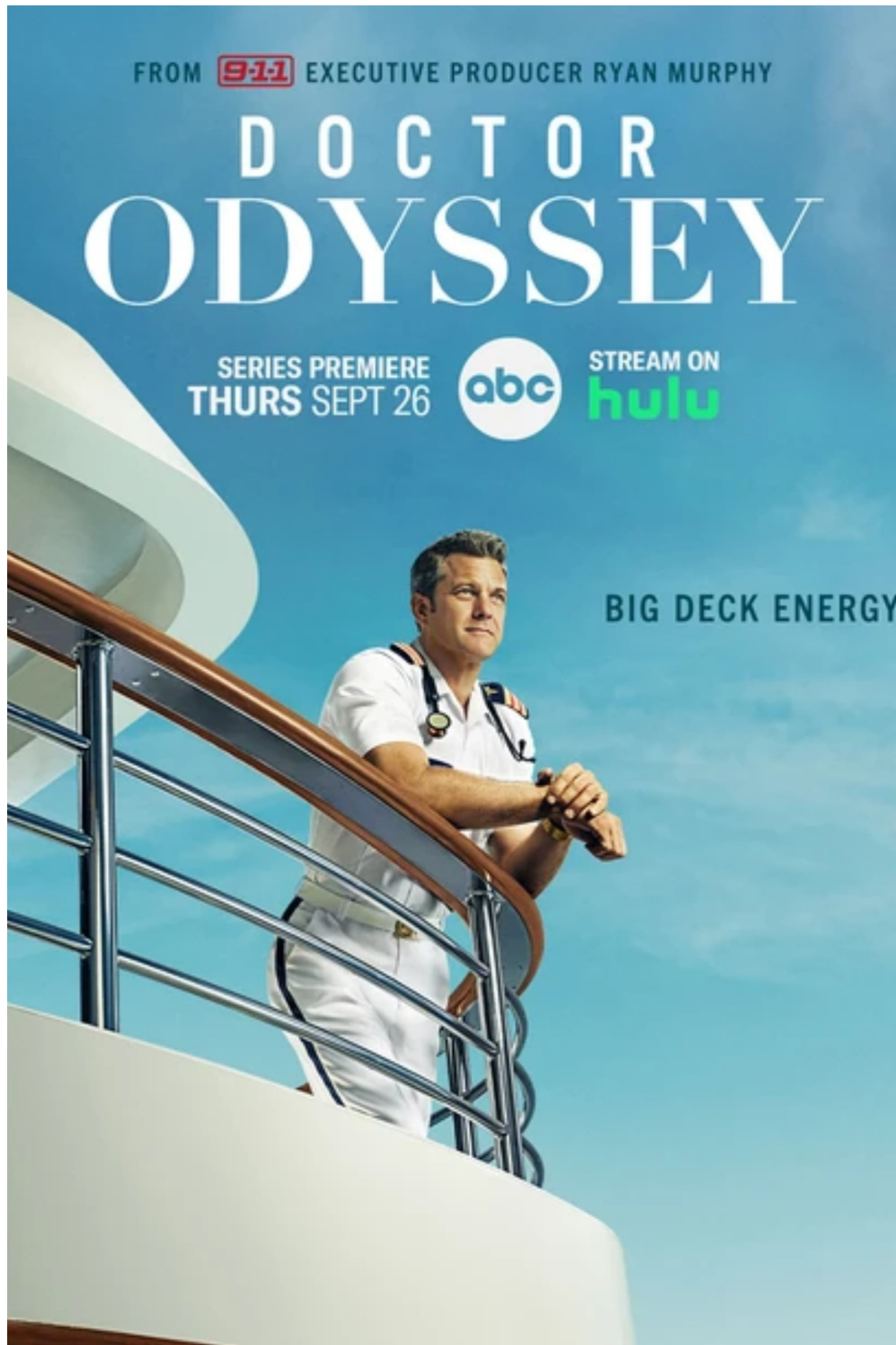


Doctor Odyssey Episode Guide

Episodes 001-008

Last episode aired Thursday November 21, 2024





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Season One

Pilot

Season 1

Episode Number: 1

Season Episode: 1

Originally aired:	Thursday September 26, 2024
Writer:	Ryan Murphy, Jon Robin Baitz, Joe Baken
Director:	Paris Barclay
Show Stars:	Joshua Jackson (Dr. Max Bankman), Phillipa Soo (Nurse Avery Morgan), Sean Teale (Nurse Tristan Silva), Don Johnson (Captain Robert Massey)
Guest Stars:	Rachel Dratch (Mrs. Rubens), Tom McGowan (Burt Rubens), Marcus Emanuel Mitchell (First Officer Spencer Monroe), Brian Altemus (Leo Brandt), Asha Kamali (Tamara Airington), Jeremy D. Howard (Mr. Airington), Rachel Stubington (Rhea), Tiffany Commons (Rhonda Cole), Sam Skolnik (Young Resident), Lucy Loken (Bridget), Anna Mhairi (Cute Girl), Reasha Honaker (Nurse), Krystin Goodwin (News Reporter), Flor de Maria Chahua (Mary), Evan Faunce (Lifeguard), Kent Avenido (Passenger), Sheri Effres (Lady at Dinner), Elliott Nazarian (Bartender), Mason Trueblood (Dancer)
Summary:	Max is the new on-board doctor for a luxury cruise ship where the small but mighty medical team navigate unique medical crises and each other, miles from shore.



Dr. Bankman is the newest head doctor aboard *The Odyssey* after the previous doctor was let go by Captain Massey. Nurses Avery and Tristan are trepidatious as they have a clear rapport and routine with how they deal with passengers emergencies. When you've done three contracts with the same person on the same boat, change isn't ideal.

