THE ELEVENTH DOCTOR SCRIPT SERIES SERIES FOUR, EPISODE TWO "THE SONTARAN SUPERIOR"

Ву

JAKE REYNOLDS

A grimy little room. It is only big enough for one desk with a chair on each side. On one chair sits ANGUS - a young man, mid twenties. He is handsome but a little self-conscious. He's entered a world he didn't know existed.

The man opposite him is almost completely obscured by darkness. From a hazy silhouette it's evident that he's a big fella - not somebody you'd mess with.

A beefy hand slides a piece of paper across the desk in front of Angus, along with a pen.

UNKNOWN MAN

Sign it.

Angus takes the pen, his hand shaking terribly, and manages a half-hearted scrawl on the paper. The huge hand takes the paper back.

UNKNOWN MAN

How much have you got?

Angus bends down and picks up a heavy block, the size of a few bricks stacked upon one another, and places it on the table. It is a dirty silver with golden bars along the side.

ANGUS

(shakily)

Seven million credits.

The man goes to seize the block -

But Angus gets there first. He places his hand on it defiantly.

ANGUS

Can it work?

UNKNOWN MAN

(hesitantly)

Probably. Small planet?

ANGUS

Tiny.

UNKNOWN MAN

Well-armed?

ANGUS

Not at all. A sitting duck.

CONTINUED: 2.

UNKNOWN MAN

Then yes. It can work. I can get some people arranged.

Angus lets him take the block. The Man sits back in his chair, and cocks his head.

UNKNOWN MAN

What's the story?

ANGUS

That's private. I don't have to tell you that.

We hear the unknown man inhaling threateningly.

But then he simply exhales with a wheeze.

UNKNOWN MAN

Fair enough. I know some people. They can help you put it together.

Angus's hand moves and the unknown man takes the block.

ANGUS

Thank you.

Angus stands up and tucks the chair in behind him. He nods curtly.

UNKNOWN MAN

Is it money?

Angus begins to walk away towards the door.

UNKNOWN MAN

It's always money. Always the rich and greedy.

As Angus reaches the door, he turns around.

ANGUS

I wouldn't tear a world apart for money.

There is a long pause.

And he leaves the room, allowing the door to slam behind him.

CUT TO:

INT. TARDIS CORRIDOR - N/A

THE DOCTOR strides confidently through one of the TARDIS corridors, with MARIA walking behind him and trying to match his gargantuan strides.

THE DOCTOR

And that's the grand tour finished.

Maria is just dumbstruck. She's still trying to take it all in.

The Doctor suddenly laughs to himself.

THE DOCTOR

One of my best jokes. That's only half of it.

MARIA

That's only half?! I can't even think of any other possible room you could have -

THE DOCTOR

Really? Well the floor diagonally above us to the left has a sweet shop, a music room and a warehouse full of rhubarb. But back we go...

A door slides open in front of the Doctor, and he gestures for Maria to go first. She walks through the doorway and into...

CUT TO:

INT. TARDIS CONSOLE ROOM - N/A

3

... the console room. THE DOCTOR skips down a staircase to his beloved machine, and starts tinkering away immediately.

THE DOCTOR

Okay! Let's go somewhere fluffy.

MARIA

Fluffy?

THE DOCTOR

Yes, fluffy. I feel like going to a fluffy place today. We could go to the planet Rover!

(he chuckles to himself)

Another great joke. Rover's blatantly not a planet. It's a

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 4.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd) giant space dog three times the size of earth that is going on constant walkies around the universe. He is very fluffy though.

MARIA

This is insane.

The Doctor turns to her and grins. He walks over and excitedly grabs her by the shoulders.

THE DOCTOR

This is just the beginning.

He rushes back over to the console.

THE DOCTOR

Pick a date!

MARIA

Any date?

THE DOCTOR

Any date! Nothing boring though, like 2003 or 1273.

MARIA

Okay.

THE DOCTOR

Got one?

MARIA

Got one.

She rushes over to join the Doctor.

CUT TO:

EXT. SKYSHIP OLGA - DAY

4

The TARDIS materialises...

... on a cloud.

CAPTION: SKYSHIP OLGA, YEAR 12,345

The TARDIS door creaks open, and MARIA looks out. She looks down, and gasps.

MARIA

Oh my God.

She prods the cloud with her foot. It's springy. Totally firm. She steps out.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 5.

MARIA

This is impossible.

THE DOCTOR steps out onto the cloud.

THE DOCTOR

Impossible, but fluffy! I'll admit I was mildly disappointed when the first year you could think of was 12,345... but this is nice! It's bouncy! Look!

The Doctor's jumping up and down like an idiot.

THE DOCTOR

Bouncy clouds!

MARIA

They can't be actual clouds.

THE DOCTOR

Yes they can.

MARIA

No they can't!

THE DOCTOR

Maria, you've just arrived here in a magical box that's bigger on the inside. It's 12,345. The clouds are springy.

MARIA

Okay, valid point...

Suddenly, from behind them -

MUFFLED VOICE

Stop where you are!

They freeze. Maria slowly starts to turn -

MUFFLED VOICE

Do not turn around! Failure to understand such basic requirements will result in immediate obliteration!

Maria turns back, shocked. The Doctor shakes his head, ashamed.

MARIA

What?!

THE DOCTOR

It's alright, you're new. I forgive you.

CONTINUED: 6.

MARIA

As far as I know, curiosity has never actually killed a cat.

The Doctor frowns.

THE DOCTOR

Is that an Earth thing?

MARIA

Yes.

THE DOCTOR

Well I don't understand what it means.

MUFFLED VOICE

State your intent.

THE DOCTOR

We landed on some springy clouds. Come on, share the fun!

MUFFLED VOICE

You have landed upon Skyship Olga, patrolling the skies of the pitiful planet of R67. State your intent.

The Doctor realises something.

THE DOCTOR

Oh... I know that voice.

