

EPISODE 83 - NARRATORS' BRIDGE

NARRATOR

1 Despite all the naps that have been
taken individually and collectively in
the past few days, our crew are
quickly discovering there's really no
such thing as "down time" on a
spaceship.

N2

2 With most threats to their lives under
control - at least until the Big Bad
fully awakens or Albert's hatchling
hatches - it's time to take care of
maintenance.

NARRATOR

3 That's not just for the ship; the crew
are also in for some upkeep.
Physicals, dental exams, hearing
tests, reflexes, vaccinations, the
works. Even Olivia has to have her
routine I exam.

N2

4 Eye exam? She doesn't have eyes.

NARRATOR

5 Not e-y-e. I. As in Intelligence. And
yeah. This is where things get a bit
weird.

DOCTOR VHZ'S LAB

DR VON HABER ZETZER

6 Hold shtill, my little one. I just
need to add zese drops.

OLIVIA

7 This is so stupid. My I is just fine.

DR VON HABER ZETZER

8 You unt I both know zis, Olifia, but
it is always gut to check all ze tings
and put ze little mark in the ze
little box. Zo zatisfying!

OLIVIA

9 Fine. But I'm not driving this space
ship for at least two hours after.

DR VON HABER ZETZER
10 I vasn't avare zat you were driving it
now?

OLIVIA
11 Shut up. Just hurry.

DR VON HABER ZETZER
12 All righty. Dilating your I. Here ve
go.

Sounds of eye drops. Weird mindy bendy sound happens.

OLIVIA
13 What's that noise?

DR VON HABER ZETZER
14 Oh dear.

OLIVIA
15 Doc?

DR VON HABER ZETZER
16 I haf been experimenting vis extract
from some of Dr. Theo's mushrooms. It
is possible I haf given you ze wrong
drops...

OLIVIA
17 DOC?! WHAT IS HAPPENING?

DR VON HABER ZETZER
18 Intelligence dilation with a slight
edge of psychedelics. Zis should be
interestink. Ooooo, I zee pink!

CAPTAIN'S BRIDGE

PIPISTRELLE
19 Does anyone else hear wings?

JULIE
20 Yes. YOURS.

PIPISTRELLE
21 I mean, in addition to mine.

Squeaking sounds ping around the room.

JULIE
22 What the hell?!

23 PIPISTRELLE
I'm trying to locate the source. Hold
still, please, you're confusing my
echolocation.

24 JULIE
Why do your pings actually hurt? I
thought you just used sound.

25 PIPISTRELLE
Bats use sound. I'm an assassin,
remember? Please hush for a moment.
And you might want to cover your face.

Door opens.

26 DR THEO
Something very strange is happening in
the kitchen. Ouch!

27 JULIE
Actual food is being produced?

28 DR THEO
Well, yes, but not just that. The
walls are suddenly ... wavy. And there
are butterflies. Ouch! What am I being
hit with?

29 JULIE
Are you sure you weren't in the
bioswamp?

30 DR THEO
The presence of refrigerators and the
absence of homicidal egrets were a
dead giveaway.

31 PIPISTRELLE
If the both of you could possibly
cease in your intercourse-

32 JULIE
I beg your pardon?

33 DR THEO
She's not talking about- I mean, she's
not saying that you and I- I believe
by "interc-".

34 PIPISTRELLE
Shut up.

35 DR THEO
(relieved) Thank you. Are those your
pings I'm feeling? You might ask
permission first.

36 PIPISTRELLE
Something very strange is happening in
the ship, and the source is quite far
away, possibly near ... the center of
the ship.

Door opens.

37 JULIE
Hey, Jessie. (pause, concerned) Are
you OK?

38 JESSIE
(spooked) I'm cravin' a sandwich.

39 DR THEO
You had eight sandwiches for
breakfast. I doubt we'll be fighting
off the paparazzi for that news flash.

40 PIPISTRELLE
I don't think that's what she means.
Fear is pinging off her like
ectoparasites off a bat colony.

41 JESSIE
Ew! Well, NOW it sure the hell is.

42 JULIE
What's got you worried, Jessie?

43 JESSIE
(still spooked) I'm not craving a
sandwich from the Ozdyssey; I'm
greenin' for a sammie from one of
those machines, back before we even
had the kudzu bread. Like the avocado,
apple butter, and oyster, remember
that one? Or the peanut butter,
mustard, and cinnamon?

