

TALES OF THE TARDIS

5. 'The Time Meddler'

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 IT. MEMORY TARDIS

2

The museum that is the MEMORY TARDIS. And among the echoes of former Tardises, and Doctors - VICKI in GRECIAN ROBES, taking it all in, bemused, lost and yet... home.

A movement catches her eye. The First Doctor's POCKET WATCH hangs from a lever on the control panel. Gently swinging.

VICKI

Doctor? Doctor, where are you?

(searching)

Doctor!

And practically collides with equally bemused STEVEN (in REGAL CLOAK AND TUNIC).

VICKI (CONT'D)

Steven!

STEVEN

Vicki? Is that you?

Then, together in one movement, they are hugging.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Oh, my God! Am I dreaming?

VICKI

If you are, then I must be, too!

They break apart. Disbelief and joy. A short burst of laughter from them both as they finally release hands.

VICKI (CONT'D)

But look at you. So... regal!

STEVEN

I'm a king, you know.

VICKI

A king? Impressive! Troilus and I lived a quiet, wonderful life in the hills above Troy.

STEVEN

And you look great on it.

VICKI

Oh, yeah? I wish!

STEVEN

You do! The years have been good to us both Vicki.

VICKI

Oh, I've had the most marvellous life. A family, grandchildren!

STEVEN

Me, too. And now, look, I've got my little sister back!

VICKI

My big brother!

Steven looks around the space.

STEVEN

I can't believe we're back in the Tardis.

VICKI

But where's the Doctor? I've so much to tell him. My family - all I never thought I'd have - was down to him! I need to say thank you!

Steven is at the HAT STAND - the SIXTH DOCTOR'S COAT.

STEVEN

Maybe this isn't his Tardis. Could you see the Doctor wearing this?

VICKI

Of course it is. I found his pocket watch over there.

(calls out)

Doctor! Where are you?

As she goes looking for him - or a clue to him in the confines of the Memory Tardis. He goes after her.

STEVEN

Be careful, Vicki. We're not used to this sort of thing now. This could be some sort of trap.

But Vicki is energized by the chance to see the Doctor again.

VICKI

Oh, don't be such a wet blanket!

STEVEN

I'm just a bit more cautious now. Older and wiser, that's the ticket!

But Vicki has found something - a horned VIKING HELMET.

VICKI

Look! We found this on the beach
that day, don't you remember? I
wonder where it came from.

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*

Steven indicates two chairs by the CRYSTAL FIRE.

STEVEN

Same place as these, I'd imagine.
(takes a seat)
I remember how hard you wanted to
prove the Tardis was a time
machine.

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*
*

Vicki sits in the other chair.

VICKI

And there we were in Northumberland
in 1066. And you still wouldn't
believe it.

STEVEN

Well, it had been a busy week, what
with Mechanoids and Daleks. You
know?

She smiles, her eyes finding the flickering crystal fire.

VICKI

And now there were Vikings, Saxons
and a time-meddling monk.

STEVEN

A typical day in the Tardis!

They're both looking into the crystal fire now.

VICKI

Such a long time ago. I was only
fifteen. And yet, now it feels like
yesterday. We'd been on Mechanus,
do you remember? Though the Doctor
and I thought we were all alone...

And from the crystal fire MIX TO -

THE TIME MEDDLER

CUT TO:

VICKI and STEVEN, still sitting by the CRYSTAL FIRE. Steven
looks around - the tiny Tardis.

STEVEN

From the look of the Tardis now,
maybe the Doc lost his own
dimensional control.

Inspired, Vicki is on her feet and searching through the Tardis ephemera. Puzzled and amused, Steven joins her.

STEVEN (CONT'D)

Hey! You know what the Doctor's
like, he won't want you going
through all his stuff.

VICKI

Well, will you look at that!

She's holding up the Monk's DIMENSIONAL CONTROL.

VICKI (CONT'D)

This proves it's the Doctor's
Tardis! Though, I can't believe he
hasn't taken it back yet.

STEVEN

No need. The Monk escaped. We ran
into him again. He wasn't happy how
the Doctor left him stranded.

Vicki puts the control back, gets wistful.

VICKI

You know, I'm sort of jealous.

STEVEN

Jealous? Of what?

VICKI

You had other adventures with the
Doctor after I left.

STEVEN

But you were in love with Troilus,
you wanted to stay.

VICKI

Yes. And I had the best life.
But... the Doctor was so special.
There's no-one else like him.

Steven has moved across to the CONSOLE.

STEVEN

Oh, you can say that again.

She joins him, picks up the pocket watch.

VICKI

He rescued me. He gave me a family when I didn't have one. And I became the granddaughter that he'd lost.

STEVEN

He was very fond of you. He talked of you for as long as I knew him.

VICKI

He never came back to visit me.

STEVEN

He thought you had found your life in Troy and were happy. Maybe turning up again in a police box would complicate things for you. Or maybe he did stop by and you never saw him. He's a wily old character.

VICKI

He's probably watching us on a monitor somewhere!

(waves enthusiastically at screens)

Doctor! Come out, come out, wherever you are!

But no sign of him. Steven grabs hold of the console.

STEVEN

The Doctor has to be here. He's as much part of the Tardis as this is.

VICKI

He's more than that, Steven. He's a part of us! From the moment we each met him. Didn't you feel that?

STEVEN

Yes. The day I left him. When we said goodbye. Something in his eyes told me, it was never goodbye.

VICKI

Oh, he has to be here. It's why we're here! To be together again!

STEVEN

You're right.

VICKI

(inspired)

Maybe - maybe, if we close our eyes... I think about him every day. I always have.

(MORE)

VICKI (CONT'D)

If I had one wish in all the universe, it would be to see him again. Where else could a wish be more powerful...?

STEVEN

... Than in the Tardis!
(he grabs her hand)
Let's make that wish.

Together, they close their eyes. There's silence but for the ticking of a clock. TICK. TOCK. TICK...

CLOSE ON VICKI: She opens her eyes. Alight with excitement.

CUT TO:

4

EXT. SPACE

4

The TARDIS travelling through space.

END OF EPISODE