

Mari: Legends Episode 3: Ghouls and Fools

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FADE IN:

EXT. DARK FOREST RIVER – LATE NIGHT

We are shown a view of a dark forest, then we pan down to see our heroes sailing down a river inside it.

We change to a view of Dana looking focused while steering the boat. She squints her eyes.

DANA

Jeez it's so dark I can't see a thing!

She yawns.

DANA

It's getting quite late too...

We switch to Dana's point of view showing how dark it is with the light on the boat barely helping with visibility.

Out of nowhere a giant spider appears in front of the view.

We switch back to view Dana who screams and falls down onto the floor. As she catches her breath she notices a string coming out of the spider and looks up where Yurei fades in, she laughs.

YUREI

Oh man, that was awesome! You should have seen the look on your face! HAHA!

Dana sighs.

DANA

Seriously?

She gets back to steering.

DANA

You're lucky this steering wheel is as tight as it is, your little prank could have resulted in us crashing!

YUREI

Come on, I'm just having fun! Besides shouldn't we stop somewhere anyway? Everybody looks like zombies.

The view changes to show Mari, Grayson and Clover looking tired with bags under their eyes.

We go back to Dana who is looking their direction.

DANA

You do have a point, we did stay up way longer than we should have...

She shouts towards the direction of the rest of the gang.

DANA

You guys, I'm gonna stop the boat soon so we can rest.

Mari, Grayson and Clover collectively brighten up and start cheering

MARI

Yes!

GRAYSON

I thought you'd never say so!

CLOVER

Yippee!

We cut to the group stopping the boat near an old abandoned dock. As they step onto it the wood creaks. Dana very cautiously ties the boat to the dock.

DANA

Alright, it's secure!

MARI

Finally, some sleep!

GRAYSON

Not so fast Mari. Just look around you, doesn't this place look like the perfect spot for some scary story time?

Mari looks at Grayson with a bit of confusion

MARI

Didn't you wanna sleep like the rest of us?

GRAYSON

I mean, yeah but at the same time when are we gonna get such a perfect opportunity again?

CLOVER

I agree with Grayson, mostly because he's got some great stories he can tell you.

GRAYSON

Yeah, Clover wasn't able to sleep back when we were kids.

CLOVER

You don't have to tell her that!

Mari lets out a sigh.

MARI

Alrighty then, if you say so, how's about we gather some firewood?

YUREI

Aw yeah! Count me in! I'll go on ahead!

Yurei zips away into the forest.

DANA

Hey, wait for us! You'll get lost going in by yourself!

Dana runs after Yurei, the rest of the gang follow.

EXT. INSIDE THE DARK FOREST – NIGHT

Yurei is seen zipping along the path when she arrives at an intersection. The rest of the gang arrive shortly.

GRAYSON

Well seems like the road splits here. How about we split as well and get more fire wood that way?
Mari, Clover you're coming to the right with me. Dana, Yurei. take the left.

Dana zips right towards Grayson, leans to him and whispers.

DANA

Are you sure you wanna leave me with her?

GRAYSON

(clearly louder than Dana)

What, you afraid of our little ghost friend?

(laughing)

Come on now Dana, she's harmless!

Grayson turns to Mari.

GRAYSON

Besides I think she could use some alone time with her.

DANA

I can hear you!

Mari nods.

DANA

Don't encourage him!

Yurei using her telekinesis snags a stick and uses it to drag Dana with her. Dana yelps.

YUREI

Well come on already! We're wasting time!

DANA

Wha- wait!

The two of them disappear into the forest. Mari, Clover and Grayson giggle to themselves.

EXT. DEEP INSIDE THE DARK FOREST – NIGHT

The view moves between the trees of the forest. We see some owls flying around as well as a pack of wolves on the hunt.

After a short bit we arrive near Dana and Yurei who are walking along the forest path. Dana is nervously looking around as she walks. Yurei is filled with joy, flying all around while giggling.

DANA
(nervously)
Sure is dark huh?

YUREI
Dark? I've seen darkness darker than dark itself!
(smiling)
It was lonely and scary.

DANA
(to herself)
So that's what death feels like...
(towards Yurei)
By the way, have you seen any firewood yet?

There is no answer.

