

THE SARAH JANE ADVENTURES 4

Episode 7

By

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GREENS

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1 **EXT. THE EARTH - NIGHT**

1

FX SHOT: The EARTH from space - moving slowly into shot, the entire sphere -

Over this - gradually fading up - the NOISE of the planet. Satellite beeps, mobile phone ring tones, Western pop music, the Islamic call to prayer, a political speech, the hubbub of thousands of different languages - building up and up and UP and then -

CUT TO:

2 **OMITTED**

2

3 **INT. SARAH JANE'S ATTIC - NIGHT**

3

SARAH JANE and RANI stand before MR SMITH -

On Mr Smith's screen, GRAPHICS read **ENERGY TRACE SCAN**. Beneath this, a chitter of random numbers and symbols (earthly ones) screeing wildly - NOISE of the planet under it all -

SARAH JANE
Mr Smith! Maximum scan!

MR SMITH
Locator sweep in operation, Sarah Jane.

On the screen, a WHITE VERTICAL LINE sweeps over the chittering mass of data - scanning back and forth -

CLYDE in with pot of tea and cups from downstairs kitchen -

CLYDE
Tea up!
(registers mood)
what's going on?

RANI
Mr S picked up an alien energy trace.
Just for a second, then it vanished.

SARAH JANE
(indicates the screen)
Somewhere in all of that.

CLYDE
And what is all of that?

SARAH JANE
Transmissions from radio, tv,
satellites. That's every signal, every
energy source, on the planet. It's the
sound of the Earth.

They listen for a second -

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED:

3

CLYDE
Noisy, aren't we?

The cursor on the screen STOPS with a DOINK -

MR SMITH
I'm afraid I cannot locate the energy
trace, Sarah Jane.

RANI
Okay, then what kind of alien energy is
it?

MR SMITH
I regret I do not have that information,
Rani.

Sarah Jane turns to them -

SARAH JANE
Leave it to me. You've got school
tomorrow morning, go home and get some
sleep.

CLYDE
I just made teas.

Sarah Jane pours herself a cup -

SARAH JANE
Good, this could be a late one. Hop it.

Sarah Jane hustles them to the door -

RANI
What if it's an invasion?

CLYDE
World gets blown to smoky bits, and we
weren't there to stop it because it was
a school night?

SARAH JANE
Go on, home! If I need you I'll shout,
don't you worry.

Clyde and Rani out -

Sarah Jane, restless, turns to Mr Smith - teacup down -

SARAH JANE (CONT'D)
Keep scanning for that energy trace, Mr
Smith. Let me know the moment you
locate the source!

The cursor starts moving through the chitter again -

SARAH JANE (CONT'D)
Come on!!
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED: (2)

3

SARAH JANE (CONT'D)
(to herself)
I hate not knowing!

CUT TO:

4 **INT. CHANDRAS' HOUSE HALLWAY - NIGHT**

4

*

RANI hands CLYDE a CD. TV on in b/g -

*

RANI

There you go. I want it back in on
piece though, know what you're like.

*

CLYDE

Night then.

*

RANI

Gotta finish Great Expectations for
English tomorrow.

*

CLYDE

I might start it.

*

RANI

Start it!? It's five hundred pages!

*

CLYDE

I can skim it! Any book - read the back
cover, page 73, and the last chapter,
and you'll pretty much get the gist.

*

RANI

Enough to get a string of Ds, brilliant
plan. See ya at school then.

*

CLYDE

If we're not invaded.

(to the ceiling)

Come and have a go, then. If you think
you're hard enough.

*

*

*

RANI

Night!

*

And she scoots him out -

*

CUT TO:

*

5 **INT. RANI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**

5

RANI in bed in her night gear, reading 'Great
Expectations' quite near the end - clothes draped over a
chair -

A knock at the door -

RANI

Come in.

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED:

5

HARESH in - he's been out late at a meeting -

RANI (CONT'D)

Hi Dad. What do you want?

HARESH

Just to catch up. Haven't seen you at all today.

RANI

Here I am!

She holds up the book -

RANI (CONT'D)

Quite enjoying this actually.

HARESH

I read that when I was your age.

RANI

For school? Or just because you wanted to?

HARESH

Both. I really loved school.

RANI

So much you never left. And I've got to get to the end tonight.

HARESH

Am I being chucked out?

RANI

Yep. Goodnight.

Haresh leans over and kisses her on the cheek - very proud -

HARESH

Night night bookworm.

Haresh out - Rani smiles - loves her dad -

CUT TO:

5A **INT. CLYDE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**

5A

*

CLOSE on an unopened copy of Great Expectations on the bed - music playing from a CD player -

*

REVEAL CLYDE sat at his drawing board, sketching on a pad -

*

A knock at the door -

*

CLYDE

Yeah?

