

**Have Monster, Will Travel**  
**Episode 10 : See Ya Later, Monster-Gator**

(A campfire. Crickets. The woods.)

**RILEY**

Are you done?

**RENDER**

No.

**RILEY**

Okay because mine is getting cold.

**RENDER**

It has to be perfect.

**RILEY**

You're not close enough.

**RENDER**

I am.

**RILEY**

Can I help you?

**RENDER**

That is hilarious.

**RILEY**

What?

**RENDER**

Yeah, if I want mine burnt to a crisp, I'll ask.

**RILEY**

[Sigh...] Taiwan 1000, would you like help?



**TAIWAN**

I wouldn't let you help me if you were the last human on Earth.

Of course, if you were the last human on earth, I could push you into the fire and then there would be no humans left.

I could use some help.

**RILEY**

Forget it.

Crypto-Curious, you would think that months of camping would endow some of us with a certain skillset:

**TAIWAN**

Are you talking about us?

**RILEY**

Like cooking meals in a single skillet -

**TAIWAN**

Well, that's you -

**RENDER**

Stop...

**RILEY**

Or putting on the tent's rain cover in the dark -

**TAIWAN**

Okay, no, she's only talking about you.

(RENDER growls, annoyed.)

**RILEY**

Or Making Marshmallows!

**RENDER**

Marshmallows.



**RILEY**

Marshmallows.

**RENDER**

Mallows. Marshmallows.

**RILEY**

Oh, I see - you can pronounce it, you just can't toast them.

**RENDER**

I beg your pardon!

**RILEY**

The Observation Tower at Cape Canaveral is closer to the heat than you are.

**RENDER**

Well the joke's on you because I don't know what any of that means.

**RILEY**

Your marshmallows are luke-warm.

**RENDER**

Oh, just because I don't like mine charred beyond recognition.

**RILEY**

They taste better.

**TAIWAN**

Ugh. Does everything always have to be about taste to you?

**RILEY**

I mean, if it's food...

**RENDER**

The trick to a perfect marshmallow - [think: "Paolo"]

**RILEY**

Please... you're killing me.



**RENDER**

- is to find a nice spot with no fire, just embers and then slowly spit roast it until it's an adorable, golden, little puffer.

**RILEY**

Crypto-Curious, it takes him forever.

**RENDER**

And... it's... perfect. See?

**RILEY**

It's beautiful, pal.

**RENDER**

You ready?

**RILEY**

I'm waiting for you.

**RENDER**

Okay - one second.

Who wants to start?

**RILEY**

Me. Dear god, me.

[Clearing the air:] I present to you - two graham cracker cookies.

**RENDER**

A solid foundation

**RILEY**

A fun-sized Almond Joy.

**RENDER**

A bold reinvention



**RILEY**

Apricot jam

**RENDER**

Reckless. Absolutely reckless.

**RILEY**

All held in a tight orbit around a gooey, burnt-to-a-crisp, charcoal-black marsh-mellow.

**RENDER**

Well, I find all of that intriguing, but it has left me with a mission-critical follow-up question...

**RILEY**

Oh, has it?

**RENDER**

Riley, that sounds delicious - but Does It S'more?

(RENDER eats his s'more.)

Oh... Oh! The balanced-mix of fruit and nuts - a Scavenger's delight!

**RILEY**

So it was pretty alright?

**RENDER**

Hi-octane Action. Nonstop thrills. Would watch the sequel.

But now you better have some binoculars in that observation tower, buckarini, because there's a new Monster of Mystery bringing the heat to this Cape Carnival.

**RILEY**

I'm not going to correct any of that, but is there something I desperately need to tell you.

**RENDER**

What?

**RILEY**

I love you, so dearly.



**RENDER**

Two graham crackers.

**RILEY**

Vintage. A classic.

**RENDER**

On this one: chocolate, marshmallow -

**RILEY**

A girl's best friend.

**RENDER**

But what's this over here... Peanut butter?

**RILEY**

Oo - who's this bad boy sitting in the back of class?

**RENDER**

And on top of that - a strip of bacon.

**RILEY**

Wait - where did you get bacon?

**RENDER**

I stole it off your plate this morning.

**RILEY**

Render!

**RENDER**

You're getting it back.

**RILEY**

Well that stolen piece of bacon may now be embroiled in one of the greatest heists ever attempted, but it's left the authorities with one, puzzling question:

Does It S'more?



(RILEY eats her s'more. RILEY is... a messy eater. TAIWAN bristles.)

**RENDER**

So?

**RILEY**

A laugh-a-minute riot. The feel-good comedy hit of the year. A must watch.

**TAIWAN**

Here Riley, try mine!

(RILEY screams, you know the drill.)

**RILEY**

Put that out.

(TAIWAN walks towards RILEY.)

**TAIWAN**

You'll like it, I promise.

**RILEY**

It's on fire!

**RENDER**

Well you have to try it.

**RILEY**

It's just a flaming marshmallow on a graham cracker. [to TAIWAN:] stop it.

**RENDER**

Mallow...

**RILEY**

Is that dirt?

**TAIWAN**

It's mostly fire and dirt.



**RENDER**

Everyone else got a turn, you're making him feel left out.

**RILEY**

You eat it.

**RENDER**

Noooooo.

(TAIWAN is chasing RILEY around the campfire now.)

**TAIWAN**

How do you know you don't like it if you won't try it?

**RENDER**

He makes a solid point.

**RILEY**

You are egging him on and you know it.

