Have Monster, Will Travel Episode 13: QuackSquatch!

(A ski slope ... in May. Up above, the whirring of a chairlift.)

TAIWAN

Render, it's my turn.

RENDER

Hold on.

TAIWAN

You're hogging them. I want to see the binoculars.

RENDER

What would you do with them?

TAIWAN

Umm ... hello?

RENDER

I mean, what would you look thru them with?

(TAIWAN taps the glass of his monitor.)

Here.

I do not understand your physiology.

TAIWAN

Hold me up, I can't see.

RENDER

Alright, hold on.

(RENDER picks up TAIWAN 1000.)

TAIWAN

Crypto-Curious, today we are an unusual sight hidden amongst yet another unusual sight.

RENDER

Are you doing the intro?



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TAIWAN

I don't ever get to do the intro.

RENDER

No, keep going, you're doing great. That was a solid opener.

TAIWAN

Normally, this vista offers a crisp and chilly panorama of thick snow and long slopes, of missing gloves and frozen snot-cicles - but today! - as Memorial Day approaches, and Summer hits its snooze button for a final time, this windswept crag is transformed into a boulder-flecked playground of hiking trails and selfie stations, all beneath a circling network of active chair lifts.

RENDER

Ok, can I just say, wow. I mean, truly impressive. I think my heart is racing, a little.

TAIWAN

Welcome, Crypto-Curious to the "Your GPS doesn't work out here anyway Ski Resort:" four chair lifts, all leading up to the tippy-top where you'll find not only a quaint ski lodge, but a gondola ready to whisk you away to the next peak.

It's the Great Outdoors, it's an All-Season Adventure. It's the perfect spot for a pair of daring, chiseled monsters and some gross-gross lady to set ... a trap.

Hey! She's waving. It's starting.

(The bottom of the mountain. A ski lift.)

SOME TEEN

Okay, next pair step forward.

BUNION

Oh. It's just me!

SOME TEEN

Lift ticket.

BUNION

Sorry. It's in my bag, one second.

SOME TEEN

It's supposed to be visible the entire time, sir. That's why we make it a sticker.

BUNION

It might have fallen to the bottom.



SOME TEEN Step to the side, you'll catch the next chair.
BUNION Here it is!
SOME TEEN Step forward. Watch for the back of the chair.
Come on forward, we've got room for one more.
RILEY Hi, Eric.
BUNION Riley!
SOME TEEN And sit.
(Plop. Oof.)
BUNION What are you doing here?
RILEY Oh Eric, Eric, Eric.
SOME TEEN Watch the bar.
BUNION No, no! I want off.
SOME TEEN Hold onto your possessions, don't rock the chair lift, enjoy your ride.
RILEY Thanks Landen!
SOME TEEN It's Camden.

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ERIC

What are you doing here? Did you follow me?

RILEY

No, Eric - we didn't follow you.

We led you here.

(meanwhile:)

RENDER

Pretty simple plan, all told:

TAIWAN

It was Render's idea.

RENDER

Bunion, trapped in a chairlift with nowhere to go. All Riley has to do is drop the menagerie down to us. We make a break for the Safari while the they're trapped heading up the mountain.

TAIWAN

Riley spent the last three days finding the fastest route down.

RENDER

She makes it back down and This-is-Us-a-Leavin' with the Menagerie.

TAIWAN

And - to make sure Professor Bunion showed ...

RENDER

Right. I made up a brand new monster and posted a bunch of sightings on -

(the chairlift.)

BUNION

eMonsterly.com - This was you?

RILEY

Uh-huh.

BUNION

I didn't know you were on eMonsterly.



RILEY

I know you didn't know that.

(BUNION pulls a sheet of paper from his bag.)

BUNION

"A trio of monsters living together as one organism."

RILEY

Think about it ...

"A little one inside a middle one, the middle	BUNION one inside the big one."
Uh-huh	RILEY
Wings, talons, a shrieking call	BUNION
It's a turducken.	RILEY
You made this up?	BUNION
I just spent so much money on this lift ticke	t.
Oh, relax, Eric. It's gonna be ok.	RILEY
It is?	BUNION
No not really.	RILEY
(RILEY lunges. BUNION yelps.)	

(meanwhile:)

TAIWAN Alright - they're both coming up the mountain.



