# Code Lyoko

## Episode 15: “Laughing Fit”

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##### Int. Science Classroom – Day

Jeremie fiddles with his pencil as Hertz laughs her head off. He leans over to Odd.

Jeremie (quiet)

I’ve never seen her laugh so much.

Odd (quiet)

You’re telling me. I’ve never seen her laugh at all!

Hertz speaks, but her speech is full of giggles and laughter.

Hertz (laughing)

The gas I’ve just inhaled in a small quantity is called nitrogen protoxide, N2O. (laughs) For those of you interested in chemistry, of course (giggles) although it’s better known as laughing gas. (laughs) You can see why this gas is sometimes used in hospitals to – haha! – relax patients who are going to be operated on. (laughs)

Odd (quiet)

Not a bad idea. Nothing like a laughing attack after an appendix attack.

Hertz (laughing)

Let’s try to stay serious! In strong doses, this gas can be highly toxic! In provoking very serious modifications of perception, and even lesions of the nervous system. Sometimes even fatal. So one can, as the saying goes, literally die laughing! (laughs) Only one thing can neutralise the gas: water. (grabs a water bottle) All you need is one drop to volatilise it.

She takes a swig of water and her voice returns to its usual seriousness.

Hertz

Enough of that. Get out a sheet of paper for a surprise quiz.

##### Ext. Quad – Day

Yumi is alone on a bench, looking down. The boys watch her from nearby.

Ulrich

She’s been sulking like that for two days. Nothing seems to cheer her up.

Odd

I could try some of my jokes on her. That might do the trick!

Ulrich

I’m not saying you don’t have a good sense of humour, Odd…but *I’d* rather go and talk to her.

He goes, and Jeremie and Odd watch after him.

Jeremie

You think Ulrich will manage to get her to smile?

Odd

Yeah, as sure as Julia Roberts is going to call and invite me out to dinner.

Jeremie

Yeah, I think you’re right. She’s really down…

Ulrich approaches Yumi. She doesn’t look up, but she can guess that it’s him.

Yumi

Please, Ulrich, leave me alone. I really don’t feel like talking.

Ulrich

But I feel like talking. And with you.

There’s silence. Yumi turns to look at him and gets up.

Yumi

If you like talking so much, talk to yourself, ok?

She walks away.

Sissi

Don’t worry, Ulrich. Not all girls are like Yumi!

She twists from side to side, posing.

Ulrich

Yeah, that’s a shame.

He leaves. Sissi frowns and then follows after him.

Sissi

Hey, wait, Ulrich! Are you coming tomorrow, to the rehearsal? Huh?

Ulrich

Yeah, I’ll be there, but not for you. It’s for Odd.

Sissi

For your information, it’s thanks to me that Odd’s playing the music.

Ulrich

Mhm.

Sissi

And if you want to be part of the group, the uh role of Romeo is just ideal for you!

Ulrich

And I suppose that you, of course, are Juliet?

Sissi

Yes! That’s perfect casting, don’t you think?

Ulrich

Well it’s a perfect reason for me *not* to play Romeo.

He walks on ahead, but Sissi stops and folds her arms in annoyance.

##### Int. Science Classroom – Day

The laughing gas canisters sit in the classroom. A spectre seeps out of a nearby electrical socket and winds its way up the canisters, entering them at the top. A cloud of purple gas billows out, forming a menacing-looking face and flying towards the door.

##### Ext. Ishiyama House – Night

Ulrich sniffs the rose he’s brought and walks up to the door. He rings the doorbell.

Akiko (off)

Oh! It’s you, darling. I said to myself, we couldn’t stay angry with each other for-

She opens the door.

Akiko

Ah…oh! Hello, Ulrich.

Ulrich

(blushes) Good evening, Ma’am. I wanted to talk to Yumi!

##### Int. Yumi’s Room – Night

Ulrich paces the room.

Ulrich

What about your dad? Where is he?

Yumi sniffs the rose.

Yumi

Um… Staying with a friend from work.

Ulrich

And what was it your parents argued about, huh?

Yumi

I have no idea. My mother tried to tell me, but I…

Ulrich sits on the futon with her.

