

= Army of Ghosts =

" Army of Ghosts " is the twelfth and penultimate episode in the second series of the British science fiction television programme Doctor Who which was first broadcast on 1 July 2006 . It is the first episode of a two @-@ part story ; the concluding episode , " Doomsday " , was first broadcast on 8 July .

The episode takes place on contemporary Earth , some time after the Doctor 's and Rose 's last visit to Earth in " Love & Monsters " . During this time , the public have become accustomed to intermittent appearances of ghosts . The Doctor tracks the source of the ghosts to the Torchwood Institute , where the Doctor learns of the Cybermen from " Rise of the Cybermen " and " The Age of Steel " crossing a breach in the Void created by a Dalek @-@ piloted Void ship .

= = Plot = =

The episode begins with a cold open in which Rose , via narration , recollects her life with the Doctor and her belief that they would always be travelling together . She then mentions that this episode is " the story of how I died " .

Rose Tyler and the Doctor decide to visit Rose 's mother Jackie . Jackie is pleased to see them , but makes a strangely happy remark that her deceased father will be joining them shortly . Despite Rose 's protestations that her grandfather is dead , Jackie insists that he has returned and has been visiting her for some time . A vaguely humanoid and luminous silhouette appears in the flat , surprising both the Doctor and Rose but delighting Jackie before disappearing . TV broadcasts confirm that this is a worldwide phenomenon and Jackie explains that a few months previously millions of ghosts began appearing all over the world . Humans have come to accept them and believe that they are the manifestations of loved ones .

The Doctor dismisses the possibility that these are ghosts and conducts an experiment with the help of the TARDIS . He attempts to trap a ghost and determines that they are not ghosts but are impressions of something forcing its way into this universe . The Doctor tracks the signal back and uses the TARDIS to travel there , arriving at the Torchwood Institute . The Doctor introduces himself and tells everyone that Jackie is Rose , his companion . They are taken by soldiers to see Torchwood 's current director Yvonne Hartman , while the TARDIS is impounded with Rose inside . Ms. Hartman shows the Doctor the source of the ghost energy , an invisible breach in the universe through which a mysterious spherical object has arrived . The Doctor inspects the sphere , declaring it to be a " Void ship " ? which , according to him , is impossible . It is designed to exist in the space between universes , a nothingness called the Void . The ship is completely undetectable by all scientific instruments . Torchwood has no explanation for the sphere is or how it got there , but they claim responsibility for the ghosts . Torchwood has been conducting experiments on the breach , forcing it open in an attempt to harness it as a source of energy . Ms. Hartman also reveals to the Doctor that his encounter with Queen Victoria in " Tooth and Claw " made him an enemy of the state and was the catalyst for the creation of Torchwood . Unbeknownst to all at this point , an unseen party has infiltrated the institute and has been successful in subverting three Torchwood staff .

Meanwhile , Rose slips out of the TARDIS and uses a lab coat she found to masquerade as an employee to explore Torchwood . She gains access to the sphere chamber with the Doctor 's psychic paper , but is detained by a Dr. Singh . He discovers that Rose is an imposter and informs Ms. Hartman of her presence . Dr. Singh then asks his colleague Samuel , whom Rose recognises as Mickey Smith , to seal the doors . Ms. Hartman questions the Doctor , who admits that the woman in the sphere chamber is really Rose and that the woman with him in her office is Rose 's mum Jackie . In the command centre , the three employees under manipulation initiate an unscheduled ghost shift and forcibly open the breach . The extended shift causes millions of ghosts to appear across the globe before they materialise into their true form , the Cybermen . At the same time the Cybermen arrive the Void ship suddenly activates and begins to open . The Cybermen take control of Torchwood and order the complete surrender of humanity for conversion . The Doctor , puzzled at how the Cybermen could have created an advanced piece of technology like the Void

ship , asks the Cyber Leader how they were able to build it . The Cyber Leader responds that the Cybermen are similarly oblivious to the origins of the sphere and that they merely followed its course through the breach .

In the sphere chamber , Mickey explains to Rose that after a battle in the parallel universe the Cybermen mysteriously disappeared . He happened upon their means of escape and returned to his native universe with the intention of stopping them . Mickey believes that the Cybermen are in control of the sphere and produces a gun to destroy whatever is in it . Rose is horrified when the sphere opens and reveals its occupants to be a quartet of Daleks , who identify their location as Earth and begin chanting , " Exterminate ! Exterminate ! " .

