

17's Company - Series 999
"Open for Business"
Episode Nine: The Ace of Spades

Cut to Open Discussion Pub. Ploegman is playing cards against FatWhitey, SargeMcCluck and Worm Mad.

Worm Mad: (groaning, laying his cards on the table) Gah! I fold!

SargeMcCluck: (doing the same) Foiled again!

FatWhitey: (doing the same) Bah! Bah! Bah!

Ploegman: (he puts down four aces) Read em and weep, boys! Read em and weep!

Worm Mad: (shaking Ploegman violently) How – are – YOU – so – GOOD?

Ploegman: Talent. Pure unbridled talent... (Pause) Oh, and I sold my afterlife to J.J and the forces of Darkness.

SargeMcCluck: (shudders) Eww... The Darkness...

FatWhitey: (distracted, to Ploegman) You sold your afterlife to J.J and the forces of Darkness? But that's awful! (Pause) That means that when you die, you'll be forced to do their evil bidding for all eternity.

Ploegman: Pfft... I'm not going to die.

Grim Reaper: (appearing) Soon, Ploegman, Soooooon! (he disappears)

FatWhitey: (to Ploegman) You see?

Ploegman: Meh, he could have been talking to any Ploegman in this pub!

SargeMcCluck: Uh, you are the only Ploegman in this pub.

Ploegman: (angrily) That proves nothing! (Pause) Now are you going to pay me or not?

WM, SMC and FW grudgingly accept. Worm Mad gives Ploegman his shoes and wallet, FatWhitey gives him his hat and video camera and SargeMcCluck gives him his trousers.

Ploegman: (handing SargeMcCluck's trousers back) Er... you keep them.

SargeMcCluck puts them back on. Cut to another table – the group from last episode are talking.

PinkWorm: So, what are we going to do about Reddi Myal and Run?

Ghost of MtlAngelus: (to Paul.Power) Paul, you should fortify the pub's defences.

(Paul nods, to everyone) Everyone else, just carry on as normal and keep your guard up. (everyone agrees, KamikazeBananze and MtlAngelus leave)

Paul.Power: (walking over to a computer) Hey, K^2! Would you mind helping me fortifying our defences against attack? I could use your technical expertise.

Ghost of K^2: (from inside the computer) Why of course, Paul. (Pause) In fact, I have some suggestions of my own that I think would be particularly helpful.

Paul.Power: Thanks, K^2, you're a real pal!

Ghost of K^2: Oh, don't thank me. It's no trouble....(evilly) no trouble at all.

Cut back to Ploegman's table. Ploegman has just beat WM, SMC and FW at cards again.

Ploegman: (grinning) I win again! Wahoo! Life is good!
Grim Reaper: (appearing) Soon, Ploegman, Soooooon!
Ploegman: (angrily, to Grim Reaper) Can you please stop doing that? (the Grim Reaper shakes his head and disappears) Sheesh...

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)

Watch Out For...

Run (shot of Run with glowing red eyes) and
Reddi Myal (shot of Reddi Myal eating crisps)

Cut to Ploegman walking along the road.

Ploegman: (to himself) They're just being silly. I'm not gonna die... who cares, anyhow? They can't make me work for them forever... maybe a few hundred years...not forever...can they?

The ground rumbles in front of Ploeg. After a few seconds, the ground cracks open and a beacon of light streams out, followed closely by a figure which follows it, high into the air. There is a brief pause and the light disappears. The figure falls down to earth with a scream. It is an angel but its face cannot be seen.

Ploegman: (poking the angel with a stick) Oi, are you okay?

Angel: (standing up) I've been better.

Ploegman: MUNKEE!?!

MonkeyforangelHead: Yep. In the supernatural flesh.

Ploegman: But...but how?

MonkeyforangelHead: It all happened a few days ago...

The screen goes blurry. Cut to Hell Dimension No.5, MonkeyforaHead is going to get the afternoon paper.

Caption: A few days ago, in Hell Dimension No.5 ...

Ghost O' MonkeyforaHead: (picking up his newspaper, looking around) There really are too many fish-lemurs in this dimension...

Disgruntled Fish-Lemur: (shouting) What? What you saying, deadie? You dead guys are the problems... Buying up our houses...sleeping with our women!