RENDER

Hey look! A glove.

TAIWAN

Render, pay attention.

RENDER

What? We're just waiting. This is the easy part.

TAIWAN

I'm just saying - sometimes you get distracted.

RENDER

I do not.

This is a nice glove. Do you think we should keep it?

TAIWAN

What would you do with one glove?

RENDER

I don't know. It would be the perfect holder if we had five nice sticks.

TAIWAN

Do you have five nice sticks?

RENDER

No.

TAIWAN

Ok, then.

RENDER Doesn't have to be sticks. It could be ... utensils? A spoon, a knife, a fork

TAIWAN

Chopsticks?

RENDER

A pair of chopsticks. That's perfect.

TAIWAN

This is why I say you get distracted.



RENDER

I'm putting it down. But one of these days, you're gonna wish we had one of these.

(Nearby, a bush rustles.)

TAIWAN

RENDER

Ok, they're coming up. Maybe two minutes.

Did you hear that?

TAIWAN

Come on, duck out of sight.

(And now, maybe ... pecking.)

RENDER

Taiwan 1000, what is that?

TAIWAN

Stop it. Focus.

(a little *amuse bouche* of sound.)

RENDER

It's like right next to us.

TAIWAN

Render, this is not the time.

(A monster hops out of the bushes. Squatch Squawk!)

RENDER

Are you seeing this!

(They stare at each other. Squatch Squawk!)

TAIWAN

What is that?

RENDER

It's a turducken!

(THEME SONG.)



RILEY

Let go!

BUNION

No! You let go!

(Oh, the tugging! Oh, the wrenching! Oh, the grunting!)

Cut it out, you're rocking the chair.

RILEY

Oh, do you not like it when the ... CHAIR ROCKS!

(BUNION screams.)

(down below.)

RENDER

I mean ... have you ever -

TAIWAN

Clearly I have never.

RENDER

You're beautiful! I mean ... you're kind of an ugly turkey, but you're wonderful.

[to TAIWAN:] See if they'll eat a graham cracker.

(TAIWAN pops out a graham cracker. Squatch Squawk!)

RENDER / TAIWAN

Whoa!

TAIWAN

There's a little duck head inside that turkey head.

RENDER

And a chicken head inside that duck head!

TAIWAN

See if they'll eat the glove.

RENDER

Oh, come on - you can't feed a wild animal a -



(Squatch Squawk! GULP!)

(RENDER and TAIWAN scream.)

RENDER (cont.)

Well ... at least there weren't any nice sticks in it.

(up top.)

BUNION

Ow! Cut it out!

RILEY

Well give it to me and I'll quit.

Yow!

Did you just deadleg me? What are you, a middle school boy?!

BUNION

RILEY

You kicked me in the shin first. Hey! Stop that.

What's wrong, Eric? Ticklish?

BUNION

No, I'm not, but don't ... Hey! AAAHHH!!!

(down below.)

RENDER

Do you think they'll let me pet them?

TAIWAN

I think they'll bite you ... which would probably leave a fun mark. Like a spirograph.

RENDER

No way. You're sweet, aren't you?

(Squatch Squawk!)

(They scream.)

(BUNION'S bag hits the ground next to them.)



Hey! Look, Bunion's bag.	TAIWAN
Riley did it!	RENDER
Alright, let's get out of here.	TAIWAN
Well, we can't leave them here.	RENDER
What are you talking about?	TAIWAN
We can't just walk away.	RENDER
Yes we can. We came for the Menagerie. Safari.	TAIWAN We have the Menagerie. It's time to get back to the
And just leave them? What if a passing hild	RENDER ker finds them?
Well we can't take them with us.	TAIWAN
I mean	RENDER
Ok. Think about how much a chicken poor	TAIWAN os.
A lot.	RENDER
Think about how much a duck poops.	TAIWAN
A lot.	RENDER
	TAIWAN



Think about how much a turkey poops.

RENDER

Big ole question mark.

TAIWAN

And now amplify it. Riley isn't going to let them live in the van.

RENDER

Ok - I'm not saying we let them live with us, which would probably be really cool. I'm just saying we transport them to somewhere more remote.

I mean, look how helpless they look.

TAIWAN

Wait ... where'd they go?

