

THE WESTBOROUGH CRUSADERS

"Only A Matter Of Time"

written by

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EPISODE(S) # 5

Registered WGAw

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1 INT. DR. NIVLOE'S OFFICE - MORNING

Crew is in the examination room, and the Dr. is removing his cast.

NIVLOE

If you ask me, waste of
time and money.

CREW

Just cut, sawbones.

NIVLOE

Why did you want this on
again?

CREW

A woman. Katie Albertson.

NIVLOE

Were you successful?

CREW

Yes and no.

NIVLOE

Spent \$76.00 on a relation-
ship that never was.

CREW

76? Last time it was \$52.

NIVLOE

Last time it was only a
slight fracture.

CREW

It wasn't broken this time.

NIVLOE

You had me treat you for
three compound fractures.
Worse the problem, more
expensive the treatment.

CREW

Great.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NIVLOE

But, since you're a regular customer... no charge. If you tell me whats bothering you.

CREW

Why do you say that?

NIVLOE

I've known you since you were an infant. I know how your mind works. Just pretend that I don't have on my white jacket with cheap suckers in the front pocket.

CREW

And saliva stains on your toungue depressers.

Nivloe looks at them, and sees that indeed one is a bit dirty. He throws it away.

NIVLOE

Whoops. Whats the problem?

CREW

I don't have a girl-friend.

NIVLOE

Is that bad?

CREW

Not really. Just depressing.

NIVLOE

Can't get a date?

CREW

No, no. I can get women all right, but I don't like them. I'm looking for a relationship with substance right now.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

NIVLOE

Whats wrong with that?

CREW

Nothing. Most of the girls I like are either taken or they giggle at anything. I can't seem to find the one girl that I want to spend time with, just to spend time with. Did that make sense?

NIVLOE

In a way. Reminds me of the time I was doing summer stock my summer before college. There was this older woman whom I thought was beautiful. She came from a small town in the mid-west and had a younger sister back home. On closing night her entire family came from back home, including her sister. She was 13, and after quite a bit of wangling, I got to know the back seat of her parent's car rather well, for the sake of medicine. Anatomy examinations. You know what I mean.

CREW

Sly. I'll have to try that one.

NIVLOE

Being two months into my Freshman year, I got this letter from her. I had regarded the relationship as a cheap, one night stand, we'd both forget about. On the last page, scribbled as though an afterthought was a short post script. She told me that she wanted me to get her pregnant, so she would have to marry me. Then she could tell all her friends about how close we were.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

CREW

At 13? That's too
hard to believe.

NIVLOE

Me too. A big joke.
But something told me
it wasn't. It scared
the hell out of me.

CREW

Why?

NIVLOE

Remember that this had
been the first time I
was living away from home.
The most important decision
that I needed to make before
the letter was the brand of
deodorant that worked best.
Then I get this over-erotic
letter from a 13 year old
nymph in the mid-west. It
was so irrational, that it
made sense.

CREW

You did it?

NIVLOE

Depends on your point of
view.

CREW

Finish so I can tell you.

NIVLOE

I had mostly forgotten about
her. It was Christmas break,
and I didn't go home. No
money even for presents to my
own family, less a plane ticket. I
was sitting in my robe watching a
bowl game when three knocks rang
out. I thought it was Eddie my
roommate back early. It was
Shelly. My 13 year old nymph.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

CREW

Did you do what she
asked?

NIVLOE

Yes.

CREW

You knew it wouldn't last.

NIVLOE

It was cold and raining that
day, she was to be 14 in three
months...I was alone.

CREW

You used her.

NIVLOE

It sounds that way, I know.
But I didn't. We were there,
she had her needs, I had mine.
Victims of circumstance.

CREW

I can't understand that.

NIVLOE

After she'd gone I wondered.
But later...I understood
that it was a part of her
life. A very special part
that she needed to feel,
be a part of...to love a
man.

CREW

Ever see her again?

NIVLOE

No.

CREW

Down deep. You really didn't
like her, did you?

NIVLOE

I was hurting, Crew.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

CREW

You? How were you hurt?

NIVLOE

Even though she was 13...three months from 14...I loved her.

CREW

You made love to her. How does that hurt you?

NIVLOE

Two months after I saw her, she had died of leukemia in Houston. Dead...at 13.

2 INT. WESTBOROUGH HIGH - MID MORNING

Ares is standing at Julie's locker. From afar, we can see Andy on his way to the two.

JULIE

So I told Mr. Gurny, that I just had to get out of class, and put ^{up} ~~of~~ spirit signs for the game against Lakeshore. He told me I couldn't, 'cause we had a test to take. I had to take that test instead! I was so mad. Do you believe it? I couldn't believe Mr. Gurny didn't care about the Crusaders.

