

INT

MICHAEL

Hi Kids! I'm Michael and welcome to the JBI Starship Juniper.

I should introduce you to the rest of the crew... there's Captain Archibald, lovable but not the most competent.

Septima - now she is organised. She loves her lists... and her lists of her lists.

Igor is chief of security, though don't let him near anything that might go boom...

Dr Von Pomplenickel somehow is our chief Engineer, though I have to say I've never seen him fix anything. Break things, yes, fix things, no...

Oh, there's Mr Grumpy. Chief Navigator... though I think he just wants to steer clear of any of my singing.

And Roberta

ROBERTA

I am Roberta, the Ship's Onboard Computer.

MICHAEL

Sorry, Roberta, I wasn't actually calling you.

ROBERTA

Then I will go back to trying to keep you all from destroying this ship.

MICHAEL

Yes, Roberta is our ship's onboard and somewhat jaded computer.

With this intrepid and inept crew we are hurtling through space on a mission to... go on holiday!

(MORE)

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

We haven't had a break in ages, so we decided to go on a road trip...

And do you know what I love to do on a road trip? Maybe you do too - I love to sing. Stick on some banging tunes, roll the windows down and sing at the top of your voice! Although, safety tip... if you're in space, don't roll down the windows...

Anyway - since Mr Grumpy isn't around, I thought I'd sing one of my favourite banging tunes! You'll need your air guitars... (etc etc)

Roberta?!

ROBERTA

I am Roberta, the ship's onboard computer.

MICHAEL

Play the song.

ROBERTA

Playing.

Song: Be Strong and Courageous

Noise

MICHAEL

What was that??

Noise

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

Sorry - we've been having problems with space rats around the ship. If you see one, don't panic. They're harmless... mostly...

Picks up club, edges towards case/trunk

Noise again

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

I reckon if everyone stays quiet it'll just go away...

Muffled - MICHAEL!

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

Hmmm - can't remember the space rats learning my name. OH WAIT! Sorry Mr Grumpy. You didn't hear any of that, did you?

MR GRUMPY

No I didn't hear you CALLING ME A SPACE RAT!
And what is with that shirt?! Looks like the remains of one of your space rat's dinner.

MICHAEL

Well, since we're going on holiday I thought I'd wear my holiday shirt! Aren't you going to wear something special?

MR GRUMPY

I am wearing something special.

MICHAEL

You're just wearing your sleeveless pullover.

MR GRUMPY

Hey - don't knock the sleeveless pullover - most versatile piece of clothing! Winter by the fireside, or sunny day at the beach - the sleeveless pullover literally has you covered.

ROBERTA

Incoming recorded message.

Video: Septima

MICHAEL

Oh - that's Septima - she's first mate on our ship. Septima - Septima?

MR GRUMPY

She can't hear you, you noodle - it's a recorded message!

MICHAEL

I knew that...

SEPTIMA

Michael. Hello? Can you hear me?
Oh yeah - it's a recorded message.

MR GRUMPY

Seriously - I'm surrounded by morons.

SEPTIMA

So, I've gone on ahead to make some important preparations for our road trip. But don't worry. I've left you a list of all the things you need to pack. Don't panic - it's only a small list, just essential things that we're bound to need.

Michael pulls out massive list...

SEPTIMA (CONT'D)

Sorry I can't be with you to pack. Like I say - I've got important things to do here.

Off screen waiter

WAITER

Burger and chips? Who's is the burger and chips?

SEPTIMA

Oooo! That'll be mine!

Realises what she's said, looks sheepishly back at the camera.

SEPTIMA (CONT'D)

Right... errr... Better be off. I'll see you later.

Looks off screen with hungry face.

MR GRUMPY

Important preparations... yeah right.

MICHAEL

Ok - we better get busy with this list.

Throw socks around/**crash FX**

IGOR

YWHAAAAHA

MICHAEL

Oh hey Igor

IGOR
Hey Michael! Hey Mr Grumpy.

MR GRUMPY
Hey Igor - have you planned the route for our road trip yet?

