THE ELEVENTH DOCTOR SCRIPT SERIES SERIES FOUR, EPISODE EIGHT "THE SIREN PROJECT"

Ву

ROBIN BROWN

On a futuristic base, in one of many long, dimly lit steel corridors:

The TARDIS engines are groaning terribly. It's not the sound we're used to. It's a painful, difficult sound. The engine is choking.

Instead of materialising smoothly, the TARDIS stutters and snaps in and out of sight. Bolts of lightning shoot off before finally the blue box settles...

The door opens and MARIA is ushered out of the TARDIS by THE DOCTOR who quickly closes the door behind him.

MARIA

What was that?!

THE DOCTOR

I just did the equivalent of mounting the curb, scratching the bodywork and running over next door's cat.

MARIA

Wow. So you crashed the TARDIS?

THE DOCTOR

Maybe. I got distracted.

MARIA

You're doing that a lot lately.

THE DOCTOR

Getting distracted?

MARIA

Crashing the TARDIS. You get distracted all the time.

He turns on Maria.

THE DOCTOR

(cont'd)

You talk too much.

MARIA

I talk too much?!

THE DOCTOR

It doesn't matter anyway, we're fine and the TARDIS... will need an hour or two.

CONTINUED: 2.

MARIA

So, where are we? A corridor. (sarcastically)

That's new.

THE DOCTOR

A corridor, yes...

He looks up and down the corridor, nothing giving any information away.

THE DOCTOR

(cont'd)

But we have work to do here.

MARIA

Work? You don't work. I mean, not in the normal sense of the word.

THE DOCTOR

I've just ditched the TARDIS here, a crash landing of sorts, and if I didn't then she would have fallen into the Void with no way of escape...

MARIA

So?

THE DOCTOR

(looking behind her)

So...

From behind her, a spark of blue energy. She turns to see, a few feet in front of her, a small cloud of dark TIME ENERGY in the middle of the corridor.

MARIA

(frightened)

What is that?

THE DOCTOR

Like I said, the TARDIS came in too hard...

He walks past Maria and approaches the time storm.

THE DOCTOR

(cont'd)

Like a brick thrown at a pane of glass, a shockwave of time energy cracking the fabric of space.

He looks back at Maria.

CONTINUED: 3.

THE DOCTOR

(cont'd)

It's a time storm, a crack in space...

He looks forward, Maria close behind him.

THE DOCTOR

(cont'd)

... it's an insurance nightmare.

CUT TO;

OPENING TITLES

2

THE ELEVENTH DOCTOR SCRIPT SERIES

SERIES FIVE, EPISODE EIGHT

"THE SIREN PROJECT"

by ROBIN BROWN

FADE TO;

INT. CORRIDOR -- N/A

3

The time storm ripples with energy, tiny forks of lightning from within.

MARIA

So you made this when you crashed the TARDIS?

THE DOCTOR

(relaxed)

Yes. It's simple enough to fix.

He sonics the time storm and it closes in on itself, disappearing completely.

MARIA

Well, that was easy.

THE DOCTOR

There'll be more, it was quite a bumpy ride after all.

MARIA

You can say that again.

They walk up the corridor.

CONTINUED: 4.

THE DOCTOR

Quite an interesting phenomenon, time storms, they're like a network connecting two different time periods. It's the same space, but if you were to go through the time storm, it'll transport you to a different time.

MARIA

Time travel?

THE DOCTOR

Yes, a very basic and unstable form of time travel. I think the Skallik tried to use it.

MARIA

Tried and failed, I presume.

THE DOCTOR

The time storms grew and grew and nearly swallowed up half the galaxy.

MARIA

Ah.

THE DOCTOR

Ah, indeed. But we have plenty of time before anything too unstable happens, and there will only be a few more and they should be close by so...

MARIA

So nothing can go wrong?

THE DOCTOR

I wasn't going to say that.

MARIA

Why not?

THE DOCTOR

Because every time I do, something goes wrong.

CUT TO;

4

INT. SPECIMEN STORAGE FACILITY -- N/A

A steel chamber, open space in the middle but around the edges there are three large glass tubes.

In each of these is a thick green mist with a dark silhouette of a human-like creature inside.

THE DOCTOR and MARIA enter. He sonics the air, searching.

MARIA

Where are we then? Space? The future?

THE DOCTOR

Nowhere close and only a little bit.

MARIA

Huh?

THE DOCTOR

This is your not too distant future, I'd say early 22nd Century -

He licks his finger and checks the wind.

THE DOCTOR

(cont'd)

Actually, late 21st Century. I was only a hundred years out. And we're not in space, we're under the sea... very, very under the sea. Hm, there should be another time storm somewhere close.

MARIA

So, we're on Earth.

THE DOCTOR

Yes.

MARIA

And where are all the humans? This is a base, right, so where's the crew?

She looks closely at one of the large tubes, the Doctor still busy sonic-ing.

THE DOCTOR

It's a big base and probably a small crew, hopefully we'll be gone before anyone knows we're here.

CONTINUED: 6.