*

*

CARLA comes in, stands by the bed.

*

(CONTINUED)

5A CONTINUED:

5A

CARLA
 Early night for me. Nothing on telly.
 I want to sleep.

Clyde turns off the music as Carla picks up the book -

CARLA (CONT'D)
 Haven't you got to read this?

CLYDE
 Done it. Bloke gets mucked around by
 women. Big deal.

Carla points at the sketch pad -

CARLA
 Let's have a look -

Clyde shows her - it's a comic strip futuristic city - in
 the foreground, a comic strip SHAN-SHEETH -

CARLA (CONT'D)
 Ooh, that's good. Where d'you get your
 imagination from? Not from me.
 Certainly not from your dad.

CLYDE
 I just like drawing. Mrs Taylor reckons
 I could be a comic strip artist.

CARLA
 Go for it. You know, I used to worry
 you'd turn out like your dad. Full of
 chat, but drifting.

CLYDE
 Thanks Mum!

CARLA
 I'm just saying, I had you wrong.
 Sorry. There's a lot more to you than
 there ever was in him, or me.

CLYDE
 Don't put yourself down, Mum. And don't
 get soppy.

She hands him back the sketch -

CARLA
 My son's a genius, I'm allowed to be
 soppy. Night!

CLYDE
 Night!

Carla goes - and Clyde gives himself a big smile -

CLYDE (CONT'D)
 Genius. I like it. Yeah, that'll do.

(CONTINUED)

5A CONTINUED: (2)

5A

He goes back to the sketchpad and carries on drawing -

*

CUT TO:

*

6 **INT. RANI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**

6

Later. RANI's struggling to stay awake in the last few pages -

She sets her mobile alarm (her mobile's on charge on the bedside table) and slumps back -

Clicks OFF her bedside light -

CUT TO:

7 **EXT. SPACE - NIGHT**

7

FX SHOT: The EARTH from space - SUNLIGHT curves round the sphere as a NEW DAY begins -

The massed sounds of Earth, the hubbub -

SUDDENLY they cut out - as if a switch has been hit, all that sound SNAPS OFF -

A few moments of SILENCE -

Then -

Sound FX: BLEEP! BLEEP! BLEEP!

CUT TO:

8 **INT. RANI'S BEDROOM - DAY**

8

CLOSE on RANI's mobile alarm - BLEEP! BLEEP! BLEEP!

PULL FOCUS as her eyes open -

She groans and scrabbles for her phone -

Switches the alarm off, swings her legs out from under the covers -

The book falls out -

She picks it up, groans - damn, still not finished it -

She automatically snaps on her little bedside radio -

The display reads RADIO 1. But there's no sound.

Rani switches it off and on again -

Still nothing.

Rani groans, pulls on her dressing gown -

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED:

8

NB: From the top of this scene to the end of Sc.32 in Ep 8, there is no incidental music. The atmosphere is silent, cold, flat.

CUT TO:

9 **INT. CHANDRAS' LANDING - DAY**

9

RANI out on the landing in her dressing gown, yawning -

She calls downstairs -

RANI

Morning!

She goes downstairs -

CUT TO:

10 **INT. CHANDRAS' KITCHEN - DAY**

10

RANI in -

RANI

Mum? Doing breakfast?

There's no sign of Haresh or Gita -

CUT TO:

11 **INT. CHANDRAS' LIVING ROOM - DAY**

11

RANI in to the living room -

RANI

Mum? Dad?

Nobody -

CUT TO:

12 **INT. CHANDRAS' LANDING - DAY**

12

RANI heads upstairs, calling -

RANI

Dad?

She knocks on the bedroom door -

RANI (CONT'D)

Mum?

No answer -

She turns the door handle -

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED:

12

RANI (CONT'D)
Wakey wakey, it's gone seven -

CUT TO:

13 INT. CHANDRAS' BEDROOM - DAY

13

RANI in -

No Haresh or Gita. An empty bed, but it's been slept in -

Rani walks in, looks it over -

The covers are pulled up, as if there SHOULD be people in it - indentations in the pillows - a copy of *New Scientist* on Haresh's bedside table - *OK!* on Gita's side -

A moment's reaction - and Rani races out -

CUT TO:

14 INT. CHANDRAS' LANDING - DAY

14

RANI pounding downstairs - dressed in last night's clothes, thrown on any old how -

RANI

Dad? Mum?

CUT TO:

15 EXT. BANNERMAN ROAD - DAY

15

RANI bursts out of the Chandras -

Haresh's car still there -

Rani puzzled -

Runs up the path on to the road -

Utter silence all around -

She looks up and down the road -

It hits her -

The SILENCE. Deep, deep SILENCE.