The duo is shocked to see that Dr. Bankman is, like, young? And, like, hot? His resume seemed so stacked that what they expected was not what was deliv-

ered. A hot, middle-aged man in a Hawaiian shirt and tight pants?! They were expecting Dick Van Dyke. Regardless, with Dr. Bankman being new to seafaring, Captain Massey gives him a tour of the ship and demands the need to keep the fantasy alive. Guests may board *The Odyssey* wanting a little escape, but the crew must work overtime to ensure they fully leave reality and enter this world of fantasy.

Almost immediately the medical team are sent to work on a guest who is experiencing profound vomiting and rash-like symptoms. His wife is concerned, but he's not allergic to anything, especially anything in the umpteenth margarita they both threw back. Dr. Bankman immediately diagnoses him using loser, landlubber medical analysis, but Avery is all "You better sit your butt down and realize ship rules are different!" Lo and behold, Bankman's medication allergy isn't correct... the man just ate a ton of shrimp at the buffet and got iodine poisoning.

The night continues, until a guest is frantic over his newly received injury. The honeymoon couple were, ya know, gettin' it on, and a misjudged movement led to the man fracturing his penis. The trio race him to the medical center, seemingly holding in their laughter. I know it hurts, I know it's uncouth... but that will never not be a hilarious injury. You already know it's going to be a party story for the rest of his life when he hangs out with his bros.

Medical emergencies on ships have a variety of rules and regulations regarding what can and can't happen on board, but Bankman knows that if the injury is serious enough, they are allowed to handle it on their own and not revert to docking early/rerouting. The trio decide to work on the fractured penis and make it as good as new. After the couple's joy in the problem being fixed, Avery suggests a tantric specialist at one of their port cities because of course she does. The fantasy remains! Huzzah!

Dr. Bankman is exhausted after his first day gaining sea legs, but decides to join Avery and Tristan the next day for a beach bonfire. There are shots, there is dancing, there is Bankman kissing Avery right after Tristan expressed his love for her. I see a love triangle forming! With Tristan now appalled with his new boss, Bankman and Avery head back to her room for some canoodling.

The pair immediately regret their decision (after they kissed in front of all crew members, so like, too little too late), so the obvious next step is an IV vitamin trip from Avery. I get they are medical professionals, but she pulled those needles out so quickly it was a bit disconcerting. As the pair begin to rest, Bankman reveals what led him to ship life. After becoming one of the first American patients with COVID-19, he miraculously recovered and worked to not take life too seriously. Thus, the work-life balance of working in a luxurious setting.

Of course, the tea-spilling time quickly comes to a halt after a water slide incident, blocks iodine guy's airway. On the way to help this man, Tristan catches Avery and Bankman leaving the same room which, ya know, doesn't go over well. Once again, the injury is severe enough that the medical trio decide to take drastic measures on board so his breathing doesn't stop all together.

As the two medical men in the room are in a heated silent treatment match, a man flies overboard. Because of course. Four cases in a single episode? That's not messy at all! After a bout of molly, the man tumbled into the water, was quickly rescued and brought back to a sustainable state. The literal man overboard was breezed over as a plot point to just get Tristan and Bankman apologizing for their actions.

In the most unbelievable part of the episode, the crew stands and says goodbye to all the guests disembarking. Bankman and Avery have a little tension between them as we'll (likely) continue to see this trio fall in and out of love with each other. But, buck up, 'cause next week is Singles Week on board. What could go wrong?

Singles Week

Season 1
Episode Number: 2
Season Episode: 2

Originally aired: Thursday October 03, 2024
Writer: Ryan Murphy, Jon Robin Baitz, Joe Baken
Director: Paris Barclay
Show Stars: Joshua Jackson (Dr. Max Bankman), Phillipa Soo (Nurse Avery Morgan), Sean Teale (Nurse Tristan Silva), Don Johnson (Captain Robert Massey)
Guest Stars: Shania Twain (Grandma), Marcus Emanuel Mitchell (First Officer Spencer Monroe), Stephanie Suganami (Kelly), Kassandra Cruz (Analisa), Brittany Baker (Girlfriend), Shannon Dee (Side Piece), Jasmine Hester (Girl), Kay Lome (Steam Room Girl), Dominique Star (Boho Chick), Frederick Stuart (Bartender Billy), Ta'imua (Boho Dude), Pam Trotter (Wife), Marcus Cheyney (Marcus), Michael Baydoun (Manuel (Analisa's Fiance))
Summary: It's Singles Week on The Odyssey. As Max, Tristan and Avery navigate their relationship, the crew fends off advances from passengers. With rising desire and quickly spreading ailments, Max and the team rush to restore order.



Singles Week starts off with Avery disgusted by the idea as a whole, which makes sense. Cruisers are another breed and the boat is a floating island where land life becomes a distant memory. Guest star Chord Overstreet knows that quite well, as he kickstarts his trip soliciting numbers. And soliciting makeouts. Oh, and soliciting dance floor grinding. In this case, I beg you to have the player and the game. Eventually, a small rash under his rock hard abs turn into warts covering his entire brute physique.

Lo and behold, the man has syphilis. Is it surprising to me it took two episodes

to hit our first sexually transmitted disease on the cruising medical show? Yes. Yes it is. Overstreet receives a treatment plan, while every member of his ridiculously long sexual partner list receives the gift of a shot to the buttocks. It's like the free charms the ship's jewelry store gives out at every port, just more painful.

Elsewhere, a patient begins to have a little fling with Tristan. Tristan and Dr. Bankman decide to share a truce over Avery, based on their working situation and to prove their elevated masculinity. So, Tristan goes gaga over a girl on the dance floor, but a hookup turns into her fainting on top of him. Romance isn't dead!

She seems to have a clear issue, but due to her stating she isn't taking any medication, the team can't really crack what's going on. There has to be an outlying factor, as her health checks out otherwise. Come to find out, she's taking a weight loss medication that's greatly affecting her heart rhythm. Avery only realizes this moments before aborting a Chord Overstreet hookup. The definition of finding the light at the end of the syphilis tunnel. The patient is thankful for the concrete diagnosis, admits her bad choice, and still kisses Tristan on debark morning.

