

THE GODDAMN DAVE HILL SHOW: MISSING PIECES

By

STEPHEN RADFORD

The 31st of October broadcast of the Goddamn Dave Hill Show,
with references from the WFMU chat transcript.

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Cast of Characters

Dave Hill:

Tig:

Danne D:

James:

Jesse:

Ken:

YngDave:

Kelly:

Dave Wyndorf:

Brijet:

The Shadow Man:

YngDave as Norman Bates:

Wyndorf as the Hitchhiker:

Jimmy (shortest cameo in history):

THE GODDAMN DAVE HILL SHOW: MISSING PIECES

Scene: 1

MUSIC: RADIO BROADCAST OPENING THEME

NARRATOR

The following takes place from 9:58pm - from the partial archive of the Goddamn Dave Hill Show dated October 31st, 2016. This was to be Dave Hill's big Halloween edition of his radio show. A city wide blackout plunged Dave and the staff at the WFMU Station into darkness. This event opens before that blackout. Listener discretion is advised.

(WE STAY WITHIN STUDIO A IN THE WFMU STATION. DAVE IS IN FULL FLOW HOSTING HIS SHOW. HE IS TALKING ON MIC TO WHAT WAS THE LAST CALL BEFORE THE BLACKOUT)

DAVE

Dave Wyndorf, you strike me as a guy who is into Halloween.

WYNDORF (PHONE)

Halloween is the best kid day in history, and just for that. That's when you were allowed to just go out by yourself.

DAVE

Yeah.

WYNDORF (PHONE)

In the old days you did it on your own. There are no parents with you. It was just "Good luck... into the night with you."

DAVE

Yeah, I never went trick or treating with anybody, unless perhaps when I was like in kindergarten. But from six on, you're on your own.

WYNDORF (PHONE)

Yeah! You were pretty much on your own. It teaches you a lot. I loved it. I had the multiple costumes... you know, a list of all the houses with all the biggest candy bars. You've got to hit them up at least three times. Three different costumes...

SOUND: ALARM BEEPS FOUR TIMES

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

Oh my gosh. This is no joke. We just LOST POWER.

WYNDORF (PHONE)

Noo.

DAVE

Yeah! This is genuinely scary.

WYNDORF (PHONE)

Are you serious? Are you like sitting in a dark studio,
with... what no air?

DAVE

I swear to you...

(ASIDE)

James what happened?

SOUND: INAUDIBLE MUTTERINGS

DAVE (cont'd)

(CONFUSED)

What... the building was... oh man... this is...

SOUND: ALARM BEEPS FOUR TIMES

DAVE (cont'd)

(INTO PHONE)

Yeah the building lost power.

WYNDORF (PHONE)

Definitely not cool for a radio station.

DAVE

No. It's bad for business.

WYNDORF (PHONE)

Why's there no back-up?

DAVE

I don't know. This is terrifying.

WYNDORF (PHONE)

You mean there's nothing? Nothing going out?

DAVE

No, it's still going out still, right? I think, you can
hear right?

WYNDORF (PHONE)

I'm turning my radio back on... check it out.

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

Yeah, it's still broadcasting.

SOUND: ALARM BEEPS FOUR TIMES

WYNDORF (PHONE)

(SCREAMS IN PAIN)

Sorry, had the two things running at the same time...

DAVE

Oh man. Hey! Dave: I'm going to try and get to the bottom of this. Are you able to call... call...

WYNDORF (PHONE)

Yeah I'll call back when you come back on. Say 20 minutes?

DAVE

God I hope so. I want to get the full scoop.

WYNDORF (PHONE)

Alright.

DAVE

Alright. Thanks Dave.

SOUND: PHONE HANGS UP ON WYNDORF'S END

SOUND: CHAIRS SCUTTLE

DAVE (cont'd)

We're truly in the dark here. Somebody's going to come and... this isn't even... this is probably like...err... I feel like Orsen Welles, only, without reading material.

(ASIDE)

What's happening James?

JAMES

I have no idea. Calling Ken now--

SOUND: SOUND REVERBS, EVERYTHING FALLS SILENT

MUSIC: UNDERSCORE

NARRATION

The following takes place after the power outage. What was said here was not recorded within the archive.

DAVE

What just happened? The board is down.

(CONTINUED)

JAMES

We should have back-up.

DAVE

Is Danne D in the building?

JAMES

Yeah, he sent us both a text five minutes ago. Buzzed through literally when the blackout started.

DAVE

That's strange. I never got a message.

JAMES

He said he's on his way, with snacks.

DAVE

Yes! Go Danne D! You don't happen to know if he got those god awful pumpkin spice Oreos? If he has I'm not letting him into the studio.

JAMES

Yeah, they were gross.