Rani jolts - *what???*

She checks for traffic and runs over the road -

CUT TO:

16 EXT. SARAH JANE'S HOUSE - DAY

16

RANI's finger on the doorbell - *DDDRRRRINGGGGG!!!* (It's the only sound, so it leaves an unnatural echo.)

(CONTINUED)

16

CONTINUED:

16

No answer - Rani looks up, around -

Her POV of Sarah Jane's car in the drive -

RANI

She must be in -

(calls up)

Sarah Jane!

(LOUD)

Sarah Jane!!!

She's banging on the door - but no answer -

Rani grabs the spare key from under its plant pot -

CUT TO:

17

INT. SARAH JANE'S HALLWAY - DAY

17

RANI in -

RANI

Sarah Jane?

But it's empty and silent -

She dashes up the stairs -

CUT TO:

18

INT. SARAH JANE'S ATTIC - DAY

18

And into the attic -

RANI

Sarah Jane?

Nobody. PAN around - total silence -

The sonic lipstick and Sarah Jane's bag lying on a table -

Mr Smith is out in the room, silent - his lights off, his screen blank -

RANI (CONT'D)

Mr Smith, I need you.

No response.

RANI (CONT'D)

Mr Smith!

No response.

She taps at Mr Smith's keyboard - a simple reboot command -

Nothing -

Rani gets her mobile out, speed dials -

(CONTINUED)

18

CONTINUED:

18

RANI (CONT'D)
Clyde, come on -

Nothing -

CLOSE on Rani's POV as she checks the mobile's screen -
NO SIGNAL

Rani heads off - stops, turns -

Snatches up the sonic lipstick -

CUT TO:

19

EXT. BANNERMAN ROAD - DAY

19

RANI bursts on to Bannerman Road -

She looks to left and right - nobody - deep silence -

She runs along the road -

RANI
Hello? Hello?
(long beat)
HELLLOOOOO!!!!

Echoes. Still nobody. So quiet.

She looks up at the sky - nothing -

A few doors down from her house, on the same side of the road, a neighbour's front door is OPEN -

Rani races up, knocks -

RANI (CONT'D)
Hello? Hello, Mrs Frazer?

She slips through the door -

CUT TO:

20

INT. NEIGHBOUR'S HALLWAY - DAY

20

RANI explores -

The hallway - coats on a rack, adults and kids jackets, a pair of bright yellow toddlers' wellies -

It's starting to freak Rani out - this is **serious** -

She pushes through -

RANI
Hello?

CUT TO:

21 **INT. NEIGHBOUR'S LOUNGE/DINER - DAY**

21

RANI into the kitchen -

A table set for breakfast -

A kid's colouring book out on the table - the page half coloured-in - crayons scattered -

CUT TO:

22 **EXT. BANNERMAN ROAD - DAY**

22

RANI bursts out of the neighbours' house -

WIND blows leaves down the road -

A FOR SALE sign rattles in the wind - a sound you'd never notice normally - it's eerie -

Suddenly - a CRASH, something breaking -

She WHIPS round -

The DOG from Scene 4 (with its trailing lead still attached) has knocked over a ceramic plant pot!

It runs off down the road -

Rani's starting to panic -

She runs back to the Chandras' house -

CUT TO:

22A **INT. RANI'S BEDROOM - DAY**

22A

*

RANI runs in and sits on the bed, and boots up her computer -

She clicks on her web browser -

The page maximises with the legend ERROR CANNOT REACH THE SERVER

RANI
Come on, come on ...

She clicks on more links -

More windows pop up - ERROR CANNOT REACH THE SERVER ERROR CANNOT REACH THE SERVER ERROR CANNOT REACH THE SERVER -

Rani looks up at the spread of photos of her with Haresh and Gita - panic rising -

Then to the photos of Sarah Jane, Luke and Clyde -

RANI (CONT'D)
Where are you, where are you?

(CONTINUED)

22A CONTINUED:

22A

She rushes out of the room -

CUT TO:

22B INT. CHANDRAS' HOUSE HALLWAY - DAY

22B

RANI thinks - right, she's going to do something!

She picks up the phone - dials 999 -

RANI

Come on, come on -

She drops it - no signal -

RANI (CONT'D)

Come on! Gah! And stop talking to
yourself!

She listens - it's absolutely still and quiet -

RANI (CONT'D)

Nothing, there's just nothing...

She heads to the living room...

