

= Enlightenment ( Doctor Who ) =

Enlightenment is the fifth serial of the 20th season in the British science fiction television series Doctor Who , which aired on BBC1 in four twice @-@ weekly parts from 1 March 1983 to 9 March 1983 . The 127th serial of the series , Enlightenment was the third of three loosely connected serials known as the Black Guardian Trilogy . It was written by Barbara Clegg and directed by Fiona Cumming .

In the serial , alien time traveller the Doctor ( Peter Davison ) and his companions Tegan Jovanka ( Janet Fielding ) and Vislor Turlough ( Mark Strickson ) encounter a group of god @-@ like immortals who are racing historical Earth sailing vessels through space , crewed by humans they had plucked out of time , in an attempt to win the prize of the titular enlightenment . Turlough is under the control of the Black Guardian ( Valentine Dyal ) , but struggles with the Guardian 's orders to kill the Doctor .

The serial 's production was beset by problems caused by industrial action taken by electricians at the BBC during filming . It was eventually finished three months behind schedule , but the unavailability of several actors for new filming dates forced the production team to recast their parts at short notice . Enlightenment averaged of 6 @.@ 8 million viewers per episode on its first transmission and received generally positive reviews from critics . The story was novelised by its writer , Barbara Clegg , as part of the ongoing Target Books range in 1984 and was released on video and DVD in 1993 and 2009 respectively .

= = Plot = =

Following interference from the White ( Cyril Luckham ) and Black ( Valentine Dyal ) Guardians , the TARDIS materialises in what appears to be the hold of a ship . The Fifth Doctor ( Peter Davison ) leaves companion Tegan ( Janet Fielding ) in the TARDIS while he and Turlough ( Mark Strickson ) leave to explore .

The Doctor discovers the crew remember nothing of coming aboard , have been below decks the whole time , and that the ship they are on has been entered in some sort of race . Tegan leaves the TARDIS and encounters the ship 's first mate , Marriner ( Christopher Brown ) , who offers to take her to her friends , while the Doctor and Turlough encounter Captain Striker ( Keith Barron ) . In the ship 's wheelhouse , the Doctor sees a map of the racecourse , complete with " marker buoys " which he recognises as the planets of Earth 's solar system . Marriner then operates anachronistic electronic controls and a viewscreen activates to show the other contestants ? a Greek trireme , a 17th Century pirate ship , and other vessels from other times , all floating in deep space and using solar wind propulsion .

The Doctor discovers that the ship 's officers are Eternals , beings who live in the " trackless wastes of eternity , " as opposed to the Doctor and his companions , who are " Ephemerals . " When one of the other ships explodes the Doctor begins to suspect sabotage . Tegan feels ill , so Marriner escorts her to a room , which contains items from the TARDIS and her rooms in Brisbane and realises Marriner has been reading her mind .

The Doctor discovers that Eternals use Ephemerals for their thoughts and ideas . The Eternals have lived for so long that they are unable to think for themselves and need human minds to give them existence . The prize for winning the race is Enlightenment , the wisdom to know everything . The TARDIS is discovered by the Eternals , who make it vanish . Trapped on board the Edwardian ship for the moment , the Doctor and his companions go on board deck in space suits . Turlough hears the voice of the Black Guardian taunting him and unable to take the strain , he leaps overboard into space .

Turlough is rescued by the Buccaneer , the pirate ship commanded by Captain Wrack ( Lynda Baron ) . Wrack sends her first mate to present one of the other competitors with a jewelled sword , and to deliver party invitations to the other captains . Marriner offers to escort Tegan and the Doctor to the party as one of the ships draws level with the Buccaneer . Wrack shows Turlough a locked chamber with a vacuum shield , and he hears the voice of the Black Guardian through the door as

the rival ship explodes , apparently hit by an asteroid . The Doctor again suspects foul play as the ship was also challenging the Buccaneer .

