

The Credible Adventures of October and Fish: Episode 106

ACT I

Episode 106

going to the clinic

NARRATOR

Alright, so Fish and October have been distracted from their current quest of trying to get to Herovia City-- Which Fish believes is a pit stop on their way to the Plains of Breezil, but is really a trap set by October-- And they are currently helping a shrimp get some inhalers from a racist doctor.

October and Fish have left the central market place of Moist Bog and have made their way to what I assume is the human medical construction. I can tell because some human just got carried in, and they were screaming. Pain screams, not anguish. It's pretty hefty, kind of lumpy-looking like maybe someone pawned the construction budget and they had to make do with mud. More squiggles on the outside, humans sure do love their squiggles, and a sign in the shape of a plus sign that glows pink. I get it, math and medicine are both sciences, so...

OCTOBER

Stay here. And don't wander off. Here, entertain yourself with...

NARRATOR

She roots around in her soggy boggy bag and pulls out some binoculars.

OCTOBER

Go wild. Without moving.

FISH WITH LEGS

Oooooh. Shiny.

OCTOBER

No, you're supposed to look through-- Oh, whatever.

FISH WITH LEGS

Hee.

NARRATOR

October goes in and sits in the first big room she finds. Other humans also sit there. Fish with Legs is... looking at the binoculars. Hm. \*vrrrrrt\*

October gets up and follows a human in a pale green tunic, who leaves her in a room a few doors down.

dr. steffi scope

NARRATOR

This room is lined with shelves covered in bottles and jars of liquids and fermented animal bits. October sits on a padded table and eyeballs the viscous decor. There's also a desk, which is covered in a big pile of disorderly papers. And a little roly stool, also padded. A human female walks in. She has the same colouring as October but it's okay because she's wearing a white lab coat to help me keep them straight.

STEFFI SCOPE

Hello, I'm Dr. Steffi Scope. What the Hex is wrong with you?

OCTOBER

(thrown off/nervous) What? What's--

STEFFI SCOPE

(sighs) Hello, I'm Dr. Steffi Scope. What the Hex is wrong with you?

OCTOBER

Sorry. I'm October--

STEFFI SCOPE

Yes, I know your name. I have your chart in my hand. Your name is dumb by the way.

OCTOBER

Says Dr. Steffiscope.

STEFFI SCOPE

You know what? Don't talk, I'll just check you out.

NARRATOR

Dr. Scope drops the chart next to October, grabs her throat and starts prodding it.

STEFFI SCOPE

Interesting...

OCTOBER

What?

STEFFI SCOPE

Please don't talk.

NARRATOR

Dr. Scope kneads the skin on October's throat.

(CONTINUED)

OCTOBER

(gags)

STEFFI SCOPE

Please don't gag.

OCTOBER

Sorry. You were cutting off my--

STEFFI SCOPE

Please don't talk! Just... Don't do anything! Sit here and let me examine you! Thank you!

NARRATOR

Dr. Scope licks her finger and sticks it in October's ear.

OCTOBER

\*mousey noise\*

NARRATOR

October looks indignant but Dr. Scope shakes her a little by the neck and she subsides. She sits in tense silence, Dr. Scope continues to abuse her. Dr. Scope knocks on her forehead and listens to her scalp.

OCTOBER

Ow.

NARRATOR

The doctor lets go of October and crosses the office to her shelf of thingies.

STEFFI SCOPE

You are in terrible health, October Jones...

OCTOBER

I think I'm okay. I just need--

STEFFI SCOPE

No, you're wildly out of balance.

NARRATOR

She takes down and opens a big jar of herbs in clear liquid. She dunks her hands, rubs them on the outside of the jar, then wipes them vaguely on her coat.

STEFFI SCOPE

You see, the human body is made from a balance of the four humors... Each corresponding to one of the five elements. Earth, water, fire, air and... Oh wait... What's the... What's the fifth one?

OCTOBER

Pretty sure there's four.

STEFFI SCOPE

Pretty sure you're wrong. But my point is, you are deeply unbalanced.

OCTOBER

What?

STEFFI SCOPE

You have way too much fire, your water is all dry, your earth is just weirdly inconsistent and your air... Are you gassy? Do you fart a lot?

OCTOBER

Really? You got that from a five second examination?