(to Maria)

It's all in the accents. And I know about the planet R67, too... and I know that this isn't the best time to be upon a certain skyship...

CUT TO the Doctor's worried face. Pan out slowly to show him, Maria, the backdrop, and behind them, wielding a gun...

A SONTARAN.

Beat.

THE DOCTOR

(aside to MARIA)

It's always like this, by the way.

CUT TO:

OPENING TITLES 5

THE ELEVENTH DOCTOR SCRIPT SERIES

SERIES FOUR, EPISODE TWO

"THE SONTARAN SUPERIOR"

by JAKE REYNOLDS

FADE TO:

EXT. SKYSHIP OLGA - DAY

6

THE DOCTOR starts to turn around slowly, hands in the air.

SONTARAN

Remain stationary!

THE DOCTOR

You've got a job to do. That job may include the destruction of an entire planet but your contract doesn't extend to the murders of residents of Earth.

(beat)
Or Gallifrey.

The Sontaran lowers its gun. MARIA now turns around, and gasps slightly, before mouthing 'o-kay'.

SONTARAN

Time Lord.

THE DOCTOR

Hi.

SONTARAN

I should kill you on sight.

THE DOCTOR

Shouldn't you give that honour to your superior?

The Sontaran looks uncomfortable.

SONTARAN

Sontarans have no su-

THE DOCTOR

This isn't a Sontaran ship. Now, introductions: I'm the Doctor, this is Maria, and right now you're having to act on somebody's orders.

(beat)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 8.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd) If anyone should kill us, you should give them the glory.

And the Doctor smiles slightly.

CUT TO:

EXT. SKYSHIP OLGA RUNWAY - DAY

7

The SONTARAN leads THE DOCTOR and MARIA down a concrete runway, stretched smoothly across the clouds. The clouds around them act like greenery, with cloud-shaped shrubs littering the landscape.

Ahead lies a huge CASTLE, impressive and regal. Maria turns to the Doctor as they walk.

MARIA

So wait, what planet are we on?

THE DOCTOR

Keep your voice down - and we're in the sky of a planet called R67.

MARIA

Oh my God. Another planet. We're on another planet in the future. It's lucky we can breathe.

THE DOCTOR

If you say so.

MARIA

Wait, so am I the only human left? Maybe it's just me, maybe I'm the only one -

THE DOCTOR

Nah, not these days! Can't get rid of humans. You stick around for a long while yet. Lotsa humans scurrying about below.

MARIA

What did you say it was called?

THE DOCTOR

The planet R67. Twinned with A46.

MARIA

And you've heard of it?

CONTINUED: 9.

THE DOCTOR

Well, I've heard of every planet

MARIA

Are you bragging?

THE DOCTOR

Slightly.

MARIA

Go on then, give me your worst!

THE DOCTOR

Right, yes, R67 is your average planet, but a lot poorer than most. They have no defense at all, really. They're perfect targets. The only thing I know is that at some point, for some reason, the planet is destroyed - totally destroyed - because of a Sontaran-led skyship attack. But the interesting part is this - it wasn't their idea. They're roped into it because they owe somebody a favour.

MARIA

Who?

THE DOCTOR

No idea.

MARIA

And the... Sontarans - what are they?

THE DOCTOR

Warrior race from the planet Sontar. Born to fight. Clone race.

MARIA

So they're all like that?

THE DOCTOR

Yep. Short, stocky, faces like curdled milk, tempers as short as the lifespan of a Helix Tapeworm.

The Doctor laughs.

THE DOCTOR

Another little joke.

The Sontaran turns to face them.

CONTINUED: 10.

SONTARAN

You are about to enter the castle of Skyship Olga. Here we have the right to execute anyone who speaks out of turn. You will meet our commander.

THE DOCTOR

Do we need to take our shoes off?

The Sontaran storms over to him, and looks up at him, gripping him by the lapel.

SONTARAN

Just because we shouldn't spill your blood doesn't mean I will resist, Doctor. Remember how weak you really are.

After a cold stare, the Sontaran lets him go and marches over to the door.

CUT TO:

INT. COMMANDING OFFICE - DAY

8

The main hub of activity. Helmeted SONTARANS walk around, busy, as a middle-aged man sits at a desk, typing something on a keypad.

This is ANGUS, but he's about fifteen years older than when we last saw him. He now wears a dirty white laboratory coat and has wiry glasses fixed to his face.

SONTARAN

Commander Angus Ructon, the Doctor and a human. Doctor and human, Commander Angus Ructon.

MARIA almost opens her mouth to retort but doesn't bother.

Angus looks up at them and stops typing. He smooths his hair subconsciously and gestures towards a chair.

ANGUS

Sit down.

Both THE DOCTOR and Maria go to take the chair. Angus holds out his hand.

ANGUS

Not her. Slaak, restrain her.

The same Sontaran, now designated SLAAK, grabs Maria by the shoulder.

CONTINUED: 11.

MARIA

Hey!

THE DOCTOR

No! We're not doing that, it's not going to go this way, we're all responsible and slightly mature adults here -

ANGUS

Sit down. Slaak, take her to the holding cell. Don't harm her unless she speaks out of turn.

Slaak begins to take her away.

THE DOCTOR

Stop! You don't have to do this!

ANGUS

(laughing)

Oh, please. I've heard of you. You won't do a thing unless we've got something to hold you by.

MARIA

If you hurt me, I swear to God I will -

But Slaak presses a needle into her neck, and she falls asleep instantly. He hoists her over his shoulder with ease and starts to march off.

THE DOCTOR

Maria!

The Doctor tries to move, but three Sontarans stand, guns ready to fire, staring straight at him. He turns to Angus.

THE DOCTOR

If you hurt her -

ANGUS

What are you doing on my ship?

THE DOCTOR

(turning to the SONTARANS)
Did you hear that? His ship?
Doesn't that make your blood
boil?

