

OZ 9 EPISODE 46

[sounds of the bridge]

- 1                                 JOE  
It's steering the ship. The plant is steering the ship. Yep.
- 2                                 LEET  
You already said that.
- 3                                 JOE  
Dramatic emphasis.
- 4                                 MADELINE  
So, do we know what planet they came from? And how long it'll take us to get there? Also, and I really do NOT want to ask this - are they the reason so many pods are going dark?
- 5                                 VON HABER ZETZER  
"They"-no. But that bad one, ze true Other...yes. Probably.
- 6                                 JESSIE  
So basically we've been fwipping their juice boxes out the airlock.
- 7                                 COLIN  
My god. Just when I thought this conversation couldn't get worse. How many Others are there? Mrs. Sheffield?
- 8                                 OLIVIA  
They've gone, I'm afraid. Greg's kidneys disconnected.
- 9                                 GREG  
You could just say they hung up.
- 10                                OLIVIA  
Where's the fun in that?
- 11                                THEO  
I think it's safe to say they didn't have time to count, Colin. But it's a good question. If they're active again after all these years, they must think they're ready - for whatever comes next.

NARRATOR

12 Hmmm? Oh, yes. I'm here, I'm here.  
Just didn't want to interrupt a  
dramatic moment. Sometimes you just  
have to let a moment hang in the air,  
like smoke.... Deep, rich, velvety,  
smokey...smoke. Sorry. So, there were  
quite a lot of revelations in the last  
episode, or at least some very spooky  
guessing going on. Are the Others  
terraforming US when we thought we  
were terraforming THEM? And are the  
pods full of rich folks just Gogurts  
for the Others, as they make their way  
back to Earth? We've heard we're not  
alone in the vast expanse of space, so  
if there's anyone competent out there  
who can intercept, could you maybe  
broadside the Oz 9 and lend a hand?

ALBATROS

13 So. How far is it to their home  
planet? And what happens to us when we  
get there? I'm going to need a much  
bigger pen.

VON HABER ZETZER

14 We were never able to glean from zem  
where zere planet is. Zo many  
communication issues, you haf no idea.

LEET

15 It's actually not THAT hard to  
understand them if you take swatches  
with you.

COLIN

16 Leet?

LEET

17 Shut up?

COLIN

18 Thank you. Do you at least have a  
guess, Doctor?

VON HABER ZETZER

19 Nein.

MADELINE

20 Nine guesses? Well, that narrows it

21 down some.

VON HABER ZETZER

22 Mein Got. And I thought communicating  
with aliens was ze hard part.

OLIVIA

23 I'll explain it to her later. I can  
give you a general idea which  
direction we're heading in when the  
plant is in control.

LBF

24 Docteur Theo, did you not say the mold  
could kill the bad plants? Perhaps we  
should arrange a meeting, ehhhh?

THEO

25 Yes, the mold does attack the hostile  
plants, but I doubt that's ever been  
tested on one of the Others. That  
plant is ancient and likely much more  
powerful than its genetically  
manipulated descendants.

LEET

26 Did you know red is universally the  
color of rage? And I mean  
"universally." Like, the whole  
universe, universally.

COLIN

27 Did anyone say your name?

LEET

28 No fair. You just told me to shut up,  
you didn't jinx me. [pause] I used to  
like the color red, but now it always  
seems like it's shouting at me.

GREG

29 Quick question: how often do they need  
to eat? I mean, if they brought aboard  
a certain number of pods, and we  
fwipped a lot of those pods, what  
happens if they run out? Not that I  
want them to eat any of the  
passengers, of course, but, well...

LBF

30 I can assassinate them!

31 ALBATROS  
No, you can't. But congratulations on  
getting all the syllables in that  
word, for a change.

32 JESSIE  
I'm guessing kudzu bread with cattail  
marmalade isn't going hold them over  
until landfall.

33 MADELINE  
We need to fix my popcorn machine.

34 ALBATROS  
Really?

35 MADELINE  
It's Invasion of the Body Snackers.  
You want to give 'em popcorn? Or one  
of us?

36 ALBATROS  
Whom are you offering?

37 MADELINE  
I'm TRYNA' CAPTAIN HERE.

38 LEET  
The two on the right talk mostly in  
greens, which I guess makes sense,  
them being plants and all. Lots of  
browns, too. Also sunlight.