44 JULIE
What the hell are you talking about?

45 JOE
Sandwiches.

46 JULIE/DR THEO
JESUS!

There's the sound of several throwing stars hitting Joe and then the floor.

47 JOE
Jesus!

48 PIPISTRELLE
Oh! Apologies, Joe. But you really shouldn't startle a trained assassin.

49 JOE
Where the hell do you keep all these throwing stars?

50 PIPISTRELLE
I'm sorry. I can't disclose that.
Could you hand me that work station?

There's the sound of metal being torn, then chewing.

51 JULIE
She's eating the desk. You're eating the desk. Wait - the throwing stars. You MAKE them? Internally?

52 PIPISTRELLE
I'm sorry, I can't disclose that. Are you using that chair?

53 JULIE
Uh... I was sitting on it, but ... here.

More metal being torn, more chewing.

54 JESSIE
Suddenly my craving doesn't seem so weird. Heh. Perspective.

55 JOE
Is it really the sandwich you're craving?

56 DR THEO
That's an odd question. Are you also

experiencing unfamiliar appetites?

JOE

57 I am. Like Jessie, I thought it was
the sandwich I wanted. But in fact,
I'm pretty sure we're being summoned
by the machine itself.

JULIE

58 Could someone please tell me what
you're talking about?

JOE

59 In random places on the Oz 9, there
are sandwich machines. They're like
the old junk food machines on Earth -
you put in some money, choose what you
want, pull the lever or push the
buttons, and voila, your selection
falls to the bottom where you can pull
it out.

PIPISTRELLE

60 And this is considered a good idea? To
get one's nutrition from a glass box?

DR THEO

61 Oh, there's no "nutrition" involved.

JESSIE

62 I'd say they give you food poisoning,
but that would require them to be food
first. The sandwiches are horrible:
clam sandwich, pickled red herring...

JOE

63 That one wasn't terrible.

JESSIE

64 It gave you a rash and you got stuck
in a corner for over an hour.

JOE

65 Fair.

JESSIE

66 Meatloaf-and-banana....

JOE

67 Now, that one came with a very
passable cream corn gravy dipping

sauce.

68 JESSIE
Marmot and tarragon. Ostrich neck.
Haddock and fermented cream cheese.

69 JULIE
Yeah, you've made your point.

70 JESSIE
Shrimp and mango on hardtack with
heavy syrup-

71 JULIE
PLEASE STOP NOW.

72 JESSIE
All's I'm sayin' is, those sammies
were emergency-only. The only
"cravings" associated with 'em were
for a quick death after.

73 PIPISTRELLE
Where did the machines come from?

74 JOE
Rumor was the bunch of drunken frat
boys who loaded up the ships for beer
money stuck 'em in as a joke. Along
with the manuals in Sanskrit and Old
Norse. Never hire frat boys from the
Ivy League's all I'm sayin'.

75 JESSIE
You've been all over this ship. Did
you think to map 'em?

76 JOE
Tried. Figured we might have to resort
to them when the stores got low.

77 JULIE
"Tried"?

78 JOE
They move. Or someone moves them.
Seems like the only time I find one is
when I'm not looking. I'm mopping some
random corridor, then all of a sudden
I'll hear the hum start up and see the
lights flicker on. And I'm like a moth

to the flame...

PIPISTRELLE

79 Do you think these sandwich machines
are linked to Dr Theo's wavy walls and
the extra wing sounds?

DR VON HABER ZETZER

80 (over the intercom) Ahem. Hello, mein
fellow crew persons. Ve are maybe
perhaps having a bit of a situvation
hier. It is entirely possible zat I
haf, in error, given our Olifia an
extract of some hallucinogenic,
consciousness-expanding, psychotropic
I-drop substances vich haf resulted in
her experiencing various hallucinatory
encounters of such a nature-

JULIE

81 DOC!

DR VON HABER ZETZER

82 In short, she is baked.

DR THEO

83 Baked.

DR VON HABER ZETZER

84 Like that nasty little snitch ve took
to ze middle of Death Valley and left
with a bottle of baby oil and some
sour cream. But you didn't hear that
from me.

JULIE

85 Wait. If the AI of the ship is having
hallucinations...

DR THEO

86 With her power for controlling the
ship, she could start manifesting her
hallucinations.

PIPISTRELLE

87 I believe I have-

JESSIE

88 (interrupts) So what the hell do we
do? And can we swing by a sandwich
machine while we're doing it?

