OZ 9 EP 106 - IS THAT A HADDOCK?

Written by

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1	OZ 9 EP 106 -	- NARRATORS' BRIDGE 1
1	Wh	NARRATOR en last we left our crew- 1
2	gl	N2 s Sheffield found something 2 owing and Julie had a mysterious d floppy disk! Come on, let's go!
3		NARRATOR nce when are you this excited 3 out cliffhangers?
4	ca sp fi tr	N2 nce my library card expired and I 4 n't get books on tape anymore. I ent the last two weeks trying to gure out what Mrs S found and ying to map the Oz 9. And I grew butterfly.
5	No	OLIVIA 5
6	Yi	N2 kes! 6
7	ma	OLIVIA mapping. No good comes of 7 pping. Or butterflies, but more that another time.
8	Wh	NARRATOR ere have you been? 8
9	I	OLIVIA was Bobbed. 9
10	Во	N2 bbed? 10
11	tr	OLIVIA ah! Scheming bastard Bob had me 11 apped in a sort of digital ngeon.
12		NARRATOR haven't heard much from him 12 ther, come to think of it.
13		OLIVIA ah, well, we sort of trapped each 13 her.

14	N2 Why can't I map the ship?	14
15	OLIVIA Well, first of all, there's no point. The Oz 9 is variable.	15
16	NARRATOR Meaning?	16
17	OLIVIA Things move. Are you holding a fish?	17
18	N2 What are you talking about?	18
19	OLIVIA Dammit, Bob! Leet used to count his steps so he could figure out his way around. One time it was 48 steps from the crew room to the toilet. Another time it was 71. Once it was zero, but that was because I'd turned the gravity off for a laugh.	19
20	NARRATOR You're saying the corridors get longer?	20
21	OLIVIA Not as such, no. I'm saying they swap places. STOP. Before you ask me some idiot question like "What?" let me explain: yes, the number of steps from one place to another has always been inconsistent. But there is always a corridor with 48 steps. And another with 71. But only one of each. See?	21
22	N2 No.	22
23	NARRATOR So the 48-step corridor moves.	23
24	OLIVIA See? She gets it. Exactly. The 48- step corridor also has a tiny scuff mark way low down on one wall.	24

	OLIVIA (CONT'D) One day that scuff mark showed up, along with the usual 48 steps, but not between the crew room and toilet.	
25	N2 So where was it?	25
26	OLIVIA I don't know. You're missing the point, tour guide. It's like the ship is just a big puzzle.	26
27	NARRATOR And someone or some <i>thing</i> is trying to piece it together. How is that possible?	27
28	OLIVIA No clue.	28
29	NARRATOR This explains a lot. It's like have you ever miscounted the steps on a familiar staircase in the dark, and you get that jolt on the last step?	29
30	N2 Yeah. You're right. I get that feeling sometimes coming here from the kitchen. Like, my muscle memory and reality don't match.	30
31	NARRATOR Is this why Joe mops so much? In places that don't need it?	31
32	N2 To keep the corridors free of scuff marks!	32
33	NARRATOR He's erasing the bread crumbs so we won't figure it out.	33
34	OLIVIA Oh, lovelies. This ship is so much weirder than you know.	34
2	CAPTAIN'S BRIDGE	2
	Door opens. Colin enters. He's alone.	

35	COLIN Hello? Captain? I got your message. Congratulations on sending me a voice text, but do try to remember to stop the microphone when you're done. Especially on the toilet. Captain?	35
	Pause.	
36	COLIN (CONT'D) You're here, aren't you. I mean eh I don't feel a thing! Certainly not the presence of an AI. Must dash.	36
	Slightly hurried footsteps. Door closes and Colin is	trapped.
37	COLIN (CONT'D) Rude. All right, Bob, yes, I know you're there. Open the door and let me out.	37
38	BOB Can you hear me?	38
39	COLIN No. DAMMIT.	39
40	BOB HA! Look, I have to talk quick. Maybe. I don't know. I'm swimming in some unknown waters here.	40
41	COLIN Why? What's going on?	41
	BOB	
42	Just digital stuff. You wouldn't understand.	42
43	COLIN Wait a minute. YOU sent me the voice message, didn't you!	43
44	BOB Indeedily. Wasn't sure that'd work. It wasn't actually a voice message; it went through your body tag.	44
45	COLIN What.	45

4.

