

The Credible Adventures of October and Fish: Episode 103

Episode 103

Jones factory

NARRATOR

If you recall, we just met a Fish with Legs who escaped a blimp captained by a two headed snake set on uniting four magic creatures to release an evil monster. Our Fish then met October Jones, a regular human girl who tried to get them some help from human hero, Captain Manfred Splainer the Mighty. A plan which failed miserably.

October and Fish with Legs are now wandering away from the fair where they spoke with Manfred. October leads the way at a brisk pace. Fish has to jog a little to keep up.

FISH WITH LEGS

Where are we going?

OCTOBER

My home.

FISH WITH LEGS

Slumber party?

OCTOBER

It's the middle of the day.

FISH WITH LEGS

Please. Pretty please. I've never had one. I grew up in this secret hidden tropical paradise where I never got to have real friends. Or do anything fun. I just had to do whatever my High Priestess said... Yuck.

OCTOBER

We're not going there to sleep. My parents are very important people.

FISH WITH LEGS

You need their permission for the slumber party?

OCTOBER

We're not having a slumber party! They'll know what to do with you.

FISH WITH LEGS

How important are we talking? Because I know some pretty important people. I am one. Like me and the other Elemental Creatures... You get us in a room together and... You got some real power.

(CONTINUED)

OCTOBER

You said.

FISH WITH LEGS

Like I'm an ageless being who has existing for roughly a century kind of power.

OCTOBER

Right...

FISH WITH LEGS

Like I spent nearly my entire life protected by a bunch of secret monks because so many people would take advantage of me for their own gain kind of power.

OCTOBER

Well I'm not taking advantage of you if that's what you're trying to insinuate. I just think we can both benefit from helping each other. If I protect you and help stop Mamamorbus, then Manfred Splainer the Mighty will appreciate my efforts, and he might reconsider making me his protege. And I'll be able to move up the ladder of the Herovian Guard. And you of course will get what you want--

FISH WITH LEGS

(moving past October's interjection) So on a scale of zero to like me and my destiny stuff... Where are your parents?

OCTOBER

Um... Well, they're the exclusive hat supplier for the entire Herovian Guard.

FISH WITH LEGS

Oh wow. I assume that's very impressive.

OCTOBER

Yeah. They're a really big deal.

FISH WITH LEGS

Cool stuff... Y'know, as a fish... I have very little interest in hats.

OCTOBER

(ignoring Fish) They actually built the whole company from scratch.

FISH WITH LEGS (CONT'D)

They just don't stay on my head.

OCTOBER (CONT'D)

They're the most important thing to ever happen to this town, no question.

FISH WITH LEGS

It's the fin.

OCTOBER

They basically own Cape Cap now.

FISH WITH LEGS

Wait. So you're like... Super rich?

OCTOBER

Well... None of it is mine... I just work in the factory.

FISH WITH LEGS

Okay, that doesn't--

OCTOBER

The whole company is staffed by my siblings and their families. The Joneses are like half the population of Cape Cap.

FISH WITH LEGS

What!?

OCTOBER

Come on.

NARRATOR

Okay, so they walk some more. Fastforward? Fastforward. Vrrrrrt. Over the course of their walk, the road beneath their feet has become dirt as they cross the edge of the town. Only a few stray huts separate them from the massive looming factory. It's a big, grey, featureless square that sits like a blight on the bluff overlooking the river. Bluff? Let's just say cliff.

October and Fish go inside the monolith. The reception is a high vaulted room guarded by a young human woman at a pristine desk and an impressively detailed stone statue of a large hat. The receptionist wears a grey outfit identical to October's, but neatly pressed and not disgusting. She is entranced by her paperwork, as October and Fish approach her.

OCTOBER

Hey March, how--

MARCH 14

Name slash date of birth?

OCTOBER

October 19th 104 Jones.

FISH WITH LEGS

What? Your name is--

NARRATOR

The receptionist pulls out a big agenda and peruses it without looking up.

MARCH 14

October 19th 104? What are you doing here? You're not scheduled for today...

OCTOBER

I know. I took the day off to go to the Recruitment Fair, but while I was--

MARCH 14

You're supposed to be on vacation. And you know the policy. "Insurance will not cover any injuries that occur on the factory floor while the employee is not on shift." So it's in the entire family's best interest that you just go directly to your quarters.

