

Skeleton Roommate

Created by Marissa Fonte & Brendan Krick

Logline

Three friends can't believe how cheap the rent at their new place is, but there's a catch. The wizard landlord has cursed an immortal skeleton to live in the apartment forever.

About the Show

Skeleton Roommate is a half hour episodic animated comedy for a teen-to-adult audience. The show is a roommate comedy with elements of fantasy and mystery. Think the humor and heart of *New Girl* with the enigma of *Gravity Falls*.

Setting

The world of the show is full of magic, though that fact is unknown to most people. Most of our characters have never encountered the supernatural before, but meeting Jim opens the curtain to an entire side of reality they've never known. Monsters, demons, elves, ghosts, alternate realms, there is much to explore, but mainly we are focused on things like which roommate keeps leaving the lights on.

Characters

Jim the Skeleton, age unknown, a jolly and dramatic skeleton who lives in a dungeon inside the apartment. He's been alone for some time and he's excited to make new friends. He is enthusiastic and prone to hysterics. Jim loves acting out classic cartoon skeleton gags. Nothing makes him happier than jamming out some sick xylophone tunes on his own ribs. Jim was once a human but was cursed thousands of years ago by the wizard Salazar to live eternal life under his control. Jim made a very poor servant, so mostly Salazar imprisons him in one of the many properties he owns. He's been a skeleton for so long he can't remember much about his life before. He wants more than anything to break the bonds of the curse so he can leave the apartment, eat a New York slice (he lives in LA), look at a horse (really look at it), you know, human stuff.

Salazar, age unknown (visually 60's), as powerful a landlord as he is a wizard. Fat, male pattern baldness, coarse chest hair, chunky gold jewelry, an implacable accent. Salazar cursed Jim long ago after Jim accidentally stole the power of eternal life from Salazar's true love. His millennia on earth have allowed him to amass a huge real estate fortune, though his seemingly unlimited resources do not stop him from pinching every penny. He has a manipulative scumbag charm. He laughs and pats you on the back as he explains the lease does not require him to provide windows. He is known to use bees and other insects to do his bidding.

Andy, 29, a sad sack failure. Doughy, scruffy, glasses, athleisure clothes. Since he was fired from his high-paying dream job, his relationship with his girlfriend Courtney is the

only thing going well in his life. Andy and Courtney were on track to getting married, buying a house, and starting a family, but his recent financial upset means they needed to find a cheaper apartment with Andy's brother Ralph as a roommate instead. Andy embodies the millennial frustration of not being able to afford the next chapter of life as you age out of the current one.

Courtney, 29, a fun mom without the kids. Adored by children and dogs. Always has snacks in her purse. Courtney is perpetually sunny and puts up with Andy's moods because she knows he'll snap out of his funk any day now, right? She is some sort of nebulous influencer. It's never quite clear what she does, but it involves taking a lot of selfies. She is kind and determined by nature and immediately wants to help Jim lift his curse.

Ralph, 24, a zoomer dirtbag. Ralph is an aspiring rapper/EDM producer and always high. His carefree nature and lack of direction infuriates Andy, who is obviously jealous. Whether he's battling unnaturally strong rats or spotting otherworldly creatures with his binoculars, he always seems to be the one to stumble into mystery first.

Noodles, 1, a pet goat adopted by Andy during a cancelled satanic ritual. Andy couldn't go through with the sacrifice once he saw how adorable Noodles is. Noodles immediately becomes Andy's "son" and is beloved by all. Noodles loves being pet, eating out of the trash can, and headbutting things.

The Curse

The curse keeps Jim as Salazar's prisoner for all eternity. The only way for it to be lifted is for Jim to commit a truly selfless act. Jim does not know this, and Salazar does not feel the need to tell him. The curse has been in place so long that Jim has accidentally escaped before, which is why Jim has stories about experiencing different periods in history. However, Salazar always finds a way to recapture and endlessly torture Jim.

Episode Ideas

Jim walks in on the gang watching an old movie similar to Jason and the Argonauts. Jim is thrilled that there's a skeleton in the movie but horrified when it turns evil and gets destroyed with a sword. Jim and Ralph decide to make their own movie to create a positive portrayal of skeletons in the media. Andy insists that Noodles be the star of the movie and attempts to convince Courtney to score the film with her keytar, which she vowed to never play again after a horrible accident.

Jim's best friend has come to visit. Is he a skeleton? No, the opposite. Ol' No Bones Larry is coming to town, a horrifying flesh puddle of a man who slithers across the floor. He is disgusting and rude. They discover that if they put Jim's skeleton body inside Larry's flesh puddle, they form something vaguely resembling an extremely ugly human.

The insulation of the flesh allows Jim to leave the apartment unscathed. Jim is thrilled to be out of the apartment, but is it worth hanging out with Larry?

Ralph and Andy discover that the mushrooms under the sink are alive, and desperate to be eaten. Andy refuses, but Ralph convinces him by citing studies about magic mushrooms and depression. Meanwhile, Courtney's feelings are hurt that no one realized she was an influencer this whole time. She teaches Jim about the internet, and Jim uses it to find a conspiracy theory website about Salazar.

Ralph befriends a cool goth girl who lives in the apartment complex. When he brings her back to the apartment, she is instantly smitten with Jim and overwhelms him with a whirlwind romance. Jim isn't sure if she loves him for him or just because he's a scary skeleton. Salazar senses Jim is in love and, fearing he may do something selfless and lift the curse, shows up to the apartment in a cheesy toupee to try and put the moves on Jim's girlfriend.

Andy finally gets a new high paying job. They can afford to get a nicer place now, but it would mean leaving Jim behind. Jim insists he's holding them back and they need to move on with their lives without him. This act of true selflessness breaks the curse. Jim is finally free to leave the apartment (but he's still a skeleton). The gang gets a new apartment but is dismayed to find out Salazar is still their landlord.

Season Two and Beyond

Season two will explore Jim's new life as a free skeleton and how the world reacts to him. Salazar has a mid-eternal life crisis now that his purpose in life (cursing Jim) is gone. He moves into one of the apartments in their building in an attempt to live a swinging bachelor life and hopefully curse Jim again. As the show progresses, we will learn more about Jim's historic past and the unseen magic that surrounds us.

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