Elsewhere a grandma boards as a widower and immediately couples up with Captain Massey. The pair hit it off, with both having recently lost their partners and both being part of the older bunch on board. Their first dance is so successful, that Captain Massey invites grandma over the next night for a cute little dinner. But whaddayaknow, the captain faints. After numerous tests, and another set of inconclusive testing, Dr. Bankman realizes he has broken heart syndrome. He's given medication and the note to "chill out." Bankman and Massey then share a moment being all "Being alive, man. Crazy thing." and they move on with their day.

While Captain Massey is on a hospital bed, they come across a refugee alone on a liferaft. After saving her, she regales the medical staff with her struggles and her heart-wrenching push to find a new home. Her partner was seemingly lost in the travels, adding to her melancholy about being saved, but remaining alone. Avery is gutted by the story, realizing she feels just as stuck. She never completed the coursework needed to become a doctor, just a nurse practitioner, even though having the proper M.D. title was always her goal. The Odyssey has become her escape from real life and her own career mistakes, using the ocean to cover up her emotional wounds.

As Avery shares her personal stresses, Tristan decides to kiss her, 'cause truces are dumb and for loser guys anyway! As the cruise comes to an end, however, only good news flows. Dr. Bankman and Tristan work together to find a path for Avery to still become a doctor. Luckily, the larger cruising company will offer a full-ride scholarship for Avery if she agrees to be a proper doctor onboard for three years after she receives her degree. Also, they find the woman's partner floating in a lifering and save him, too. It's sort of a non-starter, but the reunion shot was... nice? Next, it is Plastic Surgery week onboard and reader, I can't wait for bad prosthetic makeup!

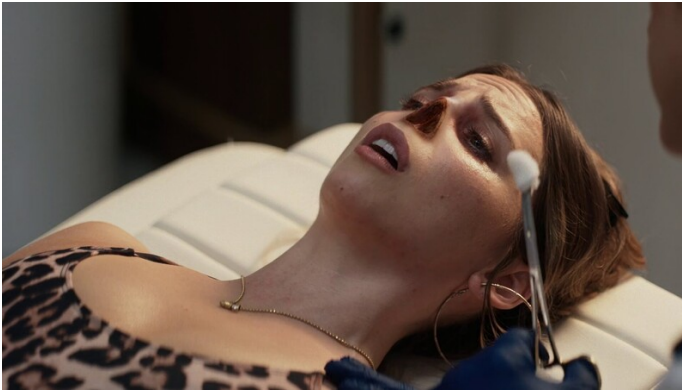
Plastic Surgery Week

Season 1

Episode Number: 3

Season Episode: 3

Originally aired: Thursday October 10, 2024
Writer: Ryan Murphy, Jon Robin Baitz, Joe Baken
Director: Bradley Buecker
Show Stars: Joshua Jackson (Dr. Max Bankman), Phillipa Soo (Nurse Avery Morgan), Sean Teale (Nurse Tristan Silva), Don Johnson (Captain Robert Massey)
Guest Stars: Gina Gershon (Lenore Laurent), Justin Jedlica (Ken), Constance Marie (Caroline Von Dreesen), Christine Mulhern (Vanna), Hayley McLaughlin (Jessa), Mikayla Soo-ni Campbell (Pippa), Blanca Araceli (Viva), Jacob Dacus (Allan), Amanda Rea (Barbie), Sheri Effres (Lady at Dinner), Noah Fearnley (Valet), Julian Larach (Porter), Peyton McCormick (Skipper), Max Owen (Elevator Man), Andy Shephard (Waiter), Tim Torre (Concierge), Taissa Zveiter (Beachside Hostess)
Summary: Plastic Surgery Week on The Odyssey brings new faces and fresh features to be carefully maintained by the medical team. When the owner's wife comes on board, Capt. Massey must juggle charm and skillful dodging to sidestep her advances.



As the recovering surgery subjects board, the crew is divided between mocking the new passengers (Trevor and the Captain) and hating the larger idea of body dysmorphia (Avery). We're quickly introduced to Lenore Laurent, who holds the yearly cruise as the wife of the owner of The Odyssey and a stern supporter of the facial arts. The human Ken doll also boards, much to the fascination of Dr. Bankman.

We quickly learn that during Bankman's COVID state, he wanted to get his mind off of the bad surrounding him, so he turned to "trashy" reality TV. That led him to watching the reality show following the eponymous Ken. The pair immediately connect, with Bankman awestruck at Ken's commitment to his own truth, a bizarre take within an episode that can't decide on its own tone. After the two bond during a cryo bonding session, Ken later returns with fear over possible sepsis from his most recent surgery. Unfortunately, after a wildly long montage that felt like filler, Ken succumbs to the sepsis and dies.

Yet, death and The Odyssey don't mix. When death creeps into the illusion of cruising, the plywood and paste fall down to reveal real life. That can't happen. So, Ken's body is placed inside of a decoy towel cart and brought to the onboard flower freezer, which becomes a makeshift morgue in emergencies. Avery explains how in these events, they give out free flowers to guests in order to free up space. Dr. Bankman is stunned at the flippancy of death on board, but reader, I gasped at the accuracy. (The ongoing "rumor" states that when more ice cream is made available to guests, that means someone has passed and they needed freezer space. It was the truest cruising plotline to date.)

After Ken's passing, we pretty much ignore that immediately. Guy's dead, want some flowers? Wild, y'all. Instead, we have to worry about Trevor's relationship with his mother, who surprises

him on board as she's recovering from a facelift. They clearly have a fraught relationship, so when good 'ole mommy collapses after a difficult conversation between Trevor and her, tensions are high. She seems to be fine once she awakes in the medical space, but Dr. Bankman feels like more is at play. Come to find out, she is diagnosed with Huntington's disease. Yes, within the span of a single cruise, a man dies of sepsis and a woman is diagnosed with an incurable neurological disease. Is this boat... cursed? It's giving Meredith-Grey-can't-catch-a-break energy.