OCTOBER

I just wanted to see Mom and Dad.

MARCH 14

Well Mr. and Mrs. Jones aren't here. They're out of town with January 2nd meeting with representatives from the Beret Emporium. (whispering) You didn't hear it from me... But we're buying them out. (beat) Anyways, if you want to meet with management...

NARRATOR

She shuffles her papers.

MARCH 14

September 30th 96 is here.

FISH WITH LEGS

So does everyone in your family have their birthday as their name?

OCTOBER

After the first couple dozen kids, my parents stopped naming us.

FISH WITH LEGS

Oh. Neat.

NARRATOR

March neatens her paperwork and looks up.

MARCH 14

What the Hex is that?

OCTOBER

Oh, right. March 14th, this is--

FISH WITH LEGS

Hey, I'm Fish with Legs. I'm a fish with legs. I'm the Elemental--

MARCH 14

Okay that thing cannot be in here.

OCTOBER

Well this is what I want to show Mom and Dad. She's one of four--

MARCH 14

Oh. October 19th... You know I love your tricky ways, but I can't help with any jokes right now, it's end of quarter. I don't have time for any hilariousness. Unless you're going to prank April 27th again, that was classic.

OCTOBER

Huh?

MARCH 14

When you hid his rounding jack in the hummus? And he couldn't make... (she starts giggling) You're a genius. I'm losing it just thinking about it.

OCTOBER

You're thinking of the other October 19th.

MARCH 14

Oh. Which one are you?

OCTOBER

104. That was 98.

MARCH 14

Oh. You're the off-putting government conspiracy one...

OCTOBER

Yeah.

(CONTINUED)

MARCH 14

Okay. Whatever. Still don't care about your fish. Take it somewhere else.

OCTOBER

(sighs)

NARRATOR

October and Fish step away from the reception desk and huddle for a little chat by the big hat.

OCTOBER

Let's go to my quarters.

FISH WITH LEGS

Slumber party?

OCTOBER

Nope. I have new plan.

FISH WITH LEGS

Slumber party later?

OCTOBER

Sure.

FISH WITH LEGS

Victory.

NARRATOR

October goes through a door with Fish following. It leads to the residential area. They climb a whistly staircase and go through a few more utilitarian doors.

OCTOBER'S HOME

October opens the door to a broom closet. Oh wait, I think it's her room. Sad. It's very small and cramped and without windows. The floor is littered liberally with stacks of books and sacks of dye, and the walls, where you can see them, are a constellation of thumbtack holes. But most of the space is taken up by a thick layer of her distinctive marked up maps and a bunch of Manfred merch. A lot of it looks home-made. The whole space feels obsessive and unpleasant.

October climbs and weaves her way over and through the mess to a claustrophobic living area wedged into one corner. A cot sits against the wall with a bag tucked neatly underneath.

FISH WITH LEGS

This is a nice... You live here?

(CONTINUED)

NARRATOR

October grabs the bag.

OCTOBER

Okay. This is all we need. I'm ready to go.

FISH WITH LEGS

Oh that's all we're getting?

OCTOBER

Yep. Aside from my research...

NARRATOR

She turns and gestures around at her garbage pile.

OCTOBER

This is everything I own.

NARRATOR

She pats the bag.

FISH WITH LEGS

Research?

OCTOBER

Yeah, the Herovian government has been hiding things for years. That's why I want to join the Guard. So I can get access to the truth. Mamamorbus. They claim it's not real. But it is. The Bloodthirsty Beast of Acular Forest, they claim it *is* real, I think it's a cover up. For Area 52. And Hedgehogs... There's something weird about them, right? Like those aren't normal. An adorable mouse with spikes? Sounds made up.

FISH WITH LEGS

We clearly come from different worlds. I'm accustomed to a certain level of luxury... Like back home, with the Glbclb, for at least one hour a day, I get to sit on this golden pedestal while everyone else gets in a circle and prays to me for a bountiful harvest. A lot of pressure. Which is kind of why I ran away... The pressure... And that's also kind of why I went with the snakes... They offered me luxury...

OCTOBER

You went with the snakes willingly?

FISH WITH LEGS

Well I was tired after all the running away from home I just did... And they offered me ride in a blimp and some virgin mimosas. What else do you say to that?