DAVE

Like having... a mouthful of chemicals. Or worse, like inhaling a garbage can full of baby diapers on a hot day.

JAMES

Yeah, that's foul. I better go unplug the computer, and anything that will cause a surge... be right back.

SOUND: DOOR OPENS HARD

DANNE D

Hey, it's me. Wow, it IS dark in here.

DAVE

DANNE D! See what happens when you leave us in the lurch? Stuff breaks...

DANNE D

You and the rest of Jersey City.

DAVE

Really? It's not just us?

DANNE D

You should go out there... or even better, check Twitter... the whole grid is out.

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

You look harassed, What's up?

DANNE D

Oh nothing much. Just had a weird encounter on the street. I was sending you a text message, and some guy suddenly appeared in my path. I didn't even see him... but there he was; this creepy guy wearing a brimmed hat and a raincoat. I said sorry and carried on walking and then the power went out across the whole city. I hope you got my text message. I sent it to James too.

DAVE

Sounds like a Halloween story to me. Could you beef it up and tell it on the show when we get back online.

DANNE D

Yeah sure, but that wasn't the end of it. Two blocks later, I got set upon by a group of youths yelling "Trick or Treat." I told them to "go find a door!", and then they threw Necco wafers at me.

DAVE

(LAUGHING)

Sounds horrible... you know you didn't have to... Did you save the Necco Wafers?

DANNE D

Necco wafers are the kale of Halloween candy. No I didn't. Threw them back. Here you go: Oreos.

SOUND: PACKET OF OREOS HITTING THE DESK

DAVE

(SARCASTIC YELLING)

Oh, hey James, Halloween Oreos: he didn't let us down! Oh, I forgot: James left the booth...

SOUND: ALARM BEEPS FOUR TIMES

DANNE D

What's with the alarm?

DAVE

Health and safety. / Halloween Oreos? Don't you remember what happened last year?

DANNE D

I know what you're going to say. Listen. I actually tried them. They taste like the ordinary kind.

SOUND: BOX OPENING, WRAPPERS BEING UNWRAPPED

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

They're all individually wrapped? This is infuriating.
Dammit Danne D!

DANNE D

The orange stuff is a little more luminescent this
year. Hey, is Tig still holding?

DAVE

I sent her a message. Says she's not going anywhere.

DANNE D

First impressions?

DAVE

Of Tig? She's great! I don't know what you...

DANNE D

No, the Halloween Oreos.

DAVE

I see what you mean, they're... actually the longer you
have them in your mouth... no. I was right the first
time. It's like my body is rejecting them. What else do
you have?

DANNE D

Butterfingers... fun-size.

SOUND: BUTTERFINGERS HIT THE DESK

DAVE

Also individually wrapped. Damn it... what are we
paying you for?

SOUND: ALARM BEEPS FOUR TIMES

SOUND: DOOR OPENS HARD

DAVE

James, get in here and try these Oreos.

DANNE D

Dave. You wanna listen to the rest of my creepy guy
story or what?

DAVE

You just told it! I'm just saying, this isn't the best
radio food.

DANNE D

There's more...

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

Save it for the show. Call in, we might need you to fill the dead air.

JAMES

Hey Danne D.

DANNE D

James!

JAMES

Ken wants us to unplug electronic equipment, but says to leave a desk lamp on.

DAVE

Wait, we have a desk lamp? There's so much stuff, I can't even...

SOUND: SOUND OF DEVICES BEING UNPLUGGED.

DANNE D

Can I finish the story. Still kinda freaked out about it.

JAMES

Go ahead.

SOUND: SOUND OF BAG RUSTLING, SPLITTING...

DANNE D

Anyway, I nearly bumped into the man in the raincoat, wearing the fedora, breathing heavily... looked really out of place out on the streets on his own. I thought that would be the last I saw of him. I carried on walking down Marin. I sent you and James a text... the power went out. After the trick or treaters, I look back and I noticed that guy was following behind be.

DAVE

Really? the guy in the raincoat.

DANNE D

And the fedora. Yes. He kept up with me several blocks. So I walked faster, and took a few short cuts via York Street.. managed to lose him.

DAVE

Is that it?

DANNE D

What do you mean is that it?

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

I'm sorry. I was expecting more...

DANNE D

This guy was heading in the opposite direction. He made a point to turn around and follow me. I think that's pretty disturbing.

JAMES

I have to say, I'm finding the coincidence of you sending a text message and the timing of the blackout a little strange.

DANNE D

Oh sure... that was all me.

JAMES

Duly noted.

DAVE

That's right James, we better keep a close eye on him. He's been meeting with crazy folk and devising city wide blackouts to follow through on his evil plan.

JAMES

It all makes sense to me.

DANNE D

Thanks for your concern guys. Means a lot.

