# DOCTOR WHO

SERIES 10 EPI SODE 5

"0xygen"

by

Jamie Mathieson

BLUE SCRIPT

08/03/17

(SHOOTING BLOCK 4)

## 1 <u>EXT. SPACE - DAY X</u>

The void of space, sprinkled with stars.

THE DOCTOR (V.O.)
Space - the final frontier.

Now, rotating into frame, the back of a woman's head - as it turns, slow and eerie, we see a dead face - staring eyes, frosted skin.

1

It's on the wrist of one of the smartsuited figures, ELLIE, twenty something.

She's currently hanging onto the thin latices of the girder like monkey bars above her head. She's moving slowly forward toward the station, carefully, hand over hand, her weightless body hanging free. From her perspective, the station is a wall ahead of her, below her, the void of space.

It looks precarious. One slip means drifting off. And indeed we see one of ELLIE's hands slip before she corrects her grip. Her breathing quickens for a beat.

ELLIE (out of breath) Maybe it's because things are so... IVAN (cont'd)
(out of breath)
Still can't hear... you love.
You're wasting... your breath.

IVAN looks down at his wrist. His oxygen gauge also has one last bar flashing red - nearly run out.

IVAN (cont'd) (to himself)
The one thing... we can't waste.

IVAN begins to walk toward the airlock. ELLIE begins to follow. She looks desperate.

ELLIE (to herself) We'll find some more. We have to.

A shadow falls across ELLIE. She frowns and looks up, shading her eyes with her hand.

Reveal the two CORPSES - they've drifted to a point where they are almost upon her.

ELLIE Looks shocked, suddenly hyperventilating.

Oh no. No no no no.

Shockingly, in unison, the CORPSES reach out with both arms, but their heads remain dead, inert. These are our monsters, from hereon known as CORPSE SULTS.

ELLIE screams.

The scream cuts out as we cut to IVAN, who of course, hears nothing. He's reached the airlock and crouches, flipping open an access hatch. He pulls a handle. Nothing. He tuts and produces a small box of tech trailing cables.

IVAN Have to bypass.

We move closer to IVAN as he works on the hatch. ELLIE no longer visible. He attaches wires, punches in a few codes and finally is rewarded as the airlock hatch shudders open. He fist pumps.

Then, spinning slowly past him, comes ELLIE's helmet.

IVAN looks at it dumbly, then slowly turns with dread.

Twenty feet away the two CORPSE SUITS stand facing him, faces still blank, heads Iolling in their helmets. Standing up in front of them comes ELLIE, sans helmet, eyes open and dead, vapour steaming from her eyes and mouth.

She holds out her arms and begins walking forward.

IVAN screams in horror and grief.

IVAN (cont'd)

Noo!

CUT TO:

OPENING TITLES.

3 INT. LECTURE HALL - DAY 1 - 09.10 3

Darkness.

THE DOCTOR (v.o.)
So how does space kill you? I'm glad you asked.

A piece of chalk wielded by THE DOCTOR comes into frame and

## THE DOCTOR Don't be unreasonable.

CUT TO:

3C <u>EXT. NI GHT SKY - NI GHT 1 - 21. 05</u>

3C

A dazzle of stars.

Now on the Doctor, standing at his window, staring up. Such longing.

Then slowly, a grin. It's a grin that says, why not?

THE DOCTOR

(V. 0. ) Space!!

CUT TO:

INT. TARDIS - DAY 2 - TOPATT271 QOE 012 /T19 12 eW n /C\$ s0 0 0 sq1 0 0 -1

BILL (I doubt that) Really?

**NARDOLE** 

.

THE DOCTOR
Oh, look, Bill, it's Nardole, what
a lovely surprise. Thought I sent
you to Birmingham for a packet of
crisps.

NARDOLE I saw through your cunning ruse.

THE DOCTOR
Well if you will go thinking for yourself. What do you want?

NARDOLE
I was given instructions to keep you at the university.

THE DOCTOR

By who?

**NARDOLE** 

You.

THE DOCTOR
Well you're not doing a very good
job, are you? I'll overlook it this
once.

NARDOLE Do you know what this is?

 $\mbox{He's holding up a little piece of technology - looks like a Time Lord version of a data stick.}$ 

THE DOCTOR If it's not crisps, you're sacked.

NARDOLE Fluid Link, K57. Removed it from the TARDIS the other night, after your lecture.

THE DOCTOR That's very untrusting.

NARDOLE You took an oath, sir! The vault cannot be unguarded.

THE DOCTOR Oh, listen to Mr. Boring!

4

NARDOLE

I'm acting on orders.

THE DOCTOR

This is a time machine! I can get us back before we left.

**NARDOLE** 

You told me you'd say that.

THE DOCTOR

And I was right. See how reliable I am!

**BILL** 

What's a fluid link?

**NARDOLE** 

No idea. But the TARDIS can't take off without it.

THE DOCTOR

Who told you that?

**NARDOLE** 

You did!

The Doctor: his scariest grin. Slams the controls. The disks revolve, the engines roar -

THE DOCTOR

Exactl y!

The doors slam, the TARDIS Lurches, they're taking off. The Doctor, Bill and Nardole, all clinging to the console.

Nardole, staring shocked at the Doctor, who is grinning, unrepentant.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)
Teach you to trust me. I'm docking your pay for this.

CUT TO:

## 5 INT. AIRLOCK 1/CORRIDOR - DAY 2 - 09. 24

5

The TARDIS materialising. But where?

We can't see much - the only light comes from the TARDIS. The walls occasionally creak and groan like a submarine.

THE DOCTOR sonics the darkness, NARDOLE and BILL just behind him. All instinctively whisper.

NARDOLE

(sotto) I'm a bit cross with you, sir. THE DOCTOR

(sotto) Noted. Scored out. Forgotten.

BILL moves to step past THE DOCTOR. He stops her.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)

(sotto)

Wait. Theré's no oxygen.

BI LL

(sotto)

What? So how come we're breathing?

THE DOCTOR

(sotto)

Air shell around the TARDIS. Hang

Without looking, THE DOCTOR casually sonics over his shoulder back into the TARDIS. Both doors open, BILL and THE DOCTOR's hair is ruffled and we hear the sound of wind rushing out - debris in the corridor skittering, then a happy chime from the console.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)

(sotto)

Now there's a really around the TARDIS. air shell

BI LL

(sotto)

How big?