MALE VOICE (O.S)

And just how did you arrive here?

The Doctor turns, caught, but Maria sneaks behind the large tube and hides from view.

Scientist BILL COLE, a tough man in his 40s, rough stubble and an equally rough voice, enters accompanied by two armed security guards.

COLE

(cont'd)

I can't imagine you swam.

THE DOCTOR

(caught in the headlights)
No. I didn't swim. Never was a
strong swimmer.

COLE

And who were you talking to?

THE DOCTOR

Myself! I find I'm the only one who can keep up when I'm rambling on.

COLE

(unimpressed)

Yes, well, let's start with the easy questions. Who are you?

THE DOCTOR

That's hardly an easy question.

COLE

Give me a name.

THE DOCTOR

... The Doctor.

COLE

Just the Doctor?

THE DOCTOR

Yes.

COLE

Who are you working for and how did you get down here?

THE DOCTOR

I'm not working for anyone, I arrived here by accident and I don't appreciate your tone.

CONTINUED: 7.

COLE

I don't appreciate stowaways in my base!

CAPTAIN

(inter-com)

This isn't your base, Cole. Escort the prisoner to the bridge, pronto.

Cole flushes red, embarrassed and angry.

THE DOCTOR

So, who are you? Messenger boy?

COLE

I am Chief Scientist of this facility.

THE DOCTOR

(smiling)

Science! Hip hip hoorah! That's a rather fond subject of mine.

The Doctor happily walks out of the chamber, watched closely by Cole and the guards.

COLE

You don't have to talk.

THE DOCTOR

I don't have to not talk either.

The Doctor continues rambling in the corridor as they all walk away.

With the coast clear, Maria comes out from behind the large tube.

She's nervous and all alone. Helpless.

Her attention though is drawn to the giant tube filled with green mist and that dark outline of someone - or something - inside it.

She approaches the tube unaware that, behind her, a time storm has formed in silence.

Maria is totally focused on the tube because whatever's inside seems to be moving. She's inches away from the glass surface, squinting to try and see what it is and then -

BAM!

SNAP SHOT of a human-like hand slamming the glass from inside and surprising Maria. She steps back, turning just in time to see the time storm but too late to stop moving!

CONTINUED: 8.

Maria falls into the small storm cloud;

CUT TO:

FX. TIME STORM

5

MARIA falling through thick, stormy clouds. Lightning cracking and thunder booming everywhere and then;

CUT TO:

INT. SPECIMEN STORAGE FACILITY -- FUTURE

6

MARIA falls to the hard floor, breathing heavily and sweating bucket loads. She gets quickly to her feet and looks around.

The chamber is the same as earlier except darker, with only a few dim lights still working. The machinery has been smashed to bits, the large tubes have broken and there is a general sense that a hurricane has been through not too long ago.

MARIA

0...kay.

Maria, all alone, in what has become a menacing and spooky base.

CUT TO;

INT. BRIDGE -- N/A

7

Back to the past where THE DOCTOR, escorted by GUARDS and COLE, enters the Bridge - a large round room with a simple central computer table in the middle.

Captain SAM SMITH, mid 30s and roguish, is at the central computer but he turns to face the new arrivals.

THE DOCTOR

Captain, I presume.

SMITH

And who might I presume you to be?

COLE

He calls himself the Doctor.

SMITH

I wasn't asking you.

There's tension between these two.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 9.

THE DOCTOR

Yes. Well, the Doctor is what you can call me.

SMITH

Strange name.

THE DOCTOR

I never said it was my name, I just said that's what you can call me.

SMITH

Have it your way -

(to the GUARDS)

Lock him in the brig. He's the company's problem, not mine.

THE DOCTOR

Woah, woah! That would be a bad idea.

SMITH

(irritated)

Why? You're a stowaway and stowaways are either left to rot in the brig or thrown out. Which would you rather?

THE DOCTOR

Secret option number three!

SMITH

You what?

THE DOCTOR

I gain your trust, I solve any problems that may or may not materialise and then I walk off into the sunset, a hero admired by all...

SMITH

Chuck him in the brig.

THE DOCTOR

Oh, bother.

Smith turns back to the central computer. Cole goes to his side and both guards move to grab each of the Doctor's arms but then -

A TIME STORM forms just above the central computer! Forks of lightning shoot out and thunder cracks!

CONTINUED: 10.

SMITH

What is that?!

COLE

I have no idea!

THE DOCTOR

Ooh, I do.

They all stumble back. The time storm grows.

SMITH

(to COLE)

You're supposed to be a scientist!

The Doctor breaks free of the terrified guards.

THE DOCTOR

(stepping forward)

This isn't science!

He pulls out his sonic screwdriver and points it at the time storm.

THE DOCTOR

(cont'd)

This is time travelling wibbly-wobblies!

Sonic!

The time storm folds in on itself and disappears.

COLE

(stunned)

How... how did you do that?

Smith comes forward and works on the central computer.

THE DOCTOR

Easy-peasy, I just buffed out a scratch, except it wasn't really a scratch - more of a single point in space consisting of two time periods - and I wasn't really buffering either, just... making it all go away.