(CONTINUED)

OCTOBER

Um... No?

FISH WITH LEGS

Well I didn't know they were tricking me at the time.

OCTOBER

Never heard of stranger danger?

FISH WITH LEGS

They seemed very nice. Just like you.

OCTOBER

Again, I'm not tricking you if that's what you're insinuat--

FISH WITH LEGS

Okay, well I'm feeling a little attacked right now, so...

OCTOBER (CONT'D)

You asked me for help, I just--

FISH WITH LEGS

New topic! Where are we going with your bag?

OCTOBER

Oh, uh... Right. The Plains of Breezil.

FISH WITH LEGS

Whaaaaat!? Breezil! That's exactly where I want to go! I knew you'd turn out to be a great servant!

OCTOBER

You're welcome?

FISH WITH LEGS

Alright, October, tell me what's up. What's the deal BFF? What's going on in that awesome genius servant mind? You know what? Promotion. You're an adviser now. Advise me.

OCTOBER

Right. My parents aren't around, so they can't help us or give us transportation.

FISH WITH LEGS

This is bad.

OCTOBER

Yes, and the next hat shipment is only leaving at the end of the week. We can't wait around that long.

(CONTINUED)

FISH WITH LEGS

Those snakes are already on their way to get the Elemental Creature of Air.

OCTOBER

Yes, time is of the essence. But I have a solution.

FISH WITH LEGS

I knew it! I never doubted for a second. You always have a plan. Everyone knows that. You plan, I execute. Perfect record.

OCTOBER

We're going back to the Recruitment Fair and we're stealing two riding iguanas.

FISH WITH LEGS

I do not know how to ride an iguana.

OCTOBER

We're stealing one riding iguana.

FISH WITH LEGS

Perfect number of iguanas.

OCTOBER

We're riding that iguana to--

FISH WITH LEGS

Breezil!

OCTOBER

Herovia City.

FISH WITH LEGS

I thought you were going to say Breezil, but I like this too. Tell me where we're going with this.

OCTOBER

There... We'll supply up and then we can go to--

FISH WITH LEGS

Breezil. I knew it. Equal contributions to this plan.

OCTOBER

And then we can--

FISH WITH LEGS

Protect the Elemental Creature of Air and save the world from Mamamorbis.

OCTOBER

Exactly.

FISH WITH LEGS

Same page.

OCTOBER

Absolutely.

FISH WITH LEGS

Amazing. You're the best adviser a Fish could ask for.
What a genius brain. Number one adviser of all time.

OCTOBER

Thank you, Fish with Legs.

FISH WITH LEGS

Biggest brain in the world. Number one schemer. Top ten
brightest futures ever. New exclusive--

OCTOBER

I'm loving this energy, but we gotta go.

FISH WITH LEGS

Yep. You're right. Now it's my time to shine. I will
flawlessly execute your plan.

NARRATOR

So as Fish with Legs and October navigate their way out
of the supply closet, I will admit that up until this
moment, I didn't realize that Breezil is a pun... The
Elemental Creature of Air lives there, so *Breeze-il*.
Like wind. You didn't notice either? Oh good.

STEAL IGUANAS

Vrrrrt. October and Fish go back to the fair and hide
behind the same crates they used the last time they
snuck up on a tent. Five luscious iguanas decked out
with ornamental tack are chained to a post, with two
hatted guards on standby. It's some distance to the
iguanas from the crate fort, open but scattered with
smaller boxes and large barrels. It's pretty, the sun
is lower now so the space is lit with light bouncing
off the colourful tents. Oh there's Manfred, coming
from the blue tent, his personal tent. He approaches
one of the iguanas and gives it scratches around the
bridle fitted to its snout.

MANFRED SPLAINER

How are you, Cherry Blossom? You alright?

CHERRY BLOSSOM
Blarg blarg.

NARRATOR
She starts licking him. Aww.

MANFRED SPLAINER
Don't worry, we'll be out of this terrible, boring town soon.

NARRATOR
He reaches into his pocket and pulls out a dead tarantula. Cherry Blossom snatches it out of his hand and devours it.

MANFRED SPLAINER
Good girl.

NARRATOR
He gives her kisses on top of her head. Her ribbon-y lizard tongue darts out and licks Manfred all over the face. A guard approaches Manfred from behind.