THE DOCTOR sonics the ceiling and lights flicker on,

UNLICENSED OXYGEN DETECTED.

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7 CONTINUED:

NARDOLE (cont'd) (mi mes I ong painful groaning opening)

THE DOCTOR sonics the door and it begins to slowly hinge open. NARDOLE and THE DOCTOR are busy arguing and don't look through the door.

THE DOCTOR

Are you going to be like this all day?

**NARDOLE** 

Yep. Till you're back where you should be.

BILL has spotted something through the door...

**BILL** 

Er guys...

CUT TO:

7

8

## 8 <u>INT. REPAIR STATION - DAY 2 - 09.27</u>

Beyond the door is a circular room with a few other corridors leading off and a glass paneled outer airlock door. It feels like a futuristic garage for spacesuits. Dimly lit. Hanging in bays are three smartsuits.

There is also a wide window currently looking out at a curved section of the station that's hundreds of feet long, but which is all currently in shadow.

Standing in the centre of the room, back to us, is a FIGURE wearing a helmetless smartsuit.

Our HEROES stop and share a look and step through.

THE DOCTOR

Hello?

No reaction. Our HEROES approach the FIGURE cautiously. Finally they round him and can see his face, lolling in the collar of his suit. He looks dead, deathly pale. Echoes of the figures from the pre-credits.

THE DOCTOR sonics the CORPSE's face and checks the readings.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)

He's dead.

BI LL

How can he be dead? He's standing up.

THE DOCTOR is examining the suit.

BILL His what?

THE DOCTOR Forcefield. Keeps his air in.

BILL is still staring at the CORPSE, so freaked, so moved...

BI LL Look, can't we just ... lie him down, or something. This isn't right.

THE DOCTOR No, it isn't.
 (off monitor)
Mining station 'Chasm Forge'. Crew of forty. I've got thirty six

## THE DOCTOR

# Personal use, they only have oxygen in the suits themselves.

SUIT COMPUTER

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11A CONTINUED:

A sudden shrieking wind blasts through the room.

The three of them, snatched off their feet, now cling to struts and supports, hanging horizontal, clinging on for dear life!

On the CORPSE. The boots flash their Mag lights, locking on to the floor. The CORPSE leans weirdly in the rushing wind.

On the DOCTOR - hanging horizontal, he's trying to fumble his sonic from his coat -

CUT TO:

## 11B INT. AIRLOCK 1 - DAY 2 - 09.32

11B

- equipment flying out the opened airlock door. Now the TARDIS Lurches towards - any second now, gone forever!!

## 11C <u>EXT. AI RLOCK - DAY 2 - 09. 32</u>

11C

Equipment cartwheels out of the airlock and into space.

CUT TO:

## 12 INT. REPAIR STATION - DAY 2 - 09.33

12

- THE DOCTOR, aiming his screwdriver at the connecting door the corridor leading to the airlock, sonics -
- the door slams shut!

The wind cuts, they all slump to the deck -

- The Doctor, already scrambling to the door. Firmly sealed.

**NARDOLE** 

So! The TARDIS is on the other side of that.

THE DOCTOR

Yeah, I was hoping someone would state the obvious.

NARDOLE

Vacuum behind it, can't open it.

THE DOCTOR

Oh, he's on a roll.

**NARDOLE** 

And if we did, we'd be sucked out into space.

The room, now full of a low hissing noise.

BI LL

What's that?

THE DOCTOR Nothing to worry about.

BI LL

Real I y?

THE DOCTOR

Well, not for several minutes. Don't stress early, it's a waste of energy.

BI LL

Stress about ?

A nearby panel crackles, a gruff male voice emerging.

TASKER

(on radio - a burst of

static)

- of repair station, please identify. Occupants of repair station, please identify.

THE DOCTOR moves to the panel and activates a mic.

THE DOCTOR

Hello there! You first.

**TASKER** 

(on radio)

I'm sorry?

THE DOCTOR

Most of your crewmates are dead. So you're either very lucky or you killed them all. Which is it?

**TASKER** 

(on radio)

This is second drill chief Tasker. And I haven't killed anyone. Yet.

Now who this?

As they talk, unnoticed and out of focus behind them, the CORPSE begins to move, slowly rotating to face them.

THE DOCTOR

Doctor, plus two. You sent out a distress call, you should be expecting company. Tell me what happened to the crew of this station.

The CORPSE raises its arms and advances. Its head is still lolling, dead, eyes closed. Still unnoticed.

12 CONTI NUED:

**TASKER** 

(on radio)

Hang on, you're in the repair bay, right?

THE DOCTOR

So?

**TASKER** 

(on radio) Get out of there!

THE DOCTOR

Why?

**TASKER** 

(On radio)

There are in there. For God's sake, stay away from the .

Our HEROES turn at the last second.

THE DOCTOR raises the sonic but it is whipped out of his hand as though by a magnet. It flies through the air and lands in the CORPSE's fist and is instantly crushed.

This causes a massive plasma discharge. The CORPSE is immediately frozen and shuddering as blue energy surges from the broken sonic across the suit's surface in a wave. The suit finally totters over backwards and lands with a crash, steaming.

The sonic, broken and sparking, clatters out of its hand.

A beat of silence.

THE DOCTOR thumbs the microphone.

THE DOCTOR

Hello, are you there? Hello?

Just a crackle of static. Not there!!

THE DOCTOR crouches and picks up the broken sonic. It looks beyond repair. He sags and pockets it, now crouches next to the suit, starts to reach out to it.

BI LL

Doctor!

THE DOCTOR

It's fried, should be safe.

**NARDOLE** 

You thought it was safe before.

THE DOCTOR

Well I'm bound to be right eventually.

The Doctor, gingerly, touches the suit. Nothing happens. He starts flipping open panels, now carefully removes a small circuit board from the suit.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)
(Hands the circuit to
Nardole)
Get me some history.

NARDOLE takes the circuit, inserts it into a nearby control panel with a screen. He begins working on the keyboard.

From hereon, our HEROES begin getting out of breath. Bill puts a hand to her head, seems to breathe a little hard.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)

You okay?