**RENDER**

Yeah... I tell ya, Crypto-Curious... always a wild time at the Cape Carnival.

**RILEY**

That's not even a real thing!

**TAIWAN**

Catch!

(Theme Song.)

(The 'Zzzzz' of rope against bark.)

**RILEY**

Can it go a little higher?

(Another tug.)





**TAIWAN**

Now?

**RILEY**

That's good.

**RENDER**

Taiwan 1000, you're so good with ropes.

**TAIWAN**

My previous owner had a kid in Scouts. I used to read along with his Alta Vista search results.

**RENDER**

That makes sense.

**RILEY**

Does it?

**RENDER**

[turning, walking away:] Okay well, goodnight food, I love you.

**RILEY**

Render, what's in your hands?

**RENDER**

What?

**RILEY**

You're walking all weird, with your hands together.

**RENDER**

It's just a thoughtful pose.

**RILEY**

You've got food.

**RENDER**

I do not.



**RILEY**

How much?

**RENDER**

[immediately:] One handful. One handful!

**RILEY**

You were gonna take that in the tent. We just tree'd the food.

**RENDER**

Which is why I had to grab a handful.

**RILEY**

Well eat it.

**RENDER**

I'm not hungry. [conspiratorially:] This is for later.

**RILEY**

You can't have it "for later." You can't have food in the tent.

**RENDER**

Oh come on - it's just a little bit? In case I can't sleep.

**RILEY**

It will attract wild animals.

**RENDER**

What wild animals?

**RILEY**

Bears.

**RENDER**

Are there bears?

**RILEY**

Well no, not here.

**RENDER**

Ah-ha!

**RILEY**

You have to tree your food.

**TAIWAN**

There are gators.

**RILEY**

Thank you, Taiwan 1000. Yes. There are gators.

**RENDER**

In these woods?

**RILEY**

You saw the sign.

**RENDER**

What sign? You mean the billboard?

**RILEY**

Yeah.

**RENDER**

Big Jay Erwin's Alligator Farm and Boot Emporium? That billboard?

**RILEY**

See? Gators.

**RENDER**

Those aren't wild animals - that's a tourist trap!

**RILEY**

Where do you think Big Jay Erwin's alligators come from?

**RENDER**

Do you really think any of them are left in the wild with Big Jay Erwin on the case?

**RENDER (cont.)**

Plus, look how high up you put everything. How big are these gators?

**RILEY**

That's what you're supposed to do.

**RENDER**

Gators are low to the ground. You could have hung the food at waist height -

**RILEY**

Like a Pinata?

**RENDER**

Yes, thank you, a little snack pinata. Then we could have gotten handfuls whenever we needed them. This makes it look like there are 50-foot gators lurking around.

**RILEY**

Ok - uh - don't speak it into existence.

**RENDER**

What?

**RILEY**

You know what kind of nonsense we run into - don't speak 50-foot gators into existence.

And no food!

**RENDER**

Fine.

(a moment.)

**RILEY**

What's wrong?

**RENDER**

I get snacky when I'm nervous.

**RILEY**

Yeah. I get snacky too. Want some help?

(RENDER opens his hands, they share snacks.)

It's gonna work out.

**RENDER**

What if it doesn't?

**RILEY**

It will.

**RENDER**

Clues 1 and 2 from the Aghast! Menagerie turned up nothing.

**TAIWAN**

Oh cool thanks Render.

**RENDER**

Sorry.

**RILEY**

And you're worried -

**RENDER**

What if it happens again tomorrow? What if we get to the third clue and turn up nothing and now we don't have any more clues and we might never get the rest of the Menagerie - and - and -

**RILEY**

And what?

**RENDER**

At what point do we admit that maybe we can't do this?

**RILEY**

Yeah. That sounds like the kind of problem that calls for a handful of snacks.

(They eat.)

**RILEY (cont.)**



My mom used to do this thing... when we were little. Dana and I would be in our room, ignoring each other, and the door would fly open and Mom would be standing there with her arms stretched out.

She had this green Air Force flight suit that she would wear. I have no idea where she got it. But imagine this curly-headed, forest green starfish standing over you, shouting:

“You’ve got two minutes to get your shoes on. It’s Adventure Day.” And then she would run off.

The three of us would pile in the car, destination unknown.

This one time we’re driving - this crazy, winding deathtrap road that connected our neighborhood to the rest of the city - Mom’s doing 40 while dancing to this AM jazz station when the sky opens up. One of those heavy, summer rains where the sun is still out - and Mom is looking straight up at this kaleidoscope of tangerines and blues on the windshield, shouting over the radio - like in actual-awe - “Look at all these colors!” while we’re in the back screaming, “turn on your windshield wipers!”

And then she just pulls over, gets out of the car and runs into this cornfield. And Dana and I are looking at each other like, “I guess we’re supposed to follow.” And we’re screaming for her in the rain, in the middle of this cornfield when SMACK! big ear of corn hits me in the side of the head. She just wanted to play war in the middle of a cornfield. So we did.

I don’t think she planned Adventure Days - just declared them and drove knowing she would find something amazing if she stayed with it long enough.

She would get us so lost - I mean like, no idea where we are, dead-by-dinner lost. This was before you could ask your phone and Dana’s terrified and I’m screaming, “just pull over and ask.”

Mom had this philosophy. Mantra. I don’t know. But that’s when she would tell us:

“All roads are interconnected. Just make enough lefts and rights and you have no choice but to end up where you’re supposed to be.”

