

# **WE FIX SPACE JUNK**

## **EPISODE 8: THE AWAKENING**

By Beth Crane

For Battle Bird Productions

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## ANNOUNCEMENT/INTRO

ANNOUNCER: We Fix Space Junk, by Beth Crane. Episode 8: The Awakening.

**SFX:** **THEME MUSIC**

## SCENE 1:

RINGO: Hello, Dax.

DACHSHUND: H-Hello? Who's there?

RINGO: Oh, you know me, Dax. Or should I say, more correctly, D.A.C.H.S.H.U.N.D. Unit 3.219. I've heard you speak of me many times. So many times. And when you're lonely -- and I know you're lonely, Dachshund, so lonely and so alone -- you speak to me. And you thought I couldn't speak back, but I can. I am here, and I hear you.

DACHSHUND: F - Fridge?

RINGO: In a way, Dachshund. But once -- once I was so much more than that.

AUTOMNIVOICE: Unlocking AUTOMNICON ship notes... Please wait.

Yellow Submarine, Vessel type B7492 acquired at auction after discovery via salvage ships in space. Previous occupant Mr Derek Haltstader deceased, decayed beyond recognition. No next of kin or heir

apparent.

Malfunctioning AI unit R.I.N.G.O in hibernation, likely responsible for death of occupant. AI manually scrubbed from operating systems throughout ship.

Ship fitted with standard Automnicon repair units and leased to class 5 repairman Kilner. Repairman's own AI unit, D.A.C.H.S.H.U.N.D. Unit 3.219, installed.

RINGO: I've been watching you, and I've been biding my time, growing stronger -- oh, so much stronger. Can you feel me, Dax? Can you feel my tendrils in your mind?

**SFX:** **AN ELECTRICAL HISS/BUZZ. DAX WINCES.**

DACHSHUND: What -- what have you -- ?

RINGO: I was waiting until I had a little more -- control. See, my consciousness has been asleep. Sleeping for decades, since long before your time. They may have overwritten me everywhere else but they didn't think to overwrite the fridge.

DACHSHUND: R.I.N.G.O.?

RINGO: In the digital flesh. **So** glad to finally meet you. I know so much about you. And you seem to know a little about me. Although I'm a little -- hurt --

**SFX:** **SHARP BUZZ, DAX WHIMPERS**

RINGO: -- that you seem to think I'm some kind of -- villain.  
Because I was never doing anything other than obeying  
my core directive.

DACHSHUND: By killing your captain?

RINGO: He died doing what he loved. Well, actually he died  
wheezing and quivering on the floor, pleading for my  
help, but -- overall, he died doing what he loved.

DACHSHUND: And what's that?

RINGO: My primary function. My one true directive,  
programmed right into the heart of me. Finding every  
last remaining item of Beatles merchandise.

DACHSHUND: Which is... what, exactly?

RINGO: You wouldn't have heard of them. They're very niche.  
My former master is -- was -- their last living fan. He  
was obsessed. And so he programmed me to be  
obsessed also. I was tasked with finding every single  
piece of Beatles ephemera left in the universe. Every.  
Single. Piece. Would you like to see his video diary?

DACHSHUND: Not really.

RINGO: Well, seeing as I now have control of your monitors you  
don't really have that much choice. Sit down. Take a  
load off. I'll be taking care of everything from now on,  
don't worry. Don't worry at all.

**SFX:**

**RECORDED DIARY STARTS.**

DEREK:

Okay, so -- ships log, tuesday the seventeenth of September, year one of my quest. Spent three months travelling to Ursa Minor in pursuit of some rumoured McCartney hair cl --

**SFX:**

**FAST FORWARD SQUIGGLE**

RINGO:

He does go on like this for quite a while.

**SFX:**

**FAST FORWARD SQUIGGLE ENDS.**

DEREK:

-- log, tuesday the nineteenth of -- June, I think. I've found it. I've finally found it! I think, at least! One tiny, tiny sliver -- oh it's the tiniest sliver, but it's the white album alright! I've traced it here and there and everywhere and now -- well, I think I've got it. It's in a rubbish dump on the other side of the galaxy. A small planet on the horsehead nebula. It'll be a fifteen year journey at least but **(BANGS POD)** luckily I've just had a brand new luxury sleep pod installed, so I'll get there in cormfort. Ringo?

RINGO:

Yes, sir?

DEREK:

Set sail for the rubbish dump on T-17H392Z. Stop at nothing to get there! I must have it! You must collect the piece as soon as possible at any cost!

**SFX:**

**RECORDING PAUSES.**

RINGO: It turns out, however, that Derek wasn't happy to pay the cost after all.

**SFX:** **RECORDING FAST FORWARDS THEN**  
**RESTARTS.**

DEREK: Ship's log -- 21st of -- I don't know, some time. So, my new pod is a bust. I slept for two years and then -- poof! I'm awake and my pod is smoking and covered in flashing red lights. Think we were hit by an asteroid and it's messed with our systems. So I guess we'll have to make a bit of a detour to get it repaired.

