SUPER SECRET, HYPER META BACKER SCRIPT LEAK UPDATE WITH SCREENING DETAILS [WORKING TITLE]

In which backers are given the secret link to the newest cut of Gamers 4 and are invited to a streaming event with cast and crew members that's going to be more fun than GENCON, MATT, so THERE!

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Based on characters created by

Our Parents and a harsh society

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INT ANDY'S OFFICE. DAY.

ANDY, a bearded and rotund fellow, sits as his KEYBOARD. He has just closed a chat window with Matt, a bespectacled writer who is *probably* not criminally insane. Andy sits back in his CHAIR and sighs.

ANDY
What the hell do I write?

Suddenly, INNER ANDY appears on Andy's shoulder. He's a 12 inch...he's an 11 and a half inch tall ACTION FIGURE, also bearded, also rotund. He is animated with janky stop motion.

INNER ANDY
Yo.

Inner Andy puts his first two fingers together and does an exaggerated reverse-salute. He speaks in a generic New York accent while pacing around Andy's shoulder. He casually picks up an OLD BOTTLE that was up there and throws it over his shoulder. Andy's shoulders aren't filthy, just cluttered.

INNER ANDY (cont'd)
So, whassaproblem?

Andy starts at the appearance and looks confused.

ANDY
Who...are....

Inner Andy puts up his hands like a postal worker at 5:01pm.

INNER ANDY
Nahnahnahnahnah. We're not doin' that. We're on a budget, yeah?

Andy sighs.

ANDY
Yeah.

INNER ANDY
So, whatcha got so far, kid?

ANDY
Well, I was thinking I could write a post going through all of the work that we've done on the cut so far and how much is left. It's...a lot.

Inner Andy brings his hand to his chin in deep thought. His lower lip sticks out slowly, as if a tiny computer in his mind is feeding output to a dot matrix printer in his mouth.

INNER ANDY
Eeeeeeeeeeeh.

He pivots his hand, indicating 'so-so.'

INNER ANDY (cont'd)
It's a little...self soiving.

ANDY
And this is what.

INNER ANDY
Shaddup. What else y'got?

Andy taps his lips with his fingers, deeply in "thought."

ANDY
Well, I could see if Brian has his puppet and...

INNER ANDY
(interrupting)
NO PUPPETS! What is WRONG with yous people? If yous gonna do puppets, do puppets, but quit teasin' it!

Andy recoils, but acknowledges it's a dumb idea.

ANDY
What about a skit?

Inner Andy is turned away, obscuring something. His arms dart around and after a beat he stands up, slaps his palms together like a silent film character indicating he's finished his task, and turns, revealing a JUNK SNOWMAN made of various debris, all normally sized to Inner Andy, all from Andy's shoulder.

INNER ANDY
Hey, that's not a bad idea kid.

ANDY
We're the same a[cuts off]...if anything you just started existing today, so really YOU'D be the...

Inner Andy is ignoring Andy entirely. His finger is up in the air in a Eureka! pose. He starts shaking it violently and cuts Andy off.

INNER ANDY
Whaddabout dis?

Andy looks mildly annoyed at being interrupted.

ANDY
I don't have context for 'dis.' This is a Cabin 9 thing. Matt is involved. That could be a city of the damned or a BBoy callout track or followed by 'nutz.'

Inner Andy now looks mildly annoyed.

INNER ANDY
Dat's racist. DIS.

He indicates 'everything.'

INNER ANDY (cont'd)
Dis story what you's currently writing.

Andy rolls his eyes.

ANDY
Meta. This group and funking meta.

Inner Andy smirks.

INNER ANDY
An' if it woin't, you'da said 'fuckin.' So, you know. If you ain't part of tha solution, et cetera and so on.

ANDY
Careful. Matt said to keep this PG-13, so we only get one of those.

Inner Andy rolls his eyes.

ANDY (cont'd)
OK, so, this script that I'm writing right now...we do THIS as the skit?

Inner Andy snaps and winks.

INNER ANDY
Atta boy. Whoo!

Inner Andy attempts a Sam Rockwell spin, but collapses on his own ankle.

ANDY
(to himself)
That could work. That could actually work.