BILL Yeah ... just a little ... freaked, I think.

The Doctor's eyes flick briefly to a grill in the wall. That hissing sound.

THE DOCTOR Try not to breathe so fast.

Bill looks at him: ?

**NARDOLE** 

(Reading off screen)
A single line of instruction was sent to all the suits: 'Deactivate your organic component.'

BI LL

Organic component... as in

THE DOCTOR nods grimly. He steps towards the wall, flicks a switch and the three bays containing the smartsuits light up and whir.

THE DOCTOR
Interesting. They were killed by their own suits.

The suits, as they hang there, seem almost to twitch - mechanisms clicking and flicking, like they're eager for new occupants ...

Instinctively, they all take a step back.

BILL ... can you fry those ones too?

THE DOCTOR

Possibly - but we have another problem.

12 CONTINUED:

12

THE DOCTOR (cont'd) Because opening the airlock was only the station's plan A.

His eyes go back to the grill. Bill follows his look - getting it now. That hissing sound.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd) Plan B: filter out all the oxygen.

**NARDOLE** 

So they can sell it back to us?

THE DOCTOR

Capitalism in space. If we want to keep breathing we have exactly one option.

(He steps towards the suits)

Buy the merchandise.

Now we hear the voices of the three suits, simultaneously.

SUIT COMPUTERS
Oxygen levels are seriously
depleted. Please step on board your
Ganymede Systems series twelve
smartsuit. Engage pressure pad to
activate customised robing.

BILL But, you just said ... those things will us.

THE DOCTOR Yeah, but on the bright side, we're dying already.

**BILL** 

??

THE DOCTOR
We know they killed their occupants on specific orders. But I think these ones are off network, for repair. They can't receive any

commands.

BILL What if you're wrong?

THE DOCTOR
We'll be horribly murdered, so
let's say I'm right.

Behind them, Nardole has gone to the window, is peering out.

NARDOLE (Working at the console again) (MORE) Doctor, if the suits killed thirty six people - that means there's thirty-six corpses walking about this station.

THE DOCTOR Doesn't matter right now.

**NARDOLE** 

Correction - yeah, it does. Cos I think there's something moving out there.

NARDOLE reaches for a switch next to the window, presses it.

CUT TO:

#### 13 EXT. CHASM FORGE - DAY 2 - 09.37

Floodlights switch on outside, illuminating the curved underside of the station that has up until now been in shadow. It's revealed to be covered in CORPSE SUITS, frost covered corpses walking slowly steadily toward us. UPSIDE DOWN! A terrifying sight.

CUT TO:

#### 14 INT. REPAIR STATION - DAY 2 - 09.37

14

13

BILL looks from the window and over to the open suits. Wai ting.

THE DOCTOR

Suits, now!

Cut to our HEROES stepping into the alcoves. Wide shot as a rigid exoskeleton shucks into place around each of them. CU on joints clamping shut. CU on Bill's face as a solid collar forms around her neck, pan down to see the full smartsuit is now in place. All three are now wearing helmetless Smartsuits.

We see a shimmer of the forcefield appear around their noses and mouths.

BILL and NARDOLE take in a couple of big inhales. BILL's suit speaks in the previously heard upbeat female voice.

SUIT COMPUTER (BILL'S)

(V. 0.)Welcome to the Ganymede Systems series twelve smartsuit. Your life is in our hands!

Close on the breastplate of BILL's suit. In the centre of all smartsuits is a circular lens, their 'eye'. Its ring iris contracts as it focuses.

14

14 CONTI NUED:

SUIT COMPUTER (BILL'S) (cont'd)

(V. 0.)

At current levels of exertion, you have two and a half thousand breaths available.

BILL checks her wrist mounted wrist gauge.

BILL 'Breaths?' You couldn't just give it me in minutes?

**NARDOLE** 

Doesn't work like that. When you panic, you breathe quicker.

THE DOCTOR moves to a table from which he snatches up the psychic paper, TARDIS key and broken sonic. He places them in a pouch on the suit's arm.

THE DOCTOR

You qui cker.

NARDOLE

Scareder you are, faster you suffocate - relax or die.

(Off her look) Sorry, possibly nót a helpful thought.

BILL visibly tries to slow her breathing. NARDOLE tries to coach her.

NARDOLE (cont'd)

Breathe in ... breathe out.

THE DOCTOR is pressing wrist mounted controls on his suit.

THE DOCTOR

Drill chief Tasker. Do you read me?

BI LL

Breathe in ... Breathe out.

**TASKER** 

(on radio)

Read you Doctor. You need to take corridor twelve to processing. Qui ckl y.

There is an audible hiss. Visible through a glass panel in the airlock door, CORPSE SUITS are entering from the vacuum of space.

Our HEROES hurry from the room.

CUT TO:

## 15 <u>INT. CORRIDOR - DAY 2 - 09.38</u>

THE DOCTOR activates a door switch and the door slowly hinges shut behind them. He prises off the door controls and yanks out a handful of wires, which spark.

CUT TO:

## 16 INT. HUB - DAY 2 - 09.38

16

15

Our HEROES run through another gloomy box filled area and into another corridor.

SUIT COMPUTER (BILL'S)

(V. O.)
You look like you're trying to run.
Would you like some help with that?

BILL (To Nardole) Can you shut your girlfriend up?

NARDOLE (finally remembering) Velma! was her name!

CUT TO:

## 17 <u>INT. CORRIDOR - DAY 2 - 09.38</u>

17

Our HEROES run along another corridor which ends in a sealed pressure door with a blackened broken control panel. THE DOCTOR experimentally pulls at some wiring.

He presses a button on his wrist control panel.

THE DOCTOR
Tasker? We've hit a sealed door at the end of corridor twelve. No way through.

No answer.

BILL My suit's called 2

SUIT COMPUTER (BILL'S) Confirmed. My name is now Velma.

CORPSE SUITS have appeared at the end of the corridor. Slowly, relentlessly approaching. Arms down at this point.

THE DOCTOR Tasker? Come in.

No answer. THE DOCTOR bangs on the hatch. BLLL tries her breathing exercise again. Trying to calm herself.

BI LL

(sotto)
Breathe in ... Breathe out ...
Breathe in ... Breathe out ...