39 COLIN  
Leet!

40 LEET  
Sorry.

41 THEO  
No, wait. What do you mean they "talk"  
in greens?

42 LEET  
I don't know a better way to explain  
it.

43 THEO  
Do you... talk back to them?

JESSIE  
44 Oh, come on. You're seriously thinking we should stand around gabbin' at ferns, do ya? There's got to be a hatchet around here; let's just go take care of the big baddies right now. If we can't fwip 'em, well, we've got a compost room.

THEO  
45 Hang on. No, hang on *metaphorically*.

JESSIE  
46 Right. Sorry.

THEO  
47 Leet, can you make yourself understood to them?

LEET  
48 No. I don't know how to do what they do. I can understand the good plants better; it's harder to figure out what the Other one is saying. It's kind of like in the movies when someone's all Ye Olde Shoppe and hither and codpieces and stuff. I get some of it, but then it says something weird and they all laugh, but I don't get it. I think it's usually about pollination. They talk a LOT about pollination.

JESSIE  
49 You're saying you can actually talk to these alien plant things?

LEET  
50 It's not really *talking*, like we're doing. It's more like decoding their passwords. They shoot colors and smells at me, and I try to figure out what they mean.

THEO  
51 Smells? Can you explain? Also, what are you doing to my head?

LEET  
52 I'm tucking your hair behind your ear.

53 THEO  
I don't have hair.

54 LEET  
That's OK.

55 COLIN  
Smells...*green* smells?

56 LEET  
Yeah. You've smelled them too?

57 COLIN  
Yes. I thought it was the result of sandwiches.

58 MADELINE  
The result of...? Oh. Ew.

59 VON HABER ZETZER  
Ahhhhh, of course. Your zenze of zsell is heightened thanks to ze olive, eh?

60 COLIN  
Yes, and on a ship full of rancid food, and frankly a pretty rancid crew, that is NOT a benefit.

61 THEO  
Can you make any sense of what you're smelling?

62 COLIN  
Don't be absurd. It just smells...*green*. Or brown. Whatever.

63 JESSIE  
What, like pine trees and bogs? And before you say it, not THAT kind of bog, the kind with peat.

64 MADELINE  
Who's Pete?

65 JESSIE  
What?

66 OLIVIA  
I'll explain that to her later as well.

67 COLIN  
No, they don't smell like anything familiar, it's just the scent of green. Greenliness. And sulfur, which is the scent of hell itself, my god.

68 JOE  
You know you're not making sense here, right?

69 LEET  
He is, though.

70 THEO  
HMMMMM. We need to separate them. The two beni- benevolent ones from the hostile one.

71 JESSIE  
Separate, bollocks! We need to kill them.

72 LEET  
No! At least not the good ones.

73 JESSIE  
Are you 100 percent positive that two of them ARE good?

74 LEET  
I'm.... 79- no, 83. Eighty-three percent positive.

75 MADELINE  
That's still 35 percent not, Leet.

76 THEO  
Thirty-five?

77 JESSIE  
And she's your captain. Let that sink in for a hot second.

78 THEO  
I'd rather not. We're not killing anything, Leet. But we need to do some research. Can you think of anything that smells like their smells? Something we can use to communicate?

79 GREG  
There's lots of green and brown stuff  
in the bioswamp. Maybe we can mix  
something up?

80 LEET  
I dunno. [sniffs] There! Smell that?  
That's them!

81 THEO  
I don't smell anything. Well, not  
anything new...

82 JESSIE  
Nope. Naught.

83 MADELINE  
Wait. You smell it clear up here? On  
the bridge? Are they moving?

84 LEET  
I don't think so. I think it's coming  
from [sniff] Colin.

85 COLIN  
What? You're mad.

86 VON HABER ZETZER  
You are zaying our Colin can reproduce  
ze smells of ze plants? Ach! Zis is  
very good news indeed!

