



Somewhere after the beginning of things and well before the end of things, Polar Dragon Bear, Monktopus Octokey, Monkey Spider and Swallow arrived. No one remembers how, but that is unimportant. It's a quiet place, and everyone minds their business... more or less.

From the start Polar Dragon Bear liked to travel, bringing home odd things he found discarded. That's where he got his wings when he was young. Many of the things he brings are left behind and apparently they have a market because when he returns most of them are gone. His most precious treasures are kept in his cave. He hasn't found a princess, to keep captive in the cave yet. The fire-breathing he learned traveling with a circus of Geek Geese. Every time he lands all the leaves on the tree fall off, making the fruit get all the sunlight they can get. His stomping makes the ground shake, giving the tree more air.

Even back then, Monktopus Octokey loved cooking. He's usually busy down in the ocean making sushi for himself and his 8 arms.

Swallow was born in a lab but now she can't find her way back. She is of the air and spends most of her time in the tree. She is very curious about the other animals and she likes to watch them from the safety of her tree. She considers them to be friends and sometimes she will drop fruits on them as a gesture of goodwill. But she knows that they would probably eat her too if she got too close. Such is life. Sometimes when they are away or sleeping she wanders through their homes and borrows small trinkets to hang in her tree. Polar Dragon Bear has the best trinkets. Monkey Spider has strong string for hanging them. She uses Monktopus Octokey's knives to cut little pieces of string from Monkey Spider's web when she needs them. It doesn't seem like any of them have noticed yet.

Monkey Spider is the most elusive of the four. He is fond of playing tricks and is very difficult to catch hold of (unless he wants to see you). Often, one can only see a trace of web to mark where he has been. When he delights in surprising whoever he shows himself to. No one really know why he has such a flip nature, but his tricks are rarely malicious. He has an odd sense of justice. If he thinks a fight is unfair he will always try to help out the underdog. But if the balance changes, he may end up switching sides.

Polar Dragon Bear's one failing is that he finds it difficult to interact with the other animals in his kingdom. He sometimes catches a word or a plus with Bird in the tree. The branches are too thin and won't hold his weight when he tries to hang out. He's still trying to find a way to stay afloat without getting too tired too soon. Monktopus Octokey sometimes pops his head out of the water to chat, most often with Polar Dragon Bear, who can swim as well. Monkey Spider avoids water but he'll stand at the water's edge sometimes or climb the tree. He's very whimsical in whom he talks to and why. Sometimes he'll just sit in spider form and watch life go by.

Monktopus Octokey gives his sushi to whoever will eat it. The chopped heads cry out that it is quite good. Monkey Spider will eat, Bird will eat, but Polar Dragon Bear would never believe in what a talking chopped head has to say. Until the day he actually tried the sushi that Monktopus Octokey prepared. It was delicious.

The climate is mild but Polar Dragon Bear is always comfortable. If it's too cold he breathes fire. If it's too hot his wings make wind. When he needs to, he hibernates. Monkey Spider sometimes makes clothes for himself and wears them, but it's never because he is too hot or cold. He just likes the look of a dashing fedora, suspenders and pin-striped trousers.