

Inconceivable

The pilot episode of the continuation of The Princess Bride saga

Written by

Carolyn McCray

craftycmc@aol.com  
818-687-0757

EXT. CHICAGO APARTMENT BUILDING - MORNING

Bustling city, L-train clacking along, clearly modern times.

INT. FRED (THE GRANDSON) APARTMENT - MORNING

As (O.S.) sounds of a man hurrying to get ready for work drift from the bathroom, the camera pans on a shrine-like bookcase filled with Princess Bride memorabilia, a large picture of his Grandfather, topped with Cubs pennants, banners, and hats. These are the only true decorations in an otherwise spartan apartment.

FRED'S phone rattles on the table. Fred hops in on one leg, while trying to put his pants on to find his ride is here. Before he can swipe to accept, the text states his driver is leaving.

FRED

No, no, no. Not again.

As he texts back, he looks over to the shrine to a painting of Wesley

FRED (CONT'D)

Bet you never have problems like  
this, do you?

EXT. FLORIN - MORNING

WESLEY and MONTOYA are back to back, fighting off ten horsemen. It is perhaps the second greatest sword fight in the history of sword fighting.

BUTTERCUP is up in the tree and has apparently gotten quite good with a bow and arrow. Despite the help, Wesley and Montoya are about to be overrun when FEZZIK roars onto the battlefield, startling the horses.

Some of the ATTACKERS are bucked off, others simply flee. One lone attacker wrestles control and turns his horse on Fezzik.

LONE ATTACKER

Ya!

He charges his horse toward Fezzik, who seems quite casual about it, then pulls out a burning cloak. The horse slams on the brakes and throws the attacker, right into Fezzik's arms.

LONE ATTACKER (CONT'D)

Please, spare me.

FEZZIK  
As you wish.

Fezzik does, by punching him in the face. The attacker goes limp in his arms.

MONTOYA  
No! Fezzik! We needed him awake!

FEZZIK  
Oh, sorry.

Buttercup climbs down from the tree.

BUTTERCUP  
Fezzik, you really might want to learn your own strength.

FEZZIK  
Why?

MONTOYA  
See? See? This is what I must endure!

WESLEY  
Perhaps next time one of us should be the closer then.

BUTTERCUP  
Perhaps the Dread Pirate Roberts?

WESLEY  
Oh my darling. You know what it does to me when you call me such.

They kiss. Montoya throws up his hands and turns to Fezzik.

MONTOYA  
See? See what I must endure?

FEZZIK  
There once was a Spanish swordsman...

Fezzik looks to Montoya who turns away, huffing.

FEZZIK (CONT'D)  
There once was a Spanish swordsman who was not very happy with his friend's plan...

Montoya is lured into the rhyming.

MONTOYA  
Who hit them over the head with his  
pan.

They chuckle and shake hands.

BUTTERCUP  
But what now? How are we going to  
know the Queen's plans if we don't  
have one of her guard's man?

Wesley sheaths his sword in a very dramatic fashion.

WESLEY  
We shall do what we always do!

Everyone cheers agreement until Fezzik frowns.

FEZZIK  
What's that?

Now Buttercup frowns.

BUTTERCUP  
Yes, my dear, what exactly is that?

WESLEY  
Oh, well, I was hoping one of you  
would know.

EXT. FLORIN CITY - MORNING

The castle seems in more disrepair than the last time we were here. Scorch marks on the stone, a new moat filled with purple water.

INT. FLORIN CASTLE - CONTINUOUS

The large throne room is glum and musty. A lone figure swathed in black sits brooding upon the throne, QUEEN MALUM.

Her faithful servant, NAJIH, dressed in Moorish attire hurries in, then stumbles to a stop as he sees the Queen's mood.

QUEEN MALUM  
Well, do you have the not-the-  
prettiest-woman-in-the-world-any-  
more's head for me?

NAJIH  
Not exactly.

QUEEN MALUM

You don't have her head or she has  
been disfigured?

NAJIH

Um, neither your majesty. It seems,  
well...

QUEEN MALUM

Another fantastical failure?  
Another squadron trounced by the  
moronic miscreants my imbecilic  
brother allowed to escape?

NAJIH

Yes, if we wished to speak only in  
hyperbole.

The queen huffs, rising from her throne, swishing her yards  
and yards of dark fabric.

NAJIH (CONT'D)

And in all fairness your brother  
was taken over by angry villagers  
and well...it didn't end well for  
him.

QUEEN MALUM

A fitting punishment for a --

NAJIH

Mentally challenged narcissist  
nincomepoop?

QUEEN MALUM

Well spoken.

Najih nods.

QUEEN MALUM (CONT'D)

I really should thank him. After  
all his early demise allowed me to  
come out of banishment.

NAJIH

It was convenient your father  
couldn't remember banishing you in  
the first place.

QUEEN MALUM

Yes, so put together another  
squadron and this time bring back a  
head. At this point I'd be pleased  
with any head.

NAJIH

Well, my Queen...