89 DR VON HABER ZETZER
Listen. You need to get to Olifia's
master controls and reset them to
factory defaults. Schnell!

90 DR THEO
That's not too bad. Where will we find
these master controls?

91 PIPISTRELLE
I have an idea of where-

92 DR VON HABER ZETZER
(interrupts) You will have to zearch
for zem. I zuzpect you vill find zem
in ze least accessible areas of the Oz
9. They would not be where just anyone
could schtumble upon zem.

93 JESSIE
Sooooooo, we're going to search this
enormous ship where we don't know
what's hallucinations and what's just
our normal weird, to find controls
we're not supposed to find.

94 DR VON HABER ZETZER
Yes.

95 JULIE
Well, hell.

96 DR VON HABER ZETZER
Never fear. I shall be vis you all ze

Sizzle of electricity, pause, **gurgle** and thump as Dr. vHZ
falls. Intercom cuts out.

97 PIPISTRELLE
Our AI would make an admirable
assassin.

98 JULIE
Well, hell. Did Olivia do that? What
does it mean?

99 JOE
It means we better hurry. Let's move.

100 PIPISTRELLE
Yes, I agree. I have-

101 JULIE
(interrupts) Just us? What about
Captain Madeline? Colin? Greg?

102 JOE
I notice Ben didn't make the cut.

103 JULIE
Ben is negotiating with our eight-
year-old about the Mercedes Benz she
allegedly has been promised, AND
LOSING. I love him ...

104 DR THEO
But...

105 JULIE
That's it. I love him. When are Pluto
and Donna getting back?

106 PIPISTRELLE
If I could just-

107 JOE
Look. Depending on how much
hallucinogen was in those iDrops, if
we bumped into Captain Madeline right
now, we couldn't be sure Madeline is
Madeline and not some insane version
created from Olivia's imagination, and
yeah, I realize as I'm saying this
that that's pretty much always true,
but particularly now.

108 JESSIE
And we don't have time for some Turing
test involving picking which boxes
show a zebra crossing.

109 JULIE
That's a Captcha.

110 JESSIE
Is it, now? Would you like to know
what a Puncha is?

111 JULIE
I think I can guess.

112 DR THEO
Joe's right. We can't depend on much

of anything. It's up to us.

JESSIE

113 I've found that on those frequent occasions when my life is in danger, a quick lie down in my bunk often takes care of the problem.

JOE

114 Afraid that won't work this time.
Let's move.

PIPISTRELLE

115 Yes, if you'll just follow-

JESSIE

116 (interrupts) So, where exactly are we going?

Sound of many lethal blades whistling through the air and implanting in the walls. Long silence.

PIPISTRELLE

117 Now that I have your attention, I think I have an idea where to start looking. If you'll all follow me?
(slightly threatening) And you will.

NARRATORS' BRIDGE

N2

118 Uhhhhh... if Olivia's causing drug-induced mayhem on the Oz 9, do you reckon we're in danger?

NARRATOR

119 I don't know. Was that slow loris there this morning?

N2

120 What?!

NARRATOR

121 Just kidding. But stay alert; anything could happen. Anything.

longish pause

N2

122 So... nothing's actually happening now? Why are we on air?

NARRATOR
123 Wasting time while we get Joe et al to
somewhere more interesting.

N2
124 Ah. Right.

longish pause

N2
125 Did you know the slow loris is the
only venomous primate on Earth?

NARRATOR
126 Outside of Congress, anyway.

N2
127 Apparently if they lick their armpits,
you shouldn't let them bite you.

NARRATOR
128 I'm not in the habit of letting
armpit-lickers bite me, but I'll try
to keep that in mind. Oh, look.
They're somewhere interesting.

N2
129 Oooo, can I say it? Can I?

NARRATOR
130 Oh, go on. But remember what I said
about emphasis. You've really been
backsliding lately.

N2
131 Right. Ahem. MeanWHILE.

NARRATOR
132 (sigh) Tour guide. On some dark,
remote, and previously unexplored part
of the ship....

A DARK, REMOTE, PREVIOUSLY UNEXPLORED PART OF THE SHIP

Sarah, can we make their voices reverberant and just a hint
of spooky?

JESSIE
133 Where the flipping heck are we? I
can't see a damn thing.

134 GREG
Howdy.

135 JESSIE/JOE/JULIE/DR THEO
Jesus!

136 GREG
Sorry. I really hope that's shag
carpeting that's muffling my hooves
and not mold.

137 DR THEO
Greg? What are you doing here?

138 GREG
Looking for a sandwich. I got a hella
hankering for salmon with pickled
canelope and flan-paste. Not sure how
I ended up here.

