

17's Company - Series 999
"Open for Business"
Episode Four:
Splat the Alien and Run!

Cut to Open Discussion Pub. Paul.Power is sitting on a posh chair in a red dressing gown. He has a monocle over one eye and is sipping from a glass of champagne.

Paul.Power: (noticing the camera) Oh, hello there! I'm all-round science guy, Paul.Power and I'm here to take you on a voyage of discovery. (standing up) A voyage through space and time. (Pause, walking over to an unconscious Star Worms who is lying on a slab unconscious with electrodes protruding out of his head. The hole in his stomach has been filled over by some sticky tape) A voyage into the head of this man. (dramatic pause) STAR WORMS! (Pause) A regular of the pub for many years who has only recently returned to Earth. (Long Pause) But what do we really know about Star Worms? (turning to thomasp) thomasp?
thomasp: Thanks, Paul. Well, for a start we know that he's a BIG Star Wars fan.

Cut to Clip

FatWhitey: You don't believe in all this vampire-stuff, do you – Star Worms?
Star Worms: Of course not. There is only one evil on this planet.
FatWhitey: Man?
Star Worms: No, the Sith of course.

Cut back to pub.

thomasp: That before he returned to the pub, he was last seen taking off in mocoworm's spaceship...

Cut to Clip

mocoworm: My spaceship's gone!
Paul.Power: I thought you lent it to Star Worms. (Pause) Which is a shame as I could have really used it in one of my experiments. (Pause) or sold it to NASA.
mocoworm: What?... You mean to say that Star Worms has taken my spaceship?

Cut to pub.

thomasp: And that mocoworm pursued him into space in his back up ship.

Cut to clip

mocoworm: Hmmm, I'd best follow him in my back-up spaceship.

Cut to pub.

thomasp: Yeah... that last clip was pretty pointless, wasn't it? (Pause) The thing is, we don't know much about Star Worms at all and absolutely nothing about what happened after he went into space. Even he has no memory of it! (turning to Paul.Power) Why the hell do you think he had an alien in his stomach, Paul?

Paul.Power: (laughing) Well, I was going to say for spoofing purposes but now I don't have to! (turning to S-2k who has had his stomach opened up and a television screen placed into it, which is connected to Star Worms head) Thanks to the wonders of modern technology, we can find out what happened to Star Worms by exploring the deepest recesses of his mind! (Pause) And with this monitor, we can see it all before our very eyes!

thomasp: (nodding) Ingenious.

Mischief: (walking in) Ooh! What's going on? Why is S-2k a Teletubby now?

Squirminator2k: (bitterly) I am not getting paid enough for this...

Paul.Power: (to Mischief) Ah, Mischief! Sit down, we're going to watch a movie!

Mischief: What movie?

Paul.Power: (dramatically) Star Worms' Brain!

Mischief: (unenthusiastically) Meh, I've seen it. (grabbing a pitchfork) I'm going to go join the alien hunt! (she runs off)

Paul.Power: Well, that was weird. (to the camera) Anyway, let's roll the video. (thomasp presses a button and a flickering number begins counting down)

thomasp: 5!

Paul.Power: 4!

Squirminator2k: (unexcited) 2

Paul.Power: 1!

thomasp: Hey guys, I think we missed 3.

Paul.Power: Shh! It's starting!

Cut to titles.

Title Music Lyrics

*There's a pub - in your imagination,
There's a pub - where all your dreams come true,
There's a pub - that is a real sensation,
There's a pub - for me and for you.*

*But this isn't the pub.
But this isn't the pub.
This isn't the pub - you're - looking for.*

*This is a pub - of laughter and disaster,
This is a pub - where pickles are dispensed,
This is a pub - of crazy crazy people,
This is a pub - but of pubs it's the best.*

Things aren't always in black and white,

*Things aren't always simple,
Things aren't always wrong or right.
This is the pub.*

*Open the door if you dare,
Open the door if you care,
For we are here and we're going to win the war.
This is the pub.*

This is the pub.

Beer and grub.

This is the pub.

