

DOCTOR WHO 4

Episode 2

By

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1 EXT. POMPEII MARKETPLACE -- DAY

1

CLOSE on the TARDIS DOOR opening, THE DOCTOR steps out, DONNA following - they're right in front of a hanging sheet of canvas, the Doctor pulls it aside, revealing -

THE DOCTOR
Ancient Rome!

Seeing: the marketplace, STALLHOLDERS at work, PEOPLE shopping - Romans and slaves - KIDS running about, CHICKENS, nice and busy. (The canvas half-hiding the Tardis.)

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
Well, not ancient to them, to all intents and purposes, right now, it's Brand New Rome!

DONNA
That's... Oh my God, it's... It's so Roman! Oh this is fantastic!

*

And she gives him a big hug! Lets go, and as they wander -

DONNA (CONT'D)
I'm here, in Rome, Donna Noble, in Rome!
Me! This is just weird. I mean, everyone here's dead!

THE DOCTOR
I wouldn't go telling them that.

DONNA
No, but... Hold on a minute, that sign over there's in English. You having me on, are we in Epcot?

Hand-painted stall-sign, *Two amphoras for the price of one.*

THE DOCTOR
No, that's the Tardis translation circuits, just makes it look like English. Speech as well, you're talking Latin, right now.

DONNA
Seriously? I just said 'seriously' in Latin? But... what if I said something in actual Latin?
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

DONNA (CONT'D)

Like, 'veni vidi vici', my Dad says that when he comes back from the football, if I said 'veni vidi vici' to that lot, what would it sound like?

THE DOCTOR

Um... I'm not sure. Have to think of difficult questions, don't you?

DONNA

I'm gonna try it...

Goes up to a STALLHOLDER, a cheery Cockney, selling fruit.

STALLHOLDER

Afternoon sweetheart, what can I get you, my love?

DONNA

Veni vidi vici!

STALLHOLDER

(like she's dumb)

Ah. Sorry. Me no speak Celtic. No can do, missy.

DONNA

Yeah...

(back to the Doctor)

How's he mean, Celtic?

THE DOCTOR

Welsh. You sound Welsh. There we are, I've learnt something.

As they stroll away -

CUT TO A SOOTHSAYER, good distance away. Woman, 20s, in robes, face painted white, with strange patterns. Part-witch, part-priestess. She's hiding in the shadows of a doorway, staring at the new arrivals.

And she keeps to the shadows, as she follows them...

CUT TO:

2 EXT. POMPEII STREET - DAY

2

THE DOCTOR & DONNA walking along.

Throughout: a good distance away, the SOOTHSAYER follows.

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED:

2

DONNA

Don't our clothes look a bit odd?

THE DOCTOR

Naaah, Ancient Rome, anything goes.
It's like Soho, but bigger.

DONNA

Have you been here before, then?

THE DOCTOR

Ages ago. And before you ask, that fire
had nothing to do with me, well, not
very much, well, a little bit, well...
But I never
got the chance to look around properly!
The Colosseum! The Pantheon! The
Circus Maximus! Although... you'd
expect them to be looming by now, where
is everything? Let's try this way...

They turn a corner. Stop.

FX: in the distance, a MOUNTAIN.

DONNA

I'm not an expert, but there's Seven
Hills of Rome, aren't there? How come
they've only got one?

And then everything starts to shake...

They look round, PEOPLE run for cover under doorways -
but smiling, one man calling to another, 'here we go
again!'

FX: SMOKE billows out of the top of the mountain.

DONNA (CONT'D)

Wait a minute. One mountain. With
smoke. Which makes this...

THE DOCTOR

Pompeii. We're in Pompeii. It's
volcano day!

CUT TO TITLES

3 EXT. TEMPLE OF SIBYL - DAY

3

THE SOOTHSAYER runs towards THE TEMPLE OF SIBYL.

CUT TO:

4 INT. TEMPLE OF SIBYL - DAY

4

THE SOOTHSAYER runs in, frantic - it's dark and spooky, all columns and flames and red curtains, steam rising up from grilles in the floor. WOMEN GUARDS, more SOOTHSAYERS, but with metal breastplates, stand on duty with spears.

The Soothsayer prostrates herself before THE SIBYLLINE SISTERHOOD - three women seated together, surrounded by drapes, animal skulls, a BOWL OF FLAME in front of them. Their leader is SPURRINA, 30s, wise and mystical.

SOOTHSAYER

I beg audience with the High Priestess of the Sibylline.

SPURRINA

The High Priestess cannot be seen. What would you tell her, sister?

SOOTHSAYER

It has come, as foretold in the Prophecy. The box. The blue box!

CUT TO:

5 EXT. POMPEII STREET - DAY

5

THE DOCTOR & DONNA leg it down the street -

CUT TO:

6 EXT. POMPEII MARKETPLACE - DAY

6

THE DOCTOR & DONNA run across the marketplace - back to the canvas - pull it aside -

Nothing there!

DONNA

You're kidding. You're not telling me the Tardis has gone.

THE DOCTOR

Okay.

DONNA

Well where is it then?!

THE DOCTOR

You told me not to tell you.

(CONTINUED)

DONNA

Oy! Don't get clever in Latin!

The Doctor runs across to the STALLHOLDER.

THE DOCTOR

'Scuse me, there was a box, big blue box, big blue wooden box, just over there, where's it gone?

STALLHOLDER

I sold it.

THE DOCTOR

But... It wasn't yours to sell!

STALLHOLDER

It was on my patch, I got fifteen sestertii, lovely jubbly.

*

THE DOCTOR

Who did you sell it to?

STALLHOLDER

Old Caecilius, if you want to argue, take it out with him, he's on Foss Street, big villa, can't miss it -

THE DOCTOR

(runs off)

- thanks -

(runs back)

But what did he buy a big blue wooden box for??

CUT TO:

CU CAECILIUS, beaming.

CAECILIUS

Modern art!

Standing back: THREE SLAVES have just shoved the TARDIS into a corner, Caecilius stands back to admire it; he's 45, smiling, optimistic. His wife METALLA is all coiffed and shrewish; daughter EVELINA, 17, innocent, watches.

(This is an open-plan villa, an atrium & living-room-area leading off to bedrooms. Everywhere, there are grilles in the floor, the hypocaust, issuing low-level steam.)

CAECILIUS (CONT'D)

(waving slaves away)

Out of the way, that's it, Rhombus - I'm
a little bit peckish, get me some ants
in honey, there's a good lad, and maybe
a dormouse -

(to Metella)

What d'you think?

METELLA

You call it modern art, I call it a
bloomin' great waste of space.

CAECILIUS

But we're going up in the world, my
love, Lucius Dextrus himself is coming
to the house! This afternoon! What
with that, and our Evelina, about to be
elevated -

EVELINA

Oh, don't go on about it, Dad.

METELLA

If we'd moved to Rome, like I said, she
could be a Vestal Virgin.

QUINTUS, 18 y/o son, wanders in from the bedroom, groggy.

QUINTUS

Someone mention Vestal Virgins?

METELLA

Quintus, don't be so rude! You
apologise to the Household Gods.

QUINTUS

Oh, get off.

METELLA

Apologise, right now! The Gods are
always watching!

There's a low rumble, the house shakes a little -

CAECILIUS

Positions!

Just like in Mary Poppins, when the cannon goes off, the
family all run to positions - Metella catches a vase
falling off a plinth, Evelina catches a second, Caecilius
steadies some amphoras. Quintus just stands there with a
headache.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED: (2)

7

The rumbling subsides.

METELLA

There now, you've made the Heavens
angry, just say sorry!

Quintus goes to an alcove - on the wall, a bas-relief sculpture of a traditional GOD & GODDESS, a tall, thin classical TEMPLE behind them. In front, a goblet of wine on a plinth, which Quintus dips his fingers into, then scatters droplets in front of the frieze. Sullen:

QUINTUS

Sorry, Household Gods.

CAECILIUS

And where were you, last night? Down
the Thermopolium, I bet! Cavorting with
Etruscans and Christians and all sorts!
How's your head, sunshine? -
(claps each word)
How's! Your! Head!

QUINTUS

All right, Dad, give's a break!

METELLA

You want to smarten yourself up,
Quintus! Before Lucius Dextrus gets
here! Look at your sister, she's giving
us status!

QUINTUS

Oh, cos it's all about Evelina.

METELLA

She has the gift!

She holds up Evelina's hand. An EYE painted on the back.

METELLA (CONT'D)

Be proud of your sister, for once!
(to Evelina)
Have you been consuming?

EVELINA

Not this morning.

METELLA

Well come on! Practice, sweetheart -

She leads Evelina across the villa; the grilles steaming.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED: (3)

7

METELLA (CONT'D)

Oh it's hot today, the hypocaust is on full-blast! The Mountain God must be happy!

They go to the furthest alcove. In the floor (making this a raised area) is a big old grille, gently issuing steam.

Evelina kneels, leans over the grille, Metella at her side. The steam rises up into Evelina's face. She closes her eyes, breathes it in. Quieter, now, all mystical:

METELLA (CONT'D)

Breathe it in. Breathe deep. Remember what the Sisterhood said.

EVELINA

...it hurts.