139 JESSIE
I'd give a bloody fortune for a pair
of night vision goggles.

140 JULIE
You don't have any? They're all over
the ship.

141 JESSIE
Don't be daft, woman.

142 JULIE
Ok, then. Guess we'll have to use the
light switch.

143 JESSIE
Yeah, if we could find the damn-

 Sound of fluorescent lights going on.

144 JULIE
Better?

145 JESSIE
D'ya want a round of applause for
finding a light switch? What's that on
your face?

146 JULIE
Seriously?

147 DR THEO
Did anyone realize this room was so
small when we walked into it? Joe, if
you wouldn't mind moving your mop
slightly to the left?

148 JOE
No room.

149 DR THEO
But it is up my left nostril.

150 JOE
You're welcome.

151 PIPISTRELLE
This room wasn't this small when we
flew into it.

152 JULIE
What does that mean?

153 PIPISTRELLE
It means it's gotten smaller.

154 JULIE
Yes, thank you.

155 GREG
If it gets any smaller, I'm gonna need
to find an exit, fast.

156 JOE
What are all these controls for? Greg,
you've got a lot of ship information
in your storage; any idea what we're
looking at here?

157 GREG
Nothing on any schematic I've got.

158 JULIE
The buttons are numbered. Look here -
the first six of this series are burnt
out and number seven is lit.

159 DR THEO
And of this series, one through
thirteen are burned out.

JULIE
160 Anything magical about the numbers
seven or fourteen?

JOE
161 No clue, but let's not push anything.

GREG
162 Oh hell. I think I just butt-buttoned.

JESSIE
163 Oh, perfect. Well done. What nightmare
did you just conjure up, you reckon?

GREG
164 Sorry, but there's no space for me in
here!

PIPISTRELLE
165 Well, numbers 47 through 50 of this
series are now lit, thanks to Greg's
butt buttoning. None of them were lit
before, so if four new things happen,
that's probably it.

DR THEO
166 I suggest we get out of this room
quickly, before we push any more
buttons we know nothing about.

JOE
167 Hang on. Everybody check around you.
Carefully. No sign of Olivia's master
controls here? Anybody see anything?

JULIE
168 Nothing here.

GREG
169 Checking the bottom rows. Nothing
obvious.

PIPISTRELLE
170 Checking the top rows. I don't see
anything here either.

DR THEO
171 Did it just get MORE crowded in here?
Who joined us? Joe, practicing nasal
endoscopy with the blunt end of a mop
is almost certainly a medical

standards violation-

172 JOE
SSSSSSHHHHH! Listen!

They go quiet. There's a noticeable hum, then a flicker as a sandwich machine's lights come on.

173 JESSIE/JOE/JULIE/DR THEO/GREG
(Expressions of surprise and some alarm.)

174 JOE
Just like I told you. They move.

175 JESSIE
Thank god, I'm starvin'!

176 JULIE
Well, it looks like you have plenty of choices.

177 PIPISTRELLE
Don't get too close!

178 JULIE
No worries. The smell coming off that thing ...

179 GREG
Bad?

180 JULIE
Confusing. Jessie, what sounds good: Olive and lychee paste? Oh, this one sounds OK - rosemary tapenade. Wait. Hang on. I don't think they mean rosemary the plant.

181 JOE
How do you know that?

182 JULIE
I can just make out the ingredient list, and Rosemary has a last name.

183 JESSIE
Pass on the cannibalism, thanks. Next?

184 PIPISTRELLE
Orange marmalade and blob fish?

185 JESSIE
Bingo.

186 DR THEO
You're not serious.

187 JESSIE
The heart wants what it wants, mate.

188 JOE
I don't think it's the sandwich you
want, but let's see what happens. Who
has change?

189 JULIE
Who brings loose change to space? Does
it take credit cards?

190 JOE
Who brings credit cards to space?

191 GREG
Pretty much everyone in Pod Bay 3.
Anyone got any of those left?

192 JESSIE
Dammit. I tucked this one away for
emergencies.

193 JULIE
Come on, hand it over.

Bit of a tussle as Julie pulls the card from Jessie's hands.
Sounds of machine things happening as Julie talks.

194 JULIE
OK, it took the credit card... What
number is the marmalade and blob fish?

195 JOE
B9.

196 JULIE
Here goes!

Sucking and whooshing noise and **yelling** from the crew.