CUT TO:

23 INT. CHANDRAS' LIVING ROOM - DAY

23

RANI flicks channels on the tv - the numbers go round,
but no transmissions, just a black screen -Her POV - the family photos, a paper on the table,
Haresh's house keys in a bowl -

It's getting too much - she slumps -

RANI

Please don't let me be the only one.

Suddenly - BING-BONG! The doorbell rings!

Rani darts for the hall, then catches herself -

She raises the remote like it was a weapon -

She slides sideways into the hall - slowly - tension,
tension -

CUT TO:

24 INT. CHANDRAS' HOUSE HALLWAY - DAY

24

*

In one sideways movement RANI springs forward, FLINGS
open the door -

It's CLYDE!

They hug, both so relieved -

(CONTINUED)

24

CONTINUED:

24

RANI

Clyde!

CLYDE

Rani! Thank God!

RANI

I thought it was just me left, what's
happened?

CLYDE

Where's Sarah Jane?

RANI

Where's everybody?

CLYDE

I dunno. I ran over the road to
Finney's - but he wasn't there. There's
nobody around, nobody!

As Rani leads him in to the living room -

RANI

Sarah Jane's car's still there but I
went up to the attic, there's no sign of
her.

CLYDE

What about Mr Smith?

RANI

He's just gone blank, like he's not in
there any more. And no mobile signal.

CLYDE

Yeah, I tried Luke, nothing. And you,
of course I called you. I called you
first.

RANI

Right, yeah.

CLYDE

And I tried 999, nothing. And the
European one, 112, that's supposed to
work after everything's gone down.
Same.

RANI

Perhaps - if everyone's suddenly gone,
then maybe everybody's gonna suddenly
come back.

CLYDE

Perhaps. But we can't rely on it, we
can't just sit and do nothing.

Beat - she touches his shoulder

(CONTINUED)

24 CONTINUED: (2)

24

RANI

It's so good to see you. I thought I was
going mad.

CLYDE

If you are, then we're both going mad
together.

She takes her hand away -

RANI

So what are we gonna do?

CLYDE

Hold on, hold on - it might just be like
this around here -

RANI

No! I checked, there's no internet,
there's no tv or radio, nothing at all.

CLYDE

Could be something blocking the tv
signals just in this area, I dunno.

RANI

No, listen. Really listen!

They listen for a few seconds - deep silence -

CLYDE

This is freaking me out. This is big.
This is too big.

RANI

What we gonna do? Back to the attic?

Clyde thinks -

CLYDE

Yes - no, we'll go into town - I mean,
there must be somebody -

RANI

(deep breath)
Right. Come on.

They race out -

CUT TO:

25

EXT. MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK ROOF - DAY

25

*

FX SHOT: A slow PAN around the wide London skyline,
looking east from Ealing -Building sites, tower blocks, church spires - far in the
distance, the Gherkin, Canary Wharf - silent, deserted -

(CONTINUED)

25

CONTINUED:

25

PAN around to CLYDE and RANI (in the same shot if poss), looking out from the roof of a multi-storey car park -

CLYDE

There's nobody. It's the whole world.

RANI

Everybody's gone!

CUT TO:

26

EXT. PAVED STREET - DAY

26

A street off Ealing Broadway - shops along both sides -

Total silence - a long, slow PAN around - a NEWSPAPER flutters in the wind - a BABY-BUGGY on the pavement, an unattended NEWSPAPER KIOSK - a half-assembled FRUIT STALL with wooden pallets lying askew - CASH hanging from the slot of a cash machine -

Until we reach CLYDE and RANI, hurrying along -

RANI

Last night, the energy trace Mr Smith picked up! It must be something to do with this.

CLYDE

Bit of a coincidence if it's not.

(beat)

So glad you're here.

RANI

Sarah Jane'd be more use to you.

CLYDE

And better use to you than me. She'd be working things out, calculating stuff.

RANI

Hang on. Your mum just disappeared?

CLYDE

I didn't actually see it happen. She was saying something, then she suddenly - stopped. I looked up, she wasn't there.

RANI

Right, so I mean - if everyone suddenly disappeared the same way, just like that, then there should be cars crashed everywhere.

Clyde thinks -

CLYDE

Yeah. There should be planes falling out of the sky!

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

26

CONTINUED:

26

CLYDE (CONT'D)

We're right near Heathrow, there's always tons of them circling about up there.

RANI

There aren't now.

She indicates -

RANI (CONT'D)

And there are no cars in the middle of the roads. Only parked cars at the side -

CLYDE

So it's like, when all the people went, whoever - or whatever - took them, they also took all the planes and cars. All the moving vehicles.

RANI

Like they didn't want to damage anything. Or hurt anybody. Is that good? It's certainly weird.

CLYDE

Weird compared to what?