(back to ANGUS)

I think they've put it on simmer for the moment.

ANGUS

Answer my question, Doctor.

CONTINUED: 12.

THE DOCTOR

Accident. Little accident.

ANGUS

And we're going to keep it that way. You're not playing God today. You'll promise not to interfere and then you can be on your way with your friend.

THE DOCTOR

(frowning)

If you say that why stick her in a cell in the first place?

Angus prises the glasses off his face and settles them on the desk.

ANGUS

Because I know you can't help but interfere.

CUT TO:

INT. HOLDING CELL - DAY

9

A very low room - only tall enough to kneel in - with a glass floor. A city of R67 can be seen through it, as if to make prisoners watch what is unfolding below.

MARIA coughs as she regains consciousness, and for a second thinks she's falling, and gasps, as if just waking from a nightmare. Then she realises it's glass, feels a bit stupid and tries to stand up - before hitting her head.

She presses her face against the glass.

MARIA

Oh my God...

And we see what she sees...

CUT TO:

EXT. R67 - DAY

10

The cities of this planet are being bombed. Smoke billows from buildings and wastelands, fire spreads across the streets and explosions litter the greenlands.

CUT TO:

11

INT. HOLDING CELL - DAY

MARIA looks around. The walls are covered in speakers and are panelled with wood. A SONTARAN message is played over and over.

"You will observe your world's slaughter and relish in the glory of the Sontarans" - on a loop.

But another voice hisses over this -

VOICE

Hello? Hello?

Maria frowns. She looks around, and sees some loose panelling on the right wall. She crawls over to it, and peels it back slightly.

On the other side is the glimpse of a MAN.

CUT TO:

INT. HOLDING CELL 2 - DAY

12

The man is VICTERNIUM LLONGAN. He is about thirty years old, with a thin frame and dirt over his face.

He is not alone in his cell - he is joined by his two children, VERONK and VERONA, boy and girl, six and thirteen respectively.

VICTERNIUM

Oh, thank Vot, thank Vot, we've been waiting for caates and caates for someone to occupy that cell -

MARIA

Who are you? Are you okay? I'm Maria -

VICTERNIUM

I'm Victernium, from Rukkun, I'm a simple weathersmith, didn't mean to cause harm but I interfered with the cloud patterns, I exposed them, I exposed the ship - and you've got to help us, you've got to help -

MARIA

Okay, okay, hang on. Just stop a minute, tell me what I can do and I'll try and help you.

CONTINUED: 14.

VICTERNIUM

In your cell, milady, there's a cord, by the front. A beige cord, and some rope coiled up near it. Do you see?

CUT TO:

INT. HOLDING CELL - DAY

13

MARIA crawls over to the front of the cell. There it is -coiled up rope, tightly packed, and a cord.

MARIA

I can see it!

VICTERNIUM (O.S.)

It's a rope ladder, if you pull it a ladder will fall down to the city. The skyship won't move, it never moves -

MARIA

So I can get you all down!

VICTERNIUM (O.S.)

No miss, you can get people and help them up. Get them to climb up here.

MARIA

What good will that do?

Suddenly, there's a CRACK and a splintering of wood, as VICTERNIUM hoists the panelling back and manages to wriggle through to Maria's cell.

VERONK (O.S.)

Pa -

VICTERNIUM

It's alright, I'll be back before
you know it -

He crawls over to Maria and looks down upon the planet.

VICTERNIUM

This way we can find the strongest men and get them up here so we can fight back. If we get enough, we could fight the Sontarans.

MARIA

Right. I'm with you. I mean... are you sure? There's got to be a better way -

CONTINUED: 15.

VICTERNIUM

How else can we get rid of them, though?

MARIA

Erm... okay, good point... sorry,
I'm a bit new to all this.

VICTERNIUM

All what?

MARIA

Just... this.

Victernium looks down intently. He is sad.

Maria places a comforting hand on his back.

VICTERNIUM

It hurts.

MARIA

I know. I know. I'm sorry.

VICTERNIUM

We didn't deserve this.

Pause.

MARIA

(whispering)

Is that your son in there?

VICTERNIUM

Son and daughter.

MARIA

They must mean the world to you.

VICTERNIUM

Yes.

MARIA

And they love you very very much. In spite of everything that's going on, remember that. You've still got that. They love you. They're going to be safe. I promise.

VICTERNIUM

My wife has...

He takes a shaky breath and presses a finger against the glass. He's pointing at a colossal burnt out building.

CONTINUED: 16.

VICTERNIUM

That's where she worked.

(beat)

I loved her. I still love her.

(looking at Maria)

I miss her. They miss her.

MARIA

And they love you.

Maria embraces Victernium, her eyes still locked onto the scenes below.

CUT TO:

INT. COMMANDING OFFICE - DAY

14

THE DOCTOR leans on the desk, head resting in his hands and brow furrowed.

THE DOCTOR

Why?

ANGUS wipes his eye wearily.

ANGUS

Why what?

THE DOCTOR

You know why what.

ANGUS

Why am I destroying the planet? It's a long story.

THE DOCTOR

I'm a good listener.

ANGUS

I didn't say I was going to tell you the story.

THE DOCTOR

Oh, alright then.

And the Doctor simply stands up and starts to walk away, a spring in his step. The SONTARANS prepare to shoot. Angus stands up immediately.

ANGUS

Stop! Stay where you are!

The Doctor turns on his heel.

CONTINUED: 17.

THE DOCTOR

Why? Give me one good reason, Angus. One good reason why I shouldn't just walk out of this room.

ANGUS

They'll shoot you! They will shoot you and they won't stop! On my orders!

THE DOCTOR

I said a good reason.

ANGUS

You're all talk, aren't you? How smug do you think you're going to look dead on that floor?

THE DOCTOR

What do you want from me? You're not going to tell me anything, so what use am I? Just kill me. Go on.