Oh! Hey! Get away from there.

RENDER

No no no, little buddy, that's not for you. That's our bag.

TAIWAN

Oo! Don't peck at that.

RENDER

Oh! What's this I have here? Probably food ...

TAIWAN

Are you just rubbing your fingers together?

RENDER

What? It works on dogs. Come here, little fella.

(QUACKSQUATCH! Inhales BUNION'S bag in a single bite.)

RENDER / TAIWAN

No!

RENDER

They just swallowed the whole thing!

TAIWAN

How did it fit inside such a little body?



(QUACKSQUATCH! Coughs, dry heaves, and then ...)

Blech - are they gonna vomit?

(GULP.)

RENDER

That's bad.

(QUACKSQUATCH squawks, turns and runs off into the bushes.)

No no no!

TAIWAN

Wait, come back!

RENDER

What do we do?

TAIWAN

What do you mean, what do we do? We have to get that bag back. The Menagerie!

RENDER

Right ...

Follow that bird!

Follow ... those birds.

Follow ... that ... birds?

Go!

(up top.)

BUNION

RILEY

TAIWAN

Oh, are you serious! My phone was in there.

Did you get insurance on it?



BUNION It's gonna take me forever to get down there and find it.
RILEY Are you serious? You're not going to find it. That's the whole point. The Menagerie is ours now. By the time you get off this mountain, we'll be long gone.
BUNION And how exactly do you plan on beating me down the mountain?
RILEY You think you're faster than me?
BUNION I ran cross country in high school.
RILEY Did you run in college?
BUNION No.
RILEY Do you run now?
BUNION No.
RILEY You think all that high school athleticism hung around?
BUNION

RILEY

I'll be honest, you should probably start getting the insurance.

BUNION

No.

Maybe.

RILEY

Alright. Might be an exciting race. Of course, I don't know how you're gonna keep up WITHOUT YOUR SHOES!



(RILEY lunges for BUNION'S shoes.)

	BUNION
Hey! Cut that out! Let go!	
Quit kicking!	RILEY
Stop it!	BUNION
	RILEY
Are you ticklish down here?	
No! WAAHHHH!	BUNION
(RILEY tosses a pair of shoes.)	
Oh, come on!	
That's what you get for not tying your laces think about your ankles!	RILEY 5. Pff. Low top sneakers on a mountain - at your age -

BUNION

You think you're so clever.

RILEY

Yeah. I do.

BUNION

You've beaten me. You've got the Menagerie. But I know something you don't. You haven't won what you think you have.

I've been all thru that book. The Big Guy? He's not in it.

RILEY

You're just saying that.

BUNION

You'll see.

And I bet you've started putting together what I have. I've combed thru every forum there is, called friends. No one's ever heard of a Rubilee.



You know how bad your luck has to be when even Cryptozoologists don't think you're real?

RILEY

... Maybe that's because you're all hacks.

BUNION

If you say so.

Try and enjoy the victory today. Because I'm going to get my book back. And i'm going to capture the Big Guy. And when I introduce him to the world, I'm gonna get all the glory that's been coming my way.

Arm up!	SOME TEEN
Oh! Hey, Mom's house key is in that bag	BUNION !
Eric! You're supposed to put it back.	RILEY
I know that, Riley!	BUNION
Lift the arm please!	SOME TEEN
Watch your step.	
See ya at the bottom, Professor Bunion.	RILEY
This the guy?	SOME TEEN
That's him!	RILEY
Sir, can you wait right there? I need to se	SOME TEEN ee a lift ticket.
Are you serious?	BUNION



RILEY

Thanks, Devin!

SOME TEEN

It's Declan!

Everyone has to have a visible lift ticket. That's why we made it a sticker.

BUNION

I have a lift ticket. How do you think I got on here?

SOME TEEN

Don't know - that's something you're gonna have to settle back down at the bottom.

BUNION

Oh, come on!

(RENDER and TAIWAN, some distance away.)

(QUACKSQUATCH! Is pecking at something on the ground.)

RENDER

Hey! They're over here!

Hi, little buddy. You were hard to find.

(TAIWAN ambles up, out of breath.)

You ok?

TAIWAN

Yeah, I'm fine, I just ... feel like I'm dying a little bit.

