

THE LAVENDER LADIES
EPISODE 3
Ultraviolet

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Good evening lovely listeners, my name is Megan, and I am the creator of The Lavender Ladies. I'd like to make a quick announcement before we go any further. Due to complications, The role of Hari will be voiced by Georie Taylor for this episode, and episodes moving forward. Ending credits for this episode were pre-recorded prior to this move. We hope you enjoy this evening's performance.

Good day, friends and enemies, and welcome, to the Lavender Ladies podcast. We have quite a thrilling story to tell you, but before we get along too much further, a warning; this podcast contains swearing, and themes of violence, drugs, sex, organized crime, torture, and murder. Listener discretion is advised. And now, without any further ado, our story begins in the big city, Olympus...

//Intro scene, Aster's office. Vinny, Sledge, Beak and Aster are present.

VINNY

(muffled, face in hands)

You can't be serious. You can't be thinking this.

ASTER

Vinny, what did I say- years ago?

VINNY

I know, and as your advisor, I genuinely cannot believe you're even considering this.

ASTER

As I recall, years ago, I said to you, any-

VINNY

Aster-

ASTER

Any woman who wanted to lead a strong life with other fellow women was welcome.

SLEDGE

And boss, I do appreciate that, with my background.

ASTER

Sledge, what you were born with dictates nothing.

VINNY

That's all fine and dandy, but can we consider the doof you're planning to bring in here?

ASTER

A woman who wants to be strong. What else could I mean.

SLEDGE

Maybe, but this ain't the case is it? This isn't just some doo- some girl--she's caught your affections and now she wants to join our dysfunctional family.

//Pause

ASTER

Are you implying that I'm letting my emotions get the best of me?

SLEDGE

(trying to be respectful)

No, of course not Aster. We're reminding you of our last curious associate.

ASTER

(sipping on wine)

She brought that fate onto herself.

VINNY

Be that as it may, those who fail to learn from history are doomed to be fuckin' stupid.

BEAK

Not that I'm at all for this idea...like at all. But to be fair, Ruby did say she just wanted to know what was going on. Not that she wanted to join. I don't think she gets it.

ASTER

Well it can be hard to process at first-

BEAK

No Aster I don't think she gets it period.

SLEDGE

But even having the information she has now means she knows too much.

VINNY

She'd either be forced to take the vow...or get the lavender.

ASTER

And what of Hari? Did we force the same fate onto them?

VINNY

Whatever Hari's parents told them is their own business, not ours. They know to keep their head down. Hari knows that when the going gets bad, they need to get the hell out. This new girl that you're... infatuated with-

ASTER

I've had quite enough of these accusations. Not once have I let my feelings get in the way of this family. Not, a single. Time.

SLEDGE

Ma'am-

ASTER

When my mother died, did I let that sway me from my goal?

VINNY

Aster, we never meant to imply-

ASTER

When my father turned his back on us, did I crumble?
(she pauses, waiting for them to interrupt, but when they don't, she continues)
When Horace- Vinny and I's long time friend, swindled us out of millions, did I act inappropriately? And when Bobbi tried to corrupt us through our own ranks,

did I lose my temper, even though I was in the right to do so? I am the Donne of this family. I am the Glowa, and I'd like to remind you all of my place.

VINNY

Yes, Aster

BEAK, SLEDGE

(at slightly different times)

Yes, głowa Stavish

(pronounced Gwoo-vah)

ASTER

Thank you. Now, yes. I am aware of my feelings towards her. I would like to get to know her better, and you're right. Maybe I am a little infatuated. That being said, I am considering a serious relationship.

VINNY

(small gasp, then a groan)

You're not serious.

ASTER

I'm not sure yet. But I do know that if anyone's gonna be with me, then they need to know what this family entails. I won't keep them in the dark. Beak, could you be with Scoop if she wasn't a part of the family?

BEAK

I mean- Nah. No. Don't think so. Not with my big mouth spilling the beans. And the safety aspect worries me too-if anyone found out about me, they could find out about her.