METELLA

Oh my love, is it too hot?

EVELINA

Sometimes, in the smoke... I see the most terrible things.

METELLA

Like what...?

EVELINA

A face. A face of stone.

METELLA

(kind)

It'll make sense. One day. Sister Spurrrina promised, the veil will be parted. And you'll be a Seer.

Metalla kisses Evelina's head, and goes.

Evelina breathes in the steam... Breathes deep...

ANGLE looking down through the GRILLE. It's a deep shaft of rock, raw rock, lit in red, issuing steam. And then...

CUT TO POV, looking up, from far down below. A fiery, red ALIEN POV. Gazing up at Evelina, through the grille.

Evelina breathes deeper, eyes closed, going into a trance...

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED: (4)

7

The POV rises up, getting closer to her...

FX: REVERSE, a glimpse of a CREATURE deep down in the shaft, in the dark, a stony face with burning eyes...

Closer on Evelina...

Who suddenly starts awake!

Below, the POV withdraws, fast, goes deep into the ground...

Evelina puts her face to the grille. Whispers.

EVELINA

Who are you..?

CUT TO:

8 EXT. POMPEII STREET - DAY

8

THE DOCTOR running - meeting DONNA, running the other way -

THE DOCTOR

Got it, Foss Street, it's this way -

DONNA

No, but I found a big sort of amphitheatre-thing, we can start there, we could gather everyone together, maybe they've got a great big bell we could ring or something, have they invented bells yet?

THE DOCTOR

What d'you want a bell for?

DONNA

To warn everyone! Start the evacuation. When does Vesuvius erupt, what time's it due?

THE DOCTOR

It's 79 AD, 23rd of August, which makes Volcano Day... tomorrow.

DONNA

Plenty of time! We can get everyone out, easy!

THE DOCTOR

Except. We're not going to.

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED:

8

DONNA

But... that's what you do, you're the Doctor, you save people.

THE DOCTOR

Not this time. Pompeii is a fixed point in history. What happens, happens, there's no stopping it.

DONNA

Says who?

THE DOCTOR

Says me.

DONNA

What, and you're in charge?

THE DOCTOR

Tardis, Time Lord, yeah.

DONNA

Donna, Human, no. I don't need permission, I'll tell them myself!

THE DOCTOR

Stand in the marketplace and announce the end of the world, they'll just think you're a mad old soothsayer. Come on! Tardis! We're getting out of here!

DONNA

Well I might just have something to say about that, Spaceman!

THE DOCTOR

Ohh, I bet you will.

And he's running off, Donna follows.

Reveal SOOTHSAYER, hidden, a good distance away, watching. Now she puts both hands up to her eyes, backs of hands facing out; and on the back of each, there is a drawing of an EYE, just like Evelina's. Whispered:

SOOTHSAYER

The tall one. He calls us mad.

CUT TO:

SPURRINA has her hands up to her eyes. An EYE drawn on the back of each hand; this is their psychic communication.

SPURRINA

Then he is a stranger to Pompeii. Soon, he will learn.

She lowers her hands, alerted by -

THALINA

We have found it, Sister Spurrina.

THALINA, 30s, the SECOND HIGH PRIESTESS, sits with the THIRD. Spurrina goes to her; Thalina has an ancient scroll.

THALINA (CONT'D)

In the Thirteenth Book of the Sibylline Oracles. The blue box.

Unscrolling, revealing a crude drawing of the Tardis.

THALINA (CONT'D)

And yet, the Sibyl foretold that the box would appear at the time of storms and fire and betrayal.

HIGH PRIESTESS

...sisters...

A whisper, from behind drapes. The 3 SOOTHSAYERS alarmed, stand, cross the room - all three moving as one - to face the drapes; they're gauze-like, lit by flames from behind, smoke in the air. A strange, misshapen SILHOUETTE.

SPURRINA

Reverend Mother. You should sleep.

HIGH PRIESTESS

The Sibylline Oracles are wrong.

SPURRINA

But we have venerated her words for generations.

Closer on the silhouette; a glimpse of distorted features.

9 CONTINUED:

9

HIGH PRIESTESS

This is a new age. Heed my words. I predict a future of prosperity and might; an endless Empire of Pompeii, reaching out from this city to topple Rome itself, and encompass the whole wide world. If the disciples of the blue box defy this Prophecy, their blood will run across the Temple floors.

The room starts to shake, the SOOTHSAYERS look up -

SPURRINA

The Gods approve!

CUT TO:

10 INT. VILLA CAECILIUS - DAY

10

QUINTUS, nursing a goblet of wine, as the room shakes -

QUINTUS

Ohh not again...

CAECILIUS & METELLA run across -

CAECILIUS

Positions!

Metella catches a vase, Caecilius run to catch another vase, too late, as it topples -

But it's caught by THE DOCTOR, DONNA at his side -

THE DOCTOR

Whoops, there you go - !

CAECILIUS

Thank you, kind sir!

(shaking subsides)

I'm afraid business is closed for the day, I'm expecting a visitor.

THE DOCTOR

That's me! I'm a visitor! Hello!

CAECILIUS

But who are you?

THE DOCTOR

I am... Spartacus.

DONNA

And so am I.

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED:

10

CAECILIUS
Mr and Mrs Spartacus?

THE DOCTOR
No, we're not married!

DONNA
We're not together.

CAECILIUS
Ah, then brother and sister. Yes, of course, you look very much alike.

THE DOCTOR
(looks at her)
Really?

DONNA
(looks at him)
Really?

CAECILIUS
Sorry, but I'm not open for trading -

THE DOCTOR
And that trade would be..?

CAECILIUS
Marble. Lobus Caecilius, the mining and polishing and design thereof - if you want marble, I'm your man!

THE DOCTOR
That's good, cos -
(psychic paper)
I'm the marble inspector.

METELLA
By the Gods of Commerce, an inspection!
I'm sorry, sir, I do apologise for my son -

Grabs the wine off him -

QUINTUS
Oy!

CAECILIUS
This is my good wife, Metella, um, I must confess, we're not prepared -

THE DOCTOR
Nothing to worry about, I'm sure you've got nothing to hide - although, frankly, that object looks rather like wood to me.

And he's striding across, to the Tardis.

METELLA
I told you to get rid of it!

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED: (2)

10

CAECILIUS

I only bought it today.

THE DOCTOR

Ah well. Caveat emptor.

CAECILIUS

Oh, you're Celtic.

(Welsh accent)

There's lovely.

THE DOCTOR

I'm sure it's fine, but I might have to take it off your hands, for a proper inspection.

DONNA

Although, while we're here, wouldn't you recommend a holiday, Spartacus?

THE DOCTOR

Don't know what you mean, Spartacus.

DONNA

This lovely family. Mother and father and son, don't you think they should get out of town?

CAECILIUS

Why should we do that?

DONNA

Well, the volcano, for starters.

CAECILIUS

The what?

DONNA

The volcano.

CAECILIUS

The whatano?

DONNA

The great big volcano right on your doorstep -

THE DOCTOR

Spartacus, for shame, we haven't greeted the Household Gods yet.

He takes Donna's arm, sidles her over to the frieze. (Caecilius & Metella have a quick whispered 'What inspection?' "I don't know!" Etc, in b/g.)

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED: (3)

10

As they bow, and the Doctor sprinkles wine, all muttered:

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

They don't know what it is, Vesuvius is just a mountain to them, the top hasn't blown off yet. The Romans haven't even got a word for volcano. Not until tomorrow.

DONNA

Great, they can learn a new word. As they die.

THE DOCTOR

Donna, stop it.

DONNA

Listen, I don't know what sort of kids you've been flying round with in outer space, but you're not telling me to shut up. That boy, how old is he? Sixteen? And tomorrow, he burns to death.

THE DOCTOR

Is that my fault?

DONNA

Right now, yes.

The chief servant, the MAJOR DOMO, steps in.

MAJOR DOMO

Announcing Lucius Petrus Dextrus, Chief Augur of the City Government.

LUCIUS has arrived, two ROMAN SOLDIERS either side of him; a cold, arrogant man, in his 60s. He holds his right arm across his body, covered by robes, as though it's hurt. (The Doctor & Donna still by the frieze, to one side.)

CAECILIUS

Lucius! My pleasure, as always!

METELLA

Quintus, stand up!

CAECILIUS

A rare and great honour, sir, for you to come to my house.

He goes to shake hands, but Lucius cradles his right arm.

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED: (4)

10

LUCIUS

The birds are flying north, and the wind
is in the west.

CAECILIUS

Quite. Absolutely! And that's good, is
it?

LUCIUS

Only the grain of wheat knows where it
will grow.

CAECILIUS

There now, Metella, have you ever heard
such wisdom?

METELLA

Never! It's an honour!

CAECILIUS

Pardon me, sir, I have guests, this is
Spartacus and Spartacus.

Lucius regards the Doctor, haughty. A verbal battle:

LUCIUS

A name is but a cloud upon the summer
wind.

THE DOCTOR

But the wind is felt most keenly, in the
dark.

LUCIUS

Ah! But what is the dark, other than an
omen of the sun?

THE DOCTOR

(as though defeated)

I concede that every sun must set...