### **RILEY (cont.)**

And yeah. She was never wrong. The road always led us to some awesome adventure, and then brought us right back home.

We might not find anything tomorrow. The third clue might be a total bust. But if you think that means we're turning around...

Then you don't understand "Adventure Day."

Come on Honeybee, let's go to bed.

**RENDER**

Riley?

(RENDER pulls her in for a big hug.)

Thanks.

(RILEY doesn't respond. They just linger in this hug. We hear rustling.)

**RILEY**

Render... Are you wiping your grimy hands on the back of my shirt?

**RENDER**

Mmm-hmm.

(That night. The tent. RILEY and RENDER are sleeping, which if you recall, both are Bad Bed Buddies. The sound of a Windows 95 machine waking up. TAIWAN stirs, sits up. Something is outside the tent.)

**TAIWAN**

Render... Render wake up.

(TAIWAN smacks RENDER in the face with his keyboard. RENDER yelps, waking.)

**RENDER**

Ow. What?

**TAIWAN**

There's something outside the tent.

**RENDER**

Ugh, go back to bed.

Did you hear me?

**TAIWAN**

We'll take care of it in the morning.

**RENDER**

There's something outside the tent.

**TAIWAN**

What are you talking about?

**RENDER**

Like a - [growls...]

**TAIWAN**

That's just Riley's stomach. You get used to it. Close your eyes.

**RENDER**

No. Render -

**TAIWAN**

There is nothing outside the tent.

**RENDER**

(shuffle shuffle snort.)

Oh wow, there's something out there. Riley.

(nudge nudge)

Riley. You're such a hard sleeper...

I got it.

**TAIWAN**

Wait, don't -

**RENDER**



(TAIWAN smacks RILEY in the face with his keyboard.)

**RILEY**

Ow!

**RENDER**

Riley! (that was Taiwan 1000, not me) Riley -

**RILEY**

That hurt.

**RENDER**

Yeah yeah, not important, there's something outside.

**RILEY**

Yeah, Render, that's why they call it outside.

**RENDER**

No seriously.

**TAIWAN**

It was like a - [growls...]

**RILEY**

It's probably just my stomach.

**RENDER**

I already said that.

**RILEY**

Go back to -

(scratch scratch bellow.)

**RILEY (cont.)**

There's something out there.

**RENDER**

Yes we know.

**RILEY**

No. There's like something ... big out there.

**RENDER**

I wonder if it smells the food.

**RILEY**

No because we tree'd all of the -

Render is there food in here?

**TAIWAN**

He hides graham crackers in my floppy disc drive.

(TAIWAN ejects a graham cracker.)

**RILEY**

Render!

**RENDER**

I have regrets.

(step step grunt.)

**RILEY**

We have to get out of this tent.

**RENDER**

I agree. You draw it away and Taiwan 1000 and I will make a beeline for the Safari.

**RILEY**

What? No! I'm not the diversion.

**RENDER**

I'll give you the graham cracker.

(stamp stamp growl.)

**TAIWAN**

If we stay in this tent, we are going to die. And I wouldn't want that for a lot of us.

**RILEY**

Well we can't go out the front.

**TAIWAN**

Well you can't be the diversion staying in here.

**RILEY**

God I wish we bought a tent with two doors.

Render, do you have your pocket knife?

**RENDER**

Yeah, it's in my bag.

(sniffle sniffle snap.)

**RILEY**

now please now.

(RENDER looks for his bag, unzips it, digs around.)

**RENDER**

Here.

**RILEY**

Okay. [moaning:] sorry tent.

(RILEY slashes thru the back of the tent.)

**RILEY (cont.)**

Alright - everyone out of the pool.

(Intense rustling and scrambling as the trio emerge from the tent.)

Can anybody see the - AAAH! - Gator!

**RENDER**

Gator!

(There is indeed a large alligator, LAST, standing on the other side of the tent.)

**RILEY**

Everybody keep the tent between you and the -

**RENDER**

I don't think the tent is going to stop it.

**TAIWAN**

You have to run in a zig-zag.

**RILEY**

What?

**TAIWAN**

Alligators are fast, thirty miles per hour in short bursts, but they can only charge in a straight line.

(general disbelief that TAIWAN knows this.)

My previous owner's kid did a science project on alligators. I read along with his -

**RILEY**

Alta Vista search results, got it.

Okay, like we practiced:

**ALL**

Run for it!

(They take off running. LAST tries to follow... It's hard. Finally:)

**LAST**

Oh, no fair running in zig-zags!

**RILEY**

Whoa whoa whoa hey!

(All stop.)

(The TRIO are all separated in the woods.)

Render, was that you?

**RENDER**

Just now?

**RILEY**

What are you doing way over there?

**RENDER**

I was zig-zagging.

**RILEY**

The Safari's this way.

**RENDER**

There are no rules to zig zags.

**RILEY**

Have you seen Taiwan 1000?

**TAIWAN**

Oh-ho - separated from the pack, are we?

**RILEY**

Nevermind, he's with me. Was that you shouting?

**RENDER**

I thought that was you.

**LAST**

It was me.

(eh, why not - they shout.)

**RENDER**

What? What! Talking gator?! That is awesome.

**RILEY**

See? What did I say? Speaking it into existence.

**LAST**

Hi.

(RENDER walks towards LAST.)

**RENDER**

Hi! I can't believe this, you're amazing.

**RILEY**

Hey babe - can we sidebar real quick?