(beat)

I'm starving. I don't think straight if I'm hungry. Shall we get some breakfast? Do something normal?

CUT TO:

27

INT. CAFE - DAY

27

A small city cafe. A wall-mounted TV above the counter.

RANI at a table. There's a half-eaten fry-up on the next table and a tabloid newspaper and pen -

Her POV - the newspaper crossword. Half-filled in, an incomplete word - SANFRANCI blank blank blank.

CLYDE puts down two coffees and two sausage rolls, sits -

CLYDE

I've left cash on the counter for when everyone comes back. If they come back.

RANI

One second. We're thinking everyone's disappeared. But what if everyone's dead? What if there was some ray or something beamed at Earth, and we weren't affected but everyone else got blasted?

(CONTINUED)

27

CONTINUED:

27

CLYDE

What about the cars and the planes?
Doesn't make sense, and we're not going
to panic.

RANI

I wasn't panicking.

CLYDE

You were. So was I. Like you said. Do
a Sarah Jane. We've gotta stop, think,
work it out.

RANI

What d'you think I've been sat here
doing? Right. First thing.
Everybody's gone except us.

CLYDE

And animals, there are still animals.

RANI

So what's different about us?

CLYDE

And why's Sarah Jane gone? If anyone
round here is different, I reckon it's
her.

RANI

Maybe they just want us.

CLYDE

Or they don't want us. Hold on. Why
are aliens more likely to single us out,
more than anyone else?

RANI

Durr. Cause we know Sarah Jane.

(beat)

Well. Thinking hasn't got us anywhere
much. Just going round in a big circle.

CLYDE

We need logic. We need brains. We need
Luke!

He gets up -

CLYDE (CONT'D)

How long will it take to get to Oxford?

RANI

We are staying put! If he's still
around, he'll come down to us.

CLYDE

What if he's up in the quad thinking
'I'm staying put, they'll come up to
me'?

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED: (2)

27

RANI

What if he's not even there at all? What if it's just the two of us left in the whole wide world?

CLYDE

(thinks - serious, the enormity of it)

Like Adam and Eve.

RANI

Yeah.

(thinks)

No!!! There's gotta be someone else. There's gotta be!

CUT TO:

28 **EXT. PAVED STREET - DAY**

28

RANI and CLYDE are in the street -

RANI

All right. Where do we start?

CLYDE

Back to the attic. If anything's gonna happen, it's gonna happen there.

RANI

If anything ever happens again.

Suddenly - CLATTER!

Their heads turn -

One of the wooden pallets by the fruit stall has tipped over, scattering oranges -

They run over -

CLYDE

Hello?

They get closer - is there anything behind the stall?

They approach more slowly, cautious - tense tense -

RANI

Probably a cat or something -

Suddenly - another CRASH and the sound of running feet!

Rani and Clyde race round the stall -

Another pallet's been knocked over -

The heavy door of a TK Maxx-style clothes shop BANGS shut -

(CONTINUED)

28

CONTINUED:

28

CLYDE

Come on!

Clyde yanks open the door and they race through -

CUT TO:

29

INT. CLOTHES SHOP - DAY

29

CLYDE and RANI running through the deserted shop floor -

RANI

Where'd it go?

Their POV - display mannequins looming around them -

Then - a FLASH of a small shape dodging through a door marked PRIVATE: STAFF ONLY - it's too quick to register much about it -

CLYDE

There!

They run to the back of the shop - the door is closing...

CLYDE (CONT'D)

(calling)
Stop! Oi!

They head towards the door...

CUT TO:

30

OMITTED

30

31

EXT. CLOTHES SHOP ALLEYWAY - DAY

31

...And CLYDE and RANI come out into a narrow back alley -

At the end of the alley, the tail-end of a BIKE disappearing round a corner - on it, a glimpse of GAVIN BROWN, 12, school uniform - (a silver ring on his index right finger) -

Clyde and Rani running -

They spot two more bikes nearby -

CLYDE

Come on!

RANI

One second -

BZZZZ!!! BZZZZ!!! Rani squirts the sonic at the chains -

As they grab a bike each and saddle up -

CLYDE

This is thieving!

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED:

31

RANI
We'll bring them back!
(of the lipstick)
Always wanted a go with that.

CLYDE
Why do you get the cool bike?
(of his bike)
This is shoddy!

RANI
Does it matter?

And they ride off FAST -

CUT TO:

32 **EXT. CITY STREET/UNDERPASS - DAY**

32

CLYDE and RANI bombing along on their bikes -
They round a corner -

CUT TO:

33 **EXT. CITY STREET WITH FLATS - DAY**

33

CLYDE and RANI screech around the corner -
An inner city street with blocks of flats on either side -
Rani points -

RANI
There!