STEFFI SCOPE

Well, being able to do that is my job, so yes.

NARRATOR

She seals the jar and takes out a little notepad.

STEFFI SCOPE

I'm prescribing acupuncture, some herbal tea and maybe some therapy.

OCTOBER

I'm good, thanks.

STEFFI SCOPE

Yeah, what do I know? I'm just a doctor.

OCTOBER

Can I get an inhaler? Or two... Or seventeen. I have asthma.

STEFFI SCOPE

That's the least of your issues. I assume you have a poor immune system? Eczema? A terrible family dynamic?

OCTOBER

Why does everybody want to know about my family?

STEFFI SCOPE

Because your emotional scars are showing.

OCTOBER

Look I have this cough. (fakes a cough using the word 'cough')

STEFFI SCOPE

Did you just say the word cough?

OCTOBER

No.

STEFFI SCOPE

How many inhalers did you say you needed?

OCTOBER

Oh just the one.

STEFFI SCOPE

No you said seventeen.

OCTOBER

What? What a randomly specific number. I mean if that's how many you wanna give me...

STEFFI SCOPE

You're trying to con me into giving you inhalers so you can sell them to that shrimp aren't you?

OCTOBER

What? Um...

STEFFI SCOPE

The shrimp, he wears a human suit. His kids have some sort of unrealistic underwater asthma...

OCTOBER

Okay yes. I'm trying to get inhalers for that shrimp. But I'm in a bit of a tough situation and I need to help him so I can get back on track with my real mission which is very important. So do you think there's just some way I can convince you to give them to me?

STEFFI SCOPE

What? No. I'm not giving you inhalers so you can give them to him. I'm not adding a middle-man to my deal. That's ridiculous.

OCTOBER

Listen, I understand what you're doing. You don't owe anything to that shrimp, so you'll help him for a price, but I--

STEFFI SCOPE

That's nice. I'm gonna cut you off right there, though because I'm detaining you.

OCTOBER

What? Detaining me? No! Please-- Hold on... You're a doctor, can you even do that?

STEFFI SCOPE

Of course I can. Welcome to Herovia.

NARRATOR

The doctor sticks her head out the door.

STEFFI SCOPE

Security! Yep! We got a kid, she's trying to do some crimes.

OCTOBER

Come on, come on! Don't do this!

STEFFI SCOPE

You're trying to get medical supplies you don't need and selling it for a profit. That's illegal.

OCTOBER

What do you care? You were doing the same thing.

STEFFI SCOPE

Yeah, I gotta draw a line somewhere though, right?

OCTOBER

Seems like a pretty arbitrary place to draw the line...

STEFFI SCOPE

The world is arbitrary I guess.

NARRATOR

A guard walks in. Quartered doublet, giant hat and all.

COPORAL DADSON

Hey there doc.

STEFFI SCOPE

Hey. This is the girl doing the crimes. Get her out of here.

OCTOBER

Wait! Wait!

NARRATOR

The guard grabs her by the arm.

COPORAL DADSON

Come with me, miss.

OCTOBER

No, no, listen I--

STEFFI SCOPE

You can explain yourself when the sherrif gets here.

NARRATOR

Dr. Scope follows the guard as he drags October out of the room. Yeesh... Tough break... But I can't say she didn't deserve it. This is the girl who wants to hand Fish with Legs over to the government after all... Speaking of...

breakout

NARRATOR

\*zzzzp\* Fish with Legs is balanced on a railing to peek into Dr. Scope's office through a window. She watches as the doctor and guard take October down the hallway.

FISH WITH LEGS

Not good...

NARRATOR

She hangs the binoculars from... let's call it her neck, and begins to pace the railing.

FISH WITH LEGS

Okay, Fish with Legs... What would October do? ...She would save the day. She would come up with a great plan and execute it to perfection. Free her best friend and get the...

NARRATOR

Fish gets distracted by something inside Dr. Scope's office. Oh, maybe by the--

FISH WITH LEGS

Inhalers!

NARRATOR

Fish with Legs crouches.

FISH WITH LEGS

Fish with Legs karate powers!

NARRATOR

Fish with Legs jumps and hits the ground running toward the clinic. She leaps and smacks the window at full speed, shattering it. She and a bunch of glass land on Dr. Scope's floor.