Trevor comforts his mother, while she commits to being a more present mother in her limited time left on Earth. But like, then she finds a good deal on carpets for her home and skedaddles faster than you can say "May I have a look at your wine list?" Trevor is devastated, but life goes on and the show barrels on. Nothing has any emotional weight this episode and it is sending me.

Avery and Lenore are in the midst of their yearly tiff over the ridiculousness of Plastic Surgery Week, and after many a tense exchange, Lenore threatens to fire Avery. Later, a woman who has given herself frostbite after soaking her breasts post-surgery in ice has a large infection that needs to be taken care of. Avery offers a larger procedure to remove the damaged and infected tissue, much to the chagrin of Lenore, who hates Avery, but still wants her personal shopper to stay alive.

The surgery goes swimmingly, Lenore revokes the threat of firing and confirms that she'll give a recommendation for Avery's medical scholarship. Oh, and for no reason at all, a girl's nose falls off after she does a line of coke.

Wellness Week

Season 1

Episode Number: 4

Season Episode: 4

Originally aired: Thursday October 17, 2024
Writer: Joe Baken, Byron Crawford
Director: John J. Gray
Show Stars: Joshua Jackson (Dr. Max Bankman), Phillipa Soo (Nurse Avery Morgan), Sean Teale (Nurse Tristan Silva), Don Johnson (Captain Robert Massey)
Guest Stars: Amy Sedaris (Bethany Welles), Margaret Cho (Judy Riva), Laura Harrier (Vivian Montgomery), Kate Berlant (Agnes Simkin), Marcus Emanuel Mitchell (First Officer Spencer Monroe), Jacqueline Toboni (Rosie), Bryan Marcos (Rowan), Toni Youngblood (Kathy), Christopher Marino (Helmsman)
Summary: While focusing on wellness, The Odyssey is flooded with sick patients. Tristan's new relationship causes jealousy. Amid a hurricane, Capt. Massey navigates the ship to safety.



Wellness week brings on board The Odyssey various fake homeopathic gurus and their medical stupidity. At first, Avery hopped onto the wellness train, but by the end of the series' most insane episode yet, she decides to push it aside for more "an apple a day" energy.

Bethany Welles, Judy Riva, and Agnes Simkin join the crew as wellness influencers who are part of the special cruise. Almost instantly, their plans go haywire. As Agnes and Judy are teaching a wellness demonstration on specialty smoothies,

Agnes seemingly is poisoned by the beverage. In the infirmary, Dr. Bankman realizes that an ingredient in the smoothies is the same as something that hurt children he worked on during his time in Doctors Without Borders, leading to her diagnosis and betterment plan.

Later, Judy is receiving acupuncture from Agnes after she recovers, but Agnes goes cuckoo and inserts a needle so deep into CHO's back that she punctures the lung. Are we being so for real right now? Like, what is even happening? Tristan and Dr. Bankman work swiftly to insert a breathing tube into her chest cavity in order to keep her alive. By the end of the cruise, the dueling gurus are catfighting in an elevator. As the world turns, am I right?

Now, Avery wasn't able to partake as she had her own medical emergency. Tristan starts flirting with the new chef on board who is partaking in a lot of raw meat for the Wellness Week menu. Avery seems to be disgusted at not only the menu, but also the flirting. She then vomits, blaming it (and understandably so) on the raw liver she just ate for dinner.

After a trip to the infirmary, lo and behold, her appendix is on the verge of bursting. It wasn't the food, just a case of bad timing. As Dr. Bankman and Tristan realize what's about to happen... the ship sails into a hurricane. I also have about fifteen follow-up questions as to how they ended up in the eye of a hurricane, but don't question it, 'cause we instead get Tristan walking on the wall while trying to do an invasive surgery. Turbulence is crazy, ain't it?

Bethany also gets copper poisoning, vomits on herself, then still tries to film a vertical video while attached to an IV. Cray-cray times. Moral of the episode: don't take supplements? 'Cause

all we learned otherwise was that an engineer on board doesn't believe in climate change during a game of strip poker.

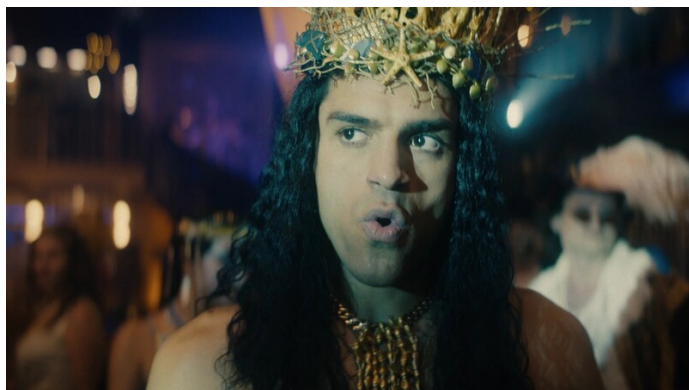
Halloween Week

Season 1

Episode Number: 5

Season Episode: 5

Originally aired: Thursday October 24, 2024
Writer: Joe Baken, Byron Crawford
Director: Tessa Blake
Show Stars: Joshua Jackson (Dr. Max Bankman), Phillipa Soo (Nurse Avery Morgan), Sean Teale (Nurse Tristan Silva), Don Johnson (Captain Robert Massey)
Guest Stars: Laura Harrier (Vivian Montgomery), Michelle Núñez (Julia), Rick Cosnett (Corey), Gigi Zumbado (Amelia), Carmela Zumbado (Luna), Marija Juliette Abney (Sarah), Evan Todd (Paul), Myko Olivier (Derrick), Amanda McCants (Velma), Andrea Munoz (Bunny), April Nelson (Partygoer), Bryan Scamman (Werewolf), Matt Steele (Fairy)
Summary: It's Halloween on The Odyssey, featuring a high-stakes costume contest; but when a zombie-like illness plagues select passengers, the festivities take a dark turn. Meanwhile, Avery and Max embark on a rescue mission.