Arriving on board the Buccaneer , the Doctor and Tegan mingle while Turlough sneaks off to examine the locked chamber . Following Turlough , the Doctor discovers a device he believes that Wrack uses to transmit power to destroy the other ships , using some sort of focus . The pair recall that the captains of both destroyed ships had received red crystals as gifts from Wrack , leading the Doctor to believe that the crystals are the focus . Before they can act on it , however , they are captured by Wrack 's first mate . Meanwhile , Wrack has managed to lure Tegan away from the party to her wheelhouse and freezes her in time while she plants a crystal in her tiara .

Confronted by Wrack , Turlough accuses the Doctor of being a spy and claims he was trying to capture the Doctor . The Doctor , Tegan and Marriner return to their ship but Wrack reads Turlough 's mind , discovering he is lying , and is about to kill him , only for Turlough to tell her that he , too , serves the Black Guardian . As the ships near the crystalline space station of the Enlighteners , the Buccaneer pulls level with the Edwardian Ship , and Wrack takes Turlough into her chamber , this time letting him witness her summoning the power of the Black Guardian . The Doctor , seeing the Buccaneer pull close , discovers the crystal in Tegan 's tiara . The Doctor smashes it , but only manages to multiply its power by the number of fragments .

The Doctor hurls the pieces overboard as they explode . Suddenly , the wind dies , and Wrack pulls ahead of the Edwardian ship . The Eternals return the TARDIS to the Doctor and he travels to the Buccaneer . He tries to reason with Wrack , but her first mate shows up with Turlough , and she orders that the Doctor be thrown into space . As Tegan watches from the Edwardian ship , two bodies are ejected into space , and the Buccaneer reaches the finish . The human crews of the ships vanish .

The Enlighteners are the Black and White Guardians , and the winner is the Doctor , who brought the ship in with Turlough 's help when Wrack and her first mate met with an " accident . " The Doctor , however , refuses the diamond crystal containing Enlightenment , and the White Guardian dismisses Striker and Marriner , who vanish back into eternity . As Turlough helped the Doctor , he is entitled to a portion of the prize . The Black Guardian reminds Turlough of their bargain , and says that he can give up the diamond , or sacrifice the Doctor to gain both Enlightenment and the TARDIS . Turlough hurls the diamond at the Black Guardian , who vanishes in screams and flames . The Doctor points out that Enlightenment was not the diamond , but the choice itself .

= = = Continuity = = =

To commemorate the show 's anniversary , every story during Season 20 included the return of an enemy from The Doctor 's past . During this trilogy ( begun in the serial Mawdryn Undead , and concluding with Enlightenment ) , the enemy was the Black Guardian , who was last encountered by the fourth incarnation of the Doctor at the conclusion of The Key to Time saga in the 1979 serial The Armageddon Factor . The story also saw the return of the White Guardian , who had also not been seen since 1979 . To date , neither character , nor the Eternals , have appeared in the show again .

= = Production = =

= = = Conception and writing = = =

After penning a number of radio and TV scripts , including episodes of Crossroads and Waggoner 's Walk , Barbara Clegg submitted a story idea to Doctor Who script editor Eric Saward , an acquaintance from the BBC drama department . Interested in writing for the series , Clegg had been inspired when distant relatives had stayed with her and demanded constant entertainment during their visit , basing the character of the Eternals upon them . Initially titled The Enlighteners , her submission involved ships racing through space that , with the addition of the Black Guardian sub @-@ plot , eventually evolved into the story as screened . Saward and series producer John Nathan

