

EPISODE ELEVEN

INT. NEWS STUDIO

In the studio.

FIONA VAUGHAN

Professor Weirdo has debuted a new goatee since he's returned from his journey across the multiverse. The professor insists that it is a fashion choice, but internet users have criticized the hero for debuting the classic evil twin look in the midst of a Doppelgänger crisis.

UNDERWRITER

That was Fiona Vaughn reporting from SPR Tibet.

STAN

Live from the SPR Amphitheater here in the always beautiful Paradise City. This is--

WHIZ KID

-- the Utility Be---Ring Drive!

STAN (CONT'D)

-- SPR's first annual Ring Drive!

WHIZ KID (CONT'D)

Ha ha ha. Ring Drive. Ring-a-ding drive.

STAN

I'm Stan the Henchman and with me, mostly, is Billy the Whiz Kid.

WHIZ KID

That's me!

STAN

And we're thrilled to be basking in the artificial sun of Paradise City's legendary geo-dome.

WHIZ KID

Inside the world famous Suppression field. Field? Like wheat. That can't be right. Where's the Wheat Stanley?

STAN

Oh no kid, it looks like the suppression field is working its magic on that super brain of yours.

WHIZ KID

I'm peachy Stan. Even if I'm not 100 per centum, I can still dance rings around you.

(then)

Hey rings! Ring Drive. Still got it!

STAN

Sure, cause that's why we're here. Making sure that everyone in America is able to get their very own Mobile Online Operational Duplication Detection Ring.

WHIZ KID

Or in normal talk:

STAN

Your Moodd ring!

WHIZ KID (CONT'D)

Your Moodd ring!

STAN (CONT'D)

We're going to be trying them out live and walking you through how they work.

WHIZ KID

You put it on your finger, silly.

STAN

We're going to have some special guests to take your questions. Every caller will get a ring sent to them for free along with your very own SPR branded canvas tote bag.

ARES GRECO

While supplies last.

WHIZ KID

Ares!

STAN

Ares!

ARES GRECO

I've been here the whole time.

STAN

No sense of showmanship.

PRODUCER BOT

Ta-da.

STAN

Not yet, PB.

WHIZ KID

Ares you're just the guy to ask.
What is the Moodd Ring?

ARES GRECO

Well that's actually a perfect question for our first guest, since she invented it. That's right, with us today is the unflappable mind herself.

STAN

Steel Trap!

WHIZ KID

Steel Trap!

STEEL TRAP

Thanks guys. I'll be here all day to answer your questions and put your fears to rest.

ARES GRECO

So to start, how does it work?

STEEL TRAP

Well, doppelgängers leave a trace when they steal your DNA. The Moodd ring can detect this, so if it turns yellow you have been copied and if it turns red, you are the copy. Either way it sends out an alert to Agents of ACRONYM, to quarantine you until your doppelgänger can be found.

ARES GRECO

But why would a Doppelgänger wear them?

STEEL TRAP

They wouldn't. Which would be another layer of security if not for the unexpected number of... Objectors.

KELLY CLOSE

That must be frustrating to meet so much resistance to your hard work.

STEEL TRAP

It is. Wait aren't you--

STAN

Kelly Close!

WHIZ KID

Kelly Close!

ARES GRECO

Kelly Close!

KELLY CLOSE

Now that's how you make an
entrance, Ares.

ETHAN SCHWARTZ

And that completes our all star
line up. I'm Ethan Schwartz and
this is the SPR Ring Drive.

SFX: Music.

ETHAN SCHWARTZ (CONT'D)

We'll be recording live from
Paradise City all day with
incredible interviews, shows,
surprises and more. Back in a
minute, when our program continues.

NOTE: Record pocket banter.

UNDERWRITER

The SPR Ring Drive is sponsored by
the Paradise City Project and the
Department of Superhuman Services.
To call in, dial 725-555-8212 or
patch in through the SPR website at
SPRpod.com

ADS

The SPR Ring Drive is Sponsored by:
Mugs with Doug.

Music Cue.

UNDERWRITER

Hi, you're sharing your Mug with
Doug.

ADS

This Saturday, on a special episode
of Mugs with Doug.

MUGS CALLER, RING DRIVE, EP 11

I wanted to be another person, but
everyone scared of doppelgänger.