Tristan and Dr. Bankman are in a heated battle from the beginning over Halloween costumes. While Bankman is finally ready to succumb to some of the ridiculousness of these consistent theme weeks, Halloween is where Tristan shines. As a competitive costumer, the man is out for blood.

While working on his elaborate costumes, Tristan decorates his room with items left over from the recent Broadway cruise's production of Sweeney Todd. Skulls, chains, and old-timey lanterns fill

his room and he grabs his glue gun and gets to work. Yet, as the episode increases, he starts having visions. Competitors fill his head, while his vision becomes woozy and his speech patterns become incoherent. With concern at its highest, Avery and Dr. Bankman realize that the lanterns have given Tristan carbon monoxide poisoning.

Elsewhere, a man dressed as Wolverine is hooking up with a Playboy Bunny on the top deck when he starts to bleed. After fainting, he's rushed to the infirmary, but Avery and Bankman can't seem to find any open wound. Avery realizes that there isn't any wound as he's actually sweating the blood. Bankman explains, after cooling down the patient, that sometimes fear and sensual responses from our body are quite similar, so the possibility of the hookup makes his body go into fight or flight. We never talk about sweating blood or Mr. Wolverine ever again.

Two couples board the boat with an extensive list of activities and experiences lined up. Mind you, the wives are the ones doing the planning, as their respective others seem absolutely beat. Lo and behold, the two couples have just returned from an African safari vacation and immediately boarded a cruise ship. So, these are inherently stupid people. Both the husbands are taken over by the need to sleep and head back to their cabins.

Unfortunately, they quickly start to show signs of zombieism. The men are sleep walking, showing aggression, and in some cases, biting their wives. Ya know, normal Halloween stuff. Spooky!

The pair of zombunds perplexes the medical team, especially after their cases are deemed not contagious. Of course, it's a lucky break for the guests onboard *The Odyssey* who don't have to quarantine. COVID is brought up again to trigger Dr. Bankman, but remains unexplored further.

Later, a sweet couple going on a treasure hunt excursion climbs into a set of caves, which are repeatedly described as a place individuals should not go. Yet, because no one on this planet listens, the duo climbs in and one of them, while finding an ancient gold coin, has her arm caught by a falling rock. With the tide rising in the cave, it's looking like a *127 Hours* situation is nigh, but Avery enters the cave and does some quick work, breaks only her elbow, and rescues the woman from death and becoming an amputee.

While the couple kisses on the beach, the other starts scratching her leg from the sand flea bites that attacked her during the hunt, sparking Avery's brain to go into overdrive. After some deducing, it's determined that the zombunds from before have been infected via a fly's bite in Africa. From the diagnosis, the pair recover and their wives immediately set their excursion plans back into action. *The Odyssey* only accepts idiots as patients.

I Always Cry at Weddings

Season 1
Episode Number: 6
Season Episode: 6

Originally aired: Thursday November 07, 2024
Writer: Ryan Murphy, Joe Baken
Director: Paris Barclay
Show Stars: Joshua Jackson (Dr. Max Bankman), Phillipa Soo (Nurse Avery Morgan), Sean Teale (Nurse Tristan Silva), Don Johnson (Captain Robert Massey)
Guest Stars: Margo Martindale (Ellen Parsons), Kelsea Ballerini (Lisa Parsons), Kevin Zegers (Bennet), Marcus Emanuel Mitchell (First Officer Spencer Monroe), Jacqueline Toboni (Rosie), Rick Cosnett (Corey), Annie Gonzalez (Deyja), Hudson Oz (Eric Colby)
Summary: When a wealthy family charters The Odyssey for a weeklong wedding cruise, all eyes are on the "bridezilla" as she wreaks havoc on board. Amid the chaos, love and lust manage to find their way through the air with sparks flying among the crew.



A wedding party has spent an unhealthy amount of money to charter the entire ship for the ceremony and festivities. Almost immediately, Ellen Parsons is the recipient of the most heinous sunburn I've ever witnessed. She's not burnt as much as she's profoundly crispy. The medical team cites second degree burns amidst the fire engine red skin on the Emmy Award winner. She's given a treatment plan and sent on her way. Miraculously, she just looks tan within a day.

Later, the team comes across the best man who is adorned with a nasty case of

ringworm. However, Dr. Bankman notices that this specific strain is much more contagious. He gives the best man a proper treatment plan, but urges him to tell all of his sexual partners to ensure they receive the care they need. Can we trust this guy? Or men in general? Who's to say!

The bride Lisa Parsons starts puking up a storm, but she's been doubling down on Ozempic to fit into her dress. Her completely healed mother is stressed about her daughter being temporarily out of commission, so as her daughter receives treatment she demands the medical team fill the holes at the rehearsal to make sure everything goes off without a hitch.

Up to this point, the episode has stuck to a light, "ha ha, he he" tone. That is until the groom-to-be arrives with the same ringworm symptoms as the best man. This leads him to sharing his sex addiction symptoms to Dr. Bankman. Bankman ensures the groom that there are recovery steps and ways to combat this disease, but unfortunately, the groom isn't able to fully hear. His mental health battles come to a forefront and instead of fighting the disease, the disease wins. He slowly walks up to the top deck and jumps off.

The Captain is livid that this loss of life wasn't caught, but has to tell the wedding party the horrific news. The ship offers counseling to those who need it and Lisa opens up about her fiancé's infidelity, along with her own... with her best man. All of the affairs were a badly kept secret, but she knows that her fiancé was "husband material" compared to the best man. It's quite messy, but I guess cathartic for her? This show never knows!