The Doctor strides into the centre of the room and stretches his arms out. He walks over to a helmeted Sontaran and looks down at it.

THE DOCTOR

(shouting)

Kill me!

The Sontaran presses the gun to his hearts, a yellow indicator light glows, we hear the gun powering up -

ANGUS

NO!

He rushes over and pushes the Doctor away, looking down at him.

ANGUS

I need you. I need your TARDIS.

CUT TO:

INT. HOLDING CELL - DAY

15

MARIA has the cord wound around her hand. The wooden panelling has now been pulled right back, to give way to one much larger cell, with herself, VICTERNIUM and his children.

CONTINUED: 18.

VICTERNIUM

No, no - let me go.

MARIA

No chance. You've got children.

VICTERNIUM

Well - you must have family.

MARIA

You've got children.

(beat)

I'll find the best people I can. Big beefy blokes. Right?

VICTERNIUM

You're very brave, milady.

MARIA

I've got nothing on you. Right... ready?

VICTERNIUM

Are you ready?

MARIA

Nope.

And she yanks the cord.

A section of the floor slides open, and a huge rope ladder tumbles downwards. Maria prepares to climb down it.

MARIA

I don't know what I'm doing.

(beat)

I'm travelling with a man I don't even know, I'm on a planet in the future, I'm - how did this -

She pulls out her necklace from under her t-shirt - it's the TARDIS key. She holds it briefly in her hand.

MARIA

Okay. Okay.

She looks down. That's a long way to fall.

MARIA

Ooo-kay. French speaking tests with Mr. Scoles have nothing on this.

And she begins her descent.

CONTINUED: 19.

VICTERNIUM

Vot bless you, Vot bless you, Vot is with you and so are we.

He holds his terrified children tightly.

CUT TO:

EXT. R67 - DAY

16

The colossal skyship, hovering ominously above a burning planet.

And on one little rope, a tiny figure racing down. Who just days before was celebrating her birthday.

MARIA SUVARI, bridging the gap between the land and the sky.

CUT TO:

EXT. SKYSHIP OLGA RUNWAY - DAY

17

ANGUS leads THE DOCTOR out of the castle and across the clouds. A Sontaran, GENERAL STRUXX, walks behind them, helmet under its arm.

Angus walks over to the edge of the clouds, where a rail stops anyone from falling. He leans on it and looks down upon the planet.

ANGUS

I was fifteen years old.

Focus on Angus's eye, zoom in, right into the pupil -

CUT TO:

EXT. FOREST - EARLIER - FLASHBACK

18

A flashback. Start at pitch black, and pull out to show ANGUS's eye, a teenager now, walking along hand in hand with another GIRL.

They are walking in a forest. Bare trees shiver like skeletons, and frozen blue grass is matted and dead.

Angus is definitely dressed to impress - but he's evidently not from a wealthy background. Neither of them are - nobody from this world is.

ANGUS (V.O)

I had fallen madly in love with a girl, in the stupid, giddy way only a human heart can.

CONTINUED: 20.

CUT TO:

EXT. SKYSHIP OLGA RUNWAY - DAY

19

Back to the present. ANGUS is absorbed by the scenes below.

ANGUS

I loved her for years, eight years, and I always used to say this stupid little thing to her. I'd say it every time we said goodbye because it made her smile, and because I was a sanctimonious idiot. A slave to who I wanted people to perceive me as.

(beat)

'I'd tear the world apart for you.'

He buries his head in his hands.

ANGUS

She left me, she never said why, but she loathed me. She couldn't stand the sight of me and she moved away. She moved away and I never saw her again. But I wanted to, I ached to see her just to tell her I was sorry, or to ask what I had done wrong, but I never did.

THE DOCTOR frowns and looks down. All of that destruction for one girl.

ANGUS

So here I am, tearing the world apart. And when she comes to see me... then I'll stop.

GENERAL STRUXX

Emotions.

The Doctor turns around. STRUXX is staring into the back of Angus's head. And there is hatred in his eyes.

GENERAL STRUXX

They are venom. They weaken you.

ANGUS

They are more powerful than any weapon you could ever use. Get back to your station.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 21.

GENERAL STRUXX

I refuse.

Angus turns around.

ANGUS

You take your orders from me. I am your superior.

GENERAL STRUXX

I am a Sontaran. I take my orders from nobody.

Straxx reaches for his holster, for a pistol, ready to ignite a war -

CLANG! The Doctor elbows the probic vent. With a wheeze, Straxx falls down to the ground, knocked out.

ANGUS

It was going to kill me.

THE DOCTOR

Well observed. Sontaran superior... an oxymoron the Universe can't handle.

The Doctor walks away from the edge, trying to collect his thoughts. He's frustrated.

THE DOCTOR

All of this... all of this for a girl. All of the death.

ANGUS

You don't understand.

THE DOCTOR

If you understand then I never want to. Look at yourself. You've gone cold, Angus. Stuck in the past and ruled by what's already happened.

ANGUS

So you *should* understand. You've just described yourself.

The Doctor shakes his head and looks down on the planet.

ANGUS

I saved up money - and then an old relative from Jorrix Minor died, and left me millions. Finally I had a way to find her. I met with a company who organised all this. A Sontaran

(MORE)

CONTINUED: 22.

ANGUS (cont'd)

fleet owed them a favour and they're getting paid in return - and I told them what I wanted.

THE DOCTOR

To destroy a planet.

ANGUS

To find the girl I loved -

THE DOCTOR

To kill millions of innocent people, to watch them burn and suffer as you sit here like a God. Well where is she, Angus? Where's the girl? Has it been worth it? Because do you know what?

(shouting)

I don't see her! I don't see her
coming to get you! And while
you're sat up here dictating a
massacre -

ANGUS

It's not a massacre -

THE DOCTOR

It IS a massacre!