SMITH

Security checks running... systems all online and active... no damage reported... nothing on the radar or long range scanners

CONTINUED: 11.

THE DOCTOR

I've fixed the problem, captain, and, if you let me, I can make sure there are no more repeats.

COLE

Repeats? You mean it can come back?

THE DOCTOR

Not that particular one, but there might be a few more dotted around your base.

SMITH

But what are they?

THE DOCTOR

Like I said, a single point in space consisting of two time periods, an unstable and potentially very dangerous gateway into another time. A time storm.

SMITH

You can't be serious.

COLE

Time travel is possible, captain, if only in theory.

THE DOCTOR

Oh, so this *is* late 21st Century... it's the 22nd Century when everything changes.

SMITH

So, why are these "time storms" appearing on my base?

THE DOCTOR

(sincere)

It's my fault. And I am truly sorry and I promise you, whole heartedly twice over, that I will fix this.

Smith considers this, then;

SMITH

And I call you the Doctor?

THE DOCTOR

Yes.

CONTINUED: 12.

SMITH

(leaning closer,
threatening)

If you don't get these time things off my base, I will lock you in the brig and throw away the keycode.

THE DOCTOR

Charming.

SMITH

(stepping back)
Cole, you stay with him.

COLE

What? I am a scientist, not a babysitter!

SMITH

I want a scientific opinion on what this Doctor gets up to. Besides, it'll give you something to do rather than playing God... or trying to, anyway.

Smith dismisses them.

Cole and the Doctor walk away.

THE DOCTOR

Playing God?

COLE

(fuming)

Don't ask.

They leave the bridge.

CUT TO;

8

INT. SPECIMEN STORAGE FACILITY -- FUTURE

MARIA in the future - though she is not to know it just yet - and still in the storage chamber.

She goes to leave but a young man, NAITH, dressed in overalls, jumps into the chamber in front of her.

MARIA

Woah!

NAITH

Sorry! Get inside!

CONTINUED: 13.

He presses the LOCK button but the door grinds and judders and doesn't close completely, leaving a gap of a few inches.

NAITH

(desperate)

Help me!

He pushes on the door to close it and Maria helps. The door slams shut.

MARIA

(stepping back)

What was that all about?!

But Naith doesn't reply; he looks like he's been running for hours, scared to death... all he does is kneel down, leaning against the door and staring at the broken giant tubes.

MARIA

(cont'd)

... Hey!...

She kneels down in front of him.

MARIA

(cont'd)

Stay with me now.

NAITH

(as if seeing her for the first time)

Who... who are you?

MARIA

Oh no you don't. I'm the one who asks all the questions.

NAITH

(looks away, exhausted)

I... I don't know what happened.

MARIA

Well, I won't ask you what happened then, but you were running from something. I know that look on your face, it's the look on my face at least once a week now, so don't lie to me... what were you running from?

Naith looks into her eyes.

NAITH

Cole's pets.

INT. CORRIDOR -- N/A

COLE escorts THE DOCTOR along one of the many corridors - or perhaps it's the Doctor leading the way with the sonic screwdriver.

THE DOCTOR

Neither of my ears have popped yet which means we're at the bottom of one of Earth's big oceans.

COLE

Your point?

THE DOCTOR

Is it just you and the captain down here?

COLE

There is Captain Sam Smith and his three engineers and there is myself with six scientists. And two on security.

THE DOCTOR

Only fourteen?

COLE

This is a scientific research facility, not a military base.

THE DOCTOR

So what are you scientifically researching twenty thousand leagues under the sea?

COLE

That's top secret.

THE DOCTOR

And is that why you're down here and not up there?

COLE

I don't want to talk about this.

The Doctor stops walking. Cole continues a few steps but stops and turns to face him.

THE DOCTOR

This is illegal, isn't it?

COLE

It's better you didn't ask any questions.

(CONTINUED)

9

CONTINUED: 15.

THE DOCTOR

Then I'll tell you what I think is happening and you can tell me if I'm wrong -

COLE

Doctor!

THE DOCTOR

You're not a government or affiliated to any country, you're a company and what you're doing down here is illegal, very illegal, because why else would you go to the expense of coming all the way down here?

COLE

It's also for security reasons!

THE DOCTOR

Security?

COLE

Never mind. I've said too much already anyway.

Cole continues walking. The Doctor quick steps to catch up.

CUT TO;

INT. SPECIMEN STORAGE FACILITY -- FUTURE

10

MARIA stands in the middle of the chamber whilst NAITH hunts around the wreckage looking for anything he can use for survival or weaponry. His back to her.

MARIA

I'm Maria, by the way.

NAITH

Naith.

MARIA

Naith, what do you mean by Cole's pets?

NAITH

What do you think it means?

MARIA

I hardly imagine it's his hamster tearing the place up.

CONTINUED: 16.

NAITH

(advances on her)

Look! Look, Maria!

He points at the tubes. All of them shattered... broken out of.

MARIA

... Before... there was something in those...