@-@ Turner liked Clegg 's ideas , and they commissioned the script in September 1981 . The first episode was delivered by Clegg in October and the three following episodes arriving in January 1982 . The serial was now scheduled to conclude a three @-@ story trilogy featuring the Black Guardian , and Clegg duly wrote the recurring characters into her scripts . By May 1982 there were problems with a script by Pat Mills , Song of the Space Whale , which had been intended to open the Black Guardian trilogy . Mills ' script was eventually dropped and the production team considered moving The Enlighteners forward in the season to replace it , necessitating considerable re @-@ wites . Peter Grimwade was eventually commissioned to write Mawdryn Undead to replace The Song of the Space Whale , and The Enlighteners was confirmed as the fifth serial of the season . The first draft of Part One did not contain any of the material concerning the Guardians , and Turlough was a peripheral figure , with the script focussing on the relationship between Marriner and Tegan . With pre @-@ production underway , Saward changed the story title to Enlightenment in September 1982 , a title he felt was more enigmatic . Saward also rewrote portions of the script pertaining to the story @-@ arc , particularly the final confrontation scenes at the end of Part Four . Peter Moffatt had been originally scheduled as the serials director , but following the problems with the Space Whale script he was asked to helm its replacement due to his experience , and so Fiona Cumming was asked to take over Enlightenment .

Once production began it became apparent that Part One and Part Two were under @-@ running so more dialogue was written to fill in the time . It was originally intended that the character of Jackson would not reappear after the second episode , but during filming Saward became concerned that it appeared that he had been executed and so he and Clegg rewrote Part Three to include him . Part Three also looked to be under running so scenes from Part Four were brought forward and the final scenes with the Guardians were extended to compensate .

= = = Casting = = =

Cumming came up with the idea that the Eternals would not blink and cast actors who she believed could provide detached performances . Cumming recalled Peter Sallis had played a similarly detached character in the 1974 BBC drama The Pallisers , and cast him in the role of Striker . Sallis was present during the rehearsals for the serial but when production was delayed he was unavailable for the new filming dates , being committed to filming Last of the Summer Wine and was forced to drop out of the production , being replaced by Keith Barron . Lynda Baron was cast as Captain Wrack , having previously participated in Doctor Who in the 1966 serial The Gunfighters , as the voice that sings the " Ballad of the Last Chance Saloon " heard throughout that story . Tony Caunter , who had previously played Thatcher in The Crusade and Morgan in Colony in Space was given the role of Jackson , with Christopher Brown and David Rhule being cast as Marriner and Wrack 's sidekick Mansell respectively . Similarly to Sallis , David Rhule was unavailable for the revised filming dates in January , so singer Lee John replaced him at short notice , despite having no previous acting experience .

Valentine Dyal had originally played the Black Guardian in the 1979 serial The Armageddon Factor , the character 's first appearance in the series , and reprised the role for season 20 , appearing in Mawdryn Undead , Terminus and Enlightenment . Similarly Cyril Luckham reprised the role of the White Guardian , that he had previously played in the 1979 serial The Ribos Operation .

= = = Design = = =

The interior sets of the boats were not built specifically for the programme , but were pulled together from stock items from various prop warehouses . Cumming had originally hoped to simulate the rocking of the ships by mounting the sets on rollers but the idea was dropped due to costs , with the effect achieved by moving the cameras instead . The photo of Tegan 's Aunt Vanessa , one of the items created by Marriner from the contents of her mind , was shot specifically for the filming , requiring Dolore Whiteman ( who had played the character in Logopolis ) to be contracted for a one @-@ day photoshoot . The models of the boats , used in the racing sequences , were props

sourced by visual effects designer Mike Kelt following extensive research at the National Maritime Museum . The ships were mounted on rods for filming , while the oars were battery operated . The model of Davey 's ship remained intact , with explosion being a filmed effect that was edited into the sequence . Kelt was shocked by the dilapidated state of the TARDIS console prop , and was worried about damaging it while filming the explosion from Part One , and asked producer John Nathan @-@ Turner if he could replace it but was told there was no money available .

The anachronistic wetsuits on the Edwardian ship were actually heavy @-@ duty overalls that had been painted black . Janet Fielding struggled with the low cut ball @-@ gown she wore during filming as it threatened to expose her breasts on a number of occasions . The ball gown worn by Baron was made especially for the serial and was the most expensive costume on display . The newspaper found by the Doctor in Part One was a reprint of The Times from September 1901 , while the food and drink served during the party scenes was all real .

