Octi vs. The Virus

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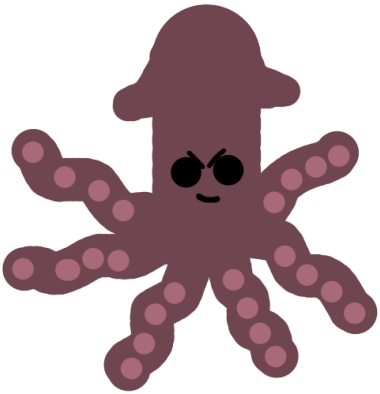
CHAPTER 01 (Quill's Lab)

Once upon a time...
There was a squid named "Quill" and she was an evil Squid. She was in her secret lab; she was making something evil to get revenge from Octi! Octi is a doctor, he is kind and he is innocent. The story between them happened in Central Oceans. Octi was lost that day, he was walking around trying to find Central City. A dog named "Timmy," a marine biologist rabbit named "Julie" and a pigeon named "Bread" came along with Octi to help his find his way home. Then Quill saw them and thought that she should bring them to her master. Quill's master is a shark, if Quill did not bring her master food. He will eat Quill. Quill saw his target and went towards it. She tricked Octi and his friends and she led them to a cave. Octi and his friends went into the cave and then Quill blocked the way out. Octi was about to be eaten but then he defeated the shark and escaped. Now Quill's master wants revenge from Octi, and he made Quill make something evil to kill Octi!



"How are you going to get REVENGE?" asked Quill's master. Quill's tentacles tightened around the glass vial in her hands. She had been dreading this question. Not because she did not have an answer, she had spent weeks preparing one, but because saying it out loud would make it real. "I'm doing something that will destroy his entire city!" she said, her voice louder than she intended. "And it is... a virus, a deadly one!" The word hung in the water between them. Quill had never said it aloud before. It felt heavier than she expected. Sharaxe's eyes narrowed. He was a shark of impressive size, with a scar across his left fin and teeth that had never known a dentist. He floated in the center of Quill's lab as if he owned it, which, in a way, he did. "A virus," he repeated slowly. "You mean a disease." Answered Sharaxe. "A virus," Quill said again, firmer this time. "A deadly one. It spreads through the water. Any creature that goes near it. fish, jellyfish, octopus, whale, they catch it. And then..." She didn't finish the sentence. She didn't need to. Sharaxe grinned. "And then they die." Said Sharaxe. Quill nodded. "How many?" asked Sharaxe

Quill hesitated. She had run the calculations three times. She had checked them twice more. The numbers were still the same, "If I release it at the right dose, at the right place... thousands. Maybe more." Sharaxe laughed. It was a horrible sound. "Thousands," he said, savoring the word. "And the octopus? The doctor?"
"He'll be there," Quill said quietly. "It's his city. He won't leave." Said Quill firmly.

"Good." Sharaxe swam a slow circle around her, his tail brushing against her workbench and knocking a small bottle of ink on the floor. Quill flinched but didn't move to pick it up. She had learned not to reach for things when Sharaxe was circling. "I'm still making the virus strong," she said. "I'll release it next month." Sharaxe stopped circling. "Next month?" he said. Quill's hearts, all three of them, skipped a beat. "The virus needs time to mature. If I release it too early, it won't be strong enough. It might not spread. It might not" said Quill "That's too long," Sharaxe interrupted. "Do it in a week." Said Sharaxe. "A week?" Quill's voice cracked. "Master, the virus isn't ready. If I rush it, the results could be unpredictable. It might not work at all. It might"

"Just make it in a week, if it's powerful, we can release it" Sharaxe's voice was quiet now, which was worse than when he shouted. Quiet meant he was deciding something. Quiet meant someone was about to be eaten. Quill lowered her eyes. "Yes, Master." Said Quill

"Do it in a week," Sharaxe repeated. "Or I'll find someone else who can. And you know what happens to animals who

disappoint me." Quill knew. She had seen it happen to a lobster who had once worked in the lab. She still had nightmares about it.

