

# CLEOPATRA 52 BC

## *Ki and the Indestructibles*

~ or ~

## *Everybody's Movin', Everybody's Groovin' Baby*

Marian Marion Kebab

### The band settles on a name

Uncle Stuffy: "We need a name."

Felix: "We *HAVE* names."

"**WE** need a name ... for our '*fine musical ensemble*'. Something catchy. Something people will remember. We were promised extra gigs in Alexandria. We need something more identifiable than '*those guys*' so people can follow us."

"Ki and Felix?"

"SERIOUSLY? ... Sorry, but no one comes to see YOU, Felix."

"Ki and band?"

"You're terrible at this. It sounds like we just threw it together."

Stumpy: "We *DID* just throw it together. How about 'Ki and the Stone Masons'?"

Uncle Stuffy: "Why stone masons?"

"What's wrong with stone masons? A readily identifiable group of common people? *I*'m a stone mason."

"Oh really? It's not like you've ever mentioned it ... *a 1000 times!*"

Geech: "Ki and the Indestructibles."

There was a long silence.

Felix: "He can talk?"

Uncle Stuffy: "I was wondering the same thing."

Geech: "Ki is like the old North star, Thuban. We're like Kochab and Mizar, the Indestructibles ... we spend the whole night revolving around her ... or is that analogy too complex for you *geniuses* to comprehend? It's pithy, has a touch of Egypt to it, kind of a subtext only Egyptians will catch, Greeks will think it sounds cool, and it's easy to remember."

Ki: "Who knew you were so sweet?"

This received a rim shot.

### **Felix tests out a lyric**

"Ki? I could use your help."

"You're not trying to rhyme Per-Wadjet again, are you Felix?"

"Not this time."

"Shoot."

*If you'll be my 'Gyptian chicken, I'll be your Nubian lamb  
and we can walk together down in Theban land.*

"I like the melody. What's a 'Gyptian chicken'?"

"Term of endearment? 'Egyptian' has too many syllables."

"Chicken? Which one is that? Boy or girl?"

"Boy. You know ... like a baby chick a girl could cuddle."

"Chicken? ... uhhhh, OK ... why Nubian?"

"Needed three syllables."

"Do they have sheep up there?"

"Dunno."

"Theban Land' ... Are you referring to Kalek's amusement park?"

"No ... no, no ... I was thinking walking hand-in-hand around Thebes."

"If you'll be my term of endearment, I'll be your term of endearment, and we can walk around someplace romantic ... is that it?"

"Yeah"

"Ooooh ... that needs work."

### **Geech throws a lyric**

Geech: *"She broke his heart into pieces and scattered them about, he collected some remains and just stumbles in & out."*

Stuffy: "Where did that come from?"

"Stuff happens."

Ki: "HEY! If that's about me, it's just MEAN!"

Geech: "I was thinking of Stuffy's Hatti."

"Oh ... Then it's really good."

### **Geech's first night in Alexandria**

Geech woke up in the bedroom of a private home. He tried to gently extricate himself from between the two young women.

"Oh! Sorry ... very, very nice, by the way."

"You can keep doing that, if you like ... but be quiet, my dad gets up early."

"Oh crap ... uh ... thanks for a great time Daphne."

“*SHE*’s Daphne. I’m Circe.”

“Yes, you absolutely are.” <He kissed her>

“Mmmm ... G’bye Geechy ... or ... if you’re very, very quiet ...”

It was a Roman styled house with the bedroom opening on an atrium garden. Geech got his loincloth on, but having experience with this sort of thing, he didn’t want the material of his tunic slowing down his escape by catching on things, and just carried it bundled up. A senior looking gentleman had been sitting in the garden, eating a large roll and feeding the birds crumbs, when he got up to see someone at the front gate.

Geech took the opportunity to clamber up a small statue and throw himself up on the tiled roof. With bare feet and hands, he silently moved to the opposite side of the house and semi-let himself down ... and semi-fell ... to the alley. It was a good landing, nothing got damaged. Experience counts. The servants in the alley doing morning chores were just amused: it was pretty clear that stealing was not what he had been up to.

### **The Great Pharaoh wants to travel with the band**

Pharaoh: “Do you suppose we could go back with them? Naucratis? Maybe Giza? ... Then we’d come right back.”

Queen: “No. You can’t do that. Oh Divine Pharaoh of the Fabled Empire of Egypt, Lord of the Two Lands.”

“Phooey.”

### **Back in Thebes, Uncle Stuffy’s paramour responds to a song**

Uncle Stuffy forgot where he was and slipped right in to his “*She hot, she cold*” rhymes. At the end, his Hatshepsut walked up to him from backstage and smacked him at the back of the head with an angry look. Then she gave him a passionate kiss, bending him over, and grabbing his rump with one hand. The crowd ROARED.

### **Stumpy explains his promotion to overseer to Ki**

“The overseer slept in the wrong bed and got fired. They put in someone’s kid and he got badly injured the first day. Then, they lined us up and whittled us down to the ones with all limbs functioning, and all fingers and toes. I thought Malewiebamani had it: he’s got extra digits.”

“I’m going to ignore that last bit of information.”

“After the close inspection, they stepped back and eyeballed us from a distance. I think it was the muscles that did it. I guess I look like an overseer.”

“I don’t think they appreciate them as much as I do.”

**Geech deals with the consequences of his actions (avoiding a temple full of priestesses)**

There was an old woman, shambling along, leaning on a stick, with a worn out wide brimmed straw hat ... dressed in rags. Stumpy's house was distant enough from the city so "passersby" were unusual. The woman turned, and carefully looked around, then walked normally to join the others. She removed her hat. It was Geech. There was a startled silence.

Geech: "Wattup?"

"BWAAHAhahahahahahahahah ... eee hee hee ... hahaha"

Geech: "FINE! ... Enjoy yourselves." <He removed his rags>

"Apparently a drummer in a Theban band needs some anonymity?"

"Too much kissing, was it?"

"The father of our country avoiding warm beds?"

"Frankly, I'm surprised you can walk."

Geech: <sigh> "It seemed like such a good idea at the time ... is that clean water?"

Ki: "Here's a cup."

Stumpy: "You know, if I were to describe your situation to the average man, he would be at a loss to understand why you're not embracing it."

Geech: "I can't walk the streets during the day. I have to hide in the shadows during the night. They're everywhere!"

Ki: "Oh poor, poor Geech." <sarcastic> "You did this to yourself ... Priestess' beds too comfy, are they?"

Stuffy: "I'm sympathetic, but I can't resist ... *'You've made your bed, now lie in it'.*"

Geech: "I've been sleeping on benches in male temples. Maybe I'll get a break. I made a big show of going downriver on a merchant boat, then jumped off in the desert just past here, and snuck back."

Ki: "I talked to Kalek's wife, Banafrit. Did you know they keep track of all traffic on the Nile? Cargo, passengers? Plus, the Queen seems interested in you for some reason. They probably already know you're back."

Geech: "For the love of Ptah! How am I supposed to get any work done?!"

All: "... and what would that be, exactly?"

Geech: "Never mind."