

Lost in Oz: The Mini-Series Part 2

By

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EXT. SOMEWHERE ON THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD IN OZ - SUNSET

Tamara and Laura walk briskly as they walk further down the yellow brick road.

Tamara is quite a few steps ahead of Laura, who is very tired and moving slowly.

TAMARA

The sun's starting to set.

LAURA

We really should stop soon.

TAMARA

But if we stop now, we'll never beat the boys home.

LAURA

I know, but I feel like I've been walking for days. Just a little rest?

TAMARA

Fine, but make it quick. You know I hate losing a bet to Josh.

As the two weary travelers pull off to the side of the road, Tamara kicks off her shoes and begins to massage her feet.

TAMARA (cont'd)

My feet are killing me, I'm starving, and I hate my brother. (pause) Maybe we should eat another berry. It's definitely past lunch and dinner time.

LAURA

Don't you think we should save them until we're desperately in need?

TAMARA

No. I think we need all the energy we can get. Hand me one of mine, would you?

LAURA

Fine, but don't say I didn't warn you.

Laura reaches into her bag and feels around for one of the four berries that remain. She pulls one out and tosses it to Tamara, who thanks her and instantly pops it into her mouth.

(CONTINUED)

LAURA (cont'd)
Maybe we should check the book and see what's going on everywhere else in Oz.

TAMARA
Good idea.

As Laura reaches into the bag and begins to dig around, a look of sheer terror takes over her face.

The book isn't there.

LAURA
It's not here.

TAMARA
Oh no! What are we gonna do. How could this get any worse? Wait.. I figured out how... we must've left it with Josh.

LAURA
But, how will we--

TAMARA
Don't worry! We'll make it without the book. All we have to do is stay on this road. It leads right to the Emerald City.

LAURA
But... We don't know what else it will lead us into.

A grim silence falls over the two as Tamara finishes her berry.

They sit for a moment, trying to think of something uplifting to say, but nothing seems to come to mind.

Tamara leans back against the tree and loosens her pant button.

TAMARA
Wow, those things are filling.
Okay, back on the road... we gotta--

LAURA
I know! We gotta be Josh, shut up already.

Without any hesitation, Tamara and Laura, both happy to forget their most recent conversation, rise to their feet and begin to follow the road again.

They walk for several more hours before reaching what seems to be the end of the road.

TAMARA

This can't be the way! It goes into that really dark forest up ahead.

LAURA

Let's just hope it comes back out of it quickly. I definitely don't want to be in those woods all night long.

TAMARA

Me either. Let's just run through it as fast as we can... We can hold hands...

Tamara latches onto Laura's hand and they both take off running.

The road isn't quite as smooth as it had been. Roots and rocks spike up from all edges, and large sections of brick seem to be missing.

Keeping their eyes on the ground and dodging as many obstacles as they can, they continue to barrel through the dark path.

Without notice, Laura trips and falls to the ground, taking Tamara down with her. Laura's ankle, now snagged around rough vines, pulses with pain.

As Tamara tumbles to the ground next to her, her head slams into an uplifted brick.

Shaking off their injuries and letting out small whimpers of pain, they slowly rise to their feet.

TAMARA (cont'd)

My head's spinning. We gotta find somewhere to stop.

LAURA

But where? It's so dark.

TAMARA

I think I see something up ahead. Let's keep walking.

(CONTINUED)

Chills shoot up and down their spines, and the hairs on the back of their necks stand up like a cat being attacked by a pack of wild dogs.

Each step sends shooting pains through Laura's legs and Tamara's head. Still they carry on, holding onto one another for support.

A small cabin comes into view.

It's not very pleasant looking. It's covered in a deep green moss, vines entwine it from all sides, the widows shutters have fallen off and the wood is obviously filled with some form of termites.

Deciding they can't go on any longer, this will have to do.

TAMARA (cont'd)

We can't keep going... you're hurt...

LAURA

You know I don't like to complain but... OOOOWWWW!

TAMARA

I know, you poor thing. Let's stay in this cabin for the night. Your ankle is more important than my bet with Josh... did I just say that?

As they open the door to enter the small cabin, musty and moldy scents fill their noses and one of the hinges snaps off the frame.

They hold their breath in hopes of keeping their recently devoured berries down.

Feeling around the cabin, they find a small bed without a mattress and collapse onto it.

