

E9 - The Legend of the Labyrinth City - Stepping Man?!

Source: [Crunchyroll](#)

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QC:

(Please feel free to edit the speaker names if incomplete or inaccurate. Names are handled on a best-effort basis depending on the info on the source file. Dialogue is left as is.)

SIGN Special Article: The Truth about Stepping Man

[00:00] Zem

The mysterious phantom Stepping Man?

SIGN STEPPING

[00:05] Kizuna

A terrifying phantom that kidnaps children under the cover of night!

[00:09] Kizuna

It can hop around in mid-air, and no one in Labyrinth City can stop it!

[00:13] Kizuna

Don't you think that's romantic?

[00:17] Tiana

"Romance" is one of those words with a lot of definitions.

[00:20] Curran

If it's a bad person, we need to beat it.

[00:23] Nick

Don't waste your time on it.

[00:24] Nick

You know there's no such thing.

[00:26] Kizuna

Hey! Stepping Man is real!

[00:29] Kizuna

There are witnesses!

[00:32] Nick

Don't believe everything you read in a cheap gossip rag like that.

[00:35] Kizuna

I'd love to meet Stepping Man.

[00:39] Olivia

Did you just say, "Stepping Man"?

[00:41] Olivia

I'm Olivia Taylor, an adventurer and
writer for *Lemuria Monthly* magazine!

[00:46] Kizuna

Lemuria Monthly? I love your magazine!

[00:49] Olivia

Your words honor me.

[00:51] Nick

You just found out about it a while ago.

[00:54] Kizuna

That's a terrible thing
for an idol otaku to say.

[00:57] Kizuna

What does time have to do with love?

[01:01] Kizuna

You're no fun.

[01:04] Zem

Kizuna's curiosity is an
inspiration to us all.

[01:08] Olivia

Kizuna?

[01:15] Olivia

That's a wonderful name!

[01:18] Tiana

Writer and adventurer?

[01:20] Olivia

Yes, I may not look it,
but I'm an adventurer!

[01:23] Olivia

So... I'm... actually...

[01:27] Nick

Yuck!

[01:28] Olivia

Hop! Hop! Achoo!

[01:33] Olivia

Thank you.

[01:36] Nick

Why are you moving around like that?

[01:42] Olivia

Whenever there's something weird
going on in Labyrinth City,

[01:46] Olivia

I'm always there to check it out.

SIGN Ningen Fushin: Adventurers Who Don't
Believe in Humanity Will Save the World

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[03:45] Nick

Well? How'd you enjoy your first concert?

[03:48] Kizuna

It was more fun than I thought it would be.

[03:50] Kizuna

Especially your favorite, Agate...

[03:53] Nick

Oh, you get it, huh?

[03:56] Kizuna

Indeed! I feel a strong light in her soul.

[04:00] Kizuna

In another era, she would
have been a shaman...

[04:03] Nick

What?

[04:05] Kizuna

Zem's in danger!

[04:07] Kizuna

Here!

[04:09] Nick

Zem!

[04:14] Nick

Stepping Man...

[04:16] Kizuna

A cheap conjurer's trick.

[04:19] Nick

How can we fight him when we can't see him?

[04:24] Kizuna

There!

[04:28] Stepping Man

You can see me?

[04:31] Kizuna

I'm not done yet!

[04:32] Kizuna

Take this! Parallel!

[04:34] Stepping Man

What?

[04:43] Kizuna

How boring.

[04:49] Red

Can you wipe your face off?

[04:56] Zem

Thanks so much, Red.

[04:59] Red

You owe me for this, Zem.

[05:01] Red

We're not a hospital, you know.

[05:03] Nick

What were you doing out there that late?

[05:06] Nick

Any idea who that guy was?

[05:09] Red

She just went through
something really scary.

[05:11] Red

You don't have to interrogate her.

[05:13] Nick

S-Sorry.

[05:17] Reina

That's... Stepping Man!

[05:22] Reina

My mom's no liar!

[05:24] Reina

She's not...

[05:32] Zem

Tell me more.

[05:36] Reina

Mom would always go out late at night
to try and defeat Stepping Man.

[05:42] Reina

But she lost, and now she's in the hospital.

[05:47] Red

Oh, my...

[05:48] Reina

My mom realized

[05:51] Reina

that all the disappearing children
lately were because of Stepping Man.