Cast

1. Worm Mad (clip of Worm Mad dropping a Ming vase),
2. Paul.Power (three short clips of Paul.Power mixing various potions),
3. SargeMcCluck (clip of a shocked Sarge chin-driving down a hill),
4. thomasp (shot of a scared thomasp running as X-Boxes fall from the sky),
5. FatWhitey (shot of FatWhitey throwing a cake aside and eating a plate of crisps),
6. Pickleworm (shot of Pickleworm serving drinks from the bar),
7. Squirminator2k (shot of S-2k with half his face showing the robotics beneath)
8. Blinx (shot of Blinx levitating),
9. KamikazeBananze (joint shot with MtlAngelus, they stand next to each other looking out on the city, KamikazeBananze has detective clothes on)
10. MtlAngelus, Ghost of (see KamikazeBananze)
11. K^2, Ghost of (Shot of darkened room with creepy flickering computer)
12. PinkWorm (shot of PinkWorm playing ice hockey)
13. SomePerson (shot of SomePerson swimming under water with various fishes)
14. Ploegman (shot of Ploegman playing cards)
15. Star Worms (Shot of a burnt out spaceship)
16. MonkeyforaHead (shot of an ape attacking MFAH)
17. tundraH (shot of an asleep tundraH)

Also Starring

The truly demonic, Neo-Casket (shot of furious flaming NC) and
The downright odd, Mischief (shot of Mischief holding a Viking hammer and grinning)

Cut to outer-space, Star Worms is flying mocoworm's spaceship

Caption: In Star Worms' Mind – After the Death Star Run (See S2:E6)

Star Worms: Damn, looks like my engine's been blown out by all that firing.

Spaceship Computer: We are nearing the planet, Dangarus Roak. Do you wish to land there in order to conduct repairs?

Star Worms: Affirmative.

The ship lands on the planet, Dangarus Roak. The planet is a grassy jungle planet. There are ruins of buildings all over it.

Star Worms: (getting out of the spaceship) Whoa... this place is funky.

Strange Lifeform: (jumping out from behind a tree) Woga! Boga!

Star Worms: Huh? What?

Strange Lifeform: Ah – you Earthling, yes?

Star Worms: Yes. And you are?

Strange Lifeform: Me a Lookawat. I bring tidings of grave danger.

Star Worms: Well, at least you don't bring tidings of coffin danger.

Strange Lifeform: This planet used to be rich, happy society. (Pause) Then the Spamtans arrived. (screeching) Whatever they touch, they destroy!

Star Worms: Spamtans, eh? (Pause) Well, never fear. Star Worms is here!

Cut back to bar.

Paul.Power: Hmm, Star Worms is a little full of himself, don't you think?

Squirminator2k: Shhh! I'm sure any moment now, his self-confidence will be shattered by some unforeseen circumstance.

thomasp: ...with hilarious consequences, I hope!

They all laugh. Cut back to SW's mind. He is now walking through the jungle with the Lookawat. They arrive in a clearing, outside the ruins of a big stone temple.

Lookawat: This is it. The HQ of the Spamtans.

Star Worms: (nervous) Uh-huh... this is the HQ, yeah?

Lookawat: Yes but I'm sure a noble warrior like yourself will have no problem defeating the Spamtans.

Star Worms: Uh-huh...Um, supposing I kind of changed my mind about helping you?

Lookawat: (angrily) Just go in the damn temple, okay?

Star Worms: (walking in) Okay....(annoyed) But if I get killed then I'm not going to very happy with you.

Inside the temple. It is dimly lit. Star Worms walks around until he finds himself in a large throne room. Many Spamtan guards stand sentry, the king sits on a throne high above the rest. They all look at Star Worms as he comes in.

Star Worms: (nervous) Uh...hi. (Pause) So, did anyone see 24 last night?

Spamtan King: What is the meaning of this? 20%-off our new magazine, buy it now!

Star Worms: Um...I've come to kill you all?

Spamtan King: OMG, 1st post. Silence, swine! We, Spamtans...your file is attached...cannot be defeated. Free Prescriptions Online!

Star Worms: Dear lord, it's worse than I feared.

Spamtan King: do u like stupid fanart? (Pause) Kill him! (Pause) of course u do!

Star Worms: (running out, screaming) AHHHHHHHHHHHHH! Save me, Jebus!

He runs out of the temple, followed by Spamtan guards. mocoworm is waiting outside with his spaceship.

mocoworm: (to Star Worms) Quick! Get in!

Star Worms: (jumping in) Let's get out of here!

The spaceship takes off as many Spamtans angrily wave their fists at them. Cut to bar.

thomasp: Looks like Star Worms has cheated death once again!

Squirminator2k: Unfortunately.

thomasp: He still might get killed though.

Squirminator2k: We can only hope.

Paul.Power: (incredulous) Uh...guys, how can he get killed? He obviously survived because he's right here, alive, in this room with us!

thomasp: (upset) Well, thank you very much, Professor Spoilsport for ruining the ending for us! (he storms out)

Paul.Power: Jeeze, what's his problem, Squirminator?