Within moments they are asleep, forgetting any thought of imminent danger that may lurk just outside of the open windows.

CROSS FADE TO:

EXT. ELSEWHERE ON THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD IN OZ - SUNSET/NIGHT

Further back down the yellow brick road, Tommy and Joshua have been having quite an interesting time reading along with the new adventures of Tamara and Laura.

TOMMY

(cupping his hands over his face)

I can't believe they are stopping in some broken down cabin in the middle of the woods!

JOSHUA

(holding the book)

I know. We'll have to get there before they wake up and give them a good scare.

TOMMY

Do you think we'll get there before they wake up? It seems like they got a huge head start on us. I don't see a cabin anywhere in sight.

JOSHUA

Yeah, but they like to sleep. They'll be out for hours. Hurry up!

As they continue down the road, the trip seems pleasant.

Without warning they are standing face to face with a giant cliff.

It seems to drop for a thousand miles, and at the very bottom jagged rocks peek out from rushing rapids.

As Joshua pushes his feet to the ground for an instant stop, rubble from the broken road spills into the huge valley. We watch it plummet and bounce off the sharp rocks below.

JOSHUA (cont'd)

Whoa! How do you think the girls crossed that?

TOMMY

Who cares! How are we going to cross it?

JOSHUA

I have no idea. Look at the book! We can read the book and see how they got across.

(CONTINUED)

He hands the book to Tommy.

TOMMY

I don't remember seeing it in there, and we read the whole thing.

A look of concern crosses Tommy's face.

JOSHUA

Well, let's look again!

Joshua rips the book from Tommy's hands and begins to thumb through it. Page after page, he can't find a single thing that says anything about a cliff or how to cross one. He looks at Tommy, completely stupefied.

JOSHUA (cont'd)

(pouting)

I don't get it! How did we end up on a different section of the yellow brick road that they didn't have to cross?

TOMMY

It really makes no sense. Unless the road is changing...

JOSHUA

Well, we gotta do something about it. (long pause) A tree! We'll lay one of the fallen trees across it. It'll be hard, but it's the only thing to do. I saw it in an Old Western once at my grandparents house. They had more people than us... let's try it anyway.

Joshua drags Tommy off the road and into the woods, and as if by some magic force, a large fallen tree lies before them.

Grabbing onto one end, Joshua instructs Tommy to do the same at the other.

The tree's heavy, but they can manage.

Dragging it to the cliff, they slowly begin sliding it across, where it meets the other side with plenty of leverage.

They pause for a moment to catch their breath.

(CONTINUED)

JOSHUA (cont'd)
(breathing heavily)
Now, when we cross, don't look
down. Just run straight to the
other side.

TOMMY
Can we go at the same time?

JOSHUA
Yeah, sure. Ready?

TOMMY
No...

As they begin to slowly walk across the large trunk, it wobbles slightly and they begin to lose their footing.

Taking a deep breath, they manage to steady it and continue to cross.

When they reach the middle of the log, they hear a large snarl coming from behind them.

They turn and see a huge beast with the body of a bear and the head of a tiger lunging toward them.

JOSHUA
What the heck is that?

TOMMY
I read about it in the book before
the story changed. It's called a
Kalidah. They're very ferocious.

JOSHUA
Also, a nice way of saying, we're
dead.

They turn to slowly walk off the other side of the log and there, looming back at them is a second Kalidah.

Joshua nudges Tommy to look, but he's too fixated on the first beast to notice the second.

There's only one thing to do.

Joshua grabs onto Tommy's shoulder and sends them both hurtling off the log, down into the water beneath them.

CUT TO:

UNDERWATER. AQUASIA, OZ - NIGHT

Tommy and Joshua slam into the huge body of water and sink into it, narrowly missing the jagged rocks.

They sink for quite a while.

Suddenly, the water begins to grow brighter at the bottom as they sink!

A hand wraps around Joshua's wrist and pulls him deeper down.

We can hear something. It's almost like singing.

Joshua and Tommy are placed upon the sandy surface at the bottom of the water.

PRINCESS CELESTIA
Open your eyes and breathe
normally, adorable human.

Joshua obeys and cautiously opens one eye at time.

Swimming in front of him is a beautiful mermaid, whose golden hair floats around her and almost makes it appear that her head is on fire.