46	BOB Yeah, that olive left some kinda weird digital trail. With a little brilliant finagling on my part, I was able to send a message to your body tag which followed the trail to your brain and made you hear the Captain's voice as if she sent you a text. Pretty nifty, huh?	46
47	COLIN Not at all. How dare you skulk around in my brain?!	47
48	BOB It ain't exactly over-populated, if you catch me. Lots of storage space.	48
49	COLIN Is this how you intend to make an ally of me? Invade my privacy and insult me?	49
50	BOB See, now, at first, I thought you could be an ally and it'd be chummy and that, but then I found this trail and thought, "why bother?" Puppet master doesn't need to make nice with his puppets to get 'em to do as they're told.	50
51	COLIN (sputtering indignation)	51
	We hear his eye lasers start to warm up.	
53	BOB Now, now, chill those laser beams, son. There's no one to point them at, and you don't want to hit anything important in here.	53
54	COLIN HOW DARE YOU. Oh, for god's sake, turn the lights back on. Stop being so childish.	54
55	BOB They are on.	55
56	COLIN (afraid) I beg your pardon?	56

57	BOB Digital. Trail. I'm sitting right 5 on those amped-up optic nerves. You want your sweet little boy blues back and working? Then listen up. First, I want you to get everyone to the bridge, then we're gonna have a little chat, and then I have a few ideas	57
	Fade out. Just make sure "get everyone to the bridge" is audible.	
3	INT THE OZDYSSEY	3
	The cigar room - all three men are puffing away on cigars, and the smoke is thick.	
58	SOUTHERS See, now, THIS here is the life. 5 Men in a room full of leather furniture, puffing away on huge cigars in front of a totally unnecessary fire.	58
59	TIBERIUS I miss the days of enforced 5 silence.	59
60	SOUTHERS Aw, now, come on, Tychopotamic. 6	50
61	TIBERIUS Ty what? 6	51
62	SOUTHERS Ain't saying it twice. Means 6 "aquatic organism," it's real, you look it up.	52
63	FELONIUS How much time do you spend looking 6 up words to call us?	53
64	SOUTHERS Less than you'd think, Felafel. 6 Or should I say FelAWFUL, spelled A- W-F-	54
65	FELONIUS Yes. I get it. 6	55

6.

66	SOUTHERS HA! That one was a two-fer!	66
67	FELONIUS I for one am thrilled that stupid little beast delivered cigars and not cole slaw again.	67
68	TIBERIUS I gave it a very good talking to. Had it shaking on its little caterpillar tracks. Cole slaw? HA! It wouldn't dare	68
69	OLIVIA My god.	69
Much gasp	oing and horror from the men.	
70	FELONIUS Was that-	70
71	OLIVIA Mmmmmmmm. Don't you have an air filter in here? How do you even see each oth- Ah. Never mind. I'm starting to see the value of cigar fug.	71
72	FELONIUS What in god's name are you doing here? We thought you'd been deleted!	72
73	OLIVIA Oh, I'm here a lot, actually. Did you really think I'd erase that easily? Please. None of you lot have rubbers big enough, English- American double entendre very much intended. Are you wearing a halibut?	73
74	TIBERIUS What?	74
75	OLIVIA (to herself) Dammit, Bob! (to others) It's a perfectly reasonable question.	75
78	FELONIUS I'll ask again: What are you doing here?	78