DANA
...Yurei?

Dana looks to notice that Yurei is gone. She tenses up and looks around to see if she spots her anywhere nearby. Nothing.

Dana then points her flashlight to a pile of leaves, there are a few sticks lying right next to them. She reaches to grab them when suddenly a gust of wind comes in and spins the leaves and sticks around. The pile forms a creature. While looking cute at first it then opens its mouth which has sharp teeth. It then lets out a creepy screech.

Dana screams and begins to run. As she runs through the forest she completely disregards the path and runs through the trees. The creature is on her tail. Dana arrives at a cliff, it's a dead end. The creature comes up to her slowly getting closer.

Dana notices a stick lying right next to her, grabs it and whacks the creature. The leaves that formed its body scatter around. Dana breaths heavily.

Yurei then fades in.

YUREI
(laughing)
HA HA HA! Oh man, that would hurt!

Dana's face turns from a frightened look to that of anger.

DANA
What is wrong with you?! Pulling another one of your pranks just for the sake of it?!

YUREI

Jeez, do you always have to be so serious about everything?

DANA

Do you always have to do these things when it's the last thing you should be doing?

YUREI

Hey, I'm just trying to ease the tension!

DANA

What tension? Oh let me guess, the fact we could get...

They both freeze for a moment.

DANA AND YUREI BOTH

...Lost?

They look around and realize they have no idea where they are.

DANA

Oh no... no no no no NO! We're actually lost! What do we do??

YUREI

I- I'm sorry, I didn't think we could...

Dana looks over at Yurei who seems like she's on the verge of crying. She crouches down and tries to put her hand on her shoulder, it passes through. She places her hand where it should be.

DANA

We can get out of this, I'm sorry for getting mad at you like that. You are a kid after all... Still, we gotta figure out how to get back to the others.

Yurei wipes the tears from her eyes and looks around. She spots something

YUREI

Hey, how about that house over there? Maybe we could ask whoever lives there.

DANA

House?

Dana looks where Yurei is looking. They see a huge spooky-looking mansion.

DANA

I... suppose we could try but doesn't it seem a bit...

YUREI

Scary? Absolutely perfect?

(excited)

Come on let's go!

Yurei zips in the direction of the mansion.

DANA
Hey wait! Man... didn't learn a thing.

Dana runs after Yurei.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE MANSION – NIGHT

Yurei arrives at the door to the mansion, Dana arrives shortly after gasping for air from running.

YUREI
Wow! It's bigger up close! Someone rich must live out here!

DANA
(almost out of breath)
Huff... maybe... it could... huff... also be... huff... abandoned...

YUREI
Well we won't know until we knock on the door!

DANA
Okay... here goes nothing.

Dana uses the knocker on the door. They wait a bit to see if anyone comes to open but no one comes.

DANA
Well, I guess no one's here.

Suddenly it starts to rain.

YUREI
Well if it belongs to no one, it can belong to us for a night!

DANA
I suppose we could hide from the rain.

They open the door and get inside.

INT. MANSION – NIGHT

When Dana and Yurei enter inside the mansion the door shuts with a loud bang on its own behind them.

Dana jumps, turns around and tries opening the door again but isn't able to.

DANA
Hey! Open up! This isn't funny! Next you'll tell me this place is actually haunted!

YUREI
A haunted mansion! Awesome! Let's look around and see if we can find any armor stands with big axes that'll try to cut our heads off!

Yurei flies off.

DANA
WHAT?!?!

EXT. DARK FOREST – NIGHT

We switch back to Mari, Grayson and Clover who just got back to the dock with a bunch of firewood ready. They are sitting at the dock waiting for Dana and Yurei, their prolonged absence has them worried.

CLOVER
Where could those two be?

MARI
I hope they're not lost...

GRAYSON
Surely not, I mean all they have to do is follow the path.

MARI
What if something happened? Maybe we should go look for them.

CLOVER
I agree

Grayson gets up.

GRAYSON
Alright, let's split up and search. Oh and by the way, take these.

Grayson hands Mari and Clover a loaf of bread each.

CLOVER
...bread?

GRAYSON
You know, so you can find your way back.

MARI
You're suggesting we use bread crumbs to find our way back? Like the fairy tales?