NAITH

Cole's experiments. Whatever the hell he was doing down here, it was in those tubes!

MARIA

But how could they break out so quickly? It was only a few minutes ago that -

NAITH

(fear in his voice)

Check the date.

Naith points to a small screen fitted into the wall. She goes over and checks the date.

MARIA

(horrified)

2120 A.D!

NAITH

(in the b/g)

That works on an atomic mainframe, it's totally accurate and can't be changed.

MARIA

But this is the 22nd Century, we were in the 21st!

NAITH

Exactly! I was here a hundred years ago and Cole - he was doing something down here, and whatever he was experimenting on... it's out now!

MARIA

I was here a hundred years ago as well.

NAITH

Then Cole's screwed us both over.

CONTINUED: 17.

MARIA

Travelling through time isn't Cole.

NAITH

Who then?

Maria, more annoyed now than afraid, almost growls;

MARIA

The Doctor, that's who.

CUT TO;

INT. ENGINE ROOM -- N/A

11

A cramped narrow chamber full of spinning machinery, pumping pistons and computer consoles.

THE DOCTOR and COLE enter, as two engineers - AVID and OM - come to greet them.

AVID

Cole? This is a turn up for the ebook.

MO

Haven't seen you down here before.

COLE

I'm only here on duty, you two are to continue with your own duties. Where's the other one?

The Doctor is sonic-ing whilst they talk.

AVID

Beats me. Naith's been gone for a while now, last I saw of him he had gone down there to check on the pressure levels.

Avid points down one of many of narrow corridors.

OM

I'll go have a look for him.

THE DOCTOR

No!

A pause. Everyone turns to the Doctor.

THE DOCTOR

(cont'd)

I'll go.

CONTINUED: 18.

AVID

And who are you?

MO

Not another one of your scientists, Cole?

THE DOCTOR

I'm the Doctor and whatever you do, don't follow me down that corridor because what's down there might be extremely dangerous and it might have zapped away your friend.

CUT TO;

INT. NARROW CORRIDOR -- N/A

12

THE DOCTOR walks cautiously, followed by COLE, AVID and ${\sf OM}$.

THE DOCTOR

Sonic screwdriver's picking up vortex radiation.

AVID

You mean we've got a leak?

THE DOCTOR

No, you haven't. But it does mean that something's gone through.

COLE

(frustrated)

Gone through what?

They turn a corner and see a time storm just in front of them.

AVID

What the bleeding hell's that?!

COLE

Get rid of it, Doctor!

The Doctor goes up close, scanning the time storm.

THE DOCTOR

Your friend's definitely gone through, a hundred years into the future I'd say, and there's more vortex radiation coming from...

Uh oh. He realises...

CONTINUED: 19.

And the Doctor's off, running past the other three and back the way they came.

COLE

Where are you going, Doctor? What about the time storm?!

The Doctor sonics over his shoulder without even looking back and the time storm folds in on itself and disappears completely.

COLE

(to engineers)

Stay here.

And Cole runs off after the Doctor.

Avid and Om look at each other and then... run after Cole and the Doctor.

CUT TO;

INT. SPECIMEN STORAGE FACILITY -- N/A

13

THE DOCTOR runs into the chamber. The giant tubes are still intact with green mist inside them and the time storm floats in the middle of the chamber.

THE DOCTOR

(scanning the storm)
I'd almost forgotten about you...
Maria!... Maria! You can come out
now!... Please, don't have done
what I think you've done...

COLE enters, followed by AVID and OM.

AVID

Another one!

MO

Another ghost!

COLE

Shut up, man! Doctor, get rid of this one and let's get this over with... and no more running!

The time storm folds in on itself and disappears. The Doctor stands quite still.

THE DOCTOR

Vortex radiation. Oh, Maria, you've gone through, haven't you?

CONTINUED: 20.

COLE

(at his side now)

Who's Maria?

THE DOCTOR

My companion.

COLE

(raises an eyebrow)
Any more companions I should know

about?

THE DOCTOR

No. Maria has fallen through the time storm and is wherever your Naith is as well.

AVID

So they're together?

THE DOCTOR

If they've found each other.

 $\bigcirc M$

Are they safe?

THE DOCTOR

(frustrated)

I don't know. For all I know, they could be eating cupcakes and drinking tea but if this base isn't here in a hundred years then they would have drowned and they'll both be dead.

COLE

Is there no way to get them back?

THE DOCTOR

Normally, I'd just hop into my ship and get them back that way but...

COLE

But what?

THE DOCTOR

My ship isn't exactly on speaking terms with me at the moment. We're taking a time out.

OM

So, Naith's in the future... with your Maria?

CONTINUED: 21.

THE DOCTOR

Yes, and hopefully...

FOCUS ON the dark outline of a figure in the tube.

THE DOCTOR

(cont'd)

They're safe.

CLOSE UP ON the Doctor.

THE DOCTOR

(cont'd, serious)

Cole, I think it's time we had a little chat on what you were doing down here.

CUT TO;

INT. SPECIMEN STORAGE FACILITY -- FUTURE

14

MARIA and NAITH are sat down in the middle of the chamber.

