

Side #5 - Villagers 1-3

VILLAGER ONE *(with a half-empty basket of cucumbers)*

Once upon a time...

VILLAGER TWO *(with his/her own half-empty basket of cucumbers)*

What's with the 'once upon a time'? How come it's never 'twice upon a time'?

VILLAGER THREE

Or even 'thrice upon a time'?

VILLAGER ONE

As long as it ends 'Happily ever after,' why does it matter?

VILLAGER TWO

Yeah, you're right. But you know it's all about the cucumbers. Crisp, fragrant, and just ripe enough for pickling. Full dills are OK, but half sours? Faghetaboutit!

VILLAGER THREE

I personally prefer a fine pickle-brine wine with a cucumber blossom floral note. The Festival of Cukes exemplifies the versatility of this fine vegetable!

VILLAGER ONE

*(reading the banner)* The Festival of All Cukes - a symbol of life for all!

VILLAGERS

All Hail Bushelpeck!

VILLAGER TWO

Seems everything's in place to impress the Royal Family when they descend from their castle set on the highest peak of Bushelpeck. Ah, if only to live like that!

VILLAGER THREE

Well, not exactly everything will impress them. I slaved over my meager cucumber crop all year.

VILLAGERS *(Variously)*

I had a rough time with my cucumber crop, too./We all have./It's been a tough year on all of us/Me too.

VILLAGER ONE

Though my crop is slight, I can only hope that the King will pick my cukes for the Queen's delectable Pickle-Chiffon Pie!

VILLAGER TWO

My prize winning cucumis sativus will make the rest of you turn green with envy!

VILLAGER THREE

More like green and gassy!

VILLAGER ONE *(to Villager Four)*

Your cucumbers look like scrawny zucchinis!

VILLAGER THREE *(also to Villager Four)*

I'd say you're at the wrong festival.

VILLAGER TWO

Yeah, Lolla-pa-loser was last month.

VILLAGER THREE

Well, I never!

VILLAGER ONE

Gosh! I sure hope the King finds some of our cukes suitable for the royal Pickle-Chiffon Pie, or it won't be much of a festival at all.

VILLAGERS (variously)

Mine seem suitable! So do mine! Take a bite! Only if you try mine!

*(They each take a bite of someone else's cucumber, depleting the crops even more)*

IN UNISON

Delicious!