87 LEET  
Soooo... you're a good guy now, right?

88 VON HABER ZETZER  
I haf always been, mein friend Leet.

89 OLIVIA  
Debatable.

90 VON HABER ZETZER  
Vile on zis ship, I haf been a good  
fellow, zis is vat I am sayink.

91 OLIVIA  
Slightly more accurate.

92 COLIN  
HELLO?



93 THEO  
If Colin can produce their, language,  
I guess? can you tell what he's  
saying, Leet?

94 LEET  
Eat me.

95 THEO  
I...beg your pardon?

96 LEET  
That's what Colin's saying.

97 COLIN  
I most certainly am not!

98 LEET  
Sorry, but you are.

99 COLIN  
My god. Keep me away from those  
plants!

100 THEO  
What are you feeling right now? We  
need to figure out how you trigger  
certain scents so you can speak back  
to them.

101 COLIN  
What am I feeling? Apparently, I've  
been wandering around shouting, "I'm  
tasty, come and get me" to homicidal  
plants. I'm terrified!

102 THEO  
Believe me, I understand accidentally  
communicating the wrong messages. The  
trick is figuring out how to send the  
right ones.

sound of poison dart frog

103 COLIN  
GAAAAAH!

104 JESSIE  
Oy! Get back here, Linnie!

JOE  
105       Isn't that that poison frog? Why do  
          you still have it?

JESSIE  
106       Lynnie is not an "it," she's a she.  
          Probably. Doesn't matter. I've taken a  
          liking to her, and she's quite happy  
          in my pocket, so you leave her be.

COLIN  
107       Well, get "Lynnie" off me this  
          instant.

THEO  
108       Hang on. That gives me an idea....

NARRATOR  
109       This is the bit where they all huddle  
          up, and you don't get to hear what  
          they're planning because it'll ruin  
          the surprise or something. Or possibly  
          the writer doesn't really know the  
          plan yet and is stalling for time.  
          Either way, we'll take the opportunity  
          to check in with the crew on Earth,  
          who had narrowly escaped from the  
          Others the last time we checked in.

BEN  
110       Why do they keep hanging up on us?!

JULIE  
111       Ben, honey, they're in space. There's  
          a lot of stuff between them and us.  
          Like, space.

MRS SHEFFIELD  
112       It is inconvenient. Well. I don't know  
          about you lot, but I'm concerned we're  
          a touch exposed out here.

JULIE  
113       We could head for the rough where I've  
          been living. They think we're dead, so  
          they won't be looking for us.

DONNA  
114       If it's all the same to you, I'm  
          feeling a little Emily-and-Howard-ish.

115                                 JULIE  
Meaning?

116                                 DONNA  
Light on arms. How's about we swing  
back to Louisville? I clocked a couple  
of pawn shops as we went past.

117                                 MRS SHEFFIELD  
That's at least an hour, hour-and-a-  
half drive. We'll have to take the  
golf cart.

118                                 BEN  
No, please. I've risked my life enough  
times today.

119                                 JULIE  
We can't stay here. It's good they  
think we're dead. If they spot us,  
they'll finish the job.

120                                 BEN  
What are you holding?

121                                 JULIE  
Oh. Samples.

122                                 MRS SHEFFIELD  
Those are from the Others. When were  
you close enough to get clippings?

123                                 JULIE  
Does it matter?

124                                 BEN  
YES.

125                                 JULIE  
I have a theory about how they  
communicate, and I need living samples  
to study. I've got to get these in  
some water.

126                                 BEN  
Fine. They've got water in Louisville.  
One of you can hot wire a real car,  
right? Donna? Surely you did that  
between ... cow tipping and ice  
fishing and eating pancakes or  
whatever?

JULIE  
 127 Regular water won't do, this is from  
 one of the original travelers,  
 remember? I need sulfur water. I have  
 to get to the springs. Pluto Springs  
 is just over there. Come on!

BEN  
 128 More running. Running and trying not  
 to die.

MRS SHEFFIELD  
 129 Yes! Isn't it *fun*! Come along!

JULIE  
 130 Hurry up, Ben!

NARRATOR  
 131 While they're hastening to the  
 springs, let me give you an idea of  
 the surroundings. French Lick is the  
 site of a very old, very elegant  
 resort where the wealthy and powerful  
 once came to "take the waters." Famous  
 for their speedy laxative effects, the  
 springs were popular among people who  
 could afford the sort of diet that  
 made laxatives necessary. Toilets were  
 installed quite near the springs so  
 those who imbibed weren't ...  
 embarrassed. It's a bit ironic our  
 group is running *towards* the springs.

talking while running here, so some breathing as you do this  
 bit of dialogue

DONNA  
 132 You sure it's a good idea to make more  
 of those beasties?