RENDER

Oh. Do we need to blow our your fan again?

TAIWAN

No, it's not that. I just got like a ... killer cramp in my side.

RENDER

Yeah, I really don't understand your physiology.

TAIWAN



How are you not dying? You had canned tamales for lunch.

RENDER

Just as a snack.

TAIWAN

I just need to sit down for a second. Render, why didn't you carry me?

RENDER

Sorry, I panicked.

TAIWAN

So much running. Alright, I'm gonna rest here. I think it's passing. Go! And get the Menagerie back!

RENDER

What do you mean get it back? Get it back how?

TAIWAN

You know ... reach in.

RENDER

Reach in!

TAIWAN

Well what's your idea: wring its neck, cut it open?

RENDER

Oo - don't say that.

Ok then ... Reach in.

RENDER

TAIWAN

You do it.

TAIWAN

Oh, that's a good idea. I guess I was just thinking that the monster with the ACTUAL HAND would be better equipped.

RENDER

But I don't want to get bit. You've got a metal casing.

TAIWAN



Hmm... Which one of us was swallowed most recently?

RENDER

Oh - if you're gonna bring it back to that.

TAIWAN

I am bringing it back to that.

RENDER

Fine. I'll reach in.

TAIWAN

Look, they swallowed that bag whole. You're not going to hurt them. Just ... open their mouth, reach in, grab the bag, yank it out.

RENDER

Hi there ... Oh, no no! It's ok. It's ok - I'm not gonna hurt you.

[to TAIWAN:] Can you come over here?

TAIWAN

What for?

RENDER

I don't know - moral support. Or in case I need help.

(TAIWAN walks over to RENDER and QUACKSQUATCH!)

TAIWAN

Do they look like they've gotten bigger to you?

RENDER

I don't think so.

They're, like, taller than me now.

RENDER

TAIWAN

You're the same size. Calm down.

TAIWAN

Alright, now get in there, Tiger!



What? That was moral support.

RENDER

Yeesh.

Hi there. Can I pet you? Oh yeah, you like neck scratchies don't you. That's because everybody likes neck scratchies. Oh, right there? Right there?!

Ok, now we're just gonna open up your little beak here. Oh! Hi there, Number 2! How are you today? You don't mind if I peek at -

(QUACKSQUATCH! Swallows RENDER'S whole arn. RENDER and TAIWAN 1000 do not respond well to this.)

(meanwhile:)

RILEY

[out of breath:] Alright Crypto-Curious, even tho it's all downhill it's still a lot of running. Man, I'm glad I didn't eat any of those canned tamales.

Not certain, but I think I'm a little over halfway down. Shouldn't be too much longer before I'm back at the Safari.

I'm just gonna have to trust that Render and Taiwan 1000 made it back by now.

God I can't wait to be off this mountain.

(from off, the sound of running and then something fierce and fast collides with RILEY, knocking her down.)

FIREBRAND

Hey! Watch where you're going!

RILEY

Watch where I'm going? You ran into me.

Whoa - the Firebrand!

FIREBRAND

What did you just say to me?

RILEY

Firebrand! It's me, Riley.



FIREBRAND

... pass.

RILEY

No, we've met before.

FIREBRAND

I don't think so. I mean, if we'd met before, I would have ripped your head off. And you've still got your head so ...

RILEY

Yeah, I know - we did this whole bit last time.

FIREBRAND

Really?

RILEY

Yeah.

FIREBRAND

Wow. Maybe you've just got a really unmemorable face. Has anybody ever told you that before?

RILEY

No, I guess I've got that to look forward to.

FIREBRAND

RILEY

I mean I guess I could rip your head off now.

Eeeee...

[to herself:] No. Too busy.

Ok, here's what we're gonna do. You stay here. I'm going to run ahead, kill this thing I gotta kill, then I'll come back, rip your head off, we'll do the whole thing, make a big show of it.

FIREBRAND

RILEY

Oh I do not like this.

FIREBRAND

Look, no offense, I'm sure you're perfectly terrible, but I'm in a hurry.



RILEY

Wait!

FIREBRAND

Seriously. What.

RILEY

What are you here to kill?

FIREBRAND

For your sake, pray you never find out. Now, if you'll excuse me, I'm on the hunt.

(The FIREBRAND stops and sniffs.)

