

# **THE SARAH JANE ADVENTURES 5**

## **Episode 5**

**By**

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**Blue Revisions**

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1 **EXT. SERF SYSTEMS - DAY**

1

Futuristic office block at dawn. A sign SERF SYSTEMS -

SERF (V.O.)  
Hi. My name's Joseph Serf.

CUT TO:

2 **INT. SERF SYSTEMS RECEPTION - DAY**

2

SERF - 40s, Clooney-gorgeous, chinos and stubble, talks to camera against white b/g -

SERF  
And I'm here to introduce the Serf Board from Serf Systems - the world's newest and best portable computer -

CUT to show an oval-shaped portable computer, inbuilt screen (like an iPad) and the SERF logo - (NB Serf never touches it. He *never* touches *anything*.)

SERF (CONT'D)  
The 15th at 5pm - put it in your diary. The day the Serf Board arrives, and the revolution begins. Billions of dollars of research and development # - have gone into this compact affordable device. Did I say 'device'? I mean - 'friend'. From the 15th, there'll be another question for the world to ask: 'How did we manage before the Serf Board?' The Serf Board from Serf Systems. Do you wanna see tomorrow, today?

Suddenly (at #) - *SHTUFF! The picture CLICKS off -*

**REVEAL** we've been watching a big flatscreen TV -

PAN down to its PLUG being exchanged for the plug of a vacuum cleaner -

By ADRIANA, 20, cleaner, Romanian - she wears a white cap and tabard - grumbles to herself *sotto -*

ADRIANA  
Where's my billion dollars Mr Serf?

Before she switches the Hoover on, we hear - from nearby, a CRY - desperate, pleading -

Adriana looks around -

ADRIANA (CONT'D)  
Hello?

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED:

2

She moves away -

CUT TO:

3 **INT. SERF SYSTEMS CORRIDOR - DAY**

3

- towards the lift. Another PLASMA SCREEN playing SERF's spiel in b/g throughout -

ADRIANA

Hello?

Suddenly - from the lift doors - SCRABBLING - something straining to push apart the doors. From INSIDE -

WRENCH! The doors are pushed open -

Suddenly a small SKELETAL HAND in a filthy brown cloak reaches out and GRABS her - it makes the CRY -

PULLS her in - Adriana's scream cuts off -

As the lift doors SLAM shut, PAN to the PLASMA SCREEN - Serf direct to camera -

SERF

The Serf Board from Serf Systems. Do you wanna see tomorrow, today?

CUT TO **OPENING TITLES:**

4 **INT. SARAH JANE'S ATTIC - DAY**

4

Follow SKY into the attic, to SARAH JANE, CLYDE and RANI - MR SMITH is out.

RANI

Morning Sky! Luke'll be here any second.

SKY

Great. Can't wait.

Sarah Jane slightly fussed - checking a list -

SARAH JANE

Think I've got everything he wants. 'Oh it doesn't matter, Mum' he says, then when he turns up - it's straight to the fridge, and 'why haven't we got any bacon?'

CLYDE

Let him starve. When I went up to Oxford the cupboard was bare.

RANI

You all right Sky?

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED:

4

SKY

I'm a little nervous. Meeting Luke face to face, not just on a screen.

SARAH JANE

You couldn't have a better brother.

CUT TO:

5 **INT. SKY'S BEDROOM - DAY**

5

LUKE bursts in, calling up towards the attic -

LUKE

Just dumping my stuff, give us a minute -

But now it's Sky's room; not pink and girly, but clearly not his room any longer -

LUKE (CONT'D)

Oh. Right, yeah. Not my room anymore.

CUT TO:

6 **INT. SARAH JANE'S ATTIC - DAY**

6

LUKE bursts in - hugs from SARAH JANE, CLYDE and RANI - play a lot of this off SKY's reactions -

LUKE

Hello! Clani!

RANI

Don't call us that!

SARAH JANE

Clani? Who's Clani?

CLYDE

Clyde AND Rani: Clani.

RANI

It's meant to be funny.

CLYDE

My man! He can't keep away.

RANI

We'll get bored of you, always popping back.

LUKE

Hi Mum!

SARAH JANE

Give us a kiss. And meet Sky, in person!

LUKE

Sky. Hi. Hi Sky!

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED:

6

SKY

Hi Luke. You're taller than you look on the webcam.

LUKE

Sorry - just went in your room, I forgot it's not mine any more.

RANI

You forgot!?

LUKE

I'm getting old, it happens.

SKY

Sorry, but it's the best room, and you don't live here any more -

LUKE

It's fine, it's really fine.

CLYDE

Hey, face to face - it's the clash of the nerds. Sky, behold my greatest success - Frankenbane's monster, now a normal human student, living off Pot Noodles and rising at 12 sharp every day to watch Loose Women.