Ahead - abandoned in the street - the other BIKE, thrown down, back wheel SPINNING -

Clyde and Rani skid to a halt, looking round - nothing -

CLYDE
It was a kid! He's gone. Hello? Hello?

No reply -

They clamber off their bikes -

And then Rani whips round because -

Just for a second, a FLASH through the window of the lobby of a block of flats - GAVIN!

RANI
Hey!

Gavin turns and runs up the staircase of the flats -

RANI (CONT'D)
Come on!

(CONTINUED)

33

CONTINUED:

33

Rani and Clyde run to the flats -

CUT TO:

34

INT. GAVIN'S FLATS STAIRWELL - DAY

34

RANI and CLYDE bombing up the steps of the stairwell -

FOOTSTEPS echoing from above -

RANI

Please, stop, we're not gonna hurt you!

Clyde and Rani clatter up the stairs -

And through the open door of the top floor landing -

CUT TO:

35

INT. GAVIN'S FLATS TOP FLOOR LANDING - DAY

35

RANI and CLYDE burst in -

GAVIN ducks through a door - and it SLAMS!

CLYDE

Through there!

Rani wields the sonic -

CUT TO:

36

INT. GAVIN'S FLAT HALLWAY - DAY

36

RANI and CLYDE run in to the narrow hallway -

CLYDE

Hello?

RANI

Don't be afraid, you're the only other person we've seen - hello?

A NOISE from a room at the end of the hall -

CUT TO:

37

INT. GAVIN'S BEDROOM - DAY

37

A Box bedroom, pristine and bare - one nature poster on the wall - a small framed photo of Gavin as a 6 year old with his mum on bedside table - both loving, smiling, happy -

GAVIN behind the door - breathing hard, hiding -

The door opens - RANI in first, CLYDE next -

RANI

Hello?

(CONTINUED)

37

CONTINUED:

37

She turns, sees Gavin -

Clyde shuts the door behind him -

Gavin's challenging, aggressive - cornered -

GAVIN

What d'you want? Get away from me, how did you get in here, stay away!

CLYDE

It's okay, it's okay, we're not gonna hurt you!

RANI

We're so glad to see you! Sorry, yeah, I know, girl in your bedroom.

GAVIN

Where's everybody gone? Did you do this? Why d'you follow me?

RANI

Let's all calm down! I'm Rani, that's Clyde.

GAVIN

Gavin.

RANI

I'll make us a cup of tea, yeah?

CUT TO:

38

OMITTED

38

39

INT. GAVIN'S FLAT LIVING ROOM - DAY

39

Later. CLOSE on a photo of a nervously smiling Gavin in school uniform - PAN along to a photo of his AUNT and UNCLE (LYNNE and WAYNE, 30s, on holiday) -

RANI and CLYDE on sofa, GAVIN on chair - cups of tea -

RANI

I don't blame you being scared.

GAVIN

I'm not scared!

It's a small flat. TV, sofa, shelves - but very much the home of a childless couple. Two seater black leather sofa - one other uncomfortable chair. Half-empty wine bottle, dirty wine glasses and scattered remotes on the coffee table, not cleared from the night before.

Rani nods to the holiday photo -

RANI

Your mum and dad just disappeared?

(CONTINUED)

39

CONTINUED:

39

GAVIN

They're my uncle and aunt. My mum died years ago. Never knew my dad, he ran off when I was little.

CLYDE

You and me both, mate.

GAVIN

Lynne, my aunt, she just vanished. I knocked on all the doors, there was nothing, so I went into town -

CLYDE

Exactly what we did.

He holds up a Rich Tea -

CLYDE (CONT'D)

(trying to bond)

Got any better biscuits?

GAVIN

How did you get in here, I locked the door!

RANI

Long story.

(beat)

Can you keep a secret?

She gets out the sonic lipstick, holds it up -

Gives it a tiny BUZZ -

The lightshade on the ceiling SPINS, crazy -

Gavin boggles -

RANI (CONT'D)

Sonic lipstick. It's alien technology.

GAVIN

You're aliens!? What??

Clyde shoots Rani a warning look -

CLYDE

Rani!

RANI

No. But we've met aliens, fought aliens.

CLYDE

Why are you telling him this? Ahem, rule number one!

(CONTINUED)

39 CONTINUED: (2)

39

RANI

Gavin's got a right to know. He needs to know, if anything happens to us.

GAVIN

Don't wind me up!

RANI

It's true. Is it any weirder than what's happened today?

GAVIN

Aliens took everybody? That is impossible, this is mad!

RANI

But it's happened. And the three of us are the only ones left, and we've gotta work out why.

