

Written by Worm Mad. Based upon the users of the Team17 Open Discussion Forum.

17's Company: And so, it begins... (Digitally Remastered)



Picture by philby4000.

Note: Although the above is a worm, the characters in the sit-com are human.

*Worm Mad,
Paul.Power,
SupSuper,
Squirminator2k,
K^2,
Kjatte,
Blinx,
Zero72,
AndrewTaylor,
thomasp,
MtlAngelus,
FatWhitey,
wormsfreak,
SargeMcCluck,
Spadge,
Pickleworm,
APJ*

The 17 gang sit around at different tables in a pub. The Door has a sign on it which reads 'Open Discussion'.

FatWhitey: Well guys, it's been fun but I gotta go.

SupSuper: Already? You just got here!

MtlAngelus: I...uh...have to go too.

wormsfreak: Ditto.

FW, MA and WF leave.

SupSuper: (annoyed) Great! We've lost three cast members and we haven't even made any jokes yet!

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Canned Laughter.

SupSuper: (annoyed) That WASN'T a joke!

Further Canned Laughter. Cuts to another table.

Worm Mad: What are you doing, Paul? Don't you know mixing drinks is dangerous?

Paul.Power: Oh, these aren't drinks, Mad. They're chemicals.

Worm Mad: And mixing chemicals ISN'T dangerous?

Canned Laughter. Blinx walks up to the table.

Blinx: Ahh, kool – you guys made me a drink.

Paul.Power: Ah, Blinx – that isn't...

Blinx: (who just finished drinking the chemicals) What?

Uproarious Canned Laughter. Cuts to another table.

SargeMcCluck: So, Zero – I hear you've got a new website.

Zero72: Yeah, it's got all my Zero Worm comics on it.

SargeMcCluck: Oh yeah. So what type of comics are they?

Zero72 looks stupefied. Canned Laughter.

Zero72: Er...Anyway, how's the Forumsville site going?

SargeMcCluck: Fairly well. I might finish it one day. I've got an exam soon though so I'll probably do it after that. (pause) Anyway, I hear you've got a new website.

Zero72: I think we've covered this before.

Muffled Canned Laughter.

SargeMcCluck: (nodding) I know, I was just making conversation.

Further Canned Laughter. Moves to bar proper.

thomasp: Hey Spadge! How are you, man? (pats Spadge on the back with exaggerated friendliness.)

Spadge: (behind bar) What do you want, thomas?

thomasp: (half-laughing) Ha Ha – do I have to have a reason to come and talk to you?

Spadge: Look, I have other customers to serve.

thomasp: (serious) Okay, okay – I'll have a lemonade.

Spadge: (serves him the lemonade) Here you go. (begins to move away)

thomasp: (grabbing Spadge by his shirt) Stop! Look, I just wanted to know the situation with Worms 3D coming to the Mac.

Spadge: I'm sorry, I haven't got any more info. I've given you quite enough already.

thomasp: (shouting) I'll tell you when I've had enough!

Canned Laughter. Titles Roll.

Title Music Lyrics

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*Not 1, Not 2 and Certainly Not 3,
There's a number which makes people believe,
Just pay the 300 post fee,
And you'll never want to leave...*

*17,
17's Company,
Between 16 and 18, it's true.
It's Open Discussion through and through.
17,
17's Company*

*The jokes are flowing thick and fast,
The drinks are cheap and numerous,
The fun you have is sure to last,
But above all this – it's humorous!*

*17,
17's Company,
Between 16 and 18, it's true.
It's Open Discussion through and through.
That's - 17,
17's Company*

Back to bar. Pickleworm is serving AndrewTaylor at a table.

Pickleworm: (puts drink on table) Here's your drink, sir.

AndrewTaylor: Cheers.

Pickleworm: (puts plate of spam on table) ...And your complimentary slice of spam.

Canned Laughter.

AndrewTaylor: What the? I don't want any spam!

Pickleworm: Heh heh.

AndrewTaylor: Hey, buddy – it looks like you're being watched.

Pickleworm: (looking around to see APJ staring evilly at him) Ahhh! I'll um...take this away. (he picks up the plate and walks off, still looking nervously over his shoulder)

Muffled Canned Laughter. Blinx runs by on fire.

Blinx: Ahhhh! It burns! It rally burnns! Ahhhh!

Uproarious Canned Laughter. Moves to another table.

K^2: You stopped progress on Forum Fighters, then?

S-2k: That's right.

K^2: (shaking head sadly) And to think that it could have all been avoided if you'd just made it with a programming language.

S-2k: No. That wouldn't have helped at all. I'm no good at programming so it would have taken even more time.

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K^2: (ignoring 2k, still shaking head woefully) And to think it could have been avoided (pause) if you'd just programmed it yourself.

S-2k: (frustrated) You're not listening!

K^2: (still shaking head) I would have helped you out but I'm already working on a game for SupSuper. You can't help but think that we may have all been sitting down to play the game if you'd just used a programming language.

S-2k hits K^2 in the face. He flies across the room. Pickleworm passes by.

Pickleworm: I thought you'd given up on that Forum Fighters thing, Squirminator.

Canned Laughter. Moves to bar again.

Spadge: What'll it be, Kjatte?

Kjatte: Spadge, what have you been doing lately?

Spadge: I've just been to E3. I only just got back. What do you want to drink?

Kjatte: What happened at E3, Spadge?

Spadge: Well...

Kjatte: (interrupting) What have you been working on today, Spadge?

Spadge: I...

Kjatte: (interrupting) What has Luther been doing today, Spadge?

Spadge: He...

Kjatte: (interrupting) What's Kilburn been up to?