LUKE

Yeah, shut up. Hope we're gonna be friends Sky.

SKY

Of course we're going to be friends. I suppose we're sort of brother and sister.

CUT TO:

7 INT. SARAH JANE'S ATTIC - DAY

7

Later. The gang with tea and biscuits -

LUKE

Had to leave K9 at Uni. But look, I made this -

He has a tin whistle on a chain round his neck -

LUKE (CONT'D)

A dog whistle. Cause you never know.

SARAH JANE

What's he doing up there?

LUKE

Backing up the Bodleian Library. The whole lot! He wouldn't come with me.

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

7

MR SMITH

Oh good - ness me, what a terrible  
shame.

RANI

Don't be nasty, Mr Smith. We could  
always swap you for another computer.  
Like the Serf Board!

MR SMITH

I hardly think that would be a good  
exchange.

SKY

It's quite funny, 'Serf Board' - because  
it's a computer made by a man called  
Serf that looks like a board.

LUKE

Well, I was hoping to get one. But you  
know, skint student -

SARAH JANE

Oh, you were hoping, were you?

CLYDE

It's the launch this afternoon, 5pm!

Shows Luke video on his phone - SERF in the ad we saw in  
the pre-titles -

RANI

And nobody knows what it does when you  
switch it on.

CLYDE

The rumours say everything!

SARAH JANE

There's a rehearsal of the launch this  
morning. Just three of the country's  
very top journalists have been invited  
to watch.

RANI

Do you know any of them, could you blag  
us in?

SARAH JANE

Ahem. I said only the top journalists  
have been invited.

CLYDE

Yeah, so what if we swap a ticket?

SARAH JANE

I mean me! Me! What d'you think pays  
for all this, taking in washing?

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED: (2)

7

RANI

Sorry, didn't think it was your kind of story.

SARAH JANE

Almost good enough Rani.

LUKE

I am not going to miss that!

SARAH JANE

Who says you're going to miss it?  
Homecoming treat.

SKY

No way am I missing it either!

Sarah Jane wasn't expecting that -

SARAH JANE

Fine, you can come too Sky.

RANI

And ... And?

CLYDE

What about us?

SARAH JANE

Sorry, that's all I can manage. I  
shouldn't really be taking anybody else,  
it's highly unprofessional. Plus you  
promised to help Gita unload her van.

CLYDE

Unfair!

LUKE

Sorry Clani. Family outing.

CUT TO:

8 **EXT. SERF SYSTEMS - DAY**

8

Establish the block - the Figaro parked outside -

CUT TO:

9 **INT. SERF SYSTEMS RECEPTION - DAY**

9

A spacious reception area - cool and funky -

SARAH JANE hands LUKE and SKY a stapled contract each -

SARAH JANE

They say it's OK, but you need to read  
and sign non-disclosure agreements.

Luke WHIPS the pages over, reads the whole thing in an  
instant - nods to Sky -

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED:

9

LUKE

Basically, we blab anything about the Serf Board before the actual launch and they sue us to death.

Luke grabs a pen from Sarah Jane and signs - but Sky continues to read -

LUKE (CONT'D)

You don't have to read it.

SKY

I want to read it.

SARAH JANE

Just sign it, Sky. It doesn't matter.

SKY

But what if I disagree with the terms and conditions?

LUKE

They're fine, just sign it.

SARAH JANE

Believe me, if he says they're fine, they're fine.

Sky irritated, grabs Luke's pen -

SKY

Whatever you say.

SARAH JANE

Sky, honestly, it's nothing to -

Suddenly - a voice -

LIONEL (O.S.)

Sarah Jane Smith!

They turn to see LIONEL - 70s, dishevelled suit and tie - three pens clipped in his top pocket, one of them red - heading up -

LIONEL (CONT'D)

As lovely as ever, let me drink you in!

SARAH JANE

Luke, Sky - Lionel Carson. An old, old friend.

LIONEL

I could have been so much more! Now I am a ruin, yet you remain a paragon!

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED: (2)

9

SARAH JANE

(to Luke and Sky)

Lionel was my editor when I first started on the nationals. Then he moved on to food and wine.

SKY

You can do that for a job?

LUKE

Explain later. So why are you covering the Serf Board Mr Carson?

LIONEL

I pulled rank. Impress my grandkids, "I've met the great Mr Serf". I leave all the technical stuff to you young people, can't abide computers. Nothing wrong with a typewriter says I.

SKY

What's a typewriter?

LIONEL

My goodness. Make me feel even more old-fashioned, why don't you?

SARAH JANE

You were already old-fashioned when I was new-fangled.