NARDOLE and THE DOCTOR are banging on the door.

NARDOLE Hello? Anyone?

THE DOCTOR (into radio) Tasker! TASKER!

In unison, the CORPSE SUITS all raise their arms, now reaching towards them. A nightmarish image. Closer. Closer.

 $\mathsf{BILL'}\,\mathsf{s}$  mantra is failing, getting faster, turning into a scream of panic. Faster. Faster.

BI LL

Breathe in. Breathe out. Breathe in. Breathe in. Breathe out. BREATHE IN! BREATHE OUT!

DAHH-REN

(to himself) Great. We rescued a racist.

BILL Excuse me?

ABBY, grouchy and sarcastic. She points her bolt gun with meaning.

**ABBY** 

Who are you?

THE DOCTOR

We got your distress call.

THE DOCTOR pulls out the psychic paper from a pouch on his suit and hands it to TASKER. In the pause while this is handed over and read:

BI LL

(sotto to DAHH-REN)
Sorry. I've not seen many - well,
of your people.

DAHH-REN

Yeah. It shows.

TASKER looks in awe at the psychic paper.

**TASKER** 

18

18 CONTI NUED:

BI LL

Ah. Makes more sense...

BILL's suit suddenly holds out both arms in front of her like a corpse suit. The MINERS flinch, instinctively raise their weapons.

BILL (cont'd)

Er, that's not me.

TASKER raises a scanner cautiously.

SUIT COMPUTER (BILL'S) Would you like to give feedback on your experience so far?

TASKER It's just glitching. Ivan? Can you take a look?

IVAN flips open a panel and examines circuitry.

BI LL

(sotto to DAHH-REN)
For the record, I'm not prejudiced.
I'm usually on the end.

DAHH-REN

Why?

BILL looks suspicious then marvels.

BI LL

(to herself) You really don't know.

BILL grins with wonder. A colour-blind future!

IVAN beckons BILL over to a mechanics bay away from the others. BILL follows him, awkward, arms still in front of her.

SUIT COMPUTER (BILL'S) Would you class your experience as a - good, b - great or c - incredible.

DAHH-REN

Where's your ship?

THE DOCTOR

We parked just off the repair station.

ABBY

Then it might as well be on the moon. They're swarming round there now.

That's a little 'glass half empty' isn't it? NARDOLE

TASKER taps his wrist mounted oxygen gauge. Currently down to one green bar.

TASKER
It's all just maths now: oxygen divided by bodies. And none of us have more than three thousand breaths left -

THE DOCTOR
Then stop wasting them. I need a map of the base and a full rundown on what's happened here.

**TASKER** Who the hell put you in charge?

THE DOCTOR I'm here to save your lives. Anyone doesn't want me to, raise your

A beat - then:

**TASKER** Abby, get the man a map.

CUT TO:

INT. MECH BAY - DAY 2 - 09.50

BILL's arms finally lower with a hiss of hydraulics.

**BILL** 

Oh thanks mate.

I VAN

Don't mention it.

CUT TO:

#### 20 INT. PROCESSING - DAY 2 - 09.51

20

We move back to THE DOCTOR and the rest of the MINERS. An old school plan of the base has been spread over a table.

THE DOCTOR

'Deactivate your organic component.'

TASKER nods.

**TASKER** 

All the suits got the same command. Best guess, someone hacked the network.

THE DOCTOR

And you survived how?

ABBY taps a section of the map.

**ABBY** 

We were off network.

(taps map)
You have to be to repair the conveyors.

DAHH-REN

Dumb Luck.

THE DOCTOR

THE DOCTOR

Are there more suits inside the base or out?

**ABBY** 

Outside is suicide.

ABBY looks awkward, noting IVAN's return. Remembering ELLIE.

**TASKER** 

Inside we can move faster than them. Outside they have the edge. Which means we're dead.

**NARDOLE** 

What are you mining? Is it worth stealing?

**ABBY** 

You think this is a

?

THE DOCTOR

Killing you'd be a good start if it was.

NARDOLE

It's how I'd do it... (revealed too much) I was so inclined.

DAHH-REN

Well they picked a fine day for it. This is the least productive we've been for months.

THE DOCTOR

Because?

**ABBY** 

The conveyors are broken. I'm sure we mentioned.

**TASKER** 

Look, we're mining copper ore. You'd need to steal a mountain to make it worth your while.

THE DOCTOR

And your... employers? Can we expect any help from them?

**TASKER** 

They're too far away.

I VAN

Not that it matters because whoever hacked the suits also cut the radio.

## THE DOCTOR

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CONTI NUED: 23

23

**TASKER** 

(v. o.) They've got limited problem solving and that's it.

CUT TO:

24 INT. PROCESSING - DAY 2 - 09.53 24

Back with our HEROES. THE DOCTOR is pacing, thinking.

THE DOCTOR

(to himself)

What am I missing? What am I

mi ssi ng?

**ABBY** 

Oxygen. That's what we're missing. Maybe find some of that and leave the big picture till later, eh?

CUT TO:

25 INT. CORRIDOR - DAY 2 - 09.54 25

The CORPSE SULT with a soldering gun is soldering two wires together in the broken panel.

CUT TO:

26 INT. PROCESSING - DAY 2 - 09.54 26

An alert chime sounds. The MINERS react. TASKER checks a console and looks shocked.

**TASKER** 

They're... fixing the lock.

**ABBY** 

Then it's time to go.

THE MINERS begin gathering possessions.

NARDOLE (sotto to THE DOCTOR)

Yeah. 'Limited problem solving.'

IVAN checks a console.

I VAN

West corridor's clear. Forty breaths to the stores.

A new pressure door hinges open.

CUT TO:

## 27 INT. CORRIDOR - DAY 2 - 09.54

Our HEROES hurry across a crossroads of gloomy corridors toward a sealed pressure door. TASKER is leading. He presses a button to open the door and it begins to hinge open toward them.

DAHH-REN is the rear guard.

DAHH-REN They're through!

This shout distracts TASKER so he's not facing the pressure door as it opens. He turns back and too late notices a mass of CORPSE SULTS beyond. One is already stepping through.

It grabs his arm and a spark passes between them. TASKER immediately freezes.

**ABBY** 

Get back!