**RENDER**

Oh. [to LAST:] I'll be right back.

(The TRIO...)

Yeah, whats up?

**RILEY**

What are you doing?

**RENDER**

They said hi.

**RILEY**

We don't walk towards alligators. Just a general rule.

**RENDER**

We don't, unless they start talking to you.

**RILEY**

Alligators can't talk.

**RENDER**

Uh... hello?

**RILEY**

Yeah, I see it too. Still... Alligators can't talk.

**RENDER**

What then? You think it's a Zeroks?

**ALL**

Trademark.

**RILEY**

No, it's far too pretty to be a Zeroks.

**ALL**

Trademark.

**RENDER**

Well it has to be something.

**TAIWAN**

You know, you two overcomplicate everything.

[shouting:] Hey! Are you a real alligator?

**LAST**

... Rude.

**TAIWAN**

See? How hard was that?

**RILEY**

That didn't help.

**RENDER**

Let's just go over there.

**RILEY**

No.

**RENDER**

Riley -

**RILEY**

Render!

**RENDER**

Well we have to do something. They're in the middle of our campground.

**RILEY**

Oh excuse me for not wanting to hang out with teeth that can move at thirty miles per hour.

**LAST**

I'm sorry. It's very hard for me to hear what y'all are saying. Could you do that a little closer?

**RENDER**

Sorry. We're just talking about ... not you. We'll be right there.

**RILEY**

[whispering:] This is a bad idea.

**LAST**

Yeah, sorry, the whispering makes it even harder.

**RENDER**

Riley... Adventure Day.

**RILEY**

[sighs] Adventure Day.

**LAST**

Oh, yes. Closer is so much better

**RILEY**

Well that has an ominous Gingerbread Man vibe.

(The TRIO walk towards LAST.)



**RENDER**

That would be a great s'more.

**RILEY**

That's not the point I was making.

**RENDER**

Gingerbread, toffee, marshmallow.

**RILEY**

Can we come back to this?

**LAST**

Hi. Thank you so much for not running. You have no idea how long it took me to get out here.

**RENDER**

Oh, sure...

**RILEY**

No problem...

**LAST**

I know it's late. But I was afraid if I came back in the morning I might miss you.

**RILEY**

Why did you want to see us?

**LAST**

Not you. You.

**RENDER**

Me?

**LAST**

It's my fiance, Miles. We got separated, and now I can't find him. I'm worried something might have happened to him.

**RILEY**

What do you mean "happened to him?"

**LAST**

It's not like him to run off.

**RILEY**

And your fiance -

**LAST**

Miles

**RILEY**

Miles, he's also an alligator?

**LAST**

What? Obviously. [to RENDER:] what is her deal?

**RENDER**

She's not used to talking alligators.

**RILEY**

Oh sure, just me.

**RENDER**

So you didn't sneak up on us because you smelled food in our tent?

**LAST**

No.

**RENDER**

Huh. Interesting.

**LAST**

Wait, you have food?

**RENDER**

Graham crackers. Want one?

**LAST**

Sure.

**TAIWAN**

Open wide.

(LAST opens wide. Another graham cracker ejects from TAIWAN'S floppy disc drive. LAST chomps down.)

**LAST**

Ew. Gross. Plain.

**RILEY**

How long has Miles been missing?

**LAST**

It's been two weeks now.

**RENDER**

Any idea where he could have gone?

**LAST**

He wouldn't go out on his own, not without telling me. Unless... something happened to him.

**RENDER**

Like what?

**RILEY**

Like Big Jay Erwin.

**LAST**

If Big Jay Erwin has him... I don't even want to think about it.

But then I saw you walking in the woods -

**RENDER**

Me?

**LAST**

And I just knew everything would be ok. You'll help me, won't you? You'll find Miles.

**RENDER**

Oh. Uh...

**RILEY**

Are you asking if we'll sneak into an alligator farm to look for your fiance?

**LAST**

You'll do it?

**TAIWAN**

Yes. Riley will do this for you.

**RILEY**

Look, I don't think that's really something that we ...

**LAST**

But you have to. It's true what they say about you, isn't it?

**RENDER**

About me?

**LAST**

If you're in trouble, find a Rubilee.

(Stunned silence.)

**RENDER**

Is that what I am?

**LAST**

Uh. Yeah. You didn't know?

**RENDER**

No. I didn't.

**LAST**

You're a Rubilee.

**RENDER**

Riley. I'm a Rubilee.

[to LAST:] Hi. I'm Render.

**LAST**

Very nice to meet you, Render.

I'm Last Liquor Store for One Hundred.

**RILEY**

Oh ...

(Later. Deep in woods, approaching the perimeter to Big Jay Erwin's farm. The ground is a lot sloshier.)

**RILEY**

[yelling:] Pick up the pace, you three - the river's just down this embankment.

Crypto-Curious, this has been one of the more bizarre nights of my life ... which I think is saying something...

**RILEY (cont.)**

For the last few hours, the three of us have been walking hip to hip with an alligator and I would just like it known - when our bones turn up one day - that this alligator didn't fool me.

But Render's all in on this one so ... here we are.

(The others join back up with RILEY.)

**RENDER**

Are we at the river?

**RILEY**

Yeah. GPS isn't super helpful anymore - satellite shows just a lot of tree cover, but I think the entrance to the farm should be pretty close by.

Come on.

**TAIWAN**

It's a little steep.

**LAST**

If you want, you can climb on my back.

**RILEY**

Like we're gonna fall for that.