DAVE

Hey, you could... when you tell the story on the air, spice it up a little. Give him a butchers mallet or something.

DANNE D

Yeah whatever.
(EATING)
These Oreos are addictive...

SOUND: POWERING UP.

DAVE

Holy crap!
(A BEAT)
Are we back on?

JAMES

Looks like it. The board just lit up. Guess we unplugged something else. That could have gone south fast if that shorted out. I'll check the phones.

SOUND: DOOR SQUEAKS

(CONTINUED)

KEN

Hey guys.

DAVE

Ken!

KEN

The lights are still off. We're cranking with, whatever we have going with the back-up generator. Damn thing didn't look like it was going to work. Servers are up, as are the transmitters. Get back on. We're serving up dead air.

DAVE

We're plugging everything back in?

KEN (LOUD)

Yep! Carry on.

DAVE

Wait, let's not be too hasty, I have like three Butterfingers in my mouth right now. I can't form words.

DANNE D

I'll be back in a minute...

DAVE

You're going?

DANNE D

James is here... I have to find the bathroom.

JAMES

It's probably not a good idea to have the cursed one near all this equipment anyways.

DANNE D

Touché...

SOUND: DAVE PUSHES BUTTONS AND KNOBS

MUSIC: UNDERSCORE

NARRATION

The next few moments, the show is miraculously brought back to the airwaves. With the back-up power up, Dave resumes normal programming.

DAVE

(BACK ON THE MIC)
Hello you're on the air.

(CONTINUED)

TIG (ON PHONE)
Dave, It's Tig!

DAVE
Tig!

TIG (ON PHONE)
Phew!

DAVE
Since you called... I'm sitting here... we lost power at the station. This isn't even a... some, Halloween gag.

TIG (ON PHONE)
So is your show not on the air right now?

DAVE
The show is still on the air, somehow technology allows for it to..

SOUND: ALARM BEEPS FOUR TIMES

TIG (ON PHONE)
Why would anybody be listening at this point?

DAVE
Because I deliver a slick quality program.

TIG (ON PHONE)
Well I've hung up on you three times with my bad reception.

DAVE
Oh that's nothing!

TIG (ON PHONE)
Is this typical for your show?

DAVE
Oh, it's business as usual.

TIG (ON PHONE)
Alright... Well... Happy Halloween.

DAVE
Tig, as you talk James and Jesse are walking around with flashlights. It's like Armageddon in here.

TIG (ON PHONE)
and, so you're saying that your electricity goes out regularly?

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

No, this is a first for me: the power going out. No, but dropping phone calls and stuff... that's every week.

SOUND: A DOOR SLAMS

DAVE (cont'd)

A door just slammed.

JAMES

That was me, sorry.

DAVE

That scared the crap out of me.

JAMES

I'm sorry.

DAVE

I know people think this is some kind of Orsen Welles radio play thing, but it's real. I'm sitting here in the dark right now.

TIG (ON PHONE)

I think people believe you.

DAVE

I don't think they do.

SOUND: ALARM BEEPS FOUR TIMES

TIG (ON PHONE)

No... I think people believe you.

DAVE

Oh you think they do.

KELLY (OVER TANNON)

Hi, If you're in the building and you can hear me, it's Kelly from bookkeeping. The power is out in this area of Jersey City...

DAVE

Okay... alright.

TIG (ON PHONE)

Do you need to head home?

DAVE

No, no, the show must go on.

(CONTINUED)

TIG (ON PHONE)

Sounds like the most mellow emergency going on there.

DAVE

It is, it's a low... I mean the lights are off. Really. When push comes to shove, the lights are off and we're adults...

TIG (ON PHONE)

You know dangerous things can happen in the dark. Somebody from the inner city can come and find you... really make a mess of you.

DAVE

Yeah.. as if I'm not a mess enough already.

SOUND: ALARM BEEPS FOUR TIMES

NARRATOR

The following conversation was broken and once again partially missing from the archive.

TIG (ON PHONE)

I mean, Kelly the bookkeeper... do you know her?

DAVE

Well enough. Not as well as I should, I guess. She keeps an eye on the security screens. Lets guests and pizza up... you know...

TIG (ON PHONE)

Wow... so she watches over you all? What if she's been waiting for a night, much like this, to act out her plan to take over the station?

DAVE

Exactly. Sounds like a great cover for... something sinister. Hang on, Tig, I better do the Station I.D. or I'll be thrown in jail. You're listening to the Goddamn Dave Hill Show on WFMU, 91.1 East Orange, Rockland County 91.9, and worldwide at WFMU.ORG -- Oh the reverb! The power is out... the reverb doesn't work. This is hell.

SOUND: DISTORTION

SOUND: THE SOUND OF MUMBLING...

DAVE (cont'd)

Oh look there's a call. Let's take this call Tig.