The CORPSE SULT walks past TASKER, its mission accomplished.

SUIT COMPUTER (TASKER'S) Instruction received. Organic component will be deactivated.

TASKER

No, please, no, !!

SUIT COMPUTER (TASKER'S) Please remain calm while your central nervous system is disabled. Your life is in our hands.

TASKER Help me, help -

Electricity arcs across TASKER's skin and his head convulses as he is electrocuted. His head slumps, smoking. He's dead.

The rest of our HEROES are already backing up to the crossroads and taking another corridor, but THE DOCTOR is watching the death with intensity. Soaking up information.

I VAN

Airlock!

We move back to TASKER's corpse. It slowly turns and moves into step with the other CORPSE SUITS. He's one of them now.

CUT TO:

### 28 I NT. CORRI DOR/AI RLOCK - DAY 2 - 09. 55

28

27

An airlock door is hinging open.

The MINERS are pulling spring-loaded 'flatpack' helmets from hip pockets, popping them into shape in a second before twisting them over their heads as they step into the airlock.

BI LL

Er, where are we going?

THE DOCTOR pops his own helmet into shape and puts it on. NARDOLE di t'to'.

THE DOCTOR

Outsi de.

BI LL

Didn't they say that was a bad i dea?

THE DOCTOR pulls  $\operatorname{BILL}'s$  helmet from her pouch and helps her pop it into shape.

THE DOCTOR

It is. But I know a worse one.

BI LL

Why do we need these? What about the air... forcefield thing?

THE DOCTOR

Not strong enough for vacuum, trust me.

THE DOCTOR puts the helmet over her head. It slots and locks.

BI LL

Okay. So I'm going into space. Just a normal space walk...

(to NARDOLE))
What happens if I throw up in my

hel met?

NARDOLE

29 CONTI NUED:

IVAN activates a panel. The word PURGE flashes on a sign and we hear a hiss of air leaving.

BILL's suit makes an error noise and flashes red, then BILL smoothly reaches up and begins to twist off her helmet.

SUIT COMPUTER (BILL'S) Warning. Helmet malfunction. Please advise local technician.

**BILL** 

Doctor! That's not me doing that.

Her helmet is now off. She holds it by her side.

THE DOCTOR

Put it back on.

**BILL** 

I'm trying! I can't move my arm!

BILL's arms aren't moving. THE DOCTOR attempts to prise the helmet from her hand. It's like a vice. No joy.

DAHH-REN and NARDOLE join him, flipping open panels in her suit.

THE DOCTOR

Stop the cycle! (to BLLL)

I think we know now why your suit was being repaired.

I VAN

We can't stop it. It's automated.

THE DOCTOR freezes. Thinking frantically.

THE DOCTOR

You're about to be exposed to the vacuum of space.

BHI

Oh God.

**NARDOLE** 

So don't hold your breath.

BI LL

Because my lungs'll explode.

THE DOCTOR smiles sadly.

THE DOCTOR

You listening. Well done.

BILL clenches shut her eyes. The outer door slides open, a cloud of dust and debris sucked out. Beyond lies space. Suddenly we are in silence.

29

Close on ice forming on surfaces.

We see BILL's 'air forcefield' shimmer then collapse.

BILL's skin steams in slow motion, veins popping up at her temples.

THE DOCTOR is frantically working on BILL's wrist mounted controls. She is staggering, swaying. She opens her eyes in panic. Vapour billows from them as they boil.

We see the world from BILL's point of view, dimming, dream-like, silent.

Finally BILL passes out, head lolling, her suit still upright.

Darkness.

FADE TO:

## 30 <u>EXT. CHASM FORGE - DAY 2 - 10.02</u>

30

BILL's eyes flicker open, then closed, her head now sealed in a helmet. Her suit is walking her along automatically.

We fade in and out of silent bursts of imagery from BILL's point of view as she lapses in and out of consciousness. The only sound is her breathing;

A bobbing view of the station exterior, CORPSE SUITS advancing.

A CORPSE SUIT spinning off into space, trailing pieces of suit.

A silent image of IVAN firing a rivet gun at the advancing CORPSE SUITS, but IVAN is standing ON a wall...

And then oh no - slow motion hero shocking image of THE DOCTOR striding towards us with grim determination. But bizarrely, impossibly, he has no helmet, his face blue and eyes milky. Is he dead?

FADE TO BLACK.

### 31 INT. CONSTRUCTION ZONE 1 - DAY 2 - 11.30

31

Close on an oxygen gauge on a smartsuit wrist. As we watch, it flicks from two bars green to one bar red...

It's on BILL's wrist. She shudders awake then looks around.

She's standing in her suit, helmetless, alone at the crossroads of several dark, partly finished corridors. Wiring hangs from ceilings, doorways have no doors, panels and piping are stacked awaiting use.

BILL tries to move, straining her neck in the suit, but to no avail. She looks around a bit more.

In front of her, another propaganda poster. LOOK AFTER YOUR SMARTSUIT AND IT WILL LOOK AFTER YOU. The image, an overall wearing worker shaking hands with an empty smartsuit.

BILL reads it, snorts a hollow laugh, then starts in shock.

About twenty feet away to one side, just visible down a gloomy corridor, stanbomassed ranks of CORPSE SULTS. Facing her.

Lights on the suits indicate that they're on. They're also moving slightly with odd twitches of arms and hands.

Close on the iris of the lead CORPSE SUIT. Contracting and dilating.

The lead CORPSE SUIT then turns and walks away down the corridor. The second suit in the queue takes one step forward, and the whole process begins again. A queue to hell.

BILL (hi ssed)
Sui t? ? (nothi ng) Vel ma?

SUIT COMPUTER (BILL'S) Good morning. How may I assist?

BIL(Isotto) (sotto) Shhh! I can't move. I VAN

You okay?

BI LL

(sotto)

Shh. No. What happened? I can't move.

IVAN manipulates the controls on BILL's wrist. BILL staggers as the suit releases her. The music cuts out.

I VAN

Suit's set to auto.

**NARDOLE** 

And you've got oxygen deprivation. Which is why you feel like... you feel.

As soon as BILL can move, she backs away from the CORPSE SUIT corridor.

**BILL** 

(sotto)

Have you I ooked down there?