Lionel nods to the kids -

LIONEL

Whose are these? You've got progeny? I never heard that on the old bush telegraph.

SARAH JANE

Yes. My son and my daughter.

Suddenly -

HARRISON (O.S.)

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen!

They turn to see HARRISON - late 30s, PR man - always edgy, sweaty-browed - he stands by a large open door - RED PEN and handkerchief in top pocket - an earpiece COMMS -

HARRISON (CONT'D)

I'm John Harrison, Serf Systems public relations. The rehearsal is about to begin. Let's go in

LIONEL

That's us.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED: (3)

9

LIONEL (CONT'D)  
(looks Harrison over)  
Don't like the look of him. I can still  
sniff out a wrong 'un.  
(to Sarah Jane)  
Will you accompany me, radiant one, in  
memory of what might have been?

He offers his arm -

SARAH JANE  
Oh, go on then.

She takes his arm.

All head for the door - but Sky lingers a second -

SKY  
Luke, can you feel that?

LUKE  
Feel what? Come on.

SKY  
Electricity - building up - it's strong -

LUKE  
(friendly)  
Come on!

CUT TO:

10 INT. SERF CONFERENCE HALL - DAY

10

A large-ish auditorium, tiered seating - it has the same  
casual cool as the rest of the building -

SARAH JANE, LIONEL, one other NS journalist sit in the  
front row - SKY and LUKE together a few rows back - three  
CAMERAS set up at either side to record the rehearsal -

At the front a STAGE with a huge SCREEN - it constantly  
shows (sound muted) the Serf Board ad - HARRISON on stage -

HARRISON  
And then I will say - 'Please say hi to  
Joseph Serf!' And cue Mr Serf -

SERF emerges from the wings - reactions from Sarah Jane  
and Lionel -

SARAH JANE  
Wow. Not half bad in the flesh.

LIONEL  
Like you, my girl, he's got charisma,  
charisma!

SERF  
Thanks Johnny. Then I'll say -  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

10

CONTINUED:

10

SERF (CONT'D)

(to audience)

Nice to meet you. And then I'll do this -

He pretends to be surprised to see himself on the screen -

SERF (CONT'D)

Whoa, who's that beautiful guy?

HARRISON

Very good, sir, very spontaneous.

SERF

What next?

HARRISON

Stand there sir, your close-ups will be on Camera 3 - teleprompt in the right position sir?

SERF

Looking good to me. And then straight into the spiel -?

HARRISON

Straight into the spiel, sir -

SERF

The Serf Board will revolutionise the way we work, the way we play. Every home should have one, soon every home will have one.

HARRISON

Perfect, sir - and then all the attendees will be given a Serf Board, like so -

Harrison steps forward and hands three Serf Boards - one to Sarah Jane, one to Lionel, one to the NS journo -

SERF

The Serf Board. Take it home, press GO - play and learn.

(oddly direct, big eyes)

It's a phenomenon. You're gonna love it. You're gonna love it.

Lionel presses the GO button on his Board -

LIONEL

Why wait is my motto - see what the fuss is about -

SERF

Download, browse, photos, books - everything. You're gonna love it. It's the future, it's tomorrow, and you love it.

(CONTINUED)

10 CONTINUED: (2)

10

CLOSER, CLOSER on Sarah Jane staring rapt at Harrison -  
CLOSER on Lionel -  
CLOSER on Luke and Sky -

SERF (CONT'D)  
You want one, you need one, everybody  
wants one, everybody's gotta get one -

Suddenly - Luke and Sky JUMP -

SKY  
Did you see that?

LUKE  
Yes! But that's impossible?

HARRISON  
Can we have hush at the back there?

SKY  
But, Sarah Jane, he -

LUKE  
(whisper)  
Quiet, Sky. Wait!

SKY  
But you did see that?

LUKE  
Yes, I did - but nobody else did -

CUT TO:

11 **EXT. SERF SYSTEMS RECEPTION - DAY**

11

SARAH JANE, LIONEL, NS journo emerge - SKY and LUKE  
bursting to tell what they've seen -

LIONEL  
(looking at his Board,  
can't put it down)  
So easy to use - he was right, it's a  
revolution! It's beautiful, I love it!

SARAH JANE  
Must be good to impress you.

LIONEL  
Never seen the point of computers  
before, but this is so easy to use -  
it's a marvel, it's a joy!

Sarah Jane catches up with Luke and Sky - holds up her  
Board -

SARAH JANE  
Look what you've got. Hurrah for Mum.

(CONTINUED)

11

CONTINUED:

11

She registers their unease -

SARAH JANE (CONT'D)  
Hurrah for Mum?

SKY  
Something weird happened in there. To  
Mr Serf.