ARES

Ask me if I care.

JULIE

Testy, testy. Whats the matter? No date for the dance tonight?

Andy has arrived.

ARES

I'm going with Tiffany Brass.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ANDY

You have a date with
who?

JULIE

Tiffany Brass?

ANDY

Tiffany Brass! She's
beautiful.

JULIE

Watch it.

ANDY

Sorry. What time do I
stop by tonight?

JULIE

7:00. Don't be late. I
have to finish hanging
decorations.

ARES

I have a date with Tiffany
Brass.

ANDY

Whats the problem?

ARES

She's the most beautiful
girl in school.

ANDY

I know, I know. Everybody
knows. How'd you swing it?
Money. Thats it. You paid
her off.

ARES

She asked me.

ANDY

No.

JULIE

Ares Taler. Are you making
this up? Tiffany Brass?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ANDY

That is hard to believe,
Ares.

ARES

I don't get it. I have
one class with her. Every
once in a while she'd talk
to me. I don't know, then
she asked.

ANDY

Don't sound so depressed.
I'd be happy if I were you.

JULIE

Gee, Andy. Thanks a lot.

ANDY

...But I'm not, mind you.

ARES

Thats whats so wierd. I feel
like I'm being used. I just
want to have a few laughs.

JULIE

She probably does too.

ARES

I don't think so. She told
me to wear something that
shows off my legs. My shins
in particular.

JULIE

Thats absurd.

ARES

But she said it. I'm not
going.

ANDY

You have to. Just think.
Tiffany Brass. Wow.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ARES

I'm not going. She
only wants my body.

ANDY

Get out of here.

ARES

I'm serious. I like
to have a good time,
you know.

ANDY

Somehow you have managed
to turn the entire male
role in society around.
I don't know whether to
shake your hand, or punch
you in the nose.

ARES

Punch me in the nose. Then
I'd have a reason for not
going tonight.

ANDY

You just game me my answer.
Shake, buddy.

3 INT. NIVLOE'S EXAMINATION ROOM - NOON

NIVLOE

Do this. Take out Jodi
Verm. Even though she
might not be perfect, it'll
get you through tonight.
Maybe you'll see things clearer
tomorrow. For now? I'm
starving. Lunch?

CREW

Thanks. That'd be nice.
And...I didn't mean to
be...

NIVLOE

It was a long time ago.
Don't worry about it.
Anything else?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CREW
Wheres the soap? I need
to wash up.

Nivloe gives him a bar of coarse Lava, and Crew
begins.

NIVLOE
Whats your tastebuds
hungry for?

CREW
A sandwich. No. Not
a sandwich. You decide.

NIVLOE
We'll find something.

4 INT. WESTBOROUGH - AFTERNOON.

Ares is strolling down the hall, bumping and running
down all sophomores in sight. He meets up with Keithe.

ARES
Keithe. Haven't seen you
in a long time.

KEITHE
Fine, old man. Hows the
family, wife and kids?

Keithe laughs a bit. Ares chuckles once.

ARES
I should be asking you
that. Get your problem
worked out?

KEITHE
Problem.

ARES
With Sandy.

KEITHE
Oh, that. I don't
really know old man.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ARES

Whatta you mean you
don't know. I thought
you went to see her.

KEITHE

I started to...but then
I decided not to. Lucky.
When I got home she called.

ARES

Anything important.

KEITHE

I don't know, they were
moving to someplace back
east.

ARES

What about her problem?

KEITHE

Good question. She never
said.

ARES

You didn't ask?

KEITHE

Why should I? Probably
had an abortion or something.

Keithe laughs.

KEITHE (CON'T)

Lighten up, old man.
Not your problem. Besides.
I got problems of my own to
take care of.

ARES

You sure do, Keithe.

Ares turns, and walks away, leaving Keithe there,
wondering, then worried. He shouts to the now deaf
ears of Ares.

KEITHE

We'll get together sometime.
Play some roundball. Old...
man.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Ares is still walking, and Stan moves behind him, and puts his hand on Ares' shoulder.

STAN
Hey, Ares. Slow down,
man.

ARES
Just...

Ares looks back, sees its Stan and not Keithe.

ARES (CON'T)
Sorry. Thought you were
someone else.

STAN
Canterbilly. Where is
he this period? I gotta
talk to him.

ARES
He won't be back until
tomorrow. Anything I can
do?

STAN
No. I've got to do this
myself.

Stan turns 180 degrees and sprints off.