Yumi

…I didn’t understand, and I-I’m not sure she did either.

Ulrich

Yeah…those arguments are the worst.

Yumi

I’m really glad that you came. Thanks, Ulrich. You know how to cheer someone up.

Ulrich places his hand on hers and smiles.

##### Int. Jeremie’s Room – Night

Aelita

It’s strange that they’re mad at each other. Yumi and Ulrich always get along so well!

Jeremie

You know, Aelita. Very often people who get along well have fights!

Aelita

Really? What about you and I? Why don’t we ever fight?

Jeremie

You and I? W…I don’t know, really. I um…anyway, uh… XANA’s been quiet lately! Too quiet, don’t you think?

Aelita

What I worry most about are the risks you all take. You know, XANA would really love to get rid of you.

Jeremie

Don’t worry, the only one of us who’s in any real danger today is Odd. He’s rehearsing with Sissi. Now that’s what I call a risk!

##### Int. Hall – Night

Odd plays the guitar, a romantic-sounding tune befitting the scene. On the stage, Sissi is up in a balcony set while Herb is on the floor beneath. Nicolas stands off to the side. Herb reads from a script.

Herb

I don’t know if she’ll appear…tonight, but uh… (squints, mumbling) Let’s see here… Oh. (loudly) I know she loves me!

Herb looks up expectantly.

Sissi

That’s awful!

Odd stops playing.

Sissi

That’s about as flat as a pancake!

Herb

It’s not me, it’s the lines!

Nicolas

What’s wrong with the lines?! Hm?!

Herb

Well, I-I can’t even say ‘em!

Nicolas

There’s nothing wrong with them, it’s you! You know how long I spent on that text?

Herb

Well, my guess would be about…thirty seconds!

Nicolas

I dare you to repeat that!

Sissi

Look, I’d rather you repeated your lines, Herb, and with feeling! Nicolas, there’s no reason for you to be on stage! And Odd! You’re playing much too fast!

Odd

Sure, if I play a little slower, it’ll give me more than enough time to take a little nap!

Sissi

Hey, keep all your bad jokes for yourself, huh! Ok, now let’s take it again from the top and try to concentrate!

Herb and Nicolas frown at each other before Nicolas walks off and Herb squints again at his script. Odd starts playing, slower this time. The purple cloud blows out from behind the curtain.

Herb

I don’t know if she’ll appear tonight…but I know…but I don’t know if she loves me.

The cloud comes up behind Odd.

Herb

Oh, a guard! En garde!

The cloud attacks. Odd bursts out laughing and stops playing. Nicolas and Herb look over at him in surprise. Sissi rushes out onto the balcony.

Sissi

What is going on?! Wh…what is it now, Odd?!

Odd keeps laughing, so hard he drops his guitar and doubles over, clutching his abdomen.

Herb

Come on, it wasn’t that bad…

Sissi

You’re not gonna wanna laugh when I get through with you!

She grabs a bottle of water.

Herb

Get him, Sissi!

Odd falls backwards off his chair with laughter. Sissi stands over him and pours water right on his face. Odd’s laughter slows and stops, and the cloud flies out of him and up towards the ceiling. Odd coughs.

Sissi

And don’t bother coming tomorrow, Odd! We’re performing a tragedy, not a musical comedy!

Odd sits up, looking confused.

Odd

Huh? Hey, wait! Uh…

##### Ext. Takeho’s Friend’s House – Night

Yumi comes to the door and rings the bell. Her dad’s friend answers.

Takeho’s friend

Yumi!

Yumi

Good evening, Sir. I-I would like to see my father.

Takeho’s friend

Ah, just a second, I’ll get him.

He turns to leave, but looks back at her.

Takeho’s friend

Er, would you know…why your mother and father aren’t talking to each other?

Yumi shakes her head sadly.

Takeho’s friend

I was afraid of that.

He leaves. Yumi turns around and looks across the street. Ulrich leans out from behind a tree and gives her a thumbs up. Her father arrives.

Takeho

Yumi! How nice to see you. Come in.

Yumi

Daddy, I…I er, want you to come home.