= = = Filming = = =

The serial began principal filming in early November 1982 , with filming divided into two main blocks . The first block was shot on film at Ealing Studios between 3 ? 5 November and consisted of the deck scenes and a number of model shots . Actor Mark Strickson was injured while filming the scene of Turlough throwing himself overboard , when the Kirby wire he was suspended from broke , leaving him only able to walk with difficulty for several weeks . The studio work was scheduled to run from 6 November until mid December and consisted of all the interior scenes and those in the TARDIS . By mid @-@ November however the electricians union the EEPTU , had begun strike action which disrupted the filming of a number of BBC productions including Enlightenment and potentially meaning the final three serials of the season would have to be abandoned . The electricians dispute was settled by December , but it had badly affected the series recording schedule . The crew were able to shoot the following serial The King 's Demons on schedule , meaning that there was only one recording block left for the part @-@ completed Enlightenment and Eric Saward 's season finale ; The Return . With some filming already completed , and its importance in concluding the Black Guardian story @-@ arc , it was decided that Enlightenment should take precedence and so it had its second production block moved to January 1983 , while The Return was abandoned . Due to the delays , the serial only finished filming around a month before its transmission date , meaning that composer Malcolm Clarke only received the first episode for scoring a week before broadcast , having to rely on musical cues he had recorded weeks earlier without having seen any footage .

= = Themes = =

Writer Barbara Clegg based the Eternals on a wealthy group of her relatives , who upon visiting her had demanded constant entertainment , treating other family members almost as " lesser beings " . Clegg also drew inspiration from the Bible 's Book of Genesis , deriving the prize of enlightenment from The Tree of Knowledge within it , while having read about Solar winds she decided to use them as the basis of propulsion for space vessels . Clegg highlighted the nature of enlightenment , showing it not to be knowledge , as the Eternals believe , but wisdom , as demonstrated by Turlough 's rejection of the Black Guardian .

The story echoes a recurring theme from the show ; that of bored , god @-@ like beings playing with the lives of mortals for the purpose of amusement . In their book About Time , Lawrence Miles and Tat Wood liken this to a prevalent strand of children 's fiction , where magical worlds are held together by the rules of the children who visit them . Miles and Wood also highlight the political elements of the story , likening the portrayal of the Eternals to the view of the upper classes as " effete parasites feeding off the labour ( and in this case the imagination ) of the proles . " The Doctor then , acts as part of the class struggle , helping the workers gain freedom while the gentry get their comeuppance .

In his essay Love is a Stranger , published in the first volume of the Doctor Who Magazine ?

Special Edition , David Bailey highlights the central theme that " ... the lives of little people are precious , special and worth fighting for ... the Eternals may have unimaginable power at their fingertips but they lack , and are jealous of , one thing : the ability to live , and die . " The hollowness of immortality was a thread that ran through Season 20 , with the earlier story Mawdryn Undead showing Mawdryn trapped in an endless cycle of painful regeneration , while in The Five Doctors , Borusa 's prize of immortality results in little more than a living death . The horror of eternal life is brought home when the Black Guardian threatens Turlough with immortality as a punishment for failure , something that drives him to try and commit suicide rather than face eternity .

= = Broadcast = =

Enlightenment was first broadcast in a twice @-@ weekly slot on BBC One during the first two weeks of March 1983 . The story episodes averaged 6 @.@ 8 million viewers , with the highest viewing figures being 7 @.@ 3 million for the final episode . The episodes averaged 67 @.@ 5 % on BARB 's Appreciation Index , with Part Four once again achieving the highest figures .

= = = Key = = =

= = = Archive = = =

The BBC holds all four episodes on D @-@ 3 tape , recorded from the original two @-@ inch broadcast tapes .