VINNY

Aster, I understand. I do. But maybe let's take things a little slower.

BEAK

We might have a little Romeo and Juliet situation up in here if you don't take the gay down a notch.

ASTER

Beak, you need to watch your step. I understand your perspective, but more importantly I want to let you know where I stand. You're my family, the people I trust the most. I wouldn't keep you in the dark about this. I'm not planning anything serious with her, but I like her. I think she's going to be around for a bit.

SLEDGE

So what do you want to do with all this then? Just bring her in?

ASTER

Beak said that she just wanted information. Let's give it to her.

//Scoop enters sfx door opening and closing

SCOOP

Hello, hello!

BEAK

Hey babe.

SCOOP

Hello dear. Did I miss anything?

BEAK

Just us getting scolded.

SLEDGE

(exasperated)

Beak...

BEAK

I'm kidding! Boss wants to marry Ruby.

ASTER

I did not say that.

BEAK

I know! Just joking, just joking...we're plotting a murder.

VINNY

What? No we absolutely are not-

BEAK

You fucks can't take a joke.

SCOOP

Darling, this injury is really taking a toll. You're tired of being cooped up. You become malicious when you're bored.

SLEDGE

That's certainly the kindest way to say it.

ASTER

Beak, why don't you take up a hobby in the meantime while you're healing.
Knitting is a good outlet, I hear.

BEAK

Great, I'm an invalid grandmother now.

SCOOP

Well, Grandma, this gossip might make you feel better. I've got stuff on Downes
and that officer.

VINNY

Great! Let me grab my notes, Sledge can you fire up the computer?

BEAK

I don't know why you use that old dinosaur.

SLEDGE

We're a modern day mafia, Beak. Some things we need to keep digitized.

BEAK

That fucking thing is so damn slow, why do we keep it around? It takes twenty
minutes for the browser to open up! Hell, the internet speed in 1995 was faster
than this!

SCOOP

That's the point, my dear.

ASTER

Are we ready?

VINNY

Yes.

SLEDGE

Yeah.

ASTER

Alright. Scoop- go.

SCOOP

Downes has been doing a bit of traveling lately, but with his paycheck it shouldn't be possible. My sources say he's bringing back no more than 10 grand in goods, but off the record says he should've had to sell both kidneys in order get his hands on what he's been hauling in.

VINNY

Lying to the government, nothing too unusual.

SCOOP

Right, but then selling them through Lonescu, and taking about 35% or profit.

ASTER

Lonescu doesn't normally dabble in international trade...or selling for that matter. Being the dumbass he is, he took offense.

SCOOP

At the basic roots, yes, that's what it looks like.

VINNY

That being said...Aster it makes me wonder how long Downes has been working for Lonescu. If he's a newer guy, the anger over the profit margin makes sense.

ASTER

Maybe, it only takes one time to be swindled out of your money to be pissed off.

SLEDGE

Our lowest acceptance is 30.

ASTER

That's our policy. Don't forget Lonescu is only a few years into this game.

BEAK

Same about his old man. I liked that guy. And the way he ran his business.

SCOOP

We all did honey. But Vinny, I'm afraid looking at Downes' records, he's been playing for at least two years now, with some very surprising financial histories associated around Lonescu's controlled banks, maybe three years prior to this.

ASTER

So was Lonescu trying to send him a message? Seems odd you'd do that to a regular that was bringing in a decent profit.

VINNY

Even stranger that you'd do this on a Tuesday night, knowing he was out of the country.

SCOOP

I think he's trying to get our attention, Aster.

VINNY

I believe Scoop is right.

SLEDGE

Or he's trying to distract you. He's got the cops on our turf now. Specifically that new cop.

BEAK

Could officer dick head be on Lonescu's pay roll?

SLEDGE

It's possible.

BEAK

But for what purpose? All of this seems pretty pointless.

VINNY

He's cooking up something for sure...I suggest a meeting between the two of you. In one of our spaces.

