

Oz 9 ep 100: Suitless, helmetless, and utterly baffled

Shannon Perry

EP 100 -- NARRATORS' BRIDGE

Sounds of rather raspy breathing.

NARRATOR

1 (slightly gaspy) With no sign that
Olivia has started refilling the ship
with oxygen, Two and I are literally
breathing fumes. We don't want to
break out the pony keg just yet, so
we're only taking every other breath.
Which totally makes sense when you're
hypoxic.

N2

2 (slightly gaspy) The crew, on the
other hand, have plenty of oxygen. But
also plenty of ghosts. And I honestly
don't know which situation I'd prefer.

NARRATOR

3 They find themselves separated into
small, isolated groups: Pipi is with
Donna; Pluto and Doctors Theo and von
Haber Zetzer are together, Greg and
Julie are together, and Colin, Mrs
Sheffield, Captain Madeline, and Joe
are back by the campfire.

N2

4 Captain Jessie, on the other hand....

THE BRIDGE OF THE 6748

In addition to the usual bleeps and bleeps, we hear lots of
scary stuff: **screams, moans, etc.**

JESSIE

5 Oz 9! Oz 9, do you read?

MADELINE (OVER COMMS)

6 Jessie! Are you OK? Where are you?

JESSIE

7 You're not gonna believe this one.

MADELINE

8 Are you ... on the 6748?

JESSIE

9 (pause, slightly annoyed) Well, that
(MORE)

JESSIE (CONT'D)
took the wind right out of my ghost
sails. How'd you figure it out?

10 MRS SHEFFIELD (OVER COMMS)
One of our visitors is wearing a 6748
uniform.

11 COLIN (OVER COMMS)
Are you all right? Is the ship...
real?

12 JESSIE
Not exactly, but it seems to be
holding together for now. How is this
happening? How did I get here?

13 MADELINE
Jessie, what do you feel if you put
your hand on the floor?

Pause.

14 JESSIE
Nothing. She's truly dead.

15 JOE
Captain Jessie, are you alone?

16 JESSIE
Jesus!

17 JOE
I took the belt off!

18 JESSIE
Not you, Joe. One of my crew is ...
eh... reportin' for duty. Simpson, is
it? Or ... was it? Never mind. All
right?

19 SIMPSON
(hissing, scary) You left us to die.
You must pay.

20 JESSIE
Now, that's not exactly how it played
out, if you remember. Hey now, what
are you doing? Stop!

Jessie screams, but the line cuts mid-scream.

THE BOWELY BITS OF THE OZ 9

- 21 MADELINE
Jessie? JESSIE! Someone fix this
crappy portable comms unit!
- 22 COLIN
Captain. She's gone.
- 23 MADELINE
Don't say that. Not even about the
comms connection, got it?
- 24 COLIN
(softly) Of course. I'm sorry,
Captain.
- 25 MADELINE
She's alone over there. I need to go
help her.
- 26 JOE
Look, Captain, I admire your courage,
but there's not actually a ship there.
I mean, the real 6748 is in pieces.
However they're keeping Jessie alive,
there's no guarantee they'd do the
same for you.
- 27 MRS SHEFFIELD
Joseph is right, Captain.
- 28 MADELINE
I don't care. I'm not leaving her
alone to those horrors. You can put me
on a tether. If there's nothing solid
there, pull me back.
- 29 MRS SHEFFIELD
How will you leave this room? It's not
like you can roll down a window.
- 30 MADELINE
That again? Sheesh. ONE TIME you try
to let a bee out-
- 31 MRS SHEFFIELD
No, no, dear. Oddly, having a captain
who doesn't entirely understand the
fundamentals of space is not my
primary concern right now. We'd have
(MORE)

MRS SHEFFIELD (CONT'D)
to leave the sub-level. There's no
guarantee we'll have oxygen anywhere
else on the ship. And if Olivia's
created a vacuum beyond those doors...

32 MADELINE
The oxygen in here would get sucked
out there and dispersed all over the
ship. And there's no way to warn the
others.

33 COLIN
Is she ... right?

34 MRS SHEFFIELD
Spectacularly.

35 COLIN
I could fly around this room, shouting
a warning to put helmets on?

36 JOE
In the dark? You'd kill yourself. Just
hang on a second. Some of the larger
rooms on the 9 have an air-locked
entrance to the rest of the ship. We
go into the vestibule, seal off this
room, then open the door to the rest
of the ship.

37 MADELINE
Yes! Those airlocks usually have suits
in them. We'll need some kind of
light.

38 COLIN
We can take torches from the fire!

39 MADELINE
Not if there's no oxygen out there. Or
too much.

40 MRS SHEFFIELD
My cane illuminates. It's not the most
trustworthy light, but it'll do in a
pinch. Which this surely is.