**TAIWAN**

Render?

**RENDER**

I gotcha.

(RENDER places TAIWAN on LAST'S back. RILEY sighs.)

**RILEY**

Alright - watch your footing everybody.

(The climb down towards the river.)

**RENDER**

So - how did you and Miles meet.

**LAST**

It's actually a really cute story.

So, I'm laying out on the side of the road - which is a pretty great place to sun yourself, sometimes a family will pull over and toss you Little Debbie snacks or hard-boiled eggs.

So I'm laying there, right, and this pair of joggers are coming down the road. And one of them says, "See? Told ya, Last Liquor Store for On Hundred Miles"

And the other one goes, "Look out Joel, alligators."

And they turn and go back the other way and I'm like *alligators*? It's just me.

And that's when Miles goes, "So which one are you? Last Liquor Store for One Hundred, or Miles?"

Can you believe that? My soulmate was sitting right there the whole time and I had no idea.



**RENDER**

You didn't know he was there?

**LAST**

No! I mean ... I guess I could have turned and looked ... [incredulous:] but that sounds like a lot of work.

So I said, "I guess I'm Last Liquor Store for One Hundred." - and he said - "I guess I'm Miles," which is so like him.

**RENDER**

That's a beautiful story.

**LAST**

Isn't it? That's how we met.

**RENDER**

So romantic.

**RILEY**

They were talking about the billboard.

**LAST**

What?

**RILEY**

Yeah, we parked not far from it. The joggers weren't referring to you, they were referring to a sign.

**LAST**

Uh - we were right there.

They said, "Last Liquor Store for One Hundred" - "Miles," and there we were.

**RENDER**

Seems pretty cut and dry to me.

**RILEY**

So think they were naming you.

**LAST**

No. You don't understand. Those are our names.

**RILEY**

Right but... Is that what you called yourselves - before the joggers?

**LAST**

I don't know what you ... [to RENDER:] What is this lady not understanding?

**RILEY**

Didn't your parents give you a name?

**LAST**

My parents! Oh?

(This thought has never occurred to LAST before.)

**LAST (cont.)**

I mean, I guess they could have named us if they'd wanted to ... but that sounds like a lot of work.

**RENDER**

I like your name.

**LAST**

Thanks, Render.

**RILEY**

I'm gonna run ahead. Seems like there's something up there.

(RILEY pulls ahead.)

**LAST**

Your friend doesn't like me.

**RENDER**

What? Riley likes everybody. I think you just make her a little nervous.



**LAST**

Me? Why?

**RENDER**

I don't know ... oh, it's probably because she thinks you'll eat her.

**LAST**

Not with that attitude.

**TAIWAN**

Oh, give her a chance.

**RILEY**

[off:] Hey! Up here!

(RENDER, LAST and TAIWAN rush ahead. RILEY grabs onto and shakes a large, chain-link fence.)

This is Big Jay Erwin's Alligator Farm alright ... Get a load of the sign. "Trespassers Will Be Eaten."

**LAST**

Do you see Miles?

**RILEY**

I don't see anybody.

**RENDER**

What's that over there?

**RILEY**

Crypto-Curious, this fence stands between us and a small lake - and on the far side, a little sandy shore and, it's a little too dark to be certain, maybe a wooden boardwalk.

And yeah. On that little shore. And on that wooden boardwalk. Hundreds of ...

Okay, I think we've brought you about as far as we can.

**LAST**

You're quitting?

**RENDER**

Riley?

**LAST**

You can't quit.

**RENDER**

We can't stop now.

**RILEY**

We got you to the farm. If Miles is in there - you don't need our help finding him.

**TAIWAN**

You could at least go in and scope it out for us.

At the very least.

**RILEY**

Look, Last Liquor Store for One Hundred - I hope you find your fiance - I truly do. But this is as far as we can go.

**LAST**

Is that true, Render?

**RENDER**

I ... uh ...

**LAST**

If you're in trouble, look for a Rubilee. That's what they always say.

I guess it isn't true.

(RENDER caves.)

**RENDER**

I'll help.

**LAST**

You will?

**RILEY**

Ren ...

**RENDER**

If Miles is in there - we're gonna find him. And we're gonna get you two back together.

Riley, I have to. I just do. If you want to stay here.

**RILEY**

Are you serious? [sigh:] No. I'm in.

But how are we getting past this? If alligators could scale fences this one wouldn't be here.

**RENDER**

Why would you put a no trespassing sign all the way out here?

Look, crossing the river, it's a sliding gate.

I'll swim across and unlatch it and you pull it open.

**RILEY**

You're not thinking about getting in that river?

**RENDER**

Oh relax - we're on this side of the fence - what could possibly be in the water?

**RILEY**

Well now that you've spoken it into existence ...

**RENDER**

I'll be right back.

(RENDER wades into the river and across.)

**RILEY**

How is it?

**RENDER**

It's really shallow. Kinda squishy tho. My feet keep sinking.

(RENDER undoes a chain.)

There - give it a tug.

(RILEY grunts and tugs, pulling the gate open.)

**RILEY**

Ok, well, we're not on the right side of the fence anymore, so hurry on back, will ya?

**RENDER**

Sure thing.

**RILEY**

[to LAST:] Look. The fence is open, you can swim in and look all you like? You don't need our help any more.

You need to tell Render you don't need him anymore.

**LAST**

He wants to help. You're the one holding him back.

(LAST wades into the river.)

Water's getting deeper, Taiwan 1000, you might want to move up and sit on my head.