MARIA

So, what was in those tubes?

NAITH

I don't know.

MARIA

Haven't you seen them?

NAITH

No. All I heard was it moving around. It's definitely not human.

MARIA

And you ran away?

NAITH

Yeah. I found myself a hundred years in the future, I heard some big monster around the corner and I ran, what would you have done?!

MARIA

Got a good look at the monster first.

NAITH

Those things are fast, I could hear it chasing me and it was really close at one point.

CONTINUED: 22.

MARIA

How'd you get away?

NAITH

I closed a door.

MARIA

So it's trapped?

NAITH

(shaking his head)
There's a million air vents,
pressure vents, waste pipes,
structural gaps and corridors on
this base. It could be anywhere.

MARIA

And there are three of them.

NAITH

Three tubes. Three monsters.

MARIA

And just the two of us... and a hundred years separating us from the Doctor!

An ear-piercing shriek fills the room and, in sudden fear, both Maria and Naith get to their feet and stand back to back.

BANG! BANG! CLANG! CLANG!

NAITH

Oh my God! It's in the walls!

SMASH!

The human-like hand - seen earlier by Maria before she fell into the time storm - punches through the metal floor grating, right between Maria and Naith.

MARIA

We've got to get out of here!

She runs over to the door, followed by Naith.

The hand is a creamy pale colour, very wet and "fleshy", and its fingernails are more like scratched claws.

Naith and Maria struggle to open the door.

The clawed hand punches and pulls at the floor, making the hole bigger and bigger.

CONTINUED: 23.

NAITH

(terrified)

It's coming!

MARIA

(determined)

Pull!

And with one big heave together they pull on the door and it slides open. Just in time!

MONSTER'S POV -- The monster pulls itself into the chamber and crawls across the floor with lightning speed after Naith and Maria, but they get the door closed just in time.

CUT TO;

INT. CORRIDOR -- FUTURE

15

The entire base is in the same destroyed state as the specimen storage facility.

NAITH and MARIA take a breather after just escaping.

MARIA

Did you see what it looked like?

NAITH

(shakes his head)

... It was too fast... only just got away...

MARIA

Come on. We've got to keep moving.

They walk up the corridor, Maria leading the way. Moments later, Naith stops. As if in a daze.

Maria turns back.

MARIA

Naith?

NAITH

Beautiful.

MARIA

Naith, what's wrong with you?

NAITH

Nothing's wrong, Maria. It's so beautiful.

CONTINUED: 24.

MARIA

What is?

Naith can hear, from far away, a woman's voice singing beautifully. It's hypnotic, sending Naith into a trance-like state.

NAITH

Her voice.

MARIA

(annoyed)

Whose voice?!

NAITH

I don't know... but it's beautiful. Why can't you hear it?

MARIA

There is no voice, Naith. No-one is talking. It's just us.

NAITH

Yes, she is... she's singing and it's so, so beautiful...

He turns round and walks away as if he's sleep walking.

Maria runs after him and grabs his arm, pulling him back.

MARIA

Naith! There's no-one singing!

NAITH

(smiling like an idiot)

I don't care.

MARIA

We've got to get out of here! Come on, Naith, snap out of it!

NAITH

Let go of me!

He pushes Maria to the floor and then continues to walk away.

MARIA

Naith! Come back! They'll kill you!

NAITH

I know... but her singing is beautiful.

Maria clambers to her feet. Helpless.

CONTINUED: 25.

MARIA

Naith!

But he's walking away, until -

SLAM!

A heavy metal door slams down right in front of Naith, literally an inch from his nose, blocking his path and snapping him out of it.

NAITH

What the... what just happened?

MARIA

(runs to his side)

I don't know. You said there was singing.

She gives him a hug, more out of relief than anything, and he flushes a bright red.

MARIA

It's good to have you back.

Beep. Beep.

A strange little projector device descends from the ceiling, facing them.

MARIA

What's that?

NAITH

It's a video-link. But there's no one else on the base... who's calling us?

The device lights up and projects a holo-screen in front of Maria and Naith. It's THE DOCTOR!

MARIA

Oh, who else. I can't wait for him to explain this one.

THE DOCTOR

(fixing the camera)

Hello? Hello? Is this thing on? Can I talk now? Maria!? Hello?

MARIA

Doctor!

THE DOCTOR

(cont'd)

Right, Maria, you're probably there or thereabouts, otherwise

(MORE)

CONTINUED: 26.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd) this recording wouldn't have started, so here it goes. Listen!

MARIA

I'm listening, Doctor. Help us -

NAITH

He can't hear you. This is a recorded message, made at least a hundred years ago.

THE DOCTOR

First things first: Maria, you have to find Naith, he's one of the crew that fell through time storm like you did. If you've already found him, tell him not to interrupt.

NAITH

(taken aback)

Sorry.

THE DOCTOR

This is a one way communication though, that means the rest is up to you. You and Naith must get to the bridge, Maria.

NAITH

That's not too far. We can do that.