"Yes, master," she said. Sharaxe seemed satisfied. He drifted toward the door of the lab, then paused. "Do you know where our target lives?" Quill nodded. "Yes. He lives in Coral City."

"Coral City," Sharaxe mused. "I've heard of it. Warm water. Plenty of food. Plenty of prey" He turned back to her, and his eyes glinted. "And the doctor? What's his name?" "Octi," Quill said. "Doctor Octi."

"Octi," he said slowly. "The one who punched me." Quill's blood ran cold. "You're sure it's him?" Sharaxe asked. "I'm sure," Quill said. "I saw him. He's the one."

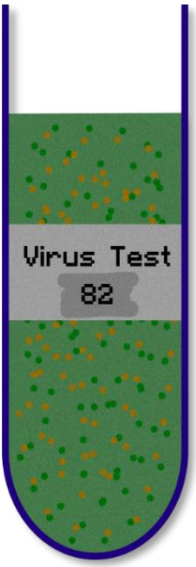
Sharaxe was silent for a long moment. Then he smiled again, a slow, terrible smile. "Good," he said. "I've been waiting a long time for this. That octopus humiliated me. He made me and my sharks look weak. And now..." He flexed his fins. "Now he'll pay." Quill said nothing. Sharaxe didn't care about fairness. He cared about power.

"One week," Sharaxe said, swimming toward the door. "I'll be back in one week. And if the virus isn't ready..." He didn't finish the sentence. He didn't need to. He left.

Quill floated alone in her lab, surrounded by beakers and vials and the faint green glow of the virus she was creating. She looked at the small glass bottle on her workbench, the

one she had been working on for weeks. It was almost full now. Almost ready.

She thought about Coral City. A city of octopuses and jellyfish. Warm water. Lots of food. A place where creatures lived together in peace. She thought about the thousands of creatures who would die if she released the virus. She thought about the doctor who had punched a shark to save his friends, “Such a fool” she thought to herself. She thought about the lobster who had disappointed Sharaxe. And then she picked up the bottle and got back to work. “That stupid Octopus and his friends will die soon” thought Quill.



Meanwhile in Coral City...

Octi was next to a large hospital that he built. It was the grand opening. The building rose from the seafloor like a pink coral castle, with round windows that glowed softly in the afternoon light and a sign above the entrance that read: **DR. OCTI'S HOSPITAL – ALL ARE WELCOME.**

There were many animals. Octopuses, Jellyfishes and Whales. They came from every corner of Coral City, from the kelp fields, from the rocky caves, from the warm shallow waters where the youngest fish played. Some carried seaweed bouquets. Some carried small gifts wrapped in shiny shells. Some just came to see the famous Doctor Octi with their own eyes.

Timmy and Julie would have loved this, Octi thought. He had invited them, of course. But Julie's submarine was far away.

Before Octi went outside he got a device. Before his friends said good-bye to Octi, they had given him a device so that they could communicate with each other from wherever they are. Octi pressed the red "power on" button and a light glowed softly. The screen read "Dialing..." and then he heard Timmy's voice. "Hello, Octi?" said Timmy from the device. "Hey! Today is the grand opening of my hospital. Wish you could come" said Octi. "Yeah... Oh Julie! Octi's talking on the phone!" said Timmy. Then Julie's voice came through the phone. "Hello Octi, so sorry we couldn't make it," said Julie. "It's fine" said Octi but he felt a little sad. Then one of the nurses came and told Octi that the animals were waiting. "Oh, they are waiting for me. I must go now. Bye! Take care!" said Octi. "Oh, ok. Bye! We'll try to come someday," said

Julie. “Save some cake for us!” yelled Timmy through the phone. “Ok, bye” said Octi and the display read “CALL ENDED” and Octi clicked the red button. The device powered off.

Octi missed them. But today was not a day for missing. Today was a day for remembering. Octi went outside. He went up the podium. A small jellyfish child swam up to the podium and tugged at Octi's tentacle. "Doctor Octi? Is it true that the hospital is free for kids?"
Octi smiled. "It's true. Every child who comes here will be treated, no matter what." The jellyfish smiled. "Even if they don't have money?" asked the jellyfish child. "Even then, especially then." said Octi. The child swam away, giggling, and Octi climbed up to the podium. The crowd quieted. He looked out at the faces, octopuses, jellyfish, and whales, all watching him. He spotted Mr. and Mrs. Jellysandwich near the front. They were holding hands. Mrs. Jellysandwich was already crying.