(beat)

This is what happens. I take someone to see the stars, because they deserve it, and they see this. They see men like you, who would happily burn a planet because of one *stupid* memory. And now you've got a fleet of Sontarans and they're planning a mutiny.

Angus opens his mouth to retort -

THE DOCTOR

How do I know? Because they're Sontarans, Angus, it's in their blood. Don't delude yourself. A general has just tried to kill you, and they'll be in that castle plotting their next move right now.

The Doctor walks over to Struxx and takes the pistol out of his holster. He holds it by his side.

CONTINUED: 23.

THE DOCTOR

So you're going to work with me. And we're going to stop this now. Because this planet is supposed to die, Angus. It's supposed to burn. But I'm not going to let that happen.

ANGUS

I need your TARDIS - I need to get down there and find her -

THE DOCTOR

She could be anywhere, it won't work.

ANGUS

No. From this ship I can see it all. I know exactly where she is, and I've left it bomb-free. She's just not coming out. I can go and see her.

(beat)

Please.

CUT TO:

EXT. TUNCUS WALKWAY - DAY

2.0

A rubble-strewn street. Smoke billows from hollowed out buildings and the whole place is in ruin. The odd war-torn family hobbles by. Bodies litter the street.

MARIA runs down the street, jumping over rubble and dodging small fires. She turns a corner and is gone.

Then, seconds later, the TARDIS materialises.

THE DOCTOR and ANGUS step out.

ANGUS

Oh God.

The Doctor walks back to the TARDIS.

ANGUS

Where are you going?

THE DOCTOR

Make sure you find her. And while you're there, just look around you. Open up your eyes, Angus.

The ground shudders slightly. Another bomb.

CONTINUED: 24.

ANGUS

Please - tell me where you're going.

THE DOCTOR

I'm going to make some Sontarans very, very angry.

And with that, he's in the TARDIS as it starts to dematerialise.

Angus looks around at the city he has destroyed.

CUT TO:

EXT. TUNNOK WALKWAY - DAY

21

MARIA leads a group of around six MEN - all tall and well-built, wielding makeshift weapons - across another wrecked street.

CUT TO:

INT. COMMANDING OFFICE - DAY

2.2

Several SONTARANS march around the room - it's a full blown mutiny, and all systems are go.

GENERAL STRUXX trudges into the room.

GENERAL STRUXX

Idiots! They have ran to the planet below. The ship is ours!

CUT TO:

INT. HOLDING CELL 2 - DAY

23

VICTERNIUM and his children are all huddled together in the corner of the cell, as the world burns below.

Suddenly, alarms sound and the lighting turns a deep shade of red. Victernium looks around.

VICTERNIUM

No...

He holds his children tightly.

CUT TO:

24

EXT. SKYSHIP OLGA - DAY

The TARDIS dematerialises, and THE DOCTOR steps out, only to come face to face with a masked SONTARAN.

THE DOCTOR

Afternoon.

SONTARAN

Place your hands on your head!

The Doctor does so.

SONTARAN

You have unlawfully trespassed on a Sontaran ship. You will be taken to the cells.

CLOSE-UP on the Sontaran pistol, firmly wedged in the Doctor's waistband, out of the Sontaran's sight.

CUT TO:

EXT. TUNNOK WALKWAY - DAY

25

MARIA and the ever-growing group suddenly bump into ANGUS, at opposite ends of the street.

MARIA

Oh my God. That's him.

ANGUS

Maria - you're Maria -

MARIA

Stay back.

She's holding a metal pole, and waves it in front of her.

MARIA

Don't come any closer.

Angus nods, looking down.

ANGUS

What are you doing?

MARIA

What's it to you?

She notices something about him. He's not quite the same man he was on the skyship.

MARIA

Assembling an army. We're going to hijack the ship. And there's nothing you can do about it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 26.

ANGUS

Don't.

MARIA

(immediately)

Why?

ANGUS

It's just the Doctor and the Sontarans. For all I know he's going to blow up the skyship. But - I mean, I don't know him, but I think he can save the people on there.

Maria lowers the pole slightly.

MARIA

So do I.

(beat)

Why are you down here?

ANGUS

Because I made a mistake.

He nods towards the only intact house on the whole street.

ANGUS

And I need to make it right.

CUT TO:

EXT. SKYSHIP OLGA RUNWAY - DAY

26

The SONTARAN leads THE DOCTOR down the runway, when another Sontaran walks up to them.

SONTARAN 2

The Doctor is to be taken to the control room.

SONTARAN

That isn't the protocol -

SONTARAN 2

Then the protocol has changed. Take him to the control room.

THE DOCTOR

Actually, you know what, no. I can't be bothered. Sorry.

The Doctor walks over to the side of the runway, until he's on the clouds and back towards the TARDIS.

CONTINUED: 27.

THE DOCTOR

It's too long to walk. I've had a long day. Chat later!

SONTARAN

One more step and you will be executed!

And the Doctor turns around, nonchalant and with eyebrows raised.

THE DOCTOR

Mind what you say.

He's holding the Sontaran pistol.

CUT TO:

EXT. TUNNOK WALKWAY - DAY

2.7

MARIA has now dropped the pole completely, as have the men behind her.

MARIA

That's it? That's your reason?

(beat)

Because of a woman?

ANGUS hangs his head. Maria just massages hers, trying to comprehend all that has happened in such a short space of time.

MARIA

Promise me this ends. *Promise* me this ends today.

Angus opens his mouth to talk but he can't quite find the words -

MARIA

Promise me!

ANGUS

I promise. I promise.

MARIA

Now I'm going to help you.

ANGUS

Thank you -

MARIA

I'm going to help you because I care about these people.

She turns to the people behind her.

CONTINUED: 28.

MARIA

And because I know my friend will help you.

She turns back to Angus and walks towards him.

MAN

(from the crowd)

He's a murderer!

Maria just turns around and looks at the man. Then she turns back.

ANGUS

I promise. Maria, please. Believe me. I'm not a liar.