GRAYSON
Hey I'm making sure we don't have any more lost people! Let's just go.

They all split up and begin searching for Dana and Yurei.

INT. MANSION – NIGHT

We see Dana and Yurei walking around the mansion together. It is dark, there's lots of vintage furniture and decorations all over. Some of the furniture is broken.

YUREI

This place is huge! You could have all of your friends AND their mothers AND their grandmothers over for a sleepover here!

DANA

If someone was to invite me for a sleepover at a place like this I'm not sure if I could sleep at all! This place feels like something straight out of an old horror movie.

YUREI

Uh-oh Dana! Look out!

Yurei can be seen behind Dana using her telekinesis bringing down a plastic skeleton seemingly from the ceiling. Dana jumps and screams, Yurei proceeds to laugh.

YUREI

You're so funny Dana! How does it get you every time?

Dana's expression turns sour as she growls she then hears something. She attempts to cover Yurei's mouth.

DANA

Yurei! Shh!

YUREI

(while chuckling)

Heheh What?

DANA

Do you hear that?

Yurei calms down her laughter. They both listen carefully then realize that they're hearing familiar voices. They approach one of the open doors just enough to hear clearer but to not be seen. Through the door we see Yamita and Troy pass by.

YAMITA

You sure we should have stopped here? I mean look at all this mold! I'm sure this entire kitchen is a biohazard. Not to mention all that potential for getting splinters all over yourself.

TROY

Well it is what it is, at least we're away from the rain.

Dana points towards a closet. Yurei nods and they both get inside to hide as Yamita and Troy set to leave the kitchen. While they're hiding they overhear the conversation Yamita and Troy are having.

TROY

By the way, I found something in that dusty drawer you refused to touch, read this.

We change the view to see Yamita and Troy. Troy hands Yamita a piece of paper, a note. Yamita reads it. She then gets a wide smile on her face.

YAMITA

A rose that keeps you alive? And they were growing them here? Consider me intrigued! Come on, let's go find wherever it is they grew those roses.

Yamita and Troy walk away from the closet Dana and Yurei are hiding in. Shortly after Dana and Yurei come out of the closet.

DANA

Oh man, first we get lost, then we end up in this place and now Yamita and Troy are here too?? If they find us we're screwed! You hear me? Screwed! Oh this day just keeps getting worse by the minute!

Yurei visibly annoyed by Dana's panic uses telekinesis to bring over a piece of paper, crumples it up and shoves it in Dana's mouth.

YUREI

Take a chill pill lady, jeez! If you keep panicking like that then they'll find us way easier. Now take a deep breath.

Dana breaths in and out through her nose. Yurei then pulls the paper out of Dana's mouth and tosses it away.

DANA

You're right, we need to get rid of them.

YUREI

Oooh! Are you saying we should...
(makes a knife stabbing motion)

DANA

No! What? We need to come up with a plan to get them out of here!

YUREI

Right, that makes more sense.

DANA

Anyway... I did bring some of my pocket gadgets in case we needed them.

Dana reaches into her pocket and pulls out a couple small cubes.

YUREI

Oh cool! Wait... so you brought playing dice but not a map or a compass?
(smugly)
Some genius you are.

DANA

Hush. We don't have time to bicker about that now. We need a plan! And these aren't playing dice they're gadgets that can compress themselves into a cube.

Dana puts one cube onto the ground. It transforms into a little RC car.

YUREI

Woah, cool! You know... this gives me an idea.

We cut to a long hallway that Yamita and Troy are passing through and looking through every drawer in any piece of furniture they come across to find clues about the hidden rose plantation.

YAMITA

Found anything useful yet?

TROY

Useful? No. Creepy photos of a little girl with her parents where the parent's heads are cut out with scissors? Yes.

YAMITA

Pay attention to the important things will you? I want my hands on those roses!

TROY

Do we really have to search every tiny drawer we come across? I mean some secret information like that would probably be somewhere of importance, like the big honcho's office or something.

YAMITA

Silly boy, that's exactly how they would think we'd look for it! You gotta think in reverse psychology, they'll leave it somewhere unassuming so no one thinks to look there!

Troy with an unamused look on his face rolls his eyes.