JULIE  
 133 I worked with their descendants,  
 remember? I'll keep it small, and when  
 I'm done with it, I'll destroy it.

DONNA  
 134 How? They're pretty much  
 indestructible, according to those  
 notes.

135 JULIE  
I've got it under control.

136 MRS SHEFFIELD  
You have mold, don't you?

137 JULIE  
Yes. It's in the back of your car, so I hope Glenda's still got your car, or we will be in trouble. OK. Here we are.

138 BEN  
What the hell is that?

139 JULIE  
Oh, yeah, that's supposed to be Pluto, the Roman God of the Dead. That statue has been around forever, apparently.

140 DONNA  
Ohhhhhh, *that's* what Olivia meant when she said we were going to the home of the devil himself.

141 SOUTHERS  
Maybe.

gasps, sounds of surprise from Julie, Donna, Mrs S, Ben;  
sound of the fluorescent light from Mrs S's cane

142 SOUTHERS  
If she did, she had it wrong. The real devil here is the fella that runs this place.

143 DONNA  
What happened to you?

144 SOUTHERS  
I was trying to help Gertie. I shoulda known when they hustled your botanist gal out with the rest of you - they didn't care about my Gertie. While I was tending her, the devil locked me in the greenhouse. And it was feeding time. I barely made it out alive.

145 DONNA  
Your shoes sure are shiny.

146 BEN  
Really, Donna?

147 SOUTHERS  
I been sitting here shining 'em since  
I escaped. That's how I made my first  
dollar, you know - shinin' a rich  
man's shoes. So I sat here and  
polished my shoes and wondered where  
the hell it all went wrong.

148 MRS SHEFFIELD  
Yes, well, I'll feel sorry for you  
just the far side of NEVER, but for  
now, let's figure out what to do with  
the devil in the bright sunlight,  
mmmm?

149 JULIE  
I need something to keep the water in.  
Anyone got anything?

150 SOUTHERS  
Here. Use my flask. I finished up the  
whiskey setting fires in the  
greenhouse.

151 JULIE  
This is your "flask"? How much does  
this thing hold?

152 SOUTHERS  
Where I come from, a lady never asks  
the size of a man's flask.

153 BEN  
Watch it, Southers. Could we maybe get  
to the springs and get out of sight?  
What if Charlie's prowling around?

154 JULIE  
It's a pagoda. How "out of sight" were  
you hoping to be?

155 BEN  
Just go fill up your giant flask, and  
let's get out of here!

156 MRS SHEFFIELD  
So am I right in assuming your  
loyalties have ... shifted somewhat?

SOUTHERS  
157 Not half the distance of a butterfly  
fart, as my grandpa used to say. My  
loyalties have been and will always be  
... to me.

MRS SHEFFIELD  
158 Let me rephrase: am I right in  
assuming your bread is now buttered on  
the other side?

SOUTHERS  
159 I don't know if it's your accent or  
some bizarro limey slang, but I have  
no idea what you're saying.

MRS SHEFFIELD  
160 Oh, but deciphering the "butterfly  
fart" was a doddle. Last go: you might  
be willing to be on our side now  
rather than theirs, since they tried  
to kill you more recently than we did?

SOUTHERS  
161 Surely. I will, of course, jump ship  
at the first sign of a turning tide,  
however.

MRS SHEFFIELD  
162 Duly noted.

JULIE  
163 OK, I've got the water. Nice seal on  
this flask, I have to say; nothing's  
getting out of there.

SOUTHERS  
164 Little missy, the last liquid in that  
flask was 25-year-old Scotch that  
retails at \$2500 a bottle, and that's  
only because I couldn't get the good  
stuff out here in Tumbleweed, Indiana.

BEN  
165 Where's Buck?

SOUTHERS  
166 Dropped him off in Terra Haute. Said  
he had an appointment at the zoo.

