

17's Company - Series 999
"Open for Business"
Episode Ten:
The End of All Hopes and Dreams -Part One-

In an old theatre. Reddi Myal stands on the stage while hundreds of lackeys sit in the seats surrounding it. Amongst the lackeys are Run and SlimBritney.

Reddi Myal: I have come from afar to this place. I have come to claim this planet for my race, the Girchians! I have brought you from far and wide! From the very gates of death... and beyond. I am all powerful... all knowing. Look upon my kingdom and despair, for I am Reddi Myal, king of kings... (looking at a picture of the forum regulars) and this day, I will have my revenge. (loudly) VENGEANCE WILL BE OURS!

The crowd goes wild. Cut to Open Discussion pub.

FatWhitey: (to Blinx) Hey, Blinx!

Blinx: (looking up from his guitar) Hmm...

FatWhitey: I forgot to tell you but I saw an old friend of yours, the other day.

Blinx: (interested) Really, who?

FatWhitey: SlimBritney, she called herself. Said she was on the same penal colony as you.

Blinx: (horrified, shaking Whitey) Britney? Britney was eaten by the zombies! She swore revenge against me for telling the prison warden that she was trying to escape but she died! She can't get me! SHE'S DEAD!

FatWhitey: I tell you, it was Britney!

Blinx: Holy incompetence, you know what this means?

FatWhitey: Uh... (Long Pause) Cheese?

Blinx: No, it means that someone or something has brought her back from the dead! She'll kill me, Whitey! She swore to kill me!

Worm Mad: (walking by, laughing) Ha ha, that's funny. Run swore to get revenge on all of us and he came back from the dead too. What a wacky coincidence!

Blinx: But, Worm Mad, what if this isn't a coincidence? What if this is the sinister work of...

FatWhitey: (interrupting) Cheese? (Blinx scowls at him) Sorry.

Blinx: No, it means that something is bringing all of our old enemies back from the dead. They'll kill us all! THEY'LL KILL US ALL!

Worm Mad: Do you have a problem with the "Caps Lock" key or something?

Blinx: SORRY... I MEAN, sorry.

Worm Mad: That's better. (Pause) Now, there's no need to panic. Paul and K^2 have set up defences against Reddi Myal in case he attacks. (Pause) Now he's obviously responsible for all this and when he finds that he can't harm us, he'll leave us alone. It's all perfectly simple.

Mad turns around and sees 'VENGEANCE' written in blood on the wall. He screams. Cut to Myal's army marching down the road. UnKnown X is limping behind Reddi Myal with a bandaged arm.

UnKnown X: I still don't see why you couldn't have used a red pen!

Reddi Myal: Blood is more threatening.

UnKnown X: But why *my blood*?

Reddi Myal: Well, you did volunteer.

UnKnown X: (screaming) AND I'D DO IT AGAIN! BWAHAHAHA!

Run: (to Reddi Myal) Sheesh, why'd you bring him along.

Reddi Myal: Cannon fodder.

UnKnown X: (singing) *War has never been so much fun, War has never been so much fuuuuun. Kill who you wanna, kill me with your gun! Lying in your uniform, dying in the suuuuun! WAR!*

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)
UnKnown X (shot of UnKnown X screaming)
And the evil hordes of Myal.

Cut to Open Discussion Pub. The regulars are sat around at a table.

tundraH: This is an emergency! Kidnapping and attempted murder are all well and good but blood on the wall? We're not cleaners!

PinkWorm: Hmm, tundraH's right. I think we should consider closing the pub until this blows over.

Pickleworm: (loudly) Whoa! Whoa! Hold on there, Sparky! Close the pub? Are you mad?

Worm Mad: No, I'm Mad.

Pickleworm: Exactly! (pointing at WM) *He's* Mad! He's the crazy loon who comes up with all the strange suggestions! And you – hmm, who are you?

PinkWorm: I'm PinkWorm.

Pickleworm: Exactly, you're the ice hockey-guy! You can't start making suggestions! It would upset the natural order of things. (Pause) I mean, if AndrewTaylor came in

here and started discussing the joys of poetry, it would be odd wouldn't it?

(screaming) WOULDN'T IT?

PinkWorm: (nervously) Uh...yes.

Pickleworm: It's the same thing with you and suggestions. Now, say something about your latest ice-hockey match and we'll continue.

PinkWorm: (nervously) I...um...did really well in my l..last ice-hockey match, guys.

Pickleworm: Put a little effort into it!

PinkWorm: (with fake-enthusiasm) Ice-hockey! Woo!