Quill came for her break; she decided to see what Coral City looked like. She went there and saw a beautiful hospital, “Octi’s Hospital? How stupid” thought Quill. She went for a closer look. Octi was on a podium ready to give a speech. Octi didn’t see Quill. Quill decided to get a closer look, so she went into the crowd and blended in. Octi started to give his speech.

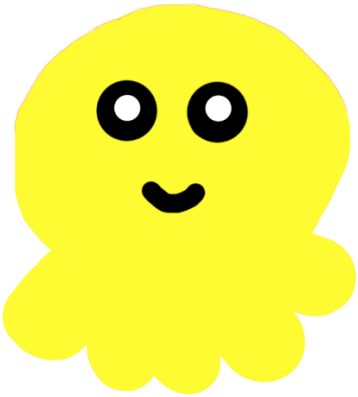
Octi took a deep breath. "I built this hospital to honor my best friend, Jiggly," he said. His voice was steady, but his three hearts were beating fast. "Unfortunately, he is not with us today."

The crowd was silent. A few jellyfish lowered their eyes. Mr. Jellysandwich put an arm around his wife. "Jiggly was the kindest creature I ever knew," Octi continued. "He was funny. He was brave. He was the kind of friend who would swim across the whole ocean just to find you." He paused. "He did swim across the whole ocean to find me. And I will never forget that."

Mrs. Jellysandwich wiped her eyes. Octi looked at her and smiled, a small, sad smile. "I have built this hospital to save many lives," he said. "And now, I will cut the ribbon!" Everyone cheered.

Octi floated down from the podium and picked up a giant pair of scissors. The ribbon was red; with the words OCTI'S HOSPITAL printed in gold. He raised the scissors, and the crowd counted down together.
"Three... two... one..."

Snip.
The ribbon fell. The crowd erupted. Octopuses clapped their tentacles. Jellyfish bobbed up and down with excitement. A baby whale blew a small fountain of water into the air, and everyone laughed. Quill saw everything and even heard his speech. Then Quill left.



CHAPTER 02 (The Hospital)

"And I wanted to say," Octi added, raising his voice over the cheers, "that all the services are free for children!" The cheering grew even louder. A group of young jellyfish swam forward and hugged Octi all at once, a tangle of soft, glowing tentacles. Octi laughed and hugged them back. Everyone went inside. Everything was brand new. The walls were painted in soft blues and greens. The beds were shaped like shells. The waiting room had fun activities for children and magazines and newspapers for adults. There was a small garden of seaweed and coral in the center of the lobby, and a statue of Octi. Then Octi walked deeper into the small garden and saw a small statue of Jiggly and Octi together, carved from pale pink coral.

Octi touched the statue gently as he passed. "We did it," he whispered. "I hope you're proud." The statue didn't answer.

But Octi liked to think that somewhere, somehow, Jiggly was smiling.

The next day was a normal day at the hospital; the citizens of Coral City were unaware of the danger that was coming. Octi treated a jellyfish who couldn't swim properly. Octi treated an octopus who had a wound. Octi treated a baby whale who got hurt. Octi treated a patient who was about to die.

Meanwhile in the lab...

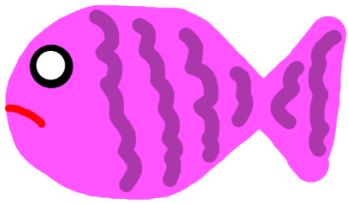
“Is it almost done?” asked Quill’s master. “Yes, Sharaxe,” said Quill. “I TOLD YOU TO CALL ME MASTER!” shouted Master Sharaxe. “Of course, Master,” said Quill. “How much more days?” asked Master Sharaxe. Quill answered, “I could do it in two weeks but if we rush it-” “I don’t care!” interrupted Master Sharaxe. “Do it in 5 days!” said Master Sharaxe. “Yes master” answered Quill. Quill dreamed of escaping this place and doing evil by herself.

