

Oz 9 episode 81

"Hangover remedies and really good sunscreen"

by Shannon Perry

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Episode 81 narrators' bridge

NARRATOR

1 With the plants mostly cleared off the ship, no more danger from Pod Bay 3 or the Ozdyssey, and full bellies from a quick trip to an interspace 7-Eleven to load up on candy and slurpee sauce, the crew are enjoying a well-deserved rest from recent adventures.

n2

2 And fat heads from Planet Cocktail.

NARRATOR

3 Definitely. While mopping up the remains of the Pod Bay 3 inhabitants in Quadrant 19, Joe discovered that, through lucky happenstance, the Big Bad plant doesn't like plastic. It expelled all the rich folks' credit cards and identification, allowing our crew to go on one hell of a binge.

n2

4 Planet Cocktail has eleven suns, making its beaches very tempting and its Tequila Sunrises big enough to require a bathtub to cart one around in.

NARRATOR

5 And our vegetable garden of a crew took advantage of both.

n2

6 The crew did finally recover after six days locked in their bunks and a grand fwippage of bathtubs full of regurgitated sunrise. So I gotta ask – what about the Big Bad plant?

NARRATOR

7 Hang on. We'll get to it.

Madeline's bridge

Madeline, Jessie, and Olivia are on the bridge. The door opens, and Colin walks in.

8                               colin  
My god, there are bodies everywhere I  
go!

9                               madeline  
WHAT?

10                              colin  
Oh, calm down. *Live* bodies. It's very  
crowded.

11                              jessie  
And I don't like any of them. Tossers.

12                              colin  
It's a massive ship. Must they all  
huddle here?

13                              Olivia  
We could send them on a reconnaissance  
mission.

14                              jessie  
Yeah, maybe a few could go reconnoiter  
with the sun!

15                              colin  
Horrible as ever, I see.

16                              jessie  
And armed to the teeth.

17                              colin  
Don't you mean "armed to the toes"?  
Your only weapon is in your sock.

18                              jessie  
Watch it....

19                              madeline  
Shaddup. It's not a bad idea,  
actually. I mean, we still have a hold  
full of carg- resting guests to unlo-  
rehome.

20                              Colin  
My. That was a lot of second thoughts.

21                              jessie  
Pffft. You have to have a *first*  
thought to have a second.

22                   madeline  
Up with the shutting, she-who-is-only-slumming-on-my-ship. Checking out a foreign world, isn't that what we signed up for? Olivia, are there any planets within range?

23                   colin  
Within range of what? Not the t-shirt gun, I hope. I refuse to be shot out of a cannon *again*.

24                   jessie  
"Again"? Wow, you really were unpopular.

25                   olivia  
The sacred objects aren't sacred anymore.

26                   jessie  
What does that mean?

27                   olivia  
Several things, actually: one, no more door to Earth or Steve or anywhere else. And two, their powers have been reallocated.

28                   Colin  
To what? George Washington's dentures? A dirty sock and a tin of beans?

29                   olivia  
You're joking. How would I know?

30                   colin  
Sooooooo, we don't know everything after all, do we?

31                   olivia  
I know sixty-three, no, wait, a hundred and forty-four ways to kill you right now without moving an inch.

Disney pinging sound.

32                   jessie  
Are you ... smiling?

33                   colin  
I can't help it. Everything feels so  
gloriously normal.

34                   jessie  
Sad state of affairs when it takes a  
death threat to feel normal.

35                   madeline  
How the hell did you know invisible  
boy was smiling?

36                   Jessie  
New power. He makes those weird  
pinging Disney-slash-toothpaste-advert  
stars when he does it. They're pointy  
and annoying. Keep 'im crabby, I say.

37                   olivia  
Hang on. My darling boy isn't here to  
wait on you hand and foot anymore. So  
who brought you breakfast this  
morning?

38                   colin  
Oh, good grief. I'm a grown man.

