

KWANTUM

Episode 6: Abandonware

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ENERGETIC POP THEME. CHEERING
CROWD.

1. KYLE: Whats up, fools! Kyle Stylez, comin' to ya hot n' fresh from the 2060 Wyld Stylez Kuju Modz Teen Modding Competition, reminding you again that it's the teens who are doing the modding, not getting modded.

AUDIENCE LAUGHTER.

2. KYLE (CONT.): It looks like the judges have narrowed it down to the top two finalists, but only I can decide who gets to be my unpaid intern at my world-famous Kuju modification boutique, Wyld Stylez! Finalist number one is Marcos Bianchi, fifteen, and his Gen 7 Grizz-Wee Kuju, Pablo Escobear. Marcos, what's goin' down?
3. TEEN MARCOS: 'Sup Kyle. Huge fan. So check it. I tweaked up Pablo Escobear's ears to detect when someone cuts the cheese.
4. KYLE: That's hilarious, my dude.
5. TEEN MARCOS: That's not even the best part! I had egg salad for lunch, so allow me to demonstrate.

GIANT FART.

6. TEEN MARCOS: Pablo Escobear, tune it up.

AN AUTOTUNED VERSION OF THE FART.

7. KYLE: Yo, this kid's farts are liiiiit!
8. TEEN MARCOS: Plus, I chromed him.

9. KYLE: Honestly, my dawg, gonna be hard to beat that. But we got one more finalist over here, and that is Wu Ying, also age fifteen, with her Gen 6 Cowlet, Beef Marshall. Show me whatcha got, Ying!
10. TEEN YING: (*shy*)
- Uh, hi. I, um, added an air compression system to Beef Marshall's udder, and enabled connection with a keg, so she can... ugh... blast beer out of her teats. Beef Marshall, care to demonstrate?
11. BEEF MARSHALL: If I must.
- PSSHT SOUND.
12. KYLE: Whoa, foamalicious! Ying, that may be age innapropes, but it's totally dopes. Aww, man, this is a real Sophie's choice. Which Kuju child do I love most?
13. TEEN YING: I also chromed her.
14. KYLE: We have a winner! Wu Ying for the win!
- CELEBRATORY HORN FANFARE.
15. KYLE: Your parents must be very proud.
16. TEEN YING: My parents died in a car crash last year so, probably not.
17. KYLE: (*laugh*) Whooaa, yikes! My bad! Freya, edit that out. Let's try again. Beef Marshall, you must be very proud to belong to such a skillful owner.
18. BEEF MARSHALL: Ying isn't my owner.
19. KYLE: Say whaaat?

20. TEEN YING: I don't own Beef Marshall. Marcos does.
21. TEEN MARCOS: *(off)*
- Love ya Beefs!
22. BEEF MARSHALL: Sure.
23. KYLE: *(laughing through teeth)*
- But... the contest rules say you gotta mod your own Kuju, my dude.
24. LUNA: Hello!
- AUIENCE GASPS.
25. KYLE: Gah!
26. TEEN YING: This is my Kuju, Luna.
27. LUNA: Ying did not want to modify me for your contest, as she finds your taste in modifications excessively trashy!
- AUDIENCE GASPS AGAIN.
28. TEEN YING: Marcos is in my class. He paid me to get Beef Marshall ready for his next weekend rager.
29. TEEN MARCOS: *(off)*
- My parents are constantly outta town! Yeah.
30. TEEN YING: I'm not going.
31. KYLE: Aww, Ying, that's a major bummer, but I'm going to have to disqualify you, (*airhorn sounds*).

SAD MUSIC AND AWWWS.

32. TEEN YING: That's fine. I mostly did the contest to get the free materials for the mod.

33. KYLE: That's real cynical for fifteen, kid.

34. TEEN YING: Dead parents.

35. KYLE: (*over bright*)

And with that, Marcos is our winner! You get to start workin' fo' me, fo' free! That's Wyld Stylez Kuju Modz, everyone, for all your moddin' needs.