SARAH JANE  
What are you talking about?

LUKE  
(sotto)  
Mum, he *glitched*.

SARAH JANE  
He what?

SKY  
Just for a moment, he flickered. I  
don't think he's - really there.

SARAH JANE  
Right, back home - we'll check this out.

LUKE  
What if I stay, look for more glitches.  
There could be other people like Serf,  
whatever he is.

SKY  
Good idea. Where shall we start?

SARAH JANE  
Oh no. Luke's old enough to look after  
himself.

SKY  
And I'm not?

LUKE  
No, you're not. Sorry.

SARAH JANE  
(to Luke)  
Be careful! Come on Sky -

CUT TO:

12

INT. SARAH JANE'S ATTIC - DAY

12

Later - the gang assembled - SARAH JANE standing before  
MR SMITH - Clyde has the Serf Board -

RANI  
He what?

SKY  
Flickered, just for a second.

(CONTINUED)

12

CONTINUED:

12

CLYDE

Right! Let's have a look at you then, my beauty -

He goes to switch on the Board but Rani stops him -

RANI

No, Clyde, wait. Better check this out.

SKY

Only Luke and me saw it happen.

SARAH JANE

Luke's got superior senses - and Sky, you're sensitive to electrical fluctuations, however tiny.

SKY

Am I? I suppose I must be.

CLYDE

Bully for you.

SARAH JANE

Mr Smith, tap into the digital database. The rehearsal was being recorded, somebody at Serf must have sent the movie file, get us a copy.

Mr Smith clicks and burbles -

MR SMITH

I'm very much afraid that may take some considerable time, Sarah Ja - here you go.

RANI

You're doing that on purpose now.

The screen flickers - and the recording POV of the beginning of the interview appears -

SKY

It was when Serf was saying everyone will want a Serf Board -

SERF

(on the screen)

You want one, you need one, everybody wants one, everybody's gotta get one -

SKY

Freeze it - between frame 4:34:21 and 23.

Mr Smith FREEZES the correct frame -

CLYDE

Nothing there, you imagined it.

(CONTINUED)

12

CONTINUED: (2)

12

SKY

I did not! Roll back a tenth of a frame, Mr Smith.

On the screen - a frozen frame as SERF glitches, a silver interference line like damage on an old video-tape across the top half of his body - shape twisted and squashed -

SARAH JANE

That's impossible!

CLYDE

But that's not the recording, that's him! The rest of the picture didn't move.

SKY

That's what I've been saying.

Clyde puts the Serf Board down - carefully -

CLYDE

I'm just a bit suspicious. And preparing to say the A word.

SKY

What 'A word'?

RANI

Aliens!

SARAH JANE

Mr Smith, give us everything you've got on Joseph Serf!

(in wonderment)

What is he?

CLOSE on MR SMITH's screen as it fills with GRAPHICS - Serf's history and records, quick-cutting PHOTOS and CUTTINGS of his life -

MR SMITH

Joseph Samuel Serf - born Dayton, Ohio, 25th May 1972 - graduated Harvard 1993, founded Serf Systems - recovered from near-fatal skiing accident Val d'Isere 2007 -

Sarah Jane points to the screen -

SARAH JANE

Look. In all these photographs, he never once holds anything. Never touches anybody.

RANI

So, what, he's a hologram?

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: (3)

12

SARAH JANE

More than that - he walks, talks,  
interacts with people. He's amazing!  
That technology - it's fantastic!

CLYDE

Hold on, he sits down. He gets into  
cars.

RANI

It's like a photo. You can fold it up,  
move it around. But you couldn't shake  
its hand.

On the screen - HARRISON in the background in many of the  
photos -

CLYDE

Aye-aye, that bloke, always right next  
to him, who's he then?

SKY

John Harrison, PR for Serf Systems.

Another picture on the SCREEN - a photo of Serf shaking  
hands with an employee -

RANI

Wait, Serf shook someone's hand in that  
one!

Sarah Jane indicates a date on the picture -

SARAH JANE

In 2006. Before the skiing accident.  
The real Serf died in that accident. He  
was replaced.

MR SMITH

And shortly afterwards Serf Systems  
began the development of the Serf Board.

SARAH JANE

Wait -  
(to Sky)  
Lionel, you saw, he hates computers.  
But the moment he switched it on, he  
raved about it!

RANI

The Serf Board, what if it's got some  
sort of hypnotic power? They've  
replaced Serf, taken over his company -

SARAH JANE

But why? What is this all for?

CLYDE

And today's the launch. A Serf Board in  
every home? Count me out.

(CONTINUED)

12

CONTINUED: (4)

12

Sarah Jane places the Board on the central table -

SARAH JANE

Mr Smith - deep scan, full spectrum analysis.

