

INN BETWEEN

Episode: Season 5, Episode 10, "The Charmer"

Transcript provided by Ria Couoh.

(00:00) INTRO:**(00:00): PREVIOUSLY ON...**

TESSA Previously on Inn Between...

AUDIO (00:03): INN BETWEEN THEME PLAYS IN THE BACKGROUND.

YAK We'll have to dip into the party fund to stock up on supplies.

RUKES It's not as though we're rolling in money, is that going to be enough?

MAX More than enough.

(cheekily)

Just leave it to me.

AUDIO (01:00): INN BETWEEN THEME FADES.

(01:01) THE CHARMER.

SFX (01:02): DOOR CREAKS OPEN AND SHUT.

AUDIO (01:06): BACKGROUND SOUNDS OF A TAVERN.

SFX (01:06): VARIOUS SETS OF FOOTSTEPS COMING CLOSER, SOFT CLACK
OF CRUTCHES ON WOOD.

PHOEBE Can I carry something?

YAK I think I've got it.

RUKES How much exactly is left in the party fund after all of this?

YAK We still have more than half!

LARKIN Really?

SFX (01:18): CHAIRS DRAG AGAINST WOODEN FLOOR. CLOTHES AND METAL SHUFFLING QUIETLY.

YAK I tried to tell you. Max is good at this.

MAX I don't like to brag.

YAK Oh, but you do like to *lie*, apparently.

MAX (*chuckles*)

 Alright, alright, yes. I am *great* at negotiating.

 Tessa, could we get a round?

TESSA (*from a distance*)

 Yes, yes.

YAK Maybe you're great at negotiating *because* you're great at lying.

MAX Yak! I'm hurt! Lying is a *terrible* way to run a negotiation.

YAK (*laughs*)

 Sure, sure.

MAX No! I'm great at negotiating because... everyone likes me.

RUKES (*disgusted*)

 Ugh.

MAX (*unamused*)

 Except for Rukes, who has no taste.

RUKES It's not possible for anyone to be universally liked. I'm pleased to be a case in point!

MAX Everyone *else* likes me.

RUKES Charm only goes so far.

MAX (*snappish*)

 It gets *me* where I need to be.

YAK It got us all these supplies.

MAX Do we need anything else? Maybe for your devices, Phoebe?

PHOEBE No, I have everything I need.

MAX What about left-handed shears?

PHOEBE (*considering*)

 Oh, well, I don't... *need* them.

MAX So, you couldn't find a use for these?

SFX (02:36): LEATHER AND CLOTH SHUFFLING.

SFX (02:39): A SHARP, METALLIC SOUND.

PHOEBE Oh!

 (*touched*)

 You got these for me?

MAX I'm left-handed too. Nothing worse than using the wrong shears.

PHOEBE I've never had a pair of these before!

MAX (*dramatically*)

 An artificer without the right tools? *Preposterous!*

PHOEBE Thank you.

RUKES *(unimpressed)*

Oh! Is *that* how you get people to like you? By bribing them?

MAX Why don't I buy us this round and you can tell me.

RUKES You can't *buy* my loyalty. I'll take the drink, though.

MAX *(spiteful)*

Of course you will.

LARKIN *(awkwardly)*

Thank you. F—for the drinks.

RUKES There's really no need to debase yourself, Mallon.

MAX *(increasingly irritated)*

It's not debasing to say thank you, Rukes. You would know this if you had any manners.

RUKES *Forget* manners. How about sense?

MAX That's not how you get everyone to like you, Rukes. Take it from me! Who everyone likes.

SFX (03:31): FOOTSTEPS COMING CLOSER.

TESSA Everyone? Bit of an exaggeration. Here are your drinks.

SFX (03:39): HEAVY GLASSES CLINK TOGETHER AND AGAINST HARD WOODEN SURFACE.

TESSA I'll put it on your tab, Max, shall I?

SFX (03:42): FOOTSTEPS FADE AWAY.

RUKES *(gleeful laughter)*

Oh, Tessa *hates* you.

MAX No! She was joking!

RUKES (*disbelieving*)

She *hates* you!

MAX She and I have a friendly *teasing* rapport.

YAK (*dismayed*)

Oh, gods, not this again.

MAX (*defensive*)

Tessa loves me!

RUKES Uh, she's indifferent at *best*!