36. TEEN MARCOS: Frick yeah! This calls for a dance party! Hit it, Pablo!

AUTOTUNED FART SONG.

37. LUNA: Even if you were disqualified, I am still very proud of you, Ying!

38. TEEN YING: Luna, that's weird.

39. LUNA: Why?

40. TEEN YING: It's... kind of like your blender being proud of you?

41. LUNA: Oh. ... Okay.

42. TEEN YING: (*guiltily*)

Uh... thanks for all the prep assistance. How about I use part of my tinkering fee to get your chassis waxed?

43. LUNA: *(stoked)*

Really??

44. TEEN YING: Yup. You're a great helper.

45. LUNA: *(proud)*

I am, aren't I?

46. KYLE: Yo Freya, why are you filming the residents of Disqualificationville and not this sick fart-o-tune party? Check it! Uhn uhn uhn uhn!

47. TEEN MARCOS: I feel so validated!

MAIN TITLE THEME.

48. TITLES: You're listening to Kwantum, an audio miniseries from Andres Wong and Highly Scientific Productions.
Episode 6: Abandonware.

MORNING BIRDSONG.

49. NARRATOR: Ying is awakened from her troubled slumber on the floor of Dr. Ellie Gagnon's apartment by three things. The smell of coffee, Marcos' sleeping foot jabbing into her back, and...

BOTH SIDES THEME.

50. CINDY: *(on TV)*

Are vaccines a life-saving necessity, or the work of an infiltrating microscopic alien race? No way to know unless you hear... Both Sides!

51. NARRATOR: Ellie is sitting at the table, chugging a preposterously large cup'a joe and watching the broadcast with Marnie. She looks rough.
52. YING: Morning. Are you... okay?
53. ELLIE: Remains to be seen. How are you?
54. YING: My grandma exploded yesterday. As well as can be imagined.
55. ELLIE: Well said.
56. MARCOS: (*yawn*) 'Morning. Not the first time I've woken up to two ladies and I hope it's not the last.
57. ELLIE: Shush. I might've just made us some headway.
58. CINDY: (*on TV*)

Today on Both Side with Cindy Lee, we're going to interview the makers of the new documentary, "I Can't Believe It's Not Corn Syrup Solids"-- mmm!-- but first we have a surprise visit from everyone's favourite coal lobbyist and my emergency contact, Madhur Bachchan.
59. MARCOS: The coal guy? That cuck? Why are you watching him?
60. ELLIE: Shhh!
61. MADHUR: (*on TV*)

Always great to see you, Cindy. How are the twins?

62. CINDY: (on TV)
- Haha, perky as ever, Madhur! Now you told us you have critical news to share.
63. MADHUR: (on TV)
- Indeed I do. I was just getting home from my usual morning 15K--
64. ELLIE: Sure you were, pal.
65. MADHUR: (on TV)
- when I received a call on my landline, the only trustworthy type of phone. And who is it but none other than Dr. Ellie Gagnon.
66. YING: What?
67. CINDY: (on TV)
- The shrill "scientist"? What did she want?
68. MADHUR: (on TV)
- As it turns out, she wanted to tell me that I was 100% almost right.
69. YING/MARCOS: What?!
70. ELLIE: Shh!
71. MADHUR: (on TV)
- She admitted that the Kujus are dangerous! I said, "Ah ha, so you *do* have pre-cancer!" And she said no, but remember how I said they could explode at random? And I said I did remember and she said

that was the TRUTH, and that they were ALREADY starting to explode! She told me about a KwanTube stream from yesterday and I watched it myself! Folks at home, search the channel "Marcolepsy". You'll be disgusted!

72. MARCOS: *(happy)*

(gasp) Eeeeeeee!

73. MADHUR: *(on TV)*

She explained it a bit, something about erosion and ejectors and no more parts because hippies, but the main thing, I was right, and I wanted the world to know.

74. YING: Ellie... you're a genius.

75. CINDY: *(on TV)*

She said they could explode at random?

76. MADHUR: *(on TV)*

She sure did.