**TAIWAN**

Oh! Don't mind if I do.

**RENDER**

Riley, you coming?!

**RILEY**

[resigned:] be right there!

(Big Jay Erwin's Alligator Farm. There are a ton of alligators here.)

**CIGARETTES SOLD AT STATE MINIMUM**

Hey - get up - you're not gonna believe this!

**CROSS TRAFFIC DOES NOT STOP**

What?! I was sleeping.

**NO PASSING SCHOOL ZONE**

Where'd they come from?

**POWERBALL 138 MILLION**

And who's that they've got with them?

**CROSS**

What is it? I'm facing the wrong way.

**CIGARETTES**

Well turn around.

**CROSS**

That sounds like a lot of work. Just describe it to me.

**NO PASSING**

There's a human walking up from the wrong way. And there's one of us with them.

**CIGARETTES**

Looks like they're carrying something on their back and - is that ...

**POWERBALL**

They've got a Rubilee with them!

**CROSS**

A Rubilee! Alright, watch out, I'm turning around.

**RILEY**

Render, are you sure about this?

**RENDER**

I was a lot more certain about a hundred yards back.

(CIGARETTES approaches RENDER, a little too close.)

**CIGARETTES**

Are you really a Rubilee?

(RENDER screams.)

**RENDER**

Uh. Hi. Yeah, I guess I am.

**CIGARETTES**

I've never seen one of your kind before. You mind if I nuzzle up against you?

**RENDER**

Oh, uh ... sure?

(CIGARETTES nuzzles up against RENDER, purring.)

**POWERBALL**

Oo! I want to do that!

**NO PASSING**

That sounds like a lot of work.

**POWERBALL**

It's nice!

**NO PASSING**

Oh, alright!

**CROSS**

You really are a Rubilee. In our little lake. Isn't that something?

**CIGARETTES**

What brings you here, fella?

**RENDER**

We're looking for someone?

**LAST**

His name is Miles. Has anybody seen him?

**CROSS**

Miles? You know a Miles?

**POWERBALL**

Uh ... you know, seems like maybe I did meet a Miles. I don't know.

**LAST**

Well can't you remember?

**POWERBALL**

That sounds like a lot of work ... hold on.

**CIGARETTES**

You know who would know. You should talk to Stumpy.

**RILEY**

Stumpy?

**NO PASSING**

Oh yeah!

**CROSS**

Stumpy knows everybody here. He's been here longer than anybody.

**POWERBALL**

But I already put all this effort into remembering?

**RENDER**

Well did you remember?

**POWERBALL**

[exhausted from the effort, or bored:] I don't know.

**CROSS**

Who's looking for him?

**LAST**

I am. I'm his fiance. I'm Last Liquor Store for One Hundred.

**CROSS**

Nice to meet you Last Liquor Store for One Hundred, I'm Cross Traffic Does Not Stop.

**LAST**

Nice to meet you too Cross Traffic Does Not Stop.

**CROSS**

This here's No Passing School Zone.

**NO PASSING**

Hi there!

**LAST**

Hi.

**CIGARETTES**

I'm Cigarettes Sold at State Minimum.

**LAST**

Nice to meet you.

**POWERBALL**

And I'm Powerball 138 Million.

**RENDER**

[to RILEY:] You getting all this?

**RILEY**

Ugh - sounds like a lot of work.

**LAST**

Can y'all take me to meet Stumpy.

**NO PASSING**

Oh, he's just that way. You can't miss him -



**RILEY**

Is he the one with three legs?

**NO PASSING**

You know him?

**RILEY**

Just a guess.

**RENDER**

It was a good guess.

**RILEY**

Render! Really?

**NO PASSING**

It's just that way -

**CROSS**

Oh, come on - we'll all go with you.

**CIGARETTES**

Sounds like a lot of work ...

**POWERBALL**

Are you kidding - how often do you get to see a real-life Rubilee?

**CIGARETTES**

Alright, I'm coming, I'm coming.

**NO PASSING**

It's this way.

(They all walk down the boardwalk, passing scores of other alligators, all whispering:

("Is that a Rubilee?" - "she's got a Rubilee with her?" - "Where are they going with that Rubilee?" - etc.)

**RILEY**

Well aren't you the life of the party.

**RENDER**

I know.

Hey - I've got a question. And I'm not asking for any particular, "wouldn't it be fun if we did this" reason - but do you ever all line up in the water and let people run across your backs Live-and-Let-Die-style?

(There is an uproar of consternation from the Alligators:)

("What did he just say?" - "Is he being serious?" - "The nerve!")

Oh. Alright - I get it.

[to RILEY:] They prefer Sean Connery.

(And, yup, that's it. All the Alligators try on their best Sean Connery impersonations. RILEY, RENDER and TAIWAN join in:)

("Losers always whine about doing their best." - "You're all wet! But my martini's still dry." - "The name's Bond, James Bond." - "I am the last one!")

**RILEY**

Was that a Dragonheart reference?

**RENDER**

Nice.

(STUMPY hears all the commotion.)

**STUMPY**

Who's that coming up the way?

**CROSS**

She's looking for a friend.

**LAST**

My fiance.

**STUMPY**

Well, if your fiance is here, I can help you sort that out. And who are your friends?

**RILEY**

I'm Riley.

**RENDER**

And I'm -

**STUMPY**

Well my my - I haven't seen a Rubilee in quite some time. Hello.

**RENDER**

Hi. I'm Render.