Takeho puts his hands on her shoulders.

Takeho

Listen, Yumi. This is between your mother and me, and she and I have got to work it out.

Yumi

Oh yeah? And how? You’re not even willing to talk to each other…!

Yumi turns away and sobs.

Ulrich

I think I’ve got an idea!

##### Int. Jeremie’s Room – Day

Odd

It was crazy! I really didn’t feel like laughing at all, but it was impossible to stop. As soon as Sissi poured water on me, that was it, I stopped immediately.

Jeremie

N2O. Laughing gas. Ms. Hertz said that the only thing that could volatilise it was water.

Odd

You think this could be a XANA thing?

Jeremie

You never know. Aelita? Keep looking around.

Aelita

Ok, but no pulsations for now.

Jeremie

Let’s go and see if the bottle of laughing gas Ms. Hertz used is still in the science room.

Odd

Kiwi, you stay here.

The boys leave. Kiwi looks up from his spot on the bed before the door closes, then settles back down to sleep.

##### Int. Sissi’s Room – Night

There’s a knock at the door.

Sissi

If you’ve come to apologise, Odd, don’t bother!

Ulrich opens the door and sticks his head in.

Sissi

Oh…! Oh, it’s you, Ulrich. What are you doing here?

Ulrich

Well I was wondering, Sissi…if there was a part, even a little one, that…that Yumi could play.

Sissi

And why would I want to give Yumi a part?

Ulrich

Forget that I even asked. Goodbye.

He closes the door, but Sissi gets up from her bed.

Sissi

Uh… No, Ulrich, wait, I…

He opens the door, poking his head in and smiling.

Ulrich

Hm?

Sissi

There just might be a solution.

##### Int. Science Building Hallway – Night

Jeremie

Aelita and me, we never fight. You think that’s normal?

Jeremie is picking the classroom door lock while Odd keeps watch.

Odd

Huh? Y-yeah, no… How do I know?!

Jeremie

You think we’d fight if she lived here in our world?

Odd

What I do think is we’re going to get caught if you don’t hurry up!

A bit more work and the door opens.

Jeremie

Bingo.

##### Int. Science Classroom – Night

He walks up to the canisters and twists the knob on one of them.

Jeremie

It’s empty. Guess we ran out of gas, if you pardon the expression.

Odd

Ok, listen. Tomorrow we’ll go to the factory instead of the play and check things out.

##### Int. Lab – Day [Alternating with Mountain Sector]

Jeremie

Aelita? Hey, Aelita, can you hear me?

Aelita is running away from two Bloks. They fire at her, and she avoids the shots by luck alone.

Computer

Communication refused. Communication refused.

Odd

Ok Jeremie, I’m ready to go.

Jeremie

Mhm.

Aelita runs to the edge of a plateau. Below, rocky peaks poke up out of a thick layer of mist. She looks back at the Bloks, then down to the drop. She jumps, screaming. She lands gracefully.

Aelita

Thank heavens, a tower. Just in time.

She runs over to the tower, Blok lasers on her heels. She enters the tower. Meanwhile, Jeremie is preparing the transfer.

Jeremie

I’ll transfer you to the Mountain Region. I’ve spotted some monsters there. The tower can’t be far.

The gas enters the scanner just as the doors close.

Jeremie

Transfer Odd. Scanner, Odd.

Gas seeps in through an air vent. Jeremie turns around and spots it.

Jeremie

Virtualisation!

Computer

Data transfer problem.

##### Mountain Sector, Lyoko

Odd arrives, but when he lands, he finds himself feeling very weak. He’s slow moving and his breathing is irregular.

Odd (weak)

I feel very weak, Jeremie. Did anything happen during the transfer? Jeremie? Can you hear me, Jeremie?

In the tower, Aelita is tapping at the interface.

Aelita

Jeremie? Can you hear me? Jeremie?

No response. There’s nobody at the computer.

Odd (weak)

JEREMIEEE!

##### Int. Hall – Day

Sissi tacks some papers to the set.

Sissi

Well, there we are! I’ve put your lines up everywhere, Ulrich. You’ll see. You’ll make a perfect Romeo!