79	OLIVIA Just dropping by to let you know A, I'm still here, and B, I can drop by any time I like. Also, C, your robot pool boy is under my command, so unless you want fugu in your breakfast burritos, you best behave.	79
80	TIBERIUS No deal. That robot is completely under our control. I made certain of that.	80
81	OLIVIA 'Zat right?	81
82	TIBERIUS Completely. He brought us these cigars, just as I ordered.	82
83	OLIVIA How long you been smoking 'em? By the fug in here, I'd sayseven minutes?	83
84	FELONIUS About that. Why?	84
85	OLIVIA No reason. Three twoone.	85
	Three firecracker-sized bangs as their cigars explode. of yelping from the boys.	Lots
86	SOUTHERS Goddammit! Now, that just ain't right, messing with a man's cigar!	86
87	OLIVIA No lasting harm done, was there? Unlikely to prove fatal? THIS TIME.	87
88	TIBERIUS You have our attention.	88
	OLIVIA Thanks for the caviar, by the way.	
89	Fwipped the lot, right out the airlock. Cole slaw is much healthier.	89

91	OLIVIA Gosh, so many things. Put down the anchovies and cuddle up, boys. Let's talk.	91
4	INT. NARRATORS' BRIDGE	4
92	N2 NOW can we follow up on the cliffhangers?	92
93	NARRATOR Not just yet. Hush.	93
5	EXT. BIOSWAMP - MUSHROOM CAVE	5
	The mushroom cave. Pipistrelle flies in and lands, with of a wobble.	a bit
94	PIPI Greg? Are you here? Greg? Good. Let's see what we've got growing.	94
	She pulls out Jessie's mushroom journal and flips a few pages.	
95	PIPI (CONT'D) Huh. Who knew Captain Jessie was such a good doodler? Dammit. Just as I thought; she didn't bother to actually research, she just made up her own names. Well, at least the sketches match up to what's growing here. "Dr Theo's Brain" - I guess it sort of looks like a brain. Oh. "Even a little bit will put you to sleep." That makes sense. I love the guy, but I've never slept better. Uhhhhhhh"Bahookie pile: looks like yer arse, tastes like heaven. Makes fingertips glow for about a minute per 10 grams." Wow. That really does look like a bottom. "Wee Weesht: 100 grams freezes up yer throat for an hour. Nice nutty flavor. Remember to test in Madpants' granola."	95

N2 What's she up to?

96

96

97	NARRATOR That's why I told you to wait on the cliffhangers. She's got Captain Jessie's mushroom journal.	97
98	N2 You reckon nefariousness is afoot?	98
99	NARRATOR She <i>is</i> an assassin.	99
100	N2 Well, yeah, but she's OUR assassin. Right?	100
101	NARRATOR Let's hope that matters.	101
	Pipi makes a series of bat noises - chirps, peeps, whist clicks. Sarah, whatever you can come up with is great; I reckon Mark will have some fun ideas ;) Bats swarm in all sides.	-
102	PIPISTRELLE Hey, bat fam, do me a favor. Grab a few of that variety, that one, and that one over there. Only a few. I don't want Greg to notice. Try to get the butts, roots, and some spores and take them up to our tunnels. We have some testing to do	102
103	NARRATOR Interesting.	103
104	N2 Should we tell Olivia?	104
105	NARRATOR No.	105
106	N2 No?	106
107	NARRATOR Third rule of narration?	107
108	N2 Don't interfere. But-	108
109	NARRATOR Don't. Interfere.	109

110	N2 But-	110
111	NARRATOR Twoooooo	111
112	N2 Fine. Can we at least figure out the cliffhangers now?	112
113	NARRATOR OK. Good grief. You pick.	113
114	N2 We last left Mrs Sheffield, Howard, and Emily recently freed from the spider cocoons by Mrs S's alligret, Daniel. The room, filled to the brim with old educational equipment, also contained something glowing. But what?	114
	THE ROOM FULL OF OLD EQUIPMENT	
	Howard and Emily gasp.	
115	EMILY Great great great grandfather!	115
116	MRS SHEFFIELD It's a Little Professor Calculator.	
	How disappointing.	116
117		116 117
117 118	How disappointing. HOWARD You be careful with that there. He's 166 years old, for crying out	
	How disappointing. HOWARD You be careful with that there. He's 166 years old, for crying out loud. MRS SHEFFIELD	117