*

*

*

LUCIUS

(victory!)

Hah!

*

*

*

THE DOCTOR

...and yet the son of the father must
also rise.

*

*

LUCIUS

(defeated)

Damn! Very clever, sir. Evidently, a
man of learning.

*

*

*

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED: (5)

10

THE DOCTOR

Oh yes. But don't mind me, I don't want
to disturb the status quo -

CAECILIUS

He's Celtic -

THE DOCTOR

- we'll be off in a minute.

The Doctor crosses to the Tardis, surreptitiously getting the key out. Donna following, but grim. Caecilius in b/g, leading Lucius to a plinth, topped by an object underneath a red cloth, but on the Doctor & Donna sotto -

DONNA

I'm not going.

CAECILIUS

But it's ready sir! All complete! My workmen have been toiling like Iberians. And I'll accept no payment, of course, it's my honour and privilege. The moment of revelation! And here it is - !

THE DOCTOR

You've got to.

DONNA

I'm not.

THE DOCTOR

I'm sorry, but there's nothing that could make me stay... Oh.

On Caecilius's 'Here it is!', he whips the cloth away -

It's a 2ft x 2ft MARBLE SQUARE. Carved with right-angled patterns, exactly like a modern circuit board.

CAECILIUS (CONT'D)

Exactly as you specified. It pleases you, sir?

LUCIUS

As the rain pleases the soil.

The Doctor walking over, fascinated.

THE DOCTOR

Now that's... different. Who designed that, then?

CAECILIUS

My Lord Lucius was very specific.

THE DOCTOR

Where did you get the pattern?

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED: (6)

10

LUCIUS
On the wind and mist and rain.

DONNA
But that looks like a circuit.

THE DOCTOR
Made of stone.

DONNA
Like a silicon chip, silicon's stone. *
(to Lucius)
D'you mean you just dreamt that thing
up?

LUCIUS
That is my job. As City Augur.

DONNA
What's that then, like the Mayor?

THE DOCTOR
You must excuse my friend. She's from
Barcelona. But this is an age of
superstition, official superstition.
The Augurs are employed by the city, to
tell the future. The wind will blow
from the west, that's the equivalent of
the Ten O'Clock News.

DONNA
Like Doris Stokes is in charge.

THE DOCTOR
Doricus Stokitus would have temples and
statues all over the place.

EVELINA
They're laughing at us.

All turn - Evelina's there. But she's pale, eyes dark,
as though drugged. Everything suddenly more serious,
now:

EVELINA (CONT'D)
Those two, they use words like
tricksters, they're mocking us -

THE DOCTOR
I meant no offence -

Evelina stumbles, weak - Metalla goes to her, holds her.

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED: (7)

10

METELLA

I'm sorry, my daughter's been consuming
the vapours -

QUINTUS

By all the Gods, mother, what are you
doing to her?

CAECILIUS

Not now, thank you Quintus -

QUINTUS

But she's sick, just look at her!

LUCIUS

I gather I have a rival in this
household. Another, with the gift.

METELLA

Oh she's been promised to the Sibylline
Sisterhood, they say she has remarkable
visions -

LUCIUS

The prophecies of women are limited and
dull, only the menfolk have the capacity
for true perception.

DONNA

I'll tell you where the wind's blowing
right now, mate.

A rumble, a low shake, which continues under:

LUCIUS

The Mountain God marks your words. I'd
be careful, if I were you.

But the Doctor fascinated by Evelina:

THE DOCTOR

Consuming the vapours, you said..?

EVELINA

They give me strength.

THE DOCTOR

Doesn't look like it to me.

EVELINA

Is that your opinion... as a Doctor?

THE DOCTOR

...beg your pardon?

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED: (8)

10

EVELINA

Doctor... That's your name.

THE DOCTOR

How did you know that?

Evelina staring; the thunder rumbling, room shaking a little, building up the intensity. At Donna:

EVELINA

And you... you call yourself Noble.

METELLA

Now then, Evelina, don't be rude -

THE DOCTOR

No, let her talk -

EVELINA

You both come from so far away.

LUCIUS

The female soothsayer is inclined to invent all sorts of vagaries -

THE DOCTOR

Oh, not this time, Lucius, I reckon you've been out-soothsayed -

LUCIUS

Is that so, man from Gallifrey?

THE DOCTOR

What?!

Both Evelina and Lucius staring; the sound of the volcano rumbling. The Doctor glances round; stronger steam from the grilles; the pressure, the whole room terrifying, now.

LUCIUS

The strangest of images. Your home is lost in fire, is it not?

DONNA

Doctor, what are they doing?

LUCIUS

...and you, daughter of... London.

DONNA

(scared)

How does he know that?

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED: (9)

10

LUCIUS

This is the gift of Pompeii. Every single oracle tells the truth.

DONNA

But that's impossible.

LUCIUS

Doctor. She is returning.

THE DOCTOR

Who is? Who's she?

LUCIUS

And you, Daughter of London... *There is something on your back.*

DONNA

What does that mean?

And Evelina walks towards the Doctor, staring, wired.

EVELINA

Even the word Doctor is false. Your real name is hidden. It burns in the stars. In the Cascade of Medusa herself. You are a Lord, sir. A Lord of Time -

And her eyes roll up, she faints to the floor.

HIGH WIDE SHOT, breaking the moment, the rumble dying away, Metella runs to Evelina, the Doctor & Donna amazed, lost.

CUT TO:

11 INT. EVELINA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

11

Darker, now. EVELINA asleep, pale, on the bed. A simple room, surrounded by drapes. DONNA & METELLA with her.

METELLA

She didn't mean to be rude, she's ever such a good girl. But when the Gods speak through her...

DONNA

What's wrong with her arm?

Throughout, Evelina's arm has been bandaged in cloth. Metella unravels a section.

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED:

11

METELLA

An irritation of the skin. She never complains, bless her. We bathe it in olive oil every night...

Bandage off. Evelina's arm is grey and somehow *dusty*.

DONNA

What is it..?

METELLA

Evelina said you'd come from far away. Please... Have you ever seen anything like it?

From the arm, Donna's picked up tiny flakes between her fingertips, holds them up. Stares.

DONNA

...it's stone.

CUT TO:

12 INT. VILLA CAECILIUS - NIGHT

12

POV FROM BELOW THE GRILLE, THE DOCTOR heaving at it -

And yanking it free! CAECILIUS with him, nervous, holding an oil lamp as illumination, as the Doctor peers down into the shaft, tests it with the sonic.

THE DOCTOR

Different sort of hypocaust!

CAECILIUS

Oh, we're very advanced, in Pompeii! In Rome, they're still using the old wood-burning furnaces. But we've got hot springs, leading from Vesuvius itself!

THE DOCTOR

Who thought of that?

CAECILIUS

The soothsayers. After the great earthquake, 17 years ago, awful lot of damage. But we rebuilt!

THE DOCTOR

Didn't you think of moving away? No, then again, San Francisco.

(CONTINUED)

12

CONTINUED:

12

CAECILIUS

That's a little restaurant in Naples,
isn't it?

THE ALIEN POV from far below, staring up at the Doctor.
The sound of rocks, grinding.

THE DOCTOR

...what's that noise?

CAECILIUS

Don't know. Happens all the time. They
say the Gods of the Underworld are
stirring.

The Doctor stares down...

The POV withdraws...

THE DOCTOR

But after the earthquake... Let me
guess, is that when the soothsayers
started making sense?

CAECILIUS

Oh yes, very much so! I mean, they'd
always been... shall we say, imprecise?
But then! The soothsayers, the augurs,
the haruspex, all of them, they saw the
truth, again and again! It's quite
amazing! They can predict crops, and
rainfall, with absolute precision.

THE DOCTOR

Have they said anything about tomorrow?

CAECILIUS

No, why? Should they? Why d'you ask?

THE DOCTOR

No reason. Just wondering. But the
soothsayers, they all consume the
vapours, yeah?

CAECILIUS

That's how they see.

As the Doctor takes Caecilius's oil lamp -

THE DOCTOR

Ipso facto...

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: (2)

12

CAECILIUS

(Welsh)

Look you.

THE DOCTOR

...they're all consuming... this.

The Doctor holds up the lamp.

In the light, SPECKS OF DUST in the air. Both entranced.

CAECILIUS

Dust.

THE DOCTOR

Tiny particles of rock. They're breathing in Vesuvius.

CUT TO:

13 INT. VILLA CAECILIUS - NIGHT

13

The villa dark and silent; THE DOCTOR sits near the grille, with a PIECE OF ROCK in his hand, deep in thought. DONNA comes and joins him. Nice little smile for each other, old friends. Pause, then quiet, a bit weary:

DONNA

Seventeen years old. And her arm is turning to stone.

THE DOCTOR

All the soothsayers of Old Pompeii can predict the future. And yet, none of them can see tomorrow.

Pause.

DONNA

We're staying.

THE DOCTOR

Yeah.

CUT TO:

14 INT. VILLA CAECILIUS - NIGHT

14

Quiet corner, dark, separate from Sc.13. QUINTUS sits alone, glum, with a goblet of wine. THE DOCTOR appears.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED:

14

THE DOCTOR

Quintus, me old son. This Lucius Petrus
Dextrus, where does he live?