Inner Andy sits on the ground, cradling his ankle. He is very obviously mouthing swear words, but his mouth is obscured with cutout symbols like '*&@#!" and the overdubbing says:

INNER ANDY
Golly gee but that smarts! Wowsers!

Just then, on Andy's other shoulder, INNER MATT appears, live action, in a burst of divine light. He's wearing WHITE ROBES, ROUND GLASSES and is carrying a BOOK, CHAINED to his wrist, entitled TOLKIEN WAS A CHUMP.

INNER MATT
Lo! Look upon me and be not afraid for 'cuz check out these CGI abs, chuckle[FRIENDS].

Inner Matt lifts his vestments to reveal CHISELED CGI ABS, glistening with SWEAT despite there being no indication of high temperatures, humidity, nor him appearing wet in any other way. Inner Andy cradles his now-backward FOOT and sobs. Andy gives a small gesture of approval.

ANDY
Fair point, but what are you doing here? And who are you getting to CGI those abs, because I do NOT have time for that.

Inner Matt pulls the shades on his decency and steps toward camera, jostling JUNK as he steps.

ANDY (cont'd)
Why am I writing my shoulders as filthy alleyways? Is that...that's weird, right?

INNER MATT
SILENCE!

Andy shuts up. Inner Andy stops crying and looks up from his now dangling foot.

INNER MATT (cont'd)
Oh shit, that worked. Hey, I like the ambition. I like the meta humor. I think it flows and it's on brand. But, Andy.

Andy thinks for a beat then looks aside with a twang of shame, then nods.

INNER MATT (cont'd)
I mean, the sets, the costumes, JESUS CHRIST STOP MOTION?!!, hair, makeup, PROPS. I do appreciate the abs,

Inner Matt lifts his vestments once again to now-glowing abs, flexing.

INNER MATT (cont'd)
I really, REALLY do.

He lovingly stares at his midsection for a few beats, then drops the robe and looks up, a little sad.

INNER MATT (cont'd)
But we don't have budget for this.

Inner Matt turns the book over in his hands a few times, beginning to shake with frustration.

INNER MATT (cont'd)
What's thi..is this BOUND IN ACTUAL LEATHER?

ANDY
Yeah, and that's real gold-leaf.

Inner Matt examines the spine.

INNER MATT
No shit. (shrugs) Be that as it may, we don't have budget.

ANDY
Well, originally I was going to pitch puppets.

Inner Matt stops dead for half a beat, then looks off into the distance, pondering.

INNER MATT
Puppets. That could work.

From offscreen, Inner Andy groans loudly, in a similar way to his previous scene with the broken foot, however we cut back to his shoulder and he's completely fine, standing upright, but looking at his wit's end.

INNER ANDY
Enough with the puppets! You gotta stop teasin' 'em.

Andy looks at Inner Matt who shrugs and nods like Ted in Bill & Ted. Andy looks back to Inner Andy.

ANDY
Fine, what do we do then?

Inner Andy stammers and turns red. He suddenly has a HAT which he throws to the ground and stomps on.

INNER ANDY
DIS! WE DO DIS!

Inner Matt perks up.

INNER MATT
Oh, the City of the Damned, or...?

The hat flies in from off camera, smacking him in his round glasses.

INNER ANDY
THHHHHHHHIS!

Inner Andy paws at the air, palms down, as if playing Duck Duck Goose with a bunch of short ghosts and not quite understanding the rules.

ANDY
Ooooh. Dat. Yeah.

INNER MATT
Ooooh. Dat. Right.

Inner Andy hunches over, breathing heavily and scowling.

INNER MATT (cont'd)
(under his breath)
Hah..hehe. Dis Nutz.

ANDY
Right, so we just...

INNER MATT
(interrupting)
...leak the script!

ANDY
Oh, I was going to say just do a few-line, backer-only announcement post.

Inner Matt scoffs.

INNER MATT
We're broke, we're not dead. [beat] So, we leak the script and we tell everyone it's an anti-AI artistic endeavor.
(MORE)

INNER MATT (cont'd)
To allow the theatre of the mind to cast our players as they see fit.

ANDY
You know that in dialog, you can just spell it theater. But, how would I even know to correct you on that unless this was always a written gag. God DAMMIT MATT. I HATE META.

Andy collapses on his desk, in a huff.

INNER MATT
Good, good. That's distracting. Now, we hit them with the announcement.