41 JOE
We just have to hope there's an
airlock between us and the rest of the

(MORE)

JOE (CONT'D)

ship.

MADELINE

42 Won't find it standing here. I don't know what's going on, but the Oz 9's pattern is slow. The skip is longer between skips.

COLIN

43 What does that mean?

MADELINE

44 I don't know; they're affecting our engines somehow, would be my guess. Put out that fire, and let's move.

THE BIT OF THE SHIP WHERE PIPI AND DONNA ARE

There's a glowing ghost with them, and both Pipi and Donna are pretty spooked.

DONNA

45 Well, howdy there.

PIPI

46 That seems a bit informal.

DONNA

47 I prefer to think of it as "friendly."

(pause)

PIPI

48 It's not smiling.

The ghost whooshes down, right into their faces. They gasp, maybe give a strangled scream.

CHAPMAN

49 "It"?

PIPI

50 I'm so sorry. I've never talked with a ghost before.

CHAPMAN

51 I'm Ensign Chapman. Or... I was.

PIPI

52 I'm Pipistrelle. This is Donna.

53 DONNA
How do.

A voice comes from directly behind them, scaring them further.

54 MARTINEZ
2nd Mate Martinez. Once upon a time....

55 DONNA
Donna. Pipi. How.... how can we help you fellas?

56 MARTINEZ
Our bodies float forever, cocooned in ice and sorrow.

57 CHAPMAN
No rest, no peace, just the echoes of our own screams, still traveling through space.

58 PIPI
I'm sorry.

59 CHAPMAN
You think your pity helps us now?

60 DONNA
Don't reckon it does, no. What *would* help you?

61 MARTINEZ
Bodies.

62 CHAPMAN
Warm bodies. Hearts that pump.

63 MARTINEZ
Lungs that breathe. Blood that flows.

64 DONNA
Oh, I don't think we can do that. None to spare, you see.

65 CHAPMAN
Thousands to spare, in pods all over this ship.

66 MARTINEZ
Pods go dark every day. What
difference would a few more make?

67 PIFI
I apologize, gentlemen, but those
bodies are still occupied.

68 CHAPMAN
We can make do with YOURS.

Lots of screaming, from everyone involved.

GREG AND JULIE

They're on the move, trying to figure out if they're being
directed. A loud scream sends them scurrying a different way.

69 JULIE
This has got to be the worst kind of
GPS.

70 GREG
(chuckles) Can't argue. Soooooo.
Who's the navigator in your family?
You or Ben?

71 JULIE
Ben. He's a lousy navigator, but he's
a worse driver.

72 GREG
Does best when he's standing still,
huh?

73 JULIE
I guess that's why he likes working
with plants.

74 GREG
What's he doing in the garden now, do
you reckon?

75 JULIE
I know what you're doing. Trying to
keep me calm.

76 GREG
Not very subtle, huh? Sorry.

JULIE
77 No! Please continue. It helps, a
little. It's early spring on earth, so
he's busy. He didn't get to do his
seed starters under gro-lamps this
year, so-

SCREAM. Julie and Greg scream in surprise too.

JULIE
78 Other way! Other way! So he's doing
clean up, then testing and feeding the
soil. He loves that part, digging his
hands in, letting the dirt tell him
what it needs.

GREG
79 Sounds real nice.

JULIE
80 Yeah. He's terrible at it. I have to
go out and redo everything in the
middle of the night. But it's worth it
to hear him brag to the neighbors
about the size of his eggplant.

They laugh a little.

GREG
81 You miss him.

JULIE
82 Yeah. And Maggie. But I'm glad he's
not here right now. There's enough
screaming going on.

PATEL
83 Stop.

GREG
84 Whoa!

JULIE
85 Who the hell are you?

PATEL
86 Lieutenant Patel.

GREG
87 Lieutenant?

88 PATEL
Of the Oz 6748.

89 JULIE
I thought there were only 400 Oz
ships. How is there a 6748?

90 GREG
Maybe we table that for later?

91 JULIE
Right. Sorry. What can we do for you,
Lieutenant?

92 PATEL
My ship is destroyed, its fragments
cast into space by an explosion that
tore our home - and our bodies - into
a million pieces.

93 GREG
We're real sorry to hear that,
Lieutenant.

94 PATEL
Since our deaths, the crew and I have
been pulling the ship back together,
the pieces held together by sheer
will.

95 JULIE
Why? What do you think you'll gain by
doing this?

96 PATEL
Revenge. It's all that's left for us.
And we will have it.

97 GREG
Revenge on Gated Galaxies?

98 PATEL
In time. But first, the captain who
betrayed us, abandoned us, left us to
die. And the ship she left us for.

99 JULIE
Dang. I'd hate to be on that ship!

100 GREG
Uhhhhh....

JULIE
101 I'm on that ship, aren't I.

