# Inside the alien ship, everything sounds a bit like we're standing next to the ocean. Gurgles of water surround us, and everything sounds just the tiniest bit muffled. JESSIE 1 Oz 9. Oz 9, do you read? Oz 9! Wow. That was a wallop of deja vu. COLIN 2 Does the light in here seem odd? JESSIE 3 Who the hell are you? COLIN I beg your pardon? 4 HOWARD 5 Yeah, that's the same martini guy it's always been. You just ain't seen his face in a while. JESSIE Your hair's taller. 6 COLIN 7 Yes, well, it's a bit tricky to cut when you can't see it. Hang on - you can see me? HOWARD 8 It's the light. It's like a higgledy piggledy of infrared and ultraviolet. In ehhhhhh layperson - i.e. idiot -terms, infrared has longer wavelengths than the standard 400 to 700 nanometers of visible-JESSIE Shut it. Short version? 9 EMILY 10 Humans see funny. JESSIE Terrific. 11 EMILY 12 Oh no. Something is not made to cater

EP 97 FINAL - ABOARD THE KESTOCHALIAN SHIP

	entirely to human tastes. Oh dear. However shall we survive.
13	HOWARD Heh heh. You tell 'em, Tater Tot.
14	JESSIE Listen up, away team. On this mission, I'm in charge. No pansy ass Madpants to coddle your whiny baby selves- Jesus!
15	COLIN Now what?
16	JESSIE I just keep forgetting you have a face.
17	COLIN Thank you. Shall we proceed?
18	JESSIE WHEN I SAY SO. Right. 778, how's the air in here?
19	EMILY Breathable. Very high humidity.
20	JESSIE You don't mess up words any more. Why not?
21	EMILY As Madeline does it so often, I assumed it was the prerogative of the Captain.
22	JESSIE You're right. It is 100% the Captain's perperformative.
	She removes her helmet.
23	COLIN Leet fixed the 778 on his way out. Heaven knows why.
	He removes his.

		JESSIE
24	Jesus!	

25		COLIN It's JUST A FACE. You've seen it before. Unless something's gone wrong with it. Has something gone wrong with it?? What do you see?				
26		JESSIE No, it's it's fine. Just unexpected. And your voice is funny.				
27		HOWARD May I remind you you're aboard an alien space vessel?				
28		COLIN (realizes) My god. We are.				
29		JESSIE Any life signs?				
30		EMILY Thousands.				
31		JESSIE Thousands?				
32		COLIN What? Where are they?				
33		HOWARD Well, this feller here's been trying to shake your hand since we came aboard.				
34-35	What?	JESSIE COLIN WHAT?				
36		JESSIE "Feller"?				
37		HOWARD My bad. Or lady or non-binary individual.				
		EMILY				
38		Much better, dear.				

HOWARD 39 Thank you, my sweet. JESSIE 40 Where? Where are they? EMILY 41 Directly in front of you. I suspect they refract light differently-JESSIE 42 Where is the hand?! HOWARD 43 I don't know as I'd call it a "hand," per se-JESSIE 44 I'm tryin' not to start a galactic incident here, ya burk - where is this hand so I can shake it? Noises of frustration from **Jessie**, concern from **Colin** as Emily explains where the hand is. EMILY 45 Move your hand up a little. Left. Up more. Too much, down a tad. Left. Your OTHER left. Nearly there. A little forward. JESSIE 46 Gah! HOWARD 47 Yeah, might be a little, shall we say, moist. JESSIE 48 Please. Use literally any other word. COLIN 49 (fierce whisper) Jessie, try not to look disgusted! EMILY 50 Are you sure that's their hand? JESSIE 51 JESUS.

52	EMILY Just a little joke.
53	JESSIE Now what?
54	COLIN We're here to piss them off, aren't we? Oh, that's interesting.
55	JESSIE What?
56	COLIN My martini glass is filling up. What a very odd sensation.
57	JESSIE Being around an invisible person? Yeah - kinda creepy when they don't tell you what they're doing, innit?
58	COLIN It really is- Ah. Sorry. Robot thingy, tell them thank you.
59	HOWARD Seriously? They're invisible, not Deaf. Sheesh, you'd think of all people YOU'D know that; ain't you been invisible for, like, ages?
60	COLIN Yes, all right, all right. Umm, thank you? (sniff) My god, that smells delicious. Can I drink it?
SFX: Sli	ght "plonk."
61	JESSIE What was that?
62	COLIN It's an olive. My god. I haven't had one since
63	HOWARD Your libation there appears to be both innocuous and potable.