THE DOCTOR

(cont'd)

You might be watching this and laughing your head off. It might all be fine and you're just hanging out with the crew a hundred years from now... but I don't think so. Maria, listen carefully, what the scientists were doing down here, what they were making, it's incredibly dangerous. They are creatures that will be very hostile and very dangerous. You must avoid them at all costs.

NAITH

Now he tells us.

MARIA

Sh!

CONTINUED: 27.

THE DOCTOR

(cont'd)

They are fast, strong and intelligent... and, from what I've seen of Cole's notes, they may have a basic form of psychic strength.

MARIA

Psychic strength? Oh God... maybe they were hypnotising you, Naith.

THE DOCTOR

(cont'd)

Shouldn't be too difficult to break their psychic attacks though, a short sharp shock should do it like, oh, a kick in the groin or a kiss on the lips.

MARIA

You get hypnotised again and you're getting kicked in the groin.

NAITH

I figured.

THE DOCTOR

(cont'd)

You must get to the bridge. It's the only way I can get you back. And avoid them, Maria, because you can't fight them. Please. Be careful.

The holo-screen disappears and the projector goes back up into the ceiling.

Maria and Naith look at each other in silence... from not too far away there is the sound of banging, moving and screeching...

CUT TO;

INT. BRIDGE -- N/A

16

THE DOCTOR presses the OFF button and the projector device, recording his message, turns off. He turns to face SMITH and COLE, both of them standing at the central computer.

THE DOCTOR

So, you've got an engineer stranded a hundred years in the

(MORE)

CONTINUED: 28.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd) future and my companion is stuck there with him. Ordinarily, I'd wait for the TARDIS to recover and then it'd be a simple trip of picking them up, but this isn't an ordinary base... is it?

SMITH

You've seen what Cole was doing down here. You've seen what he was trying to create.

COLE

I was trying to create life!

THE DOCTOR

And who's picking up the bill? Hm? Weapons contractors? Naughty governments? Or a company willing to sell to the highest bidder? But it doesn't matter. Not right now, anyway, because first things first... I've got to get Maria back.

SMITH

How?

THE DOCTOR

There are no more time storms. I've closed them all up. But the fabric of space and time is still weak here and I can open up a time storm, for only a few seconds... it's their only hope of getting back now.

COLE

What about this "TARDIS" of yours? Can't you wait a few days and then travel through time that way?

THE DOCTOR

I could... but using the TARDIS here would be like driving a tank over a frozen lake. Besides, I'm not sure how all this is connected.

SMITH

Connected?

THE DOCTOR

... Maria and Naith are in the future and if Cole's creatures

(MORE)

CONTINUED: 29.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)

are there too, then it begs the question... how did they get out?

COLE

What makes you so sure that they've escaped?

THE DOCTOR

Put yourself in their position; you're smart, strong and lethal and you've spent the entirety of your existence in a cramped tube being experimented on by your captors...

SMITH

They want revenge?

THE DOCTOR

They don't want revenge! It's all they know! You created life and you treated it like a science experiment! It's not life in those tubes... it's three deranged freaks!

As the Doctor leaves.

THE DOCTOR

(cont'd)

And it's all your creation.

CUT TO;

INT. CORRIDOR -- FUTURE

17

NAITH taps into a wall console and a holo-screen turns on, projecting a blueprint of the base.

MARIA

This the base?

NAITH

Yep. Here's where we are and we've got to go up through here and there's the bridge.

MARIA

It's not too far.

NAITH

There's a catch.

CONTINUED: 30.

MARIA

Isn't there always?

NAITH

(faint smile)

All this section is flooded. The only way to the bridge is an engineering shaft.

MARIA

Doesn't sound too bad.

Naith doesn't look convinced.

CUT TO;

18

INT. ENGINEERING SHAFT -- FUTURE

It's a narrow shaft, literally just enough space for one person to fit inside, and it goes straight up or straight down, a long way down.

MARIA and NAITH poke their heads through the hatch.

MARIA

That's quite a long way up. And there's no ladder.

NAITH

If we had the proper equipment - clamps, harness and all that stuff - then this'd be easy.

MARIA

How are we going to climb up?

NAITH

Hold onto the wires. Push your legs and arms out, that should keep you from falling... it's going to be tough but -

MARIA

Yeah, yeah. It's the only way.

NAITH

You go first.

MARIA

(nervous)

Okay.

Just as she's half into the engineering shaft, Naith holds her arm.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 31.

NAITH

Maria...

MARIA

Yeah?

NAITH

... Whatever happens, keep going and -

MARIA

We're getting through this together.

NAITH

(insistent)

- look for Alpha 1 Hatch, give it a good kick and it should open automatically. The bridge will be directly in front of you.

Maria leans closer to him.

MARIA

Don't fall behind.

NAITH

Trust me...

The screeching can be heard far away but it's coming closer and it's coming fast.

NAITH

(cont'd)

I don't intend to.

Maria climbs into the shaft and Naith follows her inside.

It's cramped, with little light, coming from a few tiny lamps spaced out through the shaft.