QUINTUS

Nothing to do with me.

The Doctor kneels in front of him. Produces a gold coin.

THE DOCTOR

Let me try again. This Lucius Petrus
Dextrus, where does he live?

CUT TO:

15 OMITTED

15

16 EXT. POMPEII STREET - NIGHT

16

No one about. THE DOCTOR & QUINTUS at the back of a grand-looking building, just clambering on a barrel, to get in through a window. Quintus carrying a burning torch.

QUINTUS

Don't tell my Dad.

THE DOCTOR

Only if you don't tell mine.

And the Doctor clammers through.

CUT TO:

17 INT. LUCIUS'S QUARTERS - NIGHT

17

THE DOCTOR arriving inside. Small, dark room. Whispers:

THE DOCTOR

Pass me that torch.

QUINTUS passes the torch through the window, then clammers through himself. The Doctor looking round... Nothing special, just a chair, desk, parchments, scrolls, like a library. But one wall is concealed behind a curtain.

The Doctor yanks it, it falls. He stands back, amazed.

SIX OF THE SQUARES OF MARBLE, hanging on the wall, all looking like a one big circuit-panel.

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED:

17

QUINTUS

The liar. He told my father it was the only one.

THE DOCTOR

Ahh, plenty of marble-merchants in this town. Tell them all the same thing, get all the components from different places, so no one can see what you're building.

QUINTUS

Which is what..?

LUCIUS

The future, Doctor.

They turn round -

LUCIUS and his TWO ROMAN SOLDIERS standing there.

LUCIUS (CONT'D)

We are building the future. As dictated by the Gods.

CUT TO:

18 INT. EVELINA'S BEDROOM - LATER

18

EVELINA now awake, more herself (bandage back on), sitting up in bed, clutching her knees. Laughing at DONNA, who's now trying on a toga. Nice and friendly, mates together.

DONNA

Oy, you're not meant to laugh, thanks for that! What d'you think?

(strikes a pose)

The Goddess Venus.

EVELINA

(laughing)

That's sacrilege!

DONNA

Nice to see you laughing, though.

(sits with her)

What d'you do in old Pompeii, girls of your age? You got... mates? D'you go hanging about round the shops? T K Maximus?

(CONTINUED)

18

CONTINUED:

18

EVELINA

I am promised to the Sisterhood. For
the rest of my life.

DONNA

D'you get any choice in that?

EVELINA

It's not my decision, the Sisters chose
for me. I have the gift of sight.

*

DONNA

Then... What can you see happening
tomorrow?

EVELINA

Is tomorrow special?

DONNA

You tell me. What can you see?

Evelina closes her eyes. Deep breath. Then:

EVELINA

The sun will rise. The sun will set.
Nothing special at all.

DONNA

Evelina... Look, don't tell the Doctor
I said anything, he'll kill me, but I've
got a prophecy too -

Evelina shocked, outraged, holds her hands to her face,
the EYES painted on the back of her hand -

CUT TO:

19

INT. TEMPLE OF SIBYL - NIGHT

19

SPURRINA, THALINA & THE THIRD on psychic alert -

SPURRINA

Sisters!

And all three hold their hands to their eyes, the PAINTED
EYES on the backs of their hands staring out.

SCENE CONTINUED, INTERCUT WITH Sc.20, Donna & Evelina -

CUT TO:

20

INT. EVELINA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

20

EVELINA holds her hands fixed in place, scared. DONNA just thinks this is some ritual gesture, keeps going.

EVELINA

There is only one Prophecy!

DONNA

But everything I'm about to say is true.
I swear. Just listen to me -

INTERCUT WITH SISTERHOOD'S POV, as though Evelina's painted eyes can see: a distorted CU of Donna, talking to CAMERA. INTERCUT ALSO with Spurrina, Thalina & the Third.

DONNA (CONT'D)

Tomorrow, that mountain, it's gonna explode. Evelina, please listen. The air's gonna fill with ash, and rocks, tons and tons of it, and this whole town's gonna get buried -

EVELINA

That's not true!

DONNA

I'm sorry, I'm really sorry, but everyone's going to die -

SPURRINA

A new Prophecy!

THALINA

Impossible! There is only one!

DONNA

Even if you don't believe me, just tell your family to leave town, just for one day, just for tomorrow - but you've got to get out, you've got to leave Pompeii -

EVELINA

This is false Prophecy - !

She pulls her hands down, jumping out of bed -

The Sisterhood gasps, jerk their hands down, contact broken -

Evelina runs out of the bedroom - Donna runs after her -

(CONTINUED)

20 CONTINUED:

20

DONNA

Oy, don't go getting me in trouble -

CUT TO:

21 INT. TEMPLE OF SIBYL - NIGHT

21

THE THREE SISTERS now kneeling in front of the HIGH PRIESTESS'S draped area. The misshapen SILHOUETTE within.

SPURRINA

The Noble Woman. She spoke of a new Prophecy, the fall of Pompeii.

HIGH PRIESTESS

Pompeii will last forever.

SPURRINA

Then what must we do?

HIGH PRIESTESS

The False Prophet must die. Sacrifice her!

CUT TO:

22 INT. LUCIUS'S QUARTERS - NIGHT

22

THE DOCTOR'S quite happy, energetic, just swapping two of the MARBLE SQUARES round. LUCIUS watching, TWO SOLDIERS standing back, QUINTUS scared, out of his depth.

THE DOCTOR

Y'see? Put this one there, and this one there, and keep that one upside down, what have you got?

LUCIUS

Enlighten me.

THE DOCTOR

What, the soothsayer doesn't know?

LUCIUS

A seed may float on the breeze in any direction.

THE DOCTOR

I knew you were going to say that. But it's an energy converter!

LUCIUS

An "energy converter" of what?

(CONTINUED)

22

CONTINUED:

22

THE DOCTOR

I don't know! Isn't that brilliant! I love not knowing! Keeps me on my toes! Must be awful, being a Prophet, waking up every morning, is it raining, yes it is, said so - takes all the fun out of life! But who designed this, Lucius? Who gave you these instructions?

LUCIUS

I think you've babbled enough -

THE DOCTOR

Lucius, really, tell me, I'm on your side, honestly, I can help -

LUCIUS

You insult the Gods. There can be only one sentence. At arms!

The two soldiers draw their swords.

THE DOCTOR

Oh, morituri te salutant.

LUCIUS

Celtic prayers won't help you now.

QUINTUS

But it was him, sir, he made me do it, Mr Dextrus, please don't -

THE DOCTOR

Come on now, Quintus. Dignity in death. I respect your victory, Lucius. Shake on it.

Offers his hand. Lucius draws back, cradling his arm.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Come on now. Dying man's wish.

And he darts forward. Grabs Lucius's dead hand. For a second, they're locked, staring at each other, the Doctor blazing; then he pulls back, still holding on tight -

Crack!

And the Doctor is holding a STONE STATUE'S ARM, forearm, elbow, all the way up to the bicep, cleanly broken off. Even the soldiers are horrified by this, step back.

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED: (2)

22

QUINTUS

But he's...!

THE DOCTOR

Show me.

Lucius brazen, throws back his cloak. Short-sleeved tunic underneath; the broken end of his STONE ARM sticking out.

LUCIUS

The work of the Gods.

QUINTUS

It's stone. He's stone.

THE DOCTOR

Armless enough though - whoops!

As he throws the arm to Lucius -

Who has to catch it, one-handed -

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Quintus - !

And Quintus throws the burning torch at the soldiers -

All this happening fast, simultaneously - the Doctor pointing the sonic at the shelves of squares -

- the squares fall! (NB, falling out of frame below) -

Lucius running to them, desperate -

LUCIUS

The carvings! My carvings - !

And during this, the Doctor is bundling Quintus to the window, fast -

THE DOCTOR

Out out out - !!

CUT TO:

23 EXT. POMPEII STREET - NIGHT

23

QUINTUS, then THE DOCTOR, flinging themselves out -

And they're belting down the street -

CUT TO:

24

INT. LUCIUS'S QUARTERS - NIGHT

24

The TWO SOLDIERS run out, b/g. But on LUCIUS, carrying
one of the squares (unbroken) across the room -

LUCIUS

The work is still unbroken, we may
prosper yet!

He kneels in front of his floor-grille, which is steaming
away. Red light blazing from below. Putting the square
to one side, Lucius is bathed in smoke, holding up his
good arm, and his stone stump, in supplication.

LUCIUS (CONT'D)

God of the Mountain, I beseech you.
This man would prevent the rise of
Pompeii. I beg of you, Lord, show
yourself! Show yourself!

REPEAT (& flip?) FX SHOT 7/2, the FACE OF ROCK down
below! Eyes burning with fire!

CUT TO:

25

EXT. POMPEII STREET - NIGHT

25

THE DOCTOR & QUINTUS, stopped to get their breath back.

THE DOCTOR

No sign of 'em. Nice little bit of
allons-y. Think we're all right.

QUINTUS

But his arm, Doctor. Is that what's
happening to Evelina - ?

WHUMP!

A shudder. A single, deep, echoing noise. They look
round.

THE DOCTOR

What was that..?