Ghost O' MonkeyforaHead: I've got no interest in your women!

Disgruntled Fish-Lemur: Hmmph! They all say that...AT FIRST! (Pause) The neighbourhood was a better place to live in before you deadies started moving in.

Fish-Lemur the Younger: (to Disgruntled Fish-Lemur) Now then, da', let's not go upsetting the non-corporeals, again. (she leads him inside. To Munkee) Sorry about him. He can be a little conservative.

MonkeyforaHead: Really? What little conservative can he be? William Hague? Ian Duncan Smith? (the Fish-Lemur goes inside) It's a joke! (screaming) LAUGH, DAMN YOU!

Mysterious Winged Creature: (tapping MFAH on the shoulder) Mister ForaHead?

MonkeyforaHead: (turning around) Hmm...yes?

Mysterious Winged Creature: I am Senateson from the Underworld law firm – Sen & Senateson. My card. (he hands MFAH a card)

MonkeyforaHead: (reading) 'Sen & Senateson – Protecting the Underworld from the Scum of the Universe' (to Senateson) Hey, you stole that off "Men In Black"

Senateson: (angrily) They stole it off us! (calming down) I've come to meet with you on a very important topic.

MonkeyforaHead: Fire away.

Senateson: (firing a gun in the air) We want you to become one of our agents. (Pause) We have a very important mission for you.

MonkeyforaHead: Which is?

Senateson: We want you to go back to Earth as an angel and convince Ploegman to do five good deeds before he dies. (Pause) It seems he's done a deal with that unscrupulous rival firm of ours – 'J.J and the Forces of Darkness' and when he dies, he'll be forced into working as one of their evil spirits. (Pause) That is of course unless he does five good deeds before he dies, then we can save him from J.J

MonkeyforaHead: That sounds a bit religious to me...

Senateson: (laughing) No, no, it's strictly a matter of paperwork. Nothing more.

(Pause) Now, I want you to go to Earth and make sure that Ploegman does five good acts. Will you do that for me?

MonkeyforaHead: What's in it for me?

Senateson: Aside from becoming an angel, we'll look into the possibility of resurrecting or reincarnating you at some point in the future. Also, you'll receive this nifty Sen & Senateson badge (he hands him a badge with the company logo on it) and if you have an accident or fall while on Earth, you'll be entitled to at least 300 Soul Points in compensation.

MonkeyforaHead: Okay then. Sign me up.

Cut back to present day. MonkeyforangelHead and Ploegman are in the OD Pub.

Ploegman: I see... (looking around) Hey, how'd we get here?

FatWhitey: (sitting next to him) I wanted some more lines.

Ploegman: You can't alter the fabric of the universe just to get some more lines, Whitey!

MonkeyforangelHead: Sure you can. I do it all the time. (Pause) That whole last scene was padded out just to give me more airtime.

Ploegman: (shrugging) Whatever. (Pause) Anyway, what am I going to do about this 'five good deed' malarkey?

FatWhitey: You could buy me a drink.

Ploegman: I don't know if that would classify as a good deed, Whitey.

MonkeyforangelHead: Yeah, it would. Anything goes as long as it pleases somebody else, isn't evil and hasn't been done by you before.

Ploegman: (calling to Neo-Casket) Waiter! A drink for FatWhitey... on me!

Neo-Casket: (writing it down) Right. (to Ploegman) You know, if you wanted to please me, you could kill Pickleworm.

Ploegman: I'm sorry, Neo, but that would be evil.

MonkeyforangelHead: (shrugging) Actually, killing Pickleworm's a bit of grey area.

Neo-Casket: (imploringly, to Ploegman) Come on! It's win-win! (Ploegman shakes his head) Ah, sod you then. (he walks off)

Ploegman: What else can I do?

FatWhitey: Why not give back the stuff you won off Sarge and Mad?

Ploegman: Hey, yeah! That's a great idea. (he walks over to Sarge and Mad and gives them their stuff back)

Worm Mad: I'm excited!

SargeMcCluck: Who isn't?

MonkeyforangelHead: (as Ploegman walks back) That's two good deeds, Ploeg. Three more to go!

