

EP. 015: FAIRY TALE

SAM

Hey Janet, what's today's topic again?

JANET

Unions.

SAM

Cool, there's a lot we can do with that. Uh... green unions vs. red onions, which are tastier? And what about shallots? Union bagels - better than sesame? I think so.

JANET

Sam -

SAM

Oh, the Beatles song: "Looking through a glass union."

JANET

Sam, you moron, that's onions.

SAM

Oh, right, it's like the mnemonic: onions are on, but a union needs you. But hang on -

JANET

That's not a mnemonic.

SAM

So we're talking about the permanently-under-construction subway station in downtown Toronto?

JANET

No, not that Union. And what do you mean it's "under construction"? I thought Toronto's public transit was world class.

SFX of long, long, long laughter break, erupting into cheers and applause.

SAM

Should we just end the show on that joke?

JANET
I'm feeling generous.

SAM
Cool, you're talking about a
popular archetype?

JANET
Jungian.

SAM
MTV trophies?

JANET
Moon men.

SAM
Giant lumberjack?

JANET
Bunyan.

SAM
Popular squash?

JANET
Pumpkin, and you're an idiot.

SAM
Well, gee, it seems I never heard
of a "union" before.

JANET
And no wonder. See, unions are a
long-lost form of collective
action. Or so we think. Nowadays,
it seems unions are just a fable
or fairy tale. But there was once
a time when unions fought on
behalf of a third of non-farm
workers. A magical time. The 50s.

SAM
Come on, Janet, I mean I've heard
of onions and Jungians, as you
know - but this all sounds made
up.

JANET
Oh yes? Well, Sam, join me as I
weave a tale of the mythical land
of unions.

SAM

Okay.

SFX of harps, etc.

PRINCESS

Citizens, it is I, the fair
Princess Concessia, with tidings
of joy!

PIPPIN

(munchkin voice)

Tidings?! You'll have to do better
than that to win the acclaim of
your people!

PRINCESS

Why it's Pippin Point-of-Order,
head of the Gumdrop Union!

PIPPIN

Local 158 by the chocolate lake,
and we demand matching RRSP
contributions and \$10,000 for
professional development or we
strike!

PRINCESS

But of course, Pippin, the kingdom
only thrives through your labour!
All this shall be yours!

PIPPIN

Huzzah!

(singing)

Well, the workers never stop /
while they make the sweet gum
drops / and - oh no, evil Queen
Grievance!

QUEEN

Yes, 'tis I, the wretched Queen
Grievance, and I demand you work
forever!

PIPPIN

You can't make us work overtime!
It's in our CBA!

QUEEN

Oh no? Scabra-cadabra! You're
all fired!

PIPPIN

Oh no!

QUEEN

My army of scabby, scaly sludge
monsters will do your work for
next to nothing!

(laughter)

A shredded social safety net
leaves them no choice!

(laughter)

PRINCESS

I'm sorry, Pippin, her spells are
too powerful!

QUEEN

Get to work, sludge monsters!
Widget Media needs their latest
shipment of content by end-of-day!

SLUDGE MONSTERS

Check the levels, hit record /
podcasting's its own reward! /
Check the levels, hit record /
podcasting's its own reward! /

PRINCESS

Sludge monsters, you're obviously
very dedicated creators of
content, but what if I told you
you didn't have to live your life
begging for \$5 subscriptions to
your premium feed.

SLUDGE MONSTERS

1-2-3-4, we won't podcast any
more / 5-6-7-8 unless we get the
Chapo rate

QUEEN

Drat, I've been foiled by
organized labour. And now I'm
melting for no reason! Other than
to complete the parody!

PRINCESS

So ends another day in the land
of unions.

PIPPIN

Let's have an orgy!

SFX of disco. SFX of harp.

SAM

Wow, Janet, I wish I lived in the
land of unions.

JANET

You can, Sam. If you can dream it,
you can live it. But you'll have
to fight for it.

SAM

Can't I just drink myself to
death instead?

JANET

Well, that's certainly easier.
And cooler.

Fading.

SAM

Oh, nice! Let's do a cigarette.

JANET

I smoked the biggest cigarette, I
got so messed up.

SAM

No way! I love being bad and cool.

SFX of boozecan music - whatever that means, I just wanted to
write 'boozecan'.