The boat, rightfully so, heads back to port early as news breaks that his body washed up on the shore of Acapulco. With these devastating turns of events, you think the episode would end on a somber note. Negative, ghost rider. Avery and Tristan partake in a late night kitchen raid, diving into the unused wedding cake. Dr. Bankman quickly joins and the trio gets drunk and all share their bucket list items. They all discuss wanting to experience a "good" threesome... so then they do. A man has just killed himself, so let's all bang and steal the couple's cake? Why not!

Oh, Daddy!

Season 1
Episode Number: 7
Season Episode: 7

Originally aired: Thursday November 14, 2024
Writer: Joe Baken, Byron Crawford
Director: Crystle Roberson Dorsey
Show Stars: Joshua Jackson (Dr. Max Bankman), Phillipa Soo (Nurse Avery Morgan), Sean Teale (Nurse Tristan Silva), Don Johnson (Captain Robert Massey)
Guest Stars: John Stamos (Craig Massey), Cheyenne Jackson (Brian), Johnny Sibilly (Riley), Caldwell Tidicue (Marsha), Michelle Meredith (Kacey), Rick Cosnett (Corey), Marcus Emanuel Mitchell (First Officer Spencer Monroe), Jacqueline Toboni (Rosie), Adam Cropper (Jared), Jared Scott (Mark), Brock Ciarlelli (Marco), Marco Da Silva (Instructor Carlo), Grady Eldridge (Raphael), Kelsey Lea Jones (Receptionist), Hunter Nance (David), Josh Stone (Passenger)
Summary: Bears, otters and cubs on board can only mean one thing: It's Gay Week on The Odyssey. As Max, Avery and Tristan navigate their relationships, Capt. Massey's brother arrives with an unexpected guest.



A gay cruise. The Odyssey is welcoming aboard a gay cruise. Of course, that can only mean one thing: threesomes are at the heart of the episode. Nothing like a heavy handed slap in the face from Ryan Murphy on a Thursday night, am I right?

Captain Massey begins the episode with a crash course in queer terminology (bears, twunks, mother, etc.) using flashcards. Whoever is producing these flashcards should be tried in a court of law. It all felt like the American Idol "Wig" moment. This isn't for you to academically learn? Almost immediately, Doctor Odyssey is trying too hard this episode and I can't take it!

Massey's brother boards the boat and introduces his new lover(s). Captain Massey is the most heterosexual anyone can be, so he's a bit confused by the throuple involving his sibling, but his open-minded nature and love for his brother conquers all. Huzzah! Allyship! Yas qween mama slay! The trio met during their journey towards sobriety, adding an extra level of commitment.

Also on board are a pair of travel influencers [barfs] who bring their own food on board. Nothing like a diet of homemade sweet potatoes to make you go "Wait, why are we paying full price for this cruise if we aren't even eating what's provided?" Bob the Drag Queen kicks off the first night in the dining room with a surprise lip sync performance of "HOTTOGO" and the queers are living. That is, until Bob goes and lights her wig on fire by leaning into a candle.

After being rushed to the infirmary, Bob is luckily only left with aesthetic scars on her head. Unfortunately, drag is all aesthetics, so she's gutted at her livelihood being thrown for a loop. In typical Doctor Odyssey fashion, we never return to her for the rest of the episode. We have other garbage to get to, huntys!

The influencer duo decides to attend a "Daddy" dancing and yoga class, because of course. They are on the same beach that every other excursion is inexplicably on, which makes me wonder if this is a Castaway Cay situation and the Odyssey has a private island? Regardless, one of them faints mid hip rotation and is rushed back on board into the infirmary. Soon after,

his boyfriend also starts showing symptoms of a mysterious illness. There's vomiting and skin rashes that lead Tristan and Avery to believe this is a pandemic-level illness. Likely due to his COVID past, Dr. Bankman doesn't want to agree with the theory just yet.

Right before the trio of medical professionals are set to cut into one of the patients, it's revealed their sweet potato diet. Add in some gay cruise hookups and the pair actually are experiencing the effect of too much carotene (from the sweet potatoes) and mono. Cute couple alert!

The stressed nature of the medical trio also bleeds into their relationship. At the end of last week's episode, a threesome brought a bit of fun to the dynamic. At first, all three were on board to keep this throuple alive. Yet, after the influencer diagnosis and head butting, Dr. Bankman explains how he's not up for it. He is someone who enjoys monogamy, which is fair. Avery still yearns for the fun of the other night, so she eggs on Tristan to try and sway Bankman into coming back into this triangle.

Meanwhile, Captain Massey's brother has seemingly relapsed. He's showing signs of inebriation, all the while his boyfriends are trying to calm him and lead him back into the sober life. After a nasty bashing of the head, the toxicology report shows that his blood alcohol level deems him drunk. Captain Massey, being the good brother he is, listens to his sibling's claims and searches his room for answers. In fact, he was telling the truth. An acid reflux medication was leading him to experience auto-brewery syndrome, where the medication was being turned into ethanol in his body. Kooky crazy!

Tristan also laments to Avery, through an awful tikka masala chip metaphor, that he can't share Avery. In fact, he realizes that he loves her and wants her all for himself. Monogamy is king, baby! The hunties are serving!

Quackers

Season 1
Episode Number: 8
Season Episode: 8

Originally aired: Thursday November 21, 2024
Writer: Ryan Murphy, Jon Robin Baitz
Director: Maggie Kiley
Show Stars: Joshua Jackson (Dr. Max Bankman), Phillipa Soo (Nurse Avery Morgan), Sean Teale (Nurse Tristan Silva), Don Johnson (Captain Robert Massey)
Guest Stars: Gina Gershon (Lenore Laurent), Loretta Devine (Jill Manafort), Laura Harrier (Vivian Montgomery), Fred Melamed (Jerry Manafort), Rick Cosnett (Corey), Marcus Emanuel Mitchell (First Officer Spencer Monroe), Jacqueline Toboni (Rosie), Paloma Garcia-Lee (Frankie), James William O'Halloran (Bartender), Ara Storm (Guest)
Summary: It's Quackers Week, and the ship is bustling with guests obsessed with a quirky trend taking over the cruising industry: rubber duckies. As the voyage unfolds, Avery receives unexpected news.