The PRAC SCAN beam plays over the Serf Board -

SARAH JANE (CONT'D)

And while we wait - I want an interview with Mr Serf.

RANI

But he doesn't do interviews, ever.

SARAH JANE

Watch and learn, Rani -

She gets out her mobile -

CUT TO:

13

INT. SERF SYSTEMS/SARAH JANE'S ATTIC - DAY

13

HARRISON with phone to his ear -

HARRISON

Mr Serf doesn't give interviews, Miss Smith -

SARAH JANE (O.S.)

(gushing)

But the Serf Board, it's just amazing!  
I have to do a personal follow-up with Mr Serf!

Cut to the attic, kids looking in wonder at her chutzpah -

HARRISON

You're invited to the launch later -

SARAH JANE

If I could just speak to Mr Serf - to tell him there are no *glitches*.

BEAT as Harrison reacts to the word - *what what??*

HARRISON

Go on, Miss Smith.

SARAH JANE

Mr Serf seems so warm and *real* - so natural - I'm sure my readers would like to get to know such a genuine human being -

HARRISON

That's different, Miss Smith. Please, come right over.

(CONTINUED)

13

CONTINUED:

13

SARAH JANE  
Marvellous - see you soon!

In the attic - as Sarah Jane clicks off the call -

SARAH JANE (CONT'D)  
(of herself)  
One of the country's top journalists ...

RANI  
Wow, Sarah Jane. Just wow!

CLYDE  
Isn't that a bit dangerous? They know  
you know!

SARAH JANE  
And I know they know I know. Only way  
to get in.

SKY  
And they know you know they know you  
know.

SARAH JANE  
Sometimes that's the best way. I need  
to bring Serf Systems into the open,  
find out what they're planning.

SKY  
And you need me. I saw the glitch, I  
might see something else.

CLYDE  
What, another family outing?

SARAH JANE  
Okay.  
(to Clyde and Rani)  
Wait here.  
(nods to the Board)  
And tell me what Mr Smith makes of that.  
(to Sky)  
Let's go!

As Sarah Jane and Sky head out - Rani looks warily at the  
Board -

CLYDE  
What's up?

RANI  
It's daft. But I feel like it's  
watching us.

CUT TO:

14

**EXT. SERF SYSTEMS - DAY**

14

SARAH JANE and SKY emerge from the Figaro - and LUKE slinks up -

SARAH JANE  
How goes the spying?

LUKE  
Checked the car park, hung about in reception, got a coffee from their machine - but nothing. No more glitching, nothing weird.

SKY  
Then we'll have to go into the building.

LUKE  
The back way!

SARAH JANE  
Okay. Meet you back here in an hour.

Sarah Jane heads inside - and it's the first time Luke and Sky have been properly alone together -

LUKE  
So. You settling in?

SKY  
I'm fine.

They head off along the side of the block -

LUKE  
Clyde said you can remember being a baby.

SKY  
Yes. But I was only a baby for a few hours.

LUKE  
I didn't even get that long.

SKY  
We're supposed to have a lot in common. Does that mean we're going to like each other?

LUKE  
We do like each other, you said.

SKY  
Am I going to be like you one day, normal? I'm not sure I want to be normal.

(CONTINUED)

14

CONTINUED:

14

LUKE

One lesson I had to learn early Sky.  
Whatever's in your head, don't just say  
out loud.

SKY

Rani told me that too. But I think it's  
probably just the kind of person I am.

They slip into a rear door into the block -

LUKE

Nobody says we're going to be exactly  
the same.

Sky cocks her head -

SKY

There's one big difference between us.  
I can feel that electricity again -  
building up ... and you can't.

CUT TO:

15

INT. SERF'S OFFICE - DAY

15

HARRISON shows SARAH JANE into a large office - Serf  
behind a desk - water-cooler in the corner - plasma tv -

SERF

Miss Smith! I hear you're a fan of the  
Board.

SARAH JANE

I certainly am, Mr Serf! Call me Sarah  
Jane.

She offers her hand to him - the game of cat-and-mouse  
begins - Sarah Jane playing a lot of this towards  
Harrison -

SERF

Joseph.  
(embarrassed)  
Sorry, I can't shake your hand.

SARAH JANE

Oh. Really? Why ever not?

HARRISON

Mr Serf suffers from an acute peanut  
allergy.

SARAH JANE

I haven't been eating nuts.

HARRISON

But you may have been in a nutty  
environment.

(CONTINUED)

15

CONTINUED:

15

SERF

I can't be too careful.

SARAH JANE

Oh, I am sorry. How very convenient -  
(at Harrison)  
Sorry, I mean *inconvenient*.