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FISH WITH LEGS  
Booyah!

NARRATOR

The inhaler box is high up on a shelf, clearly out of reach of tiny Fish with Legs. She stands right under the shelf and jumps, but no dice. She can't reach it, as she is a tiny fish with legs. She looks around the room.

FISH WITH LEGS

Thinking... Thinking... Thinking... Thought!

NARRATOR

She marches over to the the examination table and sprays it with a jet of water from her mouth, pushing it to the wall right under the inhalers. She hops onto it and reaches again.

FISH WITH LEGS

You can do this, Fish with Legs! You are the most powerful fish with the longest, sexiest legs!

NARRATOR

She stands on the tips of her toes, reaching her adorably short fins toward the inhalers.

FISH WITH LEGS

Curse my adorably short fins!

NARRATOR

She slumps, then rallies herself.

FISH WITH LEGS

For the shrimp babies!

NARRATOR

She crouches, bounces up, and grabs the box with her mouth.

FISH WITH LEGS

(muffled) Yes!

NARRATOR

She takes the box out of her mouth and hops down from the table. But then! The door bursts open. Fish freezes as Dr. Scope stares at her from the doorway, looking very confused.

STEFFI SCOPE

What the Hex is--

FISH WITH LEGS

Hello. I'm Fish with Legs. I'm a fish with legs. I'm the Elemental Creature of water and I'm trying to steal some inhalers for 17 shrimp babies.

STEFFI SCOPE

Again with the shrimp!? How many people does this guy have working for him?

FISH WITH LEGS

Now, I would just like to know if there is anyway I can change your mind and convince you to do the right thing?

STEFFI SCOPE

What? No...

NARRATOR

She sticks her head out the door...

STEFFI SCOPE

Security!

FISH WITH LEGS

Oh no! Bad.

NARRATOR

Suddenly Fish with Legs leaps through the air and drop kicks Dr. Scope in the face. She falls to the ground, unconscious.

FISH WITH LEGS

Sorry Doc... It's for the shrimp babies...

NARRATOR

Fish skips over to the door and peeks down the hallway.

FISH WITH LEGS

Holding... Cell...

NARRATOR

Down the hall, the Herovian Guard stands outside a thick steel door, turning away people trying to pass in front the room.

COPORAL DADSON

Sorry, sir, there's an amoral youth in here who was trying to do crimes. But fear not, she has been apprehended, so you can go about your day.

NARRATOR

Fish gently closes the door and paces amongst the glass shards.

(CONTINUED)

FISH WITH LEGS

What would October do...? Sneak. Sneaking. I'm sneaking! Let's sneak! Oh. Quietly.

NARRATOR

She scans the room and her eyes land on the unconscious doctor heap. She rushes over and pulls on the lab coat until it's off. She drapes it over herself like a cape. and tucks the box of inhalers under her fin. She struts to the door and strolls out into the hallway. I would love to know what the plan is here.

As she moseys to the holding cell, a doctor approaches going the other way, reading a chart in their hand. Fish with Legs gives the doctor a slight nod.

FISH WITH LEGS

Greetings, fellow doctor.

NARRATOR

The doctor gives her a half glance and nods back, not noticing she's a fish. Fish with Legs is almost at the cell, but the guard stops her.

COPORAL DADSON

Sorry doctor, there's a...

NARRATOR

He gives Fish with Legs a quizzical look, realizing, I can only assume, that she's a fish with legs in a lab coat.

COPORAL DADSON

Excuse me, doctor... You're a fish...

FISH WITH LEGS

With legs.

COPORAL DADSON

I feel like you're not a doctor...

FISH WITH LEGS

What? Of course I am. Bodily fluid. Skeleton. Pulmonary. Other doctor things.

COPORAL DADSON

I'm fairly certain fishes can't get doctorates. Or medical licenses. Or breathe outside of water.

FISH WITH LEGS

Yet here I am. Having accomplished that and more. Blazing a trail for future generations of aquatic animals, who dare to dream of a life of success on the surface.

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COPORAL DADSON

I'm gonna call this in.

FISH WITH LEGS

No! Wait!

COPORAL DADSON

Yes?

FISH WITH LEGS

Okay, although my ruse was flawless... I'll come clean...