SCOOP

Lonescu's a gambler. Maybe we can get him to meet up at Diamond's.

SLEDGE

We have to be careful about this, there's no way we can really swing this. Beak didn't see who it was in the car, we've got no concrete evidence it was Tony.

BEAK

Oh! I know! Ruby said she made 'direct eye contact' with him. Bring her 'round Ultraviolet and see if she can point him out. We can kill two birds with one stone. She gets the info she wants, and we can confirm it was Tony!

VINNY

Normally Beak's ideas are terrible,

BEAK
HEY.

VINNY
But in this case, I have to say that's a great plan.

ASTER
I want to think on it. Give me a little time.

SLEDGE
How much time do you think we can risk?

ASTER
Just an hour or so. For now, I want to discuss that cop. Scoop, anything?

SCOOP
Just some nobody. He has a bland basic history. Grew up in a small town, average grades, average dating life, no special background. His appendix ruptured on him during his high school prom.

BEAK
Yikes.

SCOOP
Some family out in the Midwest. He's Single and ready to mingle. On seven different dating websites, with the most pathetic pick up lines and what's worse! Is harassing women in DM's.

BEAK
Double yikes.

SLEDGE
Oh great. I love working with misogynistic fucks.

ASTER
Tell me about it. Have you talked to Mehi recently?

SCOOP
I sent him a message. He's seemingly completely unaware of the entire situation.

ASTER
(sighing)
Why is he so incompetent.

SLEDGE
So what's the plan, Aster?

ASTER
Another glass of wine. Then my coat.
(she pauses)
Call Ruby. Tell her I'm picking her up in an hour.

//we cut to the cafe. We hear the bustling sounds of a coffee place a busy hour,
Hari and Ruby are swamped.

RUBY
Uh, hey Hari?

HARI
(flustered)
What's up Rube?
(We hear coffee being made sound and register closing-still rushed, says)
Thank you very much, here's your change. Have a nice day! Hi, how can I help
you?

CUSTOMER
I want [rattles off an obnoxious douche list]

RUBY
Aster wants to take me somewhere...like, nowish.

HARI
What!? We are completely swamped! I need help! Get the food ready, would
you?!

RUBY
I know, I know-
(we hear plates clattering and shit)
But what do I do?

HARI
Tell her you don't work for her! You work for me! And we're busy!

RUBY

Er-you're certainly singing a new tune today.

HARI

(throwing towel down)

Ruby, do you not see how busy we are today? This cafe is my entire life! I don't have time for you to go dilly dally with your girlfriend!

(we hear a bing of an oven)

Now get that out of the oven, and tell her you can't!

RUBY

(Saluting)

Boss, yes boss!

HARI

Oh my god-here you are ma'am, sorry for the delay! Have a nice day! Hi, welcome! How can I help you today?

//the door chimes as more customers float in, followed by Beak.

BEAK

Hello Krusty crew!

RUBY

Beak? I just texted-

BEAK

I am aware! I'm here to cover your shift.

HARI

Absolutely not! I don't trust you back here!

BEAK

(annoyed)

I know how to operate a cash register, Hari. And besides.

(We hear a counter table thingy whatever the fuck they're called being lifted and shut back down as Beak goes behind the counter)

I was told I was bored and need a hobby. By multiple sources. And I'm fucking tired of hearing it.

RUBY

But what about your arm?

BEAK

It works.

CUSTOMER

(rudely)

Um, excuse me, this is my only lunch break. How much longer am I going to have to wait?

BEAK

Keep your pants on man! We're doing a shift rotation!

HARI

Beak! You can't talk to my customers like that! I'm sorry sir, we'll be with you in just a second.

RUBY

Sooo....

HARI

Ugh, just go. Where is she taking you?

BEAK

To Ultraviolet

HARI

You have to change! Wear something nice, but not too fancy!

BEAK

She's an adult, Hari, she can probably dress herself.