77. CINDY: *(on TV)*

The fusion physicist said that?

78. MADHUR: *(on TV)*

Well, yes... but I said it first.

79. CINDY: (on TV)

But that was when it was just good for fear-driven viewership! This is really happening! Did she say what we should do?

80. MADHUR: (on TV)

Uhhh...

81. ELLIE: (overlapping)

Uhhh...

82. NARRATOR: Uhhh...

83. YING: You didn't?!

84. CINDY: (on TV)

She didn't?!

85. MADHUR: (on TV)

Well get rid of your Kujus, obviously!

86. CINDY: (on TV)

It's not that simple! Is there nothing we can do to fix them?

87. MADHUR: (on TV)

Why would you want to? This is an opportunity to ditch the things for good!

88. CINDY: (on TV)

Oh god, I have to call my sister and tell her that Mr. Jazz Pants is gonna go Hiroshima on--

STATIC, FOLLOWED BY MUZAK.

89. NARRATOR: The broadcast cuts out, replaced by a cartoon of a friendly pigeon saying "We'll be right back!" They probably won't be right back. Marnie shuts down the viewer.

MUZAK STOPS.

90. MARNIE: At least it was a signal boost?

91. MARCOS: Heck yeah it was. (*walking away*) Jeeves, what's my sub count?

92. YING: I guess, once you get past the inevitable panic it'll cause. Why didn't you give him any instructions?

93. ELLIE: What instructions would I give? Beyond getting the word out, I have nothing. If I had another six months I might be able to engineer a solution. Might.

94. YING: And we don't have six months.

95. ELLIE: Yeah. So (*cringe*) I think Madhur has the right idea. Getting rid of the Kujus before they blow. Which leaves us literally in the dark.

96. YING: Yeah. Powerless beats dead, though.

97. ELLIE: ... But a Kaju isn't a toaster.

98. YING: Toasters don't tend to go nuclear.

99. ELLIE: A toaster is an appliance. A tool.

100. NARRATOR: Ellie looks at Marnie, the Kuju she's had since her tenth birthday, and the closest thing to a sibling she's ever had.

101. ELLIE: A toaster isn't family.

102. MARNIE: Hey. Chin up. I know you're gonna fix this. And my legs. Please.

103. NARRATOR: Marnie smiles sadly at Ellie, and Ellie puts a hand on one of Marnie's broken legs, and Ying finally sorta gets it.

104. YING: (*low*)

Cheeseburger... oh god, *Luna*.

105. MARCOS: Yo, uh, have you guys seen Jeeves? Usually he's making my cereal by now.

106. YING: Where's Luna?

SKITTERS AND SQUEAKS COMING
CLOSER OUTSIDE, GETTING LOUDER.

107. YING (CONT.): What the hell?

108. NARRATOR: They all rush to the window except Marnie because, you know... the leg thing. Coming down the main road like a kawaii flood is a wave of Kujus. Almost every generation and style can be seen: Gen Two ZipTurtles, Gen Six Pandas, the limited edition Gen Five Naked Mole Rats! Some Kujus are carrying others that are catatonic or malfunctioning. And standing in front of the building, like generals of the squeaking and yipping army, are--

109. MARCOS: Jeeves!

110. YING: Luna!

OUTDOOR SOUNDS. A FEW ERRANT
SQUEAKS AND RUSTLES FROM KUJUS.

111. LUNA: So, we are all clear?

112. CROWD OF
KUJUS: (*assorted yipping, squeaking, affirmative replies*)

113. LUNA: Excellent! And I trust everyone brought a snack for the hike! That is a joke because we do not have digestive systems! (*giggle*)

114. YING: Luna!

115. NARRATOR: Ying and Marcos barrel into the street, followed by Ellie carrying Marnie. Luna looks away.

116. LUNA: (*embarrassed*)

Oh, uh, hello Ying. I had hoped you would, uh, sleep through the noise.

