

TITLE Stomach

GENRE Family/Buddy Adventure / Physical Food Comedy

TAGLINE *“Think about it,...* **YOUR BRAIN IS YOUR OTHER STOMACH.**”

PREMISE A defunct nuclear family finds a common cause that changes the underlying balance of power in the established matronymic hierarchy. After the youngest of the brood faces a sudden onset of life threatening illness, they must install a new family model where each subunit member can achieve their own equilibrium.

LOGLINE The Karmageddons, an emerging Hollywood family, must regroup after their son has a near death experience that forces them to reevaluate their lifestyles, and his future. Due to critical food allergies, and the launch of a new user-generated cooking show, they must pull together to help Sean, an anaphylaxis survivor, compete against culinary artists in a game show environment, using nothing but his allergies and a basic understanding of fast foods and ready-to-eat.

But despite the rally of extended family, and a competitive personal cuisine brand, it is not until creativity algorithms are introduced (during a family game show simulation) that Sean discovers a strategy to invent new foods. When Sean Karmageddon learns to depend on his imagination (the unique way human’s use images, words and stories to solve problems), he becomes the missing link in the human diet, solving dietary challenges that could make him the first Culinary Snackster to change the landscape of American cuisine.

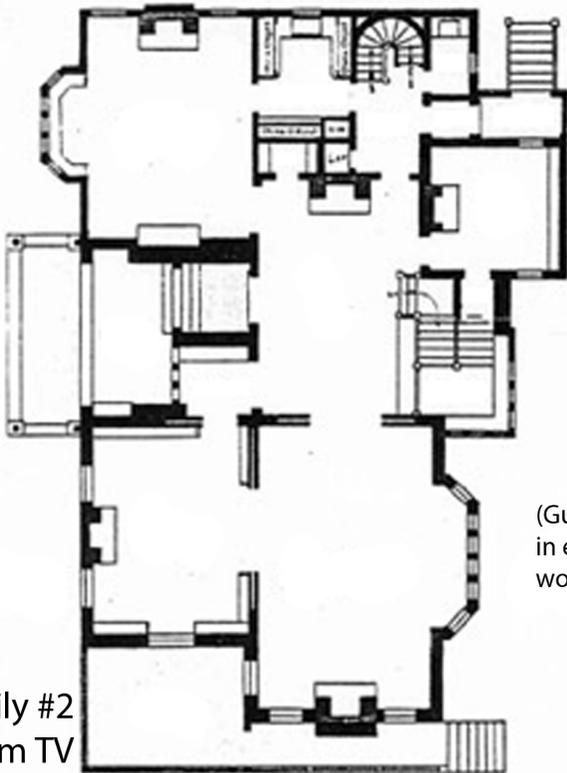
THE KARMAGEDDONS



The Karmageddon's Compilation Album, Season 1

The Karmageddon's from Beverly Hills.

The Karmageddon's from Boyle Heights.



Family #2
from TV



Family #1
from the
movies

(Guest stars
in each others'
worlds)

Somewhere in a Burbank neighborhood, the Karmageddons live beside themselves, in an alternate reality, parallel to Hollywood.

FAMILY MODEL

THE KARMAGEDDON'S, "ATOMIC" FAMILY ENSEMBLE

Sean and Adam are feuding brothers whose lives seem twisted only by virtue of birth. Beyond that they are opposites, a classic introvert and a tragic clown. Nikki, an older sister, is an earth goddess in a burlap sack. Their mom, Eve, is part robot, part glam queen. Pedro, the dad, is a walking Wiktionary of DIY projects, translation gaffs, and recycled television impersonations. Cassi, late to motherhood herself, is a young granny, and a two time mom, who still works the checkout at the Quickstop. Graf, the much older sibling to Eve, is a self-asserted, self-realized particle wizard, and an actual lab scientist. Finally, Finnus Tork, Sean's cartoon psyche, a for-hire presence in a sideways universe, is an innerspace security guard (aka space guard) who comes to life when Sean needs him most. Together, the Karmageddon's are breaking the dysfunctional family mold and repositioning its hierarchical properties into an atomic dynamic. By shifting focus from a single axial core around which all members of the family must revolve, the group learns to have multiple centers and alternating cores, establishing a post-nuclear family structure, with key processes for achieving individual and group goals.