CUT TO:

EXT. SKYSHIP OLGA - DAY

28

THE DOCTOR stands with the gun. There are now DOZENS of SONTARANS around him, ready to shoot.

THE DOCTOR

(calmly)

Lay down your weapons.

A slight pause. Then, from the Sontarans...

... laughter. Laughter at such a ridiculous request.

SONTARAN

What is a Sontaran without a weapon?

THE DOCTOR

Good question. Here's a better one.

The Doctor charges up the gun, until it lights up. Ready to fire. Not pointed at anyone or anything, but by his side.

THE DOCTOR

What am I with one?

CUT TO:

INT. COMMANDING OFFICE - DAY

29

GENERAL STRUXX barks orders, as screens flash and engines hum.

CONTINUED: 29.

GENERAL STRUXX

Man every cannon! Set every energy tank up to maximum! Prepare for obliteration! This is glory! This is victory!

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

30

Despite it being the only house on the street that isn't in ruins, this looks like something that's been long-neglected.

There is no light, no sign of life and trailing streams of dust everywhere - like cobwebbed ropes.

ANGUS leads the way, with MARIA following close behind. His hands are trembling. He looks down and notices them.

ANGUS

(to MARIA)

I'm shaking. Just like when I first met her.

(calling out)

Olga?

(beat)

Olga, are you here? It's me. It's Angus. I'm here, Olga.

(whispering, to MARIA)
That's what I called the skyship.

MARIA

Romantic.

ANGUS

Well, you know, I just didn't want to forget what I was doing it for. And I never did, you know... I never could.

Suddenly, a sound - like a deep breath. Maria's eyes widen. She nods towards a closed door on their right.

Angus goes to reach for it, and it gently creaks open.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

31

The door slowly opens, and ANGUS walks in. He turns an immediate shade of white. His hand clasps over his mouth.

MARIA walks in behind him and does the same. She freezes.

CONTINUED: 30.

All we can hear is deep breathing, along with the odd burst of what sounds like a hiss of steam.

MARIA

(quietly)

Oh my God.

CUT TO:

EXT. SKYSHIP OLGA - DAY

32

THE DOCTOR waves the gun around nonchalantly as he talks.

THE DOCTOR

Because you see, the thing about Sontarans is that they are clever, in a special sort of way. Oh, you really are, you're boffins, you're little war boffins, you're tactical geniuses... when you're on land. When you're on land you map out your routes, you plan your stratagems, you employ your best tactics, you know every inch of the ground you're covering. But when you're in the air... when you're on a skyship...

(beat)

Well, you're quite honestly gullible idiots.

The SONTARANS stir.

SONTARAN

Kill him!

THE DOCTOR

NO no no, no - wait, wait, wait! What I meant was... well, no, I meant exactly what I said. BUT my point is this...

(beat)

I know exactly what's going on in that commanding office. Your general is setting every energy tank to maximum. He's barking the orders to prepare for the destruction of this planet. I know that because when you're in the air you're predictable, Sontarans. Your tactics are awful.

CONTINUED: 31.

SONTARAN

Your overconfidence makes your stupidity all the more laughable! You are a joke, Doctor!

THE DOCTOR

Oh, no no no! That's not the joke. The joke is the fact that YOU lot are rubbish with figures.

A long pause.

THE DOCTOR

How much did your superior pay for all this?

SONTARAN

That man is NOT our superior! Sontarans have no superior!

THE DOCTOR

I'll tell you. Seven million credits. And this is where you're idiots. Seven million credits to get a skyship capable of destroying a planet?

SONTARAN

It is perfectly feasible!

THE DOCTOR

Oh yes, absolutely. You can destroy a planet with some wool and Weetabix if you have the patience. My point is...

And then he points the gun, for the first time. Straight downwards. Towards the clouds that make up the skyship.

THE DOCTOR

Can't be the best skyship in the world, can it? How does it stay up all this time? Engines burning constant NeutroFuel? I think not.

(beat)

Because this is a hovercraft, and these clouds are the only things keeping you up.

On the Doctor, a smile spreading across his face.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

33

MARIA slowly closes the door, as ANGUS moves forward, tears in his eyes.

ANGUS

My love -

And we see what they're looking at.

A CYBORG WOMAN, sat in an old armchair. She is clothed in blankets and rags and nothing more. Two bare feet poke out on the floor, and one human hand lies on the armrest. The other arm is totally bionic.

The top half of her head is also completely robotic, from the bridge of the nose upwards. Instead of eyes there is a black visor, and the rest is rusty blue metal.

The bottom half of her face is as normal, except for an oxygen mask over the woman's mouth. She is connected to a life support machine.

This is OLGA.

Angus falls to his knees in front of her. Around him, we notice skeletons. Three adult skeletons.

The bionic hand twitches, feeling for something. We hear her voice through the mask.

OLGA

Hello? Who is that? Hello?

Angus swallows back tears, and places his hand on hers.

ANGUS

Olga, it's me. It's Angus. I'm here. I came back.

OLGA

Angus? My Angus? Where?

ANGUS

Down here. Here, look.

OLGA

Can't look. Blind.

Angus presses his head against her knees. Maria just watches on.

ANGUS

I waited for you.

CONTINUED: 33.

OLGA

I waited for you.

ANGUS

I know. How did - how did you -

OLGA

Explosion. I saw a boy on the street, Angus. A little boy. He hurt himself so I went out to help. He was fine, the boy. I got him back to his mother. Then I was caught by a bomb.

(beat)

I can barely breathe on my own without a machine. My arm was torn off. Shrapnel blinded me... we don't have the technology to do much, so - so this is it. This is who I am. I couldn't go up and talk to you even if I tried. I thought about everything, Angus. I heard people die around me while they waited for me to get better.

(beat)

But I'm not going to get better.

And Angus cries. He weeps and he can't stop - because this is what he has done, and he finally knows it.