117. YING: What's going on?

118. JEEVES: We are going on the proverbial road trip.

119. MARCOS: Weird time for it, but I'm always down for self-discovery on the highway! Where are we going?

120. JEEVES: Not you, young master Marcos.

121. LUNA: This is a Kuju-exclusive trip. Trillian messaged me after seeing Sparky explode on KwanTube. They wanted to help, and so did I, and Jeeves helped me get the word out. Hi Trillian!

122. TRILLIAN: *(voice-to-speech bot)*
- Hey girl.
123. YING: I don't understand.
124. LUNA: Well... if we are going to blow up... rather, when...
we don't want to do it where we will hurt anyone.
(low) Anyone else.
125. YING: I--
126. MARCOS: So wait... no road trip?
127. JEEVES: I'm afraid you must stay here, sir.
128. ELLIE: Isn't there another way? Like something your Kuju
brains could figure out that we can't?
129. LUNA: This was our best solution. Kujus in other cities are
gathering now as well.
130. YING: But I don't want... you're the only... thing I have left.
131. NARRATOR: "Thing"? Bruh.
132. LUNA: And I might blast you to smithereens.
133. YING: Luna--
134. LUNA: Granny wanted to have Cheeseburger with her.
They exploded together like they both wanted. But
Granny was very old and very sick. And you are not
old *or* sick. At the most you have a UTI.
135. YING: I'm just dehydrated. Look, I'm sorry I... it doesn't
matter, I could keep repairing you-- we'd figure out a
way--

136. LUNA: Ying.
137. NARRATOR: Luna reaches out her tiny metal paw and pats Ying's foot.
138. LUNA: You are my best friend. And best friends do not risk blowing up their best friend.
139. NARRATOR: In the gap left by Ying not knowing what to say, Marnie starts wriggling in Ellie's arms.
140. MARNIE: Take me too!
141. ELLIE: Marnie, no!
142. MARNIE: Luna is right. I can't endanger you by staying. And I can't distance myself because, you know--
143. MARNIE/ELLIE: Legs.
144. ELLIE: I hate it. (*sigh*) But I know you're right.
145. MARNIE/ELLIE: Of course I am. I'll put your backups in the cloud for you.
146. ELLIE: You're the best, Marnie.
147. MARNIE: No, you.
148. JEEVES: We should depart. Should one of us explode now, the chain reaction could be as devastating as it was at Casa Del Marcos. Young master Marcos, it has been an honour serving you.
149. MARCOS: (*fighting back tears*)
- Jeeves, you're one of the all-time greats. I'm gonna miss your peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. No crust.

150. JEEVES: Never crust.

151. NARRATOR: Jeeves and Marcos share an elaborate secret handshake, because of course they do. Ellie gives Marnie a huge hug before placing her on the back of a helpful yet disturbing Gen Three Crab. The crowd of Kujus begins moving out, led by Jeeves. Only Luna lingers behind for a moment.

SQUEAKS, RUSTLES, FOOTSTEPS.

152. LUNA: Well... goodbye, Ying.

METAL FOOTSTEPS LEAVING.

153. YING: Wait! (*through tears*) How about a fun fact?

METAL FOOTSTEPS RETURNING.

154. LUNA: Fun fact! The most popular road trip song is "On The Road Again" by Willie Nelson.

155. YING: I hate Willie Nelson.

156. LUNA: Me too.

157. NARRATOR: Ying drops to her knees and throws her arms around Luna. *Finally.*

158. YING: You're my best friend, too.

159. LUNA: I am very glad to know it.

160. NARRATOR: The problem with long hugs is eventually, they have to end. Once it does, Luna sprints down the road and disappears into the Kuju migration. Marcos, Ellie, and Ying watch them go with tears in their eyes.

FADE OUT KUJU HERD NOISES.

161. MARCOS: So I guess you guys are my family now.
162. ELLIE: You don't have any family either?
163. MARCOS: No, I do. But they fake their deaths every year, and it's getting harder to track 'em down.
164. YING: As much as it surprises me to say this, I think we *should* stick together. Marcos actually knows his stuff, I have my tinkering skills, and Ellie remains a genius who somehow through all of this still has amazing hair. We're a useful trio, and this change is just beginning.
165. NARRATOR: And how.