GUARD
ahem

NARRATOR
Manfred spins around and composes himself.

GUARD
Sir, I have the dragonfly you requested.

NARRATOR
The guard presents Manfred with a hawk sized dragonfly that rests on his arm.

MANFRED SPLAINER
Thank you, corporal.

NARRATOR
Manfred pulls a small scroll out from his pocket and fastens it to the tail of the dragonfly.

MANFRED SPLAINER
Send this to The Citadel of the High Council. I have a suspicion I'd like to confirm about that fish...

GUARD
Yes sir.

MANFRED SPLAINER
I get presented with many strange animals with strange stories, but there was something different about this one...

GUARD

Of course, sir.

MANFRED SPLAINER

Go! What are you still standing around for!

GUARD

Oh-- I... Did you have anything else to.. I'll go.

NARRATOR

The guard awkwardly walks away as Manfred gives his iguana a last kiss.

MANFRED SPLAINER

I'll see you later, cutie.

NARRATOR

As he returns to his tent, October turns to Fish with Legs. Too far from to have heard the ominous conversation.

OCTOBER

Alright, he's gone. On my mark--

FISH WITH LEGS

Goooooo!

NARRATOR

Fish with Legs makes a mad sprint toward the iguanas! She acrobatically dodges all obstacles in her path. The guards begin pulling out their swords, but Fish with Legs karates all over them and in an instant they've dropped to the floor. October just watches and does nothing. Great hustle, October.

FISH WITH LEGS

October! Come on!

OCTOBER

Right!

NARRATOR

October runs to catch up with Fish with Legs and kneels by Cherry Blossom. She pulls some lock picking tools from her apron and gets to work on the lock keeping the iguana chained to the post.

MANFRED SPLAINER

Cherry Blossom!

NARRATOR

Manfred bursts through the rip in the back of the blue tent, presumably drawn back by the yelling and karate noises!

(CONTINUED)

OCTOBER

Got it!

NARRATOR

The lock falls as October stores her tools back in her apron.

FISH WITH LEGS

Let's go!

NARRATOR

October climbs onto Cherry Blossom's back as Manfred Splainer the Mighty barrels toward them. October scoops up Fish with Legs and throws her onto the iguana behind her.

FISH WITH LEGS

Great teamwork! What a dream team!

NARRATOR

October whips the reins wildly and without skill! Cherry Blossom rears and breaks into a lizard sprint away from the camp. Manfred chases them but falls behind as they escape beyond the outskirts of town on their stolen steed. The awkward dragonfly guard catches up with him, out of breath.

GUARD

Sir, what should we--

MANFRED SPLAINER

I want my iguana back.

GUARD

Yes sir. Shall we pursue?

MANFRED SPLAINER

Of course we're pursuing! I made a grave mistake not taking that fish when I had the chance... Why did I doubt myself!? Everything I do is always perfect.

GUARD

Indeed, sir. You are so perfect.

MANFRED SPLAINER

Let's get to work.

GUARD

Yes sir.

EPILOGUE

NARRATOR

Zzzzp. Up ahead, Cherry Blossom runs with Fish with Legs and October on her back *vrrrrrrrrrrrt* For some time. October sits in the front holding the reins while Fish with Legs holds onto her from behind. They wander into a field with Cape Cap far in the distance.

OCTOBER

Alright, girl... Slow down...

NARRATOR

Cherry Blossom does not slow down.

OCTOBER

I said slow down!

NARRATOR

October pulls tightly on the reins.

CHERRY BLOSSOM

Blarg!

FISH WITH LEGS

It doesn't seem like she's listening to you...

NARRATOR

October continues struggling to control Cherry Blossom. She clearly doesn't know how to treat a lady.

CHERRY BLOSSOM

Blarg! Blarg! Blarg!

FISH WITH LEGS

Have you... done this before?

OCTOBER

Of course! (beat) No.

CHERRY BLOSSOM

Blarg! Blarg!

FISH WITH LEGS

Could I have a try?

OCTOBER

Sure. I mean--

NARRATOR

Fish with Legs climbs over October and takes the reins. She holds them gently and pets Cherry Blossom with her fin.