COPORAL DADSON

Come clean? So you are a fish!

FISH WITH LEGS

Yes. I'm Fish with legs. I'm a fish with Legs. I'm the Elemental Creature of Water and I'm not a doctor... I'm here to steal inhalers for a shrimp.

COPORAL DADSON

Shrimp? Who's this shrimp? Why does he need inhalers?

FISH WITH LEGS

The girl behind that door was helping him too.

NARRATOR

He puts his hand on the hilt of his sword.

COPORAL DADSON

You work with the criminal girl? Are you part of some mystical animal criminal organization? They teach us about those at the Academy. You mystical creatures are dangerous folks.

FISH WITH LEGS

No, we're just helping a friend!

COPORAL DADSON

Why is this human helping a shrimp? Who is this shrimp? Some sort of crime lord who employs fishes and criminal girls?

FISH WITH LEGS

He's just a father. A father with a kind heart. He disguised himself as a human and sells fruit in a tent in the market.

COPORAL DADSON

So he *is* a criminal!

FISH WITH LEGS

But he's doing it all to get money to buy inhalers for his babies.

COPORAL DADSON

A shrimp?

FISH WITH LEGS

Yes.

COPORAL DADSON

In a human suit?

FISH WITH LEGS

Yes.

COPORAL DADSON

Needs inhalers?

FISH WITH LEGS

Yes. 17 of his 52 babies have asthma.

COPORAL DADSON

You keep explaining things, but somehow I keep getting more confused.

FISH WITH LEGS

He had to come up with this elaborate ruse to get around your weird Herovian laws that I don't understand.

COPORAL DADSON

Yeah, I don't understand our laws either... Or know any of them.

NARRATOR

While the guard contemplates this, the door behind him gently swings open.

COPORAL DADSON

What was--

NARRATOR

The guard quickly spins around, coming knee to face with--

FISH WITH LEGS

October!

OCTOBER

Fish with Legs?

COPORAL DADSON  
Criminal girl!

NARRATOR  
October looks up at him, quickly stows her lock picking tools and jumps to her feet.

OCTOBER  
Um... I was just--

COPORAL DADSON  
Just go.

OCTOBER  
What?

FISH WITH LEGS  
Really?

COPORAL DADSON  
I'm a father myself... I don't have anywhere near 52 children... I have a normal human number. But my daughter, a little girl not much younger than this criminal girl, has been sick her entire life. She has tree foot syndrome. Her foot is a tree. That's why I joined the Herovian Guard. They offer the most extensive family health plan in all of Herovia. The hours are long and the work is stressful, but... It costs a lot to take care of her tree foot. I can't image what this shrimp is going through with his 52 children...

FISH WITH LEGS  
That's beautiful... Mr...?

COPORAL DADSON  
Dadson. Corporal Dadson.

FISH WITH LEGS  
That's beautiful Corporal Dadson.

OCTOBER  
What's happening?

COPORAL DADSON  
The exit is just down that way.

FISH WITH LEGS  
Awesome. Let's go!

NARRATOR  
Fish hurries down the way the guard pointed.

OCTOBER

Wait! Fish with Legs!

NARRATOR

October catches up with Fish with Legs.

FISH WITH LEGS

Look, I have a cape!

NARRATOR

She shows off her fetching lab cape. Then she hands over the binoculars. October stows them in the grody bog bag.

OCTOBER

Did you sneak in to rescue me?

FISH WITH LEGS

Was that not the plan?

OCTOBER

No. But, thanks. I guess I owe you now...

FISH WITH LEGS

You don't owe me. We're best friends. I'll always come back for you!

OCTOBER

Well... I... We still need to get the--

FISH WITH LEGS

Inhalers? Got 'em!

NARRATOR

Fish shows off the box of inhalers.

OCTOBER

Oh. Then let's--

FISH WITH LEGS

Go. Look at that, we finish each others...

OCTOBER

Come on.

FISH WITH LEGS

Sentences... was your line. But whatever. We'll get there.

NARRATOR

They sneak their way down the hallway and out the clinic.

wrap up heroes

NARRATOR

Vrrrrrt. They return to Mario Nera's fruit tent. Mario is inside talking with a human customer. Fish with Legs and October enter. He turns to the customer and shoos them away.

MARIO

Sorry, ma'am. We're closed.