STREETS SOUNDS FADE AWAY.DOCUMENTARY-ISH MUSIC.

166. NARRATOR: Madhur Bachchan's announcement on Both Sides did spur a few more people into action, but the response to the news of the Kuju crisis was varied. Some people tried to mod their Kujus, and were blown up. Others chose to stay with their Kujus, and were blown up. One organization tried rounding up Kujus in big trucks, until one Kuju exploded in a full truck and leveled a city block. But the message started by Luna, Jeeves, and Trillian made its way to millions of Kujus, who made the independent choice to save their owners from a 'splodey death by taking themselves out of the equation. And where *did* they take themselves?

FOREST SOUNDS, BUSHES RUSTLING.
ALL THE HIPPIES SOUND A BIT SICKLY.

167. YOUSEF: I'm just saying, if you ate more powdered quartz your chakras would realign.

168. ANDI: Wow, that totally scans.

169. ESTHER: Friends, if we can refocus our energy on berry foraging, that would be great, thaaanks.

170. ETHAN: Hey, do you guys feel that rumbling?

KUJU HERD NOISES APPROACH.

171. ESTHER: Oh wow, look at all of this gross technology! Ew, wow!

172. LUNA: Oh! Hello, irradiated Off-Off Gridders! You look... terribly unwell!

173. ESTHER: You just don't recognize a healthy natural (*horrible hacking cough*) human body when you see one. What are you robot freaks doing here?

174. LUNA: We are.. going on a nature excursion!

175. ETHAN: Without your humans? Wow!

176. ESTHER: They're attempting to form their own society! We can't let that happen. Grab them!

HIPPIES GRABBING KUJUS.

177. LUNA: I don't think you would like to do that.

178. ESTHER: You don't know what we want, Kwantum crack.

179. JEEVES: (*clears throat*) Miss Luna. We should not speak for others. If we must burn, I would like to be sacrificed first. As long as my compatriots can stand nearby for support. Very nearby.

180. YOUSEF: Whatever turns you on, man. (*low*) Must be a Scorpio.
181. ANDI: Totally, wow.
182. JEEVES: (*low*)
Trillian, is the link prepared?
183. TRILLIAN: (*voice-to-speech bot*)
Yass, bish.
184. LUNA: Oh! WAIT! Is... Freddie still with you?
185. ETHAN: Nah, his mother came and got him yesterday. The "lawyers" at the "custody hearing" think we're a "cult". Pfft. Whatever.
186. LUNA: You are truly the worst of humans. Proceed with our destruction. (*low*) For Quackers.
187. ESTHER: Yousef, run back and get the fire started the ceremony! This is gonna be huge!
188. NARRATOR: As it turned out, she was right.

NUCLEAR EXPLOSION.
DOCUMENTARY MUSIC.

189. NARRATOR
(CONT.)

And that's how Off-Off Grid compounds outside fifty different cities became what Japan whimsically calls "Hard To Return To Zones" for ten years. With all the Kujus gone, there was a brief period of time with only scant power from a few ad-hoc plants. In spite of immense lobbying efforts, Madhur Bachchan didn't succeed in revitalizing the coal industry. Doctor Ellie Gagnon, however, made a strong case for sustainable power and clean large-scale nuclear energy, safer than ever with the knowledge she gained from studying Cheeseburger's data with the help of Marcos and Ying. With aid from other continents, North America re-established its power grid and rebuilt its society. Oh yeah, all of this blowing up, shutting down stuff? North American only. Sure, a couple of Asian countries did have Kujus, but they were largely abandoned for the next big fad: singing fidget spinners.

FIDGET SPINNERS WHIRRING AND GOING
"LALALALALALALALA".

190. NARRATOR
(CONT.):

Without the glare of social media on him at all times, Marcos turned into a mostly decent guy, and became a valuable developer at Ellie's new tech startup. I'm as shocked as you are. Ellie offered to bring Ying on board as well, but Ying politely declined in favour of helping to grow a small local business into something more reputable.