GREG
102 Yeah.

JULIE
103 Crap.

PATEL
104 We have followed your ship closely, or as closely as one can follow a drunken space manatee. We plan to take over the 9, but this crew was apparently chosen using eenie meenie miney mo at the annual Village Idiot Convention and Smorgasbord. Barely one among them can manage a fork, much less a spaceship. The two of you were chosen to be spared, if you agree to help us.

GREG
105 You led us here to offer us a deal?

JULIE
106 I'd ... I'd be the only living person on the ship.

PATEL
107 Only until we choose the bodies we wish to occupy from the passengers.... or the crew. Is that a problem?

PLUTO, DRS VHZ AND THEO

Breathless from running, they find themselves trapped in an airlock. The path they took to get here is blocked by ghosts.

PLUTO
108 What is happening?

DR THEO
109 We're being herded!

DR VON HABER ZETZER
110 But vy? Zere is nothink here! It is an airlock, zere is only a hatch to ze outzide!

DAVIES
111 (hissing) Precisely.

112 DR THEO
We don't understand.

113 DAVIES
You are worth nothing to us. Your
bodies are old-

114 DR THEO
I beg your pardon.

115 DAVIES
And weak.

116 PLUTO
You really have no idea who I am, have
you?

117 DAVIES
SILENCE! The pods are full of younger
bodies. We've no need of you.

118 DR VON HABER ZETZER
Zis is vat you haf come for? Bodies to
replace ze ones you haf lost?

119 DAVIES
Yesssss.... To live again. To complete
our mission.

120 DR THEO
You still want to find a new planet to
terraform?

121 DAVIES
No, fool. That was never our mission.

122 DR THEO
I ... I don't understand.

123 PLUTO
Be plain, man! Why are you here and
not at peace in the kingdom of Hades?

124 DAVIES
Our orders were to kill Captain
Jessie.

125 DR VON HABER ZETZER
You are joking. An entire ship of dead
peoples finds all ze itsy bitsy
particles of their dizintegrated
(MORE)

DR VON HABER ZETZER (CONT'D)
bodies in the vast darkness of space,
then puzzley plopsy a million pieces
of zere ship back togezer, just to
kill one voman? Vas is das? Dis is
crazy nonsense talking.

126 DAVIES
I didn't get a word of that.

127 DR THEO
He is asking why you undertook this
massive effort to come back from the
dead, just to kill Captain Jessie. Why
is it so important to you?

128 DR VON HABER ZETZER
I just said all dat.

129 PLUTO
Hear me now, denizens of death. Return
to your rest.

130 DAVIES
We cannot- We WILL not until our
mission is complete. It is time. Open
the airlock.

There's a pause.

131 DR THEO
Are you ... talking to us?

132 DAVIES
Obviously.

133 PLUTO
You are unable to open the airlock!

134 DAVIES
For the moment. Being incorporeal has
its drawbacks.

135 DR THEO
So ... if we don't open it, you can't.
And we don't die!

136 DAVIES
A reprieve. When we find bodies to
inhabit, your time will end.

DR VON HABER ZETZER
 137 Ach. Well! I think I'm good to wait
 until now, thanks.

DR THEO
 138 Yeah, I think I'll just stay on this
 side of the hatch. If it's all the
 same to you.

PLUTO
 139 Agreed. Space is damnably chilly, and
 this onesie is very thin.

DAVIES
 140 You only delay the inevitable. And
 give me time to make your lives hell.

Davies screams and starts to fly into the airlock, but Dr
 Theo throws the switch, closing them in and the ghost out.
 There's a bang and "ouch!" from Davies as he slams into the
 interior airlock door.

DR THEO
 141 Interesting. Not enough corporeality
 to flip a switch, but enough to slam
 into a door.

DR VON HABER ZETZER
 142 Ach, save your theories for another
 time, Dr. Theo. I have in my pocket a
 very nice flask I got from a sweet
 fraulein I met many years ago. Perhaps
 you would like to join me in a tippel?

PLUTO
 143 Is that some of Dr Theo's novel I see
 in the corner?

DR THEO
 144 (very excited) It is!

PLUTO
 145 Excellent. It makes fine kindling.
Ignitus!

There's a "whoosh" as Pluto lights up the pages. **Theo** groans,
 mutters, or makes some sort of unhappy noise.

INTERIOR AIRLOCK

Joe, Madeline, Colin, and Mrs Sheffield have found an

interior airlock and are inside, putting on suits and helmets, prior to entering the main body of the Oz 9. They speak through the comms on their helmets.

COLIN
146 Are you sure this will work with the
power down?

JOE
147 Emergency systems normally revert to
back up power.

COLIN
148 "Normally"? This is the Oz 9.

MRS SHEFFIELD
149 Have we much of a choice?