TROY

Whatever you say.

As we focus on Troy searching the drawer, in the background behind him a shadow quickly passes by making a giggling noise. It grabs Troy's attention, he looks behind himself to see nothing. He shakes his head thinking he's imagining things. He goes back to searching. The shadow with the noise pass by again, this time on the ceiling. Troy looks behind again. He then looks to Yamita.

TROY

You hearing that too?

YAMITA

What, the giggling? Some kid is playing in the forest. You're a mercenary damn it! Are you afraid of a little girl in the woods?!

TROY

No I- whatever...

He goes back to searching.

The view changes to Yamita who's looking at Troy with distaste. She shakes her head and continues searching a drawer of a desk right by the window of the room. Lightning strikes showing a shadowy figure by the window which Yamita doesn't notice. She stops searching the drawer and looks to the window with frustration visible on her face.

YAMITA

Ugh! Nothing here!

Lightning strikes again, revealing the shadowy figure again this time with red eyes which fade away once the lightning disappears. Yamita jumps back.

YAMITA
What the- woah!

Yamita falls down onto the floor. Troy starts laughing then mocks her.

TROY
(mockingly)
What's wrong? Is the Queen of Dark Magic afraid of a little girl in the woods?

Lightning strikes again, revealing the shadowy figure is standing behind them with a knife in its hand. The giggling noise can be heard.

Yamita and Troy look behind them. They spot the figure which slowly reveals a red glowing smile on its face. Yamita with a scared look on her face charges a spell in her finger.

YAMITA
S-stand back! I'm warning you!

The figure isn't bothered and slowly moves closer to the two of them. Yamita fires the spell which gets deflected and hits a lamp behind them, breaking it into pieces. They look at the broken lamp and then look back at the figure, which raises its arm holding the knife and speeds up. Yamita and Troy both scream and begin running.

They run through the hall with the figure chasing behind them. When they arrive where the hallway splits they think to go left first but then a giant spider with a baby doll face appears there. They book it to the right. They get to the main staircase and run down the stairs. Yamita tries to open the door but it's stuck. Desperate to get out, both Yamita and Troy start bashing at the door. They then hear the giggle again. They look behind them to see the figure right behind them smiling creepily. They squish against the door shaking in fear.

TROY
I told you there was something creepy about this place!

Yamita notices a window on the ceiling above them. Yamita snaps her fingers.

YAMITA
Please work please work please work.

A broom swoops through the window, breaking it and snatching both Yamita and Troy and getting them out of the mansion.

YAMITA
(in the distance)
SEE YOU LATER SUCKER!

Dana comes down the stairs with a remote control in her hand. She looks up at the broken window.

DANA
Alright it worked!

The shadowy figure falls apart revealing Yurei sitting on top of Dana's RC Car holding a set of lights.

YUREI

Hahaha! That was the funniest thing ever! These RGB whatever lights are awesome Dana!

They both laugh and celebrate their victory. However their celebration is cut short when a different, taller dark figure appears behind them with glowing red eyes.

FIGURE

What have you done?!

Dana and Yurei both look behind them and scream as they notice the figure.

EXT. DARK FOREST DOCK – NIGHT

We switch to a view of Mari and Grayson where the rain has already passed over. They are sitting by a set up campfire seeming worried.

MARI

Still no sign of those two...

GRAYSON

Yeah, who knows where they went.

MARI

Knowing Dana, she's probably not handling this well at all and Yurei despite having been in the afterlife for 300 years is still a child...

Grayson puts his hand on Mari's shoulder.

GRAYSON

Hey, I'm sure they're fine! I mean Dana's a scientist, she probably has all sorts of wacky doohickeys on her! And Yurei can fly as a ghost no?

MARI

You're right. But it has been so long.

As they talk Clover comes to the campfire running. They're breathing heavily from exhaustion.

GRAYSON

Cuz! Did you find them?

CLOVER

(exhausted)

huff... I think... There's this mansion... huff... and lots of noise coming out of it...

Mari gets up quickly.

MARI

Great! Let's go! Lead the way Clover.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE MANSION – NIGHT

We skip ahead to Mari, Grayson and Clover arriving at the mansion.

GRAYSON
What a creepy looking place.