QUINTUS

The mountain?

THE DOCTOR

No, it's closer...

Then *WHUMP!*... *WHUMP!*... *WHUMP!*... *WHUMP!*... *WHUMP!*...
SMALL CAMERA SHAKE with every *WHUMP!*

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

25

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
Like...footsteps...

QUINTUS
Can't be.

They look down the street:

PRAC FX: at the far end, with a *WHUMP!*, a barrel shakes.
WHUMP! closer, a crate topples. *WHUMP!* closer, a street-sign falls, shaken by vibrations getting closer...

THE DOCTOR
Footsteps underground...

QUINTUS
What is it? *What is it?*

The Doctor grabs his hand - runs - !

CUT TO:

26 INT. VILLA CAECILIUS - NIGHT

26

DONNA in the dark, sitting with EVELINA, who's tearful, recovering, Donna holding her, kind.

EVELINA
But how can you see things that the sisters cannot?

DONNA
I don't see them. I just *know*. And I'm trying to save your life -

WHUMP!

A shudder. Donna & Evelina startled.

DONNA (CONT'D)
What the hell..?

CUT TO:

27 EXT. POMPEII STREET - NIGHT

27

THE DOCTOR & QUINTUS running like mad things -

WHUMP! *WHUMP!* *WHUMP!*

CUT TO:

28

INT. VILLA CAECILIUS - NIGHT

28

WHUMP!, WHUMP!, WHUMP!, CAMERA SHAKE with each one, DONNA with EVELINA as METELLA & CAECILIUS run in from the bedrooms -

METELLA

What is it, what's that noise - ?

CAECILIUS

Doesn't sound like Vesuvius -

- as THE DOCTOR & QUINTUS run in from the opposite end -

THE DOCTOR

Caecilius, all of you, get out -

DONNA

Doctor, what is it?

THE DOCTOR

I think we're being followed -

FX: *WHUMP!* and the grille in Evelina's alcove bursts up, goes flying through the air - *

THE DOCTOR

Just, get ~~CONF'D~~

QUINTUS

Get out now!

But this at least has got everyone near the Doctor, a distance back from the alcove, as SLAVES & the MAJOR DOMO rush in, alarmed, to help, only to see -

PRAC FX: THE FLOOR AROUND THE GRILLE heaves up, breaking -

FX: THE MAGMA CREATURE rises up! 8ft tall, a huge, thick brute, made of jagged rock, fire burning in its mouth and eyes!

EVELINA

The Gods are with us!

THE DOCTOR

Water, get water, Quintus, all of you, water, I said, water!!!!

Donna, Quintus and two slaves run out -

But the Major Domo stands in front of it, exultant.

MAJOR DOMO

Blessed are we, to see the Gods!

(CONTINUED)

28

CONTINUED:

28

*

FX: (NB, ALL IN ONE SHOT) THE MAGMA CREATURE breathes a WALL OF FIRE and the MAJOR DOMO is incinerated! Bursts into ashes, gone!

All flinch back, Metella screaming her lungs out, Caecilius running to hold her, protect her -

CUT TO DONNA, far back in the atrium - where there's a bucket of water, she's just heaving it up, when -

- the SOOTHSAYER & SIBYLLINE SISTERS reach out of the shadows, grab her, hands over her mouth, silent assassins - swift, ruthless, they pull her into the shadows, gone -

CU Evelina, shocked - closer to the Doctor, but looking round, so she's the only one who's seen Donna being taken -

CUT TO THE DOCTOR stepping forward, brave -

THE DOCTOR

Talk to me, just talk to me, that's all
I want, I'm a friend, I'm the Doctor,
just tell me who you are -

FX: the CREATURE breathes in deep, about to roast the Doctor -

QUINTUS

- Doctor - !

- Quintus runs in, fast, with TWO SLAVES, all three with BUCKETS OF WATER, and all together, they HURL THEM -

FX: the CREATURE hit by WATER! And it screams, steams -

Everyone stands back, shielding their faces from the heat -

FX: the fires within the CREATURE are extinguished, and it topples like a statue, *SLAM!* scatters into rubble, dead.

Silence.

All staggered, getting their breath back, recovering.

Then, quiet, terrified:

CAECILIUS

What was it...?

(CONTINUED)

28 CONTINUED: (2)

28

THE DOCTOR

Carapace of stone but held together by internal magma, not too difficult to stop. But I reckon that's just a foot-soldier.

METELLA

Doctor. Or whatever your name is. You bring bad luck on this house.

THE DOCTOR

I thought your son was brilliant, aren't you going to thank him?

Metella run to Quintus, hugs him, and he hugs her, upset.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Still. If there are aliens at work in Pompeii, then it's a good thing we stayed, Donna...

(looks round)

Donna? Donna..?

CUT TO:

29 INT. TEMPLE OF SIBYL - NIGHT

29

DONNA

You have got to be kidding me.

REVEAL: DONNA is now laid out, tied to an altar, surrounded by a circle of SISTERHOOD, as SPURRINA stands over her, holding a huge, curved sacrificial DAGGER. (THALINA & SISTERS - which includes the Sc.1 SOOTHSAYER - grouped around them, in ritual positions.)

SPURRINA

The False Prophet will surrender both her blood and her breath.

DONNA

(furious!)

I'll surrender you in a minute! Don't you dare! Don't you dare!!

SPURRINA

You will be silent -

DONNA

Listen sister, you might have eyes on the back of your hand, but you're gonna have eyes in the back of your head by (MORE)

(CONTINUED)

29

CONTINUED:

29

DONNA (CONT'D)
the time I've finished with you, now let
me go!!!

SPURRINA
This prattling voice will cease forever -

And she's raising the dagger high, above Donna -

THE DOCTOR
Oh, that'll be the day.

All the SISTERS turn - THE DOCTOR, casual as anything!

SPURRINA
No man is allowed to enter the Temple of
Sibyl!

THE DOCTOR
That's all right, just us girls.
(strolls around)
D'you know, I met the Sibyl once. Hell
of a woman, blimey, she could dance the
Tarantella. Nice teeth. Truth be told,
I think she had a bit of a thing for me.
I said, it'll never last, she said, I
know. Well, she would.
(to Donna)
You all right there?

DONNA
Never better.

THE DOCTOR
Like the toga.

DONNA
Thank you. And the ropes?

THE DOCTOR
Mmm, not so much.

And he whirrs the sonic -

Donna can now pull the ropes free -

SPURRINA
What magic is that?

THE DOCTOR
(stronger, closer)
Let me tell you about the Sibyl. The
founder of this religion.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED: (2)

29

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

She would be ashamed of you. All her wisdom and insight turned sour, is that how you spread the word? On the blade of a knife?

SPURRINA

A knife that now welcomes you -

She's drawing the dagger up again, at him, when -

HIGH PRIESTESS

Show me this man.

The FIRELIGHT rises up behind the drapes, casting the misshapen SILHOUETTE. The sisters prostrate themselves.

SPURRINA

High Priestess! The stranger would defile us!

HIGH PRIESTESS

Let me see.

The Doctor walks forward, Donna joining him. Peering... Closer on the strange, deformed shape...

HIGH PRIESTESS (CONT'D)

This one is different. He carries starlight in his wake.

THE DOCTOR

Very perceptive. But where do all these words of wisdom come from?

HIGH PRIESTESS

The Gods whisper to me.

THE DOCTOR

They've done far more than that. Might I beg audience? And look upon the High Priestess?

The SILHOUETTE gestures; a SISTER draws the veils aside.

Sitting up on her bed, the HIGH PRIESTESS is made of STONE; rough, melted, exactly like the plaster-casts of the Pompeii victims. A crude face, eyes black pits, stony arms, the rest of the body swathed in robes.

DONNA

...oh my God. What's happened to you...?

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED: (3)

29

HIGH PRIESTESS
The Heavens have blessed me.

THE DOCTOR
If I might...?

She nods. He comes closer. Kneels. Touches her arm.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
Does it hurt?

HIGH PRIESTESS
It is necessary.

THE DOCTOR
Who told you that?

HIGH PRIESTESS
The voices.

DONNA
Is that gonna happen to Evelina? Is it
happening to all of you?

Spurrina shows her arm, the same grey stone as Evelina's.

SPURRINA
The blessings are manifold.

DONNA
They're stone.

THE DOCTOR
Exactly. The people of Pompeii are
turning to stone *before* the volcano
erupts. But why...?

HIGH PRIESTESS
This word, this image in your mind,
this... volcano. What is that?

THE DOCTOR
More to the point, why don't you know
about it...?
(harder)
Who are you?

HIGH PRIESTESS
High Priestess of the Sibylline.

THE DOCTOR
I'm talking to the creature inside you.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED: (4)

29

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)

The thing that's seeding itself into a human body, in the stone, in the dust, in the lungs, taking over the flesh and turning it into what..?

The High Priestess struggling, as something inside awakes.

HIGH PRIESTESS

...your knowledge... is impossible..

THE DOCTOR

Ohh, but you can read my mind, you know it's not - I demand you tell me, who are you??

