THE ADVENTURE
OF A LIFETIME

PART 1

by Maroon Popper

The crowd of people gathered around me as the blimp starts to slowly rise into the air. I wave back, smiling until I'm so high in the sky that I can't see them anymore. Then I sit back and pull out my map. I steer the blimp so I'm headed towards my next destination — the next island I'll visit.

I smile again, and shake my head. What an adventure, eh! I got framed for a crime I didn't commit and got thrown into prison — but with some help from the friends I made, I escaped. I even managed to do some good — I helped the people who had been at Pelican Rock for ages, and I helped the police catch the real criminal who had framed me. But now my work there is done, and it's time for me to move on to a new adventure.

I sigh. It's at times like these, when I'm alone, travelling in my blimp, that I think about my past. My life is completely alone, and I feel so lonely at times. I decided that the next thing I should do would be to go back home. The only drawback was, I had no idea where my home was.

And that takes us to today. It's been three years since I ended up in Early Poptropica, and I still haven't found my home. Every time a new island pops up onto my map, I fly there as quickly as I can, hoping against hope that this new island would be my island. But it never is. I meet new people, I complete the quest. I help people out, then those people go back to their lives, and I leave. I'm starting to lose faith that I'll ever find my home.

It's ironic, isn't it: when I was little all I wanted was to go on an adventure, and now that I'm having the adventure of a lifetime all I truly want is to return home. I miss my family: my parents, my older brother, my little sister. My sister must be so big by now. And I've changed so much as well: the hyperactive little girl with the two bunches who ran aboard that ship is gone. I've turned into a quiet, slightly grumpy teenager who has gone through incredible experiences. Would my parents even recognise me if they saw me? Would I recognise them? It worries me, but I'm starting to forget their faces.

I keep descending down towards the island, and as I land, I get the feeling that this island is going to be special. That I'm going to find something that will help me find my home. It's probably dumb, but I have a good feeling about this place.

I jump down from the blimp, eager to start exploring. I don't know what it is I'll find, but maybe it'll take me one step closer to the place where I belong.
INSIDE OUT
by Fearless Rider and Green Star

PROLOGUE

Uh oh! Two best friends, Green Star and Fearless Rider, use a computer cheat they found on the internet to do something they've never done before, and their lives might even be in danger. What do they do, and how do they get back home? But, will they end up having the biggest adventure of their lives?

CHAPTER ONE

I chew bubble gum and punch in the 10 numbers on my iPhone to my best friends cell. “Hello? Who is this?” My friend, Green Star says. I roll my eyes. “Duh! It’s me! We texted about this 10 minutes ago! Hey, where are you?” We’re playing the game I in the Astro Knights common room. “Where are you?” I use my mouse to scroll to the left. “Ohh... I thought you were in the common room, and Green Star whored in. “Your inventory! DRIVING a blimp is a lot harder than it seems!” Green Star exclaimed. I turned the flame off under the blimp and we fell like a rock. “Prepare for impact!” Green Star shouted.

CHAPTER TWO

“AAAAHHH!!! Oh no... oh no... oh no oh no oh no! WHY DID I DO THIS?!? WAAAAHH!!!” Green Star cried. I shook my head. “FEARLESS RIDER! DO YOU KNOW WHAT IS OUT THERE?!? I am still frozen. “Umm, uh, L... I can’t remember.” Green Star started to hiccup. “Hic! It’s a Hic! Alien Hic! Invasion Hic! With Binary Hic! Bard Hic!” I shook myself and gasp. “WHO THE HECK THINKS OF THESE ACTUALLY PRETTY TERRIFYING ISLANDS?!?!” Green Star took a deep breath. “Wait. Outside is actually just the impact of the invasion. Oh thank goodness. But, let’s just make an agreement ahead of time, we are NOT going to Zomberry Island.” I nodded. “Agreed.” I pace back and forth. “I think we should go outside and get our fears over with, get in the hot air balloon, and head straight for Home Island. It’s probably the safest place we can go.” Green Star exhaled. “Your right. But we should make some ground rules first.” I tilted my head. “What do you mean?” Now it’s her turn to pace. “Rule number one. Don’t talk to ANYONE. Rule number two. Get to where we need to go as far as possible. Rule number three. Don’t do anything crazy. Okay? Don’t try to climb on top of a tower then jump off, or go to jail on that new island or something.” I nod again. “Okay. Let’s go!” We breathed in and out deeply, then walked into the red walls of the Astro Knights common room, and I see everyone and everything. The holes in the buildings, the distressed citizens, and the crashed UFO. Green Star is circling around everything. “Wow! It’s actually pretty realistic. But, we have to hurry. Let’s go now.” We brush past the crazed Poptropicans to the yellow blimp and climbed up the rope. Green Star wiped her eyes and sniffed again. “Onward!”