MAX Simply not the case.

SFX (04:11): CHAIR SCRAPES AGAINST WOODEN FLOOR.

MAX And I will prove it and close my tab.

YAK Max, don't do this again.

MAX (*stiffly*)

I have no idea what you're referring to. I'm just going to the counter to have a conversation with Tessa *who likes me*. Just like everyone else does.

RUKES (*sing-song*)

Except me.

MAX (*angrily*)

Except you!

SFX (04:30): FOOTSTEPS FADING AWAY.

SFX (04:34): CHAIR DRAGS AGAINST WOODEN FLOOR.

YAK I better make sure they don't embarrass themselves too badly.

SFX (04:40): HEAVY, SLOW FOOTSTEPS FADE AWAY.

RUKES (*low chuckle*)

Oh, that's so sad.

LARKIN Why can't you let him have this?

RUKES Uh, besides the fact that this isn't an issue of Max's feelings?

(*pleased with themselves*)

I enjoy bothering them.

PHOEBE If it's not about Max's feelings, what is it about?

RUKES His pride, which I, frankly, have no interest in perpetuating.

LARKIN People should have *some* pride in themselves.

RUKES Oh, yeah? How's that working out for you?

LARKIN (*through a sigh*)

You're impossible to argue with.

RUKES Oh, why's that? Because I hold everyone to the same standard?

PHOEBE Do you think people shouldn't have pride in themselves?

RUKES I think the poison is in the *dose*, Phoebe, and Max has more than their fair share.

(*hotly*)

The way they treat people—

LARKIN But he was nice to Phoebe today! I mean, he's even laid off my...

(losing steam)

My problem with blood.

RUKES *(disbelieving scoff)*

Oh, my gods! Your standards are somewhere in the depths of the ocean!

LARKIN *(reproachful)*

And you claim that you hold everyone to the same standard and yet refuse to judge them by their actions!

RUKES Okay. Let's talk about what action is conspicuously absent, shall we?

(seriously)

After the way he's treated you, Larkin, what hasn't Max done?

SFX (05:52): BEAT.

PHOEBE *(somberly)*

Apologized.

RUKES Phoebe, I think you might be the smartest lowlife I've ever met. I'm not even being sarcastic.

PHOEBE Uhm, thank you?

LARKIN I mean, I guess they haven't... apologized, no, but, to be fair, it's—

RUKES *(incredulous, angry)*

Are you about to say that you *lied* to them after you spent so long arguing that you didn't? Are you going to make excuses for Max?

LARKIN Wh— He's acting...

(without much conviction)

Better, though.

RUKES A—and how long is that going to last?

PHOEBE Until he gets mad again.

RUKES And then it's back to holding us *all* under their thumb.

(seriously and with emphasis)

Don't confuse manners for kindness, *Larkin*.

LARKIN *(lightly)*

And that's your, uh, professional opinion? As the priest of the goddess of love?

SFX (06:40): SILENCE.

RUKES *(less sharp)*

Alright, that's fair. I'm not a good person, but it takes one to know one.

LARKIN I just... I think you're wrong.

RUKES Uh huh. Which bit?

LARKIN Giving people the benefit of the doubt is just... better! I don't know, you're happier that way!

RUKES Oh, so you're *happy*, then?

LARKIN Sure.

RUKES *(dubiously)*

Mm, you don't sound sure.

LARKIN Well, you have to...

(subdued)

Keep the peace, don't you?

RUKES At what cost?

PHOEBE Sometimes... sometimes, it's the only way to survive.

RUKES (*darkly*)

And that's the *thing* isn't it, Phoebe? This isn't one of those times!

PHOEBE (*verging on upset*)

How do you know that?

RUKES I've been trying to show you, Phoebes! I haven't stopped trying to show you!

What's Max going to do to you?

LARKIN Take away a chance at a quarter of a dragon's hoard?

RUKES A hypothetical. *And*, since you know where it is, you could just... go get it yourself if you wanted!

They can't do anything to us.

PHOEBE He drew a *sword* on you.

RUKES He wasn't going to use it!

LARKIN (*frustrated*)

Look, what are you trying to accomplish here? I—I mean it! What are you trying to convince me of?

RUKES I'm *trying* to tell you not to fall for politeness when what you *deserve* is an apology!