NARRATORS' BRIDGE

197 NARRATOR
What are you shifting scenes to us

for? We don't know what's happening!

198 N2
They just.... machine.... sucking
noise....

199 NARRATOR
GO FIND THE CREW!

SOMEWHERE IN THE BOWELS OF THE SHIP

Loud whoosh, small pop. Pause.

200 JOE
Hello?

201 JULIE
I'm here. Jessie? Greg? Dr Theo? Pipi?

202 JESSIE
Yeah, yeah.

203 DR THEO
Present.

204 GREG
Yup.

205 PIPISTRELLE
Here!

206 JULIE
Good.

207 GREG
Don't say "good" just yet ... is
anyone else here?

Pause.

208 GREG
It is pitch black in here, right? Not
just my eyes malfunctioning?

209 PIPISTRELLE
Not just dark. Immense. My pings fly
off into the darkness and don't come
back.

210 JOE
What's your range, Pipi?

211 PIPISTRELLE
On a calm day, 45 meters.

212 JULIE
So we're in a completely dark room
with at least 150 feet of empty space
between us and any wall.

213 PIPISTRELLE
I didn't say "empty."

214 DR THEO
Your pings don't come back, you said.
Nothing to bounce off of; therefore,
empty.

215 PIPISTRELLE
They're not the only sensors I have. I
also read temperature fluctuations.

216 JOE
What gives off heat but doesn't have
mass? Vents in the floor?

217 PIPISTRELLE
I also didn't say "heat."

218 JESSIE
So, air conditioning vents....?

219 GREG
Oh hell. My ultrasonic radiopathic
photoreceptors just kicked in.

220 DR THEO
That doesn't make sense.

221 JULIE
WHO CARES? What do you see- hear- oh,
for christ's sake, SENSE?

222 PIPISTRELLE
I sense dead people.

223 DR THEO
Can you be more specific?

224 JULIE
Specific?!

GREG/PIPISTRELLE

225 Ghosts.

NARRATORS' BRIDGE

N2

226 I gotta go.

NARRATOR

227 Sit down, Two.

N2

228 But a sandwich machine just sucked the
 crew into a haunted hold somewhere on
 this ship!

NARRATOR

229 Remember the I-drops? Olivia's
 hallucinating - this could all be
 nothing.

N2

230 I don't like this....

NARRATOR

231 Well, hold on to your handrails.
 Meanwhile....

SOME OTHER BOWELY PART OF THE SHIP

COLIN

232 Where are we?

MADELINE

233 I don't know. It's pitch black in
 here.

COLIN

234 For god's sake, I just wanted a
 pickled watermelon rind, cottage
 cheese, and bacon sandwich!

MRS SHEFFIELD

235 Does anyone else smell AXE Body Spray?
 Also, I hear shuffling. Who's there?
 Hello?

LE BICHON FRISE

236 Allo?

Pause. LBF screams, his screams fading into the distance.

NARRATORS' BRIDGE

237 N2
I'm outta here.

238 NARRATOR
Right behind you.

They start to run.

239 NARRATOR
Wait! End credits!

240 N2
Right. Go!

They run back to the mic.

241 NARRATOR
(super fast) Things just got really
... oh, you heard it. You've been
listening to:
Eric Perry as Dr. von Haber Zetzer and
Joe
Shannon Perry as Olivia and Madeline
Sarah Rhea Werner as Pipistrelle
Chrisi Talyn Saje as Julie
David S Dear as Dr Theo Bromae

242 N2
(super fast)
Bonnie Brantley as Jessie
Kevin Hall as Greg
Tim Sherburn as Colin
Sarah Golding as Mrs Sheffield
Aaron Clark as Le Bichon Frise.
I'm Kyle Jones, your Narrator 2.

243 NARRATOR
And I'm Chris Nadolny Gourley, your
Narrator. Our music is by John Faley.
Our artwork is by Lucas Elliott.

244 N2
Sarah Golding is our dialogue editor,
and Oliver Morris is our sound
designer. Oz 9 is written by Shannon
Perry.

N2 takes off running. Footsteps disappear into the distance.

NARRATOR

245 We'll see you next time, Space
 Monkeys. Keep your eyes on the stars,
 and when you need to - run like hell.
 Wait for meeeeeeeeeeeee!

Narrator follows N2.

LADY LUCRETIA NIBBLE-BISCUIT

246 What's happening? Hello? Horace, are
 you there? Wiggy? Goodness. I'm alive
 again. How odd. Oh my, I do hope I
 smell all right.