167 MRS SHEFFFIELD  
Oooo. You weren't ... fond of him,  
were you?

168 SOUTHERS  
Is a cat fond of its scratching post?  
Is a dog fond of its chew toy? Is a  
kangaroo fond of-

169 MRS SHEFFIELD  
Yes, all right, I get the point. Hang  
on, what was that last one?

170 SOUTHERS  
My point is Buck is strictly a  
utilitarian accessory.

171 MRS SHEFFIELD  
Well, yes, I understand, but what is  
the kangaroo equivalent of a chew toy?

172 BEN  
Hey! You have a car! Here!

173 SOUTHERS  
Quick, ain't he?

174 MRS SHEFFIELD  
Finally we shall see your car from the  
inside! Easier to enjoy the in-dash  
digital media system when it's not  
accompanied by the sounds of your  
companions screaming over it. Shall  
we?

175 SOUTHERS  
This is not how I expected this day to  
go.

176 MRS SHEFFIELD  
I suspect not. Now, let's chat about  
that devil, Mr. Tiberius.

177 SOUTHERS  
Tiberius? Oh, hell, no, that boy  
hasn't got the brains to blow his nose  
without getting his feet wet. Felonius  
is the fella in charge.

178 JULIE  
The lackey? The guy who carried his



179               boss piggy-back all the way back to  
                  the resort?

walking away

                                  SOUTHERS  
180               Don't let his bow-and-scrape routine  
                  fool you. Tiberius might wear the  
                  crown, but Felonius has his uh...  
                  sceptre-and-orbs in a twist, if you  
                  catch my meaning.

                                  BEN  
181               Wait, I don't get it. Sceptre and  
                  orbs?

                                  JULIE  
182               I'll explain it to you later, honey.

                                  NARRATOR  
183               Well, I think we've given the crew of  
                  the 9 long enough to discuss their  
                  plan....

sounds of the bridge

                                  LEET  
184               Hang on. I still don't get what the  
                  frog has to do with it.

moans and groans of impatience and frustration

                                  THEO  
185               The frog? The frog is the center of  
                  the whole idea!

                                  NARRATOR  
186               Maybe not.

                                  GREG  
187               It's OK, Dr. Theo. I've got it.

                                  JESSIE  
188               Greg, I want Linnie back safe and in  
                  one poisonous piece, got it?

                                  GREG  
189               Yes, ma'am, Captain Jessie.

                                  LEET  
190               I thought Colin would deliver the

191 message. Why do we need Linnie?

MADELINE  
192 Wow. Dr. Theo, how about I take a  
whack at explaining it?

THEO  
193 Oh. Uh, sure, Captain Madeline. Be my  
guest.

MADELINE  
194 Is that an invitation to your home  
when we return to Earth?

THEO  
195 What?! Uhhhhh-

COLIN  
196 No. Now, get on with it!

MADELINE  
197 Fine. Leet, we're using the frog  
because Doctor Theo thinks it's a good  
idea, and he's much smarter than you  
are. OK?

THEO  
198 That's your explanation?

LEET  
199 Ohhhhhh. Got it. Plants communicate  
through pollinators, so we take Linnie  
back to the mold, let her snuggle  
awhile, then, when Linnie is good and  
covered in mold spores, we get her to  
jump on the bad plant. That'll tell  
the baddie that we have killer mold on  
board, and it'll be afraid of us!

OLIVIA  
200 And he sticks the landing!

THEO  
201 I can't believe that worked.

JOE  
202 Still not sure how we separate the  
plants, though, to get the baddie on  
its own.

203                                   ALBATROS  
Bait.

204                                   LBF  
Oooooo, I like where this is going!  
It's not ME, is it?

205                                   COLIN  
No. It's me.

206                                   ALBATROS  
Sorry, Colin, but once the frog-

207                                   JESSIE  
Lynnie.

208                                   ALBATROS  
Really. I'm starting to understand why  
the original me is so keen on taking  
you out. Once we've got the plant's  
attention, thanks to Lynnie, we need  
to get it moving. It can move on its  
own, correct?

209                                   THEO  
From what Julie and crew experienced  
down on Earth, yes, they can move on  
their own, and fast.

210                                   ALBATROS  
Colin stands in the doorway, shooting  
off rainbows or misting pheromones, or  
whatever it is he does-

211                                   COLIN  
My god, that sounds positively  
obscene.

212                                   ALBATROS  
Own it, Plantman. Once the plant  
catches his scent, Colin, you head for  
the Dolce and Gabbana wing. We know  
it's empty-

213                                   OLIVIA  
Not my fault!

214                                   ALBATROS  
Yes, thank you, and we can trap it in  
there. Colin, you run in, it follows,

215                   MADELINE  
And we shut the door behind it! Yes!

216                   COLIN  
Ohhhhh, that's how it works, is it?

217                   LEET  
Sounds great. But how do we get Linnie  
back?

218                   COLIN  
Yes, let's hear how you plan to get  
THE FROG back, mmmmmmm?

219                   JESSIE  
I'll stand just outside the door to  
the D & G wing, and call her as the  
plant dashes in. Just make sure I have  
her before you shut the door.

