

= Space / Time =

" Space " and " Time " are two mini @-@ episodes of the British science fiction television series Doctor Who . They were broadcast on 18 March 2011 as part of BBC One 's Red Nose Day telethon for the charity Comic Relief . The two mini @-@ episodes were written by the programme 's head writer Steven Moffat and directed by Richard Senior .

The episodes form a two @-@ part story , set entirely within the TARDIS , starring Matt Smith as The Doctor , and Karen Gillan and Arthur Darvill as married couple Amy Pond and Rory Williams . Rory , helping the Doctor work on the TARDIS , looks up the glass floor surrounding the console and becomes distracted by Amy 's short skirt , causing him to drop the thermal couplings he was holding . This causes the three to be stuck in a " space loop " where the TARDIS materialises inside of the TARDIS .

" Space " and " Time " were filmed in two days alongside the sixth series DVD Night and the Doctor extras " Bad Night " and " Good Night " . The episodes are intended to show what life aboard the TARDIS would be like . Several editing techniques and doubles were used for the various shots where there were more than one of the same character on the screen . The mini @-@ episodes received mixed reviews ; some scenes were thought to be funny , but other jokes were criticised for relying on sexist humour . " Space " and " Time " were later released on the DVD and Blu @-@ ray sets of the sixth series .

= = Plot = =

= = = " Space " = = =

Amy Pond (Karen Gillan) is trying to get the Doctor 's (Matt Smith) attention while he fixes the TARDIS . She discovers that her husband Rory (Arthur Darvill) is helping the Doctor by installing thermal couplings underneath the glass floor of the TARDIS . Rory and Amy then start a small argument about Amy cheating when she took her driving test , when the TARDIS suddenly shakes and the lights go out . The Doctor asks Rory if he dropped a thermal coupling , which Rory admits to and apologises for doing . Amy then apologises as well and , at the Doctor 's confusion , explains that Rory was looking up her skirt through the glass floor when he dropped the thermal coupling . The Doctor then notes that they have landed through " emergency materialisation " which should have landed the TARDIS in the safest space available . The lights come on , revealing another TARDIS inside the control room ? the TARDIS has materialised inside itself . The Doctor experimentally walks through the door of the TARDIS inside the control room and instantly walks back into the control room through the door of the outer TARDIS . The Doctor tells Rory and Amy that they are trapped in a " space loop " and that nothing can enter or exit the TARDIS ever again . Despite the Doctor 's words , another Amy enters through the TARDIS door saying , " Okay , kids , this is where it gets complicated . "

= = = " Time " = = =

Continuing from the ending of " Space " , the other Amy reveals that she is from a few moments in the future , and is able to come into the current outer TARDIS because " the exterior shell of the TARDIS has drifted forwards in time " . The other Amy knows what to say and do because , from her perspective , she is repeating what she heard herself say earlier on . The Doctor sends the current Amy into the TARDIS within the current TARDIS , in order to " maintain the timeline " . The two Amys take a moment to flirt with each other before the current one departs , much to the Doctor 's exasperation . However , not long after the current Amy has left , Rory and Amy enter through the door of outer TARDIS explaining that the Doctor , from their perspective , has just sent them into the inner TARDIS . The current Doctor promptly sends the current Rory and the now @-@ current Amy through the inner TARDIS . The Doctor then explains that he will set up a " controlled temporal

implosion " in order to " reset the TARDIS " , but in order to do so he must know which lever to use on the control panel . Moments after he speaks , another Doctor enters through the outer TARDIS door and tells him to use " the wibbly lever " , which he quickly operates , then steps into the inner TARDIS to tell his past self which lever to use . The inner TARDIS dematerialises while the outer TARDIS (being the same TARDIS) does the same , and the Doctor assures Amy and Rory that they are now back in " normal flight " , and then advises Amy to " put some trousers on " .

= = Production = =

Doctor Who had previously aired two related specials for Comic Relief . The first was the 1999 spoof The Curse of Fatal Death , which was also written by Steven Moffat . The spin @-@ off series The Sarah Jane Adventures produced its own mini @-@ episode " From Raxacoricofallapatorius with Love " for the 2009 Comic Relief appeal . Unlike The Curse of Fatal Death , " Space " and " Time " are considered to be canonical . The canonicity of the two mini @-@ episodes was affirmed by Moffat in Doctor Who Magazine . Moffat stated that , unlike Curse of the Fatal Death , " Space " and " Time " is not a spoof or a sketch , but rather " a little miniature story " in the style of the Children in Need mini @-@ episodes . He described it as " A moment of life aboard the TARDIS . But obviously life about the TARDIS instantly gets you into terrible jeopardy , and all of causality is threatened . As I 'm sure it is every day when they get up and have their coffee ... " The concept of a TARDIS inside the TARDIS had been previously explored in The Time Monster (1972) and Logopolis (1980) , though both times it was the TARDIS of the Master . Amy also repeats one of her lines from " The Big Bang " at the end of " Space " .

The special was shot over two days alongside the made @-@ for @-@ DVD Night and the Doctor mini @-@ episodes " Bad Night " and " Good Night " . It was mostly shot on the first day , where all of the scenes with the TARDIS inside the TARDIS were filmed . Several tricks were used to create the illusion that there were more than one Doctor , Amy , and / or Rory . In scenes where the camera had to move between the double characters , a " whip @-@ pan " was used twice , with the actor in a different place each time . The two shots were then edited together into one seamless take . For scenes where there were more than one of the same character in the same shot , such as the two Amys in front of the TARDIS , the camera was held very still and the scene was filmed twice , with the actor 's double filling in for the part they were not playing . The doubles were also used briefly in scenes where the characters ' backs were to the camera , such as when the Doctor , Amy , and Rory watched the future Amy and Rory enter the TARDIS .

= = Broadcast , release and reception = =

" Space " and " Time " were broadcast during the Comic Relief Red Nose Day telethon on 18 March 2011 on BBC One . The telethon was watched by 10 @.@ 26 million viewers . The BBC posted the episode in two parts on their official YouTube channel . The mini episodes were included as bonus features in the Complete Sixth Series DVD and Blu @-@ ray box set , released on 21 November 2011 (Region 2) and 22 November 2011 (Region 1) .

Lucy Mangan of The Guardian responded positively , noting it " manages brilliantly to nod to just about every Whovian in @-@ joke , demographic and fetish within the span of two tiny installments " . The A.V. Club reviewer Christopher Bahn opined that the two Amys in " Space " and " Time " were " a lot more fun to watch " than the two in the sixth series episode " The Girl Who Waited " . Tor.com 's Teresa Jusino , who had positive towards Amy 's character in the past , was disappointed that the ending of the miniepisodes relied on " too @-@ easy , dated , sexist humor " . She cited the fact that Rory dropping the coupling was blamed on Amy 's short skirt rather than Rory himself , which implied that she had a " responsibility to cover up , because ' men will be men ' " . In Who is the Doctor , a guide to the revived series , Robert Smith wrote that the episode was " cute , plotted to perfection and ends precisely when it should , before it has the chance to outstay its welcome " . He said that the episodes used Amy well , as it did not make her unlikable . On the other hand , his coauthor Graeme Burk said that the story was " derivative and lazy " and a " missed opportunity " .

He likened the plot to that of Red Dwarf 's " Future Echoes " , and felt that Moffat could have written something better and funnier . Like Jusino , he thought that the " blokey humor " was " misplaced " , denying a broad audience appeal and leading to the sexist last line : " Pond , put some trousers on ! " . Despite this , both Jusino and Burk enjoyed the scene where Amy flirts with herself .