Pickleworm: That's better. Now, can we carry on?

Worm Mad: You know with all this craziness going on, I think we should consider closing the pub until it all blows over.

Pickleworm: (laughing) Ha ha! Worm Mad and his wacky suggestions! Close the pub? Whatever next?

SargeMcCluck: I think Mad might be right, Pickleworm.

Pickleworm: (angrily) What? Huh? How can you think he's right? I don't think he's right! How could a suggestion that involves the non-consumption of alcohol and the sheer absence of any money-making EVER be right? (screaming) WELL?

Neo-Casket: I don't think we should close the pub.

Pickleworm: See? SEE? He doesn't think we should close the pub!

Star Worms: He's evil incarnate.

Pickleworm: (smugly, crossing his arms) I rest my case.

Paul.Power: (ignoring PW, to everyone else) Don't worry, guys! We'll be safe in here. There was a slight problem with the security system earlier but it's all been ironed out now. There's absolutely nothing to worry about.

Cut to army of evil.

Reddi Myal: Excellent, we are nearing the pub. Soon we shall have them.

SlimBritney: Can I eat Blinx when we get there?

Reddi Myal: We can *all* eat Blinx when we get there.

UnKnown X: Uh... I'm not hungry.

Reddi Myal: What? Why not?

UnKnown X: I already ate.

Reddi Myal: But I distinctly told you that we were eating out tonight. (sighing) Why do you never listen to me?

UnKnown X: No ears.

Reddi Myal: (irritated) What are you talking about? You quite clearly have ears.

UnKnown X: What I meant to say is that I'm deaf as a post.

Reddi Myal: (sadly) I'm sorry.

UnKnown X: Don't worry about it. It happens all the time. (sadly, with a tear in his eye, looking to the sky) If only I could hear.

Cut to Open Discussion Pub. Worm Mad is on the phone.

Worm Mad: (mid-conversation) No, Zero, I'm not joking. This looks bad. Reddi Myal, Run and probably countless others – on their way to kill us. I don't care what Paul says about security, I don't feel safe here anymore.

Zero72's Voice: Run's my responsibility. I'll deal with him. (Pause) As for the others... I'll help you as much as I can.

Worm Mad: When will you be here?

Zero72's Voice: I'll be there as soon as I can... (Pause) And by that, I mean tomorrow.

Worm Mad: What? Why can't you come tonight?

Zero72's Voice: Are you kidding? I can't miss the "Fish Files" 500th Episode Spectacular! Apparently, Jay Herring returns from the dead!

Worm Mad: Wow! That does sounds good! What's the episode title?

Zero72's Voice: "What Price, Herring?" (Pause) Other revelations lined up include I.C Salmon's marriage to a space alien and Ms. Elizabeth Tuna's horrifying descent into madness!

Worm Mad: (grinning) Oh, the dubious pleasures of "The Fish Files". When will we grow tired of I.C's antics?

Zero72's Voice: NEVAAAAR!!!

Worm Mad: Wait, What were we talking about before this?

Zero72's Voice: Er, I dunno...

Cut to a table. FatWhitey, KamikazeBananze and MtlAngelus are sitting around it.

FatWhitey: So, how's the detective business going?

KamikazeBananze: Not too bad. (looking irritated at MtlAngelus) We still have some *issues* to sort out though.

Ghost of MtlAngelus: (outraged) It was self-defence!

KamikazeBananze: Angelus, you don't possess someone, eat ten bowls of tacos and go ice-skiing in self-defence...

Ghost of MtlAngelus: That was my holiday!

KamikazeBananze: That was our *client*!

Ghost of MtlAngelus: Well, he hasn't complained about it.

KamikazeBananze: That's only because he lost his memory after you hit him into a tree!

Ghost of MtlAngelus: Two trees actually.

KamikazeBananze: The fact of the matter is that we need to get you resurrected soon or you're going to keep on creating trouble for the business.

Ghost of MtlAngelus: I prefer to write 'trouble' off as a business expense. Sub Heading - Hilarious Misadventures.

FatWhitey: Hey, if you want to come back from the dead, there's a video on how to do it in the library.

KamikazeBananze: (suspicious) Really? And how would you know that?

FatWhitey: (stammering) Uh... no reason. It's not like I kill myself every couple of months in a dangerous and quite frankly stupid bout of ear wrestling then have myself resurrected by the shaman I'm giving dancing lessons to... Nope, not at all. I take the sanctity of life very seriously. Yeah.

Ghost of MtlAngelus: (grumpy) Just tell us where the video is.

There is a banging on the door of the pub.