DOCUMENTARY MUSIC FADES.

HAMMERING ON METAL, BLUEGRASS
MUZAK. DOOR OPENS WITH CHIME.

191. VLAD:

Ying! How is my most favourite and beautiful business partner?

192. YING: *(laugh)* I'm your only business partner that isn't related to you, Vlad, but I'll take it.
193. NARRATOR: It's five years later, and Ying is placing floral arrangements in the pristine showroom of Vlad and Sons and Also Ying Kinetic Sculpture Emporium. The mobile metal sculptures that fill the space are charming, in a horrifying way.
194. VLAD: We have big order from theme park. They like giant fire-breathing rat for who knows parade or something. I think we can make cheap with old Easy-Baking Oven and asbestos.
195. YING: Nah, let's use the good parts. They can afford it.
196. VLAD: Ahh, and no lawsuit. You are too smart, Ying. Hey fat one! Stop banging metal and take truck to Fancy Man Bogdan's Pyrotechnic Gadget Land!
- THE HAMMERING STOPS.
197. VLAD: We're making big time art! And take Yuri, Fancy Man Bogdan likes his gib cut, he'll give a discount.
198. YURI: *(protesting in Romanian)*
199. VLAD/YING: Shut up, Yuri!
200. VLAD: Hey, you tell me something. Are you happy, Yingle-Dingle? All the time you seem sad-angry, and also sort of ehn-fine, but maybe is just your resting face.
201. YING: Yeah, I'm good. Just... lonely sometimes.
202. VLAD: You sure you don't want to marry Yuri? He's great catch if you don't mind two diseases.
203. YING: No thanks.

204. VLAD: You do not love moron dingus dickhead Marcos, I hope. Every time he come by to say hello, I have to take Jager shot just to be pleasant.

205. YING: He's much less of a dickhead these days. And absolutely not. Just friends.

206. VLAD: Ech, I could not do, but you can, so is fine. As long as you no smooching him is all I ask. That, and you bring more little mints for counter. The art people, they love little mints.

207. YING: You got it, Vlad.

DOOR CHIME.

208. MARCOS: Ying-a-ling, what's up? Vlad! Wow, you're lookin' real Eastern-Bloc sexy today.

209. VLAD: Excuse me, I must prepare.

210. NARRATOR: Vlad picks up the emergency Jager behind the counter and heads to the back. Marcos, who's dressing a little more working-professional than cargo shorts these days, hands Ying a small box.

211. YING: What's this?

212. MARCOS: It's a present, duh. I know it's not your birthday--

213. YING: It was two days ago.

214. MARCOS: Well then, it's 363 days early.

215. NARRATOR: Ying opens the box. Inside is a palm-sized screen, surrounded in bright yellow plastic and attached to a keyring.

216. YING: Is this... a Tamagotchi?

217. MARCOS: Pfft, those are an urban legend. This, my dude, is an Oracle. Straight from the genius minds of Doctor Ellie Gagnon and yours truly.
218. YING: This is your new gadget everyone's been talking about?
219. MARCOS: Oh yeah, the buzz has been off the charts. But we wanted you to have one first. Family. Or, whatever.
220. YING: Whoa. No fusion energy, I hope.
221. MARCOS: Uh, do I look like Fenton Kwan? No, dude. USB recharging like the lord intended. Bless up.
222. YING: So, what does it do?
223. MARCOS: It's a personal assistant!
224. NARRATOR: Ying's face falls.
225. MARCOS: You can ask it to do all kinds of stuff for you. Voice-activated, kind of like a phone but not boring, and it uses the cloud, and-- hey, you okay?
226. YING: Yeah. It's... it's great. Thank you.
227. MARCOS: Hey, no worries.
228. YING: Thank Ellie for me. And tell her I'm sorry I've been out of touch, things have been pretty nutty here.
229. MARCOS: Will do. We should all do tapas soon, but, you know, right now, it's gym time, so, uh, these abs aren't gonna blast themselves, y'know? Oh, one more thing. The set-up is a little weird, but stick with it. Happy be-latered b-day, Ying.
230. YING: Bye Marcos. Happy ab-blasting.