5 INT. TALER/SMITH HOUSES - LATE AFTERNOON/EARLY EVE

(NOTE: The following sequences should show the contrast between Crew and Ares. No divisions of scenes will be scripted. That will be director's choice.)

4:15pm. Ares begins to get ready. Crew is napping.
4:45pm. Ares begins to disrobe, and lays out his
suit for the dance. Crew still sleeps.
5:00pm. Ares is out of the shower and dries himself,
and combs his wet hair. Crew gets up, looks
at the clock, decides to go back to sleep.
6:00pm. Ares is in his shorts and combing his still
wet hair. Crew awakens, goes to the shower.
6:30pm. Ares is slapping on shaving lotion, and begins
to shave. Crew is fully dressed and ready.
6:45pm. Ares begins to dress, Crew leaves his house.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

It is now 7:00pm, and Ares is still tying his tie.
Crew and Andy have arrived.

6 EXT. TALER FRONT STEPS - EVENING

ANDY
Where's your flower?

CREW
Jodi's bringing her own.

ANDY
I see. Like the corsage I
got for Julie?

CREW
Ummm.

ANDY
Tiffany Brass. Think
Ares will get seduced?

CREW
Are you a Communist?

ANDY
No.

CREW
Theres your answer.

Julie opens the door.

JULIE
I though I heard voices.
Come on in. Ares is still
dressing.

CREW
What. Is he salad?

Andy and Julie just stare. The silence for that supposed
quip is deading.

CREW (CON'T)
This is going to be a
rotten night. I'm not
even funny to myself.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CREW (CONTINUING)

But then again when you're taking the laughing hyena of the sophomore class, it doesn't make much difference, does it?

JULIE

Come on in.

Crew enters, Andy is upset about something.

ANDY

Here.

Andy dumps the corsage in Julie's lap and sits down grumpily on the couch. Crew does the same.

JULIE

Well, gentlemen. How's your day been?

CREW

I don't want to take Jodi Verm. She's a ball of horse laugh, hoots, snickers, giggles and gaffaws. I don't know what Mr. Personality's problem is.

ANDY

I'm not a Commie.

CREW

It was a joke. I was setting you up.

ANDY

Yeah...well...

CREW

Good comeback.
Where's Ares?

From around a corner, Ares enters still trying to tie his tie.

ARES

Ares is right here. Tie my tie for me.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Crew goes over to Ares, quickly and sloppily ties his tie. Andy helps Julie with the corsage. The tie looks awful.

JULIE
Andy! Be careful.

ANDY
Yeah...well...

CREW
Try two sentences.

ARES
How does it look? I
can't see.

ANDY
Great. Just great.
Never seen a better Wind-
sor.

JULIE
It's after seven. Let's
get going.

The four move outside to the front stoop.

ANDY
How are we getting there?

ARES
Whats that?

ANDY
How are we getting
there?

CREW
You're driving.

ANDY
I am not.

CREW
Why didn't you tell
us?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ANDY

Crew. I told you
Tuesday. You said
you'd tell Julie and
Ares.

CREW

Oh, yeah.

ARES

Fine. "Oh, yeah." One
of the more intelligent
statements. Tiffany
Brass, the most beautiful
girl at Westborough,
and the only thing you
can say is "Oh, yeah?"

CREW

Stop your griping. Now
you don't have to go out
with Tiffany, and I don't
have to take Jodi the Jolly
Joker.

ARES

Oh, yeah.

CREW

Let's go start a game of
Yahtzee instead.

ANDY

No. We're all going.

CREW

Fellow traveler.

JULIE

Wait. We can figure out
a way to fix this.

ARES

Maybe if I had Tiffany
spayed...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

ANDY

I'd pay for a Taxi, but
I spent my last buck on
that corsage.

JULIE

Don't blame this on me.

ANDY

You wanted purple.

JULIE

...lavender.

ANDY

Its purple. Cost me
and extra three bucks,
so they could get it
from out of state.
White would've looked
just as nice.

JULIE

Now I don't think I'm
going.

CREW

Don't foget to call the
Kremlin to see if Valddy
needs anymore dupes.

Again, nothing happens. Nobody laughs and the entire
room is silent. Crew thinks for a beat...

CREW (CON'T)

Again, I'm not laughing.

ARES

Thats never stopped you
before. Let's start
walking.

With chips in tact on each of their shoulder, Andy,
Julie, Ares and Crew leave for the dance.

7 INT. WESTBOROUGH GYM - EVENING

The gym is full. Crew and Jodi are dancing, and we can hear her cackle above the din. Andy and Julie are somplace, and Ares and Tiffany are talking by the drinking fountain.