[05:57] Reina

But nobody would believe her...

[06:01] Zem

Well, most people wouldn't believe.

[06:06] Zem

But we saw it with our own eyes.

[06:11] Zem

We saw someone hiding themselves

in the darkness, attacking a child,

[06:15] Zem

and jumping from roof to roof with ease.

[06:20] Zem

Um, what's your name?

[06:23] Reina

Reina.

[06:24] Zem

Reina, we believe your mom.

[06:29] Zem

And I respect her bravery in challenging
such a difficult opponent all by herself.

[06:35] Reina

Zem...

[06:37] Reina

Zem!

[06:40] Reina

Please make me your student!

[06:46] Zem

My student?

[06:49] Reina

Yes.

[06:49] Reina

I was so impressed by how
brave you were back there!

[06:54] Nick

Listen, he was once...

[06:56] Zem

You're ten years...

[06:59] Zem

no, fifteen years too
young to be my student.

[07:06] Reina

Fifteen years?

[07:10] Reina

S-So how should I train until then?

[07:14] Zem

Well, for today, get some
rest at Miss Red's place.

[07:20] Red

We can go see your mom in the morning.

[07:23] Zem

And never do anything so dangerous again.

[07:28] Reina

Okay, Master!

[07:30] Zem

Until fifteen years have passed,

you must not get any closer to me.

[07:36] Zem

Can you do that?

[07:37] Reina

I can!

[07:38] Zem

Good girl.

[07:41] Kizuna

This sucks.

[07:43] Red

Oh, my... You're such a young boy to be letting out such a big sigh...

[07:47] Kizuna

My beloved Stepping Man turned out to be that cheap fraud.

[07:52] Nick

We got closer to finding out his true identity. That's a big step.

[07:55] Kizuna

He doesn't have a "true identity". He's just some kidnapper.

[08:00] Kizuna

I'm just going to have to destroy this fake Stepping Man!

[08:03] Kizuna

I'll catch him myself!

[08:05] Zem

We can't leave him on the loose after he hurt Reina, either.

[08:11] Nick

Then...

[08:13] Nick

Let's make a job out of it.

[08:20] Nick

This guild is filled with bounty hunters, so it's a little rougher than most.

[08:29] Nick

Give us what you know about Stepping Man.

[08:32] Jun

I don't think I've seen the four of them before.

[08:35] Nick

Oh, right.

[08:37] Jun

We can't share info on expensive bounties

[08:39] Jun

with adventurers who've never

accomplished anything.

[08:42] Jun

Mr. Former-Member-of-Masters-of-War.

[08:48] Tiana

You just said the word
"expensive," didn't you?

[08:51] Kizuna

Bingo.

[08:52] Zem

So there is a bounty out on him.

[08:55] Jun

I didn't say that...

[08:59] Jun

Okay, how's this for starters?

[09:02] Nick

Hale Hardy...

[09:03] Kizuna

The reward is 300,000 dinah.

[09:05] Kizuna

That's not bad.

[09:07] Jun

You got the Iron Tigers sent to jail.

[09:10] Jun

This should be easy for you Survivors.

[09:14] Bounty Hunter 1

Those are the Survivors?

[09:15] Bounty Hunter 2

Wow!

[09:16] Ash

They ain't bounty hunters.

They're muscling in on our turf.

[09:20] Tiana

Jealousy is unbecoming of a bounty hunter.

[09:23] Ash

You amateurs should stick
to fighting goblins!

[09:27] Comrade

Stop it!

[09:28] Ash

Don't try to stop me!

[09:29] Comrade

He doesn't mean anything by it!

[09:30] Comrade

Please don't provoke him...

[09:33] Tiana

We'll find this Hale guy and bring him here.

[09:38] Zem

She doesn't mean anything by it.

[09:39] Curran

She's not provoking him, either!

[09:42] Ash

All right.

[09:43] Ash

Let's take bets, guys!

[09:46] Ash

I bet they fail—

[09:55] Tiana

50,000 dinah on the
Survivors pulling it off.

[10:01] Tiana

And you?

[10:03] Ash

I... I bet my whole fortune
on the Survivors failing...

[10:07] Comrade

Sorry!

[10:09] Comrade

He's getting a little too heated.

[10:11] Tiana

Go make some money while
you're waiting for us to get back.