(turning to customer)

Alright, buddy, whatdoya want?

HARI

(to themself)

Powers above spare me from this hell.

BEAK

Quit overreacting and get this order going!

(To Ruby, teasingly)

Byyye Ruby!! Have fuuuun!

//Song plays-Ruby waits outside the cafe. A fuckin nice ass town car pulls up, tinted af windows. Sledge steps out of the driver's seat.

SLEDGE
Hello, Ruby.

RUBY
Sledge? Wow, I haven't seen you since the party. Uh, I thought Aster was picking me up? Not that it's not great to see you! I just-I was under the impression that-

SLEDGE
She is.

//Sledge opens the backseat door, revealing Aster sitting in the back.

SLEDGE
After you.

RUBY
Oh, thank you!

//she gets in, and Sledge closes the door behind her.

ASTER
Hello my sweet, you look wonderful.

RUBY
Thank you, you always look amazing.

ASTER
You're too kind. Would you like a glass of wine?

RUBY
That would be nice, thank you.
//we hear the front door open and shut as Sledge gets in the car.

SLEDGE
(a little sarcastically)
Where to Miss Stavish?

ASTER
Let's take Ruby on a tour of my club, shall we?

RUBY
Club? Aster you know I can't dance-

ASTER

Don't worry my dear, we're not going to dance. Just have a few drinks and enjoy the atmosphere. I myself don't normally dance while there.

RUBY

Um, then what's the point?

ASTER

Business ventures.

RUBY

What exactly kind of club do you run?

SLEDGE

A very famous one.

ASTER

I'll be frank. We are not going on a date, per se, We're doing some intel.

RUBY

What? Not that I'm not happy to spend time with you, but why bring me along?

ASTER

Beak believes you saw who shot her. And if her hunch is correct, he'll be at Ultraviolet...hopefully, you can identify him.

SLEDGE

We're here.

//Sledge gets out and opens the door for them.

ASTER

Sledge, I believe we're going to be here a while, why don't you come in and relax?

SLEDGE

Will do. I'll go park the car.

//car sounds engine starting up yadda yadda whatever, Aster and Ruby enter the club and the dull SICK beats play in the background.

LOLA

Aster! What a pleasant surprise! How are you, it's been so long!

ASTER

If you consider talking on the phone an hour ago, and seeing me in person two days ago long...then yes, I suppose so.

LOLA

Aster, why must you be so coy? We haven't seen each other in ages! Must you always play tricks with my heart?

ASTER

Ruby, this is Lola. She's my girl for our red light district, if you will. Lola, this is Ruby.

LOLA

And you even have the audacity to bring in a new girl and flaunt her in front of my face? You're cruel to me, Aster. What about the wedding?

RUBY

Uh...

ASTER

Lola, Ruby and I will be taking my normal booth. You haven't seen Tony around, have you?

LOLA

And now you take our special spot. I'm torn apart. But I suppose it's only me who needs to move on.

Don't worry my sweet, I'll keep you in my heart as long as we both shall live. Candy, please show Miss Stavish and company to her room.

//Lola leaves, we can hear the heavy foot fall of clunky heels.

CANDY

(sighs)

Good evening Miss Stavish. How are you doing tonight?

ASTER

I appear to be doing better than you, Candy.

CANDY

She's taken to this dramatic display that's driving me insane. If you need to put me in any other spot, I'll gladly take it.

ASTER

She only listens to you, I'm afraid. I think she likes you.

CANDY

Then I shall pray for my swift death. Here we are, Miss Stavish. Would you like the usual?

ASTER

Yes, make it two.

CANDY

Right away, ma'am.

//Candy leaves

RUBY

Hey, so, quick question, just um, what the fuck? Really quick question. What the fuck.

ASTER

(laughs slightly)

I should have warned you. Lola can be a bit...eccentric. Last month she was obsessed with a Spanish Soap Opera and tried to pick up as much Spanish as she could. She was awful.