Maria and Naith are having to use every muscle in their body, pushing against all the walls to keep from falling and it takes a massive effort each time to move a couple inches up.

NAITH

Come on... keep going...

But they're already sweating and there's a long way to go...

CUT TO;

19

THE DOCTOR in front of the three giant intact tubes full of green mist.

SMITH and COLE enter.

THE DOCTOR

Three monsters. Three psychotic, deranged, crazed monsters.

SMITH

But how do you know that?

THE DOCTOR

Educated guess, captain.

SMITH

And you think they're going to escape?

THE DOCTOR

With every passing second I become more convinced... yes.

SMITH

How do you think they'll manage it?

COLE

It's impossible!

THE DOCTOR

Why?

COLE

Because I built this laboratory! I've spent my life developing the technology to keep them sedated and under control.

THE DOCTOR

Exactly.

SMITH

(sighs)

Exactly what?

THE DOCTOR

How could they possibly escape? What makes me so sure? You see, I'm a bit of a psychic myself.

SMITH

You're a psychic?

CONTINUED: 33.

THE DOCTOR

Are you kidding? I put it on paper.

COLE

(angry)

What difference does you being a psychic make?!

THE DOCTOR

Because I can feel them, sense their emotions... I can almost hear their thoughts.

SMITH

And?

THE DOCTOR

It's as if they know they're going to get out.

Smith goes over to a console.

SMITH

Then I'll kill all three of them now!

COLE

No!

Cole grabs Smith but the captain is much stronger and throws him to the ground. Smith stands at the console.

THE DOCTOR

Stop what you're doing.

Smith, surprised, turns to face the Doctor, still standing in the middle of the chamber.

THE DOCTOR

(cont'd)

These three creatures are dangerous and unstable, but destroying them now in this point of time might be infinitely more catastrophic.

SMITH

I don't understand.

THE DOCTOR

You don't have to understand, you just have to trust me.

Smith takes steps towards the Doctor.

CONTINUED: 34.

SMITH

You arrive on my base uninvited, you bring time storms with you that send members of my crew into the future, you claim that those things in there are dangerous monsters and now... now you're asking me to trust you?

THE DOCTOR

Yes, and despite all you've just said...

The Doctor looks right into Smith's eyes. He holds the gaze. Smith eventually nods.

SMITH

Okay. For now. I won't kill them.

THE DOCTOR

Thank you.

SMITH

What now?

The Doctor hops over to the doorway.

THE DOCTOR

Now we're going to get Maria and Naith back!

And he's off.

CUT TO;

INT. ENGINEERING SHAFT -- FUTURE

20

NAITH and MARIA are both exhausted but there's still some way to go...

Screeching from below them. Something is trying to get into the shaft.

MARIA

(scared)

Naith!

NAITH

Keep going! Don't look down!

CRASH!

From below, the screeching is now inside the shaft! Bang! Bang! As whatever is after them climbs up with alarming speed.

CONTINUED: 35.

MARIA

Oh my God!

NAITH

Go! Go! Go!

Maria scrambles up as fast as she can. And just above her is the Alpha 1 hatch.

MARIA

Naith! I can see the hatch!

NAITH

Go for it! GO!

But Naith has stopped climbing.

He faces downwards and kicks out. The monster - unseen - squeals and falls a short way.

MARIA

Naith! Come on!

NAITH

I'm coming! Now GO!

Maria gets to the hatch and punches it... nothing!

She screams. Punching it again and again.

MARIA

It won't open!

NAITH

What?! Hit it!

MARIA

I am! It's not opening!

Maria keeps hitting the hatch, screaming for it to open.

The monster charges up and claws at Naith, tearing at his legs and cutting him badly. He nearly falls.

MARIA

Open! Come on! Just open!

Naith punches the monster but it's grabbing at him. Pulling him down.

He groans in pain and, with one last desperate kick, he hits the monster and it falls back down a short way.

MARIA

Open... NOW!

And with all her strength, she hits the hatch and it finally slides open!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 36.

Maria falls out of the shaft and into;

CUT TO:

INT. CORRIDOR -- FUTURE

21

MARIA hits the ground hard but quickly gets to her knees and helps NAITH out but, when's he only half out -

NAITH

ARGH!

MARIA

Naith!

The monster has a hold on his legs and pulls him down.

Maria uses her last reserves of strength to pull Naith out of the shaft.

He collapses to the floor, his legs injured, and Maria slams a big red CLOSE button. The hatch closes and locks.

She collapses to the floor next to Naith.

MARIA

... We made it...

NAITH

... She's... she's singing to me...

Horror dawns on Maria's face as Naith clambers up despite his injuries.

NAITH

(cont'd)

I can hear her... in the shaft... she's singing and she wants me to join her...

MARIA

(getting up)

No, Naith, it's not real! No one's singing, Naith! Come on! Snap out of it!

She has to physically stop him from opening the shaft, holding onto him but she's exhausted.

MARIA

(crying with exhaustion)
Naith!... Please!...

CONTINUED: 37.

NAITH

I want to be with her. I must be with her.