UNDERWRITER
You can shape shift?

MUGS CALLER, RING DRIVE, EP 11
Yes, can.

UNDERWRITER
You can change your form. Let me
change their minds

ADS
On the next Mugs with Doug.

MUGS CALLER, RING DRIVE, EP 11
Look am mug now.

UNDERWRITER
laughs Yes. Yes you are.

ADS
This Saturday after the Small
Broadcast. Mugs with Doug.

ARES GRECO
And we're back with the SPR Ring
Drive, live from Paradise City! To
kick things off we all will be
putting on our rings for the first
time, to show how they work.

STAN
Right! Everyone have theirs?

ETHAN SCHWARTZ
Yup.

KELLY
Yessir.

ARES GRECO
Right here.

WHIZ KID
Ring drive!

STAN
Alright. On three. One. Two. Three.

SFX: Rings being put on.

KELLY
Well...
(then)
That was anti-climatic.

STAN

Is everyone's ring still black?

ETHAN SCHWARTZ

This isn't nickel right? I have an allergy.

ARES GRECO

Anyone else having trouble with the fit? I feel like this is going to slip off.

STEEL TRAP

It takes about twenty minutes for the ring to activate. Right now it's processing your DNA and connecting to the network. It's also resizing itself for maximum comfort.

SFX: Ring resizes.

ARES GRECO

Better already!

ETHAN SCHWARTZ

While we wait we're going to be taking calls from you, our listeners.

PRODUCER BOT

Caller incoming.

STAN

Thanks Producer Bot! This is the SPR Ring Drive here in Paradise City.

SFX: Call picked up.

WHIZ KID

Okay we have Bagadix Forsale calling from Bofadeez Arizona.

STAN

Producer Bot, you gotta screen for prank callers.

BAGADIX, RING DRIVE, EP 11

On my planet that's a normal name.

STAN

Oh sorry. Go ahead.

BAGADIX, RING DRIVE, EP 11
 For Steel Trap. Does the ring have
 any side effects if you have Ligma?

STEEL TRAP
 What's Lig--

SFX: Call hangs up.

STAN
 Bot!

PRODUCER BOT
 Processing. Processing!
 (ding!)
 86% of calls have been dropped.

STAN
 Okay, well, give us one of the 14%.

ETHAN SCHWARTZ
 This is Ayesha, in Garland, Texas.

AYESHA, RING DRIVE, EP 11
 Hi! I'm ordering my ring right now.

WHIZ KID STAN
 Ring drive! Woo!

KELLY CLOSE STEEL TRAP
 Woo! Woo!

ETHAN SCHWARTZ
 Do you have a question for any of
 our esteemed hosts?

AYESHA, RING DRIVE, EP 11
 Yes. I have one for my fellow Texan
 Kelly Close.

KELLY CLOSE
 Always good to hear from the lone
 star state. What's your question
 Ayesha?

AYESHA, RING DRIVE, EP 11
 Who is the interview you've always
 wanted on the Speech Bubble?

KELLY CLOSE
 That's a great question. I have
 always wanted to interview
 Franklin, the Supercomputer.
 (then)

(MORE)

KELLY CLOSE (CONT'D)

We've had heroes, villains, space aliens and monsters, but Franklin's always been just out of reach.

(then)

I've made the request several times, and when we were close to booking them, another of my colleagues got there first.

ETHAN SCHWARTZ

(laughing)

I regret nothing.

STEEL TRAP

Honestly, he's overrated.

WHIZ KID

He's doing his best.

KELLY

I just realized I'm the only one here who hasn't gotten to speak with him.

STAN

They made me wait outside. Typical Legion Profiling.

STEEL TRAP

Might have something to do with the Vanta Black Level Mind Virus that Franklin still has in its memory banks.

WHIZ KID

His. And I want to point out that Franklin did NOT make the Mind Virus. He just... Hangs on to it.

STAN

How does that thing go?

ETHAN SCHWARTZ

Steel Trap can sing it.

STEEL TRAP

Not again.

ARES GRECO

I love that episode! *sings* You can't tell me what to do, I'm gonna do what I want to do*

STEEL TRAP

Yeah something like that. But if you want to hear it go talk to the bot himself.