(CONTINUED)

TIG (ON PHONE)
Okay.

DAVE
Hello, you're on the air...

BRIJET (ON PHONE)
Hi Dave, it's BriJet.

DAVE
BriJet from Newark!

BRIJET (ON PHONE)
Yeah.

DAVE
Tig, can you hear Brijet from Newark?

TIG (ON PHONE)
Yeah I can hear, hi there Brijet.

BRIJET (ON PHONE)
Hi!

DAVE
It's all happening.

BRIJET (ON PHONE)
Wow, sounds like it's going really crazy over there.

DAVE
There's no power. It's getting hot in here. The
reverb's not working so I can't do that.

SOUND: ALARM BEEPS FOUR TIMES

DAVE (cont'd)
it's a sad state of affairs. What's on... whats
happening BriJet? Do you have a question for Tig?

BRIJET (ON PHONE)
I don't have--

SOUND: DISTORTION / DEAD TONE

DAVE
Brijet?

TIG (ON PHONE)
Have you lost Brijet?

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

I don't know. Either that or... I can get her back. Oh wait, we have Jimmy from Kearny on the line.

TIG (ON PHONE)

From Carnegie Hall?

DAVE

I better get him on... I'm taking a roll of the dice here!

JIMMY (ON PHONE)

Hey--

*SOUND: SILENCE

DAVE

Are you there Jimmy? Tig? Dammit! I lost them both...

JAMES

Phones are showing a busy tone. Weird.

JESSE

Hey what's up.

DAVE

Jesse!

JAMES

Jesse, are you drinking soup?

JESSE

It's okay, I'm not coming in any further.

DAVE

Jesse, if Ken catches you with that hot soup this close he'll have your--

SOUND: A DOOR SLAMS

DAVE (cont'd)

James? Was that-- what is with all the slamming of doors tonight?

KEN

Dave, it's me.

DAVE

Ken.

KEN

Jesse, are you in or out with that soup.

(CONTINUED)

JESSE

I'm in. I'll just leave it on the step-ladder in the library.

DAVE

We've just lost power to the board.

KEN

Yeah the lines are dead. No transmitter, no internet. Hold on tight.

SOUND: ALARM BEEPS FOUR TIMES

KEN (cont'd)

I have no idea what the generator is doing. We should have that back-up consistently...

SOUND: SOUND SHUNT POWER UP

DAVE

Here it is...

SOUND: SOUND POWER CLICKS OFF

KEN

There we go again. We're completely off. Unplug the computers the boards. Jesse, I need you run down to Monty Hall, make sure it's surge safe down there.

JESSE

No problem.

KEN

(LOUD FROM AFAR)

This is now how I expect the end of the world to be... everybody running around unplugging things.

DAVE

Clearly... and to be honest, if we're not all going to live... if you had to kill someone here first, who would it be?

KEN

(CLOSE)

You mean to eat?

DAVE

Yeah, I guess kill is not the best word.

KEN

(FROM AFAR)

Sacrifice.

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

That's it, Sacrifice. Ritual sacrifice...

KEN

Slim pickings. I'm gonna choose Jesse. We can use his time-slot for a mayday beacon. Who would you choose?

DAVE

Well you're off the hook, naturally.

KEN

Being Station Manager gives me immunity. Sure. I dig that.

DAVE

It goes without saying. Okay, if I reason with the idea, it would have to be Danne D.

SOUND: CELL PHONE RINGING

DAVE (cont'd)

Hey, Jesse?

JESSE (ON PHONE)

Dave. I'm in the stairwell. Are you expecting a surprise guest on your show?

DAVE

No, no surprises. Why?

JESSE (ON PHONE)

I got out on the ground floor and saw a man standing right at the front door staring in. Took me by surprise.

DAVE

Just some creep off the street.

JESSE (ON PHONE)

I'm behind the inner doors, peering out, and he's still there just looking in...

SOUND: ALARM BEEPS FOUR TIMES

SOUND: PHONE BLEEP.

KEN

Everything is off...

DAVE

Jesse's on the phone. He's worried about some guy standing outside the station doors.

(CONTINUED)

KEN

Oh really? Is Monty Hall all sorted out?

DAVE

Jesse, Ken's asking, is Monty Hall all sorted out, surge prevention wise...

JESSE (ON PHONE)

Yeah. Heading in now. Just wanted to pass the info along. Are you thinking if we ignore him, he might just go away?

DAVE

I'd say so. The station has had its fair share of shady characters passing by, I don't think this is any different.

JESSE (ON PHONE)

Okay.

DAVE

Wait Jesse. I just remembered: Danne D said there was a weirdo stalking him from the Smoke shop tonight. Is this guy, the guy at the door by any chance wearing a raincoat and a fedora hat?