**STUMPY**

And I'm Fines Doubled When Workers Present. But my friends call me Stumpy.

**RENDER**

Is that ... me? Do I call you Stumpy.

**STUMPY**

... yeah.

**RENDER**

Great, sorry, thought maybe it was a test.

**TAIWAN**

Um ... I'm also here. I'm not just this alligator's hat. Taiwan 1000.

**STUMPY**

And who are we looking for!

**TAIWAN**

Oh, you weren't listening... got it.

**LAST**

Me. I'm looking for my fiance. His name is Miles.

**STUMPY**

Miles? Hmm ... Miles ... Does seem like I've run into a Miles around here lately.

Was he about this tall?

**LAST**

Yeah.

**STUMPY**

This long?

**LAST**

Yeah.

**STUMPY**

Green?

**LAST**

Yeah.

**STUMPY**

Long snout?

**LAST**

Yeah.

**STUMPY**

Whole buncha teeth?

**LAST**

Yeah.

**STUMPY**

Didn't have any stumps, did he?

**LAST**

No.

**STUMPY**

Hmm ... Does seem like I've seen somebody like that around here.

Oh, Miles! Yes, Miles!

Wait, then that would make you ... Last Liquor Store for One Hundred!

**LAST**

You've heard of me?

**STUMPY**

Heard of you! You're all he ever talks about. Lovely to meet you - lovely to meet you!

Somebody, quick, go and fetch Miles.

(And now a chorus of, " ... that sounds like a lot of work.")

Oh alright, just down the line for him.

(A game of telephone - "Miles!" - "Miles! - "Have you seen Miles?" - "Go get Miles" - "Miles!")

(MILES comes up from underwater right beside LAST.)

**MILES**

Last Liquor Store for One Hundred!

**LAST**

Miles!

**STUMPY**

Hold up! Hold up, everybody, he was already here.

**POWERBALL**

Do we have to shout down the line again?



**STUMPY**

No, that seems like a lot of work.

**LAST**

You were right here the whole time?

**MILES**

I was laying on the bottom with my snout sticking up. I thought I smelled you. I was honna come up and check ... but it seemed like a lot of work.

**LAST**

Darling, I was so worried.

**MILES**

I was afraid you might be. I was worried for you!

**LAST**

But I don't understand, what happened?

**MILES**

It's a crazy story. A guy put me in the back of his truck. And now I'm here.

**LAST**

That's crazy.

**MILES**

I know! I wanted to go back and find you, I thought about it all the time -

**RILEY, RENDER, TAIWAN**

But it seemed like a lot of work.

**LAST**

And I wanted to come looking for you. It was all I thought about -

**RILEY, RENDER, TAIWAN**

But it seemed like a lot of work.

**MILES**

So, how did you get here?



**LAST**

I found a Rubilee, just walking thru the woods, with his roadies.

**RILEY**

Hey! We're not his -

**TAIWAN**

I mean I get it. But I don't like it.

**MILES**

You came all this way for me?

**LAST**

Of course! I would do anything for you.

**MILES**

Oh, that makes me love you even more.

**LAST**

I love you, Miles.

**MILES**

I love you, Last Liquor Store for One Hundred.

I just wanna ... bit you on your snout.

(HE does.)

**LAST**

I just want to bite you on your snout.

(SHE does.)

(THEY do. Alligator make-out session, which is mostly biting.)

**RILEY**

Oh my, are you seeing this?

**RENDER**

Who would dare look away.

**RILEY**

Seems like that's gonna get infected.

**RENDER**

So much tongue.

**TAIWAN**

How is this not too much work?

(RILEY stops this love affair.)

**RILEY**

Ok. This has to stop.

I just ... don't understand.

I've seen alligators before. In zoos, aquariums, at the beach. I've been to the Everglades! And they don't talk. And they're not named after road signs or gas station marquees. And they don't ... make out!

I'm ... so confused.

**MILES**

Oh. I can explain. You see:

We're lazy.

(All together:)

**LAST**

So lazy.

**NO PASSING**

Yeah, we're lazy.



**CROSS**

We're lazy.

**CIGARETTES**

I'm exhausted just explaining it.

**MILES**

We alligators learned a long time ago that if we just sit still and don't say anything you dumb humans will just walk up and hand us food.

**RILEY**

You're on an alligator farm. Big Jay Erwin is gonna make boots out of you.

**MILES**

Oh sure, some of us. But if you want to lounge about in the sun all day getting fed raw chicken cutlets, every once in a while you're gonna get made into boots.

**RILEY**

Every once in a while!

**RENDER**

So ... are crocodiles monsters too?

**MILES**

Crocodiles! Are you crazy? Crocodiles are big dumb green animals that live in the water.

**NO PASSING**

Our snouts are different!

**STUMPY**

Friends! Friends! Let's not let a reason to celebrate turn hostile. These people may not understand our ways, but they're still our ... honored guests.

**LAST**

Render, I can never thank you enough for what you've done for me. And Miles.

**RENDER**

Well, of course. Seeing you happy makes me happy.



**LAST**

Well, if I may, as a token of my thanks ... I would like to honor you with my mouth.

**RENDER**

I'm sorry, what?

**RILEY**

[vindicated:] There it is.

**MOUTH**

Actually, we'd like to honor all three of you with our mouths.

**RENDER**

I don't think I understand.

**LAST**

We open our mouths.

**MILES**

You lay across them.

**LAST**

And we ...

**BOTH**

Honor you.