[10:16] Bounty Hunters

Okay, Ash, I bet on you!

[10:19] Bounty Hunters

I bet tonight's bar tab on the lady!

[10:22] Bounty Hunters

I bet my rent money that
the Survivors get killed!

[10:28] Nick

*Garbage Collection. By far the
most dangerous slum in the city.*

[10:32] Nick

*They say there's no crime in the world
that hasn't happened here at least once.*

[10:35] Nick

The Solar Knights don't come here, either.

[10:38] Nick

*It was safe to assume that the guild
was right, and Hale was here.*

[10:46] Nick

First, we say hello to the gatekeep.

[10:49] Gatekeep

Ain't seen you around here before.

[10:52] Gatekeep

Bounty hunters?

[10:53] Nick

Yeah, something like that.

[10:55] Nick

We don't need escorts or a guide.

[10:58] Nick

But I do want information.

[11:01] Gatekeep

If it's about a bounty, go find it yourself.

[11:04] Nick

Has anything unusual happened around here? Even something small.

[11:08] Gatekeep

One of the whores got sick and died last weekend.

[11:13] Gatekeep

Greg, our odd-jobs guy, had a dog that gave birth.

[11:16] Gatekeep

Ten puppies. All males.

[11:19] Gatekeep

Nobody's been dumb enough

[11:21] Gatekeep

to let themselves get caught by a bounty hunter for three months.

[11:23] Gatekeep

Oh, and Greg says new customers get 20 percent off.

[11:28] Kizuna

That doesn't tell us much.

[11:31] Gatekeep

Guess I can throw in the fact that a girl with a death wish came by.

[11:36] Kizuna

What?

[11:38] Nick

Thanks.

[11:40] Gatekeep

If you die, make sure you die in a way that keeps it out of the news.

[11:46] Gatekeep

Oh, one more thing.

[11:49] Gatekeep

Don't get in Nalgava's way while he's working.

[11:52] Gatekeep

That's a warning.

[11:55] Zem

Nalgava?

[11:56] Nick

Who's that?

[11:58] Gatekeep

Someone important.

[12:05] Curran

It stinks.

[12:07] Zem

The air circulation and water quality aren't very good, after all.

[12:12] Nick

There's all kinds of nasty little maggots here...

[12:19] Thug

Hold it! This is a toll road.

[12:21] Thug

Hand over your money—

[12:23] Nick

We're looking for a man named Hale.

[12:26] Thug

Hale, the former host and seducer?

[12:30] Thug

He's in the Bedrooms.

[12:31] Nick

The Bedrooms?

[12:34] Thug

A building on the east side that was supposed to be an inn.

[12:35] Kizuna

Schwing!

[12:38] Nick

Thanks.

[12:41] Thug

Then pay me for the info!

[12:44] Tiana

You remember how you were just trying to steal from us?

[12:48] Zem

You're going to die soon.

[12:52] Zem

You're doing something you shouldn't be.

[12:54] Thug

Nobody asked you.

[12:58] Zem

Does it make you feel happy? Depressed?

[13:00] Thug

What's your problem?

[13:02] Zem

Just answer the question.

[13:05] Thug

I can't sleep!

[13:07] Thug

I'm not allowed to have
some fun when I sleep?

[13:10] Thug

I can't live a normal life here!

[13:13] Thug

This wasn't supposed to be my life!

[13:16] Thug

You wouldn't understand!

[13:18] Curran

That's not true.

[13:22] Curran

That's not true.

[13:25] Curran

I understand. I think.

[13:31] Zem

This herb has calming properties.

[13:34] Zem

This can be your fee for that information.

[13:37] Zem

It's not a strong medicine,
but it will have to do.

[13:40] Zem

Don't rely on what you've
been taking until now.

[13:44] Thug

W-Wait!

[13:47] Thug

Hale's a fast runner.

[13:49] Thug

If he sees you coming, he'll be
gone in the blink of an eye.

[13:52] Zem

Thanks. We'll be careful.

[13:57] Kizuna

So this is the Bedrooms.

[13:59] Nick

If Hale gets even the slightest
bit suspicious, he'll bolt.

[14:02] Curran

We'll have to be careful.

[14:16] Nick

You okay?

[14:19] Zem

I'm sorry.

[14:20] Zem

The conditions here are so bad,
it's no wonder people are getting sick.

[14:25] Zem

There's no hope.