She's shuddering, and now STEAM starts to rise around her, surrounding the bed, RED LIGHT blazing - and now, the High Priestess talks with a deep, guttural MALE VOICE:

HIGH PRIESTESS/PYROVILE

...we are... awakening...

SPURRINA

The voice of the Gods!

And the Sisters venerate her, on their knees, rising and falling, and throughout this sequence, they whisper -

SISTERS

Words of wisdom, words of power, words of wisdom, words of power -

The Doctor stands back, forced away by the heat, angry -

THE DOCTOR

Name yourself! Planet of origin!
Galactic coordinates! Species
designation according to the universal
ratification of the Shadow Proclamation!

HIGH PRIESTESS/PYROVILE

We are... rising...

THE DOCTOR

Tell me your name!

HIGH PRIESTESS/PYROVILE

Pyrovile!

And the Sisters whisper, in worship:

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED: (5)

29

SISTERS
Pyrovile, Pyrovile, Pyrovile...

DONNA
What's a Pyrovile?

THE DOCTOR
That's a Pyrovile! Growing inside her,
she's the halfway stage.

DONNA
What, and they turn into -

THE DOCTOR
- that thing in the villa, that's an
adult Pyrovile -

HIGH PRIESTESS/PYROVILE
And the breath of a Pyrovile will
incinerate you, Doctor - !

She breathes in, about to attack, to breathe fire, but -

THE DOCTOR
I warn you, I'm armed.

And he pulls out...

A water-pistol! The simple, old-fashioned type, yellow
see-through plastic. Aims it like a cop.

The High Priestess shrinks back, uncertain.

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
Donna, get that grille open.

DONNA
What for?

THE DOCTOR
Just...!
(at the Priestess)
What are the Pyrovile doing here?

HIGH PRIESTESS/PYROVILE
We fell from the heavens, we fell so far
and so fast, we were rendered into dust.

THE DOCTOR
Right, creatures of stone, shattered on
impact, when was that, seventeen years
ago?

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED: (6)

29

HIGH PRIESTESS/PYROVILE

We have slept beneath, for thousands of years.

THE DOCTOR

Okay, so seventeen years ago woke you up, and now you're using Human bodies to reconstitute yourselves, but why the psychic powers?

HIGH PRIESTESS/PYROVILE

We opened their minds. And found such gifts.

THE DOCTOR

Okay, fine, so, force yourself inside a Human brain, use the latent psychic talent to bond, I get that, yeah - but seeing the future, that's way beyond psychic, you can see through *Time*. Where does the gift of Prophecy come from?

Donna's heaved the grille up -

DONNA

Got it!

THE DOCTOR

Now get down!

DONNA

What, down there?

THE DOCTOR

Yes down there!

(at the Priestess)

But why can't this lot predict the volcano? Why's it being hidden?

SPURRINA

Sisters. I see into his mind. The weapon is harmless.

THE DOCTOR

Ohh, but it's gotta *sting*!

And he squirts!

The High Priestess shudders, steaming - !

- and the Doctor races over to the grille, Donna crouched beside it, ready to go -

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED: (7)

29

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
I said down!!

CUT TO:

30 INT. ROCK TUNNEL - NIGHT

30

CU DONNA landing on the floor of a rocky tunnel - small, cramped - with an *oof!* Next second, *oof!* THE DOCTOR lands next to her - and as they get to their feet, fast -

DONNA
You fought her off with a water pistol,
I bloody love you!

THE DOCTOR
Come on, this way -

DONNA
Where are we going?

THE DOCTOR
Into the volcano!

DONNA
No way!

THE DOCTOR
Yes way! Appian Way!

And the Doctor & Donna run - !

CUT TO:

31 INT. TEMPLE OF SIBYL - NIGHT

31

As THE SISTERS worship THE HIGH PRIESTESS:

HIGH PRIESTESS/PYROVILE
The stranger would threaten our great
endeavour! The time has come! The
Prophecy must advance -

CUT TO:

32 INT. LUCIUS'S QUARTERS - NIGHT

32

LUCIUS on his knees, at the grille, breathing in STEAM,
hearing the same voice in his mind -

LUCIUS
- the Prophecy must advance! Thy will
be done.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

32 CONTINUED:

32

LUCIUS (CONT'D)

(turns to SOLDIERS)

Summon the Cult of Vulcan. We must go
to the mountain. Vesuvius is calling!

CUT TO:

33 INT. VILLA CAECILIUS - NIGHT

33

THE LIGHT OF DAWN shining through, into the villa.
CAECILIUS sits with METELLA, consoling her, QUINTUS
standing back, EVELINA further back. All scared, hearing
the rumbling, the room trembling a little.

CAECILIUS

Sunrise, my love. A new day! Even the
longest night must end.

QUINTUS

But the mountain's worse than ever.

METELLA

We killed a Messenger of the Gods. In
our own house.

(to Evelina)

Sweetheart, can you see? Tell us.
What's going to happen?

QUINTUS

Leave her alone.

But Evelina closes her eyes. Breathes deep, scared.

EVELINA

I can see...

METELLA

What is it?

EVELINA

A choice. Someone must make a choice.

(eyes open, wide)

The most terrible choice.

CUT TO:

34 INT. ROCK TUNNEL - NIGHT

34

THE DOCTOR & DONNA hurry along, though it's cramped.
Fast:

(CONTINUED)

34

CONTINUED:

34

DONNA

- but if it's aliens, setting off the volcano, doesn't that make it all right? For you to stop it?

THE DOCTOR

It's still part of history.

DONNA

Yeah, but I'm history to you! You saved me, in 2008, you saved all of us, why's that different?

THE DOCTOR

Some things are fixed, some things are in flux, and Pompeii is fixed.

DONNA

But how d'you know which is which??

The Doctor stops, turns back, more honest, quiet:

*

THE DOCTOR

Because that's how I see the universe. Every waking second, I can see what is, what was, what could be, what must not. That's the burden of a Time Lord, Donna. And I'm the only one left.

*

*

He turns away - almost embarrassed by having been so honest - and they hurry on, but she won't give up -

*

*

DONNA

How many people died?

THE DOCTOR

Stop it.

DONNA

Doctor, how many people died?

*

THE DOCTOR

Twenty thousand.

DONNA

Is that what you can see, Doctor? All twenty thousand? And you think that's right, do you?

WHUMP! whole place shakes, PRAC DUST falls, some RUBBLE -

And they hear the roar of a Pyrovile, further back -

(CONTINUED)

34 CONTINUED: (2)

34

THE DOCTOR

They know we're here - come on - !

And they run - !

CUT TO:

35 EXT. ROCKY PASS - DAY

35

Low light, early morning. A boulder-strewn gully, vegetation sparse, near the mountain. LUCIUS, carrying a torch, leads the CULT OF VULCAN along - six men swathed in dark cloaks, escorted by the TWO ROMAN SOLDIERS.

CLOSER on the men; each carrying one of the MARBLE SQUARES.

JUMP CUT TO:

36 EXT. BASE OF MOUNTAIN - DAY

36

The lower slopes of Vesuvius. THE CULT OF VULCAN now stand in a line, facing the mountain, and the SIX MEN hold up their MARBLE SQUARES, as offerings, as LUCIUS declaims:

LUCIUS

Mighty Vesuvius! Accept these offerings, in Vulcan's design! And show unto us, I beseech you, the Gods of the Underworld!

A roar, a trembling...

Men kneel, scared, heads bowed, still holding the squares.

Lucius looks up, in awe:

FX: Standing above them, in the mouth of a (DMP) CAVE, a mighty PYROVILE! Roaring!

CUT TO:

37 INT. ROCK TUNNEL - DAY

37

THE DOCTOR & DONNA scuttling along. They can hear sounds, like a vast industry, toiling away. The Doctor shushes her, they creep forward, out of the tunnel, into...

CUT TO:

38

INT. THE HEART OF VESUVIUS - DAY

38

THE DOCTOR & DONNA creep out, staying low. A flat, rocky area, with a REEF OF ROCK nearby, which they scuttle up to, and peer out from behind. And they're agog, seeing...

FX: WIDE SHOT of the HEART OF VESUVIUS. A volcanic stone floor, stripped with rivers of glowing HOT LAVA. At the centre: a ROCK SPHERE (PRAC BUILD), with a hinged DOOR, now open, lights glittering inside. Rock-cables snake out from the base of the Sphere, snaking all over the floor space. And across the area, PYROVILE stomp, other PYROVILE stomping along raised ledges around the circumference. Staying hidden, hushed:

THE DOCTOR

The Heart of Vesuvius, we're right
inside the mountain.

DONNA

There's tons of them.

THE DOCTOR

What's that thing..?

The Doctor's getting a little telescope out of his pocket.

A distant roar from the tunnel behind, Donna looks back -

DONNA

Better hurry up and think of something,
Rocky 4's on his way.

His POV: closer on the PRAC ROCK SPHERE.

THE DOCTOR

That's how they arrived. Or what's left
of it. Escape pod, prison ship, gene
bank?

DONNA

But why'd they need the volcano?
Maybe... it erupts, and they launch
themselves back into space or something.

THE DOCTOR

...I think it's worse than that.

DONNA

How could it be worse?