Squirminator2k: (moodily) I'm not talking to you.

Cut back to SW's mind. He and mocoworm are in mw's back-up spaceship, flying through space.

mocoworm: (irritated) You're so irresponsible, Star Worms! First, you steal my spaceship. Then you get involved in a space-battle, wreck my spaceship and nearly get killed by the most vicious band of alien world-eaters imaginable! (Pause) I've got a good mind to take you straight back home!

Star Worms: (childlike) I'm sorry, mocoworm. I wasn't trying to cause any trouble. I was only trying to be a hero. Please don't send me home, yet. I want one more adventure...Please, Please, Please!

mocoworm: Well, okay. I suppose we could stop for a drink at the Orion Discussion Pub. It's on a planet, not far from here.

Star Worms: YAY! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

mocoworm: Just shut up, okay?

Cut to Orion Discussion Pub. Star Worms sits down and gets himself a drink.

Splodge: (behind the bar) What do you want to drink, earthling?

Star Worms: Get me a whisky on the rocks. (Splodge nods and gives him a glass with some rocks in it and whisky poured over them) Uh... actually, I meant... (seeing Splodge's angry expression) Never mind.

trouble-z: (tapping Star Worms on the shoulder) Human. My friend here doesn't like you. (indicating fat cyborg-alien)

Star Worms: (turning back to his drink) I'm sorry.

trouble-z: (tapping Star Worms on the shoulder again) Hey, human! (Pause) I don't like you, either.

Star Worms is pushed off his chair by trouble-z. He gets up but trouble-z and his friend, Exsliinator-2day, attack. Just as they are about to kill him, a female alien jumps in the way.

Exsliinator-2day: Arrrgh! Keep out of this, Token Girchian!

Token Girchian: Might...might not. (turning to Star Worms) That's really up to our 'friend', here.

Star Worms: It..it...is?

Token Girchian: (to Star Worms) Yeah, I'm willing to save your life on one condition.

Star Worms: Which is?

Token Girchian: I want to take you to my planet and erase your memory of everything that has happened to you since you went into space.

Star Worms: Well, that seems reasonable... I guess.

Token Girchian: Then I want to have one of my eggs implanted into you. You will be sent back to Earth and my offspring will hatch out of you, not long after you have arrived. (Pause) It will then attempt to conquer your planet... or at least part of it... for my glorious race, the Girchians!

Star Worms: (thinking the prospect over) Well...I'm not too happy about the whole 'egg-laying' thing. That seems a little...gross. But other than that... it seems fair enough...so...okay, then.

Token Girchian: Excellent. I will make preparations at once. But first... (claws extend out of her hands and she swiftly chops off Exsliinator-2day's left arm) I'll deal with you, two.

Exsliinator-2day: (looking at his missing arm) Er, that's okay. We were just leaving. (he and trouble-z run off)

Token Girchian: Pathetic lifeforms... (grabbing Star Worms) Come with me, human. It's time you kept your end of our bargain.

Star Worms: Uh...okay, m' lady. (he is dragged off by his ear)

Cut back to Open Discussion bar.

Paul.Power: (to Squirminator2k) Uh-oh, are you thinking what I'm thinking?

Squirminator2k: (grinning) If it's that the aliens in that last scene were strangely familiar to me and other members of this bar, I'm way ahead of you.

Paul.Power: Uh...no, it's not that.

Squirminator2k: What is it, then?

Paul.Power: I'm worried about everyone who went to kill the alien! It may have looked small when it jumped out of Star Worms' stomach but I've got a feeling that it's going to get much bigger and deadlier before the evening is out.

Squirminator2k: (feigning panic) Oh no! You have to warn them!

Paul.Power: (shrugging) Meh, I'm sure they'll figure it out for themselves. (to Squirminator2k) Hey, do you want to drink the beer with me, while Pickleworm's out getting himself killed?

Squirminator2k: Unhook me from this space-freak and you're on!

Cut to a dark alleyway. Assorted regulars are moving in on the alien.

Pickleworm: It's time to send this little crisp thief back to its maker! (he hits it with a shovel)

Worm Mad: Let me have a go! (he hits it with a stick) Hey, this is fun! (hitting it with a stick again) Whack! Whack! Whack! Come on, everyone join in!

Mischief pokes it with a pitchfork then hits it with her hammer. MonkeyforaHead throws various artist pencils at it, Pinkworm hits it with his ice-hockey stick, FatWhitey prods it with a loaf of bread, etc.