NARRATOR

The customer, visibly upset, stomps out. Fish with Legs does a little dance, showing off the box of inhalers.

FISH WITH LEGS

Yoo-hoo! Look what I have!

MARIO

Is that the inhalers?

FISH WITH LEGS

Yeah, it is the inhalers. I shouldn't have moved the box around. That probably made it hard to tell.

NARRATOR

Mario closes the far end of his tent. He starts to squeeze past to do the other side, but October holds up a hand to ward him off and does it herself. He looks at her meaningfully and she pops her head out, looks around and flips the sign outside from open to closed. Fish with Legs gives him the box of inhalers.

MARIO

Thank you so much.

NARRATOR

He peels off his human mask, eurgh, and wipes a single manly -- shrimplly?-- tear from his eye.

MARIO

This is the kindest thing anyone has ever done for me.

FISH WITH LEGS

You're welcome, Mr. Nera.

OCTOBER

Yep. Cool. We good here?

MARIO

Let me repay you!

(CONTINUED)



FISH WITH LEGS  
Oh no need--

OCTOBER  
Sh!

NARRATOR  
Mario turns and grabs the bowl of pearls.

MARIO  
Here.

NARRATOR  
He offers it to them. October quickly snatches it away from him over Fish's head.

FISH WITH LEGS  
We can't take th--

OCTOBER  
Yes we can.

MARIO  
I don't need human money anymore. I'm going back to my farm. Back to my children.

FISH WITH LEGS  
Oh. The little shrimp babies. Yes. Go love them.

MARIO  
I'm leaving all this behind. I'm going to spend all the time I can with my children. And thanks to you and these inhalers... they'll all grow up healthy and strong.

FISH WITH LEGS  
He's gonna spend time with his children thanks to us, October.

OCTOBER  
Yeah, cool. Thanks for the money.

FISH WITH LEGS  
(sighs) Sorry again, Mr. Nera. For... noticing you're a shrimp.

MARIO  
All is forgiven, Fish with Legs.

FISH WITH LEGS  
October?

OCTOBER  
What?

FISH WITH LEGS  
Want to say anything?

OCTOBER  
I already thanked him for the money.

FISH WITH LEGS  
(sighs) Goodbye, Mr. Nera.

MARIO  
Farewell, Fish with Legs. Swim with the tides.

OCTOBER  
Yeah, bye. Have... fun with your kids.

MARIO  
Thank you, October. I appreciate it.

NARRATOR  
October awkwardly turns and leaves the tent, blowing past the closed flap.

FISH WITH LEGS  
Wait for me!

NARRATOR  
Fish with Legs bursts out of the tent, waving after October. She hurries to catch up with her.

FISH WITH LEGS  
Ouf!

NARRATOR  
Fish with Legs runs right into a stranger.

FISH WITH LEGS  
Oh! Sorry.

STRANGER  
The fault is ours.

FISH WITH LEGS  
How polite of you, stranger. Now, I gotta hurry. Gotta catch up with my best friend.

NARRATOR  
Fish with Legs rushes ahead to October... Not paying much attention to the tall, imposing stranger, dressed head to toe in a long trench coat. Their face obscured by a tilted fedora and their popped collar. The mysterious figure lingers...

FISH WITH LEGS  
Hey there bestie!

OCTOBER  
Two first class tickets to Herovia City please.

NARRATOR  
As they walk through the market, October covertly pours the pearls into her disgusting backpack to mingle with the loose elf bread.

FISH WITH LEGS  
I hope you learned a lesson today.

OCTOBER  
I did not.

FISH WITH LEGS  
Well you--

OCTOBER  
And I don't want to.

NARRATOR  
She drops the bowl. They continue walking through the market in silence. The mysterious figure watches as Fish with Legs and October head for the train station

STRANGER  
Buzz buzz... Interesting...

NARRATOR  
Ominous... Vrrrt. October and Fish with Legs make it to station and legally acquire their tickets. They're now sitting on the platform, waiting to board a big crawly to Herovia City. They wait. They continue waiting. You wanna-- Yeah. This seems like a good spot. They're ready to continue their journey, October failed to grow as a person, and I'm pretty sure that was Bees in a Trench Coat... Lots of juicy plot threads. Let's stop.