MICHAEL
What do you mean? Igor's the security officer - you're the navigator! You should be planning the route for our road trip.

MR GRUMPY
Yeah, but I was busy.

MICHAEL
Doing what?

MR GRUMPY
Ebay.

MICHAEL
Right.

MR GRUMPY
So like a good leader should, I delegated... to Igor.

IGOR
What? Who?

MICHAEL
You left it to Igor to figure out? Who knows where we'll end up! No offence Igor.

IGOR
None taken. Where are we?

MICHAEL
Do you know what - that reminds me of Abraham in the Bible. God told Abraham to leave his home and travel to a distant land. Abraham didn't really know where he was going! But God did. You see God made some promises to Abraham and they are promises that actually come true for us! And I've got a song about that.

MR GRUMPY
Nooo!

IGOR

Yess!!

No/yes argument ensues.

MICHAEL

Are you done?

MR GRUMPY

No!

IGOR

Yes!

MICHAEL

We're going to need the help of
Heavy Metal Mike... Chant...

Motorbike FX

HEAVY METAL MIKE

Hello... [insert wrong place]!
Have you all got your air guitars?
You know, I bought an air guitar
from a shop the other day, but it
wouldn't make a sound!
So there I was, about to take it
back to the shop for a refund when
I realised what a numpty I had
been.
of course it didn't make a sound! I
hadn't put the strings on it yet...

Plug yours in... and here we go!

Song: Great Land

HEAVY METAL MIKE (CONT'D)

Goodbye... [insert wrong place]!

Motorbike FX

MR GRUMPY

Michael - why do you keep letting
these fruitloops on to the ship?
Where do they even come from? It
totally invalidates our insurance.

MICHAEL]

Actually... I've no idea.
Let's get on with Septima's list.

MR GRUMPY

Let me have a read... Clothes... standard. Suncream... probably not needed... Protective headgear? Why would we need that? Oh no - you're not letting Dr Von Pomplenickel plan the games are you?

MICHAEL

Of course not. I want to go on a road trip, but not one to A&E. Let's try and find these things...

Crash fx

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

OK - we've got a safety helmet. And a bag of money... and a blow up microphone. Wait a second.

MR GRUMPY

Oh no... here we go.

MICHAEL

These remind me of my song 'It's All About Grace'!

Mr Grumpy starts to steam...

MR GRUMPY

NOOOOO! If it wasn't bad enough being stuck in a car with Igor the Carrot and Dr Von Explosion Wiggle, I then have to listen to your awful singing!

MICHAEL

I think it's only you who thinks my singing is bad.

MR GRUMPY

No - my friend William thinks so too.

MICHAEL

Who's William?

MR GRUMPY

He's a rapper.

MICHAEL

Oh - I think you mean Will I Am.

MR GRUMPY

No you're not. You're Michael

MICHAEL

No - Will I Am - it's his rapper name - not William.

MR GRUMPY

Whatever. He says to me 'Mr Grumpy - that there singing (because he's from Manchester as well), that there singing is da bomb'.

MICHAEL

That's rapper talk for 'it's really good'.

MR GRUMPY

Noooo - bombs are bad, so he's saying your singing is bad.

MICHAEL

Right - well, if that's how you feel...

MR GRUMPY

It is.

MICHAEL

You can go back in the bag.

MR GRUMPY

I will. At least your singing is muffled in there...

MICHAEL

I need some helpers...

Song: It's All About Grace

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

You know - Septima has given us a whole list of things that we need to remember for our trip. (read some out). There are a lot of things we need to remember.

And God actually gives us some things that we need to remember for our trip through life. Just as Abraham was on a journey to the (say it!) Great Land.

You know what?

(MORE)

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

The Bible says that if we're trusting Jesus we're heading to a Great Land as well - the Great Land of a New Heaven on a New Earth. And there are some things we need to remember along the way.

This song is actually from something my daughter wrote to me a long time ago so that I'd remember too.

We're going to sing to the Daddy's, then the Mummy's, then sisters and finally brothers.

Song: Dear Daddy

MR GRUMPY

Michael! Michael!