She sits - and notices Harrison lingering -

SARAH JANE (CONT'D)

Does Mr Harrison need to be here,  
'Joseph'?

HARRISON

I'd prefer to stay. After all, I'd hate  
there to be any more *glitches*.

SARAH JANE

With you around, Mr Harrison, I'm sure  
everything will run like clockwork.

HARRISON

Oh yes. I pride myself I can deal with  
any old spanners that get into those  
works.

SARAH JANE

Before we start, could I get something  
to drink? I'm parched.

HARRISON

Certainly Miss Smith. Tea? Coffee?  
(muttering)  
Anthrax?

SARAH JANE

What was that?

HARRISON

Nothing.

SARAH JANE

I'll just have water please. Nice clear  
water, that I can *see right through*.

HARRISON

Coming right up.

Harrison pours her a cup from the cooler -

SARAH JANE

Don't you want one Joseph? It's very  
hot in here.

SERF

I'm fine, thank you. Now, let's talk  
about the Serf Board.

CUT TO:

16

**INT. SARAH JANE'S ATTIC - DAY**

16

FX: CLYDE and RANI staring at the Board as the Scan light snaps out -

MR SMITH  
Deep scan complete.

RANI  
Tell us the worst.

MR SMITH  
The Serf Board is a standard low-specification laptop computer.

CLYDE  
And?

MR SMITH  
That is all.

RANI  
But it can't be! The hologram, the big launch this afternoon, one in every home.

CLYDE  
Hold on.  
(sotto to Rani, nods to Mr Smith)  
What if it's got at him?

RANI  
You mean hypnotised him?

MR SMITH  
I can hear you, Clyde. And no it hasn't got at me.

CLYDE  
Not the first time you've said something was okay and it turned out to be deadly. Remember the Rakweed?

He picks up the Board -

RANI  
Leave it alone. Wait till the others get back.

CLYDE  
There's no time! How you gonna feel tonight when everyone's walking down Bannerman Road with their arms out going 'Serve the Computer'?

RANI  
Clyde, no!

(CONTINUED)

16

CONTINUED:

16

CLYDE

Come on, the clock's ticking - let's just switch it on, see what it does.

RANI

Okay. But we do it my way. We take precautions.

CUT TO:

17

INT. SERF'S OFFICE - DAY

17

As before - SARAH JANE, SERF and HARRISON -

SARAH JANE

The implications for global communications are -

And Sarah Jane drops her pen - it skitters under the desk towards Serf -

SARAH JANE (CONT'D)

Ooh - butterfingers! Would you mind picking it up for me, Joseph?

Harrison steps in and proffers a black pen from his inside pocket -

HARRISON

Please, Miss Smith, use mine.

CUT TO:

18

INT. SERF SYSTEMS CORRIDOR - DAY/INT. LIFT - DAY

18

SKY leads LUKE to a LIFT DOOR -

LUKE

An electrical surge?

SKY

No, it feels all strange. Coming from down below.

LUKE

We'll tell Mum when she gets back.

Sky presses the lift call button -

SKY

Let's take a look.

The lift doors open -

SKY (CONT'D)

Come on, it's what you always do.

LUKE

I'll go - you go back to the car.

(CONTINUED)

18

CONTINUED:

18

SKY

Not a chance.

She runs into the lift - presses the down button -

LUKE

Sky!

He dashes through the gap -

SKY

Going down! How is the liking-each-other thing going?

LUKE

I'll let you know.

The lift doors close.

CUT TO:

19

**INT. SARAH JANE'S ATTIC - DAY**

19

RANI and CLYDE in protective aprons, surgeons masks, goggles -

Rani wields a long metal POLE - readies it to press the Go button on the Board -

CLYDE

It was my idea!

RANI

It needs a delicate touch.

CLYDE

I'm delicate, in a very manly way. I've got artists' fingers!

RANI

Just like the old days. You and me, having a laugh.

CLYDE

Yeah. I meant to say, all that stuff with Ellie -

RANI

It's okay, I understand.

(anyway ...)

Right. Come on, let's do this!

She uses the pole to gently press the button - and the screen flickers into life -

CUT TO:

20

**INT. LIFT - DAY**

20

The lift sign reads LOWER BASEMENT - distantly, a mechanical sound - HISS-CLUNK, HISS-CLUNK - levers and steam, like a great engine -

LUKE

Okay, I can't sense the electrical surge - but I can hear that!

SKY

Coming from further down.

LUKE

But this is the bottom floor. Unless there's an override command -

He taps at the lift buttons -

LUKE (CONT'D)

I can reverse-intuit the code -

And JERK - the lift descends further -

LUKE (CONT'D)

Knew it!

SKY

Hey. You're clever! Still not getting your room back, though!