INNER ANDY
What announcement?

Inner Matt loses it. He tosses his book to the ground, takes two steps, realizes it's still chained to his wrist, then soldiers on, doing his best to ignore it.

INNER MATT
Dear god, could you please stop talking. Every second of your coverage is like a full day microbudget shoot, even at your Robot-Chicken-but-from-Wish level of effort.

Inner Andy is now a stiff action figure, very obviously held by a hand off camera, shot at normal speed. It shakes while speaking.

INNER ANDY
Sorry boss.

INNER MATT
Better. And the announcement, right. The announcement is...

Inner Matt pats his robes, as if looking for a speech but forgetting which pocket it is in at an awards show.

ANDY
I did that awards show scene for you.

Inner Matt, still patting, looks up, confused and squinting.

INNER MATT
Wha...?

ANDY
So you knew what it felt like.

INNER MATT
Don't interrupt me with fourth wall ass kissery. Also, damned by faint praise much?

ANDY
I don't know what that means.

INNER MATT
Shut up.

He finds a PIECE OF PAPER in the first pocket he tried the third time he tries it.

INNER MATT (cont'd)
Ah!

He unfolds the paper, adjusts his glasses, and coughs into his fist.

INNER MATT (cont'd)
Backers will not only be getting a limited-time link to a cut of the film which is further along in production than the GenCon cut, they'll also be getting it simultaneous to the screening at GenCon.

ANDY
Wait, further along?

Andy grips the bridge of his nose and rubs the inner-corners of his eyes.

INNER MATT
Is that a problem?

ANDY
I mean, I guess not. I was working on it anyway.

Andy perks up.

ANDY (cont'd)
And it would be nice for people to be able to see the kind of progress three weeks can make.

INNER MATT
They can't be in two places at once. How would they be able to compare? That's stupid. You're stupid.

Andy perks down.

INNER MATT (cont'd)
OK, so I'm ripped and angelic and kinda mean? We can unpack all of this later. Anything else you want to add before whatever awkward ending you peter out into?

INNER ANDY
Nah, I'm good.

ANDY
Yeah, actually. Since I can't be at GenCon, I am going to do my best to make a livestream happen when the Backer cut goes live. Brian already agreed, and a few other folks are hard 'maybes.' We'll watch the movie together, answer backer questions, stuff like that.

INNER MATT
Oh, bonus. Ok.

ANDY
We will need to make it clear that this is still a work in progress and what is finally delivered on disc and through digital will be more refined, still. The "licensed music" thing should be a dead giveaway.

Inner Matt does a school yard-style mocking pantomime.

INNER MATT
You can't use air quotes in dialogue. Duuuuuh. I'm Andy. I hate meta.

Andy's eyes narrow as a blank expression washes over the rest of his face.

ANDY
An. Knee. Weigh.

INNER MATT
Derived.

ANDY
We should also let backers know that an e-mail with a link and a password should hit their inboxes a few days before the GenCon screening. The link will be unpublished until then and will go live at roughly at 7pm Pacific Daylight Time on July 31st.

INNER MATT
That's some stiff, forced dialog.

ANDY
Shut up, they get the bit by now. The livestream will begin briefly after that. The stream link will be in the video description and in an e-mail, so make sure to check your spam if you haven't received anything by the 31st. We'll keep the video live for one week, at least.

Inner Matt clasps his hands to break the monotony.

INNER MATT
OK! Great. Anything else you want to exposit?

ANDY
There are a myriad of ways to get around the download block on streaming sites. I get that and I get wanting to keep this kind of thing, but please don't share it. Remember what happened with X-Men Origins: Wolverine. It's still baking.

INNER MATT
I didn't think you'd take me up on that. I said it the way a priest asks for objections at a wedding. But, good info. So.[beat] We done here?

INNER ANDY
Still good.

ANDY
Yeah, I'm good.

The camera pans out to show that Inner Matt and Andy were on two sides of the same SET. There is a PERSON holding the action figure in front of a small DIORAMA with a CAMERA pointed at it. The CREW strikes the set. Credits roll over silence, which is broken by a hot mic

INNER MATT
I would've said yes to puppets.

ANDY
(far away, through
Inner Matt's mic)
GOD. DAMMIT!