[14:28] Zem

If anything, this is where
you'd need a temple...

[14:35] Nick

Find him?

[14:36] Kizuna

Yeah, he's here...

[14:40] Nick

What? That doesn't tell me much.

[14:43] Kizuna

He's busy, from the look of it.

[14:48] Hale

Wh-Who the hell are you?

[14:50] Nick

Most people with a bounty on their
head are a little more careful.

[14:52] Hale

Stay out!

[14:54] Curran

An easy 300,000!

[14:57] Hale

What do you mean, 300,000?

[14:59] Nick

The bounty on you.

[15:01] Hale

That's way too much money!

[15:04] Hale

I just hit, kicked, sold into
slavery, and conned people!

[15:07] Nick

And murder?

[15:09] Hale

I didn't do it!

[15:15] Nick

Well, you can tell the guild all about it.

[15:19] Nalgava

You.

[15:21] Nalgava

What are you doing to my patient?

[15:23] Hale

Dr. Nalgava!

[15:24] Hale

Help me!

[15:26] Nick

Nalgava?

[15:29] Nick

That's him?

[15:32] Nalgava

Who are you?

[15:34] Nalgava

You don't look like amateurs.

[15:36] Nick

And you?

[15:37] Nick

You don't look like the usual priest.

[15:41] Nalgava

The Bedrooms are a neutral zone.

[15:43] Nalgava

The deal says you don't interfere
when I'm treating patients.

[15:46] Nick

Wait. We're not from here.

[15:50] Nick

We just came to capture a bounty.

[15:54] Nalgava

What did Hale do?

[15:55] Nick

Most everything except murder.

[15:58] Nalgava

What?

[16:00] Nalgava

Fool.

[16:02] Nalgava

I can cure wounds and disease,
but I can't remove your guilt.

[16:07] Nalgava

If he's done evil, then I
have no reason to stop you.

[16:11] Nalgava

Take him.

[16:12] Hale

No, Doctor! Do something!

[16:16] Nalgava

He has the Yellow Demon Sickness.

[16:19] Nalgava

If he's not coming back for a long time,

[16:22] Nalgava

I'd like to at least treat
him before he goes.

[16:24] Nick

You're sure?

[16:26] Nick

If we take him, your treatment
might go to waste.

[16:31] Nalgava

Kid, that's...

[16:32] Zem

Nick, that's incorrect.

[16:36] Zem

Depending on what he's done,
he may get the death penalty.

[16:39] Hale

Hey! Don't even say that!

[16:40] Zem

But our job is to do the best
we can at any given moment.

[16:46] Zem

It may even turn out that he didn't
do anything he's accused of.

[16:51] Zem

And it's also possible he
may lead a peaceful life,

[16:54] Zem

and die a peaceful death, in prison.

[16:56] Hale

Quiet! Shut up and take
me away already, asshole!

[16:59] Nalgava

You're a priest, then?

[17:01] Zem

Yes. Former priest, just like you, though...

[17:07] Zem

If I may ask, why are you here?

[17:10] Zem

If you're talented enough to
identify Yellow Demon Sickness,

[17:13] Zem

you could work anywhere you like.

[17:16] Nalgava

Then what about you?

[17:19] Nalgava

Do you want to go back to being a priest?

[17:21] Zem

Yes.

[17:23] Zem

I'm sick of it all.

[17:27] Kizuna

By the way, Nalgava.

[17:30] Kizuna

Stepping Man.

[17:33] Kizuna

Have you heard of him?

[17:35] Tiana

Of course he hasn't!

[17:38] Kizuna

A black shadow that stalks in the night and kidnaps children...

[17:43] Nalgava

I'm afraid I haven't.

[17:47] Hale

A kidnapper? This place is filled with 'em!

[17:51] Hale

Who cares about one kidnapper?

[17:53] Nalgava

Hey. He seems genuinely concerned.

[17:56] Nalgava

If you know something...

[17:58] Hale

Oh!

[17:59] Hale

Well, I don't know if they're a kidnapper,

[18:02] Hale

but I did see this weird reporter going around and giving kids candy to talk to them.

[18:06] Nick

Weird reporter?

[18:09] Jun

You pulled it off.

[18:11] Jun

You found him in a single day. Nice.

[18:14] Bounty Hunter 1

I-I can't believe it!