(CONTINUED)

38

CONTINUED:

38

Another roar behind them -

DONNA (CONT'D)

Doctor, it's getting closer -

LUCIUS

Heathens! *Defilers!*

They look round -

To the side, on the level above, on a STONE LEDGE,
LUCIUS, looking down - he's seen them!

LUCIUS (CONT'D)

They would desecrate your Temple, my
Lord Gods!

The Doctor grabs Donna's hand - to run forward -

THE DOCTOR

Come on -

DONNA

We can't go in!

THE DOCTOR

We can't go back!

And they run - !

LUCIUS

Crush them! Burn them!

The Doctor & Donna running -

FX: both screech to a halt, framed against A PYROVILE,
rearing up in front of them - !

The Doctor goes to his knees, like a cop again, squirts
the water-pistol - !

FX: THE PYROVILE steams, staggers to the side -

The Doctor & Donna run - PRAC FLAME jetting out behind
them, close, but they keep going -

- to the PRAC SPHERE, where they stop, look round.

FX: as FX SHOT 38/1, with the Doctor & Donna now centre
of the cavern, surrounded by LAVA & PYROVILES. Trapped!

LUCIUS (CONT'D)

There's nowhere for you to run, Doctor
and Daughter of London.

(CONTINUED)

38 CONTINUED: (2)

38

The Doctor addresses the whole cavern.

THE DOCTOR

Now then, Lucius, my Lords Pyrovillian.
Don't get yourself in a lava. In a
lava! No?

DONNA

No.

THE DOCTOR

No. But if I might beg the wisdom of
the Gods, before we perish. Once this
new race of creatures is complete, then
what?

FX: A PYROVILE on the rock-floor steps forward, its jaws
grinding together in rock-language, *CRRRRRK....*
AKKKKK... STRRRRIII...

LUCIUS translates:

LUCIUS

My Masters will follow the example of
Rome itself. An almighty Empire,
bestriding the whole of civilisation!

DONNA

But if you crashed, and you've got all
this technology... why don't you just go
home?

LUCIUS

The Heaven of Pyrovillia is gone.

THE DOCTOR

What d'you mean, gone, where's it gone?

LUCIUS

It was taken. Pyrovillia is lost. But
this world has heat enough for a new
species to rise!

THE DOCTOR

Better warn you, it's 70 per cent water
out there.

LUCIUS

Water can boil. And everything will
burn, Doctor.

(CONTINUED)

38 CONTINUED: (3)

38

THE DOCTOR

Then the whole planet is at stake.
Thank you. That's all I needed to know.
Donna - !

And he grabs her hand, pulls her -

Into the Sphere!

CUT TO:

39 INT. ROCK SPHERE - DAY

39

Cramped inside, just big enough for two. Rocky interior surface, inlaid with buttons of stone, like rock-controls, and embedded in the walls, the SIX MARBLE SQUARES.

- and as THE DOCTOR & DONNA pile in, he sonics the door -

The door shuts!

DONNA

Could we be any more trapped?!

CUT TO:

40 EXT. THE HEART OF VESUVIUS - DAY

40

LUCIUS on his ledge, exultant -

LUCIUS

You have them, my Lords!

FX: A PYROVILE BREATHES FIRE over the SPHERE -

CUT TO:

41 INT. ROCK SPHERE - DAY

41

THE DOCTOR packed in with DONNA - he's stabbing controls, frantic, as the whole space fills with RED LIGHT.

DONNA

Little bit hot.

THE DOCTOR

- d'you see, the energy converter takes the lava, uses the power to create a fusion matrix, to weld Pyrovile to Human - and now it's complete, they can convert millions!

(CONTINUED)

41 CONTINUED:

41

DONNA

Can't you stop it? With those controls?

THE DOCTOR

Course I can, but don't you see..?

(in anguish)

That's why the soothsayers can't see the volcano. There is no volcano. Vesuvius is never going to erupt, the Pyrovile are stealing all its power, they're gonna use it to take over the world.

DONNA

But... you can change it back?

THE DOCTOR

I can invert the system, set off the volcano, and blow them up, oh yes. But that's the choice, Donna. Pompeii, or the world.

DONNA

...oh my God...

THE DOCTOR

If Pompeii is destroyed... it's not just history, it's me. I make it happen.

CUT TO:

42 INT. THE HEART OF VESUVIUS - DAY

42

FX: THE PYROVILE BREATHES FIRE over the SPHERE, stronger -

CUT TO:

43 INT. ROCK SPHERE - DAY

43

RED LIGHT stronger inside. THE DOCTOR stabs the final buttons. DONNA desperate -

DONNA

But the Pyrovile are made of rocks, maybe they can't be blown up -

THE DOCTOR

Vesuvius explodes with the force of 24 nuclear bombs. Nothing can survive it. Certainly not us.

DONNA

(quiet)

Never mind us.

(CONTINUED)

43 CONTINUED:

43

And they look at each other; in that moment of sacrifice, closer than they've ever been. Despair, and friendship.

Then the Doctor takes hold of a big, rocky lever. Tightens his hand on it.

His anguish.

THE DOCTOR
...twenty thousand people.

He can't do it.

CU on the lever...

As Donna's hand joins his.

They look at each other. Hold the moment. No choice.

And then...

They slam the lever down, together.

CUT TO:

44 INT. VILLA CAECILIUS - DAY

44

HIGH SHOT, CU EVELINA - sharp breath, hit by a new vision -

CUT TO:

45 INT. TEMPLE OF SIBYL - DAY

45

HIGH SHOT, CU SPURRINA - sharp breath, hit by a new vision -

CUT TO:

46 INT. THE HEART OF VESUVIUS - DAY

46

FX: as FX SHOT 38/1, but SHAKING, PYROVILES staggering, falling - LAVA bursting up through the floor -

CU LUCIUS, screaming -

LUCIUS
No! Noooooooooo - !

CUT TO:

47 INT. TEMPLE OF SIBYL - DAY

47

THE HIGH PRIESTESS looks up, in rage -

(CONTINUED)

47 CONTINUED:

47

HIGH PRIESTESS/PYROVILE

Nooooo - !

SPURRINA, THALINA, young SOOTHSAYER & SISTERS looking up -

SPURRINA

A new prophecy!

CUT TO:

48 INT. VILLA CAECILIUS - DAY

48

METELLA holds EVELINA, as she convulses -

EVELINA

The future is changing - !

CUT TO:

49 INT. HEART OF VESUVIUS - DAY

49

CAMERA SHAKE, CU LUCIUS, staggering back, screaming - a SHEET OF PRAC FLAME rises up foreground, obscuring him -

FX: CU PYROVILE, roaring with anger -

CUT TO:

50 EXT. FX SHOT, VESUVIUS - DAY

50

FX: VESUVIUS EXPLODES!!!!!! The top of the mountain shattering into fire and smoke and rocks -

CUT TO:

51 INT. ROCK SPHERE - DAY

51

THE DOCTOR & DONNA yelling and holding on, the whole thing jolting all around the place -

CUT TO:

52 INT. FX SHOT - DAY

52

The SPHERE shooting upwards, through THICK SMOKE -

CUT TO:

53 INT. ROCK SPHERE - NIGHT

53

THE DOCTOR & DONNA now spinning 360, like crazy -

(CONTINUED)

53 CONTINUED:

53

The Doctor's stabbing at the controls at the same time -

CUT TO:

54 INT. VILLA CAECILIUS - DAY

54

CAMERA SHAKE, the whole villa shuddering - CAECILIUS, METELLA, QUINTUS looking up, horrified -

CAECILIUS

The sky is falling...

CUT TO EVELINA, seeing -

EVELINA

Death! Only death!

CUT TO:

55 INT. POMPEII MARKETPLACE - DAY

55

ALL look toward the volcano, in horror. *

CUT TO:

56 EXT. POMPEII STREET - DAY

56

ALL look towards the volcano... *

CUT TO: *

57 INT. VILLA CAECILIUS - DAY

57

*

Whole place SHAKING - PRAC DUST & RUBBLE falling - as EVELINA (normal now, just a scared young girl) runs to CAECILIUS, who's holding METELLA & QUINTUS, terrified -

CAECILIUS holds his family tight. *

CUT TO:

58 EXT. ROCKY PASS - DAY

58

*

CU on the SPHERE DOOR, as it opens - THE DOCTOR amazed - *

THE DOCTOR

It was an escape pod...

SHOT TIGHT, as he piles out, with DONNA...

CUT TO REVERSE (IE, no SPHERE in this shot), with thick SMOKE & ASH billowing across the landscape, BURNING ROCKS scattered all across the ground, like a war zone -

(CONTINUED)

58

CONTINUED:

58

For a moment, they're just staggered, dazed, speechless, recovering, holding on to each other.

Then, a rumbling sound...

They look round, and up, in dread...

FX: with the (FX-inserted) SPHERE behind them, beyond that, a MASSIVE PYROCLASTIC FLOW rolling down the mountain.

They run - !

CUT TO:

59

EXT. POMPEII MARKETPLACE - DAY

59

*

PEOPLE now look right up at the sky, horrified...

*

FX: BLACK CLOUDS OF SMOKE race across the sun and hide it, blotting out the light (NB, all scenes from now on designated NIGHT; that's how dark it became).