She kept trying to beg Sledge to marry her, but she ended up insulting her mother and her goat at the same time.

RUBY

Sledge has a goat?

ASTER

No but could you imagine if she did? Anyways, we did get some good out of that conversation with Lola.

RUBY

We did?

ASTER

Yes. Tony mentioned to one of my associates that he'd be coming here tonight.

RUBY

When did you find that out?

ASTER

I know it sounded like a lot of crazy rambling, and for the most part it was, but Lola was ensuring to not give herself up to anything should a bystander be listening, while giving me the info I needed.

RUBY

And-you think this is a safe space now, to talk like this?

ASTER

Amber did a scan of the place before we got here.

RUBY

Amber?

ASTER

She's great. Yeah, it's not bugged. But, there may be unwanted ears listening...

SLEDGE

You got me.

RUBY

How did you know she was there?!

ASTER

I've got eyes in the back of my head.

SLEDGE

(sighs)

Unfortunately, you can't slip much past Miss Stavish. You're like a teacher, I swear.

//Candy shows up with their drinks

CANDY

Here are your drinks. Sledge, my darling, I got your usual. Is that alright or would you prefer something else?

SLEDGE

I'd prefer you, but for the meantime, this drink is fine.

CANDY

(small laugh)

My pleasure.

//she leaves

RUBY

What are we drinking?

SLEDGE

Scotch. Down the hatch,

(she knocks it back like a shot, so Delta you might have to actually take a shot of something for the sound effect)

ASTER

(scoffs)

You'd think that by now you'd have learned the difference between the scotches you do that with. This is not one of them.

SLEDGE

All alcohols are chugging alcohols if you try hard enough.

RUBY

What about a thick liquor? How does that work?

SLEDGE

The same way it all works my dear. But feel free to "sip" your scotch.

RUBY

I'm, um, not much of a hard liquor drinker...

ASTER

That's fine dear. Just kiss it then.

RUBY

Uh, alright.

//Ruby takes a hesitant sip

RUBY

Wait a second! This is-

ASTER

We always stay sober during a job.

RUBY

(to Sledge)

Wait, then what did you just drink?

SLEDGE

Straight whiskey.

RUBY
What!?

SLEDGE
I'm just the driver tonight. I'm not working.

RUBY
(angrily muttering)
Glad to know the person driving me will be sober...

SLEDGE
Oh one drink won't kill us. I'd even vouch to say it makes me a better driver.

ASTER
If we were in the middle of a getaway, yes.

SLEDGE
Yeah that was a great one, wasn't it? Back in the day..

ASTER
(small laugh)
Those were the days.

RUBY
What kind of getaway?

SLEDGE
We burned down a warehouse.

RUBY
I-I don't think I want to know.

ASTER
Probably not, babe.

//There's a pause as they enjoy the atmosphere for a few moments.

ASTER
Well. Let the show begin.

//we hear Lola and Tony in the slight 'distance' talking

LOLA

Always good to see you love! Why must you keep me and my girls waiting?

TONY

Cause I gotta talk to your crazy ass whenever I come here.

LOLA

You are too sweet! Who are you looking to spend some time with tonight?

TONY

Whoever. I'm fucking stressed as hell. Anyone as long as it's not the fat one.

LOLA

(Annoyed chuckle)

Coming right up my precious little man! You know how to find your seat I presume?

TONY

My legs fuckin' work fine. And bring me a beer.

LOLA

Coming right up babe.

//back to the LL

ASTER

Ruby, can you see the man that just walked in?

RUBY

With the long greasy hair?

ASTER

That's him. Look familiar?

RUBY

Y-yeah. He's got those eyes...

ASTER

That's Tony. He's a scumbag.

SLEDGE

To say the least.

ASTER

Ruby, are you sure that's him?

RUBY

Positive. He was wearing that same jacket.

ASTER

Sounds about right. Sledge,

SLEDGE

My pleasure.

//We hear a chair scraping as Sledge gets up. She goes over to Tony, she passes Lola along the way.