Yumi looks disgruntled.

Ulrich

Hey, I’m doing it for you.

Yumi (sarcastic)

She’s right, you know. You do make a perfect Romeo!

Sissi

Ok Yumi, now come with me so I can show you your costume.

Yumi follows her away. Herb growls.

Herb

I can’t believe you stole my part!

Ulrich

It isn’t my fault, Herb, I swear.

Herb

I wonder why I don’t just slug you.

Ulrich

Fear, maybe?

Yumi

Please tell me I don’t look too dumb, huh?

Yumi is in full costume. A period outfit with dark red stripes and black accents. And a funny hat.

Sissi

Don’t be silly, you look really stunning!

Ulrich

I hope we’re not doing this for nothing! Did you talk to your folks?

Yumi

Yeah, they’re going to come.

Ulrich

Both of them? How’d you do it?

Yumi

I lied. I told each one of them that the other wasn’t gonna come.

Ulrich

Heh, adults can be such children sometimes, huh?

Yumi hums in agreement.

##### Int. Boiler Room – Day

Jeremie runs from the gas, leaping over pipes. The gas isn’t far behind him.

##### Mountain Sector, Lyoko [Alternating with Lab]

Odd runs along a path on the platform Aelita was last on. He sees the two Bloks doggy guarding the tower.

Odd (weak)

Uh-oh… This is not a good time to desert me, Jeremie. The welcoming committee looks really mean and I’m not feeling too good! Jeremie?

Computer

Virtual envelope damaged. Virtual envelope damaged.

The screen shows a red exclamation symbol over Odd’s avatar. Gas swirls around the room.

The Bloks take notice of Odd and come towards him.

Odd (weak)

Things don’t look so good!

##### Int. Turbine Room – Day

Jeremie runs along the path parallel to the waterway, the gas right behind him. It catches up and swirls around him. He loses his balance and falls into the water, screaming. The gas shoots up out of the water. Jeremie surfaces and looks at in surprise – it seems “injured.”

##### Int. Hall – Day

Delmas is greeting people with a handshake as they enter the hall.

Delmas

Good evening.

Akiko arrives. Ulrich and Yumi are watching through the curtains.

Yumi

There’s my mother.

Delmas

Good evening. I suppose your husband is meeting you here tonight?

Akiko

Ahh, no. My husband isn’t able to come. He’s uh…not feeling well.

Delmas

Hm.

Takeho arrives.

Delmas

Oh, Mister Ishiyama! I’m delighted to see that you’re feeling better already!

Takeho

Uh, “feeling better?”

Delmas

Well, your wife has just arrived.

Takeho

My wife? Is…here?

He looks inside and sees the back of Akiko’s head in the audience. Ulrich and Yumi watch nervously as he takes a seat next to her. He clears his throat and Akiko looks over in surprise. They look at each other for a moment, then Akiko turns her nose up and looks away.

Ulrich

You’re not out of the woods yet.

##### Mountain Sector, Lyoko

Odd backs away a little as the Bloks get closer.

Odd (weak)

I’m too weak to fight them. I’ll have to trick them.

He jumps up into the air.

Odd

Here we go!

He fires an arrow, hitting a Blok and destroying it. The second one fires and Odd leaps to the side, going over the edge of the platform. The Blok looks over the edge and doesn’t spot anything. Underneath the platform, Odd climbs upside-down, slowly picking his way to the other side. Once there, he sticks his head up and eyes the Blok.

Odd

Laser arrow!

The arrow hits the solid part of the Blok, not doing any damage. The monster shoots and he runs for the tower, stopping at the foot of it.

Odd (weak, desperate)

Aelita, are you there?

Inside, Aelita hears him and looks around.

Aelita

Odd?

The Blok comes up behind Odd. He turns around to face it, then runs to the side of the tower. The Blok fires, hitting him in the back and sending him into a wall. Aelita exits the tower to come face-to-face with the Blok. Odd seizes the chance to fire one arrow, destroying it.

Aelita

Hurry up! XANA might send us more monsters. We’d better not stay here.

##### Int. Hall – Day

Ulrich is on stage, saying his lines and making grand gestures.