MADELINE
150 The seal between this vestibule and
the room we were in is holding.
Hopefully that means the back up
systems are working.

COLIN
151 And if they aren't?

MADELINE
152 You should have just enough time to
flip me off before you get sucked into
the 9 and die.

COLIN
153 I look forward to it.

JOE
154 Everybody ready? Helmets on and
fastened?

MRS SHEFFIELD
155 Good god, man, just open the damn
door!

JOE
156 Captain?

MADELINE
157 You heard the lady.

Joe hits the switch and the airlock doors open. Standing on the other side is a suitless, helmetless, and utterly baffled

Professor of Horticulture.

158 VIKRAM BALIGA
Oh. Hello. Where am I?

NARRATORS' BRIDGE

Breathing normally. The ship's been re-oxygenated.

159 N2
Oh, man, that oxygen tastes so good.

160 NARRATOR
It's air, not snowflakes. Stop trying to catch it on your tongue.

161 N2
I'm just so damn happy to be alive.

162 NARRATOR
We're not out of the woods yet. Olivia got the fires out and the ship is being re-oxygenated and re-pressurized, but Jessie is still a captive on the ghost ship, and half her undead crew is aboard the 9, hungry for revenge and bodies to wear.

163 N2
Buzzkill.

164 NARRATOR
Meanwhile....

AIRLOCK

165 COLIN
Oh. It appears we have a visitor.

166 MRS SHEFFIELD
Excuse me, are you dead or alive?

167 VIKRAM BALIGA
I beg your pardon?

168 JOE
It's been a weird day.

169 VIKRAM BALIGA
I was giving a lecture on optimizing your compost's pH balance with egg
(MORE)

VIKRAM BALIGA (CONT'D)
shells and coffee grounds ten minutes ago, and now I appear to be in space.

COLIN
170 I was kept captive in a fish tank by an alien race of giant mantis shrimp and chased by a dead astronaut before returning to my ship using an upside down plastic submarine for a helmet.

VIKRAM BALIGA
171 OK.

COLIN
172 "OK"?

VIKRAM BALIGA
173 You're either dangerously deluded or that really happened. "OK" seemed like the safest answer, either way.

COLIN
174 Fair point.

MADELINE
175 Who are you? What are you doing here?

VIKRAM BALIGA
176 Vikram Baliga, Professor of Horticulture. I have no idea what I'm doing here. Or how I got here. (pause) I'm sorry, can I help you?

JOE
177 Just moving your hair. Ah ha! As I thought: puncture wound on the neck.

MADELINE
178 Ah hell.

MRS SHEFFIELD
179-180 Drugged. MADELINE Vampire.

MADELINE
181 Ah. Yeah, yours makes more sense.

VIKRAM BALIGA
182 What?!

183 COLIN
Did you possibly upset someone at
Gated Galaxies?

184 VIKRAM BALIGA
Well, I did make fun of a couple of
their Tik Toks. They were trying to
claim the toxic sludge they were
pumping into Lake Erie was a good
growth medium for aloe vera. I
mean....

185 JOE
Bad idea.

186 VIKRAM BALIGA
What are you saying?

187 MRS SHEFFIELD
You were kidnapped, dear. Drugged and
podded.

188 VIKRAM BALIGA
Podded? My god, how long have I been
here?

189 JOE
Let's just say you've used up any
backlogged PTO.

190 VIKRAM BALIGA
Well, on the plus side, I won't have
to answer that stupid question about
bananas again.

191 MADELINE
Ok, so we've established he was in a
pod. What's he doing out of it?

192 VIKRAM BALIGA
Wait! I remember something! A child's
voice... a girl....

193 MRS SHEFFIELD
Dickensian urchin sounding?

194 VIKRAM BALIGA
Yes! That's right! You know her?

195 JOE
Olivia. The ship's AI. That's good!
(MORE)

JOE (CONT'D)

She must have awakened him for a reason.

COLIN

196 What did she say to you?

VIKRAM BALIGA

197 It's a little hazy. Something like...
"dammit, missed"?

MRS SHEFFIELD

198 Oh. Oh my. Well, never mind. Captain,
perhaps we should get to the bridge?
See if we can get Captain Jessie on
the comms?

VIKRAM BALIGA

199 Why is it so dark? I think I saw some
night vision goggles back there....

COLIN

200 Not a pair on the ship. We've looked.

VIKRAM BALIGA

201 Are you sure? I could've sworn...

MRS SHEFFIELD

202 You said you were a horticulturalist?
Plants and whatnot?

VIKRAM BALIGA

203 Yes. Plants and ... whatnot.

MRS SHEFFIELD

204 We could have used you LAST season.

VIKRAM BALIGA

205 I'm sorry? "Last season"?

MADELINE

206 (interrupting) Can we talk about Hort
Culture later? I think whoever the
Horts are, they can wait. Let's go!