MARIA

Not after we've come this far! Naith, we're getting out of here together!

And with that she kisses him. Passion, desperation, lust, survival... whatever you want to call it, it's a hell of a kiss.

He forgets the singing and for a brief moment he's holding her, and kissing her back.

Their lips separate.

MARIA

Are you back?

NAITH

... Yeah. Thanks.

MARIA

Come on.

And she's up on her feet, followed by Naith who's more than a little taken with her now.

MARIA

(cont'd)

Is that the bridge?

NAITH

Yes. Get inside.

They run to the the bridge as the screeching intensifies. There are different screams...

All three monsters are coming.

CUT TO;

INT. BRIDGE -- FUTURE

22

Inside the bridge. It's completely destroyed, as MARIA and NAITH look around.

NAITH

What?... What are we supposed to be looking for?

MARIA

I don't know, but we did what the Doctor told us to and...

CONTINUED: 38.

NAITH

And what?!

MARIA

We wait for him!

NAITH

But they're out there! They're coming for us! We haven't got any time!

The monsters are coming - we can hear them.

MARIA

Close the door!

Naith and Maria run to the door and push it closed -

But a pair of clawed hands stop the door from sliding closed completely!

MARIA

Close it! Close it!

With a great heave, they get the door closed and it locks.

MARIA

(cont'd)

There... we're safe.

NAITH

It won't take them long to find a way through, Maria. They'll get in somehow.

MARIA

The Doctor will save us...

NAITH

You're sure?

MARIA

He's never let me down before.

NAITH

He only has to let you down once...

Maria doesn't want to reply to that.

CUT TO;

INT. BRIDGE -- N/A

23

THE DOCTOR, SMITH and COLE enter the bridge.

THE DOCTOR

Captain, call security up to the bridge. Everyone you've got.

SMITH

That'll be both security guards, then.

THE DOCTOR

No. Everyone. Both security, both engineers - what were their names?

SMITH

Avid and Om.

THE DOCTOR

Yes, get them up here, and Cole, call up your six scientists. Everyone on this base has to be on this bridge and as many as possible need to be armed.

COLE

Are you expecting a fight?

THE DOCTOR

I'm expecting a monster or two, maybe even three.

CUT TO;

INT. BRIDGE -- FUTURE

24

NAITH and MARIA sit in the middle of the bridge, on top of the smashed up central computer.

NAITH

Where's this Doctor of yours?

MARIA

(quiet)

He'll come.

NAITH

I can't stand this!

He stands up, pacing, very nervous.

And then one of the monsters screeches, just on the other side of the wall. And then the second and the third!

CONTINUED: 40.

NAITH

They're coming in... oh God! This is it!

Maria stands by Naith's side.

MARIA

Doctor! Please, Doctor!

CUT TO;

INT. BRIDGE -- N/A

25

Everyone is on the bridge. Only a few of them hold guns.

THE DOCTOR points his sonic screwdriver just above the central computer.

THE DOCTOR

Is everyone ready?

SMITH

We're not even sure what to be ready for.

A time storm grows just above the central computer.

THE DOCTOR

(reads his screwdriver)

Two humans... Naith and Maria...

and there are others...

Ominous. SMITH cocks his gun.

THE DOCTOR

(quietly)

Come on, Maria.

CUT TO;

INT. BRIDGE -- FUTURE

26

SMASH! BANG! SMASH!

The monsters are punching their way through the walls and they're so close to getting inside...

The time storm opens - the same one in the same place as the previous scene - and MARIA and NAITH turn to see it.

NAITH

That's... that's...

CONTINUED: 41.

MARIA

(big smile)

The Doctor!

The walls rip open! The monsters are inside!

Maria grabs Naith's hand and they run to the time storm and leap into;

CUT TO:

FX. TIME STORM

27

Thick stormy clouds, lightning and thunder...

And MARIA and NAITH falling. Holding hands.

CUT TO;

INT. BRIDGE -- N/A

28

MARIA and NAITH fall out of the time storm and crash to the ground.

THE DOCTOR

Maria!

He goes to Maria's side, helping her up, and AVID and OM help Naith to his feet.

MARIA

I was so scared. Oh God, I was so scared...

THE DOCTOR

It's alright now, you're safe.

SMITH

Doctor!

SMITH is pointing at the time storm.

It's become violent. Forks of lightning shoot out and thunder can be heard from within.

THE DOCTOR

Get back! Everyone get back! It's collapsing in on itself!

BOOM!

Everyone is flung to the floor.

The Doctor and Maria get to their feet, others are more sluggish, but COLE is at the back and he stares at the central computer.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 42.

COLE (terrified) My... babies...

There, standing on top of the central computer, are Cole's three monsters. They've come through.

HARPIES.

A woman's figure, though their skin is a pale creamy colour and very fleshy and veiny. Their hair is long and wet. Their eyes are dark and monstrous, with sharp jagged teeth.

And they have wings. A large set of eagle wings with black, dirty feathers.

They screech a war cry.

The Harpies have escaped.

TO BE CONTINUED...

END OF 4.8