I've been tracking it all day. The scent was super strong this morning. But now there's like a second smell, a way stronger smell, and it's clouding my sense of direction.

It's like ... beef and chili and ... corn husk?

RILEY

Like a tamale?

FIREBRAND

Oh! Yes. That's it, exactly!

Anyway - gotta go. See you in a bit. Keep your head on!

(The FIREBRAND rushes off.)

RILEY

No, wait!

RILEY (cont.)

Snot otter.

Alright, Crypto-Curious, looks like we're heading back up the mountain.

Oh. That's a nice glove ... just the one, huh? Oh well...

(RILEY tosses the glove down and runs off.)

(meanwhile:)



(RENDER and TAIWAN 1000 are screaming. QUACKSQUATCH! Isn't having too good a time, either.)

TAIWAN

How is your whole arm fitting in there?

.,, ...

RENDER

TAIWAN

RENDER

It's surprisingly roomy in here.

Well do you feel the bag.

What?!

TAIWAN

The reason your hand is in there!

RENDER

Sorry - it's just really hard to stay on task with all three of them staring at me like this.

TAIWAN

Render, focus. Find the bag, and then we can pull your arm out.

RENDER

I'm telling you, I'm reaching around in every direction and I don't feel anything. I mean, I don't even feel the inside of the turducken.

TAIWAN

How is it so spacious inside?

Ok, new plan. You're gonna have to put your other arm in.

RENDER

What!

TAIWAN

You'll cover more ground that way.

RENDER

I am not putting my other arm inside.

TAIWAN

Well then I guess this is just what you look like now.



	RENDER
Ok, fine! I'll put in my other Ohhhh.	
Hi, Turducken. Sorry, I just need to open u	ip a little more. I'm just gonna try and put my hand -
(GULP!)	
(Screams all around.)	
Did that help?	TAIWAN
It does not feel like it helped, no.	RENDER
(RILEY rushes on.)	
Render!	RILEY
Riley!	RENDER
What are you doing to that turkey?	RILEY
Not a turkey.	TAIWAN
that poor, poor, sickly-looking - Oh! Not	RILEY a turkey! RENDER
We found an actual turducken!	
I don't know that "found' is the right verb, I	RILEY ove.
What are you doing?	
But also - and maybe more importantly - h	iow?
But also - let's not disregard - why?	
What is happening?!	



RENDER

They swallowed the menagerie.

RILEY

That can't be a real sentence.

TAIWAN

They walked into our clearing just before you dropped the bag. They swallowed, ran off, and here we are.

RILEY

I feel like that story's missing a couple of key moments, but ok.

Render, do you have the bag?

RENDER

I cannot stress how big the inside of this bird is.

RILEY

What can I do to help?

TAIWAN

He has to find the Menagerie.

RILEY

Right. Ok, I have an idea. I'm gonna pick up the turducken by the feet and try to shift its stomach contents back up towards the mouth.

RENDER

RILEY

Oo, that doesn't sound humane.

Do you have a better idea?

RENDER

Just be ... gentle.

RILEY

... sure.

(RILEY picks up QUACKSQUATCH by the legs and dangles it.)



Alright Render, get as low as you can.

(RILEY and RENDER groan. QUACKSQUATCH isn't faring much better.)

Ok, I'm gonna shake now.

RENDER

Oh! Alright - things are on the move in here. Feels like there's a - maybe someone's keys. And ... Oh! There's a glove ... there's another glove. And maybe ... a flashlight, no. That feels like a selfie stick .

RILEY

Render ... focus please.

RENDER

Alright ... No. No. No. Wait! I feel a strap. Yes. Yes! It's definitely attached to something. I think this is it.

Do you have a good grip on it?	RILEY
I think so.	RENDER
On three, pull.	RILEY
One. Two. Three!	
(RILEY and RENDER pull. Scre	ams abound.)
Are you pulling?	RILEY (cont.)
What do you think I'm doing?	RENDER
Alright - keep going!	RILEY
They have got a strong grip.	RENDER
	RILEY



Taiwan 1000 - a little help please.