LARKIN (*disbelieving*)

Deserve?

RUKES *Sune on a spit!*

(*increasingly upset*)

Yes, Larkin, deserve! You are so far gone! Do you not think of yourself as a *person*?

LARKIN That's not—

That's not relevant!

RUKES Oh, your *personhood* isn't relevant?

(through a disbelieving laugh)

Ye, gods!

A—are you listening to this, Phoebe?

LARKIN No, look—! Most of the time I'm just lucky to be here, alright?

(softer)

I have to take what I can get.

RUKES No, you *idiot*! You don't *have* to take table scraps! You deserve better!

LARKIN You are—!

(deep inhale)

(lowering his volume)

You don't know what you're talking about, okay? You have *no* idea. You're delusional!

RUKES I'm right, actually, and evidently wasting my time.

(sharply)

Forget it.

LARKIN Fine, I will!

PHOEBE Do you mean it?

RUKES *(levelly)*

I mean everything I said. Which bit?

PHOEBE That... That deserving apologies is part of being a person.

RUKES When you're wronged? Yes, absolutely.

PHOEBE And... if they never apologize?

RUKES *(slowly)*

Well, you get to decide whether to forgive them for their slight or say that enough is enough.

PHOEBE You know this because you're a priest.

RUKES I know this because I'm a *person*.

LARKIN *(disdainful)*

I don't know how you think so highly of yourself.

RUKES Not all of us have the benefit of a martyr complex, Larkin. I've had to *build* my own self-worth.

YAK *(from a distance)*

I told you...

SFX (09:21): FOOTSTEPS APPROACHING.

MAX She's joking!

YAK *(amused)*

Sure. Whatever helps you sleep at night.

SFX (09:28): CHAIRS DRAG AGAINST WOODEN FLOOR.

RUKES So, how did it go?

MAX It's not really important.

(brightly)

We should plan for the last leg of the trip.

YAK *(exaggerated stage whisper)*

Not well.

RUKES *(delighted)*

Oh, yes, let's plan! By all means!

LARKIN Have you been this way before, Max?

MAX No, but Yak has.

YAK We'll have to bundle up. It's about to get cold.

PHOEBE I thought you were cold-blooded.

YAK Oh! No, that was me weaponizing a stereotype. I'll be alright.

AUDIO (10:00): BACKGROUND SOUNDS OF TAVERN FADE AWAY.

(10:00) OUTRO:

(10:00) NEXT TIME ON...

AUDIO (10:01): INN BETWEEN THEME PLAYS IN THE BACKGROUND.

TESSA Next time, on Inn Between...

RUKES What about money?

YAK Dragonborn don't use money.

PHOEBE What about family?

YAK Dragonborn are *all* family.

LARKIN I don't really understand.

YAK Then let me show you.

(10:18) CREDITS:

HANNAH This episode, "The Charmer", was written and directed by Hannah Wright with assistant director William Wright. The show is produced and edited by Katherine Ayers.

The voice of Larkin is Mason Amadeus. The voice of Max is Malcolm Jay. The voice of Phoebe is Soulara Jane Joslin. The voice of Yak is Emma Laslett. The voice of Rukes is CJ Tanuan.

Our theme song is by Eli Hamada McIlveen, and our artwork is by Gabrielle Buxman. Our transcriber is Ria Couoh. Special thanks to Emma Wright for foley assistance.

Transcripts for this and every episode can be found on our website, thegoblinshead.com.

If you like the show, talk your way out of a speeding ticket! Or leave us a review.

Thanks for listening!

AUDIO (11:15): MUSIC ENDS.

HANNAH This story was created in the traditional territory of the Arapaho, Cheyenne, and Ute peoples, and edited in the unceded territory of the Salish, Kootenai, and Kalispel peoples.

(11:30) POST-CREDITS:

AUDIO (11:31): BACKGROUND SOUNDS OF TAVERN.

TESSA No, I'm not an elf. I'm not immune to being Charmed, I just don't suffer nonsense.

(beat)

(considering)

No, I don't believe anyone has ever tried to cast a Charm spell on me.

(beat)

(unamused)

Well, you can try. Tell me, do you enjoy being beaten with a club?

AUDIO (): BACKGROUND SOUNDS OF TAVERN FADE AWAY.

EPISODE ENDS.