= = Reception = =

Reviewing the story for Doctor Who Magazine 's 200 Golden Moments special edition , Jeremy Bentham described it as being epic in scale , suggesting it played to the original strengths of the series ; " performance , period set design and claustrophobic mood ... " . He likens Enlightenment to the work of Stanley Kubrick , saying " ... it felt grand , it felt lonely , and yes , it felt epic . " On reappraising the story for the same magazine following its release on DVD , Gary Gillatt was equally as effusive , calling it " ... one of Doctor Who 's finest serials . " He highlights the performance of Keith Barron as Captain Striker as being " a master class of under @-@ stated menace " and " pitch perfect " , juxtaposing this with the over @-@ the @-@ top pantomime villainy of Lynda Baron as Captain Wrack , with the two captains balancing each other out perfectly .

Writing for the Radio Times , Mark Braxton was less enamoured of some of the performances , suggesting that Baron and Valentine Dyall turn in ' hammy ' interpretations of their characters , while Lee John " ... makes heavy weather of the simplest activities : helming the ship seems to require the most bizarre posturing . " He had mixed views on the story as a whole , saying that " Enlightenment has promising components that come together and briefly create a little magic , then vanish again , like ships that pass in the night . " DVD Talk 's John Sinnott had similarly mixed views on the serial , although conceding that " ... While it doesn 't all succeed , they give it a good try and more things work than don 't . " Sinnott also singled out the performance of Keith Barron for particular praise , along with the relationship between Marriner and Tegan .

In their book About Time , Lawrence Miles and Tat Wood have equally mixed feelings about the serial , praising the setting and the performances of Barron and Brown , and suggesting that it " ... carries on the tradition of putting symbols from the world we know into disconcerting environments ... ( it ) completes the grand illusion of making the history and the fantasy feel like part of the same continuum . " They are less complimentary about other elements however , citing the conclusion as feeling " rushed and tacked on " with too much emphasis on the Guardians and little on the fates of the Eternals . They also dismiss the reveal of enlightenment as being the nature of Turlough 's choice , as coming " perilously close to tweeness " and accuse it of being " cod @-@ mythologic moralising " .

Enlightenment was placed in 72nd position in Doctor Who Magazine 's Mighty 200 reader survey in 2009 , which ranked every Doctor Who serial to that point in order of preference .

= = Commercial releases = =

= = = In print = = =

A novelisation of this serial , written by story author Barbara Clegg , was published by Target Books in May 1984 , with a cover by Andrew Skilleter , and was numbered 85 in the ongoing range . It was the first Doctor Who novelisation to be penned by a woman . On its publication Doctor Who Magazine was underwhelmed by the book , claiming in their review that " In many ways , it falls into the familiar Terrance Dicks pitfalls , being a straight forward reworking of the script with " said " following all the speeches . For all its faults , Enlightenment remains a good read , simply because of the strength of the story ... " The book was repackaged as part of The Sixth Doctor Who Gift Set later in 1984 , along with three other Doctor Who novels ; The Dominators , Mawdryn Undead and The Five Doctors .

= = = Home media = = =

Enlightenment was released on VHS in February 1993 . It was subsequently released on DVD as part of the Black Guardian Trilogy , along with preceding stories Mawdryn Undead and Terminus on 10 August 2009 . The second disc of the DVD includes a " Special Edition " version of the story ; a movie @-@ style edit featuring new CGI graphics throughout , with a newly recorded introduction by director Fiona Cumming . Doctor Who Magazine was not enthusiastic about the new edit suggesting , that " ... what is special about it is up for debate . " The reviewer disparaged the new special effects , stating that " ... this is ironic as there are few Doctor Who stories less in need of replacement effects than Enlightenment . The original model work is gorgeous , while this substitute material is crude and unsophisticated in comparison . " Alongside the special edition , the DVD contained a number of extra features , including a Making of ... documentary and extended interviews with director Fiona Cumming , writer Barbara Clegg and actor Mark Strickson , a documentary on the Guardians plus an excerpt from the Russell Harty Christmas Party TV special featuring Peter Davison . This serial was also released as part of the Doctor Who DVD Files in issue 57 on 9 March 2011 .

= = = Reviews = = =

Enlightenment reviews at Outpost Gallifrey

Enlightenment reviews at The Doctor Who Ratings Guide

= = = Target novelisation = = =

On Target ? Enlightenment