Taiwan 1000 - a little help please.
TAIWAN What do you want me to do?
RILEY I don't know!
TAIWAN I'm gonna hit them with my keyboard.
RENDER Oh, don't do that.
(TAIWAN 1000 starts whacking QUACKSQUATCH on the head with his keyboard. It just sounds horrible over here.)
l'm so sorry.
(And then, QUACKSQUATCH vomits up BUNION'S bag.)
ALL
Blech.
HEY!!!
(QUACKSQUATCH runs away, for obvious reasons.)
RENDER Wait! Come back!
RILEY Render, check inside. Make sure we have it.
(RENDER opens up the bag, pulls out:)
Oh, thank god.

Is that it?

RENDER

TAIWAN

Yeah. This is it.



Alright - come on, if we hurry, we should be able to catch up to the turducken.

RILEY

Render, that's not a good idea.

RENDER

We can't leave them out here.

TAIWAN

Umm ... they seem perfectly capable of defending themselves.

RILEY

Bunion is still somewhere out here - we need to get the plan back on track.

RENDER

Riley - what if something happens to them.

RILEY

That's my point - listen, we're not the only ones out here interested in that thing.

FIREBRAND

It's not a thing.

(The FIREBRAND enters the clearing.)

TAIWAN

RILEY

Whoa! It's the firebrand!

You know her?

TAIWAN

I recognize her voice.

What? Do you think I only listen to the episodes that I'm in?

RENDER

I just didn't know you had listened thru the whole back catalog.

TAIWAN

What kind of monster doesn't listen to every single episode of their friend's podcast.

RILEY

Hey, you're preaching to the choir.



RENDER

Well ... what do you think?

TAIWAN

It's fun listening to the early episodes come together.

RENDER

Well that doesn't sound promising.

TAIWAN

I like the Paladin episode.

RILEY

That's a good episode.

FIREBRAND

RENDER

I'm sorry, but can we bring the attention back to me?

Firebrand!

FIREBRAND

Wait ... what are you doing?

(RENDER picks up FIREBRAND in a big bear hug.)

FIREBRAND (cont.)

Put me down! Put me down!

[sniffing:] So you're the one that smells like tamales.

TAIWAN

We tend not to mention it.

FIREBRAND

Can you put me down, please?

RENDER

Sure. Sorry. It's just so good to see you.

FIREBRAND

Well of course it is. I'm wonderful.

RENDER



No, I just mean ... It's me! Render.

FIREBRAND

Uh-huh?

RILEY

I already went thru all this, Lounge Act. She doesn't remember us.

FIREBRAND

And you are?

RILEY

We met like ten minutes ago.

FIREBRAND

No ... If we'd met before I would have -

RILEY

Ripped my head off, yeah. We did this whole thing.

FIREBRAND

Maybe you've got a -

Here it comes ...

FIREBRAND

RILEY

- unmemorable face.

TAIWAN

Could be. Could be.

RILEY

Well this is gonna be a whole thing now.

TAIWAN

Well, I know we haven't met before. Taiwan 1000, big fan. Love all of the people-destroying head stuff.

FIREBRAND

And where's the other one?

RENDER

Other one?



Ren, no.	
You mean the turducken?	RENDER
The what?	FIREBRAND
You know - turducken: turkey stuffed w	RENDER <i>v</i> ith a duck stuffed with a chicken.
That's dumb. What you just said right t	FIREBRAND here. Dumb.
Well no need to be rude about it.	RENDER
She's hunting them.	RILEY
Hunting?	RENDER
The QuackSquatch? Obviously.	FIREBRAND
QuackSquatch?	RILEY
That's a cool name.	TAIWAN
But is it really any less ridiculous.	RILEY
Where are they?	FIREBRAND
Why are you hunting them?	RENDER

RILEY

FIREBRAND



430

Why? Why?! Because I'm a Firebrand. Because they're a QuackSquatch. What other explanation do you need?

RENDER

Oh. Uh. I guess just more in general.

FIREBRAND

If you don't tell me what happened to the QuackSquatch this instant, I'm going to -

Rip your head off.

RILEY

ALL

Aww man, three for three - good job, team.

TAIWAN

That felt good. That felt good.

(The FIREBRAND roars.)

RILEY / RENDER / TAIWAN

They went that way!

FIREBRAND

... You're all pointing different directions.

RILEY / RENDER / TAIWAN

Oh. Umm. Hmm. HYUP!