JESSE (ON PHONE)

That, pretty much matches his description. Why?

SOUND: ALARM BEEPS FOUR TIMES

DAVE

Okay, that's something else. Don't go near that guy. I better find Danne D.

JAMES

Dave.

DAVE

James! Come in here... this is serious.

JAMES

What's up?

DAVE

Earlier Danne D told us about that man in the raincoat and the hat who followed him from the local store up on Marin. Jesse was just on the phone. Turns out he's right outside, the crazy stalker guy who followed Danne D here... like he's waiting or something.

(CONTINUED)

JAMES

Oh, that's so not cool.

DAVE

I'm calling his cell now.

SOUND: RING TONE - AND THEN SOMEBODY PICKS UP BUT ALL WE HEAR IS HEAVY BREATHING.

DAVE (cont'd)

Danne D? are you there? Danne? Quit foolin' around and get back over to studio A. You're in a lot of trouble, damn it!

SOUND: - HANG UP

KEN

Dave, if you have everything you need here, be ready because the power WILL likely come on at any time. We cannot afford to leave dead air.

SOUND: ALARM BEEPS FOUR TIMES

DAVE

Damn straight Ken! Thank you!
(a few beats)

I wonder if Tig is still waiting to call. I should really call her back, fill her in... but... dammit where's Danne D?

JAMES

Shall I go look for him?

DAVE

Yes, if you can, but be quick.

SOUND: SOUND OF FIRE TRUCKS OUTSIDE

DAVE (cont'd)

Sounds like Armageddon out there. Okay... Oh, wait, there's the desk lamp. Let me get that plugged in...

SOUND: SOUND OF DESK LIGHT BEING PLUGGED IN

SOUND: DAVE EATING

DAVE (cont'd)

(MOCKING TO SELF)
Butterfingers... fun size... fun!

SOUND: CELL PHONE RINGING

(CONTINUED)

DAVE (cont'd)
Who's this?
(A Beat)

JESSE (ON PHONE)
Dave. Is Danne D there yet?

DAVE
No. He's still AWOL.

JESSE (ON PHONE)
I've been speaking to James. He really thinks it could be Danne D playing a prank.

DAVE
I don't think... I know, it's not beneath him but... surely considering the circumstances. It's a bummed out situation.

JESSE (ON PHONE)
Exactly. We have no time for this, so let's get it over with. I'll head out the back. Sneak up on him, take his hat, hit him with the old "gotcha"...

DAVE
Jesse. That sounds like a terrible idea.

JESSE (ON PHONE)
What have we got to lose. It's Halloween! I'll call you back when I'm in position.

SOUND: PHONE CALL ENDS

DAVE
Dammit Jesse... This is not going to end well at all.

SOUND: PHONE RINGS IN THE BOOTH

DAVE (cont'd)
Now what! Who's this? The phone is ringing. I can still smell soup...
(SNIFFING)
Oh man that smell doesn't mix well after Butterfingers...

SOUND: PHONE RINGS

DAVE (cont'd)
Hello you're... you're with Dave.

YNGDAVE (ON PHONE)
I thought you all went home, or are you having a party there I don't know about?

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

YngDave! The show's off the air. We're in the middle of a blackout.

YNGDAVE (ON PHONE)

Yeah, sure you are.

DAVE

I'm not kidding. We're scrambling for flashlights. We have crazy people trying to get in... and no power. We've gone dark.

YNGDAVE (ON PHONE)

(PUTTING ON A VOICE)

Gone rogue!

DAVE

If you had the internet, you would know to believe me. We've got... Jesse took photos...

YNGDAVE (ON PHONE)

We both know that's not going to happen. No internet for me.

JAMES

Dave...

DAVE

(ON PHONE)

YngDave, JAMES is back. Can you call--

YNGDAVE (ON PHONE)

Call back in 20? Are you kidding me?

SOUND: ALARM BEEPS FOUR TIMES

DAVE

20 minutes... just to make sure we're all still alive. Think of it as you being our life line call.

YNGDAVE (ON PHONE)

Oh such a spooky event on the Goddamn Dave Hill Show! Do you want me to pretend I've been bitten by a werewolf?

DAVE

YngDave, this is important. 20 minutes.

YNGDAVE (ON PHONE)

Well... I might not. bye!

SOUND: PHONE HANGS UP

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

Oh... that's fine.
(TO JAMES)
James? Where's Danne D?

JAMES

No idea. Jesse was right though. I ran down to take a look. Man in a raincoat and hat.

DAVE

By the way he described him, he's right out of a Philip Marlowe movie or something.

JAMES

The Bogart character?

DAVE

Yes the Bogart character... who else?

JAMES

You know I'm pretty sure Danne D is pulling something on us right now.