Colin sips his drink.

64	COLIN My god. That is, without question, the most delicious, spectacular- OOOF!
65	JESSIE What happened?
66	COLIN (winded) It hit me!
67	JESSIE (snorts) And we've only been aboard five minutes. Whew. Did it get incredibly hot in here for a second?
68	HOWARD I believe we've established that aggression is how the Kestochalian race demonstrates affection
69	JESSIE Right.
70	EMILY Oh dear.
71	JESSIE What?
Distant	sound of an impact.
72	EMILY I believe they're firing on the Oz 9 again. Perhaps to show their appreciation for sending delegates.
73	JESSIE Right. Nearly forgot the Charmless Offensive. Dump the cocktail on the floor.
74	COLIN
	WHAT?
75	JESSIE We're here to get 'em raging, remember?

77		Colin	JESSIE
78		Very well	COLIN
	Sound of	liquid hit	tting the floor. Colin eats the olive.
79		Ehhhhhh olive?	HOWARD did you just eat the
80		Seriously	EMILY . Have you learned nothing?
81			COLIN wasn't thinking. But this s unbelievably delicious.
	Sound of	a slap.	
82		OUCH!	COLIN CONT
83			JESSIE I heard that one. Dang, am I t flashes or something?
84			HOWARD nna have to try harder with annered and discourteous.
85		expect me	COLIN sake, I'm English! You can't to shed thousands of years ionary politeness in an
86		I believe to follow	HOWARD their leader would like you them.
87		Right.	JESSIE
	Pause.		
88		Which way?	COLIN ?

89	HOWARD Aw yeah, jeez. Forgot about your limited human vision, there. Follow us.
	hey start walking, the ship squishes slightly under their Seet.
90	EMILY May I remind you, you are recording this experience for posterity?
91	COLIN We are?
92	JESSIE Body cams. (pause) What are you doing?
93	COLIN I'm showing the camera the ship.
94	JESSIE Quit doing that, you look like a pervert. There's cams all over the suit, Colin.
95	COLIN Oh. Well, I don't know, do I?
96	JESSIE Is that kelp?
97	COLIN My glass just filled again. Are those canapés I see before me?
98	JESSIE That smell
99	HOWARD Roasted goat cheese, I believe.
100	COLIN Where in god's name did they get goat cheese?
101	HOWARD (laughs derisively) Ehhhhhhh, I believe it usually comes from a lady goat.

102	COLIN Yes. Thank you. (takes one and eats it) Oh, heaven You must try one-
	Jessie knocks the tray to the floor.
103	JESSIE Charmless Offensive. Remember? Do they look pissed off?
104	EMILY I have no idea.
105	JESSIE Well, how do they look?
106	EMILY Like beautiful rainbows. Their shells are quite lovely.
107	COLIN Why don't you get smacked for complimenting them?
108	HOWARD We ain't eeehhhhhhh organic, ya see.
109	JESSIE Wait. Did you say shells?
110	EMILY Goodness. We really must explain everything to them, mustn't we?
111	HOWARD Now, now, Tater Tot. They're just humans.
112	JESSIE SHUT IT.
	A burbling sound that appears to be a door opening.
113	COLIN Oh my. How is that even possible? It's beautiful- OW! Can you ask them to please stop doing that?
111	HOWARD