ARES

...It was caused more by carelessness, rather than a surprise. We knew the Japanese were coming.

TIFFANY

I want to dance.

ARES

We did for two whole dances. I don't like being squeezed when I'm not ready.

TIFFANY

You don't have shorts on. I want to see your legs. You have beautiful shins.

ARES

Yes, I know. I have four pairs of socks on. I'm not as easy as you might think.

TIFFANY

Someday those shins will be mine. You can count on that.

ARES

You women are all the same. Only out for our bodies.

TIFFANY

It's all human nature. Raw smells and feelings. Don't repress them, Ares. Let them flow freely into mine. Let us become one.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ARES

Why me? You could have any guy.

TIFFANY

I see the little games you play. The eyes you make. The way you walk. The sensuality in your eyebrows. The way you...tie your tie. I wanted to see how serious you were.

ARES

You misunderstood.

TIFFANY

Sensuality never lies, Ares. I can feel you from here. You're ready to explode. Be careful. Explosions are something to see...not feel.

ARES

Tiffany, if you'll excuse me. I need to release myself so's I don't explode. I'm hitting the john.

8 INT. WESTBOROUGH BATHROOM - EVENING

Ares is washing his hands, and inhaling deeply. From the side we see in the mirror another person. Ares stops immediatly.

ARES

Bergie! How did you get out so soon?

BERGIE

I made improvements in character development and my maturity index rose to that equal or above my own age category.

ARES

You've changed.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BERGIE

Thats another way of putting it. My problem was self confidence. I have now conquered that complex that in turn hindered my real intelligent and emotional psyche.

ARES

You seen Mike?

BERGIE

I just arrvied. I'm on my way to find him. How is he?

ARES

The same. Maybe worse.

BERGIE

I was afraid of that.

ARES

Whats going on?

BERGIE

I don't know yet. It isn't up to me.

Bergie leaves the bathroom, and we TRACK him to the gym.

9 INT. WESTBOROUGH GYM - EVENING

Bergie takes his date by the hand, and Ares follows with Tiffany in tow. There is a commotion. Everyone is gathering around Mike, as he is causing trouble for a small teen named JACOB. Bergie wathces for a few beats, then enters. Andy, Julie, Crew, Jodi, Ares and Tiffany are all standing together, watching.

CREW

Westside Story comes "live" to Westborough in true-life Technicolor.

ARES

Reminds me of my first date with Jenny.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ANDY
I don't get it.

CREW
Inside joke.

JULIE
Shhhhs. I can't hear.

BERGIE
Mike Redson. Long
time. How's it going,
man?

Mike turns, lets Jacob go. Mike is in a rage, then recognizes Bergie.

MIKE
Bergman.

BERGIE
Trouble? Jacob not
step of your toe?

MIKE
How'd you get out?

The entire dance has stopped, and all eyes are on the two.

BERGIE
You didn't answer my
question.

MIKE
Listen, fat cakes. You
ain't normal. Just be-
cause you're out doesn't
mean you're straight. You're
still the overweight bag of
crap you've always been.

BERGIE
I'm asking you to take that
back.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MIKE

Fuck you.

~~Stick it~~ (TV)

Mike laughs a bit, but none else does. Bergie takes off his jacket and unbottons his sleeves. We see that some of that fat has been turned into muscle. Bergie moves towards Mike who stands his ground. They stare for a moment, and the only sound is their chests heaving for fresh air.

BERGIE

You drunk now, Mike?

Mike looks at Bergie, and stares at him with eyes pierced with hatred that only some unlucky men feel. Mike spits in Bergie's face, and growls...

MIKE

Go to hell.

Deftly, Bergie quickly slams his fist into Mike's face. It begins to bleed all over Mike and he is obviously startled. Mike can't see, and once again, Bergie cocks his arm and let's it's full velocity fly into Mike's nose and we can hear the crunch of Mike's nose trying to break the force of the punch.

Mike is on the ground and writhing in pain. All are forzen. Eyes are trained on Bergie.

Bergie picks Mike up and holds him there. Mike is bleeding all over Bergie, and Bergie wipes the blood on Mike's lapel. Raising a mighty foot, Bergie prepares to crush Mike's toes, but at the last moment reconsiders.

Instead, Bergie extends his hand for Mike to shake. Relectantly, Mike grips it, pauses, then shakes twice. Then, he takes his hand away and puts it back on his nose to halt the bleeding.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Looking at the blood from Mike's hand on his, Bergie considers wiping it off on Mike, but then wipes the blood off on his own leg.

Before Bergie turns to dance, he makes one last statement in a calm, matter-of-fact voice.

BERGIE

By the way. It's
Daniel.