[pause]

39                   colin  
Fine! Ben. (defensive) I hired a nanny  
for their child.

40                   madeline  
The sacred objects were for the  
plants, right? I mean, the plants  
created them so they'd always have a  
way between earth and home.

41                   colin  
And your point is?

42                   madeline  
My point is, now that the plants are  
safely on [gagging], maybe there are  
no sacred objects any more. They don't  
need them.

43                   olivia  
Interesting theory. Complete nonsense,  
of course, but I like the energy.

[door opens, Julie walks in]

44                   julie  
What's nonsense?

45                   olivia  
The idea that we're going to start  
this conversation all over again just  
because you came in in the middle.

46                   julie  
Fine. Most things going on on this  
ship I'd rather not know about.

47                   jessie  
Speaking of stupid-

48                   julie  
HEY.

[door opens, footsteps]

49                   Jessie  
-what are we going to do with Freeze?

50                   madeline  
Oh, he's still sulking in his shuttle.

51                   colin  
Playing with your shiny new tractor  
beam, aren't you.

52                   madeline  
I can't help it! It's like one of  
those extendable dog leads, only  
funnier. I give him some slack, let  
him think he's free, then yank him  
back like a... a....

53                   julie  
Boomerang?

54                   jessie  
Minnow!

55                   colin  
Servant!

56                   joe  
Bitchin' Freeze.

57                               Julie/madeline/jessie/colin  
Jesus!

58                               joe  
Belt still works. Good to know.

59                               colin  
Could you take that thing off? We're  
all friends now.

60                               joe  
I guess. But seriously, my jump scares  
are the only aerobic exercise you  
people get.

61                               madeline  
*Off*, Joe. We probably should reel  
Freeze in. He's got a really nice  
little boat, and there's some good  
food aboard that shuttle.

62                               julie  
Yeah, but there's also ... him.

63                               olivia  
You *have* good food. And nice shuttles.

64                               colin  
We do?

65                               olivia  
And a crap ton of gin.

66                               colin  
WHAT. Tell me more!

67                               joe  
I could use a new mop...

68                               olivia  
I might have gotten Dr. von Haber  
Zetzer's ants to unload some of the  
Ozdysey's cargo onto the 9.

69                               jessie  
How'd you manage that?

70                               olivia  
Remember that extra jolt of energy  
when Leet was buffing his chest? He  
suggested I borrow a bit to wormhole a

few things to the 9. I did think he'd be here to enjoy it.... Anyway, it's sort of a final gift from Leet. And the Albatros.

colin  
71 Just when I thought I couldn't love her more.

joe  
72 Maybe some bleach. And a new bucket!

olivia  
73 OY, idiots, enough blah blah blah background, could we maybe do something more interesting?

[pause]

jessie  
74 Such as? I've taken, like, six naps since we got the plants back to [gagging noise].

madeline  
75 Yeah, I don't know what to do with myself when I'm not afraid for my life.

olivia  
76 Oh, well, good news, then!

julie  
77 Now what?

olivia  
78 What do you mean, "now what"? You and the Docs and Mrs S have been mucking about in the bioswamp, trying to figure out what to do with the Big Bad-

Narrators' bridge

NARRATOR  
79 Told you we'd get to it.

n2  
80 Finally!



Madeline's bridge

81                   olivia  
Do you mind? I don't appreciate being  
interrupted.

Narrators' bridge

82                   narrator/n2  
Sorry.

Madeline's bridge

83                   olivia  
I should think so.

84                   jessie  
Who's she talking to?

85                   julie  
Is part of her still on the Ozdyssey?

86                   olivia  
Stop guessing – you're terribly bad at  
it. ANYWAY, you already know what I'm  
talking about.

87                   julie  
Oh, that. I was coming here to tell  
you, actually. There are signs the Big  
Bad plant is shaking off the sleep  
spores. Also, Colin, that nanny says  
she was trained in something called  
the Württemberg-Peprnik maneuver. What  
is that?