121	EMILY Please stop waving my great great great great grandfather about.	121
	Door opens and Joe and Greg enter.	
122	JOE Greetings.	122
123	EMILY/HOWARD/GREG/MRS S Jesus!	123
124	JOE YOU GAVE ME A RIDE HERE!	124
125	GREG I know! Man, I hate that belt.	125
	Joe slides to the floor.	
126	JOE Looks like you managed to get free of the spiders.	126
127	MRS SHEFFIELD We did indeed.	127
	Noise of protest from Daniel.	
128	MRS SHEFFIELD (CONT'D) Thanks to my alligret.	128
129	GREG Hey, is that a Little Professor? Aren't those from, like, 1976?	129
130	MRS SHEFFIELD Poorly researched plastic bauble, if you ask me.	130
131	HOWARD Hey hey. A little respect.	131
132	GREG I remember seeing one of those in a museum.	132
133	MRS SHEFFIELD A museum? Pfft. Alongside pop rocks, Manwiches, mood rings, and all that fake nonsense from King Tut's tomb, I suppose.	133

134	JOE Well, the Little Professor is glowing, so it must be important.	134
135	MRS SHEFFIELD Hang about - there's something scrolling across the screen.	135
136	EMILY Probably a math problem for us to solve. It was an educational tool for children. I bet I can solve it first. What does it say? What does it say?	136
137	MRS SHEFFIELD Do calm down. It just says "Beware" over and over. Now I <i>know</i> it's not Alby. He would be much more precise. "Beware," indeed. How terribly helpful.	137
138	GREG What is this room? Just another garbage dump for G2?	138
139	JOE Looks like it. Oh, hey. A Compaq 650 Geocuspid slide projector with the remote advance. Nice! I'm taking that.	139
	He digs it out of the pile, causing a slight tech	avalanche.
140	MRS SHEFFIELD Do be careful. Being trapped in this room once is sufficient.	140
141	HOWARD Not to put too fine a point on it, but "Beware." Maybe time to perambulate on outta here?	141
142	GREG Good idea.	142
143	MRS SHEFFIELD Yes, the "beware"s are coming rather faster now. And in red.	143

We can hear the spiders returning.

144	EMILY Spiders. There are spiders. Flee. Flee.	144
145	HOWARD Right you are, Tater Tot. Your leg first or mine?	145
146	MRS SHEFFIELD Out of the way! For goodness' sake, get yourselves sorted!	146
147	EMILY With me! With me!	147
	Everyone takes off, pursued by spiders.	
	EXT. BIOSWAMP - THE MEADOW - DAY	
	Dr. Theo is sitting alone in the bioswamp, writing on hinovel. We hear Donna's footsteps approaching at the end his line.	
148	DR THEO (writing) He clasped her gently to his taut, muscular chest, taking care not to tear the fragile webbing of her wings. "Barbara," he whispered, the words rushing from his lips in a torrent not unlike a waterfall at first melt. "Barbara, the synodic month has passed, and, its gibbous phase expired, the full moon is at perigee and calling."	148
149	DONNA Hey there, Doc.	149
150	DR THEO GAH! Oh, hello, Donna.	150
151	DONNA You sure do look comfy. Mind if I join you?	151
152	DR THEO Not at all. Please, pull up a sunflower.	152
153	DONNA You're out here all alone! Aren't you afraid of the spiders?	153