MARI
I think that's a good sign, knowing Yurei she would want to see this place and drag Dana with her.

GRAYSON
Well the door is open so I guess someone must have been here.

The three of them walk inside the mansion and the door closes on its own behind them.

GRAYSON
What the! It's locked!

MARI
Yup, this is definitely something Yurei would be a fan of.

GRAYSON
Does this not give you the creeps at all?

MARI
(shrugs)
I'm used to it.
(smugly)
But what about you? Are you scared big man?

Grayson chuckles.

GRAYSON
Oh shut up.

CLOVER
Shh! Do you hear that?

Mari and Grayson stop and listen. Together with Clover they hear voices coming from one of the rooms. They walk to the open door of the room and take a peek inside. Inside the room they see Dana and Yurei sitting at the table with someone new. A ghost girl looking similar to Yurei but slightly older and with longer hair. They're laughing and talking with each other.

YUREI
So then we backed them to the door and that's when that witch broke the window with her broom!
They booked it so fast I could barely blink! Hahaha!

As the ghost girl laughs with Yurei and Dana she notices Mari, Grayson and Clover.

GHOST GIRL
MORE INTRUDERS?! How many are there gonna be tonight?!

The Ghost Girl begins to get up from the chair to confront the intruders but Yurei stops her.

YUREI

It's fine! They're our friends! They found us!

DANA

You guys! I'm so glad you're here!

Mari, Grayson and Clover walk over.

MARI

Oh hey! Good to see you two! We were worried sick! If you don't mind, is this a new friend of yours Yurei?

YUREI

Oh far from new! This is my cousin Dorothy! We haven't seen each other in 301 years! Apparently she had the same rose I did and when her parents abandoned her in the forest she became a roaming ghost too!

CLOVER

That's dark.

YUREI

Dorothy, this is Mari, that's Grayson and that's Clover!

DOROTHY

It's nice to meet you, sorry for freaking out at the first sight of you. Tonight was... unusual.

GRAYSON

Don't worry about it, I totally get that.

MARI

Grayson the police coming in after you stole something isn't the same thing as intruders breaking in.

GRAYSON

Hey you already know why I was doing it right?! Besides I don't need to do it anymore.

Mari chuckles and pats Grayson on the back.

CLOVER

Well, we found you guys and that's all that matters.

Dorothy thinks to herself.

YUREI

Something wrong cousin?

DOROTHY

Not at all. I was actually thinking since you and your friends are here, why not have a sleepover like the good old days?

Yurei's eyes light up.

YUREI
That'd be awesome!

MARI
That would be great! Thank you!

GRAYSON
Scary stories in a scary mansion? Sounds like a great night to me!

Dana grumbles.

DANA
There were enough spooks already...

EXT. OUTSIDE THE MANSION – MORNING

We skip ahead to the next day. Everybody's outside the mansion parting ways with Dorothy.

MARI
Thank you for letting us sleep over Dorothy!

DOROTHY
It was a pleasure, any friend of Yurei's is a friend of mine.

YUREI
It was good seeing you again cousin! I hope to see you again soon!

They all say goodbye to Dorothy and set on their way back to the dock.

Grayson points to the bread crumbs on the ground.

GRAYSON
See, told you it was a good idea!

DANA
You guys know you could have just used the compass I left in the ship. You just wasted our food supply!

GRAYSON
I thought it was a good idea!

They all laugh together. Dana looks to Yurei.

DANA
You know Yurei, back there we worked well together.

YUREI
Yeah! Maybe all that science stuff isn't as lame as I thought!

DANA

What do you say, should we bury the hatchet?

YUREI

What hatchet? The one that could cut our heads off?

DANA

(chuckles)

Never change Yurei.

They laugh together.

Grayson pokes Clover and Mari.

GRAYSON

See, I knew it would help them get along better.

CLOVER

Grayson, I admire you but this could have ended way worse than how it did.

GRAYSON

Come on! Do you guys just hate all my ideas?

MARI

It was a good idea don't get me wrong but the execution could have been better.

GRAYSON

(sighs)

Is this what it feels like to be the punching bag?

They all laugh one last time as they arrive at the ship. They get onboard and set sail off to another adventure.

FADE OUT