CUT TO:

EXT. SKYSHIP OLGA - DAY

34

THE DOCTOR still has the gun pointed downwards, staring at the SONTARANS.

Finger on the trigger.

And he shoots.

The sound of air escaping - a puncture. The hiss that startles all of the Sontarans.

SONTARAN

SHOOT HIM!

THE DOCTOR

NO! Otherwise I shoot again! And again and again! And I won't stop until I've split the clouds!

SONTARAN

You have seconds to leave this ship. Otherwise I can promise that you will die here.

CONTINUED: 34.

THE DOCTOR

Fine. You have minutes before this ship starts to fall. I can promise you one thing...

(beat)

If you destroy that planet, the flames will reach the clouds.

And he walks off towards the TARDIS.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

35

ANGUS holds OLGA's hand in his own.

ANGUS

I'm sorry, my love. I'm so, so
sorry, I can't even - I can't put
it into words -

OLGA

You said you'd tear the world apart for me.

ANGUS

I was - I am - arrogant and
selfish. I couldn't see the point
of my life if you weren't in it,
and -

(beat)

Why did you leave?

OLGA

I want you to do me a favour. One last favour.

ANGUS

Don't say that, my love -

OLGA

One last favour, Angus.

Then, from outside...

The TARDIS engines.

MARIA looks up.

MARIA

(quietly)

I've got to go.

Angus nods but doesn't turn around, as Maria walks out of the room.

CUT TO:

36

MARIA walks out of the door, to see THE DOCTOR standing by the TARDIS.

MARIA

Her name's Olga.

The Doctor nods.

MARIA

She's dying. I've left him with her.

(pointing upwards)
What's going on up there? I
noticed the bombing's stopped.

THE DOCTOR

Only because they're preparing for total planetary obliteration.

MARIA

What?!

THE DOCTOR

But! I shot their ship!

MARIA

I'm sorry?

THE DOCTOR

Those clouds - well, 'clouds' - they were acting as a sort of hovercraft, keeping the ship afloat. I shot them.

MARIA

Hey, you said they were clouds, you told me off for not believing you -

THE DOCTOR

Yes well let's forget that, the point is -

MARIA

You were wrong! You just hate being wrong don't you?!

THE DOCTOR

Back to the matter in hand...
they've just used all their
energy to build up for a massive
attack and now their ship is
slowly falling. They can't exert
the power because in the case of
a falling ship all cannons are

(MORE)

CONTINUED: 36.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd) taken offline. So basically up there is just a ship full of little angry men and a heck of a lot of energy bubbling around with nowhere to go.

MARIA

Hang on, wait...

THE DOCTOR

Don't worry, don't worry, the ship won't fall on anything, I mean the clouds make up most of the mass, it'll all disintegrate before -

MARIA

You idiot. Oh God, you idiot.

And she starts sprinting down the street.

THE DOCTOR

(shouting)

What?! What have I done?

MARIA

There are people on that ship! Hostages!

And she turns a corner.

CUT TO:

37

EXT. TUNCUS WALKWAY - DAY

MARIA is back at the rope ladder that leads directly up to

MARIA

(shouting)

Victu-Victarn-Vic-VICTOR! Victor it's me, it's Maria! And I'm sorry, I know that's not your name but you can come down!

VICTERNIUM's cell. She begins to climb the ladder.

Nothing. She continues climbing.

CUT TO:

38

INT. COMMANDING OFFICE - DAY

GENERAL STRUXX is rushing around as the Sontaran-packed room goes haywire. Klaxons blare as the room glows red.

GENERAL STRUXX

We have nothing left! All energy stored in the tanks. We have little time to secure glory, no matter how feeble. The hostages! We have but three remaining. Execute them! We will taste blood even if it is the merest of drops!

And the Sontarans begin to file out of the room, guns charged.

CUT TO:

EXT. R67 - DAY

39

MARIA is halfway up the rope, climbing as fast as she can -

CUT TO:

INT. CORRIDOR - DAY

40

SONTARANS run in a line, wielding guns, as klaxons blare throughout the ship -

CUT TO:

INT. HOLDING CELLS PLATFORM - DAY

41

The SONTARANS stand over the roof of the holding cell containing VICTERNIUM and his children, as it slowly slides off, revealing the cell.

They fire.

Then they stop. A Sontaran, LIEUTENANT SKRANNIT, removes his helmet and throws it to the floor.

He scans the room, tongue hovering by his lips, waiting to kill. Then he closes his mouth.

LIEUTENANT SKRANNIT

Oh, drat.

CUT TO:

EXT. R67 - DAY 42

MARIA, VICTERNIUM and his children walk down the ladder.

MARIA

Quickly quickly! Come on! Is this everyone?

VICTERNIUM

Oh, Vot thank you, by Vot we're saved, thank you Maria, thank Vot, thank -

MARIA

Yeah, thank him later, if I'm honest he didn't really offer a hand at all - are there any more hostages?!

VERONA, his daughter, answers for him as they descend.

VERONA

No miss! We were the only ones!

MARIA

Okay - now come on! Quicker! We're nearly at the bottom!

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

43

ANGUS strokes OLGA's hair. Strands upon strands fall out every time he touches it.

OLGA

I've - lived in pain for so many years, Angus. And yet all these years, knowing you've caused my pain... I still thought about you every day.

ANGUS

Why did you leave?

OLGA

Because I knew.

ANGUS

Knew what?

OLGA

I saw what you were becoming. And I knew it wasn't you. As soon as you inherited money it took you over. Every day, Angus, every day

(MORE)

CONTINUED: 39.

OLGA (cont'd)

you told me you'd tear the world apart for me, I started to believe it. It scared me. And I thought if I stayed with you you'd turn into a monster. So I left. I left hoping you'd realise what you were becoming and you'd stop.

ANGUS

I've changed, I can change, I did change, it was just -

OLGA

Stop me living this misery, Angus. Please. Do that for me.