*

CUT TO:

*

59A

EXT. POMPEII MARKETPLACE - NIGHT

59A

*

PRAC FX: and now the ASH is falling, the terrible ash - grabbed images of PEOPLE, running, screaming, panicking -

*

CUT TO:

60

EXT. POMPEII STREET - NIGHT

60

PRAC FX: air full of ASH as PEOPLE run, in terror -

CUT TO:

61

INT. VILLA CAECILIUS - NIGHT

61

CU on CAECILIUS, METELLA, QUINTUS & EVELINA, now huddling on the floor, holding each other, crying, helpless, PRAC RUBBLE & DUST falling foreground -

CUT TO:

62

INT. TEMPLE OF SIBYL - NIGHT

62

CAMERA SHAKE, PRAC RUBBLE & DUST falling. THE HIGH PRIESTESS is screaming in rage.

The SISTERS have run away, leaving only SPURRINA, who's centre, cradling the young SOOTHSAYER - injured, dying -

(CONTINUED)

62 CONTINUED:

62

THALINA at her side. Quiet, in the madness, as though they're wise at last, facing the High Priestess:

SPURRINA

You lied to us. And yet...
(brave smile)
This is meant to be.

And Spurrina and Thalina embrace.

CUT TO:

63 EXT. POMPEII STREET - NIGHT

63

ASH in the air, and smoke. Some PEOPLE are kneeling, praying, crying; others cling to each other and huddle, in despair; but most are running, desperate, a long-lens blur background and foreground, as -

THE DOCTOR & DONNA run through -

But Donna tries to stop people - grabbing one - then another - but they push her away and run on -

DONNA

- don't, don't go to the beach - Go to the hills, don't go to the beach, it's not safe - just listen to me! Oh come here -

For a second, she grabs hold of a CHILD's hand -

But next second, the MOTHER appears, snatches the child back, runs off, disappears into the chaos -

Donna stands there, helpless - but they can't stop - the Doctor looks at her, then runs on, and she has to follow -

CUT TO:

64 INT. VILLA CAECILIUS - NIGHT

64

PRAC RUBBLE falling, POCKETS OF FIRE BURNING, and there's ASH whirling about inside the villa now, as THE DOCTOR runs through, with DONNA -

They stop dead. Seeing CAECILIUS, METELLA, QUINTUS & EVELINA, huddled together. Crying, but with a brave smile:

CAECILIUS

Gods save us, Doctor.

(CONTINUED)

64 CONTINUED:

64

The Doctor horrified. Stares.

But then he runs on.

DONNA

You can't. Doctor, you can't!

The Doctor won't look back, runs into the Tardis (the Tardis at the opposite end of the house to where the family's hiding, ie, they can't see it).

DONNA (CONT'D)

Doctor!

She looks at the family.

They look back, in wordless fear.

CU Evelina, staring at Donna.

The noise of the Tardis starts up. Donna's got no choice, she has to go - she runs -

- through the rubble, through the ash - to the Tardis -

CUT TO:

65 INT. TARDIS - NIGHT

65

DONNA runs in, slams the door shut, distraught; the Tardis darker, with the awful sound of the Cloister Bell tolling.

DONNA

You can't just leave them.

But THE DOCTOR's fixed, wired, grim, slamming controls, the Time Rotor already rising and falling.

THE DOCTOR

Don't you think I've done enough?
History's back in place. And everyone dies.

CUT TO:

66 INT. VILLA CAECILIUS - NIGHT

66

FX: the grind of ancient engines, the TARDIS fades away...

CUT TO the FAMILY. The engine-noise seems distant, as though it's part of the disaster.

(CONTINUED)

66 CONTINUED:

66

CAECILIUS pulls them all closer, kisses them. Protecting them, to the last.

CUT TO:

67 INT. TARDIS - NIGHT

67

THE DOCTOR at the controls, wild-eyed. DONNA at the opposite side of the console, raging:

DONNA

You've got to go back!

No reply, he's slamming switches like a mad thing.

DONNA (CONT'D)

Doctor, I'm telling you, take this thing back!!

No reply, the Tardis just lurches, she has to hang on. Beyond shouting, as she starts to cry, quiet and broken:

DONNA (CONT'D)

It's not fair.

THE DOCTOR

No, it's not.

DONNA

But your own planet. It burnt.

THE DOCTOR

And that's just it, don't you see, Donna, can't you understand?, if I could go back, and save them, then I would, but I can't, Donna, I can never go back, I can't, I just can't, I can't!

DONNA

Just someone. Please. Not the whole town. Just save someone.

And he looks at her.

Such a long look.

And then he *slams* the controls - !

CUT TO:

68

INT. VILLA CAECILIUS - NIGHT

68

PRAC RUBBLE & DUST, ASH falling, FLAMES getting closer, CLOSE on the FAMILY, huddled, awaiting the end.

And then...

The grind of mighty engines, a wind sweeping through.

The family looks up.

In awe.

The noise building, more magnificent than ever, as...

FX: LOW ANGLE on the TARDIS, appearing in front of them, like a monolith, the lamp on top blazing with light.

The door opens. THE DOCTOR stands there, the light of the Tardis blazing unnaturally bright behind him; a halo, almost silhouetting him.

And he holds out his hand.

THE DOCTOR

Come with me.

CAECILIUS scared, trembling, holds out his hand...

CU his hand clasping the Doctor's.

CUT TO:

69

EXT. HILLSIDE - NIGHT

69

FX: POMPEII from a great distance, VESUVIUS raging, the PYROCLASTIC flow rolling slowly over the whole city.

CUT TO REVERSE. THE DOCTOR, DONNA, CAECILIUS, METELLA, EVELINA & QUINTUS standing on the hillside, the TARDIS behind them. All watching in silence.

Hold, for a long time. Very still. Then, sadly:

THE DOCTOR

It's never forgotten, Caecilius. Oh, time will pass, and men will move on, and the stories will fade. But one day, Pompeii will be found again. In thousands of years. And everyone will remember you.

*

(CONTINUED)

69 CONTINUED:

69

DONNA

What about you, Evelina? Can you see anything?

EVELINA

The visions have gone.

THE DOCTOR

The explosion was so powerful, it cracked open a Rift in Time. Just for a second. That's what gave you the gift of Prophecy, it echoed back, into the Pyrovillian alternative, but... Not any more. You're free.

METELLA

(still scared, quiet)

Who are you, Doctor? With your words. And your Temple containing such size within.

THE DOCTOR

I was never here. Don't tell anyone.

CAECILIUS

The Great God Vulcan must be enraged. It's so... volcanic, like some sort of... "vulcano".

(but then, upset)

All those people.

He's tearful, Metella goes to him, holds him.

And with the family staring out, the Doctor & Donna glance at each other, quietly go back into the Tardis, unnoticed...

CUT TO:

70 INT. TARDIS - NIGHT

70

THE DOCTOR goes to the console. DONNA follows. Both exhausted. He starts to operate the controls. Then:

DONNA

Thank you.

THE DOCTOR

Yep.

He's brisk, at the controls. But then he sighs, looks up.

(CONTINUED)

70 CONTINUED:

70

THE DOCTOR (CONT'D)
You were right. Sometimes I need
someone.
(weary smile)
Welcome aboard.

DONNA
Yeah.

And they both smile, understanding each other better.

CUT TO:

71 FX SHOT, TIME VORTEX

71

[STOCK SHOT] The Tardis spins away, through the Vortex...

MIX TO:

72 INT. VILLA CAECILIUS, ROME - DAY

72

CAPTION: ROME.

Tracking across a wall, to REVEAL CAECILIUS, his old self, hurrying, fussing with his toga, calling across:

CAECILIUS
Metella, my love, have you seen that clasp? The beetle one, the Egyptians do love a scarab -

METELLA crossing to him, all smiles.

METELLA
Here we are, I was giving it a polish, now calm down!

CAECILIUS
If I get this contract, for the marble Granaries of Alexandria, we'll be rich, you'll see -
(sees)
Hold on there, Evelina! You're not going out wearing that.

EVELINA crossing, an ordinary, cheeky teenage girl now, in a shorter-than-usual tunic -

EVELINA
Oh don't start, Dad, it's what all the girls in Rome are wearing, see you later -

Gives him a kiss, runs out -

(CONTINUED)

72

CONTINUED:

72

CAECILIUS

Are you seeing that boy again?

METELLA

Ohh, but look at Quintus! My son, the Doctor!

QUINTUS entering, much smarter, carrying scrolls.

QUINTUS

Mum, I've told you, I'm not a Doctor, not yet, I'm just a student of the physical sciences -

METELLA

Well that's a Doctor to me, now give thanks to the Household Gods before you go, there's a good boy.

(back to Caecilius)

Come here, let me fix it, you've got that folded all wrong...

*

But on Quintus, going to an alcove, as in the old villa. He dips his fingers in the goblet of wine, sprinkles it.

QUINTUS

Thank you, Household Gods.

(smiles)

Thank you for everything.

And the frieze is now a bas-relief sculpture of the Doctor and Donna; the Temple behind them is the Tardis. Instead of POLICE BOX, it says PRAESIDIUM ARCA.

Watching over the family, forever.

END OF EPISODE TWO

*