Ploegman: W..what's that?

The banging continues.

thomasp: (sighing) This can't be good.

The door begins to bend open.

Paul.Power: (smugly) Don't worry, guys. The security system we've installed is quite...

The door breaks open, revealing an angry Reddi Myal.

Paul.Power: (terrified) ...adequate.

Reddi Myal's army of evil begins to swarm into the building.

Reddi Myal: It's playtiiiiiiiiime!

Paul.Power: (screaming) RUN!

Everyone begins to escape into the next room.

Run: (grabbing Paul.Power) You screamed? (he goes to bite Paul but is hit on the head by Mischief's hammer and collapses)

Mischief: (to Paul) Come on!

They all escape into the next room (Paul's lab) and put various pieces of furniture in front of the door to prevent it being broken down.

Worm Mad: (angrily, to Paul) Hey! I thought you'd set the security system up so that this kind of thing couldn't happen, Paul!

Paul.Power: I...I...did...that is to say, me and K^2 did...

Worm Mad: (realising) K^2!

The only computer in the room makes a beeping sound, everyone turns to it.

Ghost of K^2: (from inside the computer) So, the Madstermind has finally figured it out. Well, congratulations! (laughing) Of course, now it's far, far too late to do anything about it. (Pause) After all, I made sure that the security system would let *my friends* in but **not** let you out. (Pause) Ingenious, wasn't it? Quite ingenious. (Pause) Oh, by the way, I've got a message from your old pal, Reddi Myal, here – "I'm watching you, humans, you will all fall before my wrath" – Why, isn't that nice of him? (laughing) I'm so glad that I can finally get revenge on you all. You're a bunch of stuck-up little tos...

A fireball causes the computer to explode into hundreds of pieces. Close up on Neo-Casket's face (he threw it)

Neo-Casket: (angrily) This...ends...tonight.

There is a banging on the door. It gets louder and the furniture begins to shake.

Caption: To be Continued...

Cut to credits. The banging continues for a short while over the credits.

Vengeance is Mine: Character Profiles of the Bad Guys...

Name: Reddi Myal.

Appearance: An alien from the race of Girchians. He is large, powerful and ugly.

Reason for Vengeance: Though his larger scheme is to take over the world, he first wants to kill the Open Discussion regulars for their merciless beating of him when he first arrived on the planet.

Name: RunForYourLife

Appearance: A vampire. Looks similar to Dracula but less gothy.

Reason for Vengeance: Was killed by Betong last time he was a vampire. Now he's back and looking for vengeance on all the regulars (after all, Betong's dead).

Name: K^2, Ghost of...

Appearance: No physical form, he usually resides in a computer.

Reason for Vengeance: Was killed by Worm Mad and Paul.Power when he was a vampire (Worm Mad distracted him while Paul.Power staked him). Now he's determined to make them suffer.

Name: UnKnown X

Appearance: Typical gothic Count look. Often mistaken for vampire due to this.

Reason for Vengeance: UnKnown X has had plenty of reasons for vengeance against the regulars at one time or another. His current one being that Blinx, Worm Mad, SargeMcCluck and SomePerson destroyed his mansion.

Name: SlimBritney

Appearance: On one side of her face, she appears to be a normal young woman. On the other side, however, we can see that she is in fact a zombie.

Reason for Vengeance: Blinx told the prison warden that she was trying to escape when they were at the penal colony together. She swore vengeance and is now back from the dead to deliver it.

Name: Bill Judas Gates

Appearance: Zombie ex-boss of Microsoft.

Reason for Vengeance: Killed by thomasp, now wants to eat his braaiiins.

Name: Captain Vengeance

Appearance: Looks like a lame super-villain with the letters 'C.V' stamped on his costume.

Reason for Vengeance: Worm Mad accidentally pushed him down the stairs, Paul.Power stole his formula for making invisible cheese, SargeMcCluck crashed his car through chin-driving it, thomasp ate all the apples in his apple orchard, FatWhitey ate everything in his fridge, Pickleworm slapped him round the face with a wet kipper, Squirminator2k took his computer apart in order to upgrade himself, Blinx punched him while in a fit of rage due to the experimental alcohol, KamikazeBananze put him in jail for speeding on Christmas Eve and didn't let him out till Boxing Day, MtlAngelus possessed his cat and then got it run over, PinkWorm told him the results of an ice-hockey match which he had on tape before he'd watched it, SomePerson took all the cans of tuna in his house and burnt them, Ploegman gambled him out of

his car, Star Worms borrowed his Yoda mask and never returned it, tundraH ate his pie.