Meanwhile in Coral City, "The hospital is doing well, we've treated fifty patients this week." Said Octi. "Jiggly would be so proud," said Mrs. Jellysandwitch. "I hope so," said Octi. "He always said you were the best doctor in the ocean," said Mr. Jellysandwitch. "He was the best friend in the ocean," said Octi. They were quiet for a moment. "Eat your kelp, you look tired,” said Mrs. Jellysandwitch.

After 5 days...

It was a normal afternoon for Coral City, but Quill was in the lab. She hadn't eaten lunch and she was researching the virus because her master had told her to do it. If Quill took breaks, she wouldn't be able to research so she didn't even go outside. She was scared because Master Sharaxe had warned him that if she didn't work, he would eat her. Quill did not want to be eaten but she also didn't want to be in the control of Master Sharaxe, but she had no choice.

After a few more hours of working her master came. "Are you done?" asked Master Sharaxe. "Almost" answered Quill in a sluggish voice. "Good" said Master Sharaxe. Then at that night Quill finished the virus, "Finally!" said Quill to herself as she went to eat dinner. "Are you done?" asked Master Sharaxe. "It is done, but we have to test it to see if it's powerful" answered Quill. After dinner they went to the test lab. "Test 1!" said Quill. The test chamber had an innocent fish.



"Don't kill me!" screamed the fish. "Sorry" said Quill in an evil voice. He was not sorry. He pushed the lever. A small dose of the virus was released. "I hate you!" said the fish as he was dying. "Success! The virus is powerful," said Quill. "How can you say that? It only killed one fish" asked Master Sharaxe. "I've got the test results like the seconds it takes to

kill it and calculated how much of a dose we need to release for the entire city, Master" answered Quill. "Show me, I'm good at math, I'm advanced!" said Master Sharaxe proudly. "Do you mean, in preschool?" said Quill. "What! How did you know that! You must respect me" said Sharaxe. "Yes, master," said Quill. Quill showed him a paper with the calculations, "These are just nonsense!" said Sharaxe. "It's math, master," said Quill. "You just calculate it yourself!" said Sharaxe in an angry voice. Quill recalculated it, the virus was strong. "Tomorrow" said Sharaxe. "Yes!" said Quill. "We'll get revenge from Octi!" said Sharaxe. "We'll get revenge from that dog!" said Quill. They both laughed evilly. Times like this, she liked her master.

The story after page 12 is not shown here.

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Acknowledgements

This book would not have been possible without the help and support of my family and friends.

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Thank you to everyone who read the first book, **Octi Gets LOST!** You fell in love with Octi and his friends. You wanted to know what happened next. This book is for you.

And thank you to you, the reader. You are the reasons I write. You are the reason Octi's story matters. I hope you enjoyed reading this book as much as I enjoyed writing it.

Keep reading. Keep dreaming. Never give up.

With love,
Asel Sansilu

A Note from the Author

Dear Reader,

Thank you for reading my book. This book means a lot to me. It is very special to me. Octi faces a very powerful and horrible virus. Octi is not alone to fac it. His friends are by his side to help him.

This book is about friendship, bravery, and never giving up. I hope you enjoyed reading this story as much as I enjoyed writing it.

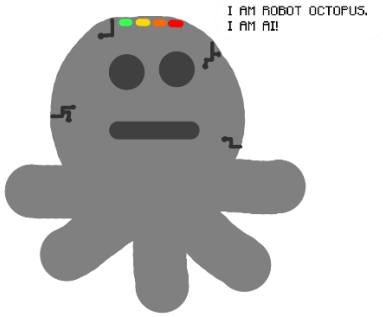
With love,
Asel Sansilu

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Asel Sansilu is a young author who loves the ocean, animals, and adventures. He wrote Octi Gets LOST! when he was 12. He lives with his family.

When he's not writing, he enjoys working with computers. He hopes to be an engineer in the future.

Octi vs. The Virus! is his second book. He hopes to write many more adventures about Octi and his friends.



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