88                   colin  
Bribing a child with either a Mercedes  
Benz or gingerbread. Can't we just ...  
fwip the plant? Send it out into space  
to die horribly? Preferably while  
still in view of our windscreen  
thingy?

89                   julie  
A Mercedes Benz?!

90                   colin  
Don't worry. Children are stupid. They  
always fold for the gingerbread.

91                   joe  
Fwipping is not a good idea. Those  
things can survive a long time in some  
pretty incredible atmospheres when  
they go dormant. Like trees in the  
wintertime.

92                   colin  
So, you're saying it could survive out  
there and possibly land on another  
planet?

93                   joe  
Even if it's unlikely, it seems like a  
mean trick to play on some other  
unsuspecting planet.

94                   madeline  
Hey, Olivia, wasn't there something  
back there about "good news" that  
really isn't?

95                   olivia  
Oh, are you still here? Big bad plant  
is waking. It's going to get hungry  
again, and we're fresh out of rich  
people. Nearly.

96                   Colin  
Don't look at me.

97                   julie  
She can't.

98                   colin  
Very funny. Don't *think* of me either.

99                   olivia  
I do try not to. Look, if you're not  
actually going to be helpful, perhaps  
you lot can find something else to do  
rather than annoy me? Go have  
sandwiches.

100                  jessie  
God no. I miss the Albatros as much as  
the next gorgeous Scotswoman, but I  
can't stuff down another slice of  
kudzu bread.

101                   joe  
You really never mastered those  
listening skills, did you.

102                   jessie  
Your point, man teetering dangerously  
near the edge of my patience?

103                   joe  
Stores brought over from the Ozdyssey.  
Like *bread*. Made from wheat.

104                   colin  
My god. BREAD!!

[running feet, door opens, **whoops from Madeline, Jessie, and  
Colin.** Voices fade slightly into distance.]

105                   madeline  
Captains first!

106                   jessie  
YES! Hang on, current or former?

107                   madeline  
Current captains first!

[door closes]

108                   olivia  
You should probably follow them so  
Jessie doesn't tear open the cartons  
with her teeth or something.

109                   joe  
We are down a healer pod. I'll follow  
up later.

110                   olivia  
Not interested in joining them?

111                   joe  
Much as I'd enjoy seeing Colin burst  
into tears over a pack of La  
Panzanellas and a wad of brie, I  
actually wouldn't.

112                   olivia  
Fair. Oh, I found a planet!

113                   julie  
Oh no.

114                   olivia  
Are you still here? Who are you again?

115                   julie  
Ha ha.

116                   Joe  
Where are we, anyway? Getting  
wormholed to [gagging] means we're not  
exactly on the old Rand McNally  
anymore.

117                   olivia  
You're very old.

118                   joe  
And feeling it.

119                   julie  
So? Where are we?

120                   olivia  
Well, we sort of bounced off a bunch  
of galaxies like a stone thrown across  
a pond: Black Eye Galaxy, Bode's  
Galaxy, Cartwheel Galaxy, which is  
funny considering we more sort of back  
flipped off it-

121                   joe  
Olivia....

122                   olivia  
Mayall's Object, which stupidly wasn't  
named for Rik or any of his...  
objects, but I'm going to pretend it  
was, Cosmos Redshift, which sounds  
like something you might order from LL  
Bean, Pinwheel...

123                   julie  
You don't know where we are.

124                   Olivia  
Not a clue. I'm keen on Sombrero, as I  
look quite adorable in a jaunty  
chapeau, but well, what are the  
chances?

125                   julie  
Is there anything here we might  
recognize? A constellation, a dwarf  
star, black hole, anything?

126                   joe  
Yeah, Olivia, why don't you go ahead  
and run a quick scan, see what's out  
there?