220                   MADELINE  
This is going to work!

221                   JOE  
All right, let's saddle up!

222                   COLIN  
If I might just raise one tiny  
objection, point out the merest  
wrinkle in this otherwise flawless  
plan?

223                   ALBATROS  
Quickly, please.

224                   COLIN  
Where am I?

225                   MADELINE  
Well, the floating bucket is right  
here, so I'm guessing somewhere here-  
ish.

226                   COLIN  
Ouch! Yes, that's very helpful. No,  
where am I once the plant is safely  
confined in the D & G wing?

227                   THEO  
You're with us.

COLIN

228 Am I? It seems I ran into the D&G wing  
with the creature hot on my heels, the  
door was shut, Lynn timer was saved,  
hoorah! But I am INSIDE WITH THE  
PLANT.

MADELINE

229 Oh, yeah. Hm m m m. Well, we'll figure it  
out when we get there. Let's go, crew,  
hup hup hup!

COLIN

230 Figure it out when we get there?!

NARRATOR

231 As the crew races off to lure the  
Other to the Dolce and Gabbana wing,  
they fail to realize that Greg's  
recent reboot has reset his internal  
systems, including the kidney phone.  
However, like most software, the  
reboot didn't happen at a convenient  
time, like when he woke up in the  
cave, it happened in the middle of  
important things and quietly disrupted  
EVERYTHING, like reboots always do.  
With the ringer now reset to the  
default silent mode, Greg mistakes the  
vibration as nothing more than the  
natural effect of galloping with the  
Albatros kicking him in the sides in  
her haste and excitement. Back on  
earth, in a small, quiet hotel on the  
edge of town...

JULIE

232 Dammit. No one's answering!

MRS SHEFFIELD

waking

233 M m m m? Is it so terribly important?  
What exactly have you discovered?

JULIE

234 I'm worried they might try to  
communicate with the plants they have  
on board. If I'm right, that's about  
the worst thing they could do.

235 MRS SHEFFIELD  
Really? They have so many bad options  
to choose from, what makes this one  
especially terrible?

236 JULIE  
Look at the clippings, see how nuts  
they are? I caught a housefly and  
dipped it in the mold, then threw it  
into the clippings, and they went into  
a frenzy.

237 MRS SHEFFIELD  
Good lord. Julie? Where's your duvet?

238 JULIE  
They ate it. And a pillow.

239 MRS SHEFFIELD  
That's impossible. They're tiny.

240 JULIE  
Don't look in the bathtub.

241 GLENDA  
I'll take care of the bathtub foliage  
in the morning. Now zip it and let me  
sleep.

242 BUCK  
Yeah, shut up. I'm tryna sleep here.

243 NARRATOR  
Sooooooo... question for you, our  
listening audience: if you're a killer  
plant, would you go after the  
vegetarians first? Because if so, I'm  
going to go have a cheeseburger. Then  
I'm going to go apologize to the  
broccoli in my refrigerator and set it  
free. Having seen what these plants do  
when angry, I suggest you do the same.  
You've been listening to...

Iri Alexander as Julie

Sarah Golding as Mrs Sheffield

David S Dear as Dr. Theo Bromae

Bonnie Brantley as Jessie and Donna

Richard Cowen as Leet

June Clark Eubanks as the Albatros and Glenda

Tim Sherburn as Colin and Buck

Eric Perry as Dr. von Haber Zetzer, Joe, and Mr. Southers

Aaron Clark as le Bichon Frise and Ben

Kevin Hall as Greg

Shannon Perry as Madeline and Olivia

and me, Richard Nadolny, as your Narrator.

Our music is composed and performed by John Faley. Our artwork is by Lucas Elliott. This episode was directed by June Clark Eubanks. Oz 9 is written and produced by Shannon Perry. Until next time, space monkeys - and I really REALLY hope there's a next time - Narrator out.