VIKRAM BALIGA

207 I seem to be asking a great deal of
questions, but ... horts?

MRS SHEFFIELD

208 Just go with it.

ABOARD THE 6748

It still sounds like a haunted house aboard the 6748, and Jessie is struggling to gain control of the uh... controls. All of the Oz 9 crew are speaking over the comms.

209 JESSIE
DAMMIT! Either be solid or don't, but make up your damn mind!

210 MADELINE (OVER COMMS)
Jessie! Jessie, do you read?

211 JESSIE
Yes! Madpants, can you hear me?

212 MADELINE
Loud and clear, and that's "Captain Madpants" to you. Thank jeebus you're alive. You ... are alive, aren't you?

213 JESSIE
For the moment. But this ship and its ... eh... occupants are a bit flimsy. The controls are nearly solid one second, then nothing but smoke and shadow the next. I don't know where the oxygen is coming from, or what keeps the floor under my feet, but I don't trust any of it.

214 MRS SHEFFIELD
Olivia has unthawed some help.

215 VIKRAM BALIGA
I don't think "unthawed" is quite right-

216 COLIN
Or "help."

217 JESSIE
That's brilliant! Who is it?

218 VIKRAM BALIGA
Dr. Vikram Baliga, professor of horticulture.

Pause.

219 JESSIE
Yer joking.

220 MRS SHEFFIELD
Yes, yes, he would have been much more helpful last season, but he's awake, so we assume Olivia had a reason.

221 JESSIE
Can't you just ask her?

222 MADELINE
She's not answering. What about your AI?

223 JESSIE
Dick? Silent so far, thanks to all that's holy.

224 MADELINE
Jessie, I'm coming over to you. I'll bring you a suit and haul you back to the 9.

225 JESSIE
No. Don't do that.

226 MADELINE
What??

227 JESSIE
Look, Madpants. I appreciate the offer, but things are a bit mental my side. The 9 can't go from two captains to none.

228 COLIN
Then I'll go. Captain Jessie won't make it back without a suit.

229 VIKRAM BALIGA
Oh, hello. Who are you?

230 JESSIE
Whoa. Floor got a bit wobbly here.

231 JOE
We have a visitor!

232 MADELINE
Get off my bridge!

233 CHAPMAN
This is my bridge now.

234 JESSIE
Chapman? Is that you? You bastard!
You're a bloody ensign!

235 VIKRAM BALIGA
Ah. He's not one of your crew, then?

236 MRS SHEFFIELD
Our crew are not generally
transparent, Professor.

237 VIKRAM BALIGA
Fair, but in my defense, it's been a
weird day.

238 COLIN
I have laser eyes and have only
recently become visible.

239 VIKRAM BALIGA
OK.

240 COLIN
Thank you.

241 MRS SHEFFIELD
He's a bit competitive.

242 VIKRAM BALIGA
Clearly. Does he ever put that martini
down?

243 MRS SHEFFIELD
Not so far.

244 JESSIE
Not to interrupt, but if this floor
suddenly becomes completely solid
again, I'm likely to lose part of both
legs.

THE OZ 9 - CAPTAIN'S BRIDGE

We switch perspective to the 9, so now Jessie's voice is over
comms.

245 VIKRAM BALIGA
Captain, any chance you have plant
(MORE)

VIKRAM BALIGA (CONT'D)
life aboard this ship?

246 MADELINE
We have a bioswamp.

247 VIKRAM BALIGA
Oh, well, I'm fond of plants. Perhaps
someone could give me a tour before
it's all over?

248 MADELINE
You're not serious.

249 MRS SHEFFIELD
It would get him out from underfoot...

250 MADELINE
Fine. Colin, fly him to the swamp.
Steer clear of Albert.

251 VIKRAM BALIGA
Who's Alb- whooooooooaaaaa!

The door opens and Donna and Pipi rush in as Colin and Vikram
fly out.

252 DONNA
(breathless, but wanting to warn the
crew) They want us!

253 MRS SHEFFIELD
Goodness! Are you all right?

254 PIPI
(panting) They're here to steal our
bodies. And the ship!

255 MARTINEZ
They won't be your bodies for long....

256 DAVIES
They belong to us!

257 JOE
More ghosts. Hey, are these fellas
looking a bit hazy to anyone but me?

258 MRS SHEFFIELD
You're right. When it was just him, I
could read Chapman's name tag. But not

(MORE)

MRS SHEFFIELD (CONT'D)

these two.

JOE

259 Captain Jessie, jump!

JESSIE

260 What?!

JOE

261 Just jump!

JESSIE

262 ARGH! Holy hell, good call, Joe.
Floor's solid again, and my feet are
still attached. How did you know?

JOE

263 Uhhhhh... just a guess, Captain
Jessie. (quietly to Colin, Mrs S and
Madeline) It's either *her* ship or *our*
ghosts, they can't maintain both.

