK / SCISSORS 125A
YEAH! / Whoo hoo! Taking the cat!

14 EXT. STREET - MOMENTS LATER 14

They emerge from the maze, put the cat down, and celebrate.
(To the side, we see the cat go to a bowl of cat food.)

126 PAPER / SCISSORS / ROCK 126
YES! / LET'S GO! LET'S GO! / THAT'S
HOW YOU ESCAPE THE BIRTHDAY POLICE!
THAT'S HOW YOU ESCAPE THE BIRTHDAY
POLICE!

They chant together:

127 ROCK / PAPER / SCISSORS 127
OOZE KINGS! OOZE KINGS! OOZE KINGS!

128 DETECTIVE WISHKOWSKI (O.S.) 128
Look who showed up to the party.

They turn to see the Birthday Police were waiting for them.

129 ROCK 129
How did you get through the tunnels
that fast?

Detective Wishkowski holds up a placemat maze.

130 DETECTIVE WISHKOWSKI 130
("DUH") It's ages five and under,
guys. (THEN) Cuff 'em.

The other Birthday Cops put balloon handcuffs on our trio.

131 DETECTIVE WISHKOWSKI (CONT'D) 131
(TO COPS) Mark the date: May 16th.

132 PAPER 132
May 16th?! We've been hiding out so
long, it's Rock's actual birthday.

133 ROCK 133
And you guys said that anyone whose
birthday it is has the right to one
birthday wish.

134 MALE BIRTHDAY COP 1 134
That's true. (TO ROCK) What do you
want for your birthday, big guy?

135 SCISSORS 135
Rock, you can wish us all out of
birthday jail!

Rock GASPS and smiles, excited.

15 INT. BIRTHDAY JAIL 15

Behind bars, Rock eats a piece of cake next to a very
irritated Paper and Scissors.

136 PAPER 136
I can't believe you wished for
cake.

137 ROCK 137
(EATING THE CAKE, FEELING GUILTY) I
went rogue! I WENT ROGUE!

END OF EPISODE