QUEEN MALUM

What?

NAJIH

Rumors. You know how the common  
folk talk...

QUEEN MALUM

About?

NAJIH

Well, how few of our soldiers have  
returned from these... failed,  
doomed, perhaps even cursed  
expeditions. And with the ongoing  
war with Gilder... well, we really  
aren't having many volunteer for  
the army any more.

QUEEN MALUM

I have allowed them to keep their  
first born. What more do they want  
from me?

NAJIH

Is that a trick question?

QUEEN MALUM

Yes, yes it was. Good catch.

The sound of slow CLAPPING comes from O.S. An impish man,  
LONGUS VIZZINI, with four male thugs walks into the throne  
room.

QUEEN MALUM (CONT'D)

I shall squash any intruder like a  
bug.

VIZZINI

Ah, but we both know you can't do  
that, now can you Queen?

Both Malum and Najih are taken back by Vizzini's brash  
proclamation.

QUEEN MALUM

I --

VIZZINI

You are the Queen of the Night. The  
Sorceress of the Beasts.

(MORE)

VIZZINI (CONT'D)

You command much, my Queen, but not death. You cannot cause it, nor can you order it done.

The Queen stands to full height, towering over the Imp.

QUEEN MALUM

But I could turn you into a moth and let you loose into the forest and see how you fare.

VIZZINI

Ah, well, I was hoping for a jellyfish, my Queen. I would live for all eternity and be able to kill with a single sting.

QUEEN MALUM

Eternity?

VIZZINI

You might want to consider it if this life a tyrant gets too much.

NAJIH

Declare yourself or I will call in the palace guards.

VIZZINI

No need. I am here to help you with your nasty little problem in the north.

QUEEN MALUM

We have no problem in the north.

VIZZINI

No, I believe two of them are blond, a swordsmen, and a Giant if I am not mistaken.

Malum and Najih glance to once another.

VIZZINI (CONT'D)

And I am here to capture them for you. Drag them back to the Capital and allow you to do as you wish as long as they suffer.

NAJIH

For?

VIZZINI

I mean, this is for revenge, but  
I'm not stupid. A thousand gold  
coins, plus my own personal  
satisfaction or their suffering.

NAJIH

A thousand coins?

Malum weighs her options. Najih shrugs.

QUEEN MALUM

When would you leave on this quest?

LONGUS VIZZINI

This moment, my Queen.

QUEEN MALUM

Very well then... and Najih will  
accompany you.

NAJIH

What? No, my Queen --

QUEEN MALUM

You said I wouldn't find many  
volunteers. Ta Ta.

Vizzini's thugs grab Najih by the arm and drag him from the throne room as Najih complains.

EXT. CHICAGO OFFICE BUILDING

Fred rushes through the rain, using his satchel as a head covering, clearly unable to get a ride to work.

INT. CHICAGO OFFICE BUILDING

Fred stumbles into the lobby as two co-workers (AUSTIN 30s, and DESTINY late 30s) check in with security.

AUSTIN

Dude, you seriously need to get up  
earlier.

Fred brushes off the rain, forcing the others to back off.

FRED

I got up at 6:30!

AUSTIN

But then you read your stupid book.

FRED

No.

AUSTIN

Drawing something from your stupid book?

FRED

No.

DESTINY

Researching something about the book?

FRED

Maybe.

Austin throws his hands into the air.

AUSTIN

Dude, that book is killing you.

DESTINY

I think it's sweet he has such a bond with a book his grandfather read him.

AUSTIN

Oh, don't you start too!

The other two go through the security check but Fred doesn't have his I.D.

FRED

Oh no, I must have left it at home.

Destiny waves to the security guard.

DESTINY

He's my guest, we're good.

FRED

Oh, thanks.

Austin gives Fred a look, then to Destiny, then to Fred. Fred looks confused. Behind Destiny's back Austin makes a kissy face. Fred frowns, shakes his head as he moves past.

EXT. FORESTS OF FLORIN - AFTERNOON

Wesley and his band enter to cheers from the villagers. Another group enters from the other side. They look very similar to Wesley et al.

Wesley smiles as the two groups come together in an embrace.

WESLEY

Ah, our doppelgangers were  
successful as well!

However the one that looks like Wesley, VERONA, pulls off her mustache and smiles.

VERONA

And did they get a surprise!

The one that is dressed as Montoya is also a woman, GALLIS.

GALLIS

And I assume you relieved the  
Queen's men of their gold?

Feezik holds up a huge bag of gold. The crowd cheers.

MONTOYA

For the orphans!

The gold is taken by a villager as the two groups of fighters gather around a large fire pit.

VERONA

You did well this day.

WESLEY

As did you.

GALLIS

The orphans will be well taken care  
despite the Queen.

BUTTERCUP

Yes, but...

WESLEY

But what, my darling?

BUTTERCUP

We kept stealing money for the  
orphans, but everyday...

FEZZIK

There are more orphans.

MONTOYA

Sometimes, my large friend, you  
surprise me.