114 Ehhhhhh, if these folks are what I

think they are, you're getting off light, believe me. The ehhhhhh liquid is held back by a semi-permeable membrane, there. EMILY 115 They are waving you through the door. JESSIE 116 Well, that's nice, but their bridge is full of water, so that's not gonna work, is it? EMILY (heavy sigh) You are wearing a space 117 suit. One that seals and allows you to breathe in inhospitable environments. JESSIE 118 Oh. Right. RRRCOLIN 119 I don't want to go in there. I mean, aren't we supposed to be making them angry? JESSIE Well, yeah, but.... this is the 120 bridge. We may never get a chance like this again. COLIN 121 I don't want THIS one! JESSIE 122 Quit yer whining. I'm going in. COLIN You'd leave me alone out here? 123 JESSIE 124 (matter of fact) Yeah. HOWARD 125 If I'm reading this right, they're gonna flood the rest of the ship. They only drained the route thus far because you all have your helmets off. EMILY 126 Your helmets have light filters. You

10.

	should be able to adjust them so you can see in their environment.
127	JESSIE You could have told us that when we got here.
128	EMILY Yes. We could have.
129	COLIN (pretty terrified) I don't want to.
130	JESSIE You'll be all right. I've got ye.
	<b>Jessie and Colin</b> refasten their helmets and *blub* through the membrane. Colin and Jessie's voices sound "normal" through their helmet coms. Emily and Howard sound like they're under water.
131	COLIN This water is thick.
132	HOWARD They appear to have added izzat corn starch? Probably to make it easier for you to manage your buoyancy.
133	COLIN Oh. How kind. I meanhow dare they?! How do I adjust my filters so I can see them?
134	HOWARD Hang on. (clicking sounds) OK, better this way? Or this way?
135	COLIN Mmmmmmmm, the first one, I think.
136	HOWARD Right. (more clicking) Better this way? Or this?
137	COLIN How should I know? They look the same!
138	HOWARD Sheesh. Humans. Ok, A (more clicking)

or B? COLIN 139 Wait. Go back to A again. Now B. I'll qo with ... B? JESSIE 140 For god's sake, just fix it! EMILY 141 Stop teasing the humans, Dear. A few more clicks, and then.... COLIN 142 (awe and wonder) My god. JESSIE 143 Jesus. COLIN 144 So many colors. I feel like I've been living in black and white. JESSIE 145 What color even is that? COLIN (laughing) I have no idea. It's 146 spectacular! But where are our hosts? EMILY Their stations are inside those 147 burrows on the floor of the bridge. COLIN 148 (Gasp) Are these ones dead? JESSIE There's no body. Just ... shells. 149 HOWARD 150 They shed their shells as they grow. Looks like the cleaning staff took a day off, eh? COLIN 151 Are they afraid of us? EMILY 152 (laughing) Heh heh heh. No.

# 12.

153	JESSIE Why are ye laughing? That IS laughing, innit?
154	EMILY I don't believe there's much that frightens a Kestochalian. It appears they are waiting for their captains.
155	JESSIE Captains? Heh. They have two, like we do.
156	EMILY Their ships are captained by a mating pair.
157	JESSIE Ah. Not exactly like us, then.
	The door blubs open behind them.
158	COLIN (gasping) They're beautiful!
	Ka-wham! <b>Colin</b> is sent spinning across the bridge (with appropriate noise).
159	JESSIE Jesus! Ok, seriously, I'm too young for the Change. Anyone else roastin' suddenly?
160	COLIN (gasping for breath) Trying to breathe PAIN. PAIN.
161	HOWARD They appear to have developed a fondness for Mr. Martini there.
162	JESSIE They look kinda familiar
163	EMILY You don't watch nature documentaries, I gather?
164	JESSIE Nature documentaries? Nah. They just make me hungry.

165	COLIN Air! Air!
166	JESSIE Just breathe easy, Colin. Calm down. Yer panickin'.
	Distant impact.
167	EMILY They've fired on the Oz 9 again. You really must stop complimenting them.
168	COLIN (still gasping) Yes, I think I can do that now.
169	JESSIE I'm rethinking the whole "make 'em angry" idea, if that's what they can do when they LIKE you.
170	EMILY An unexpectedly wise course of action, Captain Jessie.
171	JESSIE (pleased) So it's finally "Captain," eh? Right. Let's aim for "neutral" from now on, all right, mate? No compliments, but let's nae piss 'em off either.
172	COLIN Agreed. My god. They don't hold back, do they?
173	HOWARD That IS "holding back." Still don't recognize 'em, eh?
174	COLIN They're aliens. Should I?
175	JESSIE Well, tickle my tartan, they're those shrimp things!
176	COLIN They're what? Oh, they're all coming out of their burrows! (awestruck) Dear