Ulrich

Uh, I…um…I…I don’t know if she will…she will…appear tonight, at her balcony… I’m… (quietly) Huh?

The audience murmur and exchange looks of confusion.

Ulrich (quietly)

What does it say? I can’t read it! Uh…

He shuffles closer to the lines tacked to the set.

Ulrich

Does she… (quietly) What does it say? Oh, oh… Right! Uh… (loudly) Does she love me? Anyway, I think she does!

The audience watches him in surprise.

Ulrich

“Enter guard?” Huh? Uh, en garde, guard!

The audience laughs, Yumi’s parents included.

Ulrich

Hide! Hide!

Ulrich hides behind a “bush” and Yumi comes on stage.

Takeho

Look, it’s Yumi!

Akiko stops laughing and glares at him. He stops laughing too. Ulrich watches them both.

Ulrich

Boy, they’re tough.

Yumi walks out and stands centre stage for a moment, before walking back off stage. Sissi comes out on her balcony.

Ulrich

Oh no, where are my next lines?

Sissi looks at him expectantly.

Ulrich

I see ‘em…

They’re over on the wall.

##### Int. Turbine Room – Day

Jeremie is still in the water, now shivering. The cloud watches him menacingly. He swims down the channel, the cloud following him. He splashes some water at it.

Jeremie

Go away!

The cloud dodges the water and comes straight back.

##### Mountain Sector, Lyoko

Aelita and Odd walk along the path. Odd is partly slumped, taking heavy steps.

Odd (weak)

There must have been a problem during the transfer. I feel weaker and weaker…

He suddenly stops, holding his head, seemingly dizzy.

Aelita

Odd! You ok?

Odd shakes his head.

Odd (weak)

Yeah, I’ll be just fine…

Pulsations shake the ground in front of them.

Aelita

You’ve got to hang on, Odd. You see the pulsations? The tower that XANA activated can’t be too far!

Odd (weak)

I hope not…

He starts walking again, but he stumbles and falls onto his hands and knees.

Aelita

Odd!

Aelita bends down to help him. Odd looks up ahead.

Odd (weak)

Hey, what’s that?!

Aelita

Oh no! That’s all we needed. A labyrinth!

A labyrinth lies ahead.

##### Int. Hall – Day

Gas makes its way into the hall.

Ulrich

Ah, at last you’re here! Uh, you who is so fair, and uh, fair.

##### Mountain Sector, Lyoko

Odd and Aelita walk through the labyrinth. Odd’s dizziness worsens. Aelita keeps an eye on him as they go. At one point he leans his head against a wall and Aelita comes and places her hand on his shoulder. They continue on. Aelita scrutinises their surroundings in one area.

Aelita

We’ve been here before, I’m sure.

Odd dizzily falls to his knees.

Odd (weak)

We’re lost. Without Jeremie’s help, it’s all over.

##### Int. Turbine Room – Day

Jeremie

Well, Jeremie…how do you want to die? Freezing, or laughing? I’d better do something. I can’t hang on any longer!

He dives under the water. The gas comes to inspect the spot where he disappeared. He swims along and comes up to surface.

##### Int. Hall – Day

Ulrich

You who lights up my days, you who is the sunshine…of my nights…

Nicolas

This is awful! He’s massacring my text, huh! (pointing at Herb) Even you were better!

Sissi

Oh, my Romeo, you are my beau! Oh, Romeo cara mio, amore mio!

Translation from Italian: my dear, my love. The gas comes up behind Ulrich.

Ulrich

Uh…

It gets him, and he bursts out laughing, rolling around on the floor. The audience joins in.

Sissi

Huh?! What did I say?! What’s so funny?

The gas gets Yumi too.

Sissi

Everyone is laughing at me now!

##### Int. Turbine Room – Day

Jeremie climbs out of the water. The gas is nowhere to be seen. He runs along the path.

##### Int. Hall – Day

The audience has quieted, but Ulrich and Yumi have not stopped laughing. They’re both struggling on the floor.

Akiko

It’s not normal! They’re going to choke!

Takeho

We’ve got to find a way to help…

Sissi (annoyed)

I know what to do.