FIREBRAND

Alright. You three had better not be lying.

(The FIREBRAND runs off, down the mountain.)

RILEY

Well, that was a close one. Listen, we gotta get out of here.

RENDER

You're not serious. We're not gonna let the Firebrand go thru with this, are we?

RILEY

Render, we have the Menagerie. We have a shrinking head start on Bunion. We have our own problems to worry about. And now you want to get mixed up in a hunt between one terrifying monster and different, slightly more terrifying monster?



• • •

Of course you do. Because that's who you are.

Alright. Let's go save QuackSquatch.	TAIWAN
Is that what we're calling them?	RILEY
It's a lot of fun to say.	TAIWAN
QuackSquatch.	RENDER
Well, they ran back up the mountain, so	RILEY that's fun.

TAIWAN

Creates another problem for us, tho. I mean, what do we do if we find them? Once we get to the top, we're trapped.

RILEY

No, we're not.

Ok. We split up. You two run up ahead and find them. Once you do, meet me at the gondola. We'll escape to the next mountain over.

What are you gonna do?

RILEY

RENDER

I'm gonna figure out some way for three monsters to take a very public ride without it getting ... weird.

TAIWAN

Render, pick me up.

RENDER

You got it.



(They start off.)

RILEY

[calling after them:] Just make sure you find that QuackSquatch!

Oh, that is fun.

(The Gondola.)

And it's this button to close the doors.

Uh huh.

SOME TEEN

RILEY

And this one to start the gondola.

SOME TEEN

Thaťs it.

RILEY And you're just gonna go find something to do for the next twenty minutes or so?

SOME TEEN

Eighty bucks?

Eighty bucks.

SOME TEEN

RILEY

RILEY

Whatever. Not like they'll fire me anyway.

(SOME TEEN saunters off.)

Unbelievable.

(From a distant treeline can be heard:)

RENDER

Riley!

<mark>/</mark>33

RILEY

Render!

Oh my god!

TAIWAN

I told you they were getting bigger.

RILEY

What did you do to them?

RENDER

We didn't do anything! We just found them like this.

RILEY Well get it onto the gondola. Hurry. I'm ready to get out of here.

TAIWAN

Are we really gonna ride in there with them?

RILEY

It's the only way to make sure they get away safe.

RENDER

You think the gondola will hold us all?

Don't ask questions like that.

RENDER

RILEY

Right. Ok, let's go.

RILEY

Hop on. I'm gonna press these two buttons and squeeze on before the doors close.

BUNION

I don't think so!

(BUNION has run up, bedraggled, out of breath, on the edge of something:)

RILEY

Bunion, what are you doing here?

TAIWAN



What's he doing in his socks?

BUNION

I told you. I told you you wouldn't get away from me.

Oh. A glove. Eh. the leather's cracked.

I want my book!

(BUNION tosses the glove.)

RILEY

Well you can't have it.

BUNION

Don't you see? You can't get away from me. You're not clever enough.

RILEY

And that's coming from you?

BUNION

The two of you, bumbling around like you know what you're doing. You act like you're so much better. You tried to run me off at the Unmentionables, but I came back. You destroyed my car at the Paladin, but I found you again. You stranded me with an UkUk - you tried to trample me under a Teen Horse - but I keep coming back.

TAIWAN

Teen horse?

RENDER

What is he talking about?

RILEY

Eric, listen, this isn't safe. We're not alone right now. You need to turn and walk away.

BUNION

Nice try. Hey Big Guy! Did she tell you? You're not in the Menagerie. You don't exist on the forums. You don't exist anywhere.

You can keep riding around with Riley, if you want to - but at some point you're gonna have to realize that she doesn't have the skills to help you figure out who you are. Why don't you bring me my book. I'll help you find where you're from.

RENDER

Don't you have to get your mother's permission first?



BUNION

I want the Aghast! Menagerie - and I want it now!

(BUNION screams and charges forward.)

RENDER

Riley, look out.

(A close call, a crashing THUD!, a button pressed and the sounds of closing doors.)