heavens, they-

#### JESSIE

177 STOP.

COLIN						
178	Right. them?	Dammit.	(beat)	You	recognize	

# JESSIE

179 Yeah, uhhhhh, we should go.

# EMILY

180 We mustn't, Captain. We are here to conduct a mission.

#### JESSIE

181 Then we need Julie. Or Dr. Theo. Get 'em here. That's an order!

# HOWARD

182 Ain't gonna happen. No way to contact the ship. Comms ain't going out through all this water. Actually, it's a curious phenomenon, as sound generally travels faster through water, but the combination of water, space-

#### COLIN

183 So basically we're on our own.

#### JESSIE

184 Against a family-sized version of one of the most lethal creatures on earth: the mantis shrimp.

Suddenly the water starts churning.

#### COLIN

185 What's happening?!

#### EMILY

186 They're laughing. They appear to be quite pleased you are familiar with their earth cousins.

#### JESSIE

187 Bugger. That's not good.

			COLI	ΓN			
188	What	the	hell	do	we	do?	

HOWARD

189 The rate they're shelling the Oz 9, my advice is to grow some gills.

# JESSIE

190 (very captainy now) Colin, listen up: you canNOT be nice to these. The little ones pack a punch that's as powerful as a 22-caliber bullet and heats up the water around it to surface-of-the-sun temperatures. Imagine what a big one can do.

#### COLIN

191 And that's if it LIKES me???

JESSIE

192 (loudly and slowly) Sure, I know your cousins! They're delicious.

The water goes very still.

#### COLIN

- 193 Are you sure they're edible?
- JESSIE 194 Do I look like Ze Frank?

## COLIN

195 I have no idea. Is that a person?

# JESSIE

196 You've never watched his True Facts about the Tarzier? Or more to the point, the Mantis Shrimp? Hang on, I'll send you the YouTube link.

#### COLIN

197 I don't think now is the time, Captain.

# Two shrimp swim up and grab hold of Colin and Jessie. Yelps of surprise from Colin and Jessie, plz.

JESSIE Whoa! What's happening?

198

199	HOWARD Yeah, so they're ehhhhhh taking you to the ehhhhh "guest quarters." Which might be real and might be sarcasm, hard to tell.
200	JESSIE Whooooaaaaa!
201	COLIN Let me go! Let go, damn you! (SFX: pouring sound) Oh, thank you. How kind. (Sip.)
	Their voices disappear into the distance.
202	HOWARD Heh. Whaddya reckon? Follow?
203	EMILY I suppose we must. Dear.
	INT. AN EXTREMELY LARGE FISH TANK
	It has all the stuff a fish tank on earth would have, including a bubbling filter, castle, etc.
204	COLIN Well, this is unexpected.
205	JESSIE I guess we should be glad we're not plunked in the middle of a seafood restaurant. Ooo, are those real gold coins in that treasure chest?
206	COLIN Don't be ridiculous. I'm sure that scuba diver's pockets would be full of them if they were. Is that castle really small or just very far away?
207	JESSIE Right. We need to concentrate. We're on board an alien ship that's firing on our ship.
208	COLIN Yes. Correct. And?

209	JESSIE And what? That's it.
210	COLIN And we're in a giant fish tank! Oooo! A hollow log, how fun!
211	JESSIE Colin you're losing it, matey. Focus.
212	COLIN Sorry. (clink) Damn. I can't drink my cocktail with my helmet on. Oh well, it's probably just getting watered down anyway.
213	JESSIE (not really listening) Is it just me, or do those weird floating flakes look kinda tasty?
214	COLIN (shudder) It's just you. Captain Jessie, we really do need to do something about our situation and about the Oz 9.
215	JESSIE Gimme a minute. I want to check out that treasure chest.
216	COLIN Oh, good lord. Fine. (pause) Anything? See? Real gold doesn't have to be glued down so it doesn't float away. (pause) What are you doing now? Leave the plastic scuba diver alone, Captain, we need to go!
217	JESSIE (spooked) Yeah, we do. Right now.
218	COLIN What is it?
219	JESSIE That scuba diver down there? Is actually an astronaut. That suit is full of bones. Real bones. HUMAN bones.