CUT TO:

21

**INT. SERF SYSTEMS UNDERGROUND - DAY**

21

SKY and LUKE emerge from the lift into a dark, dingy corridor - very different from the sanitised world above -

The noise LOUDER and LOUDER - HISS, CLUNK - HISS, CLUNK -

SKY

Down here!

They run down -

To a big METAL DOUBLE DOOR -

LUKE

Whatever it is, it's through there -

And then suddenly they hear - through the door, echoed and amplified -

SARAH JANE (O.S.)

But Mr Serf, the functionality is -

LUKE

That's Mum's voice!

CUT TO:

22

INT. LIGHT CHAMBER - DAY/INT. SERF'S OFFICE - DAY

22

LUKE and SKY slip in - ssshhh!!!

Their reactions - OH MY GOD!!!

REVERSE to show a huge chamber - dark, dirty, grimy, dripping pipes - at the far side, a LIGHT-SCULPTOR MACHINE - glowing computer banks and levers set into a hydraulic structure, all sharp metal edges and jagged rusty corners - FIERCE yellow PRAC light streams from paperweight-style orb controls -

It's a dirty job, cramped, a sweatshop -

Operating it - 12 child-sized SKULLIONS in brown hooded robes (like Jawas) - each wears a TIGHT BLACK METAL COLLAR and a protective welders style MASK - they make stressed sounds all the time. They're in pain -

Luke pulls Sky behind a big packing crate - CUT to their reactions throughout the following -

PLARK, the FOREMAN, has a SCREEN facing him at the center and huge speakers either side of that but they're facing away, towards the other Skullions so they can hear but not see. On the screen, SARAH JANE, SERF, HARRISON - he jibbers orders to the other Skullions - each Skullion has a position on the machine, a panel of controls and a set of LEVERS - the Skullions rush to obey his orders, gibbering (in fear) as they work -

Under all of the above -

SARAH JANE

- amazing. I mean, you've revolutionised the entire concept of mobile tech. It'll make such a difference to people's lives here on Earth. Oh, forgive my choice of words but, well, I mean, it's a big universe - oh what am I saying? - I mean world -

SERF

(on screen)

That's okay, Miss Smith.

PLARK

Smile!

A Skullion cranks a lever - HISS, CLUNK!

From now on, CUTTING between OFFICE and LIGHT CHAMBER -

In the OFFICE -

Serf smiles - but he's silent -

SARAH JANE

Joseph - are you all right?

(CONTINUED)

22

CONTINUED:

22

In the CHAMBER -

PLARK  
Dialogue, dialogue, keep up!

A Skullion taps at a big keyboard, FAST!

In the OFFICE -

SERF  
Sometimes we all say thongs we don't  
moan.

PLARK  
Spelling, spelling!

The KEYBOARD SKULLION taps again -

SERF  
Forgave me - things we don't mean.

PLARK  
Gah! Keep shadow in sync - and smile  
again!

\*  
\*

The SMILE SKULLION throws his lever -

Serf smiles sexily -

Sarah Jane taken aback -

PLARK (CONT'D)  
Thoughtful smile! Not sexy smile!

CLUNK - the Smile Skullion adjusts his lever -

Serf's smile changes -

PLARK (CONT'D)  
Laughter lines, crease, crease!

SKIN SKULLION throws his lever -

FX: Serf's laughter lines CREASE -

SKY  
(sotto to Luke)  
It's incredible!

LUKE  
(sotto to Sky)  
They're controlling him - everything he  
says and does - it's them!

CUT TO:

23

INT. SERF'S OFFICE - DAY

23

As before -

SERF  
Now what else do you want to know?

(CONTINUED)

23

CONTINUED:

23

Suddenly Sarah Jane accidentally-on-purpose knocks her water over the desk -

SARAH JANE  
Oh I'm sorry! So clumsy!

The water oozing towards Serf -

CUT TO:

24

INT. LIGHT CHAMBER - DAY

24

LUKE and SKY watch from hiding as PLARK directs his minions -

PLARK  
Spillage! Emergency stand!

SKULLIONS obey - CUTTING fast between them as they rush to obey - CHAOS, panicked gibbers - as the levers are pulled -

PLARK (CONT'D)  
Steady on left leg, right leg - no, left leg first!

LEG SKULLIONS grasp their levers -

PLARK (CONT'D)  
Steady on bum - maintain the shadow.

\*

The BUM and SHADOW SKULLIONS grabs their levers -

\*

PLARK (CONT'D)  
And 1, 2, 3 and - UP!

LEFT LEG, RIGHT LEG, BUM throws their levers -

And on Plark's screen we see SERF get up -

PLARK (CONT'D)  
Crease fabric, crease fabric!