DAVE

You think? I don't think he would, not during a blackout. Not his style.

SOUND: DAVE'S CELL RINGS

DAVE (cont'd)

Hey you're on the...
(CORRECTING)
I mean, Dave here.

KEN (ON PHONE)

Dave, it's Ken. I'm here in the office with Kelly. Listen, everything should be on at any moment. Be ready. Do you have James there?

DAVE

He is present.

KEN (ON PHONE)

Jesse and Danne D?

DAVE

Jesse is down at Monty. He's keeping an eye on the creepy guy. He thinks it is Danne D playing a prank or something, but I'm not so sure.

SOUND: ALARM BEEPS FOUR TIMES

(CONTINUED)

KEN (ON PHONE)

If it is, it's not funny.

SOUND: POWERING UP.

JAMES

Dave. We have back-up power again. The lines are open.

DAVE

The lamp is on!

KEN (ON PHONE)

I'll run, check the servers. Jump on that dead air.
Business as usual.

SOUND: KEN HANGS UP THE PHONE

DAVE

James, plug in. I'm starting to side with Tig, should we even be on the air right now?

JAMES

Call coming in.

DAVE

Laptop still warming up.

(A BEAT)

Oh and Jesse thinks the stalker guy outside is Danne D, wants to sneak up on him to give him a scare.

JAMES

Danne D would have given up by now.

(A BEAT)

I'm plugged in.

DAVE

I can still smell Jesse's soup.

JAMES

Still on the step ladder in the library.

DAVE

James can you come check this.

JAMES

Hang on, connect...

DAVE

I thought I did that.

JAMES

Oh, it is on!

SOUND: DISTORTION / DARK MOANING - FREAKY

(CONTINUED)

JAMES (cont'd)

Okay that was weird.

DAVE

Was that feedback?

JAMES

Crossed signal. You're on...

DAVE

Okay, everybody, this is the Goddamn Dave Hill Show, Halloween special. We've had some power outages, but I think we're back. We're yet to be ravaged by monsters and dragged out into the night. If you're thinking that we can't pick up where we left off without heat, then you're wrong sister! There's really no time to waste. James says we have a caller. Could this be--

HITCHHIKER (ON PHONE)

Hey... am I on?

DAVE

You're on the air. Who is this?

HITCHHIKER (ON PHONE)

It's Billy.

DAVE

Hey Billy, what's on your mind?

HITCHHIKER (ON PHONE)

Nothing but the meat.

DAVE

What's that? Where are you calling from?

HITCHHIKER (ON PHONE)

Round Rock. Texas. Yeah. That's right.

SOUND: ALARM BEEPS FOUR TIMES

DAVE

How's your Halloween?

HITCHHIKER (ON PHONE)

Everyday is All Hallows Eve.

DAVE

Tell me about it. Billy, paint us a picture with your eyes. What's it like out there?

(CONTINUED)

HITCHHIKER (ON PHONE)

I don't work with much paint, but I'm looking out at the slaughterhouse, cleaning the hammer.

DAVE

I don't like the sound of this.

HITCHHIKER (ON PHONE)

It's the only way to do it. People say use a gun, but that's no good.

DAVE

Okay, I get it. This is a joke. You're the hitchhiker from Texas Chainsaw Massacre--

HITCHHIKER (ON PHONE)

No I'm Billy. But I do like the chainsaw. My Uncle doesn't let me use them on the cows.

DAVE

James? You know that screening method we came up with. I think we should use it.

HITCHHIKER (ON PHONE)

(LAUGHS MENACINGLY)

I gotta go. Time to make some head cheese!

SOUND: PHONE HANGS UP

DAVE

He hung up? I can't lie I was ready to cut him off myself. Who else do we have?

JAMES

YngDave's been on hold.

DAVE

Oh Tig! I forgot Tig. She's been trying to call my cell. Let me know the moment she...

(NEXT CALL)

Hello... you're on the air.

NORMAN (ON PHONE)

Hello.

DAVE

YngDave?

NORMAN (ON PHONE)

No.

SOUND: ALARM BEEPS FOUR TIMES

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

Who's this?

NORMAN (ON PHONE)

I'm... I'm Norman. Who's this?

DAVE

It's Dave Hill, from before the blackout. Are you calling in with a Halloween story?

NORMAN (ON PHONE)

My... My mother doesn't like me talking to strangers about Halloween.

DAVE

Okay... once again we have a prank caller on the line. YngDave I know it's you. If you're going to pull this on me you have to actually do another voice that's not you...

NORMAN (ON PHONE)

I'm not sure I understand?

DAVE

Your last name is Bates, isn't it?

NORMAN (ON PHONE)

Well, yes. Yes it is. How did you know that?