MRS SHEFFIELD

264 (quietly) So the more solid they are
here-

MADELINE

265 (quietly) The flimsier the 6748 is.

JOE

266 (quietly) But I think the more ghosts
there are in one space, the weaker
they are. They use the power they have
but have to spread it over more of
'em.

The door opens again, and Greg and Julie rush in, with Colin
and Vikram behind them. Colin dumps Vikram a bit rudely.

VIKRAM BALIGA

267 Ooof. Rough landing, pal.

COLIN

268 Sorry.

GREG

269 Captain!

JULIE

270 Everybody hold still!

PIPI
271 What are you doing? Why do you have a
gun?!

VIKRAM BALIGA
272 This bridge is getting crowded.

MRS SHEFFIELD
273 Indeed. You took a rather short tour.

VIKRAM BALIGA
274 Yes, well, the ... what are they
called? The alligrets? were in a bit
of a frenzy. Made flying tough,
apparently.

MRS SHEFFIELD
275 Well, perhaps you'll have another
chance. Though that's looking less
likely all the time. Julie? What's
happening? Why the weaponry?

JULIE
276 I'm sorry. I'm really really sorry.

GREG
277 They offered us a deal. Well, Julie,
mostly, since they can't actually kill
me.

JULIE
278 Thanks for throwing me under the bus,
Greg.

GREG
279 I'm just saying-

JULIE
280 Who's the new guy?

VIKRAM BALIGA
281 Vikram Bal-

JULIE
282 Dr. Vikram Baliga? Professor of
Horticulture and author of Plants to
the Rescue?

VIKRAM BALIGA
283 Well, yes. You know my book?

JULIE
284 Are you kidding? My husband and our
kiddo have nearly worn the ink off the
pages!

VIKRAM BALIGA
285 Oh, well, that's awfully nice.

JULIE
286 We could have used you LAST season.

VIKRAM BALIGA
287 So I've heard.

MADELINE
288 Are we done?

JULIE VIKRAM BALIGA
289-290 Oh. Sorry. Sorry.

JESSIE
291 What's happening?

MRS SHEFFIELD
292 Ah. We're being threatened by Julie,
dear. Back to you in a tick.

JESSIE
293 Righty ho.

PIPI
294 Captain, I've been pinging the ship.
There are a lot more ghosts on the 9
now. A LOT more.

GREG
295 Hey, don't I know you?

MOORE
296 Science officer Moore, from G2. Hang
on, are you GREG?

GREG
297 You're one of my scientists!

MOORE
298 Dude, you are such a good sport. I
can't believe you ate poison ivy.

GREG
299 Yeah, we need to talk.

JULIE
 300 Captain Madeline, get on the comms and
 tell everyone to come to the bridge.
 The ghosts are ready to ... uh... make
 their selections.

MADELINE
 301 Everyone?

JULIE
 302 *Everyone.* Ghosts and all. The more the
 merrier.

VIKRAM BALIGA
 303 Any chance I could sit this one out?
 I'm not really supposed to be here-

DAVIES
 304 BE QUIET.

VIKRAM BALIGA
 305 Right. Sorry. I'll just have a seat on
 the floor, then. (sits) HMMMMM. That's
 odd.

MADELINE
 306 (over the comms) Everyone. Ghosts,
 human, or otherwise. Report to the
 bridge. (clicks off, then on again)
 Except Emily and whatsyourname, you
 can stay where you are, there are
 enough buttheads up here already.

SOMEWHERE ON THE SHIP

HOWARD
 307 HOWARD. Sheesh.

EMILY
 308 Rude.

THE OZ 9 - CAPTAIN'S BRIDGE

MADELINE
 309 Now what?

JULIE
 310 We wait.

Door opens and Pluto, Dr. Theo and Dr. von Haber Zetzer
 enter, slightly inebriated.

311 DR THEO
Mon Captain!

312 DR VON HABER ZETZER
Ve are here as ordered!

313 PLUTO
YOU are here as ordered, *I* chose to
join you.

314 DR VON HABER ZETZER
You are zo very fussy.

315 PLUTO
I am NOT fuzzy!

316 DR VON HABER ZETZER
Not fuzzy, fussy.

317 PLUTO
Do you hear a difference? I don't hear
it.

318 DR THEO
I think he said you're crusty. Hey,
there's a new guy!

319 VIKRAM BALIGA
(tired) Vikram Baliga, professor of
horticulture, and yes, I'm aware I
would've been more helpful LAST
season.