GAVIN

My aunt says there's no such thing as aliens.

CLYDE

Your aunt likes rubbish biscuits.

(beat)

Aliens. You ever seen any then? Met any?

GAVIN

What, me? NO! What are you talking about?

RANI

There must be a reason why we've been left behind.

Gavin getting alarmed -

GAVIN

And now you think I'm an alien? You're weird - this is like some stupid kids' game you're playing - I'm not stupid, there are no aliens!

Suddenly -

LOUD HORN SOUND - medieval, royal-sounding - (like the Horn of Rassilon in old Doctor Who: The Five Doctors) -

Sound FX: Dogs barking/howling -

Clyde and Rani LEAP to their feet -

RANI

What's that!?

CLYDE

Trumpets!?

(CONTINUED)

39 CONTINUED: (3)

39

Then - a distant BUZZING noise - it's mechanical, a 30s sci-fi movie sound effect (like the rocket cars in the Flash Gordon serials) - eerie -

The crockery on the table VIBRATES -

CLYDE (CONT'D)
And what's this now?

The BUZZING is distant but getting - very gradually - louder -

Rani and Clyde to the window - suddenly they're professionals, forgetting Gavin, switch into full Sarah Jane mode -

CLYDE (CONT'D)
Is that like a generator?

RANI
Could be a signal? That trumpet noise, getting our attention?

CLYDE
Could be anything. Could be a stardrive powering down?

RANI
What if it was the alien energy source Mr Smith picked up?

CLYDE
Yeah! No surrounding noise, comes through clear?

During this, Gavin - spooked as much by them as the noise - runs out -

RANI
Gavin, you ever heard anything like this before?

No reply - she turns -

They hear the SLAM of the front door -

RANI (CONT'D)
Gavin!?

They rush out -

CUT TO:

40 **INT. GAVIN'S HOUSE HALLWAY - DAY**

40

CLYDE and RANI rush in to the hallway -

CLYDE
Where's he gone?

(CONTINUED)

40 CONTINUED:

40

RANI

We're idiots! He must be terrified -

They rush out -

CUT TO:

41 **EXT. CITY STREET WITH FLATS - DAY**

41

RANI and CLYDE rush out on to the street -

Gavin's bike is gone -

CLYDE

Bike's gone.

The buzzing's getting louder -

CLYDE (CONT'D)

It's getting closer -

PAN around the empty street - the eerie sparkling BUZZING -

Rani points -

RANI

It's coming from over there.

Clyde gets on the bike Rani was riding before -

CLYDE

Let's take a look!

RANI

Oi, that's my bike!

CLYDE

Does it matter?

Clyde races off -

Rani - irritated - saddles up and rides off after him -

CUT TO:

42 **EXT. CITY STREET/UNDERPASS - DAY**

42

RANI and CLYDE racing along -

CLYDE

We've gotta find out what it is!

They race on -

CUT TO:

43 **EXT. CURVED SHOPPING STREET - DAY**

43

CLYDE and RANI skid to a halt in the middle of the empty shopping street -

(CONTINUED)

43

CONTINUED:

43

The BUZZING is fading - fading - GONE -

CLYDE

We've lost it! And we've lost Gavin.

RANI

Weird alien noise, terrified kid, and what do we do? Run to the window and start talking all Star Trek. We must have looked really normal.

CLYDE

Is Gavin normal though?

RANI

What do you mean?

CLYDE

This morning, when I was alone. I thought I was the only person left, it was horrible. If I'd seen anyone else - even if it was Chris Moyles - I'd have run towards them. Not run away, like Gavin did. Wouldn't you?

RANI

Yes. But when you were that age, sixth form kids looked big and scary.

CLYDE

I am not big and scary. And that flat. Apart from that one photo, is there anything that says 'a kid lives here'? No kids' dvds lying about, no photos of them with him. His room, it's like a cell, no computer or games or anything. Isn't that weird?

RANI

Then we should feel sorry for him, not start judging him! He lives a really rubbish life, and what's our first reaction? 'Maybe he's an alien'. What are we?

CLYDE

Are we sure he isn't though?

RANI

NO, I don't know! And neither do you. Leave it!

CLYDE

So you're in charge?

RANI

I think I probably should be.

(CONTINUED)

43 CONTINUED: (2)

43

CLYDE

I've been with Sarah Jane longer than you. I've got more experience.

RANI

What, is it like the army then? We've all got ranks and you're second in command, sir?

CLYDE

We need a plan of action!

CUT TO:

44 INT. CAFE - DAY

44

CLOSE on CLYDE opening two cans of pop behind the counter -

CLYDE

From now on, if we get split up, meet back here, yeah?