**NARDOLE** 

Oh, they're fine.

BI LL

(sotto)

What? Are we? What's stopping them?

IVAN moves to look the massed CORPSE SUITS just down the corridor. Mournful.

I VAN

This whole area's new. Not in their mapping system.

BILL looks confused.

**NARDOLE** 

Like when your satnav doesn't know a new road?

BI LL

0-kay. So they can't come here?

We cut to the spooky Terminator point of view of the nearest CORPSE SUIT. Everything is overlaid with a green grid showing the limit of their map, with our HEROES inside a red flashing grid beyond.

I VAN

(di storted)

They can't even here.

As IVAN speaks, we see a jagged sound sample appear on screen. Speech recognition kicks in. We see the words THEY CAN'T EVEN SEE HERE appear on the screen.

Back to normal view. BILL not totally convinced, but she'll take it.

**BILL** 

Good. Great. What happened to the Doctor? I thought I saw him... die?

NARDOLE

He saved you. He gave you his helmet.

BI LL

He ?

I VAN

He should have done. I don't know how he survived.

BILL sags with relief, sharing looks of meaning with NARDOLE.

**BILL** 

Yeah. He's not exactly...

**NARDOLE** 

We tried to get back to the TARDIS but there were too many of them.

But BILL is distracted, watching IVAN, who has taken a step

I VAN

I know it'd be painful and horrible and wrong. But at least l'd see her again...

A beat of respectful silence, then:

**NARDOLE** 

(to himself)

I miss my wives. Even the ones that want to kill me.

BILL gestures sshh. Not now.

I VAN

Sorry. We should get back.

IVAN walks back the way they'd come. BILL moves to leave, but NARDOLE stops her.

NARDOLE

(sotto)

Listen, about the Doctor. He walked in a vacuum, for... far too long. He's mostly okay, but he paid a price.

BI LL

What do you mean?

NARDOLE gestures into the darkness. Go see.

**NARDOLE** 

He's in section twelve.

BILL gingerly walks into the darkness.

We cut back to the viewpoint of a CORPSE SUIT. The words HE'S IN SECTION TWELVE appear on the screen. Then SECTION TWELVE is highlighted, followed by 'MAP NOT FOUND - SEARCHING...'

CUT TO:

### 32 INT. CONSTRUCTION ZONE 2 - DAY 2 - 11.33

32

BILL gingerly walks forward. She hears THE DOCTOR before she sees him, in conference with DAHH-REN.

THE DOCTOR

(0. S.)

So one touch from a dead suit puts you back on the network. And the kill command is passed on.

DAHH-REN

(0. S.)

Yes. To your suit battery. And your own suit kills you.

32 CONTI NUED:

32

BILL rounds a corner and discovers THE DOCTOR sitting with DAHH-REN. It's another uncompleted area, piles of construction materials.

ABBY is off to one side working on a wall mounted radio, which has wiring exposed. She has a bolt gun in a holster. There is a vibe of desperation.

**ABBY** 

Look, this is pointless. Yes, the dead suits have oxygen, but we can't even get close.

A promising beeping from the radio distracts ABBY. She picks up a handheld microphone attached to it.

ABBY (cont'd)

(into radio) Mining station Chasm Forge calling Ganymede Core. Come in.

ABBY releases a button and is rewarded with static. She continues to repeat the message in the background.

As BILL draws closer to THE DOCTOR, she notices that his eyes have changed, the pupils cloudy, the whites veined red. He's also staring off into the middle distance and doesn't react to her approach.

**BILL** 

Doctor?

THE DOCTOR puts on a brave face. He stands.

THE DOCTOR

Bill! You're up!

BILL waves her hands in front of THE DOCTOR's face. No reaction.

BI LL ?

You' re. . .

THE DOCTOR

? Well that explains the bruised shins.

BILL looks moved. Heartbroken. She awkwardly hugs him.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)

Hey, don't get all gooey on me. It's temporary.

BI LL

Real I y?

NARDOLE has returned. He meets BILL's eye and shakes his head slowly. It's not.

THE DOCTOR Yeah. Once we get back to the TARDIS -

BILL The TARDIS?

THE DOCTOR
I've got stuff in there that'll

32

33

**NARDOLE** 

(sotto)

He doesn't like help.

THE DOCTOR feels his way along the wall, back towards the area where BILL woke up. BILL follows him but we stay with NARDOLE and the MINERS.

A beat later the radio begins to pulse a faint tone.

DAHH-REN

What is that?

ABBY adjusts the radio, increasing the volume. She looks shocked, hopeful.

**ABBY** 

Transponder... From a ship.

CUT TO:

#### 33 INT. CONSTRUCTION ZONE 1 - DAY 2 - 11.36

Close on the CORPSE SUITS, waiting in the half light.

THE DOCTOR stands about twenty feet away, sightless, 'looking' out at them.

**BILL** 

Doctor? Are you okay?

THE DOCTOR

Bill, I have no Tardis, no sonic, about ten minutes of oxygen left and I'm blind... Can you imagine how I'll be when I pull this off?

**BILL** 

You do this. Don't do this.

THE DOCTOR

Do what?

BI LL

Make jokes to distract me from whatever's about to kill us.

THE DOCTOR tries to front it out.

THE DOCTOR

What else are jokes for?

**ABBY** 

(o. s. ) Li ar! ABBY revealed, just within earshot in the corridor. Glaring at him. Just behind her, IVAN, DAHH-REN and NARDOLE. They pass ABBY, oblivious to the tension. They're excited.

**NARDOLE** 

There's a rescue ship on the way.

DAHH-REN

Picked up a company transponder.

We stay on the tension between THE DOCTOR, BILL and ABBY.

**ABBY** 

If there's a rescue ship on the way - then how can the rescue ship already be here??

THE DOCTOR

Too many rescue ships. There's a first world problem.

**ABBY** 

Who are you?

THE DOCTOR

I'm the Doctor.

ABBY

And who's the Doctor?

THE DOCTOR

On a bad day, the last face you'll ever see.

On a good day?

THE DOCTOR

The only story you'll ever tell.

**ABBY** 

THE DOCTOR

It means I will do everything in my power to save all your lives. And when I do, you will spend the rest of them wondering who I was and why I helped you. If anyone's offering a better deal, be my guest.