[Door opens, **Mrs S. and Dr. Theo** run in, breathless]

127                   mrs sheffield  
You know, it's really quite annoying  
to want to burst through a door but  
have to wait for it to slide open as  
if nothing extraordinary were  
happening.

128                   Dr. theo  
Agreed. The dramatic impact is  
lessened quite substantially.

129                   mrs sheffield  
Do you know, now that there's no fear  
of being asked to read your novel,  
you've become quite attractive again.

130                   dr theo  
Is that your idea of a compliment?

131                   julie  
Ummmmmm....

132                   joe  
Bursting? Dramatic?

133                   mrs sheffield  
Ah yes, apologies. [shouts] Albert's  
pregnant!

[responses of surprise from **Joe and Julie**]

134                   joe  
With what?

135                   julie  
How do you know? We weren't even  
looking at Albert. Alberta?

136                   mrs sheffield  
We don't make assumptions, Dear.

137                   dr theo  
Albert was eating some stomach-calming  
plants in the swamp, so we obtained a  
blood test just to see what might be  
causing the upset.

138                   joe  
You managed to draw blood from a  
crazed swampgator?

139                   mrs sheffield  
Yes! It turns out our Dr. Theo here  
has the same effect on beasts that he  
has on humans. Albert was goop in his  
hands.

140                   dr theo  
I believe the expression is "putty in  
one's hands."

141                   mrs sheffield  
Not in a bioswamp, it isn't.

142                   julie  
Does this mean there are two  
alligators in there? Or is this  
spontaneous parthenogenesis?

143                   dr theo  
More study will be required, but at  
the moment, we're assuming Albert  
achieved this pregnancy without ...  
ehhh... assistance.

144                   olivia  
You're blushing. There wasn't even a  
quick boink involved, and you're still  
blushing.

145                   dr theo  
I am not blushing. I'm experiencing  
idiopathic craniofacial erythema.

146                   Mrs sheffield  
Isn't that the same thing?

147                   dr theo  
(interrupting) Oh, look! The door is

opening!

[door opens, **Madeline, Jessie, Colin, and Greg** come in]

148                   madeline  
URP. Sorry.

149                   jessie  
Ugh. I never want to see food again.

150                   colin  
I think my tuxedo exploded.

151                   greg  
Could you get these idiots off my  
back, please?

152                   julie  
Are those *crumbs* in your mane?

153                   greg  
I surely hope so. Jessie was making  
some pretty nasty gagging sounds back  
there.

154                   joe  
Tadpole.

155                   greg  
In my mane??? Get it out!

156                   joe  
Calm down, galloping Gertie, we're in  
the Tadpole Galaxy.

157                   madeline  
Hang on. If anyone's going to identify  
where we are, it's gonna be me. I'm  
the Captain.

158                   joe  
All righty. Where are we?

159                   madeline  
MY BRIDGE. Clear off, all of you. I'm  
just gonna to waddle over here to the  
big chair and digest ... the facts.

160                   mrs sheffield  
I'm sure you have a great deal to ...  
digest, if the screaming from your

jumpsuit zipper is any indication, but  
Captain, we have a Big Bad Plant to  
deal with, a pregnant alligator-

161                   greg  
Whoa! Hang on. A pregnant alligator?

162                   Colin  
So Albert is in fact Alberta?

163                   julie  
We don't make assumptions, Colin. But  
we do think it might be a case of  
spontaneous parthenogenesis.

164                   madeline  
What does punctuation have to do with  
it?

165                   mrs sheffield  
I'm .... sorry...?

166                   madeline  
Parthenogentheses.

167                   mrs sheffield  
How have you not fallen from the sky?

168                   dr theo  
Not for lack of trying, I assure you.

169                   madeline  
I'd like to know why you think we're  
in the Guppy Galaxy.

170                   joe/julie/Dr theo  
Tadpole.

171                   madeline  
Whatever, smarty pants. Gimme reasons.