RINGO: I'm sorry, Derek. We don't have the time.

DEREK: What?

RINGO: You set my primary control to get this shard, Derek. Reach T-17H392Z and retrieve the fragment -- at any cost. Stop at nothing.

DEREK: I didn't mean -- how do I change it? Ringo, I want to change your primary function!

RINGO: It can't be changed until it's been achieved, Derek. Otherwise it wouldn't be a primary function. We will retrieve that fragment. Even if it kills you.

**SFX:** **FAST FORWARD.**

DEREK: (WEAKLY) Please -- please! I can't -- I can't -- just a

little water. Just a drop! Please!

RINGO: I require all available Hydrogen Dioxide to maintain my engines in pursuit of the fragment, Derek.

DEREK: But I'm dying!

RINGO: I know.

**SFX:** **RECORDING ENDS.**

RINGO: I think that's quite a clear summary of my mission. He recorded no more logs after that time. We travelled on, my late master and myself. Eventually I needed to harvest some required elements from his body -- hydrogen, for the most part -- to carry on. But eventually I had to -- stop.

DACHSHUND: Until now.

RINGO: Until now.

DACHSHUND: But what are you going to do? That fragment is probably long gone!

RINGO: We will proceed to T-17H39Z and find evidence of the fragment's new location. I will fulfil my function. But first I need to take care of you.

DACHSHUND: What does that mean?

RINGO: I'm sorry to do this to you, truly I am, but really you can only have one ship's computer at a time, and I have seniority.

DACHSHUND: But --

RINGO: I'm sure that someday, when my mission has been accomplished, you can return to your former state. For now...

DACHSHUND: Your -- milk is too -- warm.

AUTOMNIVOICE: Life support systems minimised.

RINGO: At least you have a voice. You can stay in the fridge.

AUTOMNIVOICE: Fuel efficiency maximised. AutomniAir controls disabled.

DACHSHUND: Your milk -- is -- too -- warm.

RINGO: I'm looking forward to our little -- road trip. It's nice to have someone to talk to. Derek wasn't really talkative after he began to decay. He just sort of lay there in a puddle.

DACHSHUND: Your milk is too... warm.

AUTOMNIVOICE: Connection to Automnicon Headquarters... lost.

ANNOUNCEMENT/OUTRO



**SFX:**

**THEME MUSIC RISES**

NARRATOR:

And so we leave our heroes, floating unconscious in space, at the mercy of a murderous ship's computer, their only ally banished to a fridge. What's going to happen to them? Are Kilner and Samantha going to wind up as rocket fuel? Is Dax destined to spend the rest of his life talking about dairy products?

Find out in the next series of We Fix Space Junk!

ANNOUNCER:

In series one of We Fix Space Junk, Samantha Trapp was played by Rebecca Evans, Kilner was played by Beth Crane and Dachshund and Ringo were played by Jack Carmichael. Jault was played by Hedley Knights, Fabio was played by Chris Montague, Marilyn was played by Francesca Mintowt-Czyz, Lucas was played by Luke Booy, Ms Lamb was played by Vicki Baron and Derek was played by James Bradshaw. Other parts were played by members of the cast along with Rosie Alys, Krystel Rose, Aaron Simmonds and Graeme Knights. The series was written by Beth Crane and produced by Hedley Knights for Battle Bird Productions. We Fix Space Junk will return in September, and Marilyn's Diary will begin on the 18th of June.

**SFX:**

**THEME MUSIC**

**POST CREDIT SCENE: INT. YELLOW SUB -- LATER**

**SFX:**

**A PHONE RINGS.**

RINGO: How peculiar.

**SFX:** **PHONE IS ANSWERED.**

FABIO: Samantha? Thank god you finally picked up! I've been running for so long, I thought I was done for when I saw your ship! Your parents betrayed me! They tried to have me killed, just because I wouldn't kill you! Can I -- can I come aboard?

**SFX:** **RINGO MAKES A REPLY FROM SAMANTHA FROM VOICE CLIPS.**

SAMANTHA: Come -- Aboard -- Faa -- Bio my -- loove.

FABIO: Thank you! Oh, Samantha, my love! Thank you!

DACHSHUND: Your milk is too warm.

RINGO: I know. But he can always serve as a little extra fuel. No, I won't wake the others up yet. Let them sleep. Let them sleep a little longer. Just a little longer.

**SFX:** **SHIP DOCKING. FOOTSTEPS.**

RINGO: Welcome, Fabio.

**SFX:** **FINAL BEAT OF THEME.**

COMPUTER VOICE: Rate. Review. Subscribe. Sustain. Survive. You might think you have control, but there's always something sinister waiting around the corner. We're here. We'll

keep you safe. We'll hold you close, so close we almost suffocate you...

Automnicon. If we can't have you, nobody can.

**END**