SOUND: DAVE HANGS UP

DAVE

I'm sorry, we lost him. What a mess. Oh and Danne D is in here! Yes! I've just been handed a flashlight, so I can finally claw my way to the bathroom. You know what that means. That's right. I'm going to do some crunches. I'll leave you with a little music to cleanse the palette, or something to that extent.

MUSIC: I THINK I LOVE YOU - PATRIDGE FAMILY.

DAVE (cont'd)

And we're off the air...

(TO JAMES)

James come in here?

(TO DANNE D)

Danne D! Please tell me Jesse sprang on you.

DANNE D

What do you mean?

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

Did you play a prank by dressing up as your stalker?

DANNE D

My stalker? What are you talking about?

JAMES

(INTERRUPTING)
I'll call Jesse!

DAVE

Be quick Jesse... his life might be at stake.

DANNE D

What stalker?

JAMES

His cell is ringing...

DAVE

There's a man at the front door. Can only be described as wearing a rain coat and a fedora. Somebody you might know... maybe?

DANNE D

Crap! He's here, for me?

SOUND: ALARM BEEPS FOUR TIMES

DAVE

Looks that way. And by the way: answer your cell phone! Less of the heavy breathing.

DANNE D

Wait, what do you mean heavy breathing?

SOUND: JAMES CELL PHONE CONNECTS

JESSE (ON PHONE)

James? What's up?

JAMES

Jesse, Danne D is here with us!

JESSE (ON PHONE)

You're kidding! I was just about to. I'm outside. I'm on the building corner about to... Oh no!

JAMES

What, what is it? What's happening Jesse.

(CONTINUED)

DANNE D

I don't have my cell phone on me.

JAMES

Jesse are you there?

DAVE

James?

JESSE (ON PHONE)

He's gone. The guy... creepy guy isn't there!

JAMES

Phew. You scared me then.

DANNE

Wait. I really don't have my cell phone.

DAVE

You don't? But I called you on it.

DANNE

Oh, you know... did I drop my cell after sending that text? What if he saw me drop it, picked it up...

JESSE (ON PHONE)

What's he saying?

SOUND: ALARM BEEPS FOUR TIMES

JAMES

Danne D reckons the stalker in the hat was maybe trying to return his phone back to him, that this may be happening because Danne D dropped his phone...

DAVE

That explains the heavy breathing...

JAMES

Dave... the song is about to finish...

DAVE

Loop it James, this is important.

MUSIC: I THINK I LOVE YOU - PATRIDGE FAMILY.

JAMES

Get in the building Jesse. He might still be around.

DANNE D

Do you really think he has my phone?

(CONTINUED)

JESSE (ON PHONE)

I just heard Danne D. I can check.

JAMES

Jesse says he's going to take a look.

DAVE

Heavy breathing... the guy follows you here... it makes sense... but still, one thing is for sure. The guy just stands at the door for this long without knocking or ringing the buzzer. He then walks away.

JAMES

Jesse confirms no phone on the ground or immediate surrounding area.

DANNE D

Oh man... this isn't good Dave. I have everything on that phone.

JAMES

Dave, shall I run down?

DAVE

Both of you, go for it. Be quick. Don't let Ken see you or he'll be mad as hell that you're not here.

(TO DANNE D)

Danne D, I'm going to call your phone again. Hold tight.

DANNE D

I'm on it. James, let's go...

SOUND: OF SOUP KNOCKING, SPILLING

DANNE D (cont'd)

Oh my god, oh my god!

SOUND: ALARM BEEPS FOUR TIMES

DAVE

What? What is it?

DANNE D

I just got covered...

DAVE

Oh my god. It looks like blood! Is that yours?

DANNE D

No, it's Jesse's soup. I got tomato soup all over me and the floor!

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

Wow, it's like a bloodbath in here.

DANNE D

Quick, get the phone before it...

DAVE

I'm going to call your cell and get to the bottom of this once and for all.

DANNE D

That crazy guy better not be doing anything with it.

DAVE

It's not answering...

SOUND: SLIGHT BUZZ.

DAVE

Wait a minute. Can you hear that buzz?

DANNE D

Yes. Where's it coming from?

DAVE

Over there...

DANNE D

It's coming from the maintenance closet.

SOUND: BUZZ IS LOUDER AND THEN STOPS.

DAVE

I got your voice-mail.

DANNE D

Yeah but the buzzing stopped.

DAVE

Is your phone in the cupboard?

SOUND: DOOR BEING JOSTLED.

DANNE D

It's locked!

DAVE

Don't panic. I have the key.

SOUND: DOOR UNLOCKING

(CONTINUED)

DAVE (cont'd)
Just calling your cell again, James hold my phone.

JAMES
Okay it's ringing.

SOUND: LOUDER BUZZING - VIBRATION

DAVE
Your phone is in here, dammit.