KELLY CLOSE

I'm still holding out hope.

WHIZ KID

I could probably get you in.

KELLY CLOSE

Yeah? Well Ayesha, thank you for making this happen.

AYESHA, RING DRIVE, EP 11

Very cool. Thank you Kelly.

KELLY CLOSE

Get that woman a tote bag!

PRODUCER BOT

Tote bag missile activated. Targeting now.

SFX: Guns and missiles getting ready.

KELLY CLOSE

Missile?

STAN

Wait producer bot the --

SFX: Drone launches, flies, crashes.

STAN (CONT'D)

Dome.

PRODUCER BOT

whines

ETHAN SCHWARTZ

We'll have a production assistant mail that out to you soon.

ARES GRECO

Why does Producer Bot have so many weapons? Was that a potato peeler?

PRODUCER BOT

(dejected)
Caller incoming.

STAN

Alright this is Colin, calling in
from Boston Massachusetts.

COLIN, RING DRIVE, EP 11

Hey uh Biz Whiz, Ham, whoever else.

WHIZ KID

(indignant)

It's --

STAN

We're here to get people rings not
correct them. Yes, this is Ham.

COLIN, RING DRIVE, EP 11

I er ah uh got a question for you
ring *****.

STAN

Sure, are you going to get ringed?

COLIN, RING DRIVE, EP 11

Yeah I dunno about that. That Jike
Bindle guy says that he has like a
lot of evidence that the ring is
gonna steal our DNA and control us.

WHIZ KID

(oh my god)

Wait really!

STEEL TRAP

No, not really. The data is
anonymous. Unless you get copied,
nothing is stored.

COLIN, RING DRIVE, EP 11

Yeah, that's what they want you to
think.

STEEL TRAP

Hi Colin, I designed it, nothing is
stored, that would be a huge HIPPA
violation if it were.

COLIN, RING DRIVE, EP 11

But what if I'm like, a dopple
what'zit and don't know it. Then I
put on your ring and then I'm

***** like
some sort of *****

STAN

Well thanks for testing producer
bot's auto-censor.

ARES GRECO

Actually can I take this one? I
think I know where Colin's coming
from. Hey, so I assume you drive a
souped up all white Honda Civic
with custom LED under-lighting and
no muffler?

COLIN, RING DRIVE, EP 11

Yeah, it lets my neighbors know I'm
cool.

ARES GRECO

Would you leave it unlocked in a
bad neighborhood?

COLIN, RING DRIVE, EP 11

Hell no.

ARES GRECO

Well that's what it's like not
having a ring. Like your body's
sitting unlocked waiting for some
douche to steal it and drive it
through the window of a cold-stone
creamery.

WHIZ KID

What?

COLIN, RING DRIVE, EP 11

Oh snap. Okay, send me one. But I'm
still not wearing condoms.

SFX: Whiz Kid hangs up on him.

ARES GRECO

Why don't we take a little break?

STAN

We'll be back with more of the SPR
Ring drive after these messages!

UNDERWRITER

That was the SPR Ring Drive, it's
74 degrees here in Paradise City.

EPISODE ELEVEN - END NEWS ONE

EPISODE ELEVEN - NEWS TWO

INT. AD BREAK

In the studio.

ADS

Support for SPR comes from: Gold
Booster Suit Powder.

(then)

Let's face it, 12 hours in full
body spandex stinks, but that
doesn't mean you have to. Thanks to
Gold Booster Suit Powder.

(then)

Our suit powder keeps you dry all
day long and fights suit itch
before it starts.

(then)

Gold Booster Suit Powder. We fight
the bad smells so you can fight the
bad everything else.

(then)

Brought to you by Spandexo.

INT. NEWS STUDIO

In the studio.

WENLING CHEN

From SPR News in Washington, I'm
Wenling Chen. Yesterday, The
Southern Battalion seized back
control of the Heroic Legion's
Tower Two from the forces of
NormCore. We go to Ben Beltzer on
location in Seattle. Ben?

INT. TOWER TWO

SFX: Cheering.

BEN BELTZER

Thank you Wenling.

(then)

While the siege has been criticized
by Washington, here in downtown
Seattle, the crowds are still
celebrating the Southern Heroes.

SFX: Seattle Citizens Cheer.