The episode opens with Lenore hard-selling Captain Massey on the whole Quackers movement within the cruise industry, before segueing over to Cory giving the crew the rundown on what is expected of them while their duck-obsessed guests are on board. The rules are simple: every crew member must paint a "quacker" that represents who they are, and then hide them around the Odyssey to be found.

After last week's revelations, it seems as though Max and Avery are keeping close to each other, while Tristan is chasing after a little rebound with Vivian. The two have a sweet moment while painting their duckies, where Vivian shares the inspiration behind her Starry Night-inspired duckie, and it does seem like the series wants to get these two closer to each other, despite the looming pregnancy plotline.

Unsurprisingly, Max is avidly against the idea of rubber duckies, because they are made of plastic which ends up in the ocean and ingested by innocent animals. For some reason, we get a flashback to Max saving a seagull while he was on an animal rescue mission several years ago. Clearly, Max is a bit of a D-O-M-I-N-G-O—a man of many talents and a potential baby daddy. As everyone starts to paint their ducks, Avery makes a comment to Max about how the smell of the paint is making her nauseous, which prompts her to take the pregnancy test once they're back on the ship.

In addition to the founders of Quackers United, Jill and Jerry Manafort, this week sees two of Avery's oldest friends joining her aboard the Odyssey, and they couldn't have arrived at a better time. Shortly after Avery discovers that she is indeed pregnant, she collects her pals, and brings them back to her quarters to tell them her big surprise: she got into medical school! Oh, and also, she's pregnant. The double-whammy is the last thing that any of them could have expected, and Avery is left worrying that having a baby might derail her plans for the future.

Her friends are exactly what she needs at the moment, because one is a happy mother, and the other is happy because she had an abortion. Their lived experiences push Avery to think

about what she really wants, because she wants to have a family and go to medical school, but maybe not at the same time. It's "the female dilemma," as Avery calls it. Of course, her friends do want to know who the father is, and the mystery of it all delights them.

Surprisingly, the Quackers seem to be the tamest bunch of passengers the *Odyssey* has played host to all season — so much so that Tristan gets to spend the majority of the episode lounging around in the pool with Vivian, instead of treating patients. Vivian tells Tristan to stop flirting with her like it's a spot, and it's impossible to believe that she doesn't know that Tristan is obsessed with Avery, so it's smart of her to try to reestablish whatever is going on between her and Tristan. Tristan admits, rather lamely, that he just wants to get to know Vivian slowly, and she takes the bait. The two share another sweet moment, before Max shows up to lecture them about the infamous Friendly Floatees spill and warn them about the bacterial dangers of rubber duckies. The pair do not heed his warnings and wind up with bacterial conjunctivitis, which is highly contagious and prevents them from doing their jobs for the rest of the week.

Because of Tristan's absence from the medical team, it's up to Max and Avery to solve this week's medical mystery, and it's an interesting one. During the first night aboard the cruise, *Doctor Odyssey* reveals that Jerry has an odd habit of eating things he shouldn't be eating, and that lands him in the infirmary pretty quickly. At first, they're perplexed about his condition, but after they run a CT scan on him, they discover that he has Pica—a disorder that makes people compulsively consume non-food items. Unfortunately for Jerry, it's left him in a serious condition, and even after their quick-thinking endoscopy sees them remove nearly twenty objects from his stomach, he still isn't improving.

After Jerry's surgery, Max and Avery take turns monitoring him throughout the night, and at one point, Max wakes Avery up because he feels like something is off with their patient. Avery assures him that Jerry's mild fever is a reaction to the anesthetics, but it's not: things are about to get even worse for him. They put him under again for surgery, fearing that something he ate may have torn his intestines, and discover that a pretty large expanse of his bowels are necrotic, forcing them to perform a pretty hefty surgery to remove the obstruction and save his life. While all of this is going on, Avery takes a moment to question Max about whether what they do is enough for him, and he lightly teases her about having an existential crisis, entirely unaware of the fact that she really is having one. From the start, it's been clear that Max and Avery have the stronger connection in this love triangle, and *Doctor Odyssey* even has them holding hands to comfort each other after the dicey procedure!

As the cruise comes to an end, Jerry is transferred to a hospital on shore, but his wife doesn't want to leave the *Odyssey*. The entire ordeal has left her unsettled, because despite going on cruises with her husband for years, and spending days at a time at sea, she never realized that he had something like Pica. As Max, Avery, and Tristan talk with her and try to set her nerves at ease, she makes a comment about how it's possible to embark on a grand adventure with someone you love, but still not be able to ask them if they're OK, and that sticks with Avery. Avery hangs back to help Jill pack her things, but tells Max and Tristan to meet her in the infirmary in ten minutes because she needs to talk with them.

In the infirmary, Avery sits a pair of pink and blue baby ducks on Max's desk and nervously tries to explain why she's presenting them with the ducks. Before she can even get to the point, Max and Tristan both realize what they're being told. Max immediately launches into the reassuring doctor shtick, promising Avery that she can still complete medical school while pregnant and with a baby, but that's not what she needs to hear right now. Tristan is quick to put Max in his place, pointing out that he's just rambling for his own benefit, rather than listening to what Avery needs. Max, ever the perceptive one, recognizes that this isn't the first time that Tristan has had a conversation like this, and he reveals that this happened twice on the last cruise ship he was assigned to. Tristan underscores that this has to be Avery's decision, because it's her body, and they have to just sit by and let her reach her decision.