She slowly extends her hand toward his and he accepts it.

She gives it a slight tug and he rises to his feet.

Tommy is being escorted by a merman, who seems much older and more mature than the one that rescued Joshua. He wears a crown made from coral and gold that sits on top of his long gray hair. In his hands he holds a large, golden staff in the shape of a giant eel.

PRINCESS CELESTIA (cont'd)
On your knees and bow to me, human.

Joshua drops to his knees.

JOSHUA
Wow! That was a change of attitude!
What happened to adorable human?

PRINCESS CELESTIA
BOW DOWN, NOW!

JOSHUA
Forgive me; I don't know what's
happening.

(CONTINUED)

PRINCESS CELESTIA

I am Princess Celestia of Aquasia.
Who may I ask are you?

JOSHUA

(lying)

Your majesty. I'm King Joshua
Dudley from the land of Hooksett,
New Hampshire.

KING KITRICK

Ah, a king! I'm King Kitrick and
this is the land that I rule. Have
you come to start a war and fight
me for the throne?

JOSHUA

Most certainly not, I wasn't--until
now--aware that I could even
survive under water.

KING KITRICK

I see. You survive because we allow
it. Who is this other human that
accompanies you?

JOSHUA

Uhh... My son! Prince Thomas of New
Hampshire.

KING KITRICK

Well then, follow me to my palace
where we can discuss why you have
come.

TOMMY

Really, there's no reason that
we're here. We simply just fell
from the yellow brick road.

KING KITRICK

Silence! You will follow me and
have a meal with me, since you are
in my kingdom. I have never denied
another royal family and I shall
not deny yours.

PRINCESS CELESTIA

You had best do what he says. You
do not want to see what happens to
people who don't listen to him. Got
it?

(CONTINUED)

JOSHUA

Right!

Shooting a quick glance at Tommy, Joshua tries to suggest to him that the idea is okay by thrusting his head in the direction of the king and princess.

Still, Tommy is timid and swims far behind the rest of them as they make their way to the palace.

KING KITRICK

You two are quite silent. Is there a reason for this?

JOSHUA

Forgive us. We've never been to Oz, let alone met mer-people before. Everything is new and strange... We're only trying to learn of this new land that we are stuck in.

PRINCESS CELESTIA

Stuck in? How are you stuck in Oz? Do you mean that you are stranded here?

JOSHUA

It's a rather long story. You see, we're not even quite sure how we got here. Or where here is, geographically speaking.

KING KITRICK

We shall discuss it over dinner. We have arrived.

UNDERWATER. KING KITRICK'S CASTLE. AQUASIA, OZ. NIGHT.

The huge underwater palace looms before them. Like the king's crown, the castle seems to be constructed completely out of coral and gold. Its towers stand tall and strong and its walls are covered in all kinds of pink and orange sea flowers. In the place of a moat, the castle is surrounded by a huge ring of green fire.

JOSHUA

Fire under water?

PRINCESS CELESTIA

It's a spell from Glinda, the Good Witch of the South.

(CONTINUED)

TOMMY
Wow! Some spell!

As they make their way closer to the fire, it slowly begins to part.

The king moves to one side and the princess to the other, both motioning for Joshua and Tommy to enter.

Ahead, inside of the castle, hundreds of other mer-people and fish swim around.

When they notice their king and his new arrivals they all stop and stare.

One merman swims up to the king and bows.

RANDOM MER-PERSON
Your majesty. We had no idea you had both left the palace unescorted. Please forgive our lapse in protocol. I assure you this will not happen again.

The king dismisses the lackey with a wave of his hand, ignoring him.

TOMMY
This doesn't feel right.

JOSHUA
Shut up and swim.

As they make their way through the gates leading to the central part of the castle, we hear a proclamation of their arrival.

ANNOUNCER
Presenting King Joshua and Prince Thomas of New Hampshire.

The crowd again stops what they are doing and bow low to the ground in respect.

Tommy and Joshua freeze in awe. No one has ever bowed down to them before.

King Kitrick swims over to Joshua and whispers in his ear.

KING KITRICK
Unless you want my people to stay bent over all day, I suggest you greet them. That is, if you truly are royalty, as you say you are.

(CONTINUED)

JOSHUA

Oh, right! (to the crowds) Thank you for such a warm welcome. It's a pleasure to be here.