CITIZENS, NEWS 2, EP 11
Thank you Battalion!

BEN BELTZER
Oh, Battalion Commander Steam
Engine Jackson has come out of the
building. One moment.
(then, yelling)
Steam Engine Jackson! Steam Engine
Jackson, Ben Beltzer SPR News.

STEAM ENGINE JACKSON
Hi Ben, we met when you were on
location on Skull Cove right? It's
been awhile.

BEN BELTZER
It certainly has. Can I ask--
(then)
Capturing the tower seems to have
put the Battalion in hot water with
the Norris Administration.
(then)
Why did you come?

STEAM ENGINE JACKSON
We've been here nearly a week, but
our legal team, like the Legion's
advised us to stay out of it as
long as NormCore stayed peaceful.
steams
(then)
I put on the cape to do the right
thing. So did the rest of us. Not
what the rules say the right thing
is.
(then)
When the Battalion arrived I asked
everyone if they were here to do
good no matter the consequence.
(then)
Didn't get a single no, even from
the Legion heroes. So when we heard
Apoorva's broadcast and guns went
off, we charged in, no questions
asked.
(then)
Juhi and her friends have done more
good than all of us in Heroic
Services this year.

BEN BELTZER

And did you find the Singh sisters?

STEAM ENGINE JACKSON

No.

(adding)

The Norm-Guard grunts have been keeping their mouths shut in the meantime, except to snuffle. Which is fine by me. We've heard enough from them lately.

BEN BELTZER

And did they offer much resistance?

STEAM ENGINE JACKSON

Nothing we couldn't handle. Though the top brass wasn't there. I'm hoping the Singh girls are wrapping that Gary up like a Christmas present for a police department somewhere.

(then)

Though it looks like some of them got away with some pretty dangerous legion technology.

(then)

We caution *anyone* from engaging NormCore. They should be considered armed and extremely dangerous.

RAY

Commander?

STEAM ENGINE JACKSON

That's my time, Ben. This train keeps a tight schedule.

BEN BELTZER

Anything you want to add before you go?

STEAM ENGINE JACKSON

Juhi. Apoorva. Let us know you're out there. Let us know you are safe.

BEN BELTZER

That goes for us at SPR too. Thank you Steam Engine Jackson.

STEAM ENGINE JACKSON

Alright Battalion, all aboard!

SFX: Superheroes moving out. Flying. Teleporting. Citizens cheer.

CITIZEN, NEWS 2, EP 11
I love you Steam Engine Jackson!

WENLING CHEN
Thank you Ben.
(then)
The White House has asked the
Department of Superhuman Services
to investigate the conduct of the
Battalion in the wake of Tower Two.

UNDERWRITER
That was Wenling Chen reporting
from Washington. It's 74 degrees
here in Paradise City. And now back
to the SPR Ring Drive...

EPISODE ELEVEN - END NEWS TWO

EPISODE ELEVEN - NEWS THREE

INT. NEWS STUDIO

In the studio.

STAN

And we're back. During the news break we were able to sign up another twenty callers here on stage with our SPR staff signing up hundreds more.

WHIZ KID

With your help we'll be able to end the doppelgänger whats-it. Global big secret invasion problem thing.

PRODUCER BOT

Caller incoming.

STAN

We've got Joyce calling from Orlando, Florida.

JOYCE, RING DRIVE, EP 11

I'm ready for my tote bag, Stan!

WHIZ KID

Woo! We got one for you. Or how about six?

STAN

Nope.

WHIZ KID

Just one! Do you have a question for any of our hosts?

JOYCE, RING DRIVE, EP 11

Yes. I'm a big fan of the sultry sounds of Ares Greco.

ARES GRECO

Oh my. Lay your question on me.

JOYCE, RING DRIVE, EP 11

I have two of them. First is: What in your opinion is the best designed super suit on the market?

ARES GRECO

Well first off, I like the sound of your voice as well.

JOYCE, RING DRIVE, EP 11

Oh goodness!

STAN

Get a room!

ARES GRECO

And secondly, even though they've had a lot of scandals in the news lately, Spandexo's new line is doing something fascinating.