TAIWAN That was close. Everyone ok?
Yeah. You?
RENDER Something is going on with that guy.
RILEY Yeah, that's a man mid-crisis.
(BUNION pounds on the glass.)
Let me out!
RENDER So, we can't leave him in there.
RILEY No, but I don't want to let him out either.
RENDER mean it can't be safe to be the only one in there with a QuackSquatch!
TAIWAN So which button starts it is it this one?!
RILEY





(TAIWAN 1000 presses the second button and the gondola rocks into motion.)

BUNION

Hey! No. Stop that. Bring this back.

Wait. What are you?

(Squatch Squawk.)

Whoa! Ok. It's ok. Your kind only attacks living prey. So if I just lay down like this ...

RENDER

[calling off:] I wouldn't try that.

(Squatch Squawk.)

BUNION

RENDER

RILEY

Ok! Well, you never know, sometimes it works. Gotta try it.

(Squatch Squawk.)

Ow!

He's gonna be fine, right?

He's gonna be totally fine.

He's a pro.

FIREBRAND

TAIWAN

You three again?!

(THEY turn around. The FIREBRAND is directly behind them.)

TAIWAN

Firebrand!

RENDER

You recognized us.



RILEY

That can't be good.

FIREBRAND

Is that the QuackSquatch?

RENDER

It's too late. Pretty soon they'll be on that other mountain. You'll never reach them in time. You're just gonna have to hunt something else.

FIREBRAND

You let it escape?! What is wrong with you? Do you realize what you've done?

RENDER

You were hunting it.

FIREBRAND

Of course I was hunting it. It's a QuackSquatch. If someone doesn't kill them, they'll destroy us all!

RENDER

I'm sorry, what now?

FIREBRAND

Don't you know what a QuackSquatch is?

TAIWAN

Oo - I think we're about to learn something.

FIREBRAND

You know how a goldfish will only grow as large as its bowl?

Uh-huh.

RENDER

FIREBRAND

Well, A QuackSquatch eats the goldfish. And then they eat the bowl. And then they eat their owners. And then they eat the pet store.

A QuackSquatch will never stop being hungry, will never stop eating, will never stop growing. That's why we kill them before they're an hour old, because by then it's almost always too late.

RILEY

Less than an hour old, you say.



FIREBRAND

You better hope I reach that other peak in time ... or you three snot otters will have doomed us all.

Gah! Rip your heads off!!!

(The FIREBRAND runs off screaming.)

RENDER

So that hit different.

RILEY

Yeah.

RENDER

RILEY

Kinda took all the pizazz out of finally getting the Menagerie.

It did. It did do that.

RENDER

Should we call and warn Bunion?

RILEY

We have his phone in the bag.

RENDER

Oh. Ok then.

Is it weird that that kid has no idea there are two monsters standing right here.

RILEY

Dude, tell me about it. All day it's been like this. I offered him eighty bucks to let me work the gondola. He agreed and just walked off. I didn't even pay him. He has no idea.

RENDER

I mean, whatever's on his phone can't be that interesting...

RILEY

It's the haircut. You ever meet a teenage boy with that haircut ... they're oblivious.

Watch this:



We're all done now, thanks Richard!

It's Bridger.	SOME TEEN
ok.	RILEY
start heavy breathing/contractions Ow!	TAIWAN
Taiwan 1000, you alright?	RILEY
He's been getting cramps like this all day	RENDER
They're not cramps. They're contractions	TAIWAN
Riley. Riley?!	
Yeah, I'm right here.	RILEY
You gotta get me out of here.	TAIWAN
I think I'm going into labor.	
(1	end of episode.)



CREDITS

ALEXX

Hi, this is Alexx Rouse, your favorite Firebrand. *Have Monster, Will Travel* features the vocal talents of Jordan Trovillion as Riley Kate, Paul Kerford Wilson as Render, Neil Batra as Taiwan 1000, Dave Powell as the disturbingly handsome Professor Bunion -

DAVE

Well it's about time!

ALEXX

Grayson Halonen as Teenage Boys with "that haircut," Grayson Halonen, Zach Robinson and Trey Tatum as QuackSquatch! and me, Alexx Rouse. Today's episode was written by Trey Tatum and directed by Bridget Leak.

Have Monster, Will Travel is a production of Queen City Flash out of Cincinnati, Ohio. More information, including transcripts can be found at QueenCityFlash.com

And as they say where we're from:

"My god, Bryce! You didn't slice it in half, you only made two of them!"