Actor Appearances

A

Marija Juliette Abney.....	1
0105 (Sarah)	
Brian Altemus.....	1
0101 (Leo Brandt)	
Blanca Araceli.....	1
0103 (Viva)	
Kent Avenido.....	1
0101 (Passenger)	

B

Brittany Baker.....	1
0102 (Girlfriend)	
Kelsea Ballerini.....	1
0106 (Lisa Parsons)	
Michael Baydoun.....	1
0102 (Manuel (Analisa's Fiance))	
Kate Berlant.....	1
0104 (Agnes Simkin)	

C

Mikayla Soo-ni Campbell.....	1
0103 (Pippa)	
Flor de Maria Chahua.....	1
0101 (Mary)	
Marcus Cheyney.....	1
0102 (Marcus)	
Margaret Cho.....	1
0104 (Judy Riva)	
Brock Ciarlelli.....	1
0107 (Marco)	
Tiffany Commons.....	1
0101 (Rhonda Cole)	
Rick Cosnett.....	4
0105 (Corey); 0106 (Corey); 0107 (Corey); 0108 (Corey)	
Adam Cropper.....	1
0107 (Jared)	
Kassandra Cruz.....	1
0102 (Analisa)	

D

Jacob Dacus.....	1
0103 (Allan)	
Shannon Dee.....	1
0102 (Side Piece)	
Loretta Devine.....	1
0108 (Jill Manafort)	
Rachel Dratch.....	1
0101 (Mrs. Rubens)	

E

Sheri Effres.....	2
0101 (Lady at Dinner); 0103 (Lady at Dinner)	
Grady Eldridge.....	1
0107 (Raphael)	

F

Evan Faunce.....	1
0101 (Lifeguard)	
Noah Fearnley.....	1
0103 (Valet)	

G

Paloma Garcia-Lee.....	1
0108 (Frankie)	
Gina Gershon.....	2
0103 (Lenore Laurent); 0108 (Lenore Laurent)	
Annie Gonzalez.....	1
0106 (Deyja)	
Krystin Goodwin.....	1
0101 (News Reporter)	

H

Laura Harrier.....	3
0104 (Vivian Montgomery); 0105 (Vivian Montgomery); 0108 (Vivian Montgomery)	
Jasmine Hester.....	1
0102 (Girl)	
Reasha Honaker.....	1
0101 (Nurse)	
Jeremy D. Howard.....	1
0101 (Mr. Airington)	

J

Cheyenne Jackson.....	1
0107 (Brian)	
Justin Jedlica.....	1
0103 (Ken)	
Kelsey Lea Jones.....	1
0107 (Receptionist)	

K

Asha Kamali.....	1
0101 (Tamara Airington)	

L

Julian Larach.....	1
0103 (Porter)	
Lucy Loken.....	1
0101 (Bridget)	

Kay Lome 1
 0102 (Steam Room Girl)

M

Bryan Marcos 1
 0104 (Rowan)

Constance Marie 1
 0103 (Caroline Von Dreesen)

Christopher Marino 1
 0104 (Helmsman)

Margo Martindale 1
 0106 (Ellen Parsons)

Amanda McCants 1
 0105 (Velma)

Peyton McCormick 1
 0103 (Skipper)

Tom McGowan 1
 0101 (Burt Rubens)

Hayley McLaughlin 1
 0103 (Jessa)

Fred Melamed 1
 0108 (Jerry Manafort)

Michelle Meredith 1
 0107 (Kacey)

Anna Mhairi 1
 0101 (Cute Girl)

Marcus Emanuel Mitchell 6
 0101 (First Officer Spencer Monroe); 0102 (First Officer Spencer Monroe); 0104 (First Officer Spencer Monroe); 0106 (First Officer Spencer Monroe); 0107 (First Officer Spencer Monroe); 0108 (First Officer Spencer Monroe)

Christine Mulhern 1
 0103 (Vanna)

Andrea Munoz 1
 0105 (Bunny)

N

Michelle Núñez 1
 0105 (Julia)

Hunter Nance 1
 0107 (David)

Elliott Nazarian 1
 0101 (Bartender)

April Nelson 1
 0105 (Partygoer)

O

James William O'Halloran 1
 0108 (Bartender)

Myko Olivier 1
 0105 (Derrick)

Max Owen 1
 0103 (Elevator Man)

Hudson Oz 1
 0106 (Eric Colby)

R

Amanda Rea 1
 0103 (Barbie)

S

Bryan Scamman 1
 0105 (Werewolf)

Jared Scott 1
 0107 (Mark)

Amy Sedaris 1
 0104 (Bethany Welles)

Andy Shephard 1
 0103 (Waiter)

Johnny Sibilly 1
 0107 (Riley)

Marco Da Silva 1
 0107 (Instructor Carlo)

Sam Skolnik 1
 0101 (Young Resident)

John Stamos 1
 0107 (Craig Massey)

Dominique Star 1
 0102 (Boho Chick)

Matt Steele 1
 0105 (Fairy)

Josh Stone 1
 0107 (Passenger)

Ara Storm 1
 0108 (Guest)

Frederick Stuart 1
 0102 (Bartender Billy)

Rachel Stubington 1
 0101 (Rhea)

Stephanie Suganami 1
 0102 (Kelly)

T

Ta'imua 1
 0102 (Boho Dude)

Caldwell Tidicue 1
 0107 (Marsha)

Jacqueline Toboni 4
 0104 (Rosie); 0106 (Rosie); 0107 (Rosie); 0108 (Rosie)

Evan Todd 1
 0105 (Paul)

Tim Torre 1
 0103 (Concierge)

Pam Trotter 1
 0102 (Wife)

Mason Trueblood 1
 0101 (Dancer)

Shania Twain 1
 0102 (Grandma)

Y

Toni Youngblood 1
 0104 (Kathy)

Z

Kevin Zegers 1
 0106 (Bennet)

Carmela Zumbado 1
 0105 (Luna)

Gigi Zumbado 1
 0105 (Amelia)

Taissa Zweiter 1
 0103 (Beachside Hostess)