We cut to the watching CORPSE SULTS point of view of the scene.

Suddenly stencilled across it: MAP FOUND - UPDATo3ew

He believed you. Trusted you. And now he's dead.

Back to normal view. ABBY draws her bolt gun.

ABBY (cont'd)
Can you give me one good reason why
you shouldn't join him?

IVAN gets between them, trying to talk ABBY down.

IVAN Whoa whoa! Look, we're all a little punchy.

We move back to the CORPSE SUITS point of view. The red grid showing the limit of their map is suddenly replaced with green.

In unison, they begin to lumber forward.

IVAN (cont'd)
It's the oxygen. Thinning. Making it harder to think.

ABBY Get out of my way!

A confusion of adlibbed shouts and motion.

ABBY bashes IVAN aside, gasps, raises the gun and fires - at the CORPSE SUITS who are almost upon them. The leading one grips DAHH-REN by the shoulder. A spark jumps and his suit immediately locks up.

SUIT COMPUTER (DAHH-REN'S) Message received. Complying.

DAHH-REN

No please -

SUIT COMPUTER (DAHH-REN'S) Please remain calm while your central nervous system is disabled. Your life is in our hands.

The rest of our HEROES are already moving as DAHH-REN shudders and screams as he is electrocuted.

NARDOLE and BILL grab one of THE DOCTOR's elbow's each and lead him away, just ahead of the advancing CORPSE SUITS.

DAHH-REN's corpse is now marching with them.

CUT TO:

INT. CORRIDOR - DAY 2 - 11.38

THE DOCTOR Okay. Get her out of her suit. She can have mine.

I VAN

The sequencer controls the release clamps. We can't get her out.

**NARDOLE** 

(Working at Bill's suit)
We can't leave her there - they'll kill her.

SUIT COMPUTER (BILL'S) Please do not interfere with the operation of this suit - fines may be incurred.

BI LL

Oh, great! I'll get fined for dyi nğ.

This thought impacts on Doctor. Revelation.

THE DOCTOR Fined for dying.

BI LL

Doctor?

THE DOCTOR

What if there never was a hack? What if this is just business? Business as usual.

BI LL

What do you mean?

The CORPSE SULTS are drawing closer. Visible now at the end of the corridor.

THE DOCTOR, thinking hard and fast. Possibly a plan is forming. Suddenly very still. Draws closer to BLLL.

THE DOCTOR Bill. Do you trust me?

BI LL

ABBY

We have to go.

THE DOCTOR You'll go through hell. But you come through it. And I'll be waiting on the other side.

BILL Doctor. If I going to die -

THE DOCTOR

You're not.

**BILL** 

- would you just say exactly the same?

THE DOCTOR smiles, in pain. He looks caught out.

THE DOCTOR

I'll see you soon.

A rising hiss and clank behind her. THE CORPSE SUITS drawing cl oser.

THE DOCTOR squeezes her hand, then reaches for IVAN and NARDOLE. Allows them to lead him away.

BILL Doctor. Tell me a joke before you go.

But THE DOCTOR just bows his head. He can't.

BILL (cont'd) Just tell me a joke.

But THE DOCTOR is gone. A door is hinging slowly closed behind our HEROES. They watch her, looking tortured. But THE DOCTOR has his back to her, waiting.

BILL (cont'd)
(Seemingly to herself)
He didn't tell me a joke. Is that a good thing or a bad thing?

Behind her, unseen by BILL, the CORPSE SUITS are drawing closer.

BILL (cont'd) Mum! Answer me!

She's looking with fear over her shoulder. She finally closes her eyes. The nearest CORPSE SUIT touches the back of her suit. There is a flicker of electricity and the CORPSE SUIT keeps walking.

SUIT COMPUTER (BILL'S) Instruction received. Complying.

**BILL** 

!!

SUIT COMPUTER (BILL'S) Please remain calm while your central nervous system is disabled. Your life is in our hands.

BILL's face convulses as electricity arcs across her body.

- and then, the tiniest flicker of a shot, Bill's Mum. The

35

Close on a sign: POWER CORE - Non Authorised Personnel FORBIDDEN.

The sign is stencilled on a bank vault like door with four beefy visible locks.

Pull back to reveal a crowd of CORPSE SUITS waiting outside the door. The leading CORPSE SULT has a laser cutter held to one of the four locks, molten metal dripping. One lock is already visibly cut through.

We pan up from the laser cutter to see the face of the corpse  $\operatorname{sui} t$  - and  $\operatorname{oh}$  my  $\operatorname{God}!$ 

It's BILL is the enemy now!

(v. o.)
Securi ty's tougher, but on the downside, there's only one way out.

CUT TO:

#### 36 INT. POWER CORE - DAY 2 - 11.41

36

Close on an oxygen gauge. It's down to one bar and red, but as we watch it begins to flash urgently. The last gasp.

We reveal this is on the wrist of ABBY. Standing beside her

NARDOLE

Doctor? This isn't going to work.

THE DOCTOR

Isn't it? Why, what do think I'm doing?

NARDOLE

Electrolysis. Splitting water into hydrogen and oxygen.

THE DOCTOR

Oh, that's clever! Wish I could see me doing it.

**NARDOLE** 

(sotto)

Doctor, that water is cooling the nuclear core. We'd enjoy about five minutes of oxygen before it overheated and blew.

THE DOCTOR defiantly carries on putting components together.

THE DOCTOR

Yeah, five whole minutes - we could boil the hell out of an egg. Don't be such a quitter.

NARDOLE rests his hand on THE DOCTOR's arm. He stops.

**NARDOLE** 

It wasn't your fault. You couldn't have saved her.

THE DOCTOR

You know what's wrong with this universe, and believe me I've looked into it. E thinks it's not their fault. Well, yes it is. A of it. It's all your fault.

?

NARDOLE

There's nothing we do. She's dead.

THE DOCTOR

She's no more dead than you are. Than I am. Than everyone on this station is. Get me to a keyboard.

**NARDOLE** 

Why?

THE DOCTOR

Because I'm not trying to make oxygen. Keyboard, now.

I VAN

You think you've got a plan.

THE DOCTOR

We've got exactly one plan left.

I VAN

What plan?

THE DOCTOR

The big one. The one you've been waiting for all your life.