DANNE D
This is impossible. I haven't even been to the studio,
I never leave home without it.

DAVE
Oh my god... Look at this.

DANNE D
What the hell.

DAVE
It's a raincoat...

DANNE D
...and a fedora...

SOUND: ALARM BEEPS FOUR TIMES

DAVE
...with your phone in the inside pocket.

DANNE D
Oh come on. This has got to be a joke.

JAMES
Come on Danne D. Admit it, you planted this here...

DANNE D
Are you kidding? I'm not exactly coming off well here.
I'm covered in tomato soup.

DAVE
Here's a towel. Watch out for the wet patch on the
floor.

DANNE D
I mean, this didn't just get in here by accident.

DAVE
Is this the same raincoat and hat?

(CONTINUED)

DANNE D

I guess. Oh heck, I don't know! I mean nobody wears this kind of thing when they come up here. Never in the time I've been here...

SOUND: DOOR SLAMS

KEN

Hey guys...

DAVE

Jees... Ken! Jesse!

JESSE

I'm back.

KEN

What's that you got there?

DANNE D

This looks really bad. I promise you... I had nothing to do with this...

JESSE

Holy cow... is that my soup?

DAVE

I think he's referring to the raincoat, and a hat. We found it in the cupboard over there. Locked up, Danne D's phone within the inside pocket.

JESSE

Yeah that's what the guy was wearing.

KEN

How did you get that?

JESSE

Danne D! This was all you?

SOUND: ALARM BEEPS FOUR TIMES

DANNE D

No way. I was up here when he was still at the door. Honestly. I'm... I have no idea... not a clue.

DAVE

I don't think this is Danne D. He's not that good of an actor...

JAMES

Oh... well that's nuts... Now what do we do?

(CONTINUED)

KEN

Power's up. The world is listening to dead air.

DAVE

Actually, we have the Partridge Family playing right now. It's a really long version of "I think I Love You." I prefer it...

SOUND: THE DOOR OPENS HARD AND THEN CREAKS SLOWLY CLOSED

MUSIC: UNDERSCORE

NARRATION

The following takes place moments before the station returns to full power. The mystery resolved, and yet unsolved. The atmosphere surrounding Danne D's mystery stalker and the state of affairs that was, his missing phone, was finally falling away. Normality was about to resume... however...

DAVE

I just posted on the chat room "We lost a lot of blood at the station. Gonna need a mop."

KEN

Okay Dave, perhaps we should not let people know what exactly went on tonight. Just keep it on the blackout. Nothing else. At least until we figure out what actually happened.

DAVE

Okay, you're right.

SOUND: LIGHTS UP, POWER UP... BLACKOUT OVER

KEN

We're back on.

DANNE D

I just want to go on record, I would never prank to scare anybody during a blackout. This station means the world to me. I'm as baffled as everybody here.

JAMES

I believe you. Also Dave says crap about blood being everywhere on Twitter all the time. It's his thing.

DAVE

Yeah but blood or soup... it's never actually true.

KEN

We can leave it at that I think. Anyway, you've got power... Get back on the air!

(CONTINUED)

DAVE

James, get back in the booth. Danne D, go get cleaned up! Jesse, you sit tight and wait your turn...

DANNE D

Wait, listen... my voice mail outgoing message has changed.

SOUND: HEAVY BREATHING ON DANNE D'S CELL PHONE.

THE SHADOW MAN (ON PHONE)

(WHISPERING)

I'm still there... I'm still there... Danne D...

MUSIC: DRAMATIC UNDERSCORE

SOUND: THE SOUND OF KNOBS AND BUTTONS... CHAIR ADJUSTING... AND A TAP TAP TAP ON THE MIC.

DAVE

The power's back on, but soon, we'll all be dead. Thank you for staying with us, through thick and thin. We're still here...

That's a funny thing to say right now... I'll explain that someday. Maybe we can find Tig again, or get YngDave and Wyndorf back on the air to give them a verbal spanking for the prank calls they did earlier... but you might have missed that too...

So many moving pieces. Blood everywhere...

(A BEAT)

It's still Halloween, time to take some calls...

SOUND: THE PHONE CONNECTS.

DAVE

Hello you're on the air!

MUSIC: UNDERSCORE - OUTRO MUSIC

NARRATION

...and there we have it and with all things considered, the mysterious encounter with "The shadow stalker" was nothing more than an introduction. More of a means of letting Dave, Danne D, James, Jesse, Kelly and the Station Manager Ken all figure out that something was watching over them that night. The man who stood at the door was never seen again. His raincoat and hat was all that remained. Should the portal between reality and that other place be strong again, most likely on the October 31st of future years, he might return again. As for the mysterious black-out across Jersey City... well... that's easy. It was all Danne D's fault.

(THE END)