220	COLIN No. No no no no no. Absolutely not. I refuse. I will not die in fish tank!
221	JESSIE Well, then we best do something, eh? Let's swim up to the top of the tank and see if we can get the lid off.
	Effort noises from Jessie and Colin as they swim up and try to lift the lid.
222	COLIN It's not budging!
223	JESSIE I think they've piled some books on top. Oh hell, does that mean there's an octopus in here with us?
224	COLIN It's impossible to push; there's nothing to push against!
225	JESSIE Use your laser eyes and cut a hole.
226	COLIN Oh, good idea!
227	JESSIE No, wait. There's something wrong with this plan
228	COLIN What?
229	JESSIE Got it! You're wearing a helmet, you daft git. You'll cut right through it and drown.
230	COLIN Ah. Fair point. I don't think we have a choice. We have to get out of here. I'll take my helmet off and hold my breath.
231	JESSIE You're joking! I've seen you use those lasers of yours. You'll never finish

in time. Plus, soon as you take that helmet off, your suit will fill with water. You'll never get out.

COLIN

232 Hmm. There is that.

# JESSIE

233 Maybe we could put the log on the castle, then put the little submarine on top, and WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

**Colin** takes a deep breath and removes his helmet. SFX: laser on metal as Colin cuts a hole and the grate falls in with a splash.

#### JESSIE

- 234 Colin!
- COLIN 235 (bubbles and frantic sounds)
  - JESSIE
- 236 Quit waving me away, lad; I'm not leaving here without you. Grab my hand.

#### COLIN

237 (more bubbles and franticness)

#### JESSIE

238 I'm serious, Colin, I'm not leaving without you. Grab my hand before I lift you by something you'd rather I not tug on, got it?

Their hands meet. Straining sounds from **Jessie** as you pull Colin up and out the hole. **Colin**, lots of "running out of air" noises.

#### JESSIE

239 Good news: we're out of the tank. Bad news: The entire goddamn ship is full of water. You hang in there, Colin. I'll find a way. Just hang on. Colin! Colin, don't you leave me. Hang on! The submarine! I'm going back in, but I'll be back!

She swims back into the tank and returns with the toy submarine.

#### JESSIE

240 Thought so. The submarine is sealed. Colin, I need your laser eyes to make a hole in the bottom. Colin? Goddammit! He's unconscious. Right, plan B. I need a hole in this to get to that air bubble. I need something sharp, something- YES!

Jessie, some effort noise as you reach for your sqian dubh. SFX: Velcro

## JESSIE

241 Thank god I'm a Scot and not particularly given to gender norms. Sgian dubh to the rescue!

Sawing noises (I'm gonna hate myself), then she pulls Colin's head into the air bubble.

# JESSIE

242 There's an air bubble in the submarine, you can breathe now. Come on, Colin. Come on, mate, breathe. Come on. Come on, love. You can do it. You need a hard whack is what you need. Right, channeling our hosts here, and oooof!

She gives Colin as hard a thwack as possible under water. Some tense moments, then **Colin** starts to cough and breathe.

JESSIE 243 Ach, thank ye, whoever the saint of astronauts may be.

COLIN

244 (gasping) Well, that was different. Why is my head in a submarine?

# JESSIE

245 Because you decided to be a goddamn hero, you twat. Thanks for getting us out of there before we ended up on someone's appetizer tray.

COLTN

246 You're welcome. Now what?

JESSIE

247 Back to the bridge. We've got to find

#### COLIN

248	Ehhhh,	Captain?
-----	--------	----------

## JESSIE

249 Yeah, you're gonna have to wear that submarine a little longer. And go calm and careful. If it flips, it fills.

## COLIN

250 That poor person died in that tank.

#### JESSIE

251 Ay. Starved to death, I reckon.

#### COLIN

252 He couldn't take his helmet off to eat the flakes. I suppose they didn't mean to kill him.... My god. I'll do my best, but "calm" may not be on the menu.

#### JESSIE

253 It's all right to be afraid, Colin. Just keep your breathing slow and easy and follow me. Find things to pull you forward rather than swim.