(CONTINUED)

FISH WITH LEGS

Hey Cherry Blossom, listen... I know you miss your best friend, but now I'm also your best friend. And as your best friend, I'd like to say take it easy! We have a long ride coming up. We have to go all the way to Herovia City... and then Breezil... and then who knows! Maybe we'll have to find the last two Elemental Creatures! So you probably want to conserve your energy for now. I know you won't let us down, because you're a good girl, but self-care is important. And so is friend care, so what do you say?

NARRATOR

Cherry Blossom slows down.

FISH WITH LEGS

We'll have so many adventures together. What a team! October Jones, Fish with Legs and Cherry Blossom. Three best friends! Saving the world together and having lots of fun along the way.

CHERRY BLOSSOM

Blarg.

FISH WITH LEGS

Yeah, that's right.

CHERRY BLOSSOM

Blarg blarg!

OCTOBER

Thanks...

FISH WITH LEGS

Do you want to try again?

CHERRY BLOSSOM

Blarg!

OCTOBER

I think I'm good back here... I'll navigate.

FISH WITH LEGS

Satisfied sigh.

NARRATOR

October scoots further down the saddle and sits facing backward. She takes out her crazy-person notebook and flips to a map. She studies it and makes notes as she talks.

(CONTINUED)

OCTOBER

It's a three day ride to Herovia City. We'll stop to--

FISH WITH LEGS

Audible gasp!

OCTOBER

What?

FISH WITH LEGS

Three day ride?

OCTOBER

Yeah. Is that an--

FISH WITH LEGS

So... We'll have to camp?

OCTOBER

Yeah... And there are some towns between Cape Cap and Herovia--

FISH WITH LEGS

So... All I'm hearing is... Slumber party.

CHERRY BLOSSOM

Blarg!

FISH WITH LEGS

Uh and now we're three. So it's a real slumber party!

OCTOBER

Yeah... Sure... Slumber party.

CHERRY BLOSSOM

Blarg! Blarg!

OCTOBER

Why not.

NARRATOR

She pulls out a worn coloured pencil from her apron pocket and starts to draw. Fish snags a piece of grass as they leave the clearing and puts it in her mouth. And so our heroes continue to ride through large swathes of mind-numbingly identical forest.

STINGER

NARRATOR

Eh? Are you sure? Well Muscular Giraffe is a pretty attractive package, I can't fault you there. Plus I get a real kick out of those bees. Okay, you convinced me. Meanwhile, back on the blimp... oh, neither of them are there. But the two-headed snake is there, sitting at the boardroom table in their fancy ergonomic snake chair.

SIMON

(groaning)

SARFUNKEL

Simon. What's--

SIMON

What are we going to do, Sarfunkel?

SARFUNKEL

I have a plan, brother. And although the fish--

SIMON

We lost the fish, we have no idea where the Elemental Creature of Earth is and we are still woefully unprepared to capture the Elemental Creature of Air!

SARFUNKEL

As I was saying, brother. I have it all under control.

SIMON

Do you Sarfunkel?

NARRATOR

The swarm of bees in a trench coat enter.

BEES IN A TRENCH COAT

Buzz Buzz... You summoned us Master Sarfunkel... Buzz buzz...

SARFUNKEL

Ah. Bees in a Trench Coat. Thank you for coming.

BEES IN A TRENCH COAT

Buzz buzz... How can we help you, sir...? Buzz buzz...

SARFUNKEL

The closest settlement to where we lost the fish was a small town called Cape Cap. Go there and see if you can find out where our friend has gone.

(CONTINUED)

BEES IN A TRENCH COAT

Buzz buzz... Of course Master Sarfunkel... Buzz buzz...
Will that be all...? Buzz buzz...

SARFUNKEL

Yes, Bees in a Trench Coat. Thank you.

BEES IN A TRENCH COAT

Very well sir.

NARRATOR

The bees bow and leave the room.

SARFUNKEL

While Bees in a trench Coat hunt down the fish with
legs. You and I will help Muscular Giraffe prepare for
the assault on the Elemental Creature of Air's temple.
Nothing will stop us from freeing Mamamorbus.

SIMON

Oh Sarfunkel, you always know just what to say...

NARRATOR

Oooh Ominous. But sweet. I'm hungry. Are you hungry? I
could go for some soup. Let's stop.