(then)

It's not only their super suits, their civilian line has it too

(then)

We can't figure out what they're made of. Our JRBM team hooked a pair of pants to electric scooters and sent them in opposite directions to see how far we could get them to stretch and we called it off after a mile because it was obstructing traffic. They even made the scooters run better.

WHIZ KID

Whoa.

ARES GRECO

We want to do a show on them, but they are very serious about keeping the formula a trade secret. Of course Ethan here got a tour of the factory when he was on vacation last year.

KELLY

That's two hosts you've stolen scoops from.

ETHAN SCHWARTZ

What can I say? I'm a popular guy.

JOYCE, RING DRIVE, EP 11

So if you had to guess what Spandexo made their suits out of, you'd say?

ARES GRECO

I'd guess it was...

(spooky voice)

Not of this world.

(laughing back to normal)

Honestly hats off to the people that made it, it's still a feat of design.

(then)

That answer it for you Joyce?

JOYCE, RING DRIVE, EP 11

It does but I had a second question. Can I get your number?

SFX: Phone hangs up.

PRODUCER BOT

Only one question per caller.

ARES GRECO

Is there any way to get her back on the line?

PRODUCER BOT

New caller incoming.

WHIZ KID

Ok we've got Julie from, Canada on the line. Cana-da. Canada. Am I saying that right?

STAN

What's your question?

JULIE, RING DRIVE, EP 11

OK my question is for Ethan Schwartz.

ETHAN SCHWARTZ

I'm here for you.

JULIE, RING DRIVE, EP 11

What is your favorite episode of These American Supers?

ETHAN SCHWARTZ

Oh that's a tough one. But and this might be a little anti-climatic, but I think it might be next week's episode.

JULIE, RING DRIVE, EP 11

Any hints about the subject?

ETHAN SCHWARTZ
I can tell you the title.

JULIE, RING DRIVE, EP 11
Ok.

ETHAN SCHWARTZ
The Doppelgänger in the Room.

ARES GRECO
Oh.

KELLY
Creepy.

ETHAN SCHWARTZ
Thanks for calling Julie.

STAN
Not even a hint for us?

ETHAN SCHWARTZ
I'm going to have to take my cue
from Spandexo and keep this one a
trade secret.

STAN
Fine.

[ALT have Ethan cue up a musical guest]

WHIZ KID
Alright we're onto our next caller.
This is Gary from, hey right here
in Paradise City.

GARY
So the rings really work huh?

STEEL TRAP
Yes, as a matter of fact our hosts
should get their results in. . .
(then)
Look at that. Precisely Thirty six
seconds. **(NOTE: Also record sixty
second version)**

GARY
Can I get a count down?

WHIZ KID
Why not? 30. 29. 28. 27. 26...

PRODUCER BOT

Alert, I am detecting elevated levels of palladium from outside the dome.

ARES GRECO

Isn't that what powers Iron Barracuda's blasters?

GARY

Why yes it is Ares.

KELLY CLOSE

Wait. I know this guy's voice. That's Gary Guinness from NormCore

PRODUCER BOT

Ta-da.

STAN

Not now PB!

ETHAN SCHWARTZ

Should we be calling security?

ARES GRECO

This is Paradise city. Security is everywhere.

GARY

We're here to stop you from enslaving the American people with these rings.

GRITL

(over loudspeaker)

Hello Residents, do not be alarmed, but there is a security threat on the north east corner.

ARES GRECO

I wouldn't worry. Even if he could cut through the dome, the suppression field would --

GARY

Whiz Kid you stopped counting. How will we know if the ring works? Let me help you. Three... Two...

SFX: The WHIZ KID EMPY device.

WHIZ KID
 Hey, that's my inhibitor thing I
 made! How'd he get one?

SFX: SHIELD POWERS DOWN.

WHIZ KID (CONT'D)
 Oh wait.

GARY
 ...One.

PRODUCER BOT
 Shield mode engaging. (**ALT: We are
 Producer Bot**)

SFX: An explosion. Ear ringing noise. Fire alarms.

SFX: BOOM!

STAN
 Is everyone OK?

KELLY CLOSE
 My powers aren't working! Ares help
 me hold them off...

ARES GRECO
 You know I can't.

SFX: Super power fizzle.

STEEL TRAP
 (strained)
 Thanks, Producer Bot. I guess not
 all robots are --

WHIZ KID
 Hey Steel Trap you should sit down.