MICHAEL

What is it? We were just having a moment!

MR GRUMPY

Yeah, a moment the kids wanted to escape from.
All that talk of remembering...
I've just remembered that Septima wants us to check the engines. You know, make sure they're topped up with water, do the thing with the dipstick... dipstick... dipstick.
Quite a fun word to say!

MICHAEL

Well, our chief engineer should be able to do that.

MR GRUMPY

Our chief engineer?

MICHAEL

It is his job. He doesn't delegate it like some people I know...

MR GRUMPY

Are you forgetting who our chief engineer is?? It's Dr Von Pomplenickel! Remember what happened last time he tried to fix the engines?
Roberta!

ROBERTA
I am Roberta, the ship's onboard
computer.

MR GRUMPY
Roll security footage...

ROBERTA
Rolling.

Dr Von Pomplenickel video

MR GRUMPY
See what I mean?

MICHAEL
Good point.

Crash FX

MR GRUMPY
It is a wonder that this spaceship
is still in one place.

MICHAEL
It was probably the Dr getting
started... We better go check that
out. Hold on everyone!

MR GRUMPY
What do you mean 'we'? I'm not
going anywhere near Dr Von
Disaster!

MICHAEL
So - you're just going to hide in
the trunk?

MR GRUMPY
Yes I am. It's called health and
safety...

Michael puts Mr Grumpy in case/trunk

Behind the scenes

MICHAEL
Hi Dr... what are you doing?

DR VON P
Oh, just fixing something.

MICHAEL
Better not be the engines.

DR VON P
Nein - I learned from last time.

MICHAEL
So what are you fixing?

DR VON P
The toaster!

MICHAEL
Dr - last time you did that you
turned it into a time machine!

DR VON P
Fun, wasn't it!

MICHAEL
Not fun for my stomach every time
we leapt through time. Look - come
with me.

DR VON P
Oooooo - where are we going? I like
adventures!

MICHAEL
We're going to put you somewhere
that means everyone else is safe...

Archibald comes out

ARCHIBALD
Hello everyone! I'm Captain...
theme music please!!

Theme Video

ARCHIBALD (CONT'D)
Much better.
I'm captain Archibald, scaler of
mountains, swimmer of seas, brave
explorer.

Have any of you got pets?
I imagine that when you go on
holiday you have to make sure
they're looked after.
Same here in space.
I have a pet. The thing is...
it's a lion.
And I've no idea where it's gone...

Have you seen it?

Comedy ensues

ARCHIBALD (CONT'D)

Oh hello Mr Lion. AHHHH!
 What's that? You're not going to
 eat me? Yet...
 Hmmm...
 This reminds me of something I read
 in the Bible.
 Do you know what sin is? It's where
 we say 'shove off God! I'm in
 charge! No to your ways'
 And you shouldn't ever play around
 with sin, just as you should never
 play Tiddlywinks... with a lion...

(lion suggests they don't know what tiddlywinks is...
 explain...)

Song: Don't Ever Play Tiddlywinks with a Lion

ARCHIBALD (CONT'D)

Well, Liony - we better be off.
 What's that? You'd like me for tea!
 Marvelous... oh... I see what you
 mean...
 Toodlepip!

Ah Michael

MICHAEL

What are you doing with that lion?

ARCHIBALD

We're going for tea...

MICHAEL

Sounds dangerous...

ARCHIBALD

It's ok - I have my cricket pads
 with me. Saved me from many a
 googly before! Toodle pip...

Michael comes out.

MICHAEL

Kids - we've talked about a few
 Road Trips so far.
 There's the Road Trip me and the
 crew are going on for holiday.

(MORE)

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

And Abraham had to go on a LOOONG road trip to the 'Great Land!'

And we learned that if we are trusting Jesus then we are on a road trip to the Great Land of the new heaven on the new earth!

Well, let me tell you something amazing - God actually went on his own road trip.

About 2000 years ago God came to earth as a man and lived amongst people like you and me.