IVAN and ABBY share looks as NARDOLE leads THE DOCTOR to a keyboard. His fingers fly across it.

**ABBY** 

What's he doing?

NARDOLE

(reading monitor) 'Coolant system' again?

THE DOCTOR

Yeah, I rejigged it a tiny little bit. Either that, or I've really screwed up the plumbing - it's tough when you're blind.

**ABBY** 

Need to know about this plan.

THE DOCTOR

The nice thing about life - however bad it gets, there's always one last option available. Dying well.

THE DOCTOR decisively presses enter and the console pings. He steps back. The others peer closer.

**ABBY** 

Oh no.

I VAN

What is it?

**ABBY** 

Our lifesigns. He's wired them to the coolant system. We die, it all vents.

NARDOLE checks the monitor closely and looks shocked.

THE DOCTOR

When the suits kill - and they are going to kill us - the core will blow. The whole station will be destroyed. Really very big boom.

36 CONTI NUED:

36

They look at THE DOCTOR incredulously. NARDOLE can't believe this.

IVAN and ABBY begin frantically working on another console.

**NARDOLE** 

Is that really the best you've got? Revenge?

THE DOCTOR

Not just revenge. Revenge as bright as the sun. Revenge you can see across galaxies. Not bad for a blind man.

Ivan is at the cupboard.

I VAN

We can't reverse it. He's locked us out of the subroutine.

THE DOCTOR

Did I? Sorry, thought I was Tweeting.

A console chimes. ABBY checks it.

**ABBY** 

They're through the third lock.

THE DOCTOR

Open the doors. Let them in.

I VAN

Are you of your mind??

THE DOCTOR

Oh, completely, but it's not a recent thing. Listen, all we've got left is a good death - this is the moment you've been waiting for since the day you were born. Don't screw it up now.

ABBY

There's a rescue ship on the way!

THE DOCTOR

!

I VAN

What are you talking about?

THE DOCTOR

There was no hacking. No malfunction. The suits are doing exactly what they were designed to do. What your employers are them to do.

THE DOCTOR

Just open up. Let's send them a message. Let's teach them a lesson they'll never forget. They take our lives, we take their station and

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)
Check your readings. We die, your
precious station dies! The whole
thing blows. The company will make
the biggest loss in its history.

NARDOLE

... what's happening? What are they doing?

THE DOCTOR

Sums. They're doing sums.

And now the suits relax, lower their arms.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)
A moment ago, we were too expensive to live. Now we're more expensive dead. Welcome to the rest of your lives.

**ABBY** 

But ... but you said ...

**NARDOLE** 

You said we were going to

THE DOCTOR

Technically, I said you were as dead as Bill. Probably should've mentioned. Bill's not dead.

He fumbles inside Bill's collar. There's a bleep and Bill startles awake, coughing, spluttering.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd)

Noticed her suit battery was low when she put it on. Not enough for a lethal dose.

(Draws her into a hug as she coughs and heaves) I know what it takes to kill someone.

The Corpse Suits, now advancing again.

**ABBY** 

What are they doing?

THE DOCTOR

Relax. They're giving us their oxygen. It's good for business.

IVAN gasps.

I VAN

Ellie.

By complete chance, the CORPSE SUIT facing him, is his wife, ELLIE.

IVAN is already crying. ELLIE's eyes are still open, staring straight through him.

Close on Ellie's suit back. It smoothly hinges open, revealing a large oxygen tank.

Exactly the same process is occurring with our remaining  $\mbox{\it HEROES}$  in the core.

The CORPSE SULTS reach behind their own hips and take the tanks, which have uncoupled, and swing them smoothly around the hips of the HEROES.

It's like they're embracing, the CORPSE SUITS' faces inches from our HEROES. Some of them are wincing.

The back of our HEROES' suits open and the oxygen tanks uncouple and are swapped.

We have a shot of the same thing happening with BILL.

The CORPSE SUITS take their tanks, reversing the motion and slotting them into their own backs.

Then they step back and sag. Close on their lights fading 'off' to the sound of electrics powering down.

Our HEROES all take deep breaths of air. It worked.

NARDOLE It worked! They saved us!

Then a blaring alarm chime from the console. What now?

ABBY reaches across and pulls a tiny square of paper from a printer.

ABBY It's the receipt.

Our HEROES sag with weak laughter. All but IVAN, who looks at the face of his dead wife.

(sotto) Thank you.

Bill, now slowly coming to consciousness.

BI LL

Doctor ...

THE DOCTOR

Yep?

BILL I think I'm alive.

# THE DOCTOR Yeah. You do seem to be under that impression.

He smiles, and keeps on hugging her.

FADE TO:

37-42 <u>SCENES 37 - 42 OMI TTED</u>

37-42

43 <u>INT. TARDIS - DAY 2 - 13.00</u>

THE DOCTOR

No idea. Never had a head office. But as far as I remember, there's a successful rebellion six months later. Corporate dominance in space is history, and that about wraps it for capitalism. Then the human race finds a whole new kind of mistake -but that's another story.

**BILL** 

Can't wait.

THE DOCTOR

But you will.

**BILL** 

Laters.

THE DOCTOR

Laters.

BILL leaves. And as she goes, the Doctor seems to sag - as if under some terrible new burden.

Now we reveal NARDOLE standing in the open doorway of the TARDIS. Grave, serious - even angry.

**NARDOLE** 

Never again.

THE DOCTOR

Stop talking now.

**NARDOLE** 

I'm serious. We were so close to not making it back. Then what happens to the vault? You what's at stake here.

THE DOCTOR

Really, stop talking.

**NARDOLE** 

What if you got killed out there? What happens to your precious Earth then?? You need to be here, you need to be ready if that door ever opens. Look at me.

THE DOCTOR

I can't!

NARDOLE

(ADR adjusted so we'll

`need to recut)

What if you came back injured, or sick? You really think our friend down there won't know that, won't sense it?

44 CONTINUED:

44

THE DOCTOR Nardole. I can't. I really can't.

THE DOCTOR removes his shades. He's staring into the middle distance, obviously still blind.

THE DOCTOR (cont'd) I can't look at anything, ever again.

NARDOLE realises - a moment of wrenching horror...

END CREDITS