# COLIN

# How are you so ... composed?

- JESSIE
- 255 You ever read "O Captain, You're a Captain," the manual for the Oz fleet?

#### COLIN

- 256 No.
- JESSIE 257 Me neither. Plus, I still have my helmet. Let's go.

# In the corridor, just outside the Kestochalian bridge.

# COLIN

258 I don't know if I can go back in there.

JESSIE

259 You don't have to. I can talk to them.

Squiffy though you are, I'm even more unpleasant.

Nervous laughs.

260	COLIN Thank you for the offer, but I'm going in with you. I had a thought, though.
261	JESSIE Let's hear it.
262	COLIN Really? Right, well, they express themselves like human children, right? Using abuse to show affection, trying very hard to please us, then throwing a temper tantrum.
263	JESSIE So we treat them like children?
264	COLIN It's worth a shot.
265	JESSIE Look around you, Colin! Their technology is miles past anything humanity has managed.
266	COLIN And most of us couldn't put a toaster back together. Just because their technology is advanced doesn't mean these particular Kestochalians are.
267	JESSIE Fair. But toasters are tricky wee bastards.
268	COLIN What are they for, anyway? I've always wondered.
269	JESSIE A toast-er???
270	COLIN I'm kidding. Shall we?

271	JESSIE (entering the bridge) Right. OK, everyone, that's enough. You've been a very naughty crew, and that stops now.
272	COLIN Oh, look at all the grumpy faces. Are we late for our naps? I think we're late for our naps, Captain Jessie.
273	JESSIE You're right, Colin. Everybody line up, right now.
Emily a	nd Howard enter.
274	EMILY There they are, Dear. And one of them is wearing a boat.
275	HOWARD What's eeeehhhh, what's happening here?
276	COLIN HANDS OFF THE BUTTONS. ALL your hands, not just the top two, you. Stop firing on the Oz 9!
277	JESSIE Good thinking.
278	COLIN Hopefully it'll give the 9 some relief.
279	JESSIE Right. Now, what have we said about how we treat friends? Nothing, because we just met, so let's start at the beginning: you do NOT hurt your friends. This is why you're alone in the universe. Start behaving like good shrimp, and you'll have lots of friends. So. Who thinks firing weapons at your friends is a good idea?
280	COLIN Put your hand down, you. That's not

		Oh, I know! Instead of shooting or punching them, you can give them lovely cocktails. (SFX: pouring sound) Much better, thank you. Oh wonderful, I can bring my glass up into the submarine! <sip></sip>
281		HOWARD Don't eat the olive!
282		COLIN Ehhhh? Oh, right!
283		JESSIE OK, file out. Treats in the lunchroom, and last one there's an entrée!
284		COLIN Did it work?
285		HOWARD The shooting stopped.
286		COLIN Look at that, Captain Jessie! We make a good team.
287		JESSIE Ech. Yeah. I guess so.
288		HOWARD We should probably head back to the Oz 9 before they change their minds.
289		JESSIE Or before I find cocktail sauce. I'm getting peckish.
290		EMILY Eating one's hosts is considered rude, I believe. Unless you're on Upsilon Andromedae C, which is rather lax on protocol. This way.
	Howard an	nd Emily exit.
291		JESSIE Colin! Colin! Hang back a bit. I took something from the fish tank.

292	COLIN What? Why?
293	JESSIE The dead scuba diver. It had a plastic starfish in its pocket, and it was glowing.
294	COLIN Like the sidequests!
295	JESSIE Exactly. But that's not all. When I pulled it from the diver's pocket, the diver grabbed my wrist and turned its head to look at me.
296	COLIN Please tell me this is all nitrogen narcosis. We've been underwater a long time
297	JESSIE I hope so. But it spoke to me.
298	COLIN Noooooooo!
	Howard pokes his head back in.
299	HOWARD You coming, or are some bits of you just not quite pruny enough?
300	JESSIE Be there in a tic, shut it! It said, "something's coming."
301	COLIN Like a package? A lovely basket from Fortnum and Masons, perhaps.
302	JESSIE It said,"Something's coming. Something's coming, and there's nothing you can do."