We celebrate that every year at Christmas - because that baby, Jesus, is God come to earth! When he grew up he spent time with people, taught them and healed them. Jesus showed us what God is like... Because he is God!

But what's even MORE amazing is that he made that road trip because he wants to be friends with you and me.

But there's a problem.
We just learned about it from Archibald - Sin. Where we say 'shove off God, I'm in Charge, No to your ways'.

We all do it and we all know that when we do some thing wrong there are consequences.
But that's why God went on this road trip.

When Jesus came to earth and died on the cross he was taking the consequences for our wrong as if he had done it.

And now he's done that we can be forgiven and freed to be his friends.

But Jesus didn't stay dead on the cross - he rose again to life so he can be our King forever.

(MORE)

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

Check out this song...

Song: He's Here

MR GRUMPY

Michael! While you've been busy yacking, I've been busy building the definitive proof that your singing is awful. I've built an AI chatbot for my social media site, GrumpSocial. The chatbot is called Grump. You want to give it a go?

Roberta?

ROBERTA

I am Roberta, the ship's onboard computer.

MR GRUMPY

Can you put Grump up on the screen please?

MICHAEL

Right - what do I do?

MR GRUMPY

Do you know nothing about technology? Grab your phone and type in your question...

MICHAEL

Is Michael J Tinker a good singer?

MR GRUMPY

That's easy... I could answer that.

Grump/Grump Social Video

MR GRUMPY (CONT'D)

See! Definitive proof.

MICHAEL

That really sounded like it was just you...

MR GRUMPY

Well, it wasn't! It was AI Chatbot Grump!

MICHAEL

Where does Grump get all it's information?

MR GRUMPY

Well, naturally I programmed it.

MICHAEL

Right. Kids - AI chatbots can be amazing. But they are only as good as the information they get given from the internet. And not all that information is true.

There is only one source of information that is true 100% of the time. That's God, because he made us and knows us and he loves us and always tells the truth.

And...I've got a song about that.

MR GRUMPY

Did you not listen to a word AI chatbot Grump said?!
Right - I'm going back in the bag to think of how to prove this to you...

Song: God is Wise

MR GRUMPY (CONT'D)

Michael!

MICHAEL

Oh! Can't we get a moment's peace?

MR GRUMPY

That's what I keep asking!

MICHAEL

What is it.

MR GRUMPY

Have you finished yet? I want to get out of here and get on our holiday!

MICHAEL

Well... actually I think it is almost time for us to go...

MR GRUMPY

Great - bye!!

MICHAEL

But before we do, there's one more thing I want to share with the kids...

MR GRUMPY

Better not be another song?!

MICHAEL

I want to share one more truth...

MR GRUMPY

Ok - fair enough. Make it quick!

MICHAEL

Kids - trusting in Jesus means we are on the greatest road trip ever, heading to the greatest place ever. Listen to this Roberta?

ROBERTA

I am Roberta, the ship's onboard computer.

MICHAEL

Can you put up Revelation 21:1-4 please?

ROBERTA

Affirmative.

Revelation 21:1-4

MICHAEL

This is better than any holiday you'll ever go on, because holidays always end... but the joy and the happiness in God's new heaven on the new earth will never end, and if we're friends with Jesus he guarantees we will be there with him one day.

We better get going - Septima is waiting for us, and Mr Grumpy seems to have itchy pants.

MR GRUMPY

Hey! First of all you insult my sleeveless pullover and now you're insulting my woolen underwear!?

MICHAEL

But I think there time for one more song...

MR GRUMPY

NOOOOOO!!! Haven't the children suffered enough?!

MICHAEL

I think you might like this one - it's There's a Party Coming Soon.

MR GRUMPY

Actually, that one's alright.

MICHAEL

Let's say goodbye to Mr Grumpy.

Sing and dance, Party Popper. Come say hi to us afterwards - CDs, books, and if you don't do CDs anymore we have all the songs on a USB stick! Plus I've got a songbook that I'd like to give one free to every church.

Thanks so much for coming - this is 'There's a Party Coming Soon'.

Song: There's a Party Coming Soon

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

Bye!