SLEDGE

Hey Lol, I'll take dick face his drink.

LOLA

You're a saint. If you can get him out of here as soon as possible, I can see if Candy's out early tonight?

SLEDGE

With a bribe like that, how can I say no?

//Lola hands her the drink, she goes to Tony.

SLEDGE

Hey Tones. Long time no see.

TONY

Well well well. If it isn't the shemale. What are you doing at Lola's? Aster finally knock you down a rung?

SLEDGE

Got a promotion actually.

TONY

Yeah? You finally get your purple pin when she took your dick away?

SLEDGE

I don't remember you complaining about the state of my genitals back in Atlanta.

TONY

Whatever. If you got a promotion, what the hell are you doing here?

SLEDGE

Guess you can say I'm doing some detective work.

TONY

Yeah? Trying to find your fucking sense of pride?

SLEDGE

I guess you can say its more of a shooting against one of our own. Just a few nights ago. Ring a bell?

TONY

I don't know what you're talking about.

SLEDGE

That's a shame. Two eye witnesses and Beak herself say that it was you driving the car the other night. You with the gun.

(Tony doesn't repond)

How about your stank jacket? It's what gave you away.

TONY

Alright, fuckin fine. I was driving the car that night. That's all I'm telling you. Now go away.

SLEDGE

Aw Tony, you know that's not what I wanted to hear. And you know I have ways to make you talk. You're gonna tell me what I want to know.

TONY

Yeah? You gonna hit me with your purse?

//we hear a gun being cocked.

TONY

Gun under the table, at a club, Sam? I'm disappointed in you.

SLEDGE

Just returning the favor on behalf of Beak. Now then, the angle I'm pointed at, I'll shoot your dick off. Is that what you want?

TONY

(muttering)

It's what you wanted I bet.

//the sound of a gunshot with a silencer is heard

TONY

(Bangs the table)

MY KNEE! YOU GOD DAMN BITCH AGGGH!

SLEDGE

Now that I have your attention, you gonna tell me what I want to know?

TONY

AGGhh Fine! Fucking fine! Someone's got a contract out on that wise mouthed fuck okay? It's not Lonescu, but he's interested in the money. That's all I know-fuck this stings! Get me a god damn first aide kit!

SLEDGE

Stop your bitching, you're scaring away our customers. And pussy up you fucking weakling, you've been shot in worse places. We'll be in touch.

(She calls out)

Candy! Can you please bring Tony to the back?

//the sound of the chair scrapping as Sledge goes back to Aster and Ruby. Ruby is silently shaking and almost crying, Aster is trying to subtly console her.

RUBY

(quietly)

Y-you, you shot him...

SLEDGE

He's going to be fine, Ruby, it's alright.

RUBY

B-but you...shot him...

ASTER

Anything useful or did he just make you mad?

SLEDGE

Both. But I've got some bad news. Someone is trying to pick off your Ladies.

The Lavender Ladies Podcast is a Goose Thunder Network produced podcast and made possible through listeners like you. The lavender ladies was written and created by Megan McClenathan, and edited by Jade, Hannah, and Molly Rae. The lavender ladies theme song was composed and performed by Benny James. The audio editing for the Lavender Ladies was done by Hannah.

The voices you heard in today's episodes in order of appearance are as follows:
The voice of Vinny was Dylan. The voice of Aster was Megan. The voice of Sledge was Delta Christine. The voice of Beak was Molly Rae.
The voice of Scoop was Jade. The voice of Ruby was Cole Burkhardt. The voice of Hari was Hannah C. The voice of the obnoxious customer was Benny James. The voice of Lola was Jessica Yang. The voice of Candy was Lee Francis. The voice of Tony was Cedric. And the voice of the introducer was myself, Benny James.

For more information on the Lavender Ladies, please follow us on tumblr at thelavenderladies.tumblr.com, and our twitter, at [LavenderLadyPod](https://twitter.com/LavenderLadyPod).

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