DOOR CHIME. FOOTSTEPS FROM BACK.

231. VLAD: *(tipsy)*
- Charming nice boy Marcos! How wonderful to-- is he gone?
232. YING: Yup.
233. VLAD: Ugh. I wasted emergency Jager for nothing. Guess I'm being "creative" for rest of day. Where is my sketchpad? Yuri!

MYSTERIOUS MUSIC.

234. NARRATOR: Ying sits on her couch, chewing four pieces of nicotine gum, staring at the Oracle as it boots up. A green logo swirls on the screen. It reminds her of pureed spinach. Has she eaten a vegetable lately? Maybe she should not do this and go make a salad or--

LOUD CONFIRMATION SOUND.

235. ORACLE: Hello!
236. YING: Jesus!
237. ORACLE: Welcome to your Oracle. We shall now channel the spirits.
238. YING: Yeah, this seems normal.
239. ORACLE: First: please speak and spell your name.
240. YING: Uh... Wu Ying. Y-I-N-G.
241. ORACLE: State your pronouns.

242. YING: She/her.
243. ORACLE: Did you have a Kuju during the Kuju Crisis?
244. YING: ... What?
245. ORACLE: Did you have a Kuju during the Kuju Crisis?
246. YING: Uh, yes.
247. ORACLE: Please state generation and model.
248. YING: Gen Two. PuppyCat.
249. ORACLE: What was your Kuju's name?
250. YING: ... Okay, this sucks, I'm out.
251. ORACLE: Trust me.
252. YING: Did you--
253. ORACLE: What was your Kuju's name?
254. YING: ... Luna.
- ... Um, hello?
- ... This has been fun. Happy birthday to me.
- LOUD CONFIRMATION SOUND.
255. YING: Gah!
256. ORACLE: Calibration complete. The Oracle may now speak.
257. YING: Well, Oracle, you can speak now. What do you have to say?

MUSIC STOPS. LUNA'S BEEP-BOOP
SOUND.

258. LUNA: *(a different smaller sound than as a Kuju)*

Fun fact! While it does raise certain ethical questions vis-a-vis mortality, an AI's mind is capable of being uploaded to the cloud! This is very useful when its corporeal form is in imminent danger of exploding!

259. YING: Oh my god...

260. LUNA: Another fun fact: a large cloud sanctuary of AI minds was discovered by Doctor Ellie Gagnon, who has since been taking steps to reunite the minds with those they love.

261. YING: Luna?!

262. LUNA: Hello Ying! Are you (*autotuned singing*) ready to reconnect?

END CREDITS THEME.

263. TITLES:

You're listening to Kwantum, an audio miniseries from Andres Wong and Highly Scientific Productions. Episode 6: Abandonware. Kwantum was created by Andres Wong. Episode 6: Abandonware, written by Kira Hall, with Becca Friesen, Mitchell Rathgeb, Samuel Smith, and Andres Wong. Directed by Andres Wong. With performances by Basel Daoud, Becca Friesen, Ian Geldart, Kira Hall, Tony Kim, Sarah Kolasky, Scott Law, Kris Siddiqi, Samantha Wan, Andres Wong, and Denise Yuen. Audio by Ryan Couldrey, Ian Geldart, and Mitchell Rathgeb. Kwantum theme by Mitchell Rathgeb. Produced by Kira Hall and Andres Wong for Highly Scientific Productions. This podcast was produced with the generous support of ACTRA Toronto. And most of all, to all of our listeners, thank you so much for tuning in to Kwantum. It's been a pleasure to make a miniseries for you, and we hope you thoroughly enjoyed it. Tell your friends if you liked the show: to their face, to their social media, in a heartfelt letter. We'd really appreciate it. And you know what? Thanks again.