Her bionic hand twitches and points towards the life support machine.

OLGA

Pressing red then blue twice will stop my oxygen supply.

Angus runs his hand through his hair.

OLGA

You're crying.

ANGUS

Yes. I am. I don't want to -

OLGA

You have to, Angus. For me. For all you've put me through. For what you've done.

Her human hand reaches out, and strokes his face.

OLGA

I can keep the mask off for a short time as it is, but by default the machine reattaches it.

Angus gets the message. His trembling hand slips the oxygen mask off Olga's face. Her voice is clearer now, and throaty.

OLGA

I can't see you, I don't know where you are, you'll have to -

And he leans in and gently kisses her on the lips, and then forehead.

CONTINUED: 40.

ANGUS

Goodbye, my love.

He puts the mask back on her, leans over to the life support machine - presses red, then blue, then blue again. And he waits.

PULL BACK to reveal the silhouette of THE DOCTOR, outside the window, looking in. The hiss and whir of the machine soon stops. All is silent.

Angus holds her in his arms.

FADE TO:

EXT. TUNNOK WALKWAY - DAY

44

THE DOCTOR stands by the TARDIS, as ANGUS walks outside and closes the front door gently. The Doctor's holding the Sontaran pistol.

Angus walks over to him, and holds out his hand.

THE DOCTOR

There are other ways this can be done.

ANGUS

Give me one.

The Doctor can't.

Angus takes the gun, and the Doctor nods over to the direction that Maria ran.

Angus takes the gun and walks down the street.

CUT TO:

EXT. TUNCUS WALKWAY - DAY

45

MARIA parts with VICTERNIUM and his family.

VICTERNIUM

We can make it from here. Thank you.

MARIA

You're welcome. You take care now - all of you.

Victernium and Maria embrace.

CONTINUED: 41.

VICTERNIUM

You never properly told me, Maria - who are you?

And with that, she smiles and walks off.

CUT TO Maria walking further down the street, when she bumps into ANGUS, who is wielding the gun.

MARTA

Woah! Woah, what are you doing? What's with the gun? Where's -

He looks her in the eye. And she knows.

MARIA

Oh God. I'm sorry. Are you - what are you doing?

Angus walks right past, and towards the rope ladder.

MARIA

(calling after him)

Angus! What are you -

THE DOCTOR

Leave him.

Maria turns around to see THE DOCTOR, bandy-legged and silhouetted slightly against the setting suns.

MARIA

What's he going to do?

The Doctor looks up at the ship.

THE DOCTOR

'Skyship Olga'.

(to MARIA)

I think there's only ever been one Olga for him.

MARIA

So he's going to tear it apart.

CUT TO:

INT. COMMANDING OFFICE - DAY

46

There seems to be a standoff between GENERAL STRUXX and LIEUTENANT SKRANNIT.

GENERAL STRUXX

You let them get away! You have made a mockery of us all!

CONTINUED: 42.

LIEUTENANT SKRANNIT They escaped. There was nothing I could do.

GENERAL STRUXX
We are here on behalf of the glory of Sontar. We are here to represent our race. There is nothing we cannot do!

LIEUTENANT SKRANNIT Mind your tone, General.

GENERAL STRUXX
You are unauthorised to give orders! I am your superior!

ANGUS
I thought you had no superior?

All of the SONTARANS turn -

To see ANGUS, stood right next to the ENERGY TANKS with the pistol.

GENERAL STRUXX
The human! The pitiful human who sacrificed his dignity and pride for emotion.

ANGUS

I'm not just a human - I am your superior. I'm the Sontaran superior.

GENERAL STRUXX Sontarans HAVE NO SUPERIOR!

ANGUS

You have a lot of energy stored in these tanks, and nowhere to unleash it. I've got all the power here. Because people are going to hear about this, and people will laugh. You'll be the Sontarans that are ridiculed in history. And the story will travel on and on, all the way back to Sontar, and deep in your stupid little hearts you can't deny it -

He charges the gun, ready to shoot the energy tank.

ANGUS

I am your superior.

And he pulls the trigger.

CONTINUED: 43.

GENERAL STRUXX

NO!

CUT TO:

EXT. R67 - DAY

47

The whole SKYSHIP EXPLODES in the sky.

FADE TO:

EXT. MEADOW - NIGHT

48

It's midnight. Three moons slowly revolve around one another in the sky, and stars twinkle.

THE DOCTOR and MARIA sit on the grass, backs against the TARDIS. Maria is making a daisy chain.

THE DOCTOR

Are you okay?

MARIA

You said the planet exploded.

THE DOCTOR

It was supposed to.

MARIA

But you stopped it. Can you do that?

THE DOCTOR

I shouldn't. I shouldn't have done. Some events in time are fixed. R67 was vaguely fixed. I bent the rules a little.

MARIA

Won't that lead to something else, though? Isn't it all cause and effect?

THE DOCTOR

It'll be fine. Trust me.

The Doctor sighs and looks up to the sky.

THE DOCTOR

It's not always nice. This is what I meant before we left Hastings, it can play with your mind a bit.

CONTINUED: 44.

MARIA

I suppose... I suppose you've just got to accept that what happens happens. And then try and look onwards and not back. But, of course, I mean - sometimes it's healthy to look back, but it's all about being in the moment, all this, isn't it?

THE DOCTOR

Precisely.

MARIA

I feel like I should tick off 'Sontarans' on a big alien checklist.

The Doctor laughs again.

THE DOCTOR

I'd beat anyone, hands-down.

MARIA

Yeah, alright! You've had a head start! And a time machine to help you scoot around everywhere!

THE DOCTOR

Well, the TARDIS has been relatively well-behaved so far, it's not always trying to show off...

They bicker until we can barely hear them.

ZOOM OUT, until we see them amidst the whole meadow, sat in the moonlight.

END OF EPISODE 49