172                   joe  
It has a tail.

173                   greg  
Isn't the Tadpole a disrupted galaxy?

174                   mrs sheffield  
If not, it shortly will be, now we're  
here, eh? Ha ha!



175                   olivia  
It is. Flinging off stars like  
Madeline flinging off reasonable  
suggestions.

176                   Madeline  
OY.

177                   olivia  
Bringing a picture up on screen.

178                   dr theo  
Oh. My.

179                   colin  
Well, that's just rude.

180                   julie  
Huh. I'm guessing "tadpole" was their  
*second* choice for a name.

181                   jessie  
[laughing] Seriously?! A bunch of dude  
scientists managed to call it  
"tadpole" and not name that after  
their little swimmers? *Spunky* little  
galaxy, ain't it? Surprised they  
didn't christen it the -

182                   dr theo  
(interrupting) Please don't finish  
that sentence.

183                   mrs sheffield  
Get that fellow together with a nice  
round spiral like the Milky Way, and  
we'll show the universe a big bang,  
eh?

184                   dr theo  
Can you people think of nothing else?

185                   mrs sheffield  
With you throwing off pheromones like  
Madeline throws off reasonable  
suggestions?

186                   madeline  
HELLO.

greg  
187 Question for any *adults* left in the  
room: Any planets swirling around in  
there?

olivia  
188 Not sure yet, but here's one for  
Madeline: see that bright bit just  
past the upper left spiral arm? That's  
an intruder galaxy, caught in the  
tadpole's gravity.

madeline  
189 It's a whole galaxy ... with a tractor  
beam. We gotta get in there.

julie  
190 Yeah, so there are some really big,  
really hot stars in there....

jessie  
191 So, more beaches?

colin  
192 And very large tequila sunrises?

joe  
193 Have you people learned nothing?

greg  
194 Our mission is to find these folks  
somewhere to call home...

colin  
195 See? Even Greg agrees. We should get  
in there. Explore. Discover. Find a  
nice wine bar...

olivia  
196 The tail does seem to have some  
oxygen-rich spots. No old globular  
clusters just yet.

colin  
197 Thank goodness. No one likes a crusty  
cluster.

jessie  
198 HA! Good one, Colin!

dr theo  
199 Why do you even say things like that?  
You have no idea what you're saying.

colin  
200 Dr Theo, when a world is rich in  
oxygen and gin, the only science we  
need are hangover remedies and really  
good sunscreen. My grandmother used to  
say that.

[pause]

Colin  
201 Shut up.

dr theo  
202 I didn't say anything.

colin  
203 No. But if Leet were here, he would  
have.

madeline  
204 Screw it. Olivia, find us a planet.  
Joe, Julie, Mrs Sheffield, suit up.  
We're going exploring.

joe  
205 Yes, Ma'am!

mrs sheffield  
206 Very well. I do hope there's a decent  
pub.

julie  
207 Where are these suits we're "suiting  
up" in?

greg  
208 You'll find a suit in your bunk, in  
the box right next to the one that  
says "Fight Decision Boggles."

julie  
209 What are fight decision boggles?

greg  
210 No idea. Never opened the crate.

211                               madeline  
Meet me at airlock 117 in fifteen  
minutes.

narrators' bridge

212                               n2  
Any chance they can find airlock 117  
in fifteen minutes?

213                               NARRATOR  
None. Doesn't matter. Madeline has no  
sense of time anyway.

214                               n2  
Why is she captain again?

215                               NARRATOR  
Beats me. Two hours later....

airlock 117

216                               madeline  
Thanks for being prompt, everyone.  
Joe, you do have a helmet, right?

217                               joe  
I'm wearing it.

218                               madeline  
Oh. Really?

219                               joe  
I put my cap on top so you'd know it  
was me.

220                               madeline  
Ohhhh, good. For a second I thought I  
was going crazy.

221                               jessie  
(over the intercom) Going?

