

TALES OF THE TARDIS

4. 'The Three Doctors'

by

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SHOOTING SCRIPT

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1 EXT. SPACE

1

Hanging in the majestic expanse of space - the TARDIS.

CUT TO:

2 INT. MEMORY TARDIS

2

Amid the ephemera of the Doctors and their adventures - CLYDE LANGER, both impressed and disbelieving.

CLYDE

Whoah! So much cool junk!

From behind the hatstand, wrapped in one of the THIRD DOCTOR'S VELVET JACKETS - mischievous JO JONES.

JO

Less of the "junk", Clyde Langer.

Clyde's eyes pop with surprise and delight.

CLYDE

Jo! My God!

JO

Hello, my darling!

And they hug.

CLYDE

This is amazing! Where are we? It kind of looks like the Tardis.

JO

(deep breath, smells the same)

Kind of.

(looks round)

And kind of not so much.

She spots the drawer of SONIC SCREWDRIVERS.

JO (CONT'D)

Oh, look! I always wanted to have a go with one of these!

She chooses one. Clyde is more cautious.

CLYDE

Are you sure? Shouldn't you be careful with that?

JO

(second thoughts)

You're probably right.

She goes to replace the sonic - but switches it on. An intermittent buzzing as the lights around the console room flare and whirl. They lurch!

Jo fiddles with the sonic until Clyde grabs it and switches it off. They breathe a sigh of relief as the room settles.

JO (CONT'D)
Maybe I'll just hold on to this.

She pulls the jacket around her. Clyde puts the sonic back.

CLYDE
So, is there no Doctor here?

Jo brushes her cheek on the velvet, breathes in his scent.

JO
Oh, my darling, I think they're all here. The Doctors, companions, sweet Sarah Jane.

CLYDE
You think so?

JO
The Tardis never really lets go.
Here anything is possible. I know.

CLYDE
By the way, I heard. I'm sorry.

Jo smiles sadly, still strong despite the hurt.

JO
Thank you. Oh, Cliff would have loved all this weirdness, Clyde.

She grabs his hand, as if for comfort. Then draws him to the chairs by the CRYSTAL FIRE. They sit.

JO (CONT'D)
Now tell me how you all are. You, Luke and Rani.

CLYDE
Good. Just the same. Don't see as much of each other, obvs. But when we can. I mean, Luke and Sanjay are doing experiments on the UNIT space station, and there's this TV series of my Blood River City comic books we're making in L.A.

JO
How marvellous! And Rani?

Clyde shrugs, a hint of discomfort. But still proud.

CLYDE

Still charging around, waking
everyone up to how much danger
we're in with climate change.
Exposing corporations more
interested in making money out of
it than stopping it.

JO

She is so much like Sarah Jane.

CLYDE

(a hint of regret)
Yeah. Never stops.

JO notes.

JO

But when you all meet up, I bet
it's like you've never been apart.

CLYDE

Yeah. But... I miss the old days.

JO

Oh, so do I. As you grow older,
Clyde, you miss more and more.
(stroking the velvet)
I miss my Doctor. Especially now.

CLYDE

How many Doctors did you know?

JO

Oh, more than most. Three all at
once. Once. Well, two and a bit!

CLYDE

Which bit?

But she's gazing into the CRYSTAL FIRE.

JO

People were vanishing, that's how
it started. Something was coming
for the Doctor...

And Clyde is gazing into its hypnotic flickering, too.

MIX TO - THE THREE DOCTORS.

CUT TO:

CLYDE

Luke must be having a bangin' time
in UNIT!

JO

You'd have loved the Brigadier.

CLYDE

I met him! He was retired by then,
but he helped Sarah Jane break into
the Black Archive and sort out a
bit of alien tag-team trouble.

JO

Like I said, the older you get, the
more people you miss.

Clyde absorbs and watches Jo, still looking into the crystal
fire, lost in her own thoughts, still wrapped in the jacket.

CLYDE

Did you love him?

It's like he's disturbed her dreaming.

JO

Who, darling?

CLYDE

The Doctor. Your Doctor.

JO

Yes. I loved him. Not the way I
loved my Cliff. Though I wish he
were here for me now, picking up
the pieces. I loved him the way you
loved Sarah Jane.

CLYDE

Yeah. Yeah, you're right.

JO

I know I'm right. I've lived so
much and seen so much to be wrong.

She leans forward, conspiratorial, wise and cheeky.

JO (CONT'D)

And that's why I'm telling you now,
you have to tell her.

CLYDE

Tell who what?

JO

Don't play games with me, Clyde.

CLYDE

I play a mean Hungry Hippo.

JO

Clyde! No! You mustn't joke this off. We're not Time Lords, our time is short. Don't waste it. If you love Rani, tell her

CLYDE

Rani. How did you know?

JO

I saw it every time the two of you were together, and I saw it just now when you talked about her. It hurt you. I know that love.

CLYDE

She's so busy. And what she does is important. What do I do? Write daft comic book stories.

JO

Stories are important, Clyde. We're made of stories. But you're missing the most important one of all. Mine wasn't the Doctor. It was with Cliff. Don't miss your story with Rani.

CLYDE

(tearful)

I don't know how. All I've ever been is a joker.

JO

Then tell her in a joke. But tell her. Our time together is the most precious thing. Don't waste it.

Clyde stands, strong, determined.

CLYDE

You're right. I'm going to find her.

Jo gets up and hugs him.

JO

The Tardis will show you the way. It always does. Good luck, Clyde.

CLYDE

Are you coming?

JO

Not just yet. I'll wait. See if any
other memories come to call.

Clyde understands, disappears into the darkness. Jo smiles,
but sadly. There's just her and the silence of the Tardis.

JO (CONT'D)

The Doctor brought us together
once, my love...

She sits in the silence, waiting, alone. Deep, still silence.

Then - FOOTSTEPS.

Jo looks toward them, and smiles. Tears in her eyes. A hint
of shadow?

4

EXT. SPACE

4

The TARDIS travelling through space.

END OF EPISODE