She walks over to Ulrich with a bottle of water. She pours it over his head. He stops laughing as the gas leaves him.

Ulrich

What happened? It was like I was being controlled!

Takeho

What’s he talking about?!

Yumi is still laughing and gasping for breath.

Ulrich

This thing is afraid of water. Sissi, give me that, fast.

Sissi pulls it away from him.

Sissi

You could say please!

Ulrich

Sissi! Give me that bottle, will you? Hurry up! Come on.

Sissi relents and gives him the bottle. He pours water on Yumi and the gas leaves, allowing her to stop laughing.

Ulrich

Yumi, you ok?

Yumi’s parents come over to her. Takeho puts his arm around Akiko.

Akiko

Oh…darling, we were so frightened!

Yumi smiles a little. The gas attacks Ulrich again and he cries out before beginning to laugh again.

Yumi

Ulrich!

The gas gets her too, and she rolls around laughing.

Delmas

What’s going on?! What’s the matter with them?

##### Int. Turbine Room – Day

The gas spots Jeremie from afar and rushes over to him, easily catching up. Jeremie starts to laugh.

##### Mountain Sector, Lyoko

Aelita notices that Odd isn’t behind her, and stops and turns to look at him in concern. Odd is still kneeling on the ground, panting. He suddenly has a vision showing him the path through the maze to the tower.

Odd (weak)

We’re almost there, Aelita. I just had a psychic vision. You have to go left, you hear?

Aelita moves towards him as if expecting him to come with her.

Odd (weak)

And don’t wait for me. I’m too weak to go.

Aelita

Ok, Odd. I’ll get there. Don’t worry.

Odd (weak, smiling)

Oh, I’m not worried.

##### Int. Turbine Room – Day

Jeremie lies on the floor, surrounded by gas. His breathing is ragged.

##### Mountain Sector, Lyoko

Aelita runs through the labyrinth as instructed and comes out at the tower. She runs over and enters it without trouble.

##### Int. Hall – Day

Yumi lies breathless in her mother’s lap.

Akiko (worried)

Water! And call for help. Please hurry!

Delmas runs out of the room.

##### Int. Turbine Room – Day

Jeremie still struggles to breathe.

##### Int. Hall – Day

Aelita enters the code. The gas around Ulrich and Yumi freezes.

##### Int. Turbine Room – Day

Jeremie

Return to the past, now!

Return to the past.

##### Ext. Quad – Day

The boys stand around Yumi, sitting on the bench.

Yumi

You’ve got to be kidding. I won’t ever be part of that dumb play again.

Odd

Well at least now we know how to get your folks together!

Yumi

I’m never going to wear that stupid costume again!

Jeremie

I agree.

Ulrich

Hm?

Jeremie

I’ve got a better idea! As for Ulrich, I’m really sorry, but you’re going to have to sacrifice yourself one more time.

Odd

At least that way, we can finally see you as Romeo!

Jeremie

Let’s face it – a nice laughing fit is good for you from time to time!

Ulrich stares at him.

##### Int. Hall – Day

Ulrich is on stage.

Ulrich

I don’t know if she’ll appear tonight on her balcony, but I’m certain… Erm, I’m certain she…she loves me!

Yumi is behind a set bush, reading out his lines quietly.

Yumi (whispering)

And I know I love her very much.

Ulrich

And I know I love her very much! Aahh, no! A guard!

He ducks behind the bush. Herb comes out on stage in the guard’s costume. It earns a few laughs from the audience. Backstage, Odd and Jeremie smile.

Takeho

Where’s Yumi? Isn’t she supposed to be in the play?

Jeremie turns around and winks. He walks over to a rope and pulls on it. On the stage, the bush Yumi and Ulrich are hiding behind gets lifted up towards the ceiling, putting them in plain view. The audience laughs, including the Ishiyamas.

Jeremie

It worked!

Sissi

What’s the matter now?! What happened?! Why are you all laughing?! You don’t understand drama! This is not a comedy, it’s a great tragedy!

The audience continues to laugh. Takeho puts his arm around Akiko and she leans into him, both laughing. Yumi smiles. The audience claps.