CHAPTER THREE

Driving a blimp is a lot harder than it looks. A LOT harder. For one thing, it started to rain. Hard. My wet hair whipped around my face as Green Star tried to push the blimp to the left. “Fearless Rider! I don’t think we can do this any longer!” She shouted against the blasting thunder. I shook my head. “No! We have to get to Home Island! Do you want to be stuck here forever?” She shouted against the side of the blimp. “Of course not! But we’re not going there! We should land on the next island!” I grabbed my purse and shook those annoying blueberries out of my head. “I don’t think we should! I mean, our safest island besides Home is probably Early Poptropica or Shark Tooth! What am I saying? One of those islands has a giant man eating shark!” Green Star waved her hand at the birds. “You’re saying the easiest islands! Our safest bet is either Counterfeit or Poptropolis Games! I glare at her. ‘Seriously? Countert-feit? The Black Widow can, like, kill us by throwing a statue at us or something!” Green Star hits the side of the blimp again as the basket fills up with water. “We have to stop ar-eeeeees!” Green Star tried to push the blimp towards the basket. “Zomberry!” She shouted. “Your head. “What do you mean?” Now it’s her turn to pace. “Rule number one. Don’t talk to ANYONE. Rule number two. Get to where we need to go as far as possible. Rule number three. Don’t do anything crazy. Okay? Don’t try to climb on top of a tower then jump off, or go to jail on that new island or something.” I nod again. “Okay. Let’s go!” We breathed in and out deeply, then walked into the red walls of the Astro Knights common room, and I see everyone and everything. The holes in the buildings, the distressed citizens, and the crashed UFO. Green Star is circling around everything. “Wow! It’s actually pretty realistic. But, we have to hurry. Let’s go now.” We brush past the crazed Poptropicans to the yellow blimp and climbed up the rope. Green Star wiped her eyes and sniffed again. “Onward!”

CHAPTER FOUR

I can’t tell you exactly what happened next. It was all sort of fuzzy. I remember a big thud, Green Star shaking me, then we were inside the abandoned Berry Delicious. I rubbed my eyes. “Wha... what happened?” Green Star was sitting on the tile floor next to me. Green Star shrugged. “Nothing much. We landed. You fainted. I dragged you all the way down town while fighting off zombies. I found this place. I put you on the ground. And after two minutes you woke up.” I sat up. “Have you played this island yet?” Green Star shook her head. “No. But these blueberries are delicious!” I screamed and scooted as far away from her as possible. “BLUEBER-RIES TURN YOU INTO A ZOM-BIE!” Green Star laughed. “Duh! You told me about the island last month! I haven’t eaten anything here. Except some cheese when you were knocked out. Don’t ask.” Just then, I had an idea that practically made a ding! In my head. “Green Star! Do you know the one place that is always safe, no matter where you are?!” Green Star shrugged. “I dunno.” I was practically bouncing with excitement. “Your inventory! Of course!” Green Star nodded like a bobble head. “Yeah! But, how do we get there?” I turned around to be nose to nose with Green Star. “Prepare for impact!” Green Star laughed.

CHAPTER FIVE

It was totally dark, except for a faint blue light a few inches away from us. I walked towards the light and realized it was the Poptropica logo. I turned around to be nose to nose (Oh yeah, I forgot. I didn’t HAVE a nose...) with Green Star. She shrieked. “Ugh, I have screamed, like, twenty times today. And I hate loading.” I grin. “I bet we could make the logo bounce if we jump on it.” Green Star smiles. “I’m way ahead of you!” We run to the logo and jump, with me on the I and Green Star on the A. The fun only lasted seconds, because after that we were back in the blimp. “Where now?” I ask. Green Star tilted her head. “I hear thunder... at least I think, because I don’t have any ears. And I smell rain... I think. BECAUSE I DON’T HAVE A NOSE!”
I interrupt her. "Enough of your complaining! So, a storm’s coming. Where is the closest island?" Green Star looks at the sea below us. "Um... Red Dragon Island. Are you going to crash again?" I nod. "Yes. I don’t know any other way! This isn’t a plane!" She sighs. "Okay... and we are over Red Dragon... now." I turn off the flame. Same panic, same scream, same fear, ya da ya da ya da. It’s weird I think that was boring now. And then, after Green Star revived me again, we were in Jack and Annie’s backyard. Green Star was once again admiring the pixels. “So, how do we get to Home Island from here?” I ask. Green Star sighs. “I don’t know. We should get back in the blimp. It should be easy since it’s right there.” We climb up the rope to the basket, but before I hit the Go to the Map button, Green Star stops me. “Wait. We need think of a way so you don’t pass out again. Because I am REALLY scared that the next time you faint you’ll need mouth to mouth.” I shudder. “Yeah... that... that’s... ew. So... maybe I could make the flame smaller and smaller instead of turning it off all at once. THAT would be a better idea.” We both nod but I take my hand (or, should I say, dot?) away from the button. “Green Star... what if we never make it back home?” She sighs. “Well... if you think about it... living in Poptropica forever can’t be so bad. I mean, this place if full of fun and adventure! And, our parents are going to realize we’re gone sometime, so... if a dumb computer hacker can find out how to get us in a computer, the police can probably figure out how to get us out. And, if you think about it, we never age, we never die, and we can never get hurt! We can jump from, like, 70 feet in the air, and go into space, on a game show, inside of a comic, or our own creation in Realms. We can make as many friends as we want, and skydive with them, and play puzzles with them, and join the same tribe! You can shrink to the size of a penny, and go wherever we want in a huge yellow blimp!” I smile and put my hand on the button. “And that’s why Poptropica is awesome.”

THE END

www.tallcactuspoptropicablog.wordpress.com
Explore, Collect, Compete by MissEligon
Artwork

The Red Baroness by jesta7

Spencer by JennLikesPie

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