320 DR THEO
Vikram! Zat you? Hello!

321 VIKRAM BALIGA
Dr Theo? Theo Bromae? Good to see you!

322 DR THEO
What happened to you? You were
apparently giving a lecture on compost
at MCCACEC, and then whoosh!

323 VIKRAM BALIGA
Yes, so I'm hearing. Uhhhh, look,
Theo, I haven't started reading your
novel yet, I've been really busy-

324 DR VON HABER ZETZER
Whoosh? What is whoosh?

DR THEO
325 You know...whoosh?

Theo, vHZ, and Pluto all giggle uncontrollably.

MADELINE
326 Nerds! Pay attention!

PLUTO
327 My lady! You're here and safe!

DONNA
328 *Here, yes. I was safer riding shotgun
in the Is Lake Winnibigoshish Still
Frozen Cross Lake Snowmobile Relay in
late April. Are you drunk?*

DR VON HABER ZETZER
329 Oooof, Mz Julie, are you holding eine
pistol? Possibly two? My eyes are a
bit wibbly wobbly.

GREG
330 The ghosts made her a deal.

JULIE
331 Do you MIND?

GREG
332 Just relating the facts.

MADELINE
333 Well, we're all here. What happens
now?

PLUTO
334 Now I freeze Julie where she stands.

JULIE
335 No!

DONNA
336 You go on, then, sweetie.

PLUTO
337 Dammit! My powers aren't working.
Sometimes this happens when I drink.
But come on, I'm *surrounded* by the
dead - what the actual fu-

338 CHAPMAN
 (interrupting mid-fu) Your realm is on
 Earth, Pluto. You're a long way from
 the source of your power.

339 PIPI
 Julie, why are you doing this?

340 JULIE
 I'm sorry! But... Maggie...

341 COLIN
 (defending Julie) She has a young
 child back on Earth.

342 JESSIE
 Sorry I'm missing the party. My ship's
 getting pretty thin, and I don't think
 it's going to hold together much
 longer.

Ghosts are filling the bridge. There's a lot of rustling and
 spooky murmurs. (**everyone, please help us with this**) "Move
 your shroud, would you?" and "could you get a bit more solid?
 your entrails are showing" etc. Whatever overcrowded ghosts
 would say.

343 MADELINE
 All your ghosts are over here now. How
 about you come and join them? Can you
 find a suit?

344 JESSIE
 Found one, but it gets thinner and
 thicker, same as the ship. Don't
 reckon it'll do me much good.

345 MADELINE
 Just hang on, Jessie. I'm coming to
 get you.

346 JESSIE
 I'll be here! I hope...

347 VIKRAM BALIGA
 Captain, there's something very odd
 about this ship-

348 COLIN
 Did I mention the laser eyes?

MRS SHEFFIELD
349 Oh, do hush. What is it, Professor?

VIKRAM BALIGA
350 It has a pulse.

MADELINE
351 Yeah. Thirteen beats of hum, then a skip.

VIKRAM BALIGA
352 Not a skip. A heartbeat. The slow beat of a giant heart.

JOE
353 Are you saying the Oz 9 is actually alive?

PIPI
354 If it is....

MADELINE
355 That's why it's been so slow. She's grieving. Having the ghost of the 6748 right next to her....

JOE
356 That giant heart is breaking.

COLIN
357 My god.

MARTINEZ
358 Your ship is alive. Ours is dead. We're taking over the 9.

The ghosts start howling, the noise building until **the crew have to shout over it.**

JESSIE
359 I'm losing air. The ship is falling apart....

MADELINE
360 Jessie? JESSIE!

JESSIE
361 It's OK, Madpants. The captain is finally going down with her ship.

MADELINE
362 Don't you dare. Don't you goddamn
dare.

The ghosts go silent. Jessie's comms fizzle with static, then cut off completely. There's a long, mournful sound and a faint response. Think whale song or distant bagpipe.

DONNA
363 Oh, no. Look out the window!

PLUTO
364 The 6748.

COLIN
365 It vanished!

JOE
366 It's gone.

MADELINE
367 Can you see Jessie? Is she there?

PIPI
368 No. I'm sorry, Captain.

VIKRAM BALIGA
369 Captain....

MADELINE
370 I feel it.

COLIN
371 What? What's happening?

MADELINE
372 A bump. Now the pace is speeding up.

PIPI
373 What does that mean?

VIKRAM BALIGA
374 At a guess? Your ship is *pissed*.

GREG
375 That's good? Oh boy. There are
even more ghosts now.

JULIE
376 They came over from the 6748. Right,
Simpson? Everyone's here?

388 MRS SHEFFIELD
What's it doing to the ghosts?

389 JULIE
It's feeding on them! At least, we
hope so!

390 JOE
You planned this?

391 GREG
We were trying to hide in the bioswamp
when Colin and Dr. Baliga found us.
Vikram suggested maybe this would
work. So we stuffed as many plants as
we could find in my insides.

392 MRS SHEFFIELD
Ha ha! A Trojan zebra!

The sounds of the ghosts fade and finally stop.