= = = Continuity = = =

The majority of this episode takes place in the Torchwood Institute , which is seen on screen for the first time . The phrase " Torchwood " originated from an anagram of Doctor Who used to conceal the " rushes " tapes during the filming of the first series . It was an arc word used through the majority of the second series , starting with the series one episode " Bad Wolf " .

The episode 's secondary plot device is the Cybermen , from the parallel universe featured in " The Age of Steel " and " Rise of the Cybermen " . The Cybermen breaking through plastic sheets is a recurring theme throughout Cybermen appearances , in particular , The Tomb of the Cybermen , The Invasion and Earthshock . The concept of a CyberKing , mentioned by Mickey , would eventually come to pass in " The Next Doctor " .

The episode is also the first in which Freema Agyeman appears , although she is not playing the role of Martha Jones , which she would play in series 3 , but a minor character named Adeola (who is later revealed to be Martha 's cousin) . Russell T Davies admired Agyeman 's performance as Adeola and called her back to fill the role of companion that Piper had chosen to leave .

Although Cybermen and Daleks previously appeared together in The Wheel in Space , The War Games , The Mind of Evil , Logopolis , The Five Doctors , and " Dalek " , this two @-@ part episode (including the next episode " Doomsday ") is the first time that both the Cybermen and Daleks play a major role .

= = Production = =

The two @-@ part finale comprising " Army of Ghosts " and " Doomsday " was originally going to take place in Cardiff on the time rift which was the focus of the episodes " The Unquiet Dead " and " Boom Town " . With the commission of the Torchwood series in 2005 , Davies decided to base the spin @-@ off in Cardiff and relocate " Army of Ghosts " and " Doomsday " to Canary Wharf in London .

To ensure that Noel Clarke and Shaun Dingwall (Mickey Smith and Pete Tyler , respectively) were available for filming , the story was filmed in the season 's third production block along with " Rise of the Cybermen " and " The Age of Steel " . Filming for the story started on 2 November 2005 on location in Kennington , but this story did not become the primary focus of the production crew until 29 November , when filming began on the scenes in and around the sphere chamber . Scenes in the lever room , the main setting for the story , were filmed between 12 December and 15 December , and 3 January and 5 January 2006 .

The episode also features references to other programmes by the BBC . The most notable of these is the cameo of Barbara Windsor as Peggy Mitchell in EastEnders , where she bars a ghost whom she presumes to be Den Watts from The Queen Victoria . Watts , presumed killed in 1989 , returned to the soap in 2003 , before being killed a second time in 2005 after being written out of the show . Other British TV personalities appearing in the episode are Trisha Goddard , Alistair Appleton and Derek Acorah , appearing as themselves . Additionally , the shot of One Canada Square is taken from the opening credits of The Apprentice . A programme with the same name as a controversial broadcast in 1992 by the BBC , Ghostwatch , also appears in the show .

Location shooting took place at the Coal Exchange and Mount Stuart Square , Cardiff Bay .

= = Broadcast and reception = =

To keep the appearance of the Daleks secret , the final scene was removed from all preview tapes and replaced with a title card reading " final scene withheld until transmission " , including the copy given to the Doctor Who microsite 's " fear forecast " team .

The episode was watched by 8 @. @ 19 million viewers , and was the seventh most watched programme of the week , behind four World Cup games and two episodes of Coronation Street . The Companion episode of Doctor Who Confidential gained 570 @, @ 000 viewers . The episode 's Appreciation Index was 86 , above the average baseline of 77 for drama series .

The episode was generally well reviewed by critics . The Stage commented that the episode was " a tense contest , full of drama , tears , adversity and two powerful forces coming face to face in the ultimate battle " while mockingly downplaying the England football team 's defeat earlier that evening . The author of the review then stated that the cliffhanger increased his affection of the show . The Guardian commented that the episode was " Who back at its best " while The People complimented the humour of the scene of the Doctor channel surfing . Jacob Clifton of Television Without Pity gave the episode an A- rating . Ahsan Haque of IGN gave the episode 9 @. @ 8 out of 10 (Incredible) , and complimented the pacing of the episode and the revelation of both the Cybermen and the Daleks , concluding that " you couldn 't ask for a better cliffhanger " .

After its initial airing , the episode was released on DVD with " Fear Her " and " Doomsday " on 25 September 2006 . The story (" Army of Ghosts " / " Doomsday ") was nominated for the 2007 Hugo Award for Best Dramatic Presentation , Short Form .

= = = Reviews = = =

" Army of Ghosts " reviews at Outpost Gallifrey

" Army of Ghosts " / " Doomsday " reviews at Outpost Gallifrey

" Army of Ghosts " reviews at The Doctor Who Ratings Guide

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