PRINCIPLE CHARACTERS

SEAN “NUKE”

Sean, 26, has been in and out of college, but due to food-related illness, has been unable to complete his study. He never declared a major, and is just shy of an AA degree. Currently he is working two jobs, one at an upscale grocery store as a stock boy, and alternately at a nearby studio, as a tour guide. He lives with his family in Burbank, CA, and has been a student at Glendale Community College across the last four years, studying food science (like his uncle) and learning to eat again after being diagnosed with Celiac disease, and severe dietary allergies that includes eggs, dairy, tree nuts, soy, gluten, and shellfish. Each of these can trigger an autoimmune or lethal inflammatory response, putting Sean under the biological stress of respiratory failure. He is just one candy bar away from a dead man.

ADAM “ATOM”

Adam, 28, who never made it past his first semester in college, also works at the same grocery store, and has a second job as a delivery driver. He is a bit of a bully towards his brother and normally manages to make Sean the butt of his next prank or joke. The one thing Adam does take seriously, however, is an obsession with girls. At 7PM on the start of his shift, a swarm of girls come in after their pilates class next door. His repeated failed attempts to use grocery-style humor to get an actual date make it evident that Adam is a creative thinking, but hapless soul, a lesser man to his brother

Sean whose life in comparison seems more meaningful, if equally stunted. Adam's sense of humor makes him just charming enough to be forgivable, usually.

NIKKI "TASER"

Nikki, 36, is the older sister. She is a computer engineer by education, but middle school teacher by trade, with a stealth coder's night vision and ethic, that has earned her spinster status. Nikki also has had a life long progression of food and environmental allergies, but has managed to create a strict regime for herself that makes her a food outlier, rather than a food outcast. She is more the rugged outdoorsy type, than antithetical glam, a look that betrays her healthy body type, but not her geeky genes and brainy disposition. In a weird way she's an octave to her younger brother Sean's personality, but in a different female package. Nikki, also an introvert, hasn't fully sprouted despite her autodidactic tendencies, but all of that is about to change when she is asked to move back home for a time.

EVE "EVA in Spanish"

Eva, 50, is the reluctant mother. Just 14 years older than her daughter, you can imagine how bizarre the perspective might be to be split from someone in the same generation. First of all she got held back, being a mom, and only started working on her own development when she was 40. Graduating with her B.S. in three years, she went onto optometry school, and then opened her first optical shop in Boyle Heights,

her childhood neighborhood, with her husband's help. Two years later, she opened a second successful shop in West LA. She is very self-driven, super busy and productive, but the shift of attention onto herself has short-changed her two boys, who suffer from a lack of direction. Her relationship to her husband appears to be an arms length transaction, at times, but there is an honest lifelong connection, and the two have worked things out so that each has had time to focus on their individual careers, while raising a family. Eve has been with her two-years junior husband for 36 years, but has been married 27, after their second child was born.

PEDRO "PETE in English"

Pedro, 48, is a former full-time prop-master, part-time actor, stand-up comic, and street-wise dad -- the unlikely other half of his super hot wife, who's finally got it all together, though it took three decades. He's the glue to her glitter, and has helped her raised the kids and make her dreams come true. Though it wasn't always that way, and it took a while to make an honest man out of a neighborhood street punk, back in the days before the high life in Burbank. Pedro is as eccentric as he is funny and honest. Because of Cassi's coaching and coaxing Pedro is now a family man, and an emerging stand-up comic. He does the local comedy circuit and has just been cast in his first TV pilot -- a sitcom called Modern Guy, about an immigrant comic with a lo-fi sense of humor -- when the illusion of success is undermined by a family about to collapse, due to their son landing in ICU.