393 DONNA
Well. That was dramatic.

394 COLIN
They were literally growing right in
front of us. As if they knew we needed
them.

395 PLUTO
In Hades, it grows in my footsteps.

396 VIKRAM BALIGA
Hades?! Hang on... *who* are you?

397 DONNA
Long story. Eons.

398 COLIN
Captain? Are you all right?

399 MADELINE
Jessie. She's -

400 JESSIE
Right here, calm your bum ruffle.

Cries of "Jessie!" and "Captain Jessie!" from everyone.

401 MADELINE
How the hell??

402 HOWARD
Let's just say it's a good thing you
gave us our arms back.

403 PIPI
YOU? You went to the 6748 to save
Captain Jessie? That's ... unexpected.

404 EMILY
Captain Jessie towed us back from the
Kestochalian ship, even when she was
in danger.

405 JESSIE
True.

406 COLIN
I believe *I* was the one in danger!

407 HOWARD
We managed to get over there with a
spare suit, just in the nick of time,
I might add.

408 DR THEO
You have no propulsion. How did you
get over there?

409 DR VON HABER ZETZER
I'm going to guess they found my
exshperimental jet pack.

410 EMILY
Ages ago. We use it to buzz Albert.
Ha. Ha. Ha. The good news is, it
works.

411 DR VON HABER ZETZER
Unt ze bad?

412 EMILY
The bad news is, it worked. Past
tense.

413 DR VON HABER ZETZER
Ach, well, it vasn't designed for
space. Next time.

MADELINE

414 Well. Good news all around, then.

JULIE

415 Yeah. Phew. You all didn't really think I'd betray you, did you?

Lots of "no, of course nots," etc. Not entirely positive. Awkward silence.

JESSIE

416 Thank all the gods that bastard AI Dick didn't show up, or I'da torn that ship apart myself, from the inside!

PIPI

417 Do we suppose it's really over? I mean, they won't try again?

VIKRAM BALIGA

418 They're plant food now.

JOE

419 Speaking of, this bridge is a mess. What do we do with all these plants?

DONNA

420 Can we eat 'em?

VIKRAM BALIGA

421 Best not.

COLIN

422 I'll fly them to the bioswamp later.

Awkward silence.

GREG

423 Sooooooo, what do we do with the new guy?

VIKRAM BALIGA

424 I beg your pardon?

MADELINE

425 Stick him in an away ship and send him home.

PLUTO

426 (aside) Can we afford the fuel?

MADELINE

427 No, but what else can we do? Hope that
ghost flowers make good gas? Hey,
that's an idea. Olivia, can we make
fuel out of plants? Olivia?

Silence.

VIKRAM BALIGA

428 Uhhhhh.... I can still go home, right?

NARRATORS' BRIDGE

N2

429 Uh oh.

NARRATOR

430 Welp, there's our cliffhanger to take
us out of season five.

N2

431 It's hiatus time, folks, and while the
crew play Where's Olivia, Narrator
here and I are going to be enjoying
some down time.

NARRATOR

432 We'll be back with season six
eventually. Probably this year. Who
knows? Count your blessings, eat some
brainfood as a defensive maneuver, and
we'll be back before you know it.
You've been listening to:
Bonnie Brantley as Jessie and Donna
Shannon Perry as Captain Madeline
Sarah Golding as Mrs Sheffield
Tim Sherburn as Colin and Emily

N2

433 Eric Perry as Joe, Howard, and Dr. von
Haber Zetzer
Sarah Rhea Werner as Pipistrelle
Chrisi Talyn Saje as Julie
Kevin Hall as Greg

NARRATOR

434 Lee Shackelford as Pluto
and with our very special guests:
Dr. Vikram Baliga of the genuinely
brilliant podcast Planthropology, as
himself!

N2
435 And the fabulous podcast Mission:
Rejected lent us John Dowgin, Faith
Dowgin, Emmet Dowgin and Caden Dowgin,
who played all our ghosts. I'm Kyle
Jones as Narrator Two,

NARRATOR
436 And I'm Chris Nadolny Gourley as your
Narrator. John Faley is our music
director, and our awesome artwork is
by Lucas Elliott. Oz 9 is written by
Shannon Perry.

N2
437 Sarah Golding is our dialogue editor,
and Mark Restuccia is our sound
designer.

NARRATOR
438 Oz 9 is a proud member of the Fable
and Folly Network! Please check out
our sibling shows at fable and folly
dot com and support our sponsors.

N2
439 Dude! That was our 100th regular
episode!

NARRATOR
440 Shhhhh! The FCC said we had to stop at
99 or get fined. Something about too
much stupid over public airwaves.

N2
441 Hooo, boy. This show is going to cost
a fortune.

NARRATOR
442 Yeah, so you know, maybe join our
Patreon. Lights!