**RENDER**

I'm just having a hard time understanding the -

**RILEY**

Eat you. They want to eat you.

**CIGARETTES**

I want to honor you with my mouth.

**CROSS**

Me too - I'd like to honor you.

**POWERBALL**

Can I honor you with my mouth?

**NO PASSING**

I wanna do some mouth honorin'!

**TAIWAN**

Ok, Riley - I can't believe I'm saying this. As much as I would like you to be eaten, I very much would like to live which, unfortunately, means I need you to live.

I'll get the big one - you figure out how to get us out of this.

**RILEY**

Oh, Taiwan 1000 - I knew how we were getting out of this the second we walked in.

**TAIWAN**

Render, pick me up.

**RENDER**

Yep.

**RILEY**

Like we practiced - 1, 2, 3 -

**ALL THREE**

Run for it!

(RILEY, RENDER and TAIWAN run for it.)

**STUMPY**

Don't let them get away!

**NO PASSING**

I was gonna honor you!

**CIGARETTES**

No fair zig-zagging!

(RENDER and RILEY stop running.)

**RENDER**

Riley?

**RILEY**

[from far off:] Render! What are you doing over there!

**RENDER**

There are no rules to zig-zags!

**RILEY**

Keep moving and stay close to the water!

**RENDER**

What are you going to do?

**RILEY**

What does it look like?

**RENDER**

Is that airboat? That is awesome.

**TAIWAN**

Render, we gotta keep moving.

**MILES**

Mind if I honor you with my mouth?

(RENDER screams. Runs.)

**RENDER**

They're coming at us from both sides.

**TAIWAN**

We can go down that dock.

(RILEY cranks the airboat.)

**RENDER**

Now what do we do? We can't go any further.

**RILEY**

Render I'm coming.

(A door opens. BIG JAY ERWIN comes outside to see what all the commotion is about.)

**BIG JAY**

What in the world is going on out here.

**STUMPY**

It's Big Jay - everybody freeze!

**BIG JAY**

Those teenagers are stealing my airboat again!

**RENDER**

Teenagers?

**TAIWAN**

She wishes.

**BIG JAY**

Momma - get me my big gator whomping stick!

**LAST**

Render - you can't leave yet.

**RENDER**

Last Liquor Store For One Hundred - you can really want to do this!

**LAST**

I'm gonna make a wedding cake out of you.

**RENDER**

Riley's not gonna make it here in time.

**TAIWAN**

Render look at the alligators in the water, floating in a neat row ... like stepping stones.



**RENDER**

Live and Let Die!

**TAIWAN**

Let's Roger Moore these monsters!

(LAST lunges forward, her mouth open. RENDER leaps.)

**CIGARETTES**

Are they doing what I think they're -

(SPLOOSH)

**CROSS**

You know this is in pretty poor taste!

(SPLOOSH)

**NO PASSING**

I'd move, but it seems like a lot of -

(SPLOOSH)

**POWERBALL**

Do you ever wish Timothy Dalton made a third film?

(SPLOOSH)

(The airboat makes it in time. RENDER and TAIWAN crash down, sliding away on the water.)

(TAIWAN is playing "Live and Let Die" thru his speakers.)

**RENDER**

Is that Paul McCartney and Wings?

**TAIWAN**

My owner's kid downloaded it from Napster?

**RENDER**

It's a terrible mp3 quality.

**TAIWAN**

I think there's water in my speaker.

(The next morning. Loading the GMC Safari.)

**RENDER**

Well Crypto-Curious - I have to hand it to Riley's mother. After we left the lake, we got a little lost on that river. But Riley made a bunch of random left and right turns and ... we made it back to camp.

**RILEY**

... you have no choice but to end up where you're supposed to be.

All loaded up?

**RENDER**

All set. Are we keeping the tent?

**RILEY**

I figured we can tape it back together. Did you get the food down?

**RENDER**

You're not gonna believe this. The bag was empty. Maybe there really are 50 foot -

(RILEY clamps his moth shut.)

**RILEY**

Quit. Speaking it. Into existence.

**RENDER**

You don't think we should investigate?

**RILEY**

Render, last night was all shenanigans. We're gonna be at the third clue by tonight, which will almost certainly be all shenanigans. But, between here and there, we are officially in a shenanigan-free zone.



**RILEY**

Besides - we've already got another stop to make.

[to herself:] And if we don't do it now, my understanding is we can't do it for another 100 miles.

Load up everybody.

(RENDER climbs into the GMC Safari.)

**RILEY**

Seatbelts?

**RENDER**

Check.

**RILEY**

Directions to the third clue?

**RENDER**

Check.

**TAIWAN**

Everybody got all their limbs?

**RILEY**

Check.

(RILEY cranks the GMC Safari.)

**RENDER**

All, Crypto-Curious, I guess that's it. And, Hey! I guess we'll see you again real soon!

And as they say where I'm from, "But Iris, if it's outside, then what's clawing at the basement door!"

(end of episode.)



## **CREDITS**

### **HARPER**

Hi, this is Harper Lee. 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 Fines Doubled When Workers Present -

### **DAVE**

You can call me Stumpy.

### **HARPER**

Dylan Shelton as Miles, Alexx Rouse as Cigarettes Sold at State Minimum, Zach Robinson as No Passing School Zone, Caitlyn McWethy as Cross Traffic Does Not Stop, Grayson Halonen as Powerball 138 Million, and me, Harper Lee as Last Liquor Store for One Hundred. 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](http://QueenCityFlash.com)