CASSI “CASSEOPEIA, galactic space mom”

Cassi, 90, is both elbow grease, and the vice grip of life. She has laid out the code of ethics that Eve and Pedro have learned to live by. Cassi held down the “teen mother” fort until Pedro had a chance to grow up and face the music. She is the reason Eve and Pedro are still together, and have some degree of a working family unit. It’s not perfect, she knows, and she doesn’t have as much influence as she used to, but when push comes to shove it is clear who emerges as the true matriarch of the family, and who comes through with flying colors when the delicate balance of life is threatened for one of her grandsons. Cassi has redefined extended family, bridged cross-generation influence, and built the family that surrounds her. She herself knows the boundaries of motherhood, being a two-time mom with two kids twenty years apart. Her triple-duple role spans sister-mother-grandmother (Eve), mother-mother-in-law-grandmother (Pedro), and grandma-mommy (everyone else), across three generations and six key figures in her life: Eve, Pedro, Nikki, Adam, Sean and Graf, her eldest son.

GRAF “HIGGSBO, the missing particle”

Graf, 70, is from another generation. He is part anachronism, and part clockwork orange, a chronic mascot for the intangible side of the more visible universe. A mirror image version 2.0 of his mother, he is a hippy, ninja, rocker, dream catcher, guru scientist who has lived through a sandwich of time that relinquishes the now showing present into a future simple transaction, escalated by the past perfect. *“Time dilation is*

a function of special relativity, in that the soul becomes less massive as it approaches its destiny. What's happened now is happening again, before it can be suspended. But isn't the future an apparition of the past? When a light ball hits a tree, where does it go? It leaves. Have you ever seen the bottom of a tree?" Graf takes life like a free verse poem on a 100CC unibike, with one radial tire off the ground at all times. His scientific perspective borders on mysticism. Believing that reality is a rigorous construction of perception (and also that Sean may be the reincarnation of the Buddha), Graf maintains the distinction of being the most outrageous breed of the mostly experimental Karmageddons, who have grown up, despite their behavioral guidance, in the absence of cosmic harmony, resulting from a deficit of the masculine principle. Compared to his sister Eve, the perpetual motion timing gear for the Karmageddon family engine, Graf offers an abstraction of everyday life, yin to his sister's yang. It is his hope that the younger Karmageddons will realize that they are metaphysical beings who can transform their physical reality by apprehending the right idea: *"Think about it, ...if your brain is your other stomach, and ideas are the fuel of reality,... and thought is the food of existence, then how do you know if you're hungry?"*

TORK, "Interdimensional Space Guard at the destination channel TORKUS"

Can you say cartoon universe? Tork is a cartoon character that has his own unique storyworld, for which he only makes a cameo in the Stomach movie. In his world, he is a multi-show operator at a hotel inside a television resort at a famous broadcast

channel. Because of his broadcast authority he happens to be able to jump realities under exceptional circumstances, and meets Sean twice in one day: once at the studio, and later at the grocery store, when he about to die. Knowing the events that are about to happen, he can only intervene under interdimensional law by causing havoc using “substantial media.” Things like soup cans, packaged foods, flickering lights, and other non-personal interventions, qualify as fair game. But of course, *WTF can a falling soup can tell anyone about a lethal candy bar? (If only Sean could read semantic pictures?)* The initial encounter they have is at the studio, when Sean happens onto a sound stage where a game show set is being built. Tork, trying to maintain proximity to his client, arrives through the refrigerator aqueduct system, and is standing under the ice dispenser when he overhears two executives having a conversation about game show mechanics and the design of the kitchen environment. Sean, not sure what he is hearing, finds himself tracing a strange puddle of liquid that leads him to a magical LED kitchen, with multiple jumbotron displays, central game podiums, and a small grocery store under construction. Worried about what will happen to Sean later in the day, Tork flips on the jumbotron food grid, hoping Sean will notice more than the giant game show logo, and that instead an ingredient will stick in his head. With Sean’s metabolism essentially mutating, almost by the hour, by his evening stock shift he will be susceptible to a new set of allergens, without forewarning. Because of this, Sean’s chance of survival is tenuous at best, and the slightest interference could make the difference of contaminant blood levels.