

a.

[ PRINCE RUSHDIE, lord of the salmon, is watching a sunken TV set and being waited on by his fishy servants - when his trusted general, STEELHEAD, swims breathlessly onto the scene. ]

**STEELHEAD:** Prince Rushdie! Pandemonium... total devastation...!

**RUSHDIE:** Uh, listen, can you take this somewhere else? Kinda tryin' to watch my stories, here.

**STEELHEAD:** There's no time, my lord! Baron von Bear, enemy of all salmon-kind, has risen again from his long hibernation! Even now, he is snatching up all of your subjects!

**RUSHDIE:** My subjects? But... but I need those guys to worship me!

**STEELHEAD:** Only you have the power to stop the Baron, my liege... for only your bloodline may wield... [produces epic blade] THE SPAWNING SWORD!

**RUSHDIE:** A sword? Seriously? Dude, I'm a fish. I have no hands. How am I supposed to use that?

**STEELHEAD:** Have you not read any of the literature I've given you about this? To acquire hands and use the sword, you must journey to the Ten Ocean Palaces and retrieve the sacred Fish Fingers within!

**RUSHDIE:** Right, right. So I pick up some fingers, use the sword, take out this Baron guy, and then come back and finish watching TV. Shouldn't be too hard!

[ Prince Rushdie swims off screen, then swims back again in the opposite direction. ]

**RUSHDIE:** Exit's that way.

**STEELHEAD:** Ugh... who could have guessed that generations of royal pampering and in-breeding would come to this...?

b.

**Baron von Bear** – an ancient grizzly bear who has a hook for a paw, wears a WW1-era German helmet, drives a tiny bathysphere, and is about as mentally stable as one might expect given those details. The Baron claims to have lost one of his paws to the Spawning Sword in an ancient skirmish with one of Prince Rushdie's ancestors. Since then, his mission in life has been to abduct and devour every salmon he can find. To this end, he scatters traps and minions across the waterways that Rushdie must traverse, trading threats and insults with the prince in an insane German accent as he goes.

c.

Prince Rushdie, lazy and incompetent ruler of all salmons, is forced to do some work for a change when Baron von Bear returns to get revenge on Rushdie's kingdom for having claimed one of his paws in battle years ago. Rushdie must set out to find the ten Fish Fingers, mystical artifacts said to bless any creature who retrieves them with the gift of hands, so that he can wield an ancient sword against the Baron. His loyal general, Steelhead, provides mostly-ignored advice along the way, while the Baron himself leaves deadly obstacles across the seafloor that Rushdie must try to avoid. During his journey, much to his chagrin, Rushdie finds himself learning a thing or two about personal responsibility. In the end, after Rushdie retrieves the Fish Fingers and defeats the Baron in single combat, he offers the Fingers to the Baron, restoring his lost paw in the process. Old rivalries are put to rest, and the seas are at peace once more.