Blinx: Stop! Stop! Buddha doesn't condone violence towards other life-forms! (nobody takes any notice of him, sighing) I didn't think it would come to this... (he gets out a guitar, starts to play it and begins singing) *Oh, regulars. Oh, regulars. Why did you be-come so vio-lent? Where did all the love go, where'd it go? When people used to share... and people used to care. And never spoke out evilly at all. So, stop the killing and stop the smacking. Cause an alien can cry... after all. So let's all stop the pain. Yes, let's all stop the pain. And go on with our lives with a smiiiile...*

As Blinx has been singing, all of the regulars except Worm Mad have gradually left the alien alone and moved over to listen to Blinx. Worm Mad remains unmoved.

Worm Mad: (still whacking the alien with a stick) Oh, come on! It's fun! (as he says the next line, the alien grows in size, unseen by Worm Mad – who is looking the other way) It's only a little alien, it can't hurt us...

FatWhitey: Er... Worm Mad?

Worm Mad: (still whacking the, now large, alien) Not now, Whitey, I'm trying to explain that this alien is a tiny and insignificant little... (stopping, seeing the alien, scared)...big...scary, yet probably quite talented, creature!

Alien: (angry) You will all bow down before the might of Reddi Myal! You shall suffer for what you did to me and I shall rule your world!

Worm Mad: (scared)...okay...fine...sounds good to me.

Reddi Myal: But first, let's have some entertainment. (the alien jumps into the air and disappears)

PinkWorm: Where'd it go?

FatWhitey: I dunno.

Ploegman: Who cares? Let's go back to the pub. (Pause) Anyone up for a game of cards? I know I am.

SargeMcCluck: I'll play a game with you, Ploeg.

Ploegman: Yeah, and you'll lose too.

They all begin walking back to the pub.

Run: (appearing as if from nowhere, confused) Er...hi, guys. Can anyone tell me...well...why I'm alive?

SargeMcCluck: It...it's not possible!

Caption: To be continued...

Cut to credits.

Alternative Response – Scenes with Edited Dialogue

#1

Paul.Power: (noticing the camera) Oh, hello there! I'm all-round science guy, Paul.Power and I'm here to take you on a voyage of discovery. (Pause) Or I would be if I was really an all-round science guy. (loudly) Alright, I admit it! I confess! I don't know anything about science except what I pick up from Star Trek! I'm a fraud, a fake! I'm not fit to present a show like this! (he runs off, the camera moves to a computer)

Ghost of K²: Oh, hello there! I'm K², A.K.A – the Ghost in the machine and I'm here to take you on a voyage of discovery...

#2

Paul.Power: (to Mischief) Ah, Mischief! Sit down, we're going to watch something on TV!

Mischief: Ooh, what?

Paul.Power: (dramatically) Star Worms' Brain!

Mischief: Uh-huh, what episode?

Paul.Power: The one where he goes into space and gets infected by aliens.

Mischief: Hmm, that only got to Number 3 on Channel 4's Top 100 list of Star Worms' Brain episodes.

thomasp: What was Number One?

Mischief: The one where Star Worms got drunk and sung the national anthem in Swedish.

thomasp: Yeah, that was good but I preferred the one in which he got frozen in liquid nitrogen.

Paul.Power: (frustrated) Oh, I haven't seen that one yet!

#3

Lookawat: This is it. The HQ of the Spamtans.

Star Worms: (annoyed) No, it's not. It's a sweet shop.

Lookawat: No, it's the HQ of the Spamtans.

Star Worms: It's a sweet shop.

Lookawat: It may look like a sweet shop, but it's not.

Star Worms: Eat a lot of sweets, do they, the Spamtans?

Lookawat: More than you could possibly imagine...

#4

mocoworm: (irritated) You're so irresponsible, Star Worms! First, you steal my spaceship. Then you get involved in a space-battle, wreck my spaceship and nearly get killed by the most vicious band of alien world-eaters imaginable!

Star Worms: Yeah, I'm quite the scamp, aren't I?

mocoworm: This is serious, Star Worms. What if you'd been killed?

Star Worms: I'd have been brought back as a ghost, zombie or other undead entity.

mocoworm: Do you really believe there's room for another undead creature in this show?

Star Worms: (horrified) Oh my god! You're right! I'm screwed!

#5

Alien: (angry) You will all bow down before the might of Reddi Myal! You shall suffer for what you did to me and I shall rule your world!

Worm Mad: (determined) Bow before this! (he punches Reddi Myal in the face, it has no effect. Calmly) So, what's a nice alien like you doing on a slagheap of a planet, like Earth?