Now, Bergie takes his girl by the waist and begins to dance albeit no music is playing.

Now the music start, and the rest of the group begins to melt. Cautiously, Tiffany whispers to Ares...

TIFFANY

See what happens when
someone explodes? A
bloody sight. Not very
fun to experience, Ares.
You'll be next...only a
matter of time.

10 EXT. PARK - MORNING

It is the day after the dance, and Andy, Ares, and Crew are jogging in the park.

CREW

You believe what happened
last night?

ANDY

Wild. Say. I'm sorry
about last night. I was
uptight.

CREW

Me too. I was selfish. I
suppose my date with Jodi
wasn't all that bad.

The boys continue to run. Crew and Andy are waiting for Ares to confess and apologize for last night.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ARES

All right. All right.
I admit that last night
was not one of the best.

CREW

Thats a confession?
Sounds more like ex-
cuse.

ARES

Whadda you want? I had
a really lousy time.
I was a toy with cute
shins.

ANDY

Want me to drive to
Canterbilly's tomor-
row?

CREW

Whats tomorrow?

ARES

See Crew. Thats what
happened last night.
You don't remember any-
thing important. Ask
you to remember the
wattage for every light
in the Library of Congress,
and you do.

CREW

Well. Not all of them.

ARES

By the way. What is
tomorrow?

ANDY

Canterbilly's goodbye party
for the staff.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ARES

Sounds pretty good.
Are we supposed to bring
a sack lunch or anything?

ANDY

You know Canterbilly.
Probably will provide
bread and water, and
let us go home ten min-
utes earlier for good
behavior.

11 INT. WESTBOROUGH HIGH - MORNING

Mr. Canterbilly is cleaning out his desk. It is
Saturday morning, and Stan comes into the room,
straight.

STAN

Mr. Canterbilly?

CANTERBILLY

Mr. Harrison. You gave
me a start. How may I
assist you?

STAN

I've been drinking in the
darkroom. And other places.

CANTERBILLY

I know. At times, the
stench, unbearable.

STAN

Why didn't you get me?

CANTERBILLY

I wasn't certain it was
you. Would've done any
good?

STAN

Might've gotten kicked out.
That's something.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CANTERBILLY

Is that what you want?
To be expelled because
you think you have a
problem?

STAN

But I do have one.

CANTERBILLY

Tell me about it. Have
a seat.

STAN

Whenever I get drunk, I
get this dream of what
happened when I was little.
We'd always go camping, and
I would take my stuffed mouse,
Dayrl. One time these older
boys took it away from me. I
felt so bad. The next morning
I went back down and saw some-
thing. It was lying in the mud,
half buried. I picked it up,
put it in my pocket and started
bawling all over again.

CANTERBILLY

What was it ? Dayrl?

STAN

Only his ear. It was the
one the cat had chewed. I
looked for the rest...

CANTERBILLY

I see.

STAN

I still have it at home, I
think. Never went camping
again. Afraid I'd lose some-
thing else I loved. The wierd
part is...every time I wake up...
I'm being chased by something.
I wake up, and I'm always in the
forest. Wierd, huh?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

CANTERBILLY

Why do you drink?

STAN

I don't know anymore.
I hate the taste of beer.
It's all too wierd lately.

CANTERBILLY

Sounds as though you are
preparing yourself for a
change.

STAN

I wish you weren't leaving.

CANTERBILLY

Makes no difference, Mr.
Harrison. I'm not able to
help you anyway. Not my
field of expertise. May
I suggest you make a visit
to the Chrichton re-hab centre
on Albany Circle. They
would be the ones to help.
Tell them about Daryl.

Relectantly, Stan gets up and begins to leave.

STAN

Maybe. Thanks. See ya.

CANTERBILLY

Will you be at the party
tomorrow?

STAN

Depends.

Stan is now at the door.

CANTERBILLY

Stan. If you won't do it
for yourself; do it for
Dayrl.

Stan contemplates, then exits.

12 INT. JOURNALISM HALLWAY - MORNING

Stan is leaning against the wall. He looks lost and frustrated. We see him plunge his fist into his pocket and produce a tiny red pill. He draws it longingly to his lips, but suddenly and violently chucks it the length of the hallway. We barely hear it ping into oblivion.

Once again, Stan reaches into his other pocket and pulls out a dime (10¢) and a long black pill. For a half second, he hovers over the black pill, but picks up the dime instead...and the black pill slides out of his palm and rolls on the floor with a queer hollow, barren thud.

As we begin to fade down the only sound heard is Stan's desert boots padding lightly down the corridor.

FADE DOWN AND OUT

THE END
episode # five