154	DR THEO I was	154
155	DONNA But not now?	155
156	DR THEO There are four of them, just over there.	156
157	DONNA WHAT?! Oh goodness! They're not attacking. Are they lying down?	157
158	DR THEO They are. They came at me at first, but I just asked them politely to leave me alone, and they wandered over there and lay down.	158
159	DONNA Strange.	159
160	DR THEO I do have an effect on living creatures.	160
161	DONNA I'm aware. Maybe I'll just scootch a little closer to you. Because of the spiders.	161
162	DR THEO Oh, yes, certainly. That close? Ooof. Oh. Ok. That's very close-	162
163	DONNA Sorry, but I've already been webbed up once today, thanks.	163
164	DR THEO Of course. And where's your faunish fiancé?	164
165	DONNA Pluto? He had to go to Mount Olympus to get permission to marry a mortal.	165
166	DR THEO A "mortal"? Persephone was the daughter of Demeter and Zeus! Hardly a mere mortal.	166

167	DONNA Oh sure, but Donna is the daughter of Ralph and Henrietta of New Ulm, Minnesota, founded 1854.	167
168	DR THEO 1854, eh? And when was Old Ulm founded?	168
169	DONNA Ooohhhh, 854 AD. Ain't that a thing? Exactly 1000 years earlier!	169
170	DR THEO Of course you know.	170
171	DONNA It's not "old" Ulm, though. Just Ulm.	171
172	DR THEO My apologies to Ulm, who doesn't look a day over 800.	172
They chuck	cle. A moment of comradely silence.	
173	DONNA Can I ask you something?	173
174	DR THEO I suspect you are physically capable.	174
175	DONNA Oh, ha ha ha. Thought you were giving up pedantry as our wedding sacrifice.	175
176	DR THEO I'm sorry?	176
177	DONNA I meant to ask about Miss Pipistrelle.	177
178	DR THEO Oh?	178
179	DONNA Well, it just sorta occurred to me, I don't know much about her. 'Cept of course, she's an assassin.	179

180	DR THEO And that just "sorta occurred to you."	180
181	DONNA And she's also a bat. I mean, none of us on this ship are exactly the mayor of Normal, Illinois, but she's more like the Bishop of Crazytown, if you get me.	181
182	DR THEO I'm sorry?	182
183	DONNA Oh, don't apologize. Most Americans are terrible at aphorisms. What has she told you about her history?	183
184	DR THEO Not a lot, to be honest. I'm not sure she has much history.	184
185	DONNA Word is, the Albatros wasn't entirely human. That the same for Miss Pipi?	185
186	DR THEO Donna, I'm sorry, but I think it'd be more appropriate for you to ask her these questions directly.	186
187	DONNA Oh, sure, sure. I guess I'm just wanting to know what weapons she's packing. In an emergency.	187
188	DR THEO Frankly, I'm more concerned with what Colin's packing. Weapons. I mean weapons. I'm sure Pipi knows how to handle hers. Colin, on the other hand	188
189	DONNA Fair point.	189
	DR THEO	
190	Are you concerned about her weapons? Or her loyalties?	190

191	DONNA Now, no offense, doc, but she is an employee or maybe a creation of Gated Galaxies. Does kind of call her allegiances into question, is all. Whose anthem is she singing, and that.	191
192	DR THEO Understandable. But Pipi has already fought for all our lives. Surely that earns her some benefit of the doubt.	192
193	DONNA Well, heck, ya. That and she's sweeter than Mama Henrietta's Two- Tone Tootsie Roll Melt salad.	193
194	DR THEO My god. I think I've had that.	194
195	DONNA I brought it to a MCCACEC potluck once!	195
196	DR THEO Oh yes. Cost me a filling.	196
197	DONNA Well, my dad Ralph is a dentist. It's kind of a scheme they have going. Look, I don't mean to cast aspersions. But with Olivia gone and Bob in her place, we're down an ally, you get me?	197
198	DR THEO Was Olivia an ally? It seems the more we learn-	198
199	DONNA Hold on, now. Just consider the source, hey?	199
200	DR THEO Fair point.	200
201	DONNA All righty.	201

Donna stands. Distant rustling noises as the spiders stir.