Spadge: Uh...

Kjatte: (interrupting) Well I'm off to stalk some of your employees. See you later.

Spadge: (mumbles) Yeah...

Canned Laughter. Moves to table.

Paul.Power: (applying bandages to Blinx's head) It hurts?

Blinx: Herts! He wants to no if it harts!

Worm Mad: Well?

Blinx: It bruns!

Worm Mad: Burns. It burns.

Blinx: That's what I said – it barns!

Canned Laughter.

Paul.Power: All done.

Blinx raises head. It is completely bandaged. Canned Laughter.

Blinx: I'm going.

He gets up and stumbles forwards until he knocks into SupSuper's table.

SupSuper: Ahhhhhhhh! It's a mummy!

Blinx: Ahhhhhhhh! Were?

Blinx stumbles around in panic. SupSuper rapidly leaves the table. Moves to AT's table.

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APJ: (standing by table, his head is looking in a completely different direction from the table) Was everything okay for you tonight?

AndrewTaylor: All except for that spam waiter. But I can see...

APJ: (interrupting) Yes, he's still being watched.

AndrewTaylor: (getting up) Well cheers, AJP.

APJ: (he spins his head around to face Taylor. A look of fury on his face. He seizes Taylor by the collar and screams) IT'S APJ! A-P-J! 3 LETTERS! IT'S NOT THAT HARD IS IT? JUST 3 LETTERS! DON'T THEY TEACH YOU ANYTHING AT UNIVERSITY NOWADAYS! 3 letters! – You think you'd be able to manage that, wouldn't you?

Canned Laughter

AndrewTaylor: Okay, okay. I'm not going to be giving this place a good review for my magazine though. You're all crazy.

APJ: (suddenly calm, grinning) A magazine, you say? (pauses, laughs) Well, what's a few letters between friends, eh? PJA, JPB – call me whatever you want. (laughs again) Can I get you anything? A free plate of spam perhaps? (Taylor is walking off) Anything?

Canned Laughter. Cut to street – Kjatte is stalking Luther.

Kjatte: (while stalking Luther) Stalking, Stalking.

Luther: (turning around) Kjatte, are you stalking me?

Kjatte: Er...Hi, Luther – What have you been up to lately?

Luther: Are you stalking me?

Kjatte: Uh...What's Kel been up to?

Luther: Are you stalking me?

Kjatte: W..what's Kilburn been doing recently?

Luther: Are you stalking me?

Kjatte: (sadly, head down) Yes.

Luther: Well, carry on. Don't let me interfere.

Kjatte: Don't want to, now.

Luther: Heh, looks like I beat you at your own game. What do I get?

Kjatte hands him a t-shirt.

Luther: (reading) 'I caught Kjatte stalking me and all I got was this lousy t-shirt'

Kjatte: I think I'll go stalk Kel now.

Luther: You do that.

Cut to Open Discussion Bar. The camera moves to the door. It opens.

FatWhitey: Hi guys! (he starts walking forwards) I'm Ba-(he trips over K^2 is lying on the floor) aaaah crap.

Canned Laughter.

K^2: (despairing voice from beneath Whitey) Kill me.

Further Canned Laughter. Move to table.

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Zero72: What's up, S-2k?

S-2k: Does not compute.

Zero72: Huh?

S-2k: Does not compute.

Zero72: What does not compute?

S-2k: Invalid Line Code Reference at #*4435Tfs. Please Restart your Squirminator. If the problem persists, contact your local 2k vendor.

Canned Laughter.

Zero72: (hits S-2k over the back of the head) Snap out of it!

S-2k: A-a-a-a-a- thank you -a-a-a-a-a.

Zero72: (hitting S-2k again) Arrgh.

S-2k: (back to normal) Thanks. (Zero hits him again) Look, I'm okay now. (Zero hits him again) I'm fine! Why are you still hitting me?

Zero72: (grinning) Because it's fun?

Uproarious Canned Laughter. Moves to table.

SargeMcCluck: Well, we've had a lot of fun here today. Haven't we, thomasp?

thomasp: (who is eating an apple) Mmmph? (works it out) Och – yeasch!

SargeMcCluck: How was the episode for you, thomas?

thomasp: Delicious!

SargeMcCluck: The episode not the apple!

thomasp: Delicious!

SargeMcCluck: Hmm... (Pause) But the important thing to realise is that the real users on the Team17 Forum who we represent, wouldn't be half as crazy as we've been today. Would they?

thomasp: (still eating) Absha-loutly not!

"you will have to behold my evil flash powers forever. muahahahahahahaha!" – SupSuper.

"Let's do a clip show! Everyone loves clip shows!" – AndrewTaylor

"If my parents don't see me in front of the computer, they think I got lost." – K^2

"See! I told you. I told you all, but you wouldn't listen! You thought it was Microsoft and school problems and such like but really it's - THE CONSPIRACY!!! Nobody is safe!" – Worm Mad.

"Microsoft is kidnapping our forum members!" – Blinx

"I can sense these things. It's like a third sense." – S-2k

"Time for me to go insane through suspense!" – thomasp

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“Its 3 letters. Surely getting 3 letters in the correct order surely isn't too much to ask!”
– APJ

“At last, I've heard ALL the Wormsongs! aHAhahahaha... ahem.” – Paul.Power

“Old & Crusty, but the heart's in the right place” – Spadge (on Spadge)

“What have you done today luther?” – Kjatte (one of many similar posts)

“I'll post but not much, don't want to bother/annoy anyone” – FatWhitey.

“are you a bunny?” – MtlAngelus.

“ii am typing thisw\ithy myh foioyt;” – Pickleworm

“If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you” – Zero72.