222                               madeline  
Why aren't you suited up and down  
here?

223                               jessie  
Ehhhh... because you didn't ask me?  
Also, I don't want to.

224                   madeline  
I said Joe, Jessie, and Mrs S.

225                   julie  
Actually, you said "Joe, Julie, and  
Mrs. S." Is this seriously the away  
suit?

226                   madeline  
Did I? Why would I want you?

227                   julie  
Thanks. I am a botanist. And a  
scientist. You might need some, you  
know, science down there. But can we  
talk about these suits?

228                   joe  
What about 'em?

229                   julie  
Black pants and a red shirt? A RED  
SHIRT? I mean, it's all one piece,  
they literally had to choose to dye  
the pants and the shirt different  
colors! And why does it say  
"expendable" on the back?

230                   Mrs sheffield  
I suspect "Expendable" is the company  
that makes them, mmmm? And they all  
have different color schemes. Mine's a  
nice blendy brown. And Joe's is  
camouflagy orange. Well, one assumes  
it's camouflagy. I guess we'll soon  
find out, eh?

231                   julie  
Do none of you see the problem with  
this?

232                   madeline  
Look, if you don't want to go-

233                   julie  
No. I want to. I mean, I think I want  
to.... It'd be nice if Ben were here  
to see me off.

234                   colin  
(on intercom) He's on Greg's kidneys

with your nanny. Apparently your child is the first in history to choose the Mercedes, and now they're trying to figure out if she can drive a stick.

235                   julie  
WHAT?!

236                   colin  
I'm joking.

237                   julie  
Thank god.

238                   colin  
Mercedes only come in automatic. Say hello to the little green men and bring me back anything gin-like, won't you? Bridge out.

[intercom snaps off]

239                   julie  
Next time I see him, I'm going to kick him in the ... tadpole pouches.

240                   mrs sheffield  
You mean, the next time you *don't* see him.

241                   julie  
Well... wait. What?

242                   madeline  
Onto the shuttle, let's go! Vistas to stare at, untrod terrain to map, weird looking alien babies to kiss.

243                   joe  
Why the sudden rush to risk your life, Captain? And ours, not incidentally.

244                   madeline  
Captain's bars mean never having to explain. Parthenogentheses, that's an order, end parthenogentheses. Go!

narrators' bridge

245                   NARRATOR  
And so, with more haste than she's

shown since she heard the rustle of  
the last Curly Wurly being  
surreptitiously unwrapped, Captain  
Madeline has herded her away team onto  
a shuttle.

- 246                   n2  
Olivia sets coordinates for the  
nearest planet in the Tadpole Galaxy  
with what appears to be breathable  
air.
- 247                   NARRATOR  
What will our brave albeit brainless  
crew discover on this unnamed, unknown  
world? And will they survive it?
- 248                   n2  
I'm taking odds of 60 to 1 against, if  
anyone wants to get in on this action.
- 249                   NARRATOR  
Will Narrator 2, like Leet, lose his  
shirt? Or will the away team lose ...  
everything? You've been listening to:
- 250                   N2  
Tim Sherburn as Colin  
Shannon Perry as Madeline and Olivia  
Bonnie Brantley as Jessie
- 251                   narrator  
Chrissi Talyn Saje as Julie  
Eric Perry as Joe  
Sarah Golding as Mrs Sheffield
- 252                   n2  
David S Dear as Dr Theo Bromae  
Kevin Hall as Greg,  
I'm Kyle Jones, your Narrator 2
- 253                   NARRATOR  
And I'm Chris Nadolny Gourley, your  
Narrator. Our music is by John Faley;  
our artwork is by Lucas Elliott. Sarah  
Golding is our dialog editor, and  
Oliver Morris is our sound designer. Oz  
9 is written by Shannon Perry.
- 254                   narrator cont  
Until next time, space monkeys, shoot

for the stars, but don't eat the  
sandwiches.