FABRIC SKULLION adjusts dial, throws lever -

FX: In the OFFICE, the fabric of his suit CREASES -

CUT TO:

25

INT. SERF'S OFFICE - DAY

25

SERF behind the desk - still -

Harrison springs up, mopping at the spill with his handkerchief -

SARAH JANE  
Thanks Mr Harrison. I'm really sorry.

(CONTINUED)

25

CONTINUED:

25

HARRISON

What a clumsy clot you are, Miss Smith.  
 How amusing that one of the country's  
 most famously shrewd journalists is -  
 apparently - such a loveable  
 scatterbrain.

SERF

Well Miss Moth. Miss Smith. What else  
 do you wanna know?

SARAH JANE

I just hope I can stop embarrassing  
 myself for a start -

During this, Harrison walks out of Sarah Jane's eyeline,  
 taps his COMMS earpiece to activate it -

HARRISON

(whisper)

Hypno to ten.

CUT TO:

26

INT. LIGHT CHAMBER - DAY

26

Over a speaker, HARRISON's whisper BOOMS "Hypno to ten!" -  
 Luke and Sky watching -

SKY

(sotto)

He's giving them orders -

PLARK

Hypno-power to TEN, hypno-power to TEN,  
 she must trust, she must trust!

A big flurry of Skullion activity - levers SLAM, HISS-  
 CLUNK, HISS-CLUNK!

HYPNO-SKULLION hits a BIG RED LEVER up to its full extent -

LUKE

(sotto)

Mum...

SKY

(sotto)

I think they're hypnotising her-

CUT TO:

27

INT. SARAH JANE'S ATTIC - DAY

27

RANI and CLYDE before the open Board, masks and suits,  
 Clyde tapping at the keyboard with gauntleted fingers -

(CONTINUED)

27

CONTINUED:

27

CLYDE

Nothing. Really - nothing. I'm gonna  
take this off -

He raises his goggles -

RANI

Careful!

Clyde shrugs, taps at the keyboard again -

CLYDE

In fact, it's more than a bit rubbish.  
Bog standard. What's special about  
this?

Rani removes her mask -

RANI

So it's not the Board itself. That's  
normal.

CLYDE

It looks cool, that's all.

MR SMITH

What did I tell you?

RANI

Then what is going on?

CUT TO:

28

INT. SERF'S OFFICE - DAY

28

SERF at his most hypnotic, staring right at SARAH JANE -  
HARRISON looking on, edgy -

SERF

You love the Serf Board, Sarah Jane.  
It's the most amazing computer you've  
ever seen, and I'm the most amazing man  
you've ever seen -

Sarah Jane falling under his power -

SARAH JANE

Yes .. yes ...

She leans over the desk -

SARAH JANE (CONT'D)

You're such a handsome man, Mr Serf.

Suddenly - she's been bluffing -

SARAH JANE (CONT'D)

But I'm an old hand at hypnotism. And  
when it comes to men, I prefer someone I  
can actually grab hold of!

(CONTINUED)

28

CONTINUED:

28

She strikes out -

FX: And her hand goes right through Serf -

Sarah Jane triumphant -

SARAH JANE (CONT'D)

Gotcha!

CUT TO:

29

INT. LIGHT CHAMBER - DAY

29

PANIC! PLARK reacts to the scene on the screen -

PLARK

Failure! Light sculpture failed!  
Failed! Stand down, await orders!

The SKULLIONS gibber, take their hands from their controls -

LUKE and SKY watching -

CUT TO:

30

INT. SERF'S OFFICE - DAY

30

Sarah Jane stands - indicates Serf -

SARAH JANE

This is alien technology!

FX: SERF GLITCHES - visibly now -

SARAH JANE (CONT'D)

And it's pretty erratic.

HARRISON

Alien technology - you mean, something not made on this planet? Like this?

He reaches inside his pocket and whips out - a big PHASER -

HARRISON (CONT'D)

One false move, Miss Smith, and you're dead.

CUT TO:

31

INT. LIGHT CHAMBER - DAY

31

As before - Luke has seen that on the screen!

LUKE

Mum, no!

In the silence, his voice carries -

PLARK and the Skullions WHIP round -

(CONTINUED)

31

CONTINUED:

31

PLARK

Intruders!

Plark whips round - pulls off his mask - revealing a prosthetic face - one bulging EYE, nostril-slits, scar tissue -

PLARK and the SKULLIONS advance on LUKE and SKY - pointing, skeletal fingers jabbing -

PLARK (CONT'D)

You - you -

Luke stands in front of Sky, protecting his sister -

LUKE

Please - let her go, she's my sister - she's just a child, please!

The Skullions SWARM around them -

PLARK

You - YOU - YOU!!!

**END OF EPISODE 5**