[18:16] Bounty Hunter 2

They really found him!

[18:19] Tiana

Now, how much did you all bet?

[18:24] Ash

Right now, I've got about 800,000 dinah...

[18:26] Tiana

That'll do.

[18:28] Ash

W-Wait!

[18:29] Ash

Some of that goes to the ones who bet on you! You can't take it all!

[18:33] Tiana

Use this money to buy every bottle of alcohol you can find!

[18:36] Tiana

Drinks on the house for everyone!

[18:40] Bounty Hunters

Nice thinking, missy!

[18:43] Bounty Hunter 3

Hey, I bet on you!

[18:46] Tiana

You were gonna blow it on booze anyway!

[18:48] Tiana

Or are you too good to drink what I offer you?

[18:51] Bounty Hunters

She's got you there!

[18:53] Bounty Hunters

Oh, fine.

[18:58] Ash

Sorry...

[19:02] Jun

Ow...

[19:05] Jun

Thanks for the booze last night.

[19:09] Jun

Here's the money for Hale, and...

[19:11] Jun

you wanted the stuff on Stepping Man, right?

[19:14] Nick

Let's see...

[19:16] Nick

"Burn green wood in your house and the smoke will keep him away."

[19:20] Tiana

"He knocked a hole in my roof, but fixed my gutters. Nice guy."

[19:25] Curran

"I stayed up late at night to summon him, and he told me to go to bed."

[19:30] Curran

I'm sorry."

[19:32] Kizuna

Nothing but weird rumors
and mistaken identity.

[19:35] Jun

Personally, I'd rather you
went after normal bounties

[19:39] Jun

instead of chasing non-existent folklore.

[19:42] Jun

Ow...

[19:43] Nick

We're not interested in
Stepping Man the urban legend, either.

[19:47] Nick

We want to find the kidnapper
that people call Stepping Man.

[19:53] Jun

I don't know about kidnappers...

[19:56] Jun

But if you're looking for a suspicious
person who talks to kids,

[19:58] Jun

you can find her over there.

[20:02] Zem

A weird reporter going around
and giving kids candy...

[20:05] Zem

...to talk to them?

[20:09] Nick

No way.

[20:11] Kizuna

She's definitely the reporter
giving kids candy, but...

[20:16] Nick

If only you remembered more
about what they looked like...

[20:20] Kizuna

I just remember that they were fast
on their feet, and used chains...

[20:25] Tiana

Chains?

[20:28] Curran

She was weirdly heavy.

[20:32] Curran

If she had chains wrapped around her body...

[20:35] Curran

That's silly.

[20:37] Nick

No way!

[20:41] Nick

Curran, Tiana. Block the exits.

[20:45] Nick

I'm sure I'm being overly cautious, but...

[20:48] Red

Oh, Nick!

[20:49] Red

She found us on our way back
to visit Reina's mom...

[20:52] Nick

So you give the kids candy and
interview them, and then what?

[20:57] Olivia

Then what?

[20:59] Olivia

Oh, my! You look angry!

[21:02] Nick

I don't know if being a reporter
is a busy job or not.

[21:06] Olivia

One minute you're sitting around waiting,

[21:08] Olivia

and the next you're leaping around the city!

[21:11] Nick

And from roof to roof?

[21:14] Nick

For example, where were you two nights ago?

[21:18] Olivia

Huh?

[21:19] Olivia

Is this turning into an interrogation?

[21:21] Nick

You can't answer?

[21:23] Olivia

I can!

[21:24] Olivia

Editing department! Bar!
Turned in assignment! Ate!

[21:27] Olivia

Article! Food!

[21:28] Olivia

Kinda sucked! Was pretty good!

[21:30] Olivia

Well, I may have explained
them out of order,

[21:34] Olivia

thus making two simple to understand events

[21:38] Olivia

difficult to understand by
discussing them in parallel.

[21:40] Olivia

This is a sign of my powerful
literary skills...

[21:41] Nick

So, are you Stepping Man?

[21:45] Nick

Where'd you take the kids?

[21:48] Nick

Why do you kidnap them?

[21:50] Nick

No, who even are you?

[21:54] Olivia

Um... I'm not sure I understand
what you're asking.

[22:14] Nick

Seriously?

SIGN Next time:

"Labyrinth Dragnet"

[23:36] Zem

Next time: "Labyrinth Dragnet".

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