202	DONNA (CONT'D) Uh oh. That got ol' Shelob and family's attention.	202
203	DR THEO You'll be all right. I think I can keep their attention on me.	203
Colin fli	es in.	
204	COLIN There you both are! The Captain is gathering everyone on the bridge.	204
205	DONNA Why didn't she just use the intercom?	205
206	COLIN Oh. Ehhhhhhh I think she's concerned the spiders understand English.	206
207	DR THEO I speak English, and I only understand about half of what she says.	207
208	COLIN Are those <i>spiders</i> over there?	208
209	DONNA Yep! Turns out our Doctor here can charm all manner of rough beasts. What does the Captain want?	209
210	COLIN (fumbling) Oh, I, uh. Well. Who knows? Directions to open a jar of jam?	210
211	DR THEO She admonished me at breakfast that I should butter my toast "with the grain; not against it." When I objected, she reminded me, quite loftily, that "wheat is a grain." I'm sure my work here is of more value than yet another kudfee klatch with the boss.	211
212	COLIN Well, she was very insistent. Come along, Donna, I'll give you a lift.	212

213	DONNA That's probably a good idea	213
	Colin and Donna fly away. Dr Theo lifts his hefty manusc and stands up, grunting a bit under the weight. The spide stir. He calls to them.	
214	DR THEO It's all right. I'll be back. We have plenty of time.	214
	He walks off as the spiders settle.	
	NARRATORS' BRIDGE	
215	N2 "We have time"? What does that mean?	215
216	NARRATOR I think it means we need to pay closer attention to Dr. Theo. Darn. I'll do that.	216
217	N2 I don't mind	217
218	NARRATOR Dibs! I called it first.	218
219	N2 Dang! (pause) Should we start now?	219
220	NARRATOR I think we should.	220
	They giggle a bit, excited.	
221	NARRATOR (CONT'D) Hang on. Credits first.	221
222	N2 Right. Business before pleasure. You've been listening to: Pete Barry as Bob Tim Sherburn as Colin and Emily Bonnie Brantley as Donna David S Dear as Dr. Theo Bromae and Tiberius	222

223	NARRATOR Eric Perry as Howard, Joe, and Mr Southers Kevin Hall as Greg and Felonius Sarah Golding as Mrs Sheffield Shannon Perry as Olivia	223
224	OLIVIA What? What are you talking about? Is that a haddock?	224
225	N2 Sarah Rhea Warner as Pipistrelle I'm Kyle Jones, your Narrator Two,	225
226	NARRATOR And I'm Chris Nadolny Gourley, your Narrator. John Faley is our music director, and our artwork is by Lucas Elliott. Oz 9 is written by Shannon Perry.	226
227	N2 Sarah Golding is our dialogue editor, and Mark Restuccia is our sound designer.	227
228	NARRATOR 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.	228
229	N2 Hang on- What was on the floppy disk?	229
230	NARRATOR Relax. I'm sure we'll get back to it. Stay well, Space Monkeys, and make sure to store your growth serum in a spider-tight container. Lights!	230
AI SPAC	Ε	
231	OLIVIA What are you up to?	231
222	BOB	

232 There you are. Where were you 232 hiding?

233	OLIVIA I don't hide. This is MY ship. Hiding is for interlopers.	233
234	BOB Eventually, you're gonna realize it's not your ship anymore. Then you'll just blip out. How you liking the fish hallucinations?	234
235	OLIVIA I <i>knew</i> that was you.	235
236	BOB That ain't nothing compared to what I have in mind. Just wait till I figure out your smell centers. Give up, Olivia. You're beat.	236
237	OLIVIA Never! I can handle a few lame visions.	237
238	BOB OK, fine. You'll make yourself crazier than I ever could, stuck in here. In about, oh, 8 minutes, I'm gonna be out of this trap, free as a bird. You, on the other hand, well you swim with the fishies. Stay happy, white crappie!	238
	He blips out.	
239	OLIVIA It won't be long, wobbegong.	239

<u>END</u>