Ploegman: (walking over to thomasp) Hey, thomas!

thomasp: Yeah?

Ploegman: I'm considering buying an Apple Mac but don't know which one to get. Can you give me some advice?

thomasp: (excited) I've been waiting my entire life to hear somebody say that!

Caption: Five Hours Later...

thomasp: (mid-conversation) ...and that's why the iMac is probably your best bet in the long run.

Ploegman: (with a hypnotic expression on his face) Thank...you... (he walks over to MFAH and FW)

FatWhitey: That's three!

MonkeyforangelHead: (grinning) I think I can help you with four! (he hands Ploeg a bell)

Ploegman: You can't be serious...

FatWhitey: DO IT!

Ploegman: (in a kiddy voice) Every time a bell rings, an angel gets his wings. (he rings the bell) Ding-Ding.

MonkeyforangelHead: W00t! Angel! That's me! I'm that! (he stands on the table and dances to 'Celebrate Good Times...') *Celebraate Good Times, come ooon!*

(FatWhitey also jumps on the table and dances. To FW) What are you doing?

FatWhitey: I'm celebrating! Woo!

MonkeyforangelHead: (pushing FW off the table) You're not an angel! Get off!

FatWhitey: (from the floor) I've fallen and I can't get up...

The music finishes and MFAH descends from the table.

MonkeyforangelHead: (to Ploegman) Thanks for that, Ploeg. I'll be going now.

Ploegman: Eh? I only did four good deeds!

MonkeyforangelHead: Ah, but you'll do the fifth some day soon. I know it.

Ploegman: You can sense it?

MonkeyforangelHead: (sadly) Something like that. (shaking his hand) Goodbye, my friend and good luck... (he vanishes)

Ploegman: What a nice guy.

Grim Reaper: (appearing) Soon, Ploegman, Soooooon!

Ploegman: AARRRRRRGGGGGGGH! (he hits the Grim Reaper in the face, knocking him unconscious)

FatWhitey: (from the floor, singing) *Celebraate Good Times, come ooon!*

Cut to Paul.Power who walks up to the computer.

Paul.Power: (grinning) All done! Good teamwork by us, eh K^2?

Ghost of K^2: Sure thing, Paul. (Paul leaves)

Cut to another computer, somewhere else in the city. Reddi Myal is looking at it.

Ghost of K^2: All done, Myal! Nice work, eh?

Reddi Myal: Superlative, K^2, superlative...

Ghost of K^2: What?

Reddi Myal: Good, K^2, good....

Ghost of K^2: Huh?

Reddi Myal: Sheesh, forget about it.

Ghost of K^2: (to himself) All that work and not a word of praise. Sometimes I don't know why I bother...

Cut to credits.

Sen & Senateson – Official Licensed Advertainment

Sen walks in to view (he is a giant blobby demon), closely followed by Senateson. They are both wearing suits and ties.

Sen: Hi, I'm Sen!

Senateson: And I'm Senateson!

Sen: Evil getting you down?

Senateson: Bad eggs spoiling your Underworld Soup?

Sen: Then look no further than...

Senateson: Sen & Senateson, The Underworld Law Firm that is literally keeping the evil out of our Hell Dimensions!

Sen: In 2002, the evil population of the Underworld was up to a shocking 65% high!

Senateson: But thanks to Sen & Senateson, the 2003 percentage was a low 43%!

Sen: Sen & Senateson believe that the afterlife is supposed to be fun, not torture. So that's why we're dealing with evil-doers in any way we can.

Senateson: From reducing the number of people who are evil when they die.

Sen: To releasing supernatural evil back to Earth...(dramatically) Where it belongs!

Senateson: Do you want your demon-spawn to grow up in an underworld plagued by malevolent forces?

Sen: Do you want the evil employees of J.J and the Forces of Darkness to buy up the future of your Hell Dimension?

Senateson: If the answer to these questions is 'no', then contact Sen & Senateson!

Sen: Whatever the evil...

Senateson: Whatever the time...

Sen: Sen & Senateson are the answer!

The pair grin cheesily. The lights dim and we can see Sen & Senateson supposedly talking to each other and laughing.

Caption: 45 Types of Evil, Only One Solution – Call Sen & Senateson on 12345123 today!