RANI

Your HQ, sir? Yes, sir.

RANI on the other side of the counter -

Clyde puts more change on the counter -

CLYDE

Look at me, honest injun. Never have done that before Sarah Jane.

Silence between them -

Clyde puts a can down for Rani -

CLYDE (CONT'D)

Okay, okay. Sorry.

RANI

Biggest crisis ever, and it's just us. Not the time traveller, not the boy genius, not the supercomputer or the mega-dog. Us.

CLYDE

We are vital team members.

RANI

The two kids with no reason to be there? The hangers-on? We were both just nosy, that's how we got in to Sarah Jane's life.

CLYDE

She warned us off, gave us the choice to go back and forget it all.

(CONTINUED)

44

CONTINUED:

44

RANI

Maybe she was right. Maybe today's the day it all comes back to bite us on the bum.

CLYDE

Do you reckon - if it wasn't for Sarah Jane and our thing - that we'd have been mates?

RANI

Dunno. Maybe. Maybe not.

(beat)

Not the usual way to grow up, is it?
Fighting aliens. Defending the Earth.

CLYDE

Don't really see much of my old gang any more. They're all like 'I met this hottie down Whispers in Acton at the weekend' and what'm I supposed to say?
'I was fighting the Pied Piper of Hamelin'?

They drink -

CLYDE (CONT'D)

I love it though.

RANI

Yeah. With Sarah Jane, half the time I'm terrified, the other half I'm really happy.

CLYDE

I'm leaning towards terrified right now.

RANI

None of this makes sense. If they're clever enough, if they're powerful enough, to magic away - all right, teleport away - everybody -

CLYDE

If that is what they've done -

RANI

Let's say it is - let's say they've got rid of everyone so they can invade, take over Earth for themselves. Then where are they? And why haven't they come to get us?

CLYDE

Don't tempt fate. I'm not like Sarah Jane, I believe in fate.

He thinks -

(CONTINUED)

44 CONTINUED: (2)

44

CLYDE (CONT'D)

What if aliens have decided to start the human race again? Beginning with you and me?

RANI

Clyde. Really. Shut up.

Suddenly - the TELEVISION over the counter snaps on -

On the screen - a rapidly screeing mass of alien symbols - equations, hieroglyphs, all jumbled - a RED INVERTED TRIANGLE remains central throughout - NB It is silent.

RANI (CONT'D)

What's that?

Clyde's phone buzzes -

He brings it out -

On the screen, the same JUMBLE of flashing symbols -

CLYDE

It's on here too!

Rani checks -

RANI

And on mine!

Suddenly - sharply, cutting in this time -

The BUZZING begins again!

RANI (CONT'D)

There it is again!

CLYDE

Yeah, and a lot closer!

They race out of the cafe -

CUT TO:

45 **EXT. CURVED SHOPPING STREET - DAY**

45

CLYDE and RANI heading down the main street - BUZZING -

Rani notices something, tugs his arm -

RANI

Clyde!

In the window of an electronics shop - tvs, computers, anything with a screen - all of them switched on, all relaying the jumbled mass of squiggles -

RANI (CONT'D)

It's on every screen - what's it mean?

(CONTINUED)

45 CONTINUED:

45

CLYDE
Gotta be something to do with the noise.

Clyde points up the street, forwards -

CLYDE (CONT'D)
Definitely coming from up there
somewhere.

Clyde heads forward, cautious -

Rani sees a FLASH of movement down a narrow alley on her left -

RANI
Gavin? Gavin!

She looks up the road to Clyde -

The BUZZING is LOUD now -

She dashes off down the alley -

CUT TO:

46 **EXT. BACK ALLEY - DAY**

46

GAVIN hides around a corner -

He can hear RANI calling -

RANI (O.S.)
Gavin!

RANI races down the narrow alleyway -

RANI (CONT'D)
Gavin! Is that you?

FOCUS on Rani, calling -

Behind her, out of focus, SOMETHING MOVES -

Rani whirls round -

The BUZZING really LOUD!

Rani startles! OH. MY. GOD.

What can she see?

REVEAL - A RED ROBOT!

CUT TO:

47 **OMITTED**

47

48 **EXT. CURVED SHOPPING STREET - DAY**

48

CLYDE is at a corner - the BUZZING very close -

(CONTINUED)

48

CONTINUED:

48

A FLASH of movement as SOMETHING turns the corner -
And Clyde ducks down behind a car -
He edges up the side, sneaking a peek -
And right in front of him is a YELLOW ROBOT!
It raises a hand and points at Clyde -
FX SHOT: The fingertip GLOWS with PRAC red light -

CLYDE

No - don't - *please* -

END OF EPISODE 7