ETHAN SCHWARTZ
 Oh she's --

SFX: Steel Trap falls.

STAN
 Fine. You're doing fine Steel Trap.
 Kid grab one of those t-shirts.

STEEL TRAP
 (strained)
 I don't want a T shirt I want a
 tote bag.

WHIZ KID
 (trying not to panic)
 You can have all the bags you want
 Steel Trap.

SFX: Wall Breaking.

GARY
 Oh look. SPR's finest all in one
 place. Anything you want to say
 before you sign off for the last
 time?

SFX: Charging blaster. Metal suit being hit by a rock.

GARY (CONT'D)
 What the -- ?

UNDERWRITER
 Did you know that Paradise City has
 the biggest collection of Supers
 next to Xen?

GARY
 I don't care. You can die with the
 rest of them.

MENTA
 There's a reason its never been
 attacked.

SFX: Tele-kinetics.

GARY
 You should be powerless! I took
 your powers. The device--

RONDO
 Is nothing compared with the
 suppression field, which is gone...

GARY
 It's so cold. . .

RONDO
 Thanks to you.

GARY
 You freaks belong in this cage. I
 will not be silenced. You think a
 little ice can stop our movement?

RONDO
 You want me to stop freezing you?

GARY

You freeze me and people will see
the monsters you are.

RONDO

You're full of hot air.

UNDERWRITER

Rondo, no!

SFX: BOOM! Steam! Feed cuts!

WENLING CHEN

This is Wenling Chen in Washington
with breaking news.

(then)

There has been an attack on
Paradise City.

(then)

There is no word...

(then)

Wait. Stand by we have Whiz Kid on
his personal cell phone.

WHIZ KID

I'm alright.

WENLING CHEN

And everyone else is unharmed?

WHIZ KID

What?

WENLING CHEN

Is everyone else okay?

WHIZ KID

Steel Trap is headed to the
emergency room, but everyone else
is unharmed. We're all going to
have tinnitus for awhile for sure.
Hey, tinnitus, my brain is working
again!

WENLING CHEN

And what of Gary and the attackers?

WHIZ KID

When they came in they were
everywhere but . . . Well, now Gary
is still everywhere. Ugh I think I
got some in my mouth.

(then)

(MORE)

WHIZ KID (CONT'D)

The invaders who are still solids
are frozen in place.

(yelling)

Don't chip the ice, we did a whole
episode on this!

STAN

Sorry!

WHIZ KID

We're sad that the Ring Drive is
going to have to take a brief
interlude.

(then)

Oh! My ring!

STAN

(in the BG)

How'd you lose that thing? It
vacuums to your finger.

ARES GRECO

(in the BG)

Must have blown off in the
explosion.

ETHAN SCHWARTZ

(in the BG)

Hey it's over here.

WHIZ KID

Thanks Ethan... Oh.

KELLY CLOSE

Gasp Billy?

WHIZ KID

Yeah...

ARES GRECO

There's no way.

WENLING CHEN

Is everything alright Billy?

WHIZ KID

It's red.

(then)

There has to be some sort of
mistake.

STAN

Kid, we'll fix this. That's our
thing, we fix things.

SFX: Teleport Noise.

AGENT, RING DRIVE, EP 11
William Whizgig. Agent M, this is
Agent J, We're Agents of ACRONYM.
We're going to need you to come
with us.

UNDERWRITER
(in the background)
Can anyone find me a microphone?

STAN
Now wait one second. We're not
going to stand for this Gestopo --

WHIZ KID
It's okay, Stan. They'll let me out
when they realize--

SFX: Teleport Noise. Phone hangs up.

UNDERWRITER
That's it for the ring drive here
in Paradise City. But is the Whiz
Kid a doppelganger? And where's
Apoorva Singh? Wow. I feel so
strong right now.
(then)
Today's show was written and
produced by John Dorsey and
Maximilian Clark. Additional. Wow.
I just. Does everyone feel that?
The security blanket really is off.
(laughs)
Well this is going to be great for
our broadcast signal. Additional
credits are on the website at
SPRpod.Com. I need to test this
out. This is SPR.

END EPISODE 11

EPISODE ELEVEN - END NEWS THREE