The mer-people rise and the king nods in approval.

He motions for them to follow him into a large chamber that overlooks the rest of the palace.

As they pass through the masses, people wave and cheer. Some even begin to dance with one another.

INT. KING KITRICK'S DINING ROOM. AQUASIA, OZ. NIGHT.

Follow the king into a mostly vacant room and discover a large table surrounded by only three chairs.

JOSHUA

Will the princess not be joining us?

KING KITRICK

You'll do well to forget you ever met my daughter.

JOSHUA

Yes, sir.

As Tommy and Joshua are both invited to sit, servants instantly begin bringing out what looks like a large feast. Meats of all sorts, sea vegetables and a few other unrecognizable items are placed on the table. The king slams his staff into the ground and the servants scatter.

KING KITRICK

Now, King Joshua, what is your business in Oz?

JOSHUA

I've already told you: we have no business here. We're simply lost.

KING KITRICK

Do not lie to me, human.

JOSHUA

I'm not. Really I'm not.

KING KITRICK

Then explain this.

(CONTINUED)

From behind his back he produces our copy of The Wonderful Wizard of Oz.

KING KITRICK (cont'd)
How can you have books on Oz, when
you claim you've never heard of it?

JOSHUA
Oh, you see...

KING KITRICK
Silence. Look before you. Our
dinner that we are about to share,
do you recognize what the dish is?

They stare down at the pile of meat on their plates.

It doesn't look like any meat they've seen before. It's mostly pink surrounded by a tan slab of what must've been the animal's skin.

Tommy and Joshua shake their heads "no."

TOMMY
Gross... no.

KING KITRICK
It's a dish that's quite popular in
the land of Aquasia. A delicacy.
It's called "Umain."

JOSHUA
Well, it sounds interesting. What's
in it?

KING KITRICK
Human flesh.

Joshua's eyes grow wide with terror and Tommy's do the same.

KING KITRICK (cont'd)
I hope now you understand that I am
serious when I question your
motives in the Land of Aquasia. I'm
going to leave you here until you
decide to tell me the truth. Do not
try to escape. I will have a guard
directly outside the door.

He turns to face the door and almost exits, but before he does, he pauses and turns back to them.

KING KITRICK (cont'd)
Oh, if you get hungry, do try the
Umain.

The king lets out a billowing laugh and exits through the door.

TOMMY
Oh, no way! That's so nasty,
umain... human. Gross!

JOSHUA
Okay, calm down. Forget about that.
We've got to find another way out.

Joshua frantically begins to search around the room again, checking all walls and corners of the thick stone for any cracks that they might squeeze through.

Tommy grabs the large table and slides it in front of the door, acting as a barricade.

The book still sits on it and Tommy scoops it into his hands.

TOMMY
At least we have this back now.

JOSHUA
What the heck? Tamara gets to just
fall down and hurt her head and
we're gonna get eaten alive by the
king of all mermaids? That's just
messed up.

There's scraping noise coming from above their heads.

Tommy and Joshua both look around the room, trying to discover the source of the weird noise.

It begins to get louder and suddenly the room bursts full of light. They look up and see Princess Celestia.

PRINCESS CELESTIA
If you want to live, get up here
now!

They swim as fast as their legs can propel them.

Swimming up through the large hole, they notice that they are above the palace and a lot closer to the surface than they had thought.

She grabs hold of both of their hands and the three of them swim as a team.

Finally they break free of the water and their heads push through to real air.

PRINCESS CELESTIA (cont'd)

I'm sorry! Father's a little bit set in his ways, if you know what I mean. You had best go before he finds you.

JOSHUA

Why did you help us?

PRINCESS CELESTIA

I have a thing for Humans! Drives my dad nuts! And cut human boys like you don't just fall from the sky every day. Wish you didn't have to run so quickly... but, you know... impending doom...

The princess pulls Tommy close and plants a big kiss on his lips. He gets all starry eyed like a child getting their first pet.

Then she kisses Joshua as well, this girl likes to party.

JOSHUA

Let's go. We have to get to dry land.

With one final wave, the princess disappears back into the water and Joshua and Tommy swim as quickly as they can to the shore.

They collapse onto the sand, panting for breath.

Ahead of